



# AZAA Matter of Fact

August 2019

## Celebrating 40 Years of AZAA (pgs 4-6)

### 2019 ANNUAL "WALTER BURG" FALL CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the upcoming AzAA "Walter Burg" Fall Conference held at Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix.



**OCTOBER 16th & 17th**

Sign-up and conference agenda can be found online at:

<https://www.azairports.org/2019-Annual-Walter-Burg-Fall-Conference>

### AZAA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Article contributed by: Tom Bahr, Show Low Regional Airport Manager

The Arizona Airports Association (AzAA) invites everyone involved in Arizona aviation to take advantage of benefits that come with being a member. Beyond exclusive content and discounts on conferences, members also gain valuable experience networking and building relationships with Arizona industry professionals.

Members of AzAA come together for the general benefit of aviation and to assist in the future development of aviation in Arizona.

Membership is open to a variety of aviation-related organizations ranging from Airport Managers to public and private corporations engaged in promoting aviation.

Four levels of membership: **ASSOCIATE - \$75.00** Any individual or organization that is interested in/subscribes to the purpose of the Arizona Airports Association.

**CORPORATE - \$150.00** Public or private corporations engaged in activities relating to the use and promotion of airports or aviation.

**EXECUTIVE - \$75.00** Management, administration, or general supervision of an Arizona Airport.

**STUDENT - \$20.00** Individuals engaged in the study of any related field of aviation.

Join us! <https://azairports.wildapricot.org>

## Calendar of Events

16

14

26

26

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AZAA FALL CONFERENCE OCT 16-17

AVIATION DAY JAN 14 2020

SWAAAE AIRPORT MANAGEMENT SHORT COURSE JAN 26-29

AZAA SPRING CONFERENCE APR 26-28 TUCSON

MORE EVENTS TBA



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# Updates from FAA

As we enter the 'Dog Days of August', just remember we're closer to the end of summer than the beginning.

We appreciate everyone working with the ADO this past year, especially with the staffing changes in the ADO. We are moving as quickly as possible to fill these vacancies and I anticipate announcements will be forthcoming.

I'd also like to express my appreciation to all of the ADO staff for their professionalism, dedication, and efforts during this past year. Each staff member picked up additional tasks to keep things moving.

AIP funded projects require a NEPA Determination to be completed prior to grant issuance. FY20 projects require the NEPA determination to be completed no later than December 28, 2019.

FY20 NEPA submissions are due to the ADO by October 1, 2019. *(See sidebar for all details on NEPA submittal process.)*

The ADO has environmental resources that are available for environmental questions until our recruitment process is complete. It's important that everyone utilize the NEPA Submittal Process, this will greatly assist us in responding to your question in a timely manner.

Wrong Surface Landings - These instances remain a concern and the FAA Runway Safety office has produced a video on this important topic. The video is available via the Internet: [https://youtu.be/5Il-s\\_j35cl](https://youtu.be/5Il-s_j35cl)

[AC 150/5320-4B](#) - Aircraft Fuel Stor-

age, Handling, Training and Dispensing on Airports has been updated.

[AC 150/5370-10H](#) - Standard Specifications for Construction of Airports has been updated.

[AC 150/5345-46E](#) - Specification for Runway and Taxiway Light Fixtures has been updated.

[AC 150/5345-53D](#) - Airport Lighting Equipment Certification Program has been updated. NOTE: An Addendum titled November 2018 has been issued.

[AC 150/5220-9A](#) - Aircraft Arresting Systems has been updated.

[AC 150/5200-38](#) - Protocol for the Conduct and Review of Wildlife Hazard Site Visits, Wildlife Hazard Assessments, and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans has been updated.

[AC 150/5340-1M](#) - Standards for Airport Markings became effective May 10, 2019.

[AC 150/5340-18G](#) - Standards for Airport Sign Systems became effective May 10, 2019.

[AC 150/5345-43J](#) - Specification for Obstruction Lighting Equipment became effective March 11, 2019.

[AC 150/5300-16B](#) - General Guidance and Specifications for Aeronautical Surveys became effective July 8, 2019.

[SOP 11.00](#) - Consultant Fee Analysis - This most recent Standard Operating Procedure became effective October 1, 2018 and is available via the Internet: <http://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/sops/media/arp-SOP-1100-Consultant-Fee-Analysis.pdf>

## NEPA SUBMITTAL PROCESS

- All official NEPA submittals should be sent via email to [9-PHX-ADO-Environmental@faa.gov](mailto:9-PHX-ADO-Environmental@faa.gov)
- Subject lines MUST include: your airport's three character LOCID, Project Name, and documentation type (i.e., CA-TEX, Purpose and Need, Preliminary Draft EA). If the submitted document is a CA-TEX supporting an upcoming grant application, FYXX GRANT APPLICATION must also be included in the subject line.
- The body of the email must include: the federal action that the document is intended to support (i.e., federal funding with proposed fiscal year, ALP change, land release).
- Submittals from Sponsor authorized consultants will be accepted with the following provisions: The Sponsor Director/Manager and/or Primary Point of Contact shall be a CC on the submittal. Submittals without the Sponsor as a CC will be returned without ADO action.
- Sponsors are expected to have read the documentation and understand and concur with the contents. Sponsors are held responsible for the quality of all documents.

## FAA CONTACT:



Mike Williams,  
Manager - Phoenix  
Airports District Office  
at Federal Aviation  
Administration (FAA)

# Updates from ADOT

## ADOT CONTACT:



Don Kriz,  
ADOT -  
Aeronautics  
Group Manager  
and State Airport  
Engineer



- The Aeronautics fund is healthy and currently has a balance of about \$30 million. Except for the loan program, all other programs (FSL, SL and APMS) are fully funded for FY 2020. Funding levels are as follows: FSL = \$5 million, SL = \$10 million, APMS = \$5.5 million, and State planning projects at about \$1 million.
- In the last Legislative session, a bill authored by Representative Arlando Teller passed, placing an additional \$10 million into the Aviation Fund. One million dollars was directed specifically to Prescott with the remaining \$9 million available for additional grants. ADOT intends to award the entire amount in State/Local grants to eligible projects based on priority from last year's (FY 2019) ACIP submittal. There are 12 additional sponsors receiving these grants. ADOT has already spoken with each sponsor regarding the additional grants, so if you have not spoken directly to us, unfortunately, you did not make the cutoff.
- ADOT is still intending to issue RFQs for services related to an Economic Impact Study and to re-select a consultant to provide engineering services (design and construction admin) related to our APMS program by the end of this calendar year. Aeronautical charts will also be updated but this process will be done internally.
- Our staff will be attending the FAA conference in October and will be presenting the ADOT update to attendees. In addition, I have asked ADOT MVD to offer a presentation regarding the Aircraft Registration process and the importance of reporting based aircraft to ADOT. Please look for that at the next conference.
- ADOT reminds everyone to submit ACIPs to us no later than **August 30**.
- ADOT has recently advertised for two positions to add staff to the Group, a new State engineer as well as an admin assistant. Both positions have closed and we are preparing to interview the top candidates. We are hoping to have staff in place by the conference. We are also hoping to add more staff next year including at least one more grant manager.
- Our group has also brought our former Group Manager, Mike Klein, under contract on a temporary part-time basis to assist us with various internal processes within the group. Please say hello at the next conference!
- Our thanks goes out to the FAA ADO for scheduling and hosting most of the Airport Planning Meetings. This year's process seemed to go much smoother, and we appreciate everyone's participation.

## New Ideas Taking-off

### FAA Western-Pacific Region/Consultant Forums

Article contributed by: Carmen Rose, Senior Project Engineer, Dibble Engineering

Over the last few years, Aviation Consultants and the FAA have been talking about potential opportunities for an FAA/Consultant forum. The goal of the forum is to allow FAA and airport consultant representatives to share perspectives and discuss ways to advance efficient and effective working relationships with the ultimate goal of improving airports in the Region. The shared goal is to provide quality service to airport sponsors to maintain a safe environment for the flying public. However, each party provides service in different ways. For both parties to improve services they provide to airport sponsors, the forums have been initiated.

Matt Quick (Coffman Associates) and Jeff Leonard (Mead & Hunt) began working with Mark McClardy (FAA Western-Pacific Region Director) in January 2019 to get the roundtable discussions off the ground. The first meeting was held in Torrance, California, during the June 2019 FAA Conference and began with introductions and ground rules for discussion. Topics addressed several issues facing FAA, consultant, and airport sponsor working relationships, many of which were rooted in communication. Over 50 consultant and FAA representatives attended the forum which was met by positive reviews. ([Read more page 8](#))

# 40 years of AZAA

## An AzAA History Lesson - Memories from Jim Harris, Principal, Coffman Associates

Interview by: Judi Krauss, Associate, Coffman Associates

### Q. How and why was AzAA formed?

A. At the time of AzAA's inception, ADOT Aeronautics Division Director, Ascencion (Sonny) Najera, Jr., was trying to garner support for a new Flight Property Tax to bolster the State's Aviation Fund. He wanted Arizona airports to have a single, but collective, voice to persuade the State Legislature of the importance of funding sources for Arizona aviation. The newly formed Arizona Airports Association Board provided testimony to the State Legislature on behalf of Arizona airports and AzAA's lobbying efforts began.



### Q. How long did you serve on the AzAA Board and in what role?

A. About 21 years. I first served as Secretary/Treasurer in the early 1980s. Eventually, a Corporate Director position was created, and I was elected to that position for a number of years. (NOTE: Jim was the first person to receive AzAA's "Corporate Member of the Year" Award in 2017.)

### Q. How has AzAA changed over the past 40 years or kept its identity?

A. AzAA has always been well supported by both big and small airports and the public and private aviation sectors. While focusing on both its lobbying and professional networking pursuits, AzAA has often felt like a family. However, over the years, the organization has grown. The AzAA Board has continued to allow the organization to evolve in the manner that other similar organizations have and make use of the examples set by others. In the past few years, AzAA, and the regulatory environment in which it operates, has gotten complex enough that a management service has been invaluable.

### Q. What is one fun memory that you have regarding AzAA?

A. For a number of years, AzAA participants pooled their resources to charter a bus to go together to outlying area conferences. The AzAA "party bus" became so popular that members would drive to Phoenix rather than going to the conference directly so they could be in on the fun. However, "what happens on the party bus stays on the party bus" so when pressed for details, Jim pled the "5th Amendment." He did mention, however, the "Show Low Rocket"?



## AzAA Trivia

How much do you know?

1. Who are AzAA's founding members?
2. What was the location of the first AzAA conference?
3. Who was AzAA's first Administrative Director?
4. What are the furthest northern and southern AzAA conference locations in Arizona?
5. Five of AzAA's Past Presidents have worked at Flagstaff Airport – can you name all five individuals?
6. Where was the Spring Conference location where the annual golf tournament had to be cancelled – the only time in AzAA's history – and why was it cancelled?
7. How many former AzAA Presidents have also served as Chair of AAE and who were they?

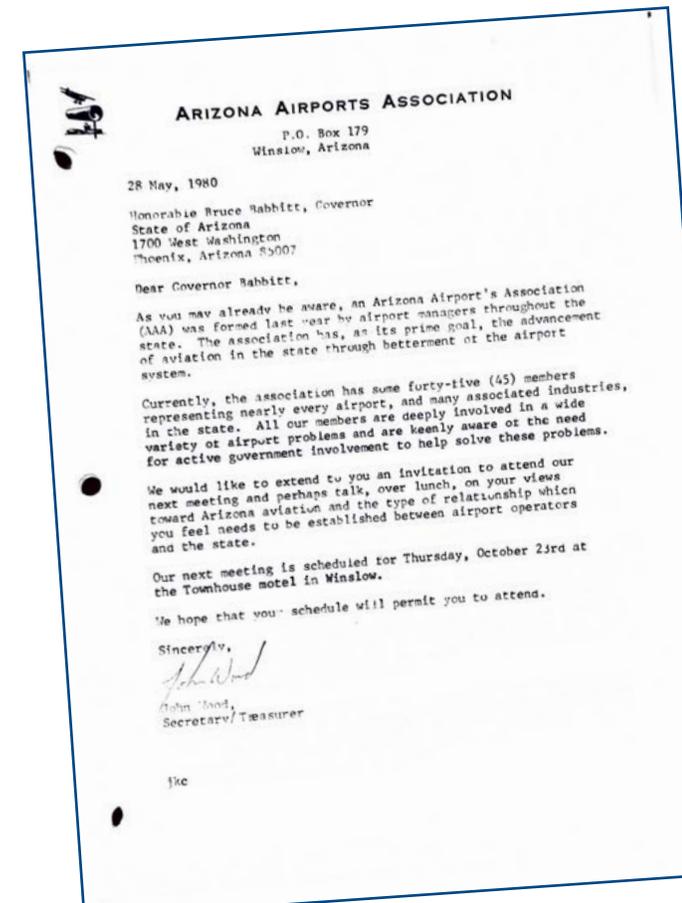
Check your answers below.

Trivia contributed by: Barney Helmick, Flagstaff Pulliam Airport Director; Joe Husband, Glendale Municipal Airport General Manager

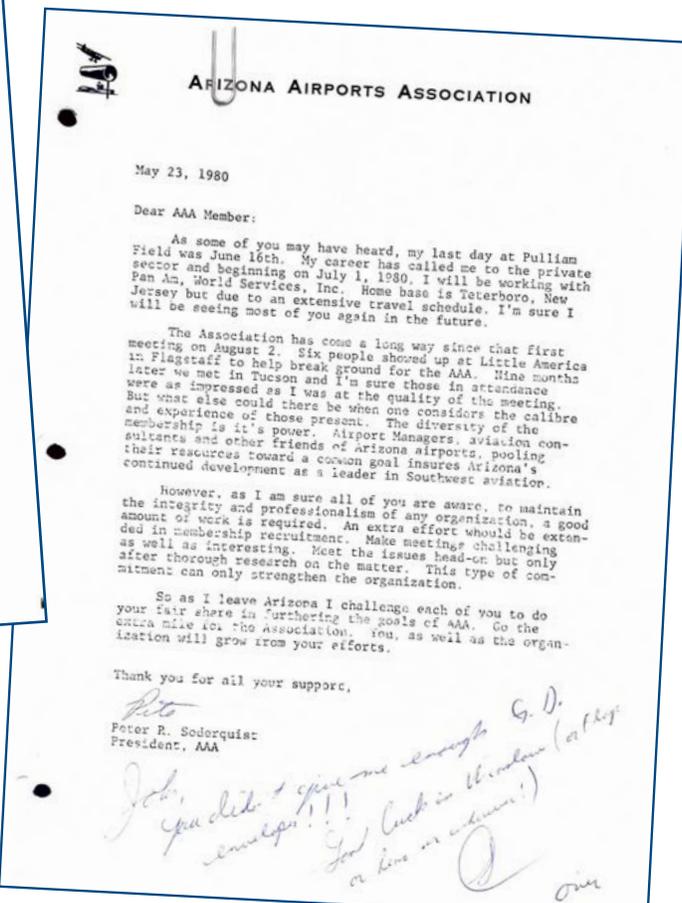
Trivia Answers: 1. Jim Harris, Gary Adams, Pete Soderquist, Bob Bresnahan, John Wood, and Mike Klein; 2. Tucson – held in the TIA conference room; 3. Jim McCue; 4. Page (furthest northern location) and Rio Rico (furthest southern location); 5. Peter Soderquist, Bill Menard, Larry Larkin, Mike Covalt, and Barney Helmick; 6. Flagstaff (2016); cancelled due to snow storm in May; 7. Dutch Berthoff and Jim Bennett

# 40 years of AZAA

## Blast From the Past: Archived original letters from the 1980s



Letter from May 1980 to then Governor, Bruce Babbitt, from John Wood, Secretary/Treasurer of AAA (as AzAA was referred to in the early days).



Letter from then AzAA President, Peter Soderquist, to association members within the first year of AzAA's existence. In the '80s, there were 45 members. This typewritten memo includes a personal pen-stroked note.

## Who's Who of AZAA

### WHO WAS WALTER "WALLY" BURG?

Wally Burg was the Aviation Director of Tucson International Airport for 23 years, where he became one of the industry's most highly regarded professionals. Wally provided support and volunteered resources for the benefit of AzAA and its mission. He is honored by AzAA for his contributions to Arizona airports through the annual Fall "Walter Burg" Conference.

### WHO WAS DUTCH BERTHOLF?

Nelson "Dutch" Bertholf, Jr., was appointed Aviation Director for the City of Phoenix in 1982 and served until his retirement in 1998. Representing the largest Arizona airport, Sky Harbor International Airport, he provided a powerful voice and influence for AzAA's efforts. Dutch served as both President of AzAA and President of SWAAAE during his more than 40 years in airport management. Dutch is honored by AzAA for his contributions to Arizona airports through the annual Spring "Dutch Bertholf" Conference.

# 40 years of AZAA

## AzAA Scholarship Recipients: Where Are They Now?

Article contributed by: Jenny Watts, Senior Aviation Planner, Dibble Engineering

One of the many great attributes about the AzAA organization is its commitment to financially supporting its members' professional growth and young adults pursuing aviation degrees through the Scholarship Program. This program provides monetary support for members to attend AzAA or other industry conferences or obtain an industry credential (such as C.M. or A.C.E.), or for students who are currently enrolled in an aviation related degree program in the state of Arizona to use for their educational expenses. In either case, AzAA's support in both areas strengthens the aviation industry within the state of Arizona. Here are a few past AzAA scholarship recipients sharing how the scholarship has benefited or enhanced his/her professional career.

### PAST RECIPIENT:

Jeffrey S. Tripp, A. A. E.



### SCHOLARSHIP TYPE AND YEAR RECEIVED:

*I took advantage of the scholarship opportunities and received all of the various scholarships in the late 1990s to early 2000s for the accreditation program, master's program coursework, and conference attendance.*

### CURRENT POSITION WITHIN THE AVIATION INDUSTRY:

*Capital & Special Projects Coordinator, Prescott Regional Airport - Ernest A. Love Field*

### WHAT IMPACT HAS AN AzAA SCHOLARSHIP HAD ON YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER?

*The scholarships helped me continue to grow as a professional at the start of my airport management career as I gained experience and moved up the management ranks at Prescott (Assistant Manager & Manager) and Mesa-Falcon Field (Projects Coordinator). The scholarships helped further my participation in AzAA as a young professional, allowing me to stay in Arizona as I gained experience and moved up within the field. This also later helped me serve on the AzAA Board of Directors.*

### PAST RECIPIENT:

Carmen Williams, C.M.



### SCHOLARSHIP TYPE AND YEAR RECEIVED:

*Marty Rosness Student Scholarship – 1992 (ish)*

### CURRENT POSITION WITHIN THE AVIATION INDUSTRY:

*Aviation Finance & Administration Manager – Scottsdale Airport*

### WHAT IMPACT HAS AN AzAA SCHOLARSHIP HAD ON YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER?

*The scholarship was so much appreciated as it helped pay for my college tuition at ASU. The biggest impact for me was meeting former Scottsdale Airport manager, John Kinney, on the evening of the AzAA awards banquet when I received the scholarship award. He was sitting at the same table and I asked him about opportunities at Scottsdale Airport. As a result of that meeting, John offered me an internship at Scottsdale Airport where I learned all about airport operations and administration – it was my first experience working at an airport. This experience allowed me to gain my first permanent position at Williams Gateway Airport the following year as an operations specialist, and I worked there for over 20 years before coming back to Scottsdale Airport. Without a doubt the AzAA scholarship was invaluable to me in more ways than one!*

### PAST RECIPIENT:

Jenny Watts, C.M.



### SCHOLARSHIP TYPE AND YEAR RECEIVED:

*Marty Rosness Student Scholarship – 2000 & 2001*

### CURRENT POSITION WITHIN THE AVIATION INDUSTRY:

*Senior Aviation Planner – Dibble Engineering*

### WHAT IMPACT HAS AN AzAA SCHOLARSHIP HAD ON YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER?

*Receiving the student scholarship from AzAA on two separate occasions helped tremendously with my tuition at ASU. Interestingly enough, my experience is very similar to Carmen Williams' experience. I too sat with the former Scottsdale Airport manager (Scott Gray) at the awards banquet the night I received my first scholarship award, and I too became an intern at Scottsdale Airport. After my internship, I realized airports were where I wanted to focus my efforts. Aside from the financial support AzAA provided me, AzAA introduced me to so many aviation professionals in the state and has allowed me to build many valuable relationships over the many years I have been associated with the organization – something that helps in my current role as an aviation planning consultant. I'm very grateful to AzAA for the impact it has had on not only my professional career, but my personal one as well.*

# Summer with AZAA



## AZAA SUMMER OF 2019 IN PHOTOS



Above: Having fun at Scottsdale Airport's Volanti Restaurant in June (AzAA's Summer Networking Event).



Above & Left: AzAA members get together for lunch during the FAA Western-Pacific Conference in Torrance Beach, CA (June).

# Letter from the PRESIDENT

## AzAA PRESIDENT:



Mike Smejkal,  
A.A.E., P.E.  
Vice President  
of Planning &  
Engineering  
Tucson Airport  
Authority

### AzAA Legislative Committee

Every year, AzAA convenes a Legislative Committee for the purpose of identifying and analyzing proposed and existing legislation that may have an impact on the aviation industry. Participation typically includes monthly conference calls, but at times, members of the committee also may be called upon to represent AzAA before a legislative body to provide input on a matter of interest to the industry.

If you would like to participate on this committee, please respond via e-mail to Immediate Past President Steve Johnston, [sjohnston@cityofkingman.gov](mailto:sjohnston@cityofkingman.gov).

### AzAA Contacts

Check AzAA out on:

[Facebook](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)

[www.azairports.org](http://www.azairports.org)

480.403.4618

[info@azairports.org](mailto:info@azairports.org)

I hope everyone had a great summer and is looking forward to fall! For those of you who weren't able to make it to our first ever Summer Networking Event, it was a huge success. When the Board first discussed the idea, we considered a success would be 20 or 30 attendees showing up. Ultimately, more than 60 folks joined us at Scottsdale Airport's Volanti Restaurant for what was a wonderful evening. We appreciate that so many of you made time to come out for the event and a special thanks goes to Scottsdale Airport for hosting and sponsoring the first event. It looks like it will be something we will continue in future years.

Thanks for everything you do toward achieving AzAA's goals of promoting Arizona's airports and aviation in your communities. We have lots of exciting things coming this year and I hope you can get involved in one or more of them.

First off, I hope you have **October 16th and 17th** on your calendar for the [Wally Burg Fall Conference](#). Based on the positive reviews from last year and in an effort to keep the conference economical, we are going back to the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix. Your Second Vice President, [Scott Brownlee](#), and the planning committee are hard at work putting together an excellent program. Check back to the [AzAA website](#) for updates as the program comes together and to register.

The AzAA Legislative Committee is also starting to identify issues for the 2020 legislative session. They are starting a little earlier than usual so we can better coordinate with our legislative partners this year and continue to build on last year's successes. Please reach out to Chair, [Steve Johnston](#), or Vice-Chair, [Ed Faron](#), to learn more. *(See more information about the committee in left sidebar.)* Also, on the legislative front we have secured the Capital Lawn for **Aviation Day January 14th**. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

As discussed at our Spring Conference, and in other professional association conferences this summer, AzAA is organizing a group to update the Best Practices guide. We are working closely with the other professional associations in the Western-Pacific Region (SWAAAE, ACA, CAA, etc.) to develop a working group of airport staff, consultants, state, and federal partners to get this effort organized. [Lance McIntosh](#), your Corporate Director, is leading the organization efforts. If you have issues you want addressed or would like to help, please reach out to him.

Please let me know if there is anything the AzAA Board can do to help you. You will find our contact information on the AzAA website. *(Contact info in left sidebar.)*

Mike

Mike Smejkal  
Arizona Airports Association President 2019-2020

[FAA/Consultant Forums story continued from page 3](#) A second forum took place in Tucson, Arizona, in July 2019 after the Summer SWAAAE Conference. This session focused on follow-up to many items discussed during the first forum.

Additionally, a group of consultant representatives led by Lance McIntosh (C&S Companies) will be revamping the Best Practices Guide for administering airport design, construction, and planning projects. To support the Best Prac-

tices Guide, it was determined that it would be beneficial to have a "Grants 101" workshop/presentation at upcoming conferences to educate newer Airport Consultants. At the conclusion of the meeting, tasks were issued with a plan to have a conference call check-in sometime in late October or early November.

Group forums will continue until smaller work groups are created to address more local issues led by each ADO.