

SAFFORD CONNECTS: CPP HIGHLIGHTS Q3 2026



This newsletter provides updates from our recent Community Partnership Panel. It is part of our commitment to keeping the community informed about site activities and fostering open and ongoing dialogue.

Learn more about our commitment to communities:

[Freeport In My Community](#)

✓ IN THIS EDITION...

Operations: [Leadership Update](#), [Acid Transload Project Overview](#)

Environmental: [Water and Resource Efficiency](#)

Social Performance: [Local Voices Survey](#), [Community Investment Fund Update](#), [Resilience Plan 2.0](#)

SITE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Employment Update

Safford Headcounts

Employment: **1,570**

Vacancies: **50**

Contractors: **230**

**Proudly Creating
Better Futures**

Learn more about the wide range of career opportunities available at Freeport: [FMJobs.com](https://www.fmjobs.com)

Morenci Headcounts

Employment: **3,980**

Vacancies: **520**

Contractors: **490**

TC-Sanchez and

CASC Headcounts

Employment: **210**

**Headcounts are an approximation based on date of meeting*

Additional Updates

Leadership Update ✓

- Casey Clayton introduced himself as General Manager of Safford Operations. He previously worked at Safford, Morenci, Chile, Peru and the Technology Center before returning to Graham County in July 2026.
- Casey shared about his family's prior time living in and connection to the community and contentment in returning to the area, including their appreciation for local recreation such as hiking on Mt. Graham.

Site Copper Production and Leach Innovation

- Safford currently produces approximately 80 million pounds of copper per quarter.
- Leaching innovation and technology advancements continue to be a significant operational focus given improved copper recovery potential, lower water demand, and reduced capital intensity compared to milling/concentrating sulfide ores.
- Consequently, future growth planning for sulfide mining at Safford is now more heavily focused on sulfide leaching technologies rather than solely on the construction of a new mill.

Geothermal Assessment Project

- Freeport is evaluating geothermal resources in the Safford district to support copper recovery and potential energy generation.
- Studies include evaluating existing wells, resource temperatures and long-term viability.
- Geothermal heating is being assessed as a potential way to warm leach solutions and improve copper recovery. Natural gas is also being evaluated as an alternative energy source.

Acid Transload Project Overview ✓

- Freeport is advancing plans for an acid transload facility in the Ashurst area that would receive sulfuric acid by rail and transfer it to trucks for delivery to Safford operations.
 - An estimated 20-50 truckloads per day* would be routed between the transload facility and Safford operations. These trucks replace long-distance trucking currently originating from transloads in Morenci and Benson, Arizona and daily totals will vary depending on the site's acid demands.

**Please note that the estimate projection shared at the August CPP meeting was very recently revised by our Transportation team from 40-50 truckloads/day to an estimated range of 20-50 truckloads/day.*

- The planned route will utilize Highway 70 to Norton Road and then Reay Lane to the Safford mine.
 - The project aims to improve acid transportation logistics by leveraging rail service for the site.
 - Environmental reviews and regulatory coordination continue for the Ashurst Transload facility.
 - Environmental controls and project-specific mitigation measures are being incorporated into facility planning.
 - Freeport is committed to continued coordination with ADOT, railroad partners, regulators, neighbors, local schools and other community stakeholders.
 - Questions included the route the trucks would take, what the change in the number of trucks would be and how the project will impact Pima Schools traffic given the proximity to the facility. Safford Operations will reach out to Pima Schools to discuss how to mitigate impacts to the school.
 - **Land Exchange**
 - The BLM land exchange remains a priority and strategic initiative for the operation and more information is available on the BLM's [dedicated project webpage](#) and [StoryMap pages](#).
 - A public comment period began following Federal publication of the Notice of Exchange Proposal on July 29 and all comments are welcomed through end of Public Comment period on September 14.
 - **Future Growth Opportunities**
 - Safford is highlighted as a key contributor to Freeport's future Arizona growth strategy alongside Bagdad and Morenci.
 - Future infrastructure opportunities remain under evaluation.
 - Rail spur concepts remain under review but faces engineering, floodplain, highway crossing and regulatory challenges.
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SITE ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

Water and Resource Efficiency ✓

- Leaching technologies were highlighted as generally less water-intensive than traditional milling operations.
 - Potential future growth scenarios continue to evaluate water use and environmental impacts
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SOCIAL PERFORMANCE UPDATE



About the Survey

Freeport has partnered with Voconiq to conduct the Local Voices community survey program, creating regular opportunities for community members to share their perspectives. Your feedback helps us better understand what matters most to you and your community, and helps us improve how we listen, engage and respond.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2025 survey. Click the link below to explore key insights from the **Safford** survey and to participate in our 2026 Local Voices survey. Survey closes October 30.

[Learn More](#)

Freeport's 2026 Grant Programs

Community Investment Fund

The Community Investment Fund is driven by three priority areas:



Education & Workforce Development

Resilient People

Early Education | K-12 | Higher Education | Workforce Development | STEM | Community Education & Support



Economic Opportunity

Resilient Economies

Health | Safety | Housing | Environmental | Small Business Support | Access to Food | Economic Development | Cultural Heritage & Arts | Community Infrastructure



Capacity & Leadership

Resilient Organizations & Systems

Training & Skill-Building | Community & Emergency Planning | Citizen Engagement & Participation | Organization Governance & Effectiveness

Application Opens:

May 13, 2026

Application Closes:

June 26, 2026

at 5 p.m. AZ time

Awards Announced:

Nov. 20, 2026

Mini-Grants for Education

Designed to support K-12 teachers and schools in communities where Freeport has an operational presence.

Application
Opens:

July 6, 2026

Application
Closes:

Sept. 4, 2026

at 5 p.m. AZ time

Awards
Announced:

Oct. 30, 2026

Women's Development Grants

Support organizations providing women and girls opportunities to advance educational attainment, create and expand businesses, and increase financial capability and employment through education and/or workforce skills training.

**Application
Opens:**

Sept. 2, 2026

**Application
Closes:**

Oct. 9, 2026

**Awards
Announced:**

Dec. 4, 2026

at 5 p.m. AZ time

Community Investment Fund Update ✓

2026 Graham CIF Process By the Numbers:

- Proposals Received: 12
- Total Grant Funding Requested: \$674,300
- Budgeted Funds Available: \$400,000
- Scoring Review: October 22
- Applicant Interviews: October 29

Community Investment Fund Highlights

SEACUS (Southeastern Arizona Community Unique Services) Presentation

- Stephanie Nabor of SEACUS shared how a 2025 Graham CIF grant expanded Meals on Wheels services for local seniors.
 - Despite a record-high number of clients, grant funding empowered SEACUS to clear their waitlist - a need they hope to continue meeting in 2027.
 - The Meals on Wheels program is more than just a meal; it is also a wellness check for seniors who may have no other visitors and, on many occasions, SEACUS volunteers are the first to respond to medical needs whether it be an injury from a fall or the passing of a client.
 - In fiscal year 2025-2026, SEACUS served roughly 33,000 meals, assisting 472 senior citizens and currently has 427 active contract clients served by their staff and eleven committed volunteers (not including private pay and long-term care contract clients).

Community Engagement

Economic and Community Development

- Freeport continues participation in regional economic development through initiatives such as the Graham Economic

Partnership.

Sponsorships and Community Support

- Freeport supported the 100th Annual Graham County Fair as well as the 2026 Moonshot pitch event and other community activities during the quarter.

Resilience Initiative



Resilience Plan 2.0 Update ✓

- Stakeholder interviews are nearing completion.
- Draft resilience strategies and recommendations are expected later this year.

GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT

Freeport maintains a formal Grievance Management System allowing community stakeholders to share concerns directly with company officials. Learn more about our Grievance Management process at FreeportInMyCommunity.com.

In Q2 2026:

- No official grievances were reported.
- Recent reports have been received of rock-throwing incidents affecting traffic on Highway 70 on the San Carlos Apache Reservation and coordination is ongoing with Tribal authorities.

Grievance Report

Q2 2026: **0**

YTD Active: **0**

YTD Closed: **1**

Previous Year Active: **0**

Community Information & Grievance Line

To share a grievance, ask a question, or request information, please call:

(877)629-2609

24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

COMPANY UPDATE



Freeport Reports Second-Quarter and Six-Month 2026 Results

[Read more](#)



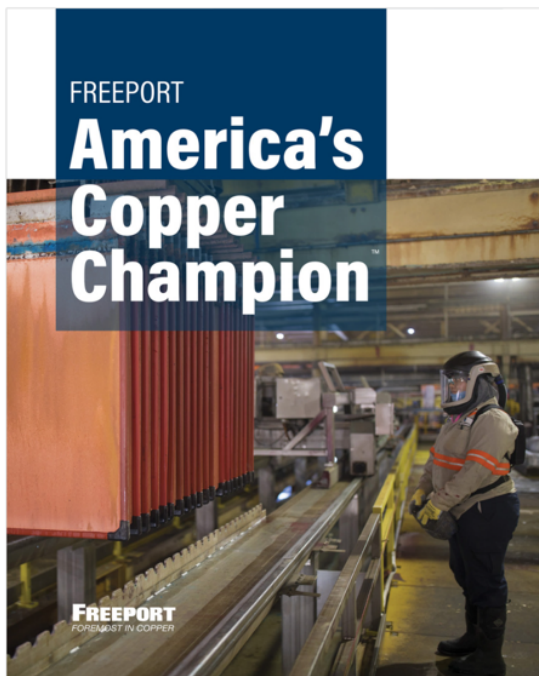
Learn more at [FCX.com](https://www.fcx.com)

Economic Impact

Freeport-McMoRan's Safford operations generated more than **\$661 MILLION** in economic benefits for Arizona in 2025, which includes over **\$269 MILLION** for Graham County.

All economic impact numbers were produced by the L. William Seidman Research Institute, Arizona State University. Figures are approximate.

Freeport: America's Copper Champion® Brochure Now Available



Freeport: America's Copper Champion®

- The largest copper producer in the United States
- Freeport supplies approximately 70% of the refined copper produced domestically
- Total national economic impact of \$13.8 billion in 2025
- Estimated to support more than
- 100,000 U.S. jobs

The full America's Copper Champion®
brochure is available on the
[FCX.com](https://www.fcx.com) homepage.

Celebrating America's 250

As the U.S. celebrates 250 years, we're proud to build on nearly two centuries of supporting the country's growth and resilience. See how Freeport's North America operations observed the anniversary, [here](#).

We want to hear from you!

We value your feedback. Please share your thoughts on the CPP by completing this quick survey.

[CPP Feedback Survey](#)

Thanks for reading! Join us for the next CPP: **November 18, 2026.**



Freeport-McMoRan

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