



ARIZONA MILEPOST

AZ  LTAP

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As we embrace the fall season, I am pleased to share this latest edition of our quarterly newsletter. Here we have an opportunity to celebrate our collective progress towards enhancing the state's transportation systems. As always, AZ LTAP continues to help drive such progress through technical training. So far this year, we are proud to have delivered 100 trainings across the state, attended by around 1,290 local and private employees, with more to come!

With each season, there are new challenges and, equally, inventive solutions created by those on the front lines of public service. We welcome such innovation and in this edition, we are thrilled to showcase an example coming out of City of Coolidge.

Finally, I want to ensure you that we have listened to your requests and, just in time for the snowy season, our center is introducing two new road scholar courses focused on winter and emergency road conditions. With under a month and a half to go until the end of the year, there is still much to look forward to!

From everyone here at AZ LTAP, we wish you a happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you in the new year!

Rebecca Mayher
AZ LTAP Program Manager



REGISTER NOW



Event Details

Date: January 30th, 2025

Time: 10am - 12pm MST

Location: Virtual via Google Meets

Audience: Arizona Public Agencies, MPOs/COGs, LTAP Partners

Agenda and meeting link will be provided to all registered persons closer to the date and shared via AZ LTAPs weekly Tapping In! Newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS! Road Scholar Graduates

Please join us in congratulating the following individuals on completing the requisite hours of training to become *Road Scholars* of the listed level!



Road Scholars are trained in the latest technologies and innovations through a series of instructor-led training. Our program currently offers three levels of training, each of which feature a carefully curated curriculum of courses suited to transportation workers at every level of their career! ([Click for more information](#))

Road Scholar	Agency	Level	Date
Arnold Ramos	City of Casa Grande	Level I	October 2024
Christopher Mora	City of Casa Grande	Level I	October 2024

Innovative Equipment Repurposing Saves City of Coolidge over \$150,000

The Coolidge Fire Department's out-of-service 1996 International 4900 Ferrara Fire Apparatus found new purpose thanks to a creative solution from the City's Fleet Maintenance foreman.



Out-of-Service 4900 Ferrara Fire Apparatus, image courtesy of City of Coolidge Public Works

Outdated by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, the truck was considered for auction but its low mileage and excellent condition prompted the Coolidge's City Council to recommend finding alternative uses for the vehicle. After evaluating the frame, engine, and hydraulic systems, the Fleet Maintenance team

proposed retrofitting the truck frame to create a 5-yard dump truck for the Solid Waste Division which could be used to replace the 1991 Ford F800 model that was in use and far overdue for retirement.

Partnering with local custom equipment builder, Drake Equipment, the City was able to convert the Ferrara Fire Apparatus vehicle into a new dump truck at a cost of \$25,794—well within their \$30,000 budget. How was this

possible? Utilizing the existing hydraulic system lowered costs, and the truck's original fire apparatus bed will be auctioned to further offset expenses. With a new dump truck typically costing around \$180,000, this innovative repurposing saved the City over \$150,000 while significantly upgrading essential equipment that was low on the priority list



Newly converted 5-yard dump truck, image courtesy of City of Coolidge Public Works

due to the cost of replacement.

The City Council commended the project for its cost-effective, sustainable approach to meeting operational needs. Innovations such as this demonstrate the value of collaborative problem-solving within local agencies.

– Jendayi Edmeade, Marketing Specialist

Special thanks to *Benjamin Navarro, Public Works Director, City of Coolidge* for submitting this Build a Better Mousetrap innovation.



Fully converted 5-yard dump truck, image courtesy of City of Coolidge Public Works

Build a Better
MOUSETRAP



Celebrating
Local
Innovation

"Build a Better Mousetrap celebrates innovative solutions for challenges that local and tribal transportation workers encounter. These innovations can range from the development of tools and equipment modifications to the implementation of new processes that increase safety, reduce cost, and improve efficiency of our transportation system." - FHWA Local Aid Support

How Does BABMT Work?

Participation is easy! Simply submit your innovation(s) directly to our Center via the Build a Better Mousetrap Online Form and we will do the rest.

Innovation Qualities

- Recognized importance/ impact;
- Originality;
- Applicability to others;
- Cost effectiveness;
- Time savings;
- Agency or community benefit;
- Overall quality of the application

[Scan the above QR code or click here to submit your innovation](#)



image courtesy of ADOT Flicker

STAY PREPARED FOR WINTER WEATHER DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The snowy season is upon us here in Arizona and as always, AZ LTAP would like to remind you all to be as prepared as possible while on the road. Below are some standard general practices that should give you and your loved ones peace of mind when you venture out this winter:

- Plan your travel route in advance.
- Notify someone of your route, destination and projected arrival time.
- Fill your fuel tank and try to keep it at three-quarters full. Running out of gas is extremely dangerous during winter conditions.
- Visit Arizona Traveler Information, download the AZ 511 app or dial 511 for updated road and weather conditions.

For even more ways to prepare, visit the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's](#) website.

WINTER TRAINING REMINDER

In addition to sharing some preparedness tips, AZ LTAP would like to remind agencies requesting training in areas anticipated to receive snowfall that while we still offer trainings on-demand, hazardous winter conditions for our trainers and your employees may result in postponement of in-person training.

NEW! Winter Road Maintenance & Operations Course Launching in 2025

Finally, we are happy to be in the final stages of piloting our Winter Road Maintenance & Operations course. This course covers topics operations staff will need to prepare for the upcoming winter season. Topics include pre-season preparation, snow removal, use of deicers, equipment calibration, equipment inspection, pre/post trip equipment inspection, safety and other best practices. Starting January 2025, this course will be available to all agencies to request for delivery.



- RS#2 LTP0012** - (In-Person) Basic Work Zone Traffic Control/ATSSA Flagger | January 7, 2025
- RS#3 LTP0013** - (Virtual & In-Person) Basic Materials | January 28, 2025
- RS#4 GEN5004** - (In-Person) First Aid/CPR/AED | February 11, 2025
- RS#5 TCH3841** - (Virtual) Transportation Math I | February 25, 2025
- RS#6 LTP0016** - (Virtual & In-Person) Signing & Striping I | March 11, 2025
- RS#7 LTP0115** - (Virtual) Two Way Radio & Effective Communications | March 25, 2025
- RS#8 LTP0116** - (Virtual) Construction/Maintenance Safety I | April 8, 2025
- RS#9 LTP0117** - (Virtual) Safety in the Workplace | April 24, 2025



1130 North 22nd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85009
(e) ttraining@azdot.gov / (p) (602) 712-4050
<https://www.azltap.org>

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