

# Opportunity Arizona:

## Creating Success Through Career and Technical Education

Tori Lawrence wants to be a nurse. Jared Taylor is looking to get a job in the automotive field. Maryah Gowan plans to be a veterinarian. And Logan Huber hopes to be an astronaut.

These four teenagers are among nearly 140,000 high school students in Arizona preparing for employment by participating in career and technical education (CTE) programs. Statistics show that 98 percent of CTE students will graduate from high school, compared to the state average of 77 percent. Many of them will find jobs within weeks of graduation.

“Career and technical education is a vital investment in our future workforce,” says Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Chair W.J. “Jim” Lane, mayor of Scottsdale. “Workforce development drives global competitiveness. Training students in their areas of interest keeps them here in Arizona and contributing to their local economy.”



Tori Lawrence



Jared Taylor



Maryah Gowan



Logan Huber

Mayor Lane recently led a discussion at an event to raise awareness of the importance of CTE programs. More than 200 people attended *Valley Voices Presents Opportunity Arizona: Identifying a Qualified Workforce*. The Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and MAG sponsored the event.

In the state of Arizona, there are 63 recognized career program areas offered by 14 Joint Technical Education Districts (JTEDs). Each program has undergone a strict approval process.

“There has to be a proven employment need, and there has to be support by business and industry,” says Greg Donovan, co-chair of the JTED Superintendent’s Association. “Career and technical education brings relevance to a student’s educational opportunities.

It also brings specific job skills to those students, so as they complete the opportunity of career and technical education, they are prepared to enter the workforce as contributors to our community and society,” he says.

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# Message From the Chair



**Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane,**  
City of Scottsdale

It has been my honor to serve as the MAG Chair for the past year. It is humbling to know that MAG's legacy of excellence is built upon the leadership of so many former and current members who have helped MAG become a world-class organization. There is much for which we can be proud.

*Transportation for America* cites MAG as an Innovative Metropolitan Planning Organization—one recognized nationally for its best practices in a number of areas.

MAG's activities cover many vital issues that mean a better quality of life to the residents of our region. For example, since 1985, MAG has helped build 181 miles of centerline freeways that are state-of-the-art. In fact, the WAZE traffic app recently recognized greater Phoenix as the best driving experience in the world. MAG has been cited in numerous national and international arenas for its advances in transportation modeling, performance measurement, online mapping, environmental stewardship, and human services.

Teamwork is essential, and MAG provides a regional forum that offers seats at the table to both the public and private sectors. Our Economic Development Committee is a great example of how MAG provides a broad space that brings many regional issues to the forefront. Another great instance of collaboration this year was

seen in the success of a partnership with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Federal Highway Administration to place DPS troopers in the ADOT Traffic Operations Center. With funding provided by MAG and ADOT, the program meant accident scenes could be cleared more quickly.

In fact, the average time taken to clear crashes on Maricopa County freeways was cut by nearly an hour, saving time, money, and lives through the reduction of secondary collisions.

Another example was MAG's partnership with the Virginia G. Piper Foundation and Read On Arizona to map information on school literacy. The partners provided the raw data; MAG painstakingly charted the information to provide a genuine snapshot of school performance and student literacy. Other strides were made in clearing our air and in important social areas such as the Regional Domestic Violence Program and working to end homelessness.

The list is lengthy and my page space too short. But the credit for this excellence in all areas of MAG is attributable to the leadership and support by the elected officials of this region. Our collective work impacts not only our ability to get our job done, but has a true effect on the lives of the citizens we serve. 



MAGAZine is a quarterly newsletter of the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). It focuses on the issues and concerns of the cities, towns and tribal communities of the MAG region. If you know of a friend or colleague who would like to receive MAGAZine, please call the MAG office, (602) 254-6300.

**Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane**  
*City of Scottsdale, Regional Council Chair*

**Dennis Smith, Executive Director**

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**Kelly Taft, Editor Gordon Tyus, Graphics**

# MAG Regional Council Members

## Executive Committee Members

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
|    | <b>Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane</b><br>Scottsdale, <i>Chair</i>                           |    |
|   | <b>Mayor Greg Stanton</b><br>Phoenix, <i>Vice Chair</i>                            |   |
|   | <b>Mayor Jackie Meck</b><br>Buckeye, <i>Treasurer</i>                              |    |
|   | <b>Mayor Lana Mook</b><br>El Mirage, <i>At-Large Member</i>                        |   |
|    | <b>Mayor Gail Barney</b><br>Queen Creek, <i>At-Large Member</i>                    |    |
|   | <b>Mayor Mark Mitchell</b><br>Tempe, <i>At-Large Member</i>                        |   |
|    | <b>Mayor Michael LeVault</b><br>Youngtown, <i>Past Chair</i>                       |    |
|   | <b>Vice Mayor Robin Barker</b><br>Apache Junction                                  |   |
|    | <b>Mayor Kenneth Weise</b><br>Avondale   |    |
|   | <b>Councilmember Mike Farrar</b><br>Carefree                                       |   |
|    | <b>Councilmember Dick Esser</b><br>Cave Creek                                      |    |
|   | <b>Mayor Jay Tibshraeny</b><br>Chandler  |   |
|    | <b>Mayor Tom Rankin</b><br>Florence  |    |
|   | <b>President Ruben Balderas</b><br>Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation                    |   |
|    | <b>Mayor Linda M. Kavanagh</b><br>Fountain Hills                                   |    |
|   | <b>Mayor Chuck Turner</b><br>Gila Bend   |   |
|   | <b>Governor Stephen Roe Lewis</b><br>Gila River Indian Community                   |  |
|   | <b>Mayor John Lewis</b><br>Gilbert   |   |
|  | <b>Mayor Jerry Weiers</b><br>Glendale  |  |
|   | <b>Mayor Georgia Lord</b><br>Goodyear  |   |
|  | <b>Mayor Angie Perez</b><br>Guadalupe  |  |
|   | <b>Mayor Thomas Schoaf</b><br>Litchfield Park                                      |   |
|  | <b>Mayor Christian Price</b><br>Maricopa (City of)                                 |  |
|   | <b>Supervisor Denny Barney</b><br>Maricopa County                                  |   |
|  | <b>Mayor John Giles</b><br>Mesa  |  |
|   | <b>Mayor Michael Collins</b><br>Paradise Valley                                    |   |
|  | <b>Mayor Cathy Carlat</b><br>Peoria  |  |
|   | <b>Supervisor Todd House</b><br>Pinal County                                       |   |
|  | <b>President Delbert Ray</b><br>Salt River Pima-Maricopa<br>Indian Community       |  |
|   | <b>Mayor Sharon Wolcott</b><br>Surprise  |   |
|  | <b>Mayor Adolfo Gamez</b><br>Tolleson  |  |
|   | <b>Mayor John Cook</b><br>Wickenburg   |   |
|  | <b>Joseph E. La Rue &amp; Jack Sellers</b><br>Arizona Department of Transportation |  |
|   | <b>F. Rockne Arnett</b><br>Citizens Transportation<br>Oversight Committee          |   |
|  |  |   |

Visit [www.azmag.gov](http://www.azmag.gov) and click on Regional Council.



*One of the best ways to attract major employers is by letting them know the caliber of our local labor force. To that end, we are currently partnering with the communities and organizations that make up WESTMARC and MAG to develop a new workforce tool, called the West Valley PRO. This tool, which will identify the education and skill level of those living in the region, will better connect these new companies with the talent here at home.*

—City of Surprise Mayor Sharon Wolcott

*We recently started engaging with business, real estate and resident stakeholders in an effort to develop a unique brand identity for North Chandler. With a central location in the rapidly growing East Valley, North Chandler offers tremendous access to talent and customers. Our goals for this branding initiative are to raise awareness of this area's advantages and opportunities, and position it as a top-of-mind destination for new businesses and investment.*

—Chandler Mayor Jay Tibshraeny



*Having had the privilege to serve on the MAG Regional Council since 2009, I would like to give seven years of personal appreciation for the incredible work done by MAG and its staff. From advancing economic development through foreign direct investment to ensuring the utilization of domestic violence protocol models, MAG goes above and beyond its origination as a regional transportation authority to ensure a connected and thriving region, enhancing quality of life for all our residents.*

—Gilbert Mayor John Lewis

*Maricopa County wishes our county manager, Tom Manos, the best in his retirement. He's a man of quiet service, and service above self. He has worked tirelessly, and has raised the bar for customer service provided by the County.*

—Maricopa County Supervisor Denny Barney



## Leaders Across State Support Border Transportation Project

On Wednesday, April 27, leaders from across the state came together at a press conference to show their support for \$25 million in federal grant funding for a transportation project near the Arizona-Mexico border. The grant would help accelerate the project, which will relieve congested freight traffic and improve trade between the border states and the United States and Mexico.

During a meeting just prior to the press conference, the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Regional Council approved a letter of support for the Arizona Department of Transportation's application for the eighth round of Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER 8) discretionary grant funding. The grant could help accelerate by three years critically-needed improvements to better connect State Route (SR) 189 to Interstate 19 in the border community of Nogales, Arizona. ADOT has included the project in its Five Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program.

"This project will create a northbound flyover interchange, which right now is a series of traffic lights and in need of enhanced efficiency," said MAG Chair W.J. "Jim" Lane, mayor of Scottsdale. "Mexico is Arizona's largest international trading partner and the Mariposa Port of Entry in Nogales is one of the busiest land ports in the United States. Nearly three million northbound vehicles come

through the port each year. This intersection is a vital international commerce connection," he said.

"According to research from the University of Arizona, more than \$2.5 billion in fresh produce comes through the Mariposa Port, and that creates jobs here in Arizona," said Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. "We need to relieve the congestion on SR-189, or we risk losing that trade—and those jobs—to other border states. This project will improve flow on what is the first link of the congressionally designated CANAMEX trade corridor."

Nogales Mayor John Doyle noted that growth in Mexican manufacturing and the expansion of the Port of Guaymas in Sonora will mean significant increases in future commercial traffic along the corridor. "While recent investments have been made to upgrade capacity and modernize the Mariposa Port, we need the corresponding improvements to get goods out of this international port and to their destinations faster," says Doyle.

Other speakers at the press conference included Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Chair Rudy Molera and Chair of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority Chair Guillermo Valencia. 



Mayor Kenneth Weise, City of Avondale



## Humor the Hallmark of Avondale Mayor

Avondale Mayor Kenneth Weise devotes about 55 hours a week working two big jobs: one as mayor of the West Valley city of 76,000 residents, the other as corporate sales manager for the Wigwam resort. While he takes both jobs very seriously, he often finds himself relying on lessons learned during a third brief career—as a standup comedian.

“I tried my hand at being a comedian when I was 21. I was in a local comedian contest and I took second place. I also was picked to be on the game show called ‘21’ with Regis Philbin. I went through all the tryouts and interviews, and I was actually picked to go to LA and film an episode. Then the show got canceled right before I was supposed to go. I would have gone down in game show history,” he jokes.

While his standup career lasted only six months and earned him a whopping \$50, his sense of humor has lasted a lifetime.

“Having a sense of humor really does help. I think it puts people at ease. I use it at city council meetings all the time,” says Mayor Weise, who admits he is a “little less formal” than previous mayors. “I really do engage humor. I think it helps with staff as they are coming up to present to council. In difficult situations, I think it can help diffuse those situations and let everyone know that hey, we’re all on the same page here. We’re trying to find a solution to whatever issue is out there. So let’s deal with it in a serious manner, but let’s not have conflict that derails us from what we are trying to do.”

As for the most serious issues fac-



Mayor Weise speaks about the importance of community service during Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service, April 2015.

ing the region, Weise says transportation is at the top of the list.

“How do we incorporate light rail and rapid transit bus routes with the need for more infrastructure when it comes to arterial roads, more freeways, things along that line? So for the region, that’s one of the biggest things I’ve seen. How do we tackle that? For Avondale, I kind of go along the same line: How do we improve our arterial streets? How do we develop properly when State Route 30 comes through the southern part of our city? And what does that look like as we join together with other cities and other communities to make sure that these things get done?”

Weise first entered politics in 2006, when he was appointed to the city council. He was then elected to serve two terms on the council. He was appointed mayor in 2014, when former Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers was selected to serve as a Maricopa County Supervisor. Weise, whose term ends in December, is now running for election

by the voters. But his interest in politics goes back to age 11.

“I always tell the story: I grew up in Chicago. I was born in ‘65 and so I can remember the election of ‘76, when Gerald Ford ran against Jimmy Carter. And I can remember making up Gerald Ford signs on election day and running around my street and knocking on doors telling people to “Vote for Gerald Ford!” So I’ve always had kind of a political inking.”

Early political and comedy careers notwithstanding, his experience in operational management also has helped prepare Weise for office.

“One thing that Avondale really needed to work on when I came into office was economic development, and that is as much going out and selling yourself as it is your community. So when I got appointed, that was one of the first things that I jumped into that has really reaped benefits. We are having probably one of our best

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Mayor Weise attends a White House meeting for the *Let's Move Cities* program.

## Mayor Weise (continued)

years in a very long time when it comes to residential housing starts—our commercial development is really robust right now. We are doing a lot of really good things. And I think being able to go out and engage people in the community, people who want to invest in Avondale, was very natural for me,” says Weise.

Above all, Mayor Weise enjoys getting out in his community and meeting people. He describes a recent Saturday at Friendship Park in which more than 3,000 residents turned out for ‘KidFest.’

“And I have to tell you, my wife and I spent probably three hours just walking around and talking to people and shaking their hands and listening to them. I got to read some stories, some books, to some little kids. That’s probably the best part of my job,” he says.

If Weise could offer one gift to the Valley, what would it be?

“A legislative body from the state that understands what cities go through on a day-to-day basis. And by that, I mean stop trying to take over local control, stop trying to manage the cities and punish us for what you perceive to be ills that we’re doing. Try to understand what we are doing. If I could have that for the region, that would be great.”

With his two daughters now in college, Weise and his wife spend their still-limited spare time hiking or going to the gym, and are planning to run a 5K race in Rocky Point in a few weeks. As for politics, he wants to continue as mayor, but does not see himself seeking legislative or congressional office.

“My answer is steadfastly ‘no, I don’t want to do that.’ I like the local perspective, because when an issue comes up at the city, it is addressed pretty quickly,” says Mayor Weise. “I think when you get to the state level or federal level, it is a much longer process, and you don’t see the fruits of your labor as quickly.”

## Region Awarded \$21.8 Million for Homeless Individuals and Families

Thirty-eight programs that serve people experiencing homelessness will receive funding through a \$21.8 million grant secured by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). The programs range from housing and support to a “coordinated entry” program to better assess and refer individuals seeking homeless services.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the Tier 1 Continuum of Care grants in March.

“This significant award is welcome news for the community,” said MAG Regional Council Chair and Scottsdale Mayor W. J. “Jim” Lane. “We know that many individuals and families do not have a safe place to live. Through partnership with nonprofits in the community, we can provide that security for our most vulnerable residents.”

Chandler Councilmember and Co-Chair of the Continuum of Care Board Kevin Hartke noted the importance of the \$855,158 award for the new coordinated entry project. “Coordinated entry helps us target resources to those most in need. We can ensure that we first get resources to people experiencing chronic homelessness, people who have been homeless for long periods of time with medical or mental health issues, or those with other acute needs. This is an exciting development for our region.”



Chandler Councilmember **Kevin Hartke**

UMOM New Day Centers CEO and Co-Chair of the Continuum of Care Board Darlene Newsom said she was thrilled that all of the applications submitted in Tier 1 of the 2015 competition were funded.

“Those of us working in the field know how important this funding is to our communities. We know that individuals and families in the region continue to suffer from issues surrounding homelessness and we must have resources to address their needs,” said Newsom.

The grant also will fund the Homeless Management Information System. The local technology system collects data on the provision of housing and services to those experiencing homelessness.

In all, HUD provided \$1.6 billion in grants to fund 6,400 local homeless housing and service programs across the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. HUD will award approximately \$300 million in Tier 2 grants in the spring to support hundreds more local programs.

The Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness includes representatives from the public sector, private sector and nonprofit organizations. The Continuum of Care Board is responsible for the development and submission of the annual coordinated grant application for the HUD McKinney-Vento homeless assistance funds.



# Light Rail Now Running to Dunlap Avenue in Northwest Phoenix

The Northwest Extension of light rail opened in March to an eager crowd of residents and business owners. The new track adds 3.2 miles of service on 19th Avenue between Bethany Home and Dunlap avenues. It will serve 5,000 riders each day.

The community welcomes the opening. At one point, funding delays had set the project back to 2023. But Phoenix leaders dedicated local and Proposition 400 funds to get the \$327 million project back on track, and work began in January 2013.



Celebrating the new rail service, several hundred neighborhood residents and business owners gather underneath student-created artwork at 19th Avenue and Dunlap.



Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton

“In order to keep this special day from being delayed by another seven years, it took political courage and a major local investment,” said Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton. “We couldn’t afford to wait because we know that this extension will connect more Phoenix residents to jobs, education and opportunity, while attracting billions of dollars of economic investment.”

The opening marks the start of many transit improvements in the wake of voter approval of the Transportation 2050 plan last year.

Light rail is now open to Dunlap Avenue.

At the event, Mayor Stanton welcomed a special guest, U.S. Congressman Ruben Gallego, who congratulated the community. Riders in the Northwest Valley can now connect to central Phoenix sports and entertainment venues, the Tempe Mill Avenue District, Arizona State University, and the arts and culture offerings of downtown Mesa. Public art also is an important part of the three new stations, park-and-ride and power substations.

“Now that we have this three-mile extension, think of what we can do,” said Jill Hicks, Washington

Elementary School District Community Outreach Specialist. “We can introduce our kids at an early age to light rail and what it means to use it. It is an educational opportunity.”

More than 250 businesses took part in business assistance programs during construction. The assistance began in 2012, in advance of construction.

It was tailored to the 19th Avenue community with resources provided by Valley Metro, the city of Phoenix, and several partners.

The Northwest Extension is the Valley’s second light rail extension to open within the last seven months. Seven more high-capacity extensions, including an extension to Metrocenter Mall, are planned or are under construction. The extensions will create a 66-mile system by 2034. 



U.S. Congressman Ruben Gallego



# MAG Implements “Most Advanced” Computer Model

The audience sits transfixed. Thirty pairs of eyes are glued to a video playing on a large screen at the front of the room. Like a scene from a video game, animated red lines streak up from locations across the region. They rise, then arc downward to strike in downtown Tempe, resembling fireworks. Appropriate, since the lines show trips into downtown Tempe on New Year’s Eve.

The time-lapse video continues from 5:00 a.m. to midnight. As we enter early evening, the red lines, which represent people heading to work, fade away. They are replaced by ever increasing purple lines, which show social trips—fun-seekers headed for the Mill Avenue Block Party. The purple lines begin shooting faster and faster into the downtown area, for a total of 40,000 trips.

The video is just one of a series of short animations created from data collected through a new high-tech computer model recently implemented by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). The name of the model is the MAG Activity-Based Model (ABM). The model is based on the so-called “Coordinated Travel – Regional Activity Modeling Platform” (CT-RAMP) developed at Parsons Brinckerhoff. The model constitutes a new generation of forecasting based on the platform.

“This model is the most advanced travel demand model in practice today,” said Peter Vovsha, Ph.D., principal of WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff. “It can show 20 million daily activities of four million people in the region in a consistent way minute by minute.”

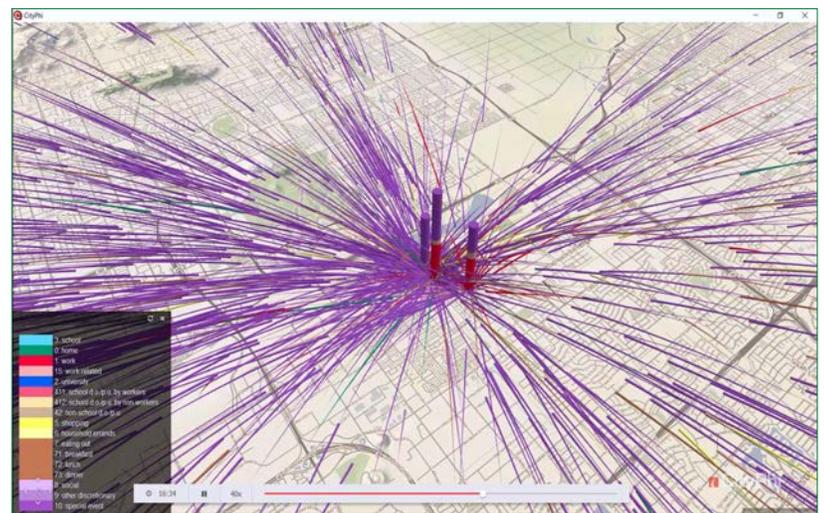
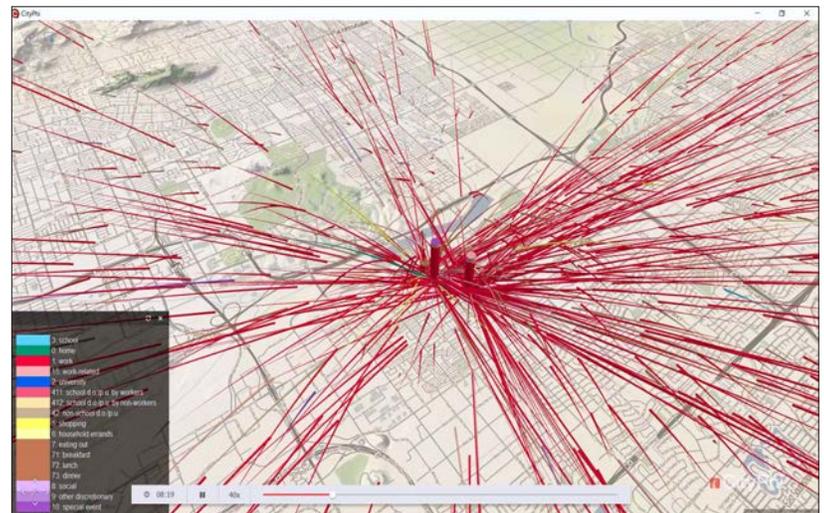
The difference between this model and previous versions is the level of detail and consistency. Most travel models compute information based on averages for large areas, known as “travel analysis zones.” The new MAG ABM allows planners to drill down into smaller geographic areas called “micro analysis zones,” which more closely represent single neighborhoods.

For example, the old model only traced trips going from Point A to Point B, and focused on the daily commute to work. It did not consider trips made along the way, like dropping children at school or visits to the coffee shop. The new MAG ABM, however, is able to consider more detailed travel behaviors of a household, such as all the stops made before reaching the final destination. In other words, it can track a trip from point A to point B to point C to point D.

MAG will use the model to better analyze traffic patterns for planning purposes. “In the past we have been data rich, but information poor,” said MAG System Analysis Program Manager Vladimir Livshits, Ph.D. “This model gives us the ability to see not just traffic, but to better understand the reasons for the traffic. The bottom line is that a better model equals better projects.”

MAG Transportation Director Eric Anderson notes that many metro areas are beginning to invest in state-of-the-art forecasting models.

“We were able to take advantage of previous platform development and the outstanding commitment and expertise of our consultants to make this happen,” he said. 



The model tracks reasons for travel. The top graphic depicts traffic early in the day. The red lines indicate work trips to downtown Tempe on New Year’s Eve day. The purple lines show social trips later that evening—party-goers heading to Mill Avenue.



# Consular Corps Meets to Discuss Foreign Investment

**E**conomic Development leaders and the Consular Corps of Arizona, representing 11 countries, came together at MAG for the first time in late March. MAG invited the honorary consuls to share expertise and discuss the value of international connections to the regional economy. A main goal was to explore opportunities for foreign direct investment.



Scottsdale Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane

"The role of foreign direct investment and exports is to stimulate growth and competitiveness in the economy," stated MAG Chair W.J. "Jim" Lane, mayor of Scottsdale, in welcoming the group. "The purpose of today's meeting is to get your thoughts on how we can work together to increase global trade and investment between us."

Mayor Lane noted that recent research has helped MAG identify foreign owned businesses in the state, which may be good targets for economic development outreach. The analysis started with a request from Canadian Honorary Consul Glenn Williamson, who asked for a list of Canadian owned businesses. He used the list to justify more flights from Canada to Phoenix.

"Those planes are in the air today, thanks to the collaboration between MAG and an honorary consul. There could be other opportunities to make an impact. The goal is to build the relationships that will make a difference to our economy," said Mayor Lane.

While the function of honorary consuls is primarily to help foreign nationals who are living in or visiting the United States, MAG Economic Development Committee Chair Michael LeVault noted that improving the economy should be in everyone's wheelhouse.

"A list of initiatives is included in your agenda. Six years ago, you would not have found MAG's name on this list," said Mayor LeVault. "We evolved when the Great Recession hit the region hard. We recognized then that we are really here to build and facilitate a thriving and vital economy. That's the real purpose for having a multimodal, fully-functioning,



Youngtown Mayor Michael LeVault

well-developed transportation system," he said.

Todd Sanders, vice president of public affairs and economic development for the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, says it is important to open the door to foreign investment.

"Eighty percent of all new jobs are created by businesses in our cities, and if we can use foreign direct investment as the tool to leverage the strength of these businesses, that's a win-win for all of us in terms of new jobs and economic growth," said Sanders.

Milt Laflen of Arizona Sister Cities said that relationship building is an important goal for his group, and that it can lead to business connections.

"I do think that people do business with people that they like and respect and who are their friends. And as a result of that, business exchange does develop," said Laflen.

Rudy Vetter, director of the German American Chamber of Commerce Arizona Chapter, said the consuls can play an important role in changing the investment landscape.

"International outreach and international connectivity starts at home," said Vetter. "And it starts with the way we activate our communities and our members in the community, whether they are domestic or whether they come from all of the countries we represent, to get this done and find that meeting spot, that sweet spot that gives us hope." 



Honorary Consuls from 11 countries meet with economic development leaders at MAG.

# Law Enforcement Urged to Adopt Domestic Violence Protocols



In March 2016, three Virginia police officers were shot—one fatally—while responding to a domestic violence call. It was the female officer's first day on the job. The domestic violence victim also was killed.

While the tragedy happened in another state, it underscored the importance of implementing regional protocols developed by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Regional Domestic Violence Council. A week prior to the Virginia shooting, the MAG Regional Council approved an update to the Regional Misdemeanor Protocol Model, which outlines best practices for law enforcement when arresting domestic violence abusers.

"The Virginia tragedy is a somber reminder of how dangerous domestic violence is for everyone involved. Best practices can keep law enforcement, as well as victims, safe," said Scottsdale Mayor and MAG Chair Jim Lane. "In 2015, more than one hundred people in Arizona died as a result of domestic violence, including one member of law enforcement who died while trying to save others."

Mayor Lane noted that the Regional Council unanimously approved the best practices in the protocol model. "We are encouraging all law enforcement agencies, big or small, to implement these practices in their communities. We applaud those agencies that are already using the model," he said. Mayor Lane added that creating this single model has streamlined the number of policies used across the region from 106 to just 34 key strategies.

MAG Regional Domestic Violence Chair Robin Barker said one of the most powerful recommendations is that police use a set of questions known as a "lethality assessment" when interviewing domestic violence victims.



Apache Junction Vice Mayor Robin Barker

"These on-scene questions provide a "danger score" that can help identify victims at highest risk of being killed," said Vice Mayor Barker. "The use of lethality assessments enables agencies to better and more consistently document past abuse to help prevent future abuse. Lethality assessments are just one of the strategies included in the protocol model."

Domestic violence calls are not only some of the most dangerous to which police officers respond, they are also among the most expensive, due to factors such as the need for multiple personnel and to respond to repeat calls.

"Domestic violence impacts us all, and the tragic incident in Virginia underscores why we must do all we can as a region to address it," said Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton, MAG vice chair, who was among the Regional Council members voting in favor of the protocol model. "The MAG protocols will save money, time, and most importantly, lives."



Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton

MAG staff will follow up with each city and town to determine the implementation progress of the protocol model. Staff will report a year from now on the level of implementation by each member agency.

"Our hearts go out to the victims of the Virginia tragedy and all of those in our region who have lost loved ones to domestic violence," said Mayor Lane. "We hope that these practices can significantly reduce the number of lives lost in the future." 



Scottsdale Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane

For more information on domestic violence resources in the region, go to [FindDVServices.com](http://FindDVServices.com), or call the national hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

## MAG Moment



In celebration of Earth Month, Goodyear Mayor Georgia Lord "talks trash" with drive-thru visitors to Whataburger. The partnership between *Don't Trash Arizona* and Whataburger helps remind motorists that fast-food trash is one of the most commonly littered items on Valley freeways.

# Ozone Season Starts: Residents urged to “Commit to One Day to Help Keep Ozone Away”



AVOID IDLING

As spring ushers in the ozone season, Valley residents are asked to “Commit to One Day to Help Keep Ozone Away.” By making simple changes at least one day a week to daily activities, such as reducing driving, taking light rail or the bus, refueling after dark or riding a bike to work, residents can have a great impact on reducing ozone concentrations and keeping our air clean.



BIKE

The Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD) announced the start of its official ozone campaign April 1, 2016, encouraging county residents to reduce the harmful pollutant during the sunny spring and summer months.



CARPPOOL

“Because ozone is odorless and colorless, residents may not be aware of its harmful health impacts. The health threat from ozone should motivate each of us to take action,” MCAQD Director Philip McNeely said.



SWEEP IT UP

Ground-level ozone forms through a chemical reaction that occurs between volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides in the presence of sunlight. The sources that create these emissions include vehicles, gasoline and diesel equipment, industrial and chemical processes, natural vegetation, and other everyday activities. Ozone pollution is more prevalent during the spring and summer months.



WALK

The Environmental Protection Agency recently tightened up the standard for acceptable ozone concentrations. Residents are asked to do what they can to prevent violations of the ozone standard.

Ground-level ozone pollution can be a direct threat to human lungs and can trigger asthma. Children are at the greatest risk from ozone because their lungs are still developing, they are most likely to be active outdoors, and they are more likely than adults to have asthma. Adults with asthma or other lung diseases, and older adults, are also sensitive to ozone.

Although there are higher-risk groups, all county residents can be affected by ground-level ozone, which is most prevalent April through September. For this reason, MCAQD is urging residents to be proactive.

While everyone can do their part to reduce ozone, state and regional air quality agencies have been working to communicate concerns regarding the new ozone standard to the EPA. One difficulty is addressing background ozone. Background ozone comes from a variety of natural sources: plants, trees, wildfires, and stratospheric ozone intrusion, in which a major storm can pull ozone from the stratosphere to lower levels. Background ozone also can come from transport from other states and countries. The highest level of background ozone occurs in the Intermountain West, due to higher elevations, rural locations, and other factors.



Naturally occurring ozone levels are so high in our state that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality is the lead plaintiff among five states filing a lawsuit challenging EPA’s new ozone standard.

To learn more about the MCAQD’s Commit to One Day program or to sign-up to receive air quality updates, visit [www.CleanAirMakeMore.com](http://www.CleanAirMakeMore.com).

## McNeely noted that there are simple steps you can take to help reduce ozone.

- Drive less. When possible, carpool, van-pool or use public transportation.
- Avoid waiting in long drive-thru lines. Park your car and go inside.
- Ride your bike or walk to work.
- Refuel your vehicle after dark or during cooler evening hours.
- Use water-based paints, stains, finishes and paint strippers.
- Delay painting projects until high-pollution advisories or health watches have passed.

## Opportunity Arizona (continued from page 1)

### TORI

One of those students, Tori Lawrence, 18, has known she wanted to go into the medical field since she was a kid.

“My grandmother was an LPN (licensed practical nurse) and the human body just absolutely fascinated me,” says Tori. “The different things that she would tell me, they just completely blew my mind. I wasn’t quite sure which part of the medical field I wanted to be in, and JTED helped me decide.”



Tori entered the Certified Nursing Assistant/Certified Caregiver Program provided through the Pima County JTED in Tucson. Within two years, Tori received her certifications and got a job at Tucson Medical Center making \$15 an hour. Her salary pays for tuition at Pima Community College, where she is taking classes prior to seeking a Bachelor of Science degree at a four-year university.

### JARED

Jared Taylor, also 18, is enrolled in the East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT), where he is gaining skills in automotive technologies. He has excelled in the program, which is certified by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation. Jared recently started an internship servicing the vehicle fleet for Salt River Project.

“After high school, I want to be able to use the training I’ve learned here to take it into a fleet or garage and be able to help people with their car problems,” says Jared.



In a field where many technicians are retiring, about 30-40 EVIT students find jobs in the automotive field each day. Jared is ready to be one of them.

“I feel 100 percent ready for life to hit me,” he says.

### MARYAH

Senior Maryah Gowan has found that life on the Navajo Reservation in northern Arizona can be much like the landscape. Beautiful, but demanding. On the sheep ranch where Maryah’s elders live and where she works each summer, there is no electricity and no running water. There are no veterinary clinics or doctors nearby. An intense desire to help her family and community led Maryah to take an early interest in veterinary sciences. She began studying animal science in seventh grade, and soon entered the CTE program at Monument Valley High School.

“When I first entered the program, I thought being a veterinarian and having a clinic was like a dream. But as I kept going through it, I learned that my dream could actually become a reality,” says Maryah.



Shortly after Maryah entered the program, life took an unexpected turn. She gave birth to a daughter, Adriana, and dropped out of school to care for her. Thanks to the dedicated instructors who would not give up on her, Maryah learned she could enroll her daughter in another CTE program, the Child Occupation and Parenting Education (COPE) program. COPE serves as both a classroom and on-campus daycare. Maryah could attend school and still be an engaged parent.

Maryah returned to the Veterinary Sciences program, and has been able to use her skills on the reservation to save some of her family’s livestock. With a grade point average of 3.5, Maryah has applied for the Gates Millennium Scholarship. She hopes to attend Colorado State University to get her degree and someday return to Monument Valley to establish a veterinary clinic.

### LOGAN

Logan Huber also has set his sights high. Literally. He wants to work in space. Logan has always been fascinated with flight. His dad was a mechanic, and the desire to fix things came naturally.

“The building of one thing from another was fascinating to me,” says Logan. He has known since age 8 he would go into a science field, and found he was especially interested in aerospace mechanics. In his sophomore year, he heard about the aviation program at the Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC). Logan “loves everything related to aircraft maintenance” and is currently refurbishing the landing gear on a Beechcraft Bonanza. Logan recently was named a candidate for the prestigious Presidential Scholars award for the CTE component of education (scholars to be announced in May.) Logan wants his candidacy to bring awareness to programs like the one at West-MEC. Logan hopes to be accepted into Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, where he will pursue a degree in engineering in the aerospace field. While he hopes to work on and build spacecraft, he would also love to become an astronaut.



### PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Whether they work to pay for further education or go straight into their chosen field, Donovan says most CTE students start in the range of \$17 an hour.

“Now, keep in mind these are students that are within 90 days of graduating from high school,” says Donovan. “Our employers in these communities need a ready workforce. Today, employers do not have the time nor the funding to do the training themselves. They want people to come through the door that are technologically prepared to work for them.”



**Greg Donovan**



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## Summer 2016 Calendar

### May

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 11:30 a.m. Economic Development Committee (Saguaro)
- 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. Regional Community Network Working Group (Ironwood)
- 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee (Ironwood)
- 4<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Standard Specifications and Details Committee (Ironwood)
- 10<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. Street Committee (Ironwood)
- 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness (Ironwood)
- 11<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Management Committee (Saguaro)
- 12<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Human Services Technical Committee (Chaparral)
- 16<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Regional Council Executive Committee (Ironwood)
- 17<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee (Saguaro)
- 17<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m. Transit Committee (Ironwood)
- 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Transportation Policy Committee (Saguaro)
- 18<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m. Building Codes Committee (Ironwood)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:30 p.m. Continuum of Care Board (Ironwood)
- 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Population Technical Advisory Committee (Chaparral)
- 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Transportation Safety Committee (Ironwood)
- 25<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. Regional Council (Saguaro)
- 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Transportation Review Committee (Saguaro)
- 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Committee (Chaparral)
- 26<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee (Saguaro)
- 30<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day (Office Closed)

Parking is available under the building. Please ask for parking validation at the meeting. A transit ticket will be provided for anyone who purchased a transit ticket to attend a meeting. Bike racks are available at the entrance to the parking garage.

### June

- 1<sup>st</sup> 9:00 a.m. Regional Community Network Working Group (Ironwood)
- 1<sup>st</sup> 10:00 a.m. Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee (Ironwood)
- 1<sup>st</sup> 1:30 p.m. Standard Specifications and Details Committee (Ironwood)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 p.m. Regional Domestic Violence Council (Ironwood)
- 7<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. Economic Development Committee (Saguaro)
- 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness (Ironwood)
- 8<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Management Committee (Saguaro)
- 9<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Human Services Technical Committee (Chaparral)
- 13<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Regional Council Executive Committee (Ironwood)
- 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. Street Committee (Ironwood)
- 15<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Transportation Policy Committee (Saguaro)
- 15<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m. Building Codes Committee (Ironwood)
- 21<sup>st</sup> 1:00 p.m. Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee (Saguaro)
- 21<sup>st</sup> 3:00 p.m. Transit Committee (Ironwood)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 a.m. Transportation Safety Committee (Ironwood)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 a.m. Population Technical Advisory Committee (Chaparral)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 5:00 p.m. Regional Council Annual Meeting and Desert Peaks Awards (Phoenix Airport Marriott)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 a.m. Transportation Review Committee (Saguaro)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:30 p.m. Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee (Saguaro)
- 27<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Continuum of Care Board (Ironwood)
- 28<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Population Technical Advisory Committee (Chaparral)

The newsletter is available at [www.azmag.gov](http://www.azmag.gov). Click on the MAG Publications link and then MAGAZine Newsletter link.

### July

- 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day (Office Closed)
- 5<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. Economic Development Committee (Saguaro)\*
- 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. Regional Community Network Working Group (Ironwood)
- 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee (Ironwood)
- 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Standard Specifications and Details Committee (Ironwood)
- 7<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m. Regional Domestic Violence Council (Ironwood)
- 12<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. Street Committee (Ironwood)
- 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness (Ironwood)
- 13<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Management Committee (Saguaro)\*
- 14<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Human Services Technical Committee (Chaparral)
- 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Regional Council Executive Committee (Ironwood)\*
- 19<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. Bicycle & Ped. Committee (Saguaro)
- 19<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m. Transit Committee (Ironwood)
- 20<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. Transportation Policy Committee (Saguaro)\*
- 25<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m. Continuum of Care Board (Ironwood)
- 26<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Transportation Safety Committee (Ironwood)
- 27<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Human Services and Community Initiatives Committee (Cottonwood)
- 27<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. Regional Council (Saguaro)\*
- 28<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee (Saguaro)
- 28<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Transportation Review Committee (Saguaro)

\* Meetings will only occur if necessary.

All meetings, unless indicated otherwise, will be held in the conference rooms located in the MAG office on the 2nd floor of the building, 302 N. 1st Ave., Phoenix. The dates, times and locations of all meetings may change. Other committees not listed here may meet during these months. For confirmation, call (602) 254-6300, or visit the website: [www.azmag.gov/Events](http://www.azmag.gov/Events)