

## Arizona Trucking Association Candidate Survey 2018

Name: David Gowan

Office Sought: Arizona Senate

District: 14

Status: Open Seat

Party: Republican

Website: GowanforAZ.com

Previous Office(s): State Representative LD14

Education: BA in Education/Social Studies U of A

Occupation: Realtor

Accepting PAC Contributions: Yes

Are you interested in an endorsement: Yes

5. If elected, what are your top three priorities for 2019-2020?

**Answer: In no particular order: Keeping the budget balanced and the States economy strong is paramount to a good economy. I was a State Representative when we had the worst budget years in our State's history. I was also there as Speaker of the House when we finally structurally balanced our State's budget after 8 long years through deregulation, cutting business tax burdens, and cutting government spending & regulations. We need to stay structurally sound through being fiscally strong. Water is a major factor in the growth of our State and it's economy. I plan to fight to protect our water rights with all my power & strength from any entity that would try to take it. Infrastructure is what makes our commerce strong in our State and thus our economy. With the President poised to expand federal infrastructure dollars, we will not only need to fight for our fare share of those dollars, but the State will need to prioritize the regions of the State for the fixes needed. That's where your expertise will come into play to help guide our legislature on first priorities. I will be asking you for that help.**

6. Do you support the continued use of bona fide independent contractors in the trucking industry and oppose efforts by state and local governments to reclassify owner-operators as employees?

**Answer: Yes**

**Comments: I absolutely support owner operators. They are an intricul and essential part of the trucking business! As a business owner myself, I am very grateful to operate as an independent contractor, and I know how important it is to have the freedom and autonomy to choose my own path. Individual contractors and independent businesses are very essential to help keep prices low and our economy strong.**

7. Do you support the conversion of our existing infrastructure into toll roads?

**Answer: No**

8. Do you support the use of toll roads for construction of new infrastructure?

**Answer: Yes**

9. On a scale of one to ten (one being low) how important do you believe transportation infrastructure (roads and highways) is to the success of the Arizona's economy?

**Answer: 10**

**Comments: With our roads and bridges deteriorating, we need to make the right decisions quickly to repair/replace our infrastructure needs. President Trump's emphasis on federal infrastructure dollars will need to be put to good use, and Arizona ought to be a big destination for these dollars. Also, it's time to exercise our ability to use the Public Private Partnership Program to help our infrastructure needs.**

10. Currently, alternative fuel vehicles (natural gas and electric) do not pay any taxes or fees for use of the roads. (i.e. a gas tax substitute) Do you believe that these vehicles should pay something for use of the roads, or do you believe that they should continue to get a discount for using alternative fuels?

**Answer: I believe alternative fueled vehicles should pay something for use of the roads.**

**Comments: Simple...if you use the roads, you ought to pay your fare share for upkeep.**

11. Currently, both the Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety have law enforcement officers that specialize in commercial vehicle enforcement. Do you believe Arizona should look at consolidating all truck enforcement activities under the Department of Public Safety?

**Answer: Yes, I believe we should look at consolidating ADOT's law enforcement under the DPS.**

**Comments: When I was Military Affairs & Public Safety Chairman, I tried to make a strong push for the case of consolidation. It's a long over do idea that I favor.**

12. Given the importance of transportation is to our economic success, how would you propose we solve the revenue shortfall needs for transportation?

**Answer: I think you hit it on the head earlier with the P3 situation for toll roads. Using this model we can expand our freeway system to help alleviate our traffic congestion and free up our trucking**

**communities time on the road, while using a pay as you go system to payoff bonds incurred for construction. And, now that President Trump is putting more emphasis on our nation's infrastructure needs, we will need someone, like me, with ties to the administration to fight at the State Legislature that can wrangle those dollars into our State. Also, we continue to increase spending in our State's budget (\$1.1 billion in 2years); why not dedicate some of those funds to our infrastructure needs and draw down the federal matching dollars needed to fix what we have. In fact, that was one of my last things I did as Speaker was to set aside the matching funds to get the Eloy I-10 expansion and the Nogalas SR189 expansion project dollars allocated for some infrastructure relief.**