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PRTA Press Release

ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY WITH NO DECISION FROM THE ARIZONA SUPREME COURT ON PINAL COUNTY'S VOTER APPROVED ½ CENT SALES TAX FOR CRITICAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Florence, AZ, December 10, 2021

In November of 2017, the voters of Pinal County approved a sales tax to address the need for new, expanded and upgraded transportation corridors and public transportation programs throughout Pinal County.

Pinal Regional Transportation Authority readies to launch \$672 million voter authorized program in Pinal County.

The Pinal Regional Transportation Authority representing 11 government entities across Pinal County has been actively working since December of 2017 to prepare for a successful launch of the \$672 million voter-approved 20-year regional transportation plan. The Authority has worked diligently to put in place the plans and necessary Intergovernmental Agreements that will allow our local governments to carry out the direction of the Pinal County voters pending a favorable ruling from the Arizona Supreme Court. These agreements are fully enacted and ready for implementation.

Since April of 2018, Pinal County residents and visitors alike have funded upwards of \$75 million towards the voters' mandated roadway projects and public transportation programs, with approximately \$2 million more being collected each month. While awaiting the decision by the Arizona Supreme Court, all collected funds continue to be frozen in escrow and unavailable for use for these critical needs. Furthermore, as time continues to pass, inflationary pressures continue to increase the costs of each of these projects and programs.

With each passing day voters ask about the status of their sales tax funds. It is impossible to refund those taxes to the taxpayers who paid the taxes.

It has been a year to the day that the Arizona Supreme Court heard this case. Deciding the case expeditiously will allow the taxes to be used for the county-wide projects and programs the voters authorized.

Additional information about the plan is available on the PRTA website, at <https://pinalrta.org/>
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