

Position:

I have a clear record of consistently opposing the Arizona Department of Transportation's (ADOT) approach to the Pecos Freeway Alignment since the 1990's (article [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#) and [6](#)). I have worked for solutions that are in the best interest of the Ahwatukee Foothills community (article [5](#)). Although I have no say or vote on the freeway because it is a state and federal issue, I have worked diligently to engage the community and influence decision makers (article [7](#)). The final decision on the freeway belongs to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and I have met with them many times advocating any alignment other than the current Pecos Alignment (article [8](#), [9](#) and [11](#)). If the freeway is to be built, it needs to be anywhere but the Pecos alignment. That position has been clear and consistent since the '90s when I was asked to negotiate with the Gila River Indian Community regarding the South Mountain Freeway alignment.

History:

I have actively provided leadership by engaging the community and supporting the community's efforts to influence the state and federal decision makers. The following are ways in which I've advocated for the community.

- I live in Ahwatukee and I am [impacted by the decisions that are made \(video of Sal sitting down with Ahwatukee Foothills News\)](#)
- Speaking out against the freeway in the numerous articles since 1999
- Always concerned if the City and ADOT have kept the public in the process of discussing a freeway (article [12](#))
- Fought for freeway alternatives (article [9](#))
- Took the steps to get Phoenix to take a vote on this issue ([16](#))
- Created Ahwatukee Citizens Group that researched alternatives to the Pecos Alignment and influenced the decisions (article [7](#), [9](#) and [13](#))
- Initiated and/or participated in meetings with Tribal leaders, ADOT, Legislators (article [6](#)), Governor's Office, and State Land Department
- I've personally donated approximately \$1,000 to PARC (Protecting Arizona Resources and Children)

Current Pecos Alignment:

I oppose a 10-lane freeway along Pecos Road - there are many reasons that alignment is flawed. "If you look at the 202 there is every reason why it's not a good freeway", (article [14](#)). The first reason is the Pecos Road alignment's proximity to so many homes. The second is the destruction of iconic South Mountain Park. Most have not yet thought about the third issue yet, but the noise reverberation off the mountain is going to be significant for our community. The fourth is the access to water because protecting and maintaining impacted wells still needs to be addressed by ADOT. The fifth reason is the disruption to traffic on Pecos and the impact on businesses during construction. Years ago, the Paradise Freeway was cancelled for much less than these reasons. Just as I have engaged ADOT during the process to date, I will continue to engage them on behalf of the community regarding these issues.

Recommended Way Forward:

I have encouraged community input so that ADOT and the Federal Government understand the Pecos alignment's impact on the Ahwatukee Foothills community (article [10](#)). First, the community should continue to provide support for the current lawsuit and its networking efforts to build support from associations and building active support in traditional and social media. Second, build support with Congressional Offices; (article [12](#), page [15](#), [16](#) and [17](#)) especially

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Congresswoman Sinema. She is very close to the current administration and has the ability to stop the freeway. Third, the current federal and state administrations are important. We are a diverse community with influential people on both sides of the isle that should reach out to our elected officials.

Conclusion:

I am an avid hiker and love our iconic South Mountain Park. South Mountain Park is one of the few places we can experience the peace and beauty of our state inside a large city. The thought of a freeway cutting a gash through it is disturbing to all of us. My position and active leadership to stop the Pecos alignment is consistent from the 1990's (17). I am the only political person that has been outspoken on this and even lifted a finger to help. This is a state and federal issue and we should continue to fight to protect our community.

Articles: [South Mountain / Loop 202 – link to articles on Phoenix.gov/district6 website](#)

Article 1: [New Foothills route draws criticism](#). Lamke, Kimberly. The Arizona Republic July 8, 1999

Article 2: [City apologizes to Gila River Community over parkway plan](#). Beard, Brett. The Arizona Republic July 20, 1999

Article 3: [City Pulls Pecos Plan After Complaints](#). Murphy, Doug. Ahwatukee Foothills News July 21, 1999

Article 4: [Indians Not Consulted on Pecos Extension](#). Either. Murphy, Doug. Ahwatukee Foothills News July 21, 1999

Article 5: [South Mnt. Freeway debate](#). DiCiccio, Sal. Ahwatukee Foothills News July 31, 1999

Article 6: [Loop 202 hot topic at Wed. candidate forum](#). Mixer, Kelly. Ahwatukee Foothills News July 31, 1999

Article 7: [Unified voice will find option to Pecos route](#). DiCiccio, Sal. Ahwatukee Foothills News September 25, 2009

Article 8: [Councilman: Put Loop 202 on reservation](#). Creno, Cathryn. The Arizona Republic October 6, 2009d

Article 9: [DiCiccio seeking freeway alternative](#). Murphy, Doug. Ahwatukee Foothills News October 9, 2009

Article 10: [DiCiccio leads push on freeway route](#). Blostone, Chad. Ahwatukee Foothills News October 16, 2009

Article 11: [Phoenix council won't determine freeway route](#). but MAG will develop plan. Creno, Cathryn. August 5, 2009

Article 12: [Loop 202 extension key issue at debate](#). Creno, Cathryn. August 1, 2009

Article 13: [Major freeway decision due today](#). Creno, Cathryn. November 21, 2009

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Article 14: [Future of 202 in Ahwatukee to clear](#). Hurtado, Allison. February 24, 2015

15: [PARC Protecting Arizona's Resources & Children Facebook comments](#) - responses.
Hurtado, DiCiccio, Sal. August 28, 2015

16: [PARC Protecting Arizona's Resources & Children Facebook comments](#) - responses.
Hurtado, DiCiccio, Sal. August 28, 2015

17: [PARC Protecting Arizona's Resources & Children Facebook comments](#) - responses.
Hurtado, DiCiccio, Sal. August 28, 2015