



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CHRISTOPHER VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

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Please see the details below for the Executive Board meeting date, time, and location.

**Friday, August 15, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Hybrid Meeting**  
**The Morenci Club**  
**314 Plaza Drive**  
**Morenci, AZ 85440**

**Executive Board TEAMS Meeting Link**

The Executive Board Packet will be sent to members through e-mail (via a link to the packet posted on the SEAGO website) to save postage and copying costs. **We will not be mailing a hard copy of the packet unless you request one.**

If you have any questions, please call me at (520) 432-5301 Extension 202. You can also send an e-mail to [cdvertrees@seago.org](mailto:cdvertrees@seago.org).



# EXECUTIVE BOARD AGENDA

10:00 A.M., FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2025  
Hybrid Meeting

[Executive Board Meeting Link](#)

<b>I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Chair Lopez	
<b>II. MEMBER ENTITIES' DISCUSSION</b> (Common Critical Issues)	Chair Lopez	
<b>III. CALL TO THE PUBLIC</b>	Chair Lopez	
<b>IV. ACTION ITEMS</b>		<u>Page No.</u>
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a. Approval of May 16, 2025, Minutes		
2. Discussion and possible action to approve ACOA Nominations	Celeste Vasquez	10
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<b>VI. RTAC REPORT</b>		Kevin Adam	N/A
<b>VII. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS/ CURRENT EVENTS</b>		Chair Lopez	N/A
<b>VIII.FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</b>		Chair Lopez	N/A
<b>IX. ADJOURNMENT</b>		Chair Lopez	N/A

**DIRECTION MAY BE GIVEN TO SEAGO STAFF ON ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA.**

Individuals with disabilities who require special accommodations or who have limited English proficiency and wish to have an interpreter may contact Diane Becerra at (520) 432-5301, extension 207 at least 72 hours before the meeting time to request such accommodations.

Individuals wishing to participate in the meeting telephonically may do so by contacting Diane Becerra at (520) 432-5301 extension 207. Contact must be made at least 48 hours before the meeting in order to obtain the call-in information. Please note that the option to participate telephonically may not be available unless requested as instructed above.

Si necesita acomodaciones especiales o un intérprete para esta conferencia, debe ponerse en contacto con Diane Becerra al número (520) 432-5301, extensión 207, por lo menos setenta y dos (72) horas antes de la conferencia.



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CHRIS VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

This memorandum provides information about the number of Administrative Council members or their delegates attending their August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting and the manner of their participation in said meeting:

Member Entity Representative	Entity	In Attendance
<b>Number of Administrative Council members present and voting:</b>		<b>12</b>
Adam, Kevin	RTAC	
Casey, Joe	Cochise County	<b>1</b>
Babaletakis, Tina	Town of Clifton	
Batty, Vernon	Town of Pima	
Bigman, Barney	San Carlos Apache Tribe	<b>1</b>
Brown, Heath (Treasurer)	Town of Thatcher	
Cassella, John	City of Safford	
Davis, Luis	Santa Cruz County	
Fulton, Stephanie	Town of Huachuca City	<b>1</b>
Hinton, Terry	Town of Duncan	<b>1</b>
Kirschmann, Robert	City of Willcox	
Kramer, Joel	City of Nogales	<b>1</b>
Pregler, Jeff	City of Sierra Vista	<b>1</b>
Pauken, Stephen (Chair)	City of Bisbee	<b>1</b>
Pedroza, Luis	City of Douglas	<b>1</b>
Presti, Charissa	Town of Tombstone	
Rapier, Derek (Vice-Chair)	Greenlee County	<b>1</b>
Robinson, Ronald	Town of Patagonia	
Urquijo, Ana	City of Douglas	<b>1</b>
Valdez, Jesus (Secretary)	Santa Cruz County	<b>1</b>
Volker, Greg	City of Benson	<b>1</b>
Welker, Dustin	Graham County	

**Notes:**

**Attachments:** None

**Action Requested:**

☒ Information Only

☐ Action Requested Below:

**DRAFT MINUTES OF  
THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
10:00 AM, FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025  
LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM  
808 S. 7<sup>TH</sup> AVE.  
SAFFORD, AZ 85546**

OFFICERS PRESENT:           Arnold Lopez, Chair, Graham County  
David Gomez, Treasurer, Greenlee County

MEMBERS PRESENT           Alex Blake, Duncan  
IN-PERSON:                 Paul David, Graham County  
Heather Floyd, Cochise County PSR  
Edmond Lopez, Graham County PSR  
Jorge Maldonado, Nogales  
Mark Mermis, Cochise County PSR

ZOOM/PHONE:               David Budd, Santa Cruz County PSR  
Perrin McNelis, Santa Cruz County PSR nominee  
Mark Mermis, Cochise County PSR  
Steve Ahmann, Greenlee County PSR

STAFF PRESENT:             Vertrees, Chris, Executive Director/Transport Prog Manager  
Fowler, Kevin, Economic Development Program Manager  
Merideth, John, IT Manager  
Osborne, Will, Community Development Program Manager  
Vasquez, Celeste, AAA Program Director  
Heather Glenn, Administrative Assistant  
Carrie Gibbons, AAA Deputy Program Director - Zoom

GUESTS PRESENT:           Kevin Adam, RTAC

**I.     CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Chair Lopez called the public meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

**II.    CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

No members of the public were present.

**II.    MEMBER ENTITIES' DISCUSSION**

There was no entities discussion at this meeting.

**VI.   ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Consent Agenda**

**a. Approval of the January 21, 2025 Minutes**

Mayor Alex Blake, Thatcher, asked that the minutes be amended to reflect that Carolyn Umphrey represents Sierra Vista and not Thatcher. Chair Lopez called for a motion to approve the January 21, 2025 meeting minutes as amended.

**MOTION:** Heather Floyd, Cochise County PSR

**SECOND:** Jorge Maldonado, Nogales

**ACTION:** Unanimous; motion passed

## **2. Settlement Agreement between SEAGO and former employee Robin Dumas**

Chris Vertrees provided background on the issue, stating that Robin Dumas began employment with SEAGO on January 9, 2023, and was involuntarily separated from employment on September 6, 2024. On September 16, 2024, Robin Dumas timely filed an administrative appeal alleging wrongful termination. The appeal was filed in compliance with the process set forth in SEAGO's Policy Manual. Robin Dumas was seeking independent review of the events leading to her separation and requested payment of six months' salary as severance pay.

After reviewing the circumstances leading to and following the termination and multiple discussions with SEAGO Legal Counsel it was determined that mitigating risks and costs of administrative and/or legal proceedings arising from her employment and separation was in the best interests of SEAGO. Therefore, informal negotiations with the claimant, who is not represented, were undertaken.

Robin Dumas has agreed to accept and SEAGO has agreed (with Board approval) to pay Robin Dumas a one-time payroll payment in the amount of \$10,528.00, approximately three months' salary, in full satisfaction of her administrative appeal. The settlement agreement expressly states that SEAGO is not admitting fault; rather, it compromises her claim and eliminates the risk and costs of going forward with the defense of this matter.

The payment will be paid with FY25 Contingency Funding.

Heather Floyd inquired whether policies and procedures were in place when this incident happened. Mr. Vertrees responded that policies and procedures were in place; however, some of them were rather open-ended and that they have since been revised to clear up any ambiguity. Supervisor Gomez commended Mr. Vertrees for his due diligence in negotiating a very fair resolution for all parties.

**Motion:** Jorge Maldonado

**Second:** Alex Blake

**Action:** Unanimous

## **3. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Items**

### **a. Sustainability of Fund Balance**

Chris Vertrees explained that the purpose of this memorandum is to enable the Administrative Council and Executive Board to better understand the uses of fund balance (if any) in prior years, the amount of fund balance currently available, and to provide a projection of how long uses of fund balance may be sustained. This information is intended to guide decisions as to how much of the fund balance should be used in balancing the annual budget if or when such use is requested. The table below provides an overview of the increases (or uses) of fund balance over the last fifteen fiscal years:

End of Year Fund Balances <sup>[1]</sup>			
Fiscal Year Ending	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance	Fund Balance Surplus or (Use)
6/30/2010	\$ 1,921,455	\$ 1,877,819	(\$ 43,636)
6/30/2011(Restated <sup>[2]</sup> )	\$ 1,451,014	\$ 1,297,124	(\$ 153,890 <sup>[3]</sup> )
6/30/2012	\$ 1,297,124	\$ 1,298,000	\$ 876
6/30/2013	\$ 1,298,000	\$ 1,136,413	(\$ 161,587 <sup>[4]</sup> )
6/30/2014	\$ 1,136,413	\$ 1,319,039	\$ 182,626
6/30/2015	\$ 1,319,039	\$ 1,382,732	\$ 63,693
6/30/2016	\$ 1,382,732	\$ 1,414,782	\$ 32,050
6/30/2017	\$ 1,414,782	\$ 1,636,984	\$ 222,202 <sup>[5]</sup>
6/30/2018	\$ 1,636,984	\$ 1,548,482	(\$ 88,502 <sup>[6]</sup> )
6/30/2019	\$ 1,548,482	\$ 1,589,976	\$ 41,494
6/30/2020	\$ 1,589,976	\$ 1,858,937	\$ 268,961
6/30/2021(Restated <sup>[7]</sup> )	\$ 2,065,716	\$ 2,121,522	\$ 55,806
6/30/2022	\$ 2,121,522	\$ 2,122,490	\$ 968
6/30/2023	\$ 2,122,490	\$ 2,273,516	\$ 151,026
6/30/2024	\$2,273,516	\$ 2,416,323	\$142,807

The fund balance policy established by the Executive Board on February 27, 2015, sets the minimum unrestricted fund balance in the General Fund at 50% of the prior fiscal year's total operating expenditures. In FY 2024, operating expenditures were \$2,168,562. Fifty percent of FY 2024's operating expenditures is \$1,084,281. Fund balance (\$2,416,323) less 50% operating expenditures (\$1,084,281) conceptually makes \$1,332,042 available for use in future budget years before the minimum level of fund balance will be reached.

The table below provides an overview of how long it would take to reduce the existing fund balance of \$2,416,323 to \$1,084,281 (the current minimum required) under several different deficit spending scenarios:

Impact of Fund Balance Use	
Annual Use of Fund Balance	Number of Years
\$ 5,000 per year	266
\$ 10,000 per year	133
\$ 15,000 per year	89
\$ 20,000 per year	67
\$ 25,000 per year	53
\$ 30,000 per year	44
\$ 35,000 per year	38
\$ 40,000 per year	33
\$ 45,000 per year	30
\$ 50,000 per year	27

As shown in the table above, SEAGO would be able to operate for a considerable period of time with moderate use of fund balance and still maintain an operating reserve of \$1,084,281. However, because almost all SEAGO's programs operate on a cost reimbursement basis, limited unrestricted revenue is generated in a given year that can be used to cover any program deficits that may occur. As a Council of Governments, SEAGO has no taxation authority. Apart from the annual assessment charged to our

member entities, CDBG project administration fees, and a few limited programs within the AAA, SEAGO has no predictable source of unrestricted revenue. Therefore, at this time, there is no use of fund balance that could be considered 'sustainable' in the purest sense of the term.

As a result, SEAGO intends to adhere to the following guidelines to sustain the existing fund balance for as long as possible:

- 1) Track the use of fund balance annually to monitor the level of fund balance available for future years.
- 2) Present annual budgets that minimize the use of fund balance to the extent practicable.
- 3) Clearly identify any proposed use of fund balance in the annual budget approval process so that the Administrative Council and Executive Board have the option to control the amount of fund balance used.
- 4) Operate programs within their approved budgets and evaluate accordingly.
- 5) Continue seeking new grants and funding sources, and/or developing new programs and services that generate revenue to replenish any fund balance used.
- 6) Expense depreciation of buildings and improvements to the benefiting programs and use those funds to replenish fund balance that was used to purchase and improve these assets.

#### **b. Discussion and possible action to approve the FY 2026 Assessment Schedule**

Chris Vertrees directed the Board to the proposed Assessment Schedule for Fiscal Year 2026. We are happy to report that there are no anticipated increases in the per capita amount used to calculate the dues charged to SEAGO member entities (see Column b).

We are not expecting changes to the EDA planning assessment (see Column c). This assessment enables SEAGO to raise and commit matching funds required for our EDA planning grant. If EDA notifies us of an increase in our match requirement, we may need to choose whether to cover the increase with a one-time use of fund balance or update the member entity assessments accordingly.

I have reached out to Kevin Adam concerning RTAC assessment schedule for FY 26. He has advised that the RTAC Board will meet on April 28, 2025, to approve the FY26 RTAC budget. A recommendation will not be made to change the assessment, leaving the assessment unchanged from last fiscal year at 11.3 cents per capita (see Column d).

There are no program changes impacting the total FY 2026 assessment (shown in Column e). Our Strategic Plan adopted in August 2023 does call for exploration of potential expanded services such as a regional grants coordinator, grant search engine subscriptions, or reviving SEAGO's Housing Program to address the shortage of affordable housing choices across the region. Some of these objectives identify "developing equitable member entity assessments" to pay for these enhanced services. However, staff are not proposing changes to the assessment schedule for the upcoming fiscal year. Should staff propose changes for FY 2027, and if approved by our Executive Board, additional columns would be added to the assessment schedule as appropriate.

At their meeting on May 1, 2025, the Administrative Council unanimously recommended approval of the FY26 Assessment Schedule to the Executive Board.

Mayor Maldonado made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Assessment Schedule.

**Motion:**        **Jorge Maldonado**  
**Second:**     **Alex Blake**  
**Action:**       **Unanimous**



### **c. Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed FY 2026 SEAGO Budget**

Dina Curtiss presented the SEAGO Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and stated that the assumptions used in developing the FY 2026 budget are as follows:

- SEAGO member assessments remain unchanged from FY 2025.
- Congress will continue funding current programs at or above current levels.
- A \$150,000 contingency line item from the fund balance has been included in this year's budget for unanticipated expenses or events that may come up in FY 2026. The Administrative and Executive Committees will be informed of the need to use contingency funds as far in advance as possible.

The proposed FY 2026 budget worksheet provides a detailed overview of each program's budget. Program Managers have participated in the development of their program budget(s), and successful budget implementation will depend on diligent monitoring of revenue and expenditures by each Program Manager.

Mayor Maldonado inquired about the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and whether SEAGO is giving money back to Washington DC. Mr. Vertrees explained that there is a reluctance for the Federal Government to approve IRA expenditures and there is extra scrutiny and delay reimbursement because of it.

Supervisor David Gomez made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 SEAGO Budget.

**Motion:** David Gomez  
**Second:** Jorge Maldonado  
**Action:** Unanimous

### **4. Discussion and possible action to approve Perin McNelis as the Santa Cruz County Private Sector Representative**

Chris Vertrees reminded members that the Executive Board must include private sector representation as a requirement of the Economic Development Administration. Per SEAGO's Bylaws, Private Sector Representatives are appointed from the nominations submitted by the Member Entity Representatives from each county area, and must represent a low income or minority group, or representative organization, or represent the principal economic interests in the region, such as, but not limited to business, industry, finance, utilities, education, the professions, agriculture, or labor.

The Santa Cruz County private sector representative position is currently held by Mr. David Budd. As of this month, Mr. Budd will reach the end of his second term of office and is therefore ineligible to continue serving as a PSR.

Mr. Budd has nominated Perrin McNelis to be his replacement.

Perin McNelis provided a brief biography for the members, saying she grew up in Tucson but has worked in Patagonia since 2015 and has resided there full time for the past 9 years. She is the Native Plant Program Manager for Borderlands Restoration Network where she dedicates her time to preserving and restoring the unique biodiversity of the Madrean Archipelago ecoregion in southeastern Arizona. Perin studied at New York University and Oregon State University where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance with minors in botany and anthropology and is currently pursuing a Master of Natural Resources. She owns property just north of Patagonia where she is building a home with her family and has the intention of being a part of the eastern Santa Cruz County community for the rest of her life. She sits on the board of directors for the Patagonia Regional Times. Perin has a profound love for the natural beauty

of the mountains and grasslands of southeastern Arizona and the strong sense of community she finds in this region.

Mayor Maldonado made a motion to appoint Ms. Perin McNelis to a first term as the Santa Cruz County Private Sector Representative on the Executive Board.

**Motion:** Jorge Maldonado  
**Second:** Edmund Lopez  
**Action:** Unanimous

## **5. Discussion and possible action to approve an update to the SEAGO Classification Plan**

Chris Vertrees In November 2023, an update to SEAGO's Classification and Compensation Plan was approved by the SEAGO Executive Board. Since that time, it has become necessary to realign that plan in response to program/administrative requirements, to provide upward mobility, and to be more reflective of the actual duties performed by staff. In addition, we have found the need to adjust pay grades to address severe retention issues involving case management staff. As a result, the following changes to our Classification and Compensation Plan are being requested:

### **Information Technology Services**

**IT Manager:** As you are aware, our previous Executive Director (Randy Heiss) performed IT management for SEAGO for many years. His successor (Keith Dennis) also had a skill set that allowed him to assume some IT management duties with the assistance of an IT consultant and our GIS Analyst II. I lack that skill set to perform this function and to invest time in learning those functions would be cost prohibitive and time consuming. With 21 active positions, SEAGO has grown to the point that an IT Manager is needed to address the IT needs of the agency and staff. John Merideth our GIS Analyst II has a skill set that allows him to transition into the position of IT Manager. The cost will be minimal as John will maintain GIS Analyst duties.

**Technical Services Coordinator:** With moving John Merideth to IT Manager, the reassignment of his current duties is necessary. Those duties include our Pavement Management Assessment project, our traffic counting program, and our population data collection requirements. These duties fit in nicely with our Training Coordinator position that includes the upkeep of our Transit Asset Management and Training databases. No new costs are anticipated as they have already been included in our transportation and mobility management work program and budgets.

**GIS Analyst I and II:** These job classes have been moved from transportation to Information Technology Services.

### **Area Agency on Aging**

**Case Manager:** SEAGO has experienced extremely high turnover rates in our case management positions. The starting salary for the position is \$17.80 per hour. This is significantly less than other like positions in the Region as most case managers are starting above \$20.00 per hour. It is recommended that the pay grade be shifted from 102 to 105. This will shift the starting salary to \$20.60 per hour.

**Case Manager Supervisor:** To align duties with the position title and provide an upward mobility opportunity it is requested that this position be retitled from Case Manager Coordinator to Case Manager Supervisor. To avoid salary compression with the Case Managers, it is recommended that the pay grade be shifted from 105 to 107. This will result in a pay increase of .50 cents per hour.

**Health and Nutrition Program Coordinator:** SEAGO has tried for years to fill this position with very little luck. No one has held this position for more than a few months. Our current Ombudsman Program Coordinator has supported this program for several years. We are recommending eliminating this position and combining it into one position Ombudsman/HPR Coordinator. This better aligns with the duties being performed by the Ombudsman Program Coordinator. To address the additional duties, it is recommended that the pay grade be shifted from 104 to 107. This will result in a salary increase of \$2.58 per hour.

**Office Specialist II:** To provide upward mobility and to align current duties with the position title, it is recommended that this position be changed to AAA Administrative Assistant. It is recommended that the pay grade be shifted from 102 to 103. This will result in a pay increase of .50 cents per hour.

**Office Specialist I:** This position is split between 2 staff that perform information and referral services for the Area Agency on Aging. It relieves case managers from performing these services. It is recommended that the position title be changed to Information and Referral Specialist. Pay grade for the position will be 102.

From a budget standpoint, the elimination of the Health and Nutrition Program Coordinator position eliminates a salary of \$40,810 and ERE costs of \$14,283 from our operating budget. This more than covers the costs of the AAA salary recommendations above and will generate cost savings of \$19,205.

Job descriptions for active positions within the classification plan have been updated or are in the process of being updated to reflect the incumbents' current responsibilities. When we encounter a need to fill inactive positions in the classification plan, we intend to seek authority to do so through the budget process or request position specific action by the Board. Job descriptions for vacant, inactive or new positions will be updated or created as authority to fill them is granted. Updating job descriptions does not require Board approval, whereas updating our classification plan does.

Chair Lopez shared that he also serves on the Board for the Arizona Council on Aging and knows first-hand how important one on one interaction with seniors is and he supports the changes to the Classification Plan.

Mayor Blake commended SEAGO staff for the good work they conducted on the Plan.

At their meeting on May 1, 2025, the Administrative Council unanimously recommended approval of the Classification Plan Update to the Executive Board.

Mayor Blake made a motion to approve the proposed classification plan updates.

**Motion:** Alex Blake  
**Second:** Jorge Maldonado  
**Action:** Unanimous

## **6. Discussion and possible action to approve Resolution 25-01**

Chris Vertrees stated that each August, the Arizona Rural Policy Forum convenes rural and tribal economic development professionals, community leaders, business owners, nonprofits, and other stakeholders and advocates to harness their collective experience, knowledge and power to sustain rural and tribal communities.

The multi-day forum includes capacity-building sessions, networking receptions, and focused breakouts, such as the funders' roundtable, where communities and nonprofits can connect their visionary projects and local needs to grant-makers who are potential future partners.

This year the forum will be held August 6-8, 2025, in Thatcher at Eastern Arizona College. The address is 615 N. Stadium Avenue, Thatcher, AZ 85552 and is hosted by Local First Arizona.

Mr. Vertrees received a request from Board Member David Budd to formalize our support for this year's Rural Policy Forum in the form of a resolution.

Mr. Budd spoke on the value of attending the Rural Policy Forum. Mayor Blake shared that he and Terry Hinton attended the Forum when it was held in Prescott and found it very valuable.

Supervisor David asked what is the value of the Resolution? Mr. Vertrees responded that it is a demonstration of support from SEAGO.

Edmund Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-01.

**Motion: Edmund Lopez**  
**Second: Alex Blake**  
**Action: Unanimous**

#### **V. INFORMATION ITEMS**

##### **A. Future Meeting Dates**

Chris Vertrees advised the members that the next Board Meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2025 in Greenlee County. He also stated that there is no need for a Joint Committees meeting before then

##### **B. Quarterly Finance Report**

Dina Curtiss gave an update on the quarterly finance report and was available for questions.

##### **C. Community Development Report**

William Osbourne gave an update on community development and was available for questions.

##### **D. Community Development Block Grant Updates**

William Osbourne gave an update on community development block grant projects and was available for questions.

##### **E. SEAGO Economic Development District Report**

Kevin Fowler gave an update on economic development and was available for questions.

##### **F. AAA Program Updates**

Celeste Vasquez gave an update on AAA updates and was available for questions.

##### **G. AAA Legislative Update**

Celeste Vasquez gave an update on legislation affecting AAA and was available for questions.

##### **H. IT Updates**

John Merideth gave an update on IT and was available for questions.

##### **I. Transportation Program Updates**

Chris Vertrees gave an update on Transportation and was available for questions.

#### **VI. RTAC REPORT**

Kevin Adam gave an update on RTAC and was available for questions.

#### **VII. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS/ CURRENT EVENTS**

Mr. Vertrees thanked SEAGO staff for their great work on the Classification Plan; especially Dina Curtiss.

David Budd shared that he has enjoyed working with SEAGO during the past two years and found it very rewarding.

Dina Curtiss thanked Chris Vertrees for his leadership during the various transitions over the past few months.

#### **VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Lopez called for adjournment of the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

DRAFT



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CELESTE VASQUEZ, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING (ACOA) NOMINATIONS

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The Advisory Council on Aging's (ACOA) revised bylaws dated February 21, 2025, state, under Article III – Composition and Membership, Section A.1., that the ACOA consists of eight representatives from Cochise County, four from Graham County, three from Greenlee County, and three from Santa Cruz County.

Section A.1.a. states that at least ten of the eighteen members shall be age sixty or older and that every effort shall be made to ensure the inclusion of persons with the greatest economic or social need, minority individuals, and participants in services funded through the Agency.

Section B.4. states that members appointed by the SEAGO Executive Board shall serve three years (3). Each member shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms. However, a previous member can be reappointed if a vacancy cannot be filled in 90 days. The Advisory Council on Aging may submit a member to the Executive Board for reappointment for an additional term.

There are currently **five (5) vacant** seats, and members are selected to represent incorporated cities, towns, and the unincorporated portions of each county. The current vacancies apply to the following:

**Cochise County (3):**

One (1) seat for Huachuca City  
One (1) seat for the City of Willcox  
One (1) seat for County Unincorporated

**Greenlee County (1):**

One (1) seat for the Town of Clifton

**Santa Cruz County (1):**

One (1) seat for the City of Nogales

**Mr. Frank Montoya's** second term representing the **Town of Clifton** expired on March 14, 2025. To date, we have not received any interest from other potential members in filling this seat. Mr. Montoya is willing to serve on the Council if reappointed, as this seat has been

vacant for 90 days.

**Dr. Arnoldo Montiel's** second term representing the **City of Nogales** expired on March 14, 2025. To date, we have not received any interest from other potential members in filling this seat. Dr. Montiel is **NOT** willing to serve on the Council. I will begin recruitment for this seat.

There are currently two (2) members whose successful first three-year term is due to expire on August 19, 2025. The following members may be reappointed for a second three-year term if they wish to continue:

**Graham County:**

**Mr. Robert Rivera**, representing the **Town of Thatcher**. Mr. Rivera is willing to continue to serve on the Council if reappointed.

**Ms. Lisa Lane**, representing **Graham County Unincorporated**. Ms. Lane is willing to continue to serve on the Council if reappointed.

Nominated representatives will commence their term on the date approved and appointed by the SEAGO Executive Board, which is scheduled for August 22, 2025.

***At their meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup> the Administrative Council unanimously recommended approval of the proposed representatives to the Executive Board.***

**Attachments:** none

**Action Requested:**

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Information Only

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Action Requested Below:

**A motion to approve the proposed representatives for appointments to fill ACOA seat vacancies.**



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CHRISTOPHER VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2025-02

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In response to the requirements of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and ADOT, SEAGO developed a Title VI Plan in July 2011. The purpose of the Plan is to describe how SEAGO intends to ensure that underserved individuals are provided meaningful opportunities to become involved in the transportation planning process within the SEAGO region. At the time this iteration of the Plan was developed, there was no federal requirement that such a plan be approved by an agency's governing board. Since that time, the FTA has revised its Circular 4702.1 B, which, among other things, now requires approval of Title VI plans by an agency's governing board.

While ADOT will accept the minutes of a meeting as evidence of governing board approval, the minutes do not become official until approved at a subsequent meeting. Because meetings of the SEAGO Executive Board occur quarterly, approval of the August 19<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes will not be considered until November – well after the deadline for ADOT to submit our Title VI plan to FTA. Therefore, I have prepared a Resolution for your consideration which, if adopted, will provide immediate evidence of the Executive Board's approval of SEAGO's Title VI Implementation and Public Participation Plan dated August 1, 2025.

Due to the volume of paper, the Title VI Plan would add to your meeting packet, we have posted the Plan to SEAGO's website for your review. The Plan is available for your review or download at any time by clicking the following link:

<https://www.keepandshare.com/doc12/view.php?id=259064&da=y>

***At their meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Administrative Council unanimously recommended approval of Resolution No. 2025-02 to the Executive Board.***

I'll be pleased to answer any questions you may have at your meeting.

**Attachments:** Resolution No. 2025-02

**Action Requested:** ☐ Information Only ☒ Action Requested Below

**A motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-02.**





## SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization

*Serving our member governments and their constituents since 1972*

### RESOLUTION NO. 2025-02

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA GOVERNMENTS ORGANIZATION APPROVING THE ORGANIZATION'S TITLE VI IMPLEMENTATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN DATED AUGUST 1, 2025

#### SEAGO Member Entities

##### *Cochise County*

*Benson*

*Bisbee*

*Douglas*

*Huachuca City*

*Sierra Vista*

*Tombstone*

*Willcox*

##### *Graham County*

*Pima*

*Safford*

*San Carlos*

*Apache Tribe*

*Thatcher*

##### *Greenlee County*

*Clifton*

*Duncan*

##### *Santa Cruz County*

*Nogales*

*Patagonia*

#### SEAGO Main Office

##### **Administration Community and Economic Dev. Transportation**

*1403 W. Hwy 92*

*Bisbee, AZ 85603*

*520-432-5301*

*520-432-5858 Fax*

#### Area Agency on Aging Office

*1403 B Hwy 92*

*Bisbee, AZ 85603*

*520-432-2528*

*520-432-9168 Fax*

**www.seago.org**

**WHEREAS**, the SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO) is a council of governments serving the four-county region of Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization is a subrecipient of funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) passed through Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), to carry out an annual work plan consisting of transportation and public transit planning activities; and

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to 23 CFR 635.102, ADOT has the authority to delegate project administration and management to subrecipients and Local Public Agencies (LPAs) including any city, county, township, municipality, or other political subdivision that may be empowered to cooperate with the ADOT in highway matters; and

**WHEREAS**, as an LPA and subrecipient of FHWA and FTA funding, SEAGO is required to carry out its transportation planning duties and obligations in accordance with all applicable federal requirements, including but not limited to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which requires outreach to underserved groups; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Title VI requirements, SEAGO has developed a Title VI Implementation and Public Participation Plan, the purpose of which is to describe how SEAGO intends to ensure that underserved individuals are provided meaningful opportunities to become involved in the transportation planning process within the SEAGO region; and

**WHEREAS**, FTA Circular 4 702.1 B, as revised, now requires Governing Board approval of Title VI plans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the SEAGO Executive Board hereby approves the SEAGO Title VI Implementation and Public Participation Plan dated August 1, 2025.

Passed and adopted by the SEAGO Executive Board on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arnold Lopez,  
Executive Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Vertrees,  
Executive Director



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CHRISTOPHER VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** SEAGO BYLAWS REVISION REQUEST

---

I have received a request to amend the SEAGO bylaws. Our Bylaws require The Secretary of the Executive Board submit the proposed amendment to each Executive Board official representative at least 15 days prior to the next meeting.

The recommendation is to eliminate the Joint Administrative Committee (AC)/Executive Committee (EC) meetings as identified in Section E. The feeling is that it is an unnecessary and cumbersome layer to approve simple program related time-sensitive business. A significant majority of the business is TIP Amendments and AAA subaward approvals that were approved and vetted by other SEAGO standing committees (Transportation Advisory Committee or Area Council on Aging). It is often difficult to get a quorum of the Administrative Committee due to the members' very busy schedules. We routinely proceed without the AC recommendation anyway. It is believed that EC members can reach out to their Administrative Council Member Entity Representative for input as needed.

This does not prevent us from holding a stand-alone Administrative Committee meeting if we have funding issues (use of fund balance) or potentially controversial concerns such as removing a project from the TIP in which a recommendation from the AC is needed and preferred.

I have reviewed the Bylaws of the other Council of Governments (WACOG, CAG, and NACOG). Joint Advisory and Executive Committee meetings are not discussed in their Bylaws.

To reflect these changes above, the responsibilities of the Joint AC/EC meeting have been moved to the Executive Committee (Section D) of our Bylaws and highlighted in yellow. Section E (Joint AC/EC Meetings) have been struck from our Bylaws.

In addition, I have recommended an additional line item in our Executive Board Election of Officers (Section C). We have very strict requirements involving election and rotation of officers. There is no flexibility. When Keith Dennis resigned as Executive Director immediately prior to our annual election of officers, SEAGO was potentially looking at an extended recruitment and selection process for a new Executive Director. I received a recommendation that we postpone the election of officers in order to provide experience and consistency through the process. A review of the bylaws found that it was not feasible. To provide some flexibility during exceptional circumstances, the following paragraph was added to Section C of

our Bylaws:

***“In the event of an exceptional circumstance such as the termination/resignation of the Executive Director or financial emergency, the Executive Board may pause the election of officers ~~until the August meeting~~ to allow time for the exceptional circumstance to be resolved.”***

***At their meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Administrative Council unanimously recommended approval of the Bylaws Revision to the Executive Board with one exception. The Administrative Council struck ‘until the August meeting’ from the above recommended Bylaw language.***

I’ll be pleased to answer any questions you may have at your meeting.

Attachments: ***August 2025 Recommended Bylaws Revisions***

**Action Requested:**

☐ Information Only

☒ Action Requested Below

**A motion to approve the August 2025 Bylaws Revision.**



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CHRIS VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION PLAN APPROVAL

---

Beginning in 2007, in order to receive funding under the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 program, agencies applying for funding must be included in a ***locally developed, Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (i.e., transportation coordination plan)***. The FTA also requires Section 5311 projects to be included in these plans. The coordination plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, seniors, and people with low incomes; provides strategies for meeting those local needs; and prioritizes transportation services and projects for funding and implementation.

In response to the requirements of the FTA and ADOT, SEAGO develops a ***Regional Transportation Coordination Plan***. Each January, SEAGO invites human, health, social, and transit service providers and members of the general public to come together to form our Regional Coordination Council. It is at these meetings that short-term planning strategies and priorities are developed to address the transit needs of the Region. This group reviews and provides updates to the Coordination Plan. New members are added to the Plan and organizations no longer active are removed from the Plan. Each organization is given an opportunity to update their own efforts, and the combined efforts of the group are recorded in the Plan. The process includes an update of the regional needs assessment, a review of and update of regional transit goals, capacity building and gap filling strategies, and the establishment of Regional Funding Priorities for the 5310-grant cycle.

While Federal legislation requires the preparation of a ***locally developed plan*** it does not provide directions on Executive Board approval requirements. However, many transit grant applications now require projects to be identified in a ***locally approved planning document***. Executive Board approval would allow SEAGO and our public transit providers to be more competitive in our efforts to pursue transit funding.

Due to the size of the Coordination Plan it has not been included in your packet. The plan is available at: <https://www.keepandshare.com/doc12/258495/seago-2025-26-coordinated-public-transit-plan-04-07-25-a?da=y>

**At their meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Administrative Council unanimously recommended approval of the proposed SEAGO 2025-2026 Regional Transportation Coordination Plan to the Executive Board.**

**Attachments:** None

**Action Requested:** ☐ Information Only ☒ Action Requested Below

**A motion to approve the SEAGO 2025-2026 Regional Transportation Coordination Plan.**



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CHRIS VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** APPROVAL OF FY27 RTAC PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

---

The last several years, the Rural Transportation Advisory Council (RTAC) has requested that Greater Arizona COGs and MPOs develop a list of regional priorities consisting of the top projects to be put forward by all the COGs/MPOs in Greater Arizona to the State Legislature for funding. The SEAGO Region was very successful during the FY24 budget cycle. We secured almost \$30 million in projects. Last year we developed a FY25 Priority Project List that included \$36,102,142 in projects. Unfortunately, due to significant budget deficits the State Legislature did not fund any projects from the RTAC list.

***This year, we were once again successful in seeing some projects on our list get funded. The following projects were funded:***

Frank Reed Road Improvements – City of Nogales - \$1.5 million

Industrial Park Road Improvements – City of Nogales - \$2.9 million

La Quinta Road Improvements – City of Nogales - \$1.8 million

RTAC has again requested that each Greater Arizona COG/MPO develop a list of Regional Transportation Priority Projects be submitted to the State Legislature for funding in the FY27 budget cycle. SEAGO had a total of \$43,322,570 to program. Unfunded projects from our FY26 list were carried over for FY27. This left us approximately \$10.2 million to include in our FY27 list.

On May 16, 2025, SEAGO issued a Call for Projects. The call closed on June 20, 2025. SEAGO received 4 applications with 3 which were able to be included in our FY27 RTAC list. Those projects were:

8th Street Improvement Project – Graham County - \$2.535 million

Western Avenue/Target Range Road Paving Project – City of Nogales - \$6,927,573

SR 80/Washington Avenue Turn Lane Improvements – City of Douglas - \$1.5 million

A second Nogales application (Commercial Roads Paving Project) could not be included in this year's list. This does not preclude Nogales or any other member agency pursuing

direct legislative awards. ***The Western Avenue/Target Range Road Paving Project was the top priority for Nogales.***

As we have done in past years, construction contingency line items were not included in the funding recommendations.

Attached is our FY27 programming plan. We do not rank these projects in priority order. Historically, project ranking has not played a role in project selection as legislatures prioritize and select projects based upon the needs of their district. It is incumbent on each applicant to reach out to your state legislature and get their support for your project.

***The SEAGO TAC reviewed and approved the Priority Project List at our July 17, 2025, TAC Meeting.***

***At their meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Administrative Council unanimously recommended approval of the SEAGO Region's Priority Transportation Projects List to the Executive Board.***

I will be glad to answer any question you may have at our meeting.

**Attachments:** SEAGO FY27 Priority Project List

**Action Requested:** ☐ Information Only ☒ Action Requested Below

**A motion to approve the SEAGO Region's Priority Transportation Projects List.**



## FY2027 RTAC PRIORITY TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS FOR THE SEAGO REGION

Project Sponsor	Project Name	Project Cost	Local Contribution	Recommended Funding
San Carlos Apache Tribe	Peridot Siding Road Pavement Overlay Project	\$3,143,000	\$179,151	\$2,963,849
Santa Cruz County	West Frontage Road at Camino Ramanote Roundabout	\$1,170,000	\$66,690	\$1,103,310
City of Douglas	Douglas Downtown Revitalization Streetscape Project	\$7,549,804	\$430,339	\$7,119,465
Graham County	Reay Lane Improvements	\$3,955,058	\$225,438	\$3,729,620
Cochise County	Davis Rd- MP 5 & 13 Improvements	\$6,000,000	\$342,000	\$5,658,000
Town of Duncan	High Street Improvements	\$1,962,611	\$111,869	\$1,850,742
Cochis County	Davis Rd – Central Hwy to US-191	\$7,555,013	\$430,636	\$7,124,377
Graham County	8th Street Improvement Project	\$2,535,000	\$144,495	\$2,390,505
City of Nogales	Western Avenue- Target Range Road Paving Project	\$6,927,573	\$394,872	\$6,532,701
City of Douglas	SR 80 - Washington Turn Lane Improvements	\$1,500,000	\$250,000	\$1,250,000
Cochise County	Moson Road - Transfer to SVMPO	\$3,600,000	\$0	\$3,600,000
			<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$43,322,570</b>
<b>New Projects</b>				
<b>Carry Over Projects</b>				



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CHRIS VERTREES, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** FUTURE MEETING DATES

---

The Administrative Council normally meets at 9:00 a.m. on the first Thursday of February, May, August and November at the Cochise College Benson Center, located at 1025 Highway 90 in Benson, Arizona. The Executive Board normally meets at 10:00 a.m. on Fridays, two weeks following the Administrative Council meetings unless there is a holiday, or unless the Board sets an alternative date. The location of each Executive Board meeting is determined by the jurisdiction hosting the meeting and therefore varies.

Administrative Council	Executive Board
February 6, 2025	February 21, 2025 - Cochise County
May 1, 2025	May 16, 2025 – Graham County
August 7, 2025	August 15, 2025 – Greenlee County
November 6, 2025	November 21, 2025 – Santa Cruz County

Also, below please find the tentative schedule for our combined telephonic Administrative and Executive Committee meetings in the upcoming 12 months:

Combined Administrative and Executive Committee Meetings (telephonic)
April 3, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.
May 29, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.
October 2, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.
December 4, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

**Attachments:** None.

**Action Requested:** ☒ Information Only ☐ Action Requested Below:





# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD

**FROM:** CHRISTOPHER VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025

**SUBJECT:** GRAHAM COUNTY AND GREENLEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE BOARD  
PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE

---

As you may be aware, our Executive Board must include private sector representation as a requirement of the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Per SEAGO's Bylaws, Private Sector Representatives are appointed from the nominations submitted by the Member Entity Representatives from each county area that represents a low income or minority group, or representative organization, or represent the principal economic interests in the region, such as, but not limited to business, industry, finance, utilities, education, agriculture, or labor.

The second term of office for Graham County Private Sector Representative, Edmund Lopez, will expire following our August meeting. It has been a great pleasure working with Edmund, but since Edmund is ineligible for another contiguous term, there is a need to find someone to replace him on the Executive Board.

The second term of office for Greenlee County Private Sector Representative, Steve Ahman, will expire following our August meeting. It has been a great pleasure working with Steve, but since Steve is ineligible for another contiguous term, there is a need to find someone to replace him on the Executive Board.

Ensuring that there is representation on our Board from many of the various sectors noted above is important to EDA. Therefore, SEAGO is accepting nominations for Graham and Greenlee Private Sector Representatives for approval at our November meeting. We are required to provide the resumes of our private sector representatives to the EDA. Nominations will need to include a resume from the nominee.

Please submit nominations via email to [cdvertrees@seago.org](mailto:cdvertrees@seago.org) by October 23, 2025, so that they may be considered by our Administrative Council at their November 6, 2025, meeting.



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**THROUGH:** CHRIS VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**FROM:** DINA CURTISS, FINANCE MANAGER  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** FINANCE REPORT

---

Attached is a copy of SEAGO's Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the quarter ending June 30, 2025, for your review.

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures at the meeting.

**Action Requested:** ☒ Information Only ☐ Action Requested Below

**SEAGO**

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - R&E that ties to Budget - Unposted Transactions Included In Report

From 4/1/2025 Through 6/30/2025

(In Whole Numbers)

		Cur Pd Actual	YTD Actual	Total Budget	% of Budget Used
<b>Revenue</b>					
General Fund	101	18,772	91,670	150,000	61.11%
Agency Response	301	(15,345)	45,302	45,302	100.00%
Community Development Block Grant	302	97,344	205,573	370,000	55.56%
Economic Development	303	34,095	110,357	110,358	99.99%
Public Transit	308	2,338	18,601	20,000	93.00%
State Planning & Research	309	23,271	162,763	172,272	94.48%
Area Agency on Aging	310	416,614	1,329,989	2,052,376	64.80%
Regional Mobility Management	311	47,895	174,424	162,500	107.33%
RMM Training	314	16,726	93,023	87,500	106.31%
Nogales Area Transit Feasibility Study	351	0	38,882	95,000	40.92%
United Way of Graham and Greenlee Counties	356	0	65,130	65,130	100.00%
Regionwide Pavement Assessment Project P...	357	25,277	125,366	201,864	62.10%
Bisbee Route Efficiency Study ADOT	358	35,024	71,735	75,000	95.64%
Santa Cruz Cnty Elgin School Remodel LSM	359	0	8,000	8,000	100.00%
BSERC Environmental Review	360	2,500	5,000	5,000	100.00%
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>704,511</b>	<b>2,545,815</b>	<b>3,620,301</b>	<b>70.32%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
General Fund	101	11,371	11,371	150,000	7.58%
Agency Response	301	9,952	44,568	45,302	98.37%
Community Development Block Grant	302	51,041	170,424	370,000	46.06%
Economic Development	303	34,138	105,557	110,358	95.64%
Public Transit	308	3,736	20,000	20,000	100.00%
State Planning & Research	309	23,271	162,763	172,272	94.48%
Area Agency on Aging	310	411,355	1,307,714	2,052,376	63.71%
Regional Mobility Management	311	47,895	174,424	162,500	107.33%
RMM Training	314	16,726	93,023	87,500	106.31%
Nogales Area Transit Feasibility Study	351	0	38,882	95,000	40.92%
United Way of Graham and Greenlee Counties	356	33,000	34,472	65,130	52.92%
Regionwide Pavement Assessment Project P...	357	25,277	125,366	201,864	62.10%
Bisbee Route Efficiency Study ADOT	358	35,024	71,735	75,000	95.64%
Santa Cruz Cnty Elgin School Remodel LSM	359	0	1,082	8,000	13.52%
BSERC Environmental Review	360	0	331	5,000	6.62%
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>702,787</b>	<b>2,361,712</b>	<b>3,620,301</b>	<b>65.24%</b>
<b>Balance</b>		<b>1,724</b>	<b>184,103</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**THROUGH:** CHRIS VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**FROM:** WILLIAM D. OSBORNE, AICP, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM MANAGER  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATES

---

## **Graham County Housing Feasibility Study**

The Graham County Housing Feasibility Study is approaching its conclusion. Grow America is finalizing its housing development opportunities site analysis, and Grow America, Norris Designs and SEAGO will coordinate on presentation of the findings, conclusions, and next steps.

## **Better Cities Resilience Action Planning & Freeport McMoRan**

FMI continues to consider options for refreshing the Greenlee County Housing Feasibility Study as it refines a proposed scope of work.

## **Brownfields Assessment Grant (BAG)**

Community Development staff have been in contact with Stantec for coordination and support of the BAG with a focus on administration and documentation for currently approved applicants, and consideration of new assessments for our communities.

## **WIFA Projects**

Staff are coordinating with WIFA staff on a wastewater system improvement project for the Sweet Springs Community Mobile Home Park in St. David, and for improvements related to the Douglas (2<sup>nd</sup>) Commercial Port of Entry near the Cochise Community College – Douglas campus.

**Attachments:** None

**Action Requested:**

☒ Information Only

☐ Action Requested Below



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**THROUGH:** CHRIS VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**FROM:** WILLIAM D. OSBORNE, AICP, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM MANAGER  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** CDBG UPDATES

---

## **CDBG Funding Continuity Inquiries**

SEAGO Community Development staff continues to communicate with ADOH regarding the status of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and awarded projects. Currently, funding remains obligated for the past years and FY2025 CDBG Method of Distribution (MOD) communities.

## **Regional Account Updates**

The Town of Duncan is coordinating with SEAGO staff and ADOH on transferring funds remaining from its Water System Improvements (Hunter Estates) project (CDBG) and the funds awarded for their Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (OOHR) project to the Colonias Wastewater Lift Station Improvements project.

The City of Bisbee will soon open bid proposals from construction contractors for the Bisbee Senior Center Improvements project on August 6, 2025.

The Town of Thatcher High School Avenue Sidewalks & ADA Improvements project is almost ready for award of funding. SEAGO staff will submit a date-signed Notice of Intent/Request for Release of Funding (NOIRROF).

SEAGO staff will submit an Amendment to ADOH on behalf of the Town of Pima regarding a change of location to focus originally scoped street improvements to another street located within the Low-Moderate Income-qualified Census Block Group of Pima.

The City of Nogales Camino Del Sol Phase 2 water and wastewater improvements project can proceed with contracted construction once an Amendment for an extension is approved by ADOH. SEAGO staff have been communicating with the city to acquire the date-signed Amendment application.

The Town of Patagonia and Santa Cruz County both passed resolutions to allow for the transfer of Patagonia FY2024 funding (\$440,128) to Santa Cruz County to support their FY2025 applications.

Nineteen (19) weeks of construction activity have been completed for the City of Benson Lion's Park Improvements project. Labor Standards interviews continue, with weather and overall project scope considerations requiring another Amendment application for extension.

Clifton, Graham County, Santa Cruz County and Tombstone have held their second CDBG public participation public hearings, and applications are being prepared.

**Colonias CDBG: Complications in Duncan, Continued Progress in Patagonia, Bisbee Close-Out Ahead**

The Saginaw Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation (OOHR) project end date is May 30, 2025.

The Rothrock Alley Water System Improvements Colonias project in the Town of Patagonia continues with construction. Labor Standards interviews are on-going.

The Town of Duncan Wastewater Lift Station Improvements Colonias project was considered complete, but soon afterward, critical groundwater issues were identified that could undo the improvements. The Town, SEAGO, and ADOH have discussed opportunities to shift existing available Town of Duncan CDBG funds, as well as other funding sources that might be applied to ensure the improvements will be made to protect the Town's water quality.

Please contact me if you have any questions, especially if you represent one of the communities expecting to receive Regional Account CDBG funds next year. It is never too early to begin planning and putting together a timeline for public outreach and project scoping and cost estimating.

Attachments: None

Action Requested: ☒ Information Only ☐ Action Requested Below



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**THROUGH:** KEVIN FOWLER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
**DATE:** August 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATES

---

The following provides a summary and updates of Economic Development programs at SEAGO:

## **CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy)**

Staff continues work on the 2026-2030 CEDS update. We are on draft five and have been working with EDA on the project. We have recently added the latest Socioeconomic and Demographic data to the document. We are working on updating relevant information where applicable for review by the CEDS Committee prior to having public meetings.

We anticipate partner meetings by Teams prior to public meetings in the four counties. Proper meeting notices will be sent prior to any public meetings in compliance with SEAGO Public Notice procedures.

Staff are researching the use of a CEDS consultant to assist us with conducting outreach meetings and surveys.

We recently met with EDA to discuss our progress and deadlines they want. We anticipate a draft being sent to them by fall 2025.

Finally, EDA will notify SEAGO when the 2029-2029 CEDS Grant application is coming due. We have been working on the application so when they contact us, we will already be in process.

## **BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENTS**

SEAGO is continuing to work with Nogales on their assessments for the downtown area and anticipates working with Clifton on a water system evaluation in downtown Clifton. These help local communities to evaluate properties and determine if development is feasible. Just getting an assessment doesn't require entities to perform remediation.

Brownfield just completed a Lead and Asbestos abatement project for the Hillcrest property in Bisbee to enable the city to attempt to sell the property.

These Brownfield Grants assist in promoting Economic Development and provide resources and tools to aid rural areas in planning and remediation of older properties.

## **REAP – RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM**

The REAP program has been terminated in part due to federal equity restrictions. It has been removed for the SEAGO website.

We anticipate that this program will not be part of the FY 2025/26 federal budget.

## **WILCOX PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

The project is currently underway, and it is anticipated that it will be completed by late Fall 2025, pending weather and progress exceptions.

Community Development is still conducting wage assessments and Labor Standards interviews on the project in conjunction with ADOH.

The project was funded by EDA in 2023.

## **PROPOSED NEW PROJECTS**

### ***New EDA Grant Applications***

SEAGO has been working with the EDA to secure additional planning funds. Three projects are under consideration:

1. A Tradeport Feasibility Study
2. A Region-wide Business Incubator Project
3. CDS PIO project for region wide education of CEDS.

**Action Requested:**

☒ Information Only

☐ Action Requested  
Below





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# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**THROUGH:** JOHN MERIDETH, IT MANAGER  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

---

The following provides a summary of current Information Technology initiatives at SEAGO:

## Office 365 Migration

In January 2025, SEAGO began transitioning from SmarterMail to Microsoft Office 365 for email and calendar services. As part of the migration, a series of staff training sessions were conducted to support adoption of key applications:

- May 7, 2025 – SharePoint
- May 14, 2025 – Microsoft Teams
- May 21, 2025 – OneDrive
- May 28, 2025 – Outlook

## Windows 11 Device Upgrades

To prepare for Microsoft's scheduled end of support for Windows 10 on October 14, 2025, SEAGO is actively upgrading all desktop and laptop devices to Windows 11. As of July 2025, the upgrade process is approximately 98% complete.

## Website Analytics:

The following table presents monthly unique page visits for each SEAGO website, along with the number of Google searches referencing "SEAGO":

	Google searches	seago.org	seagomobility.org	seagotam.org	southeastarizonaeconomy.com
Apr-25	91	656	39	24	4
May-25	102	751	67	39	7
Jun-25	68	718	46	35	5

## Phone System Upgrade

In early June 2025, SEAGO was notified by its current phone system vendor (Blackpoint) that the existing contract—set to expire on **August 1, 2025**—could not be renewed, and that the aging system would no longer be supported. The existing system was installed in 2008 at a cost of

\$23,079. As a result, the planned Q3 phone system replacement was expedited.

Following a vendor proposal and internal analysis, SEAGO entered into a **36-month agreement** with Blackpoint for a modern, cloud-based VoIP system powered by **8x8**.

### **Key Benefits of the New 8x8 System:**

- 1. Cloud-Based Flexibility**
  - Eliminates on-premise hardware requirements
  - Scalable for hybrid or remote work environments
  - Accessible from any internet-connected device
- 2. Unified Communications Platform**
  - Integrates voice, video, messaging, SMS, and fax into a single platform
- 3. High Reliability**
  - 99.999% uptime
  - Built-in redundancy and failover systems
- 4. Advanced Features**
  - Auto-attendant, call forwarding, voicemail-to-email
  - Call recording, real-time analytics, and dashboards
  - Video conferencing and team chat
- 5. Cost Efficiency**
  - Lower costs compared to traditional PBX systems
  - Transparent pricing with unlimited domestic calling
- 6. Robust Security & Compliance**
  - End-to-end encryption
  - HIPAA compliant
- 7. Simplified Administration**
  - Centralized web-based management portal
  - Easy administration of users, devices, and permissions
- 8. Comprehensive Analytics**
  - Quality of Service (QoS) monitoring
  - Detailed call logs and performance metrics
- 9. 24/7 Support**
  - Phone, chat, and ticketing support
  - Access to a self-service knowledge base and training library

In addition, the system allows staff to make and receive calls on mobile phones, computers and desktop phones. All users with existing desk phones will receive new compatible phones at no additional cost to SEAGO. Employees with existing SEAGO mobile numbers will be ported to the new platform, eliminating the need for separate cellular service and devices. Users will be able to make and receive work calls on their personal cell phones using the 8x8 app. The main SEAGO and AAA incoming phone lines will also be ported from our current provider (Sparklight).

### **Approximate Monthly Savings:**

- Cellular and legacy phone services eliminated: **\$900/month**
- New 8x8 system cost: **\$550/month** (24 users)
- Old Blackpoint contract expires 8/1/25: **\$135/month**

**Go-Live Date:** August 1, 2025

***Asset Management Database:*** Work continues on populating the database with all IT related equipment.

***IT Roadmap: Upcoming Projects***

- Windows Server Installation – Deploy a local Windows Server to improve user, device, and group policy management.
- Disaster Preparedness – Evaluate and implement backup solutions for internet connectivity and power.
- Website Updates – Refresh website content and design for improved user experience.
- Help Desk Ticketing System – Develop a service ticket tracking database to log and manage technical support requests by user and program.

**Action Requested:**

X Information Only

Action Requested Below



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CELESTE VASQUEZ, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** AAA FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 SUBAWARDS

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**Background:**

SEAGO AAA completed the SFY2025-2026 Subawards by June 30, 2025. Attached is a summary of the funds awarded to our contractors/providers. Please note that we closely monitor the use of these funds, and if needed, we may reassign funds to another service or provider to fully utilize what we have been awarded by the state. In addition, if additional funds become available, we will evaluate the needs within the region and request them as needed.

**Attachments:** SEAGO AAA Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Subawards

**Action Requested:** ☒ Information Only ☐ Action Requested Below:

SEAGO AAA Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Subawards			
Case Management			
Available Funding Graham and Greenlee:			\$ 45,000
Provider	Service	Service Area	Contract Amount
Cochise County			
SEAGO-Area Agency on Aging	Case Management		\$ 103,120
Graham/Greenlee County			
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique Services	Case Management	Graham County - All	\$ 45,000
Santa Cruz County			
SEAGO-Area Agency on Aging	Case Management		\$ 58,120
Home Care Cluster			
Available Funding By County:			
Cochise:			\$ 473,200
Graham:			\$ 179,500
Greenlee:			\$ 43,000
Santa Cruz:			\$ 175,618
Provider	Service	Service Area	Contract Amount
Cochise County			
Accent Care	Attendant Care	Cochise County - All	\$ 213,200
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$ 57,000
	In-home Respite		\$ 67,000
Lutheran Social Services	Attendant Care	Cochise County - All	\$ 86,000
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$ 36,000
	In-home Respite		\$ 14,000
Graham County			
Accent Care	Attendant Care	Graham County - All	\$ 14,000
	In-home Respite		\$ 6,500
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique Services	Attendant Care	Graham County - All	\$ 134,000
	In-home Respite		\$ 20,000
	Home Repair	Graham/Greenlee	\$ 3,000
	Adaptive Aids	Graham/Greenlee	\$ 2,000
Greenlee County			
Greenlee County Health Department	Attendant Care	Greenlee County - All	\$ 40,000
	In-home Respite		\$ 3,000

Home Care Cluster (continued)			
Provider	Service	Service Area	Contract Amount
Santa Cruz County			
Accent Care	Attendant Care	Santa Cruz County - All	\$ 3,400
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$ 15,518
	In-home Respite		\$ 6,000
Consumer Direct	Attendant Care	Santa Cruz County - All	\$ 57,000
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$ 22,000
	In-home Respite		\$ 500
Lutheran Social Services	Attendant Care	Santa Cruz County - All	\$ 65,000
	Attendant Care-SSBG		\$ 3,000
	In-home Respite		\$ 3,200
Meals Programs			
Available Funding By County:			
Cochise: \$			463,423
Graham: \$			222,731
Greenlee: \$			143,731
Santa Cruz: \$			310,461
Provider	Service	Service Area	Contract Amount
Cochise County			
City of Tombstone	Congregate Meals	Tombstone	\$ 70,000
Douglas ARC	Congregate Meals	Douglas	\$ 12,500
	Home Delivered Meals	SE Cochise County	\$ 200,000
Mom's Meals	Home Delivered Meals	Rural Cochise County	\$ 180,923
Graham County			
Mom's Meals	Home Delivered Meals	Rural Graham County	\$ 45,231
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique Services	Congregate Meals	Safford	\$ 48,500
	Home Delivered Meals	Graham	\$ 129,000
Greenlee County			
Mom's Meals	Home Delivered Meals	Rural Greenlee County	\$ 45,231
Southeastern Arizona Community Unique Services	Congregate Meals	Clifton and Duncan	\$ 48,500
	Home Delivered Meals	Greenlee	\$ 50,000
Santa Cruz County			
Mom's Meals	Home Delivered Meals	Rural Santa Cruz County	\$ 90,461
Santa Cruz Council on Aging	Congregate Meals	Nogales	\$ 150,000
Senior Citizens of Patagonia	Congregate Meals	Patagonia	\$ 70,000

Transportation			
		Cochise: \$	150,000
		Graham: \$	30,000
		Greenlee: \$	26,000
		Santa Cruz: \$	5,000
Provider	Service	Service Area	Contract Amount
Cochise County			
City of Benson	Transportation	Benson Area	\$ 42,500
City of Bisbee	Transportation	Bisbee Area	\$ 32,500
City of Douglas	Transportation	Douglas - Cochise Cnty	\$ 30,000
City of Willcox	Transportation	Willcox Area	\$ 25,000
Volunteer Interfaith Caregiver Program (VICAP)	Transportation	Cochise County -All	\$ 20,000
Graham County			
Easter Seals Blake Foundation	Transportation	Graham County	\$ 30,000
Greenlee County			
Easter Seals Blake Foundation	Transportation	Greenlee - Clifton	\$ 10,500
		Greenlee - Duncan	\$ 15,500
		Santa Cruz County	
Valley Assistance Services-Tentative	Transportation	Santa Cruz County	\$ 5,000.00
Unobligated Funds			
Available Funding All Counties:			\$ 218,112
Provider	Service	Service Area	Contract Amount
WAIVED	Legal Services	All Counties	\$ -
TBD	Housekeeping	Cochise, Graham, Greenlee and Santa Cruz Counties	\$ 2,000
TBD	CNG-HDM	All Counties	\$ 216,112
Grand Total - All			\$ 2,485,776



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**FROM:** CELESTE VASQUEZ, AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** AREA AGENCY ON AGING PROGRAMS UPDATE

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## Administration:

I was invited to present at Community & Legislative Partners on Aging at the Arizona House of Representatives in Phoenix on May 22, 2025. I focused my presentation on educating them on the services offered through the Older Americans Act and the adverse effects it would have on the State if the programs were not funded federally.



We currently have one vacancy within the department. This is for the Benson area Case Manager. We are actively recruiting and attempting to fill that position immediately.

SEAGO AAA has partnered with the Arizona Community Health Workers Association (AzCHOW) to develop a program called "Comiendo Fresco" (Eating Fresh), which will provide vouchers to seniors to purchase fresh produce at local stores. Our Douglas Case Manager works with them to identify clients needing additional food and nutritional assistance. The vouchers will be \$20 weekly. This is phase one of the program, and the grant AzCHOW received was awarded for two years.

The Arizona Division of Aging and Adult Services is gathering public input to update the State Plan on Aging. SEAGO is scheduled to host the Region VI Public Input Session on



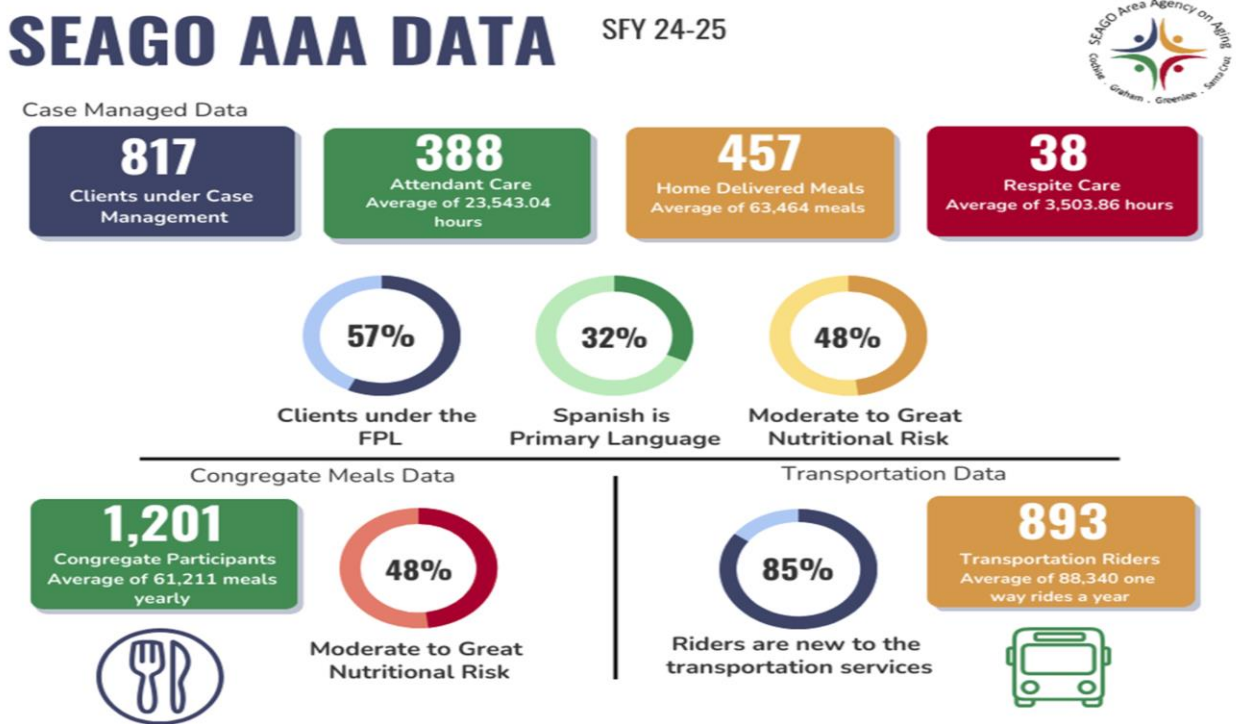
Friday, August 8, 2025, at 10:00 am. This session is available via zoom utilizing this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86032840490?pwd=dXsok7s2xe01brXOt7lphSasey2Etr.1#success>

In addition to joining the session, we encourage everyone to participate in a brief survey that will allow the state to identify the needs of our communities. The survey can be found at the following link:

[https://mslscgov.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bpjhG0aJ0ptMg2a](https://mslscgov.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bpjhG0aJ0ptMg2a)

### **Case Management:**



Please note that this data is missing the final report for June 2025.

### **Family Caregiver Support Program:**

In April, the team was interviewed by Alexis Ramanjulu from [KGUN9 News Tucson](#) (click this link to view the story). The story focused on “Resources for seniors in jeopardy because of federal funding cuts.” Seana Riffle did a fantastic job recognizing a Family Caregiver who benefited from our services and was willing to give testimony.

SEAGO AAA was a vendor at Bisbee Pride this June. It allowed for direct connection with the community and showed awareness of services tailored to meet the needs of all individuals.

### **Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Program:**

The HPR Program is thriving, featuring two vibrant Tai Chi classes in Santa Cruz County and Spanish classes for the A Matter of Balance (AMOB) program in Nogales. In an exciting development, our HPR volunteers will launch a new AMOB class in Nogales at the end of August, creating more opportunities for community wellness and engagement. We hope for a Matter of Balance class in Duncan, AZ, soon. Additionally, there is interest in AMOB in Sierra Vista, along with potential new coach volunteers joining our team.

### **Long-Term Care Ombudsman:**

Recently, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOC) participated in the Department of Economic Security's (DES) inspiring World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) event in Phoenix. Looking ahead, we are eager to attend the US Aging conference in July, where we will deepen our knowledge and enhance our skills. Our commitment to community outreach remains strong, as we strive to connect and educate.

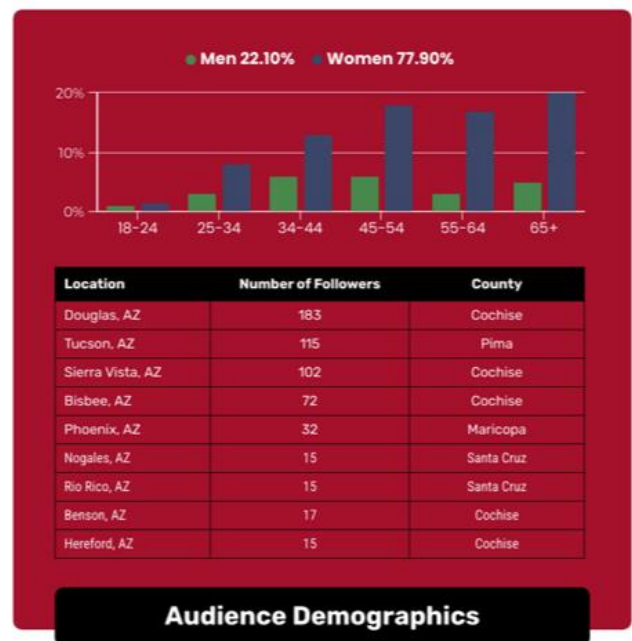
Southeastern Arizona Elder Abuse Taskforce's (SEAEAT) mission to raise awareness and provide education continues to flourish. June marked World Elder Abuse Awareness Month (WEAAM), and we proudly hosted four impactful events. In Nogales, we welcomed around 100 attendees and vendors; in Safford, we engaged about 60 passionate participants; in Clifton, we attracted roughly 20 attendees and vendors; and in Douglas, we celebrated a gathering of approximately 103 attendees and vendors. Each event was an excellent opportunity to foster community connection and awareness.

SEAGO AAA brought Attorney General Kris Mayes to Douglas for an Elder Abuse Town Hall. The event and media coverage were successful. You may view the videos and articles by clicking on the links below:

- [KGUN 9 Tucson](#)
- [KVOA 4 Tucson](#)
- [Douglas Dispatch](#)



## Social Media:



## State Health Insurance Program and Senior Medicare Patrol:

SHIP-SMP is collaborating with Region VI Health Centers to establish primary care physician (PCP) offices. The SHIP/SMP Coordinator has been working closely with the Attorney General and various political candidates to raise awareness about SMP services



related to fraud and scams. Chiricahua Community Health Center's AHCCCS department has partnered with SHIP/SMP to identify beneficiaries with Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) needs. Chiricahua Medical Center has successfully reinstated a significant percentage of its LIS beneficiaries with AHCCCS and has also assisted in exploring potential applications for the Medicare Savings Program (MSP).

In May, we celebrated Older Americans Month (OAM) by providing education and socializing activities, such as OAM Bingo, with our seniors in all four counties. The turnout was a great success.



**Attachments:** none

**Action Requested:**

☒ Information Only

☐ Action Requested Below:



# EXECUTIVE BOARD PACKET

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**MEMO TO:** EXECUTIVE BOARD  
**THROUGH:** CHRIS VERTREES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**DATE:** AUGUST 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM UPDATES

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The following is a brief update regarding the Transportation and Transit planning projects that SEAGO is currently involved in:

**SEAGO Road Pavement Assessment Project.** The SEAGO Administrative Council and Executive Board approved this project in August 2021 for \$200,000 Federal (STBG). This project utilizes new artificial intelligence (AI) road assessment technologies that convert a cell phone into a data collection device that can conduct pavement assessments, pavement marking assessments, road condition inventories, as well as traffic sign inventories, and sign condition assessments for SEAGO member jurisdictions. SEAGO staff performs the groundwork of driving local roadways and collecting roadway data. The data is uploaded to Vaisala AI system. The system then analyzes the data, establishes a roadway inventory, and assigns condition assessments to multiple segments of the roadway. The data is available to all our jurisdictions through a licensed database. All paved public roads not on the State system will be evaluated.

***Update: To date, SEAGO has completed over 80% of our local road network. SEAGO used this technology to support our Safety Plan and RTAC Priority Projects. Multiple SEAGO member agencies have used the database to develop road maintenance plans and view specific road issues. On February 21, 2025, the SEAGO Executive Board approved a 1-year extension of the project. TAC member training of the data portal was held on July 17, 2025.***

**Nogales Area Transit Feasibility Study:** The Nogales/Rio Rico area is the largest remaining community in Arizona that does not have a Public Transit Program. To explore the demand for a transit system, SEAGO applied for a transit planning grant through ADOT last December. On March 30, 2023, SEAGO received a \$95,000 award to conduct Phase 1 of the Study. If a strong need/demand for service is identified, we will apply for Phase 2 (Implementation Plan) in ADOT's next transit planning grant cycle. The goal is to have a plan in place by January 2026 FTA Section 5311 application cycle.

***Update: The Plan has been completed. The study found an estimated demand of 44,100 annual 1-way passenger trips. The study was submitted to ADOT in June. The study can be found at [nogales-area-transit-feasibility-study-2024-pdf-6-8-meg](#)***

**SVMPO/SEAGO Joint Regional Highway Safety Plan:** In 2016, SEAGO and SVMPO partnered on a Regional Safety Plan. The project resulted in almost \$6 million in regional safety projects. The plan has exceeded its useful life as crash data in the plan was over 8 years old. SEAGO and SVMPO once again partnered on a plan update. ADOT Traffic Safety Section approved the project

and ADOT/FHWA authorized funding for the project. Kimley-Horn was selected as the project consultant. The Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan (SEAZ TSP) has been completed. It was approved by our Administrative and Executive Committees on December 12, 2024. It will be an active plan that will be updated as new data or project priorities change. The plan is available at: <https://www.keepandshare.com/doc12/258174/svmpo-seago-safety-plan-final-report-11-25-2024-pdf-29-4-meg?da=y>.

***Update: The Department of Transportation has released the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. Over \$982 million is made available for FY26. The application cycle closed in June.***

***Our Southeast Arizona Transportation Safety Plan (SEAZ TSP) was developed to be SS4A compliant. If a project was identified in the plan, it can be used to pursue an Implementation Grant application. In addition, the Resolution by the SEAGO Executive Board approving the plan can also be used to support a SS4A grant application. A total of 4 SS4A applications were submitted by SEAGO member entities.***

**Bisbee Transit Route Efficiency Study:** In December 2024, SEAGO with support from the City of Bisbee and City of Douglas applied for an FTA Section 5305 Planning grant to conduct the Bisbee Transit Route Efficiency Study. In March, SEAGO was advised that we received a grant for \$75,000. The study will review the current Bisbee Bus route structure and schedule in effort to make it more efficient and cost effective.

***Update: The draft plan has been completed. A public meeting to share the study findings was held on June 12, 2025. The Study has been posted for public comment. It can be found at [bisbee-bus-transit-route-efficiency-study-2025-pdf-6-0-meg](#).***

**Action Requested:**

☒ Information Only

☐ Action Requested Below