

# Desert Drive

As 2025 comes to a close, we'd like to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. We're excited to reflect on our highlights and celebrate our chapter and community's achievements for the second half of 2025. The **WTS Tucson board** wishes everyone a **wonderful holiday season** - we can't wait to see you in 2026!



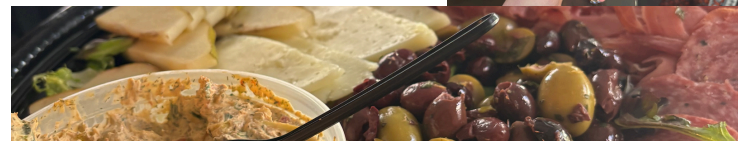
## Utility & ROW Program **WTS x IRWA Collaboration**

The second half of the year had a great start with our first-ever collaboration between WTS and IRWA. Together, we hosted a successful lunch program titled **"What Utility & ROW Planners Wish Transportation Engineers Knew"**. The event offered a valuable opportunity to learn about utility coordination and ROW planning on complex transportation projects. A special thank-you to our distinguished presenters for sharing their expertise and contributing to this event: Priscilla Thompson (ADOT), Debra Vining (TEP) & Frank Fry (WSP).

## August Mixer Recap



In August, we also hosted a Monsoon Mixer at Arizona Wine Collective. This networking event provided the opportunity for members and professionals in this industry to connect and engage, while enjoying some wine and hors d'oeuvres.





## September Feature: Tucson Airport Authority Update



This past September, WTS hosted a program at the Tucson International Airport, where CEO Danette Bewley, and members of the TAA leadership team shared exciting ongoing and upcoming infrastructure improvements.



**Did you know TAA adds roughly \$10.9 billion to the local economy annually?**



## Annual TopGolf Fundraiser & Scholarship Update

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our sponsors, donors, and event participants, our chapter proudly raised \$30,000 to fund scholarships for deserving women pursuing degrees in transportation-related fields.

Our annual Top Golf Fundraiser was once again a sold-out success, featuring exciting raffle prizes and an amazing turnout. Your support makes it possible for us to empower aspiring young women in transportation and strengthen the vibrant community we are so proud to share.

Scholarship recipients will be honored and presented with their awards at our January State of the Streets event. We cannot wait to celebrate their achievements with you!



**RTA**next  
Investing in transportation to meet your needs

### Public Q&A Sessions:

Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Virtual)  
Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Tucson)  
Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (S. Tucson)  
Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026 (Tucson)  
Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Tucson)  
Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 (Virtual)

## Upcoming Key Dates

### RTA Next Industry Joint Event:

Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (Brother John's)

### Ballots mailed:

Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### Election Day:

Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026



## Want to get involved?

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**SHORTEN COMMUTES  
BOOST OUR ECONOMY**

**VOTE YES**

**PROPS 418 & 419**



## Bridges & Burritos: I-10 Gap Field Visit

The month of November was productive. We kicked it off with a field visit to the Sunset Road: I-10 to River Road project, which is now in its final stage of construction. Once completed, this project will provide significant community benefits, including improved bridge structures, a new traffic interchange and better connections along Sunset Road.



### Key Desert Dates !

#### December

- **Scholarship Application Deadline**

**Date:** December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Extended to:** December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025



#### February

- **Girl Day (E-week)**

**Date:** February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

More details to come soon.



#### March

- **State of the Streets Town Edition**

**Date & Location:** TBD



#### January

- **Awards Nominations Deadline**

**Date:** January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Nominate now!



- **State of the Streets Luncheon**

**Date:** January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Location:** Viscount Suites



- **RTA Next Joint Event (APWA)**

**Date:** January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Location:** Brother John's

