

March 12, 2012

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee

FROM: Mayor Hugh Hallman, City of Tempe, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR  
THE MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, March 19, 2012 - 12:00 Noon  
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Ironwood  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee has been scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person or by telephone conference.

Please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Denise McClafferty at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions regarding the Executive Committee agenda items, please contact me at 480-350-8221. For MAG staff, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

MAG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
TENTATIVE AGENDA  
MARCH 19, 2012

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Executive Committee will be called to order.

2. Call to the Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Executive Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public will be requested not to exceed a three-minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Executive Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items will be given an opportunity at the time the item is heard.

3. Approval of Executive Committee Consent Agenda

Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk (\*).

2. Information and discussion.

3. Approval of Executive Committee Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT\*  
BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

\*3A. Approval of the February 13, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

\*3B. 2012 Federal Discretionary Grants

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) released three Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) for bus and bus facility related projects on February 7,

3A. Approval of the February 13, 2012 Executive Committee meeting minutes.

3B. Approval to move forward with the grant application process with the eight (8) projects that were identified by transit operators as MAG regional projects.

2012. They have short due dates with the first of the three required to be submitted to FTA by March 22. This agenda item was discussed at the MAG Transit Committee on February 9, 2012, and the members suggested that the Transit Operators Working Group meet to discuss project ideas and recommend moving forward with those that: 1) Provide the most benefit to the most individuals in the region - either directly or indirectly, 2) Have the attributes that most closely fit with FTA's funding objectives as stated in the NOFAs. The Transit Operators Working Group met on February 15, 2012, and reviewed 21 project concepts. The group identified eight projects with total project costs of approximating \$53 million that best fit the criteria stated above. On March 8, 2012, the MAG Transit Committee voted to recommend approval moving forward with the grant application process with the eight (8) projects that were identified by transit operators as MAG regional projects. This item is on the March 14, 2012 MAG Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*3C. Consultant Selection for the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study

The FY 2012 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, as amended by the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee in October 2011, includes \$850,000 to conduct the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study. The study would identify a long-term solution for accommodating travel demand and adjacent property access in this corridor. The study will consist of two distinct phases: (1) Corridor Optimization to establish operating principles to improve the effectiveness of traffic operations along US-60/Grand Avenue and (2) an Access Management Plan that will provide a detailed milepost-by-milepost description of adjacent property access to US-60/Grand Avenue. In addition, a corridor-wide vision, goals, and

3C. Approval to select Burgess and Niple, Inc., to conduct the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study for an amount not to exceed \$850,000.

priorities (e.g., economic development, safety, and mobility) will be developed as part of the study. A request for proposals was issued on November 21, 2011, and five proposals were received by the due date of December 19, 2011. A multi-agency review team evaluated the proposals and interviewed three consultant teams. On February 29, 2012, the proposal review team recommended to MAG the selection of Burgess and Niple, Inc., to conduct the study. This item is on the March 14, 2012 MAG Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*3D. Arizona Aerospace and Defense Website Project

On June 7, 2011, the Economic Development Committee was provided a report on the Aerospace and Defense (A&D) industry. It was noted that through better coordination of the supply chain, it would be possible to foster economic development and optimize the flow of freight supporting the A&D industry throughout Arizona. Since that time, the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA), the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), MAG and the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) have been working on enhancing the supply chain and mapping portion of the ACA Aerospace and Defense website. The website will include a portal where companies are able to update their own profiles. It will also include a built-in function that notifies companies when their profiles need updating. Using the State Contract, a Request for Quotes was developed and two responses were received. The contract for this project is not to exceed \$60,000, with ACA contributing one-third (\$20,000), ADOT contributing one-third (\$20,000), and MAG and PAG sharing one-third according to population percentages (MAG \$16,000 and PAG \$4,000). Staff is requesting approval for up to \$16,000 as MAG's share of the Aerospace and Defense website enhancement project. This item was recommended for approval by the MAG Economic Development Committee

3D. Approval to provide the Arizona Commerce Authority up to \$16,000 as MAG's share of the Aerospace and Defense Website enhancement project to improve the Arizona aerospace supply chain, to foster economic development and optimize the flow of freight supporting the A&D industry throughout Arizona.

on March 6, 2012 and is on the March 14, 2012 MAG Management Committee agenda.

\*3E. Consultant Selection for the Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study

The fiscal year (FY) 2012 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, as amended by the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee in September 2011, includes \$78,000 for the Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study (to be matched with \$160,000 from ADOT). The study purpose is to identify opportunities and strategies for improving the existing transit service in the northwest valley and to develop a short, mid, and long range local transit plan that effectively provides local transit and para-transit circulation options within the northwest valley and also connects to the regional transit system. The project will be completed in a maximum of twelve (12) months from the date of the notice to proceed at a cost not to exceed \$238,000. On January 27, 2012, MAG issued a Request for Proposals to conduct the study. On March 8, 2012, a multi-agency evaluation team interviewed five consultant teams and recommended to MAG the selection of Moore & Associates to conduct the study. This item is on the March 14, 2012 MAG Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve. Please refer to the enclosed material.

3E. Approval to select Moore & Associates to conduct the Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study at a cost not to exceed \$238,000.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD  
BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4. Update on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has submitted the remaining information for the Draft MAG 2012 Five Percent Plan for PM-10 regarding their commitment to assess the effectiveness of the voluntary and emerging control measure (Dust Action General Permit) and information for the Agricultural Best Management Practices Program. The draft plan document has now been completed. A public

4. Information and discussion.

hearing is tentatively scheduled for April 12, 2012. During the 30 day public comment period, discussions will continue between the ADEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the Agricultural Best Management Practices Program. Following the consideration of public comments, it is anticipated that the MAG Regional Council would take action on the plan at the May 23, 2012 meeting. In addition, the region needs three years of clean data as measured by the monitors for EPA to determine that the standard has been met. It is critical for the MAG member agencies to maintain their aggressive efforts to prevent exceedances at the monitors and throughout the region. To date in 2012, there have been three PM-10 exceptional event exceedances due to frontal system high winds on January 21, 2012, residual dust on January 22, 2012, and frontal system high winds on February 27, 2012. ADEQ is continuing to prepare the documentation for the remaining 12 packages of exceptional events in 2011 with technical assistance from Maricopa County and MAG staff. On March 2, 2012, EPA sent a letter to MAG indicating that EPA would consider the MAG comments on the draft exceptional events guidance and the conceptual approach for streamlining the process by enabling states and tribes to make the exceptional events determinations, after consultation with EPA. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5. Development of the Draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed incrementally in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies and approved by the Regional Council in May. This presentation and review of the draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget represent the budget document development to date. The elements of the budget document are

5. Information and input on the development of the Draft fiscal year (FY) 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

about 70 percent complete. Please refer to the enclosed material.

6. Discussion of New Software for Accounting

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) purchased its automated accounting system, AXIUM PROTRAX, in 1999 to consolidate accounting records onto one system. The AXIUM accounting system has been in place since that time and has worked adequately. MAG was notified recently that the AXIUM PROTRAX accounting software will no longer be supported beginning July 1, 2013. In order to provide adequate time for evaluation of new accounting software and implementation of the accounting package selected, MAG is proposing to issue a request to procure a new accounting package in the March-April 2012 time frame. The budget for the new accounting software is included in the draft budget for fiscal year 2013. This item is on the agenda to keep the Executive Committee apprised of this early procurement process that is needed for the new accounting software. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the Executive Committee would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting will be requested.

8. Comments from the Committee

An opportunity will be provided for the Executive Committee members to present a brief summary of current events. The Executive Committee is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Adjournment

6. Information and discussion.

7. Information and discussion.

8. Information.

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
February 13, 2012  
MAG Offices, Ironwood Room  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

\*Mayor, Hugh Hallman, Tempe, Chair  
Mayor, Marie Lopez-Rogers, Avondale,  
Vice Chair  
#Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa, Treasurer  
Mayor Jim Lane, Scottsdale

Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown  
#Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf, Litchfield Park,  
Past Chair  
#Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix

\* Not present

# Participated by video or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers at 12:00 p.m.

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers stated that public comment cards were available for those members of the public who wish to comment. Transit tickets were available from Valley Metro for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

2. Call to the Audience

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers stated that according to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the public comment cards. He stated that there is a three-minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers noted that no public comment cards had been received.

3. Consent Agenda

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers noted that prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience are provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda.

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers announced item #3B, Update on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM, was taken off the consent agenda to be heard. Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor LeVault moved to approve items #3A and #3C. Mayor Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3A. Approval of the January 17, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the January 17, 2012 Executive Committee meeting minutes.

3C. Amendment to the Elliott D. Pollack and Company Contract for the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative in the amount of \$60,000

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved to amend the Elliott D. Pollack and Company contract by \$60,000 to conduct the additional work for the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative and other MAG efforts. The purpose of the amendment is to seek additional expertise in providing a national and global perspective of the economic strategies for this region, and to also extend the amount of time that Elliott D. Pollack and Company can be engaged in the Metropolitan Business Planning effort beyond the data collection and analysis. Elliott D. Pollack and Company will subcontract with Michael Gallis and Associates to analyze existing MAG efforts, such as the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative, the Freight Transportation Framework Study and the Thunderbird efforts. This and other information will be used to create the foundation for the Greater Phoenix region to better position itself in the global network and to enhance the strategic process capable of producing results. It is anticipated that in June 2012, the results of the subcontractor effort will be a written report and findings presented to MAG and other economic development groups.

3B. Update on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10

This item was taken off the consent agenda and moved to be heard.

Lindy Bauer, MAG Environmental Director, noted House Bill 2798 was at their place. She indicated that this Bill would be heard at the House Environment Committee on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 and is being sponsored by Representative Reeve. The intent of this Bill is to insure the measures in the Five Percent Plan for PM-10 are being implemented and the cities, county and the state agencies responsible for implementing the measures report annually to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) by March 30<sup>th</sup> of each year on the status of the implementation of the measures. She noted MAG has been tracking the implementation of the measures for the Five Percent Plan which covered 2008, 2009, and 2010. The last year of tracking was 2010. She stated the Legislature is now being asked to approve this Bill that would require all entities to report by March 30<sup>th</sup> of every year.

Regarding the new Five Percent Plan for PM-10, Ms. Bauer stated that the ADEQ has now

submitted their commitment for the Dust Action General Permit Measure and MAG is currently awaiting EPA and ADEQ to complete discussions on how to best handle the Agricultural Best Management Practices Program.

Ms. Bauer informed the committee that to date, in 2012, there have been two PM-10 exceptional event exceedances due to frontal system high winds on January 21, 2012 and residual dust on January 22, 2012. She then showed the committee the magnitude of paperwork that was required to process in regards to the exceptional events that took place July 2-July 8, 2011. The documentation was over 200 pages in length. Ms. Bauer stated that there are twelve more packages of exceptional events that need to be prepared for the remaining exceptional events that took place in 2011.

Ms. Bauer noted that the Arizona Republic did a seven day series on air quality. There was a great deal of concern by Maricopa County Air Quality Department, MAG, and the Arizona Department of Air Quality regarding this series. A "My Turn" was sent to the Arizona Republic indicating the facts on air quality. Some examples she gave were the carbon monoxide standard has not been violated since 1996, the one hour ozone has not been violated since 1996 and there has not been a violation of the second ozone standard since 2004. She stated for the new more stringent ozone standard, there was one monitor in violation last summer.

Mayor Lane asked how many PM-10 exceedances did we have in 2011. Ms. Bauer stated there were 102 exceedances across the network with 101 classified and recognized as exceptional events by ADEQ. She noted each event needs to be prepared, documented, and submitted and then EPA needs to concur that each event was an exceptional event. She noted this documentation process is very labor and time intensive. Ms. Bauer stated that MAG has draft legislation where states could be put in charge of exceptional events because each state knows their own unique conditions. The state would document the events and make the decisions, in consultation with the EPA.

Mayor LeVault asked if there are any other regions that are also experiencing this issue. Ms. Bauer noted Western States Air Resources Council is concerned with exceptional events and the Northeast is also concerned due to wildfires that contribute to the ozone, which are included in exceptional events.

Mayor Smith asked if we have received a response from the letter we sent to EPA regarding this issue. Ms. Bauer stated a response has not yet been received.

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

#### 4. Economic Development Committee Vacancy

Denise McClafferty noted composition of the Economic Development Committee (EDC), approved by the Regional Council, includes the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Transportation

Policy Committee (TPC). On January 25, 2012, the Regional Council appointed Mayor Jackie Meck, Town of Buckeye, as the Vice Chair of the TPC. The West Valley seat that Mayor Meck previously held on the EDC is now vacant. A memorandum was sent to the Regional Council members explaining the vacant West Valley seat and requesting letters of interest for this seat be sent to the Regional Council Chair. She stated one letter of interest was received from Sharon Wolcott, Mayor of the City of Surprise. She noted that according to MAG Committee Operating Policies and Procedures, the Regional Council Executive Committee recommends to the Regional Council a new West Valley elected official to fill this seat.

Mayor LeVault moved to recommend Mayor Wolcott to the Economic Development Committee. Mayor Lane seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Regional Council Meeting Time For June 27, 2012

Dennis Smith, stated on January 25, 2012, the MAG Regional Council approved changing the time of the monthly MAG Regional Council meetings from 5:00 p.m. to 11:30 a.m. The time change is effective beginning with the February 22, 2012, MAG Regional Council meeting. He noted on June 27, 2012, the biannual Desert Peaks Awards event will be held and in the past, this event began with the annual meeting of the Regional Council at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Desert Peaks Awards ceremony at 5:30 p.m. With the Regional Council meeting time change, staff is requesting guidance from the Executive Committee on when to hold the annual meeting of the Regional Council.

Mayor Smith moved to recommended that the June 27, 2012 Regional Council meeting begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Desert Peaks Awards ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Lane seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion of the Development of the FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Ms. Kimbrough thanked the Vice Chair and committee members and noted the attachments that were included in the committee agenda. She stated MAG's budget is presented incrementally, January through May, and this month she is presenting the draft of the proposed new projects for the FY2013 budget. She noted these projects include the proposed dues and assessments with recommended fifty percent reduction, the budget time line, which outlines the budget development process, a budget webinar invitation, which is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. in MAG offices and the descriptions and cost estimates for newly proposed projects. She noted all of the newly proposed projects are ongoing and examples of some of these projects include Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call for the Environmental Division and the Don't Trash Arizona Litter Prevention and Education Program in Transportation. She also stated other projects represent Phase II projects, such as The Managed Lanes Network Development Strategy.

Ms. Kimbrough stated MAG is looking for input through April into the budget elements and any comments or questions regarding projects and other regional and sub-regional projects that the members would like to discuss.

Mr. Smith noted if any MAG member agency has any input regarding projects or is interested in starting a study, they should contact MAG staff so they could write up a scope and put it in the work program.

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers asked if there were any comments or questions. There were none.

7. Funding for the Brookings Metropolitan Planning Initiative

Mr. Smith stated on July 18, 2011, MAG had received confirmation that Brookings selected this region to participate in the Metropolitan Businesses Planning Initiative. It was noted that Brookings would be seeking funding from the business community to help support a portion of their efforts. Mr. Smith noted MAG staff has drafted a fundraising letter but has not started soliciting private sector funding for this effort because MAG has been soliciting for the Desert Peaks Awards program. Mr. Smith recommended using a portion of MAG funding as seed money or to proceed with the fundraising letter.

Mayor Smith stated he thought we already committed to Brookings that MAG would cover the first year of funding and then get reimbursed by the private sector. Mr. Smith noted MAG would need approval from the Regional Council Executive Committee to proceed with payment to Brookings.

Mayor Lane asked what the contractual obligations are with Brookings. Mr. Smith stated there is no contractual agreement, however, when the proposal was accepted by Brookings this was the intent. Amy St. Peter noted in the proposal submitted to Brookings there was not a specific statement for a specific payment amount but there were considerable discussions with Brookings to clarify the intent and by participating in the program MAG understood these terms.

Mayor Lane asked how much has been expended in this effort to date. Ms. St. Peter noted there are two contracts out with business consultants working on this initiative: Elliott Pollack for \$138,375 and Value Point for \$88,000, plus MAG staff time. Mayor Lane suggested MAG send out the solicitation letter and to not provide seed money in advance.

Mayor Smith noted a commitment was made with Brookings to fund the money and they should be paid. He agreed it is up to MAG to decide on the best time to start the fundraising efforts and he is confident that we can cover this obligation through the private sector. He noted Barry Broome from GPEC made a firm commitment that he would work with MAG and be an active participant in securing this funding.

Mayor Schoaf asked what funding source MAG is planning to pay Brookings as seed money and

if this was in MAG's budget. Mr. Smith noted this summer would be one year working with Brookings and MAG would be comfortable paying \$75,000. He noted because it was not in the budget, MAG would be reimbursed when the funding is secured from the private sector. Mayor Lane noted he would rather not have MAG advance the money. He noted fundraising letters should go out as soon as possible.

Mayor Stanton asked if there has been a feasibility study to see if the private sector is interested in participating. Mr. Smith stated after speaking with the Chair of this committee, he believed the fundraising efforts could be accomplished. Mayor Stanton asked how this will be marketed. Mr. Smith noted the business communities involved in this effort will see the advantage to help fund this initiative.

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers asked what the timeline is on the commitment to Brookings. Mr. Smith stated there is not a specific deadline. He noted that if MAG does not provide seed money to Brookings at this time, the fundraising letters could go out immediately.

Mayor Stanton agreed with Mayor Smith that if MAG has made a commitment then payment should be made. He suggested MAG or GPEC organize a roundtable to actively ask for funds face-to-face from the private sector. Mayor Lane agreed that a roundtable is a good idea and would like to be a part of it.

Mayor Schoaf noted he would be in favor if MAG could get the fundraising letter out with both GPEC and MAG involved in the solicitation. Mr. Smith thought this was a great idea and noted GPEC has been a great partner and made early verbal commitments to assist in the fundraising efforts.

Mayor LeVault moved to support the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative with MAG funding \$75,000 as seed money, while simultaneously sending out the funding letters. Mayor Smith seconded the motion.

The motion carried out with Mayor Lane voting no. Mayor Lane clarified his vote, stating his support for GPEC participating in the fundraising letter and getting the letter out immediately, but opposed MAG advancing the \$75,000 to Brookings.

Mr. Smith wanted to be clear of the approval and clarified that if MAG advances the \$75,000 to Brookings, MAG be reimbursed when funds come in from the private sector. Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers confirmed that MAG would be reimbursed by the private sector fund raising efforts in the amount of \$75,000 that was paid in advance by MAG to Brookings.

8. Review of MAG FY 2011 Goals and Results and Discussion of Proposed Draft FY 2012 Goals/Work Emphasis Areas

Dennis Smith, Executive Director of MAG, presented some of the proposed goals and work

emphasis areas for FY 2012. He noted MAG partnered with Arizona Department of Transportation on the South Mountain Freeway, completed the 110 lane-mile expansion of the HOV network, convinced Environmental Protection Agency that the new measures by local governments are not needed in the new plan, and received the GFOA award on our CAFR and audit due to our clean budget, which is only awarded to a few in the nation.

Mr. Smith stated the Greater Phoenix Rising website was developed in-house with MAG and GPEC working together to create the best economic development website in the nation. He noted the border issues affect the whole region and stated a JPAC meeting is taking place at the end of February to work on a resolution. He also noted that a Canadian business forum is being organized in March to promote Canadian businesses to move or expand to our region.

Mr. Smith stated the Arizona Commerce Authority worked with MAG on expanding their Aerospace and Supply Chain website. He noted that MAG is also continuing to work on the Metropolitan Business Plan. Mr. Smith noted these are just some of the accomplishments.

Mr. Smith stated the decision has been made by the Gila River Community and a Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision are needed to move forward with building the South Mountain Freeway. He stated the Five Percent Plan for PM-10 documentation is now being completed, the new Eight Hour Ozone Plan is being developed and MAG Staff has now taken on the responsibility for the 208 Water Quality Management Plan. He noted another huge technical effort at MAG is the new projections for population.

Mr. Smith informed the committee the Human Services Division has been working on the Protocol Evaluation Project, which MAG received additional funding for from the Governor's Office to connect prosecutors, judges, law enforcement, and the community. He noted if there are any additional goals or projects to contact MAG staff so they can be discussed at a future meeting.

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers asked if there were any requests for future agenda items. There were none.

10. Comments from the Committee

Mayor Schoaf stated it would be very helpful if members and their communities would support the F35 EIF program to be based at Luke Air Force Base.

Vice Chair Lopez-Rogers asked if there were any comments for the committee members. There were no comments.

Adjournment

Mayor LeVault moved to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting. Mayor Lane seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Executive Committee adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary

# MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

## INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

**DATE:**

March 12, 2012

**SUBJECT:**

2012 Discretionary Grants Update

**SUMMARY:**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) released three Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) for bus and bus facility related projects on February 7, 2012. They have short due dates with the first of the three required to be submitted to FTA by March 22. This agenda item was discussed at the MAG Transit Committee on February 9, 2012, and the members suggested that the Transit Operators Working Group meet to discuss project ideas and recommend moving forward with those that: 1) Provide the most benefit to the most individuals in the region - either directly or indirectly, 2) Have the attributes that most closely fit with FTA's funding objectives as stated in the NOFAs.

MAG hosted a Transit Operators Working Group workshop on February 15, 2012. Prior to the meeting, a project check list was provided to facilitate the discussion. The check list was developed only for the purpose of the workshop and was not meant to represent current or future policy discussions. It was a tool created based on careful examination of the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and past nationally awarded projects. The checklist was meant to quantify the more qualitative aspects of the grant selection criteria. A few caveats of the check list were:

1. It was not meant to be a comprehensive prioritization list but is a means by which to evaluate the best regional project most likely to be awarded funding.
2. Criterion that was expected to be the same across all projects (pollution reduction, congestion reduction, etc) was not included; only those applicable to some, but not all projects are.
3. The scores alone were not the final determination of what the region may elect to submit for funding - but rather a starting point for discussion.

Check List

The check list items were taken from the NOFA and from each respective evaluation criteria section. Planning and Local & Regional Prioritization/Project Readiness is relevant for all grant programs. Other aspects differ according to program. The criteria were divided into sections as follows:

State of Good Repair

Section I: Demonstration of Need

Section II: Planning and Local & Regional Prioritization/Project Readiness

Bus Livability

Section I: Linkage to Livability Principles

Section II: Planning and Local & Regional Prioritization/Project Readiness

Section III: Leveraging of Public and Private Investments

Clean Fuels

Section I: Demonstration of Need/Technological Advancement

Section II: Planning and Local & Regional Prioritization/Project Readiness

Workshop Outcome

The operators provided concepts for twenty-one (21) projects during the workshop. Utilizing the check list to facilitate discussion and based on group discussion, the group identified the eight (8) projects totaling \$53M that best met the goals stated above to move forward as part of the regional applications.

Process/Next Steps

Application templates have been sent to operators with projects moving forward to be filled out in their entirety and returned to MAG staff by the deadlines associated for each program. MAG, RPTA and City of Phoenix staff will compile the projects into a single application such that there will only be one application for each grant program from the region.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

None has been received.

**PROS & CONS:**

PROS: Approval of this project list will allow the region to move forward collaboratively and in a timely manner.

CONS: None.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: The projects were evaluated based on national awards from previous years and also language from the Notices of Funding Availability. The projects on the list are ones that the Transit Operators and Transit Committee have agreed have the most likelihood of receiving funding.

POLICY: None.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

Approval to move forward with the grant application process with the eight (8) projects that were identified by transit operators as MAG regional projects.

**PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

This is on the March 14, 2012 MAG Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve.

Transit Committee: On March 8, 2012, the Transit Committee voted to recommend approval with moving forward with the grant application process with the eight (8) projects that were identified by transit operators as MAG regional projects.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- \* ADOT: Mike Normand
- Avondale: Rogene Hill
- \* Buckeye: Andrea Marquez
- Chandler: Dan Cook for RJ Zeder
- # El Mirage: Lance Calvert
- # Gilbert: Ken Maruyama
- Glendale: Cathy Colbath, Chair
- Goodyear: Cato Esquivel
- Maricopa County: Mitch Wagner
- Mesa: Mike James
- \* Paradise Valley: William Mead
- Peoria: Maher Hazine
- Phoenix: Neal Young
- \* Queen Creek: Tom Condit
- Scottsdale: Madeline Clemann
- Surprise: David Kohlbeck
- Tempe: Greg Jordan
- \* Tolleson: Chris Hagen
- Valley Metro Rail: Wulf Grote
- \* Youngtown: Grant Anderson
- Regional Public Transportation Authority: Carol Ketcherside

\* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

# Attended by telephone conference call.

+ Attended by videoconference

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Alice Chen, MAG Transportation Planner II, (602) 452-5066.

## Transit Operators Working Group - February 15, 2012

### State of Good Repair

High to Low						
Rank	Total Points	Project Name	Jurisdictions Applying	Project Cost	Y/N	Notes
1	19	Bus Stop	Phoenix, Tempe, Glendale, Scottsdale	\$ -	Y	Moved to Bus Livability
2	18	South Transit Facility Refurb	Phoenix	\$ 11,000,000	Y	High score. General consensus.
3	17	Desert Sky Transit Center	Phoenix	\$ 10,000,000	Y	High score. General consensus.
5	16	Bus Replacement	Regionwide	\$ 20,000,000	Y	"Moved up" Due to high level of bus funding in past awards
4	17	Maintenace Software	Tempe		N	Not recommended due to potential integration with RPTA
6	15	Mesa/Tempe OM Solar	RPTA/Tempe		N	Not on recommended list
7	14	Arizona Mills	Tempe		N	Not on recommended list
8	14	Mesa OM Pavement Replace	RPTA		N	Not on recommended list
9	13	Bus Camera Replacement	RPTA		N	Not on recommended list
10	12	Bus Engine Replacement	RPTA		N	Not on recommended list
11	10	Voice Enuciators	Glendale		N	Not on recommended list
12	10	Library Transit Center	Tempe		N	Not on recommended list
<b>SGR Total</b>				<b>\$ 41,000,000</b>		

## Bus and Bus Livability

High to Low	Total Points	Project Name	Jurisdictions Applying	Project Cost	Y/N	Notes
1	24	Phoenix Bike Cellar	Maricopa County	\$ 600,000	Y	High score. General consensus.
2	22	Bus Stops	Scottsdale, Tempe, Phoenix, Glendale	\$ 4,000,000	Y	Final amt TBD. Awaiting City of PHX estimate.
3	21	University Drive	Tempe	\$ 800,000	Y	General consensus. Low cost request.
4	21	Arrowhead Mall	Glendale		N	Originally on list but deemed ineligible.
5	17	Phoenix West Direct Connection Transit Ramp	Valley Metro Rail		N	Not on recommended list
6	15	City Center Transit Facility	Avondale		N	Not on recommended list
<b>Livability Total</b>				<b>\$ 5,400,000</b>		

## Clean Fuels

High to Low	Total Points	Project Name	Jurisdictions Applying	Project Cost	Y/N	Notes
1	3	CNG Pumps Upgrade	Tempe, Phoenix	\$ 2,200,000	Y	High score. General consensus.
2	3	Bus Replacement	Scottsdale, Glendale, Avondale(2)	\$ 4,400,000	Y	Only incremental costs. Will try to bring down cost request further
3	2	Mesa OM Solar	RPTA		N	Not on recommended list
<b>Clean Fuels Total</b>				<b>\$ 6,600,000</b>		

**Total Project Costs \$ 53,000,000**

# MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

## INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

**DATE:**

March 12, 2012

**SUBJECT:**

Consultant Selection for the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study

**SUMMARY:**

The fiscal year (FY) 2012 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2011, was amended in October 2011 to include \$850,000 to conduct the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study.

In June 2011, the Mayors of El Mirage, Glendale, Peoria, Phoenix, Surprise, and Youngtown, and Maricopa County Supervisor Max Wilson, sent a letter to Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Director John Halikowski to express their interest in preserving US-60/Grand Avenue from 19th Avenue and McDowell Road to SR-303L as an expressway facility that remains a state highway under ADOT control. Their letter also expressed a desire to work through the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) in cooperation with ADOT to enhance mobility in the corridor and maintain the corridor's expressway character. Based upon this request, MAG will develop the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study to identify a long-term solution for accommodating travel demand and adjacent property access in this corridor. The study will consist of two distinct phases: (1) Corridor Optimization to establish operating principles to improve the effectiveness of traffic operations along US-60/Grand Avenue and (2) an Access Management Plan that will provide a detailed milepost-by-milepost description of adjacent property access to US-60/Grand Avenue. In addition, a corridor-wide vision, goals, and priorities (e.g., economic development, safety, and mobility) will be developed as part of the study.

The request for proposals was advertised on November 21, 2011. Five proposals were received from Burgess and Niple, Inc.; the EPS Group; Kimley-Horn and Associates; Lee Engineering; and Michael Baker, Inc., by the due date of December 19, 2011. A multi-agency proposal evaluation team consisting of MAG member agencies and MAG staff reviewed the proposal documents and, on February 29, 2012, the proposal evaluation team recommended to MAG the selection of Burgess and Niple, Inc., to conduct the project.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

No public input has been received.

**PROS & CONS:**

**PROS:** The US-60/Grand Avenue corridor will be operated and maintained by ADOT. With a clear and agreed upon vision for the corridor, future projects can be established. As operating principles established from this study are applied, corridor operations will be uniform, thereby improving traffic flow and providing reliability for commuters. The establishment of the plan for access management will serve as a guide for improving traffic flow, and increasing mobility and connectivity. The corridor will become more attractive for economic development and safer for roadway users.

The outcome of this study will evaluate the suitability of this investment measured against the ability to incorporate alternative transportation strategies in the corridor. In light of current economic conditions, this study's results may provide the region with options to consider in making the appropriate investments for the Southeast Corridor.

CONS: Without a corridor vision, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) could transfer ownership and maintenance of US-60/Grand Avenue to the respective MAG member agencies along the corridor pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute 28-7209. The roadway could then be compromised as a regional facility, as operations, maintenance, and potential modifications could be difficult to coordinate among multiple agencies. As a result, congestion could build along the corridor, thereby increasing commuter travel times and potentially diminishing air quality.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: This study will produce a unified vision and accompanying goals for all future development of the US-60/Grand Avenue corridor. The collective approach to solving the identified corridor issues by the impacted agencies will establish a clear methodology for future studies that require a multi-jurisdictional agreement on vision and goals.

POLICY: The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), adopted in 2003, included goals and objectives that addressed system preservation & safety, access & mobility, and accountability & planning. The RTP also allocated Regional Area Road Funds (RARF) to be used for implementation and planning studies in the MAG region. Approving RARF funds for the US-60 Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan is consistent with the goals and objectives of the RTP. The outcomes of this study may include recommendations for agreements between the affected cities, Maricopa County, and the Arizona Department of Transportation for coordinating access and traffic operations of facilities and land-uses adjacent to the US-60/Grand Avenue corridor.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

Approval to select Burgess and Niple, Inc., to conduct the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study for an amount not to exceed \$850,000.

**PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

This is on the March 14, 2012 MAG Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve.

On February 29, 2012, the proposal evaluation team recommended to MAG the selection of Burgess and Niple, Inc., to conduct the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study. Members of the team included:

Kwi-Sung Kang, ADOT  
Julie Kliewer, ADOT  
Tim Wolfe, ADOT  
Lance Calvert, City of El Mirage  
Robert Darr, City of Glendale  
Jamal Rahimi, City of Peoria  
Myesha Harris, City of Phoenix  
Karen Savage, City of Surprise

Timothy Oliver, Maricopa County  
Department of Transportation  
Grant Anderson, Town of Youngtown  
Eric Anderson, MAG  
Bob Hazlett, MAG  
Micah Henry, MAG  
Christina Hopes, MAG  
Sarath Joshua, MAG  
Tim Strow, MAG

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Bob Hazlett, Senior Transportation Engineer, MAG 602 254-6300.

# MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

## INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

**DATE:**

March 12, 2012

**SUBJECT:**

Consultant Selection for the Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study

**SUMMARY:**

The fiscal year (FY) 2012 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, as amended by the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee in September 2011, includes \$78,000 for the Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study (to be matched with \$160,000 from the Arizona Department of Transportation). The study purpose is to identify opportunities and strategies for improving the existing transit service in the northwest valley and to develop a short-, mid-, and long-range local transit plan that effectively provides local transit and paratransit circulation options within the northwest valley and also connects to the regional transit system. The project will be completed in a maximum of twelve (12) months from the date of the notice to proceed at a cost not to exceed \$238,000. On January 27, 2012, MAG issued a Request for Proposals to conduct the study. On March 8, 2012, a multi-agency evaluation team interviewed five consultant teams and recommended to MAG the selection of Moore & Associates to conduct the study.

In December 2010, dial-a-ride services provided through Sun Cities Area Transit (SCAT) was eliminated. Since that time, MAG and Valley Metro/RPTA staff have been meeting with stakeholders to discuss opportunities to improve transit options in the Sun City area. As part of these discussions, the Arizona Department of Transportation has offered to provide \$160,000 in Section 5304 Statewide Planning funds to evaluate the short- and long-term transit needs for this area, which includes both rural and urbanized land. The proposed Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study would also include \$78,000 of matching funds from the MAG Regional Area Road Fund (RARF).

Once completed, the study will identify opportunities and strategies for improving the existing transit service in the northwest valley and to develop a short, mid, and long range local transit plan that effectively provides circulation within the northwest valley and also connects to the regional transit system.

Key project objectives are to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive, market based evaluation of current transit service and future needs in the northwest valley, and also connects to the regional transit system.
2. Develop a transit plan that effectively provides circulation within the northwest valley; specifically the communities of El Mirage, Glendale, Peoria, Surprise, and

- Youngtown, and the unincorporated Maricopa County communities of Sun City, Sun City West, Sun City Grand and Sun City Festival.
3. Ensure the study results are coordinated with ongoing regional transit plans and studies (e.g., Regional Transportation Plan, Regional Transit Framework Study, Sustainable Transportation and Land Use Integration Study).
  4. Develop a market-defined, phased implementation plan for the short-, mid-, and long-range that strategically expands transit service over time, in concert with development trends and available revenues.
  5. Develop a sound financial plan for the defined transit system that identifies capital/operating cost and potential sources of revenue.
  6. Foster widespread community support for transit service through an effective public involvement program.
  7. Develop an implementation road map.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

None.

**PROS & CONS:**

PROS: This study will look for efficiencies in the current transit service and provide detailed evaluations for expanding transit service in the northwest valley for the short-, mid-, and long-range.

CONS: None.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: The resulting transit service study will identify capital and operating requirements, needs-based service options, and funding opportunities for transit service in the northwest valley.

POLICY: The Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study will provide decision-makers in the northwest valley with a comprehensive perspective on the needs and opportunities as well as the cost implications of implementing transit service.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

Approval to select Moore & Associates to conduct the Northwest Valley Local Transit System Study at a cost not to exceed \$238,000.

**PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

This is on the March 14, 2012 MAG Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve.

On March 8, 2012, a multi-agency evaluation team interviewed five consultant teams and recommended to MAG the selection of Moore & Associates to conduct the study.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION TEAM

John Aleman, City of El Mirage  
Cathy Colbath, City of Glendale  
Mitch Wagner, Maricopa County DOT

Maher Hazine, City of Peoria  
Stuart Boggs, RPTA  
David Kohlbeck, City of Surprise

Marc Pearsall (PM), MAG

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Marc Pearsall, MAG (602) 254-6300



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAR - 2 2012

Mr. Hugh Hallman  
Chair, Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council  
Mayor of Tempe  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

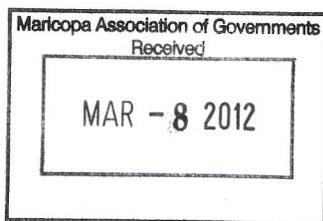
Dear Mr. Hallman:

Thank you for your letter of November 22, 2011, which identifies a conceptual approach to streamlining the exceptional events demonstration development and review process. I appreciate the importance of this issue for your community and region, and the efforts of your agency working with EPA to provide documentation on recent exceptional events. It is very important that EPA work closely with our partners, such the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council, as we find ways to improve how we handle exceptional air quality events.

As you are aware, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released the draft Exceptional Events Rule (EER) guidance documents on May 2, 2011. Our initial comment period for state, local, and tribal agencies ended on June 30, 2011, and we are currently compiling submitted comments and revising the draft guidance documents. We intend to distribute the compiled Response to Comments document to the original commenters, which includes the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council soon. We will also publish a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register announcing the availability of the revised draft exceptional events guidance documents for a 30-day public comment period.

We will consider your comments and streamlining approach as well as other feedback we get during the public comment period, at the conclusion of which we will determine our next steps, including whether to pursue final guidance and/or make a decision on whether to proceed with rule amendments. We will keep you and your staff involved in the development of the guidance and/or rule as we proceed. I recognize the importance of this issue and appreciate your thoughtful input.

Again, thank you for your letter and for your review and interest in the EPA's draft exceptional events guidance documents. We look forward to working with you to improve the exceptional events process.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet McCabe".

Janet McCabe  
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator

cc: Deborah Jordon  
Colleen McKaughan

# MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

## INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

**DATE:**

March 12, 2012

**SUBJECT:**

Development of the Draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

**SUMMARY:**

Each year staff develops the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. The Work Program is reviewed in the Spring by the federal agencies and approved by the Regional Council in May. The proposed budget information is being presented incrementally in parallel with the development of the budget information (see Prior Committee Actions below for the presentation timeline of the budget). This presentation and review of the draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget represent the budget document development to-date.

The Management Committee reviewed the development of the Work Program and Annual Budget at its meetings on January 11, 2012, February 8, 2012, and March 14, 2012. Because of the uncertainty of economic conditions, beginning with the FY 2009 Work Program, MAG Dues and Assessments were held constant between FY 2008 and 2009. With the continuing uncertainty of economic conditions, MAG dues were reduced by fifty percent in FY 2010 and FY 2012. Staff is proposing to maintain the overall reduction to the FY 2013 draft Dues and Assessments of fifty percent with changes for individual members due to population shifts.

Each year new projects are proposed for inclusion in the MAG planning efforts. These new project proposals come from the MAG technical committees and policy committees and through discussions with members and stakeholders regarding joint efforts within the region. These projects are subject to review and input by the committees as they go through the budget process. The proposed new projects for FY 2013 were first presented at the February 8, 2012, Management Committee meeting, the February 13, 2012 Executive Committee meeting, and the February 22, 2012, Regional Council meeting.

In addition to the detailed MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, a summary budget document, "MAG Programs in Brief," is produced that allows our members to quickly decipher the financial implications of the MAG budget. The final summary budget highlights the changes from the prior year budget in a summarized form. The summary document also includes the list of new projects with summary narrative, any changes to staff positions if necessary, and the budgeted resources needed to implement these items.

Information for this presentation of the draft budget documents is included for your early review and input. Enclosed for your information are the following documents:

- Draft of the FY 2013 "MAG Programs in Brief." The draft documents present the newly proposed projects.

- Draft FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. The program budget estimates are draft presentations.

The information is considered draft and is subject to change as the budget continues through the review process.

The draft of the FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget has narrative by division and associated program costs, and draft schedules in the budget appendix, including overall program allocations, allocation of funding by funding source, dues and assessments, and consultant pages for new and carryforward consultants.

The draft budget also has information on the MAG region as a Transportation Management Area and as a Metropolitan Planning Organization. MAG is required (by Federal regulations 23 CFR 450.314) to describe all of the regional transportation-related activities within the planning area, regardless of funding sources or agencies conducting activities.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

None.

**PROS & CONS:**

PROS: In January and February proposed dues and assessments and new projects were reviewed. MAG is presenting a draft summary for the FY 2013 budget document, "MAG Programs in Brief." The format for this document is included for continuous review. The budget summary will allow our members to quickly decipher the financial implications of the MAG budget.

CONS: None.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: The Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 requires a metropolitan planning organization to develop a unified planning work program that meets the requirements of federal law. Additionally, the MAG By-Laws require approval and adoption of a budget for each fiscal year and a service charge schedule.

POLICY: As requested by the MAG Executive Committee and subsequently approved by the Regional Council in May 2002, the MAG Work Program and Annual Budget detail is being presented earlier to the Management Committee and there is increased notice to members on the budget. MAG is providing a budget summary that outlines new programs and presents the necessary resources to implement these programs. This summary allows member agencies to quickly decipher the financial implications of such programs prior to their approval for implementation.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

Information and input on the development of the draft fiscal year (FY) 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

**PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

Management Committee: This item is on the March 14, 2012 Management Committee agenda for information and input.

Regional Council: This item was on the February 22, 2012, Regional Council agenda for information and input.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Mayor Hugh Hallman, Tempe, Chair
- Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale, Vice Chair
- # Councilwoman Robin Barker, Apache Junction
- Councilman Eric Orsborn for Mayor Jackie Meck, Buckeye
- # Mayor David Schwan, Carefree
- Councilman Dick Esser, Cave Creek
- Councilman Jack Sellers for Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, Chandler
- Mayor Lana Mook, El Mirage
- \* President Clinton Pattea, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
- \* Mayor Jay Schlum, Fountain Hills
- \* Mayor Ron Henry, Gila Bend
- \* Governor Gregory Mendoza, Gila River Indian Community
- Mayor John Lewis, Gilbert
- Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale
- Mayor Georgia Lord, Goodyear
- \* Mayor Yolanda Solarez, Guadalupe
- Mayor Thomas Schoaf, Litchfield Park
- # Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa Co.
- Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa
- \* Mayor Scott LeMarr, Paradise Valley
- Mayor Bob Barrett, Peoria
- Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix
- Mayor Gail Barney, Queen Creek
- \* President Diane Enos, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- \* Mayor W. J. "Jim" Lane, Scottsdale
- Mayor Sharon Wolcott, Surprise
- \* Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
- Councilman Rui Pereira, Wickenburg
- Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown
- Victor Flores, State Transportation Board
- \* Vacant, State Transportation Board
- Roc Arnett, Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee

\* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.  
# Attended by telephone conference call.                      + Attended by videoconference

Executive Committee: This item was on the February 13, 2012, MAG Executive Committee agenda for information and input.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- \* Mayor, Hugh Hallman, Tempe, Chair
- Mayor, Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale, Vice Chair
- # Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa, Treasurer
- Mayor Jim Lane, Scottsdale
- Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown
- # Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix
- # Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf, Litchfield Park, Past Chair

\* Not present  
# Participated by video or telephone conference call

Management Committee: This item was on the February 8, 2012, MAG Management Committee agenda for information and input.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Charlie Meyer, Tempe, Chair
- David Cavazos, Phoenix, Vice Chair
- # George Hoffman, Apache Junction
- Charlie McClendon, Avondale
- # Stephen Cleveland, Buckeye
- Gary Neiss, Carefree
- Wayne Anderson for Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek
- Rich Dlugas, Chandler
- Dr. Spencer Isom, El Mirage

- Alfonso Rodriguez for Phil Dorchester,  
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
- # Julie Ghetti, Fountain Hills
- Rick Buss, Gila Bend
- \* David White, Gila River Indian Community
- Leah Hubbard for Patrick Banger, Gilbert
- Brent Stoddard for Ed Beasley, Glendale
- John Fischbach, Goodyear
- \* Bill Hernandez, Guadalupe
- Darryl Crossman, Litchfield Park
- Christopher Brady, Mesa
- \* Jim Bacon, Paradise Valley
- Carl Swenson, Peoria

- John Kross, Queen Creek
- \* Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa  
Indian Community
- David Richert, Scottsdale
- Chris Hillman, Surprise
- Reyes Medrano, Tolleson
- Joshua Wright, Wickenburg
- Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
- Floyd Roehrich for John Halikowski, ADOT
- John Hauskins for David Smith,  
Maricopa Co.
- Bryan Jungwirth, Valley Metro/RPTA

- \* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
- # Participated by telephone conference call.    + Participated by videoconference call.

This item was on the January 17, 2012, Executive Committee agenda for information and input.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Mayor, Hugh Hallman, Tempe, Chair
- Mayor, Marie Lopez-Rogers, Avondale,  
Vice Chair
- # Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa, Treasurer
- \* Mayor Jim Lane, Scottsdale

- # Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown
- Vice Mayor Thelda Williams, Phoenix
- Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf, Litchfield Park,  
Past Chair

- \* Not present
- # Participated by video or telephone conference call

This item was on the January 11, 2012, Management Committee agenda for information and input.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Chad Heinrich for Charlie Meyer,  
Tempe
- David Cavazos, Phoenix, Vice Chair
- # George Hoffman, Apache Junction
- Charlie McClendon, Avondale
- \* Stephen Cleveland, Buckeye
- Gary Neiss, Carefree
- Wayne Anderson for Usama Abujbarah,  
Cave Creek
- Patrice Kraus for Rich Dlugas, Chandler
- Spencer Isom, El Mirage
- \* Phil Dorchester, Fort McDowell  
Yavapai Nation
- Julie Ghetti, Fountain Hills
- \* Rick Buss, Gila Bend
- \* David White, Gila River Indian Community
- Leah Hubbard for Patrick Banger, Gilbert
- Horatio Skeete for Ed Beasley, Glendale

- Paul Luizzi for John Fischbach,  
Goodyear
- \* Bill Hernandez, Guadalupe
- Darryl Crossman, Litchfield Park
- Kari Kent for Christopher Brady, Mesa
- Jim Bacon, Paradise Valley
- Carl Swenson, Peoria
- # Patrick Flynn for John Kross, Queen Creek
- \* Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa  
Indian Community
- David Richert, Scottsdale
- Chris Hillman, Surprise
- Chris Hagen for Reyes Medrano, Tolleson
- Joshua Wright, Wickenburg
- \* Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
- Floyd Roehrich for John Halikowski, ADOT
- John Hauskins for David Smith,  
Maricopa Co.
- Bryan Jungwirth for Valley Metro/RPTA

\* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

# Participated by telephone conference call.    + Participated by videoconference call.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Rebecca Kimbrough, MAG Fiscal Services Manager, (602) 452-5051

March 12, 2012

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee

FROM: Becky Kimbrough, MAG Fiscal Services Manager

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF NEW SOFTWARE FOR ACCOUNTING

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) purchased its automated accounting system, AXIUM PROTRAX, in 1999 to consolidate accounting records onto one system. The AXIUM accounting system has been in place since that time and has worked adequately. MAG was notified recently that the AXIUM PROTRAX accounting software will no longer be supported beginning July 1, 2013. In order to provide adequate time for evaluation of new accounting software and implementation of the accounting package selected, MAG is issuing a request to procure a new accounting package in the March-April 2012 time frame. The budget for the new accounting software is included in the draft budget for fiscal year 2013 and we do not anticipate needing to purchase the accounting package prior to fiscal year 2013. This memorandum is to keep the Executive Committee apprised of this early procurement process and the intent to budget for new accounting software in the FY 2013 UPWP.

The AXIUM PROTRAX system that MAG currently uses for its automated accounting system is sufficient for meeting the basic accounting needs of the agency. AXIUM PROTRAX is a project accounting system that allows MAG to track the detail of the accounting records on a project basis. MAG's need for an automated accounting system that has grant management and grant accounting, and performs fund accounting has grown as the number of transactions and reporting requirements increase. With the number of consultants also increasing, there is a greater need for encumbrance accounting and commitment detail reporting. In order to ensure timely review, acquisition and implementation of an accounting system for MAG, we are proposing the following schedule:

Proposed Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
April 2012	Post procurement notice;
May 2012	Proposals due;
June 2012	Evaluation team review of the proposals;
July 2012	MAG Management Committee recommends approval of software vendor selection;
July 2012	Executive Committee approval of recommendation;
Sept 2012	Selected vendor notification;
Oct-Dec, 2012	Install and test new financial management system;
Jan-March 1, 2013	System installation and testing completed, training;
April 1 - June 30, 2013	Run parallel systems;
July 1, 2013 (start of fiscal year 2014)	System running live.

Gartner is a globally known research organization and advisory company with experts in many areas of information and technology research. MAG currently uses Gartner for computer and information technology assistance. There are accounting software experts at Gartner that act in an advisory capacity, and MAG intends to use these experts to review the specifications for the needs assessment and the systems requirements documents. From this review, we anticipate recommendations on a number of potential software solutions for the MAG accounting system. MAG is currently conducting a needs assessment which will include accounting solutions used by "like" entities such as other MPOs and other COGs who have similar accounting needs and receive similar funding. Key elements of the needs assessment and system requirements include compliance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, applications that are Windows-based, capability to produce financial information and reports used both internally and by outside entities such as FHWA and ADOT, flexibility in retrieving financial information, import and export data capabilities, staff size, financial stability, the reputation of the software developers, length of time the product has been on the market, and software support. There are many system solutions and we anticipate the cost to be in a range of \$200,000 to \$600,000 for software, training, implementation and support. As more information becomes available, we will continue to keep you informed.

Any additional thoughts regarding the time line for acquiring a new financial system at MAG are welcome.