



# Staff Report

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**Agenda Item:**           **WORKSESSION ON THE PLANNING ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL AREAS "PARA" TRAFFIC STUDY** – A worksession for Council to discuss and comment on the Traffic Study.

**Staff Contact:**           Steven Burroughs, Public Works Director

**Meeting Date:**           December 14, 2010

**Background:**           The Arizona Department of transportation (ADOT) recently provided transportation planning funds and technical assistance through Planning Assistance for Rural Areas (PARA) Program. The recently developed PARA Program replaces the previous Small Area Transportation Study (SATS) Program.

The PARA Program provides federal funds to counties, cities, towns and tribal governments for conducting transportation planning studies. PARA funds are distributed on a reimbursement basis and are 100% reimbursable and projects may address a broad range of planning issues related to roadway and non-motorized transportation modes. ADOT will enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) after funds are awarded.

The scope of work for this study covers existing major collector and arterial roads, future expansion areas and possible growth areas surrounding the town in all modes of transportation.

ADOT advertised and held an RFQ process for consultant selection. Kimberly-Horn and Associates was the selected consultant and are on schedule for completion of the study in mid-January. A formal presentation to Council will be provided at the completion of the study.

**Recommendation:**   This is a worksession only and requires no action by Council. However, comments provided will be directed to the consultant for incorporation into the final study.