

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

DATE:

April 19, 2011

SUBJECT:

Conformity Consultation

SUMMARY:

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. The amendment and administrative modification involve several projects, including Arizona Department of Transportation projects on Interstate-17, State Route 87, and State Route 303 and Maricopa County projects on Northern Parkway. The amendment includes projects that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations. The administrative modification includes minor project revisions that do not require a conformity determination. Comments on the conformity assessment are requested by April 22, 2011.

PUBLIC INPUT:

At the April 13, 2011 Management Committee meeting a citizen commented that traffic signal synchronization projects were exempt from conformity until the next regional emissions analysis is conducted.

PROS & CONS:

PROS: Interagency consultation for the amendment and administrative modification notifies the planning agencies of project modifications to the TIP.

CONS: The review of the conformity assessment requires additional time in the project approval process.

TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL: The amendment and administrative modification may not be considered until the consultation process for the conformity assessment is completed.

POLICY: Federal transportation conformity regulations require interagency consultation on development of the transportation plan, TIP, and associated conformity determinations to include a process involving the Metropolitan Planning Organization, State and local air quality planning agencies, State and local transportation agencies, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration. Consultation on the conformity assessment has been conducted in accordance with federal regulations, MAG Conformity Consultation Processes adopted by the Regional Council in February 1996 and MAG Transportation Conformity Guidance and Procedures adopted by the Regional Council in March 1996. In addition, federal guidance is followed in response to court rulings regarding transportation conformity.

ACTION NEEDED:

Consultation.

PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Management Committee: This item was on the agenda of the April 13, 2011 MAG Management Committee meeting for consultation.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

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| Carl Swenson, Peoria, Chair | Bill Hernandez, Guadalupe |
| Charlie Meyer, Tempe, Vice Chair | Darryl Crossman, Litchfield Park |
| # Matt Busby for George Hoffman,
Apache Junction | Christopher Brady, Mesa |
| Charlie McClendon, Avondale | David Andrews for Jim Bacon,
Paradise Valley |
| Stephen Cleveland, Buckeye | Tom Remes for David Cavazos, Phoenix |
| Gary Neiss, Carefree | John Kross, Queen Creek |
| Wayne Anderson for Usama Abujbarah,
Cave Creek | * Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community |
| * Rich Dlugas, Chandler | * David Richert, Scottsdale |
| Spencer Isom, El Mirage | * Mark Coronado, Surprise |
| Alfonso Rodriguez for Phil Dorchester,
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation | Chris Hagen for Reyes Medrano, Tolleson |
| Rick Davis, Fountain Hills | # Gary Edwards, Wickenburg |
| Rick Buss, Gila Bend | Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown |
| * David White, Gila River Indian Community | John Halikowski, ADOT |
| Collin DeWitt, Gilbert | Kenny Harris for David Smith, Maricopa
County |
| Brent Stoddard for Ed Beasley, Glendale | Bryan Jungwirth for David Boggs,
Valley Metro/RPTA |
| Mark Gaillard for John Fischbach,
Goodyear | |

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

CONTACT PERSON:

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