

Southwest Contractor

Arizona Best of 2003

Best Design Build Project Over \$5 Million US 60

The design intention for the U.S. 60 project was to present residents and travelers with an open, rolling desert landscape along the route that is typical of the area and to eliminate the costly, artificial and confining visual effect of retaining walls along both sides of the highway. Quiet, rubberized asphalt was used to reduce traffic noise and further enhance the driving experience.

The reconstruction and widening project began at the I-10 Interchange and extended for 12 miles east to Val Vista Drive. It included construction of an HOV connector bridge from I-10 to U.S. 60, HOV lanes throughout the project, bridge widening, and earthwork to accommodate extra travel lanes, as well as two additional general-purpose lanes through 8 mi. of the project that went through the city of Mesa. Soil nail retaining walls with architectural fascia treatment were used where necessary, and new noise walls, electrical/Freeway Management Systems and landscaping were also included. The freeway widening made the addition of 1.2 million sq. ft. of sound walls a necessity for noise abatement.



Success was apparent with an 84 percent public approval rating on the US60 work, the highest mark ever achieved in public opinion polling on an Arizona highway project, which is especially significant since this was the largest trans-

portation project in ADOT history, as well as one of the busiest freeways. Design innovation enabled the team to eliminate 12 mi. of retaining walls and thereby deliver the project at a far lower cost than originally estimated. <<

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Owner: Arizona Department of Transportation	Electrical Engineer: RA Abate
Lead Design: Parsons Transportation Group	Landscape Design: Legan Simpson Design Inc.
General Contractor: Granite7 Build a Joint Venture	Concrete Bridges: Royden Construction
Engineer: URS Corporation/Terracott	Steel: Schuff Steel/Endo Steel
FMS Design/Design Mgmt.: TransCore	Electrical: Contractors West
Geotechnical Engineer: Golden Associates	Masonry: Ruiz Masonry
	Landscaping: Valley Crest Landscape

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