



PERMITTING AGENCY SNAPSHOT: ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program

Overview

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) manages extensive state infrastructure, including **30,327** lane miles of highways and multimodal transportation systems.

The Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) has developed resources to support subgrantees of the BEAD program to successfully deploy broadband infrastructure across Arizona. ACA resources are advisory only.

ADOT plays a key part in coordinating and permitting broadband infrastructure. Information below provides a snapshot of relevant ADOT permits, how to engage with ADOT, and the permit application process.

Encroachment Permits

Right of Way Access (ROW)

Specific Utility Type

- **Encroachment Permit:** For general work within state ROW
 - **Simple 21 Permit:** Fast-track for low-complexity utility work
 - **Special Case Request Encroachment Permit:** For utility work that doesn't meet standard guidelines
- **Highway Right of Way Permit:** For temporary or short-term access
 - **Highway Right of Way Lease Utility:** For long term or permanent installations
- **Overhead Utility:** Aerial crossings or installations
 - **Underground Utility:** Trenching, tunneling or boring

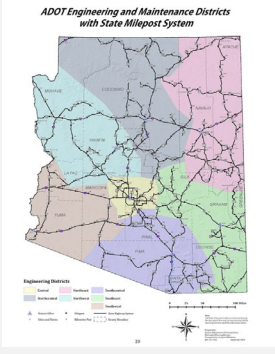
For reference: *Encroachment Permits Guideline & Procedures 2024 manual provides a concise reference of ADOT's policies*

ADOT District Permit Offices and Regional Oversight Structure

Arizona is divided into seven ADOT districts, each responsible for reviewing and issuing permits based on project location. Applications and inquiries must be directed to the appropriate district office listed on the [ADOT District Contacts Map](#). This structure ensures region-specific oversight and compliance with ADOT standards.

Arizona is divided into the following districts:

- Central
- Northcentral
- Northeast
- Northwest
- Southcentral
- Southeast
- Southwest



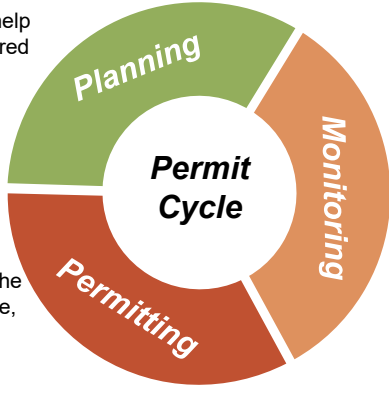
ADOT Permit Application Process

Step 1: Permit Identification

- Leverage the Permitting Resource Hub to help determine whether ADOT permits are required and the types of applicable permits.

Step 2: Permit Preparation & Submission

- Review application instructions and gather supporting materials such as maps, plans, insurance certificates, and checklists
- Meet with regional ADOT staff and submit the permit application to the proper district office, copying [Joe Van Galder](#) on all submittals
- Tag all permit applications explicitly as "BEAD" Projects in the title
- Write "BEAD" at top of all applications



Step 3: Permit Tracking & Reporting

- Report permit updates and approval to ACA
- Report any deployment deviations from the permit application to ADOT

Subgrantees must confirm land ownership and obtain permits from landowners before applying to ADOT. Multiple permits may be needed, even for public rights-of-way. Missing ADOT's coordination steps can delay projects.

Subgrantees should hire an environmental consultant to aid them with the environmental clearance process.