

P-25-104-AN
IGA with Maricopa County for the
Annexation of Meridian Drive ROW

City of Apache Junction
City Council New Business
November 4, 2025



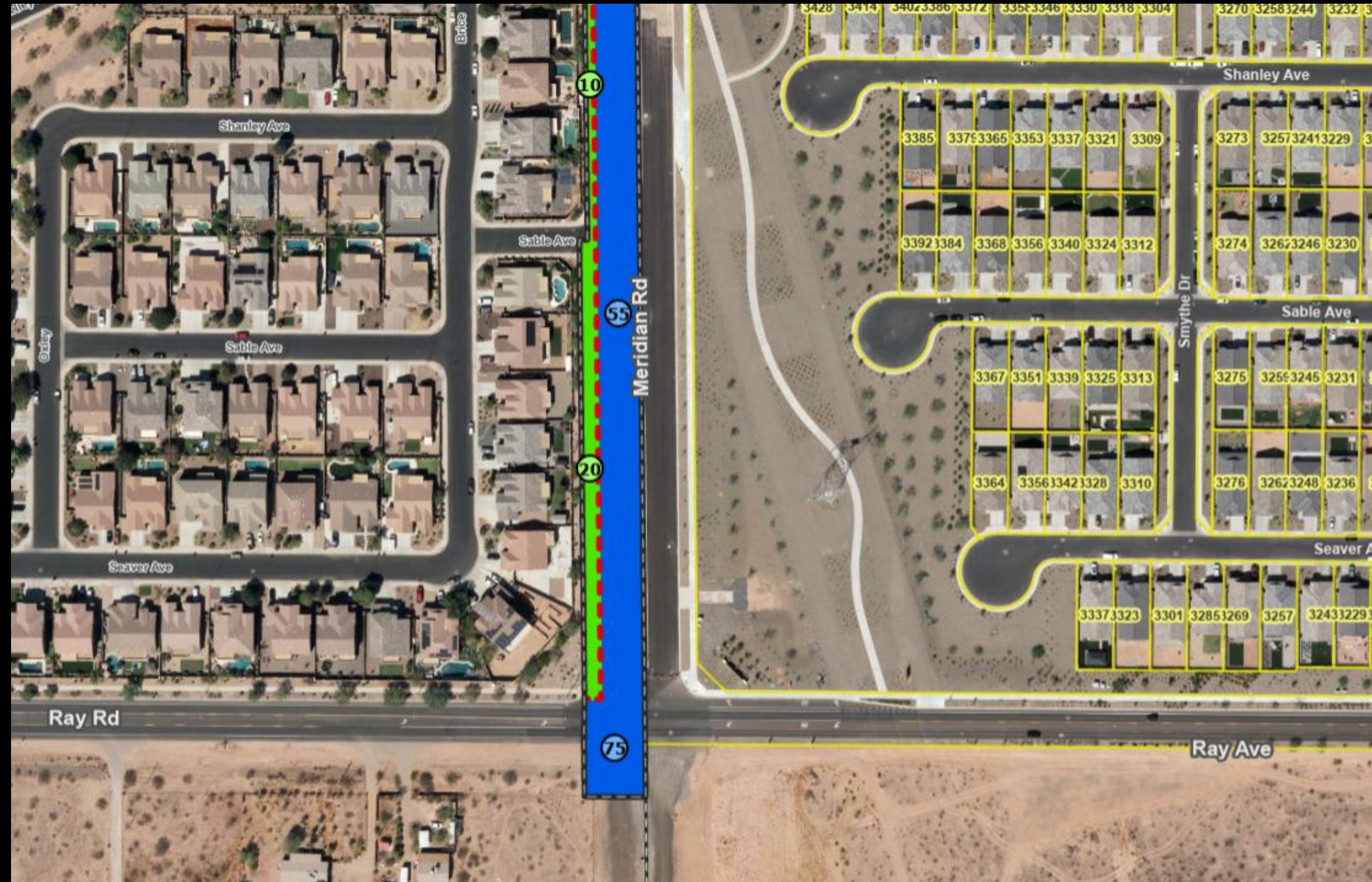
Background

- Meridian Drive Right-of-Way (ROW) has historically been split between the City of Apache Junction, the City of Mesa, and Maricopa County.
- Issues with splintered jurisdiction impacting the ongoing development along Meridian Drive.
- Through coordination with Maricopa County, Staff have prepared an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to facilitate the annexation of Maricopa County's ROW on the west half of Meridian Drive and allow the City to assume all responsibility for permitting road work.



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- Maricopa County will support the annexation of their ROW, typically 55' in width, between Ray Avenue and Elliot Avenue, to be brought to Council later through Annexation Case P-25-104-AN.
- Map Exhibit



What happens if we annex Meridian Drive:

- This would remove the need for cross-municipality reviews and individual inspection by each jurisdiction, reducing the time and complexity that have held some construction projects along Meridian back.
- We would become responsible for the maintenance of the Meridian Drive as a whole, rather than the responsibility being split across multiple jurisdictions. This is an ongoing cost.
- The City of Apache Junction Police Department would become responsible for the patrol and enforcement of Meridian Drive. Currently, police departments of different jurisdictions are discouraged to patrol this street due to cross-jurisdictional enforcement issues, which would be resolved if one city and police department takes responsibility for the whole street.



What happens if we do not annex Meridian Drive:

- Construction reviews will continue to be routed through Maricopa County, the City of Mesa, and our own review teams, which has a high impact lengthening review and inspection times and causes much redundancy.
- The area is not currently enforced by police of either jurisdiction, due to issues with cross-boundary police enforcement. This arrangement will continue.
- Inconsistency among jurisdictional standards will continue to result in inconsistencies of road design, which has impeded the proper development of the arterial intersections along Meridian.



Recommendation

Staff recommend the approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Maricopa County, to be considered under Resolution No. 25-32, which will initiate the annexation of the Meridian Drive Right-of-Way.

Next Steps:

- **11/18/2025** City Council Public Hearing and consideration of Resolution No. 25-32 proposing to approve the IGA.



Thank You

