



Report: Phoenix-Area Road Conditions Cost Drivers \$2,000 Annually

By [Christina Estes](#) | Published: Thursday, March 12, 2020



Christina Estes/KJZZ

The Phoenix City Council approved a five-year accelerated pavement maintenance program on June 25, 2019.

A report by [TRIP](#), a national nonprofit focused on transportation research, says deficient roads cost the average Valley driver \$2,009 per year.

Across the Valley, [TRIP found 61% of major roads maintained by cities and the state were in poor or mediocre condition.](#)

TRIP determined those conditions cost the average driver \$626 annually in vehicle operating costs like additional tire wear and repairs while diminished safety costs \$294 annually.

The largest cost was due to congestion. TRIP said the average driver loses 62 hours a year due to delays, adding up to \$1,089 in lost time and wasted fuel.

In Tucson, the annual cost due to deficient roads was calculated at \$1,706 per year. Statewide, TRIP tallied the cost of deficient roads and bridges at \$9.6 billion annually.

In a prepared statement, Dave Kirby, TRIP's executive director, said, "Making investments that will improve the condition and efficiency of Arizona's transportation system will ensure that the state remains an attractive place to live, visit, and do business."

Last year, Phoenix approved an accelerated [five-year pavement maintenance program](#). This year, a state lawmaker introduced a [bill to double the state's gas](#) tax but it seems unlikely to pass.