

August 18, 2015

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane, Scottsdale, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 11:30 a.m.  
Wednesday, August 26, 2015  
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

The next MAG Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. Supporting information is enclosed for your review. The meeting will include a working lunch.

Please park in the garage underneath 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 Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation. Assisted listening devices are available from MAG staff at the meeting. If you have any questions, please call the MAG Office.

c: MAG Management Committee

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL  
TENTATIVE AGENDA  
August 26, 2015**

**COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED**

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council ON ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA THAT ARE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens 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 Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.

4. Executive Director's Report

The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

3. Information.

4. Information.

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT\***

**MINUTES**

\*5A. Approval of the June 24, 2015, Meeting Minutes

5A. Review and approval of the June 24, 2015, meeting minutes.

**TRANSPORTATION ITEMS**

\*5B. ADOT Red Letter Process

In June 1996, the MAG Regional Council approved the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Red Letter process, which requires MAG member agencies to notify ADOT of potential development activities in freeway alignments. Development activities include actions on plans, zoning, and permits. ADOT has forwarded a list of notifications from January 1, 2015, to June 30, 2015. Seven of the 87 notices received have an impact to the state highway system. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5B. Information and discussion.

\*5C. MAG Federally Funded, Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report

The MAG Federal Fund Programming Guidelines & Procedures were first approved by the MAG Regional Council on October 26, 2011, and were updated by the Regional Council on June 24, 2015. They outline the requirements for local agencies to submit information on the development and status of their federally funded projects. The Project Development Status Report focuses on projects funded with suballocated Federal Highway Administration funds (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Highway Safety Improvement Program, regionwide Transportation Alternatives, and Pinal County Surface Transportation Program). These projects are programmed to obligate in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 and 2017. The Status Report was recommended for acceptance by the MAG Transportation Review Committee on July 23, 2015, and by the MAG Management Committee on August 5, 2015. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5C. Acceptance of the MAG Federally Funded, Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report.

\*5D. Programming of Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School Projects in FY 2016-2017

Through prior MAG action, a total of \$400,000 in Transportation Alternatives funds is set aside each fiscal year for Safe Routes to School

5D. Approval of the list of six projects, in the amounts shown in the handout provided, with a total budget of \$305,650 in FY 2016 and a budget of \$50,000 in FY 2017.

non-infrastructure projects. A call for qualifying projects was issued in March 2015 to program \$400,000 in FY 2016, and \$463,707 in FY 2017 (includes \$63,707 moved to FY 2017 from an earlier year). Six project applications requesting a total of \$305,650 in FY 2016 and one project application for \$50,000 in FY 2017 were received. On July 21, 2015, the Transportation Safety Committee conducted a technical review and evaluation of the project applications and recommended approval of a list of projects. The list of projects was recommended for approval by the MAG Transportation Review Committee on July 23, 2015, and by the MAG Management Committee on August 5, 2015. Available Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School funds exceed the amounts needed to program the recommended projects for FY 2016 and FY 2017. Remaining Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School funds will be programmed as part of the MAG Transportation Improvement Program Call for Projects announced in August 2015. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5E. Programming of Road Safety Projects in FY 2016-2018

The state of Arizona receives nearly \$42 million in federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds each fiscal year for road safety improvements. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has been suballocating \$1.9 million in HSIP funds to the MAG planning area for qualifying projects. In May 2015, ADOT announced a new process for programming HSIP funds that stipulates FY 2018 as the last year of HSIP suballocation to MAG (and all other Arizona Councils of Governments and Metropolitan Planning Organizations). The new HSIP process also requires that MAG forward the list of recommended projects and project applications to ADOT by July 31, 2015, for ADOT to begin reviewing them to determine eligibility for HSIP. Through prior action, MAG had programmed all suballocated HSIP funds through FY 2017 for safety projects. However, due to project eligibility and schedule changes, some HSIP funds are now available in FY 2016 and 2017. In consultation

5E. Approval of a list of safety projects to be funded with the available Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds suballocated to MAG in FY 2016-2018.

with ADOT, MAG issued a call for projects to program HSIP in the following amounts: \$323,000 in FY 2016, \$257,054 in FY 2017, and \$1.9 million in FY 2018. In response, five project applications were received from three member agencies for implementing two systemic improvements and three spot improvements. On July 21, 2015, the Transportation Safety Committee conducted a technical review and evaluation of the project applications and recommended a list of safety projects to be funded with the available Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds suballocated to MAG in FY 2016-2018. The list of projects was recommended for approval by the MAG Transportation Review Committee on July 23, 2015, and by the MAG Management Committee on August 5, 2015. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ITEMS**

\*5F. Status of Remaining MAG Approved PM-10 Certified Street Sweeper Projects That Have Not Requested Reimbursement

A status report is being provided on the remaining PM-10 certified street sweeper projects that have received approval, but have not requested reimbursement. To address new Federal Highway Administration procedures to minimize inactive obligations and to assist MAG in reducing the amount of obligated federal funds carried forward in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, we are requesting that street sweeper projects for FY 2015 CMAQ funding be purchased and reimbursement requests be submitted to MAG within one year from the date of the MAG authorization letter. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5G. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and 2035

5F. Information and discussion.

5G. Consultation.

Regional Transportation Plan. The amendment and administrative modification involve several projects, including Arizona Department of Transportation and other miscellaneous projects. 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. Please refer to the enclosed material.

### ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

6. Streamlining of the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has proposed to streamline the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process. The ADEQ has been streamlining various processes in order to issue permits faster and be more responsive to its customers, the regulated community. MAG shares the importance of economic development for the region with ADEQ and has agreed to work cooperatively with them on streamlining options that would not jeopardize the integrity of the 208 Process. The goal of this effort is to make the process more efficient and the region more globally competitive. For the evaluation of the 208 Process, a small Stakeholder Group was formed with representatives from cities and towns, Maricopa County, private utilities, homebuilders, and ADEQ. A representative from the Governor's Office was also invited. Five meetings of the Stakeholder Group were conducted. During the streamlining process, the Stakeholder Group reviewed the entire 208 Process including the work that occurs at the local level before a 208 amendment is provided to MAG for consideration, the MAG Process at the regional level, and the ADEQ Process from the point in which the approved amendment is submitted to ADEQ from MAG. A proposal has been developed to streamline the 208 Process from the point in which the applicant contacts the sponsoring jurisdiction (MAG member agency) until approval by the Environmental Protection

6. Approval of the Proposal for Streamlining the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process.

Agency. The streamlining efforts identified in the proposal shorten the entire 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process from approximately 18 to 24 months to approximately nine months, which is a 50 to 63 percent reduction in the overall timeline. On August 5, 2015, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the Draft Proposal for Streamlining the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Project Changes - Amendment and Administrative Modification to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2016 Arterial Life Cycle Program, and as Needed, to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) were approved by the MAG Regional Council on January 29, 2014, and the last amendment was approved on June 24, 2015. Since then, there is a need to make project changes. General highway and transit project changes are included in Table A. Arterial Life Cycle Program changes are included in Table B. The requested project changes were recommended for approval by the MAG Transportation Review Committee on July 23, 2015, and by the MAG Management Committee on August 5, 2015. Currently, a continuation of federal surface transportation funding has been approved, however, the Federal Register notice that provides final amounts has not yet been published. Action by MAG Committees needs to be taken before the next meeting cycle. Based on the federal funding amounts directed to the MAG region, modifications to work years to advance previously approved projects and to provide detailed TIP listings for prioritized projects will be needed to ensure that all Federal Highway Administration obligation authority and Federal Transit Administration apportionments are utilized for Federal Fiscal Year 2015. The motion has been revised since the August 5 Management Committee meeting to allow flexibility to submit project changes for Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration

7. Approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2016 Arterial Life Cycle Program, and as appropriate, to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, and necessary project advancement modifications, detailed TIP listings for previously approved priority ordered projects related to apportioned federal fiscal year 2015 funding, based on the forthcoming final apportionment and obligation authority distributions from Federal Highway Administration and funding notices from Federal Transit Administration.

funding. A summary report will be provided at the October meetings of project changes submitted to the Arizona Department of Transportation. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. Appointments of the MAG Economic Development Committee Member Agency Positions

Each year, the MAG Executive Committee recommends the appointments for the Economic Development Committee (EDC). On July 1, 2015, a memorandum was sent to the MAG Regional Council members soliciting letters of interest for the member agency positions on the EDC. The seven largest cities, in addition to the City of Phoenix, Maricopa and Pinal Counties and the Arizona Department of Transportation, have dedicated representation on the EDC. Eight other member agencies, in addition to the dedicated seats, can request appointment or reappointment. The Chair and the Vice Chair of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) are also members of the EDC. This year, no letter was received from the Vice Chair of the TPC. To address the issue of no letter being received from the Vice Chair of the TPC, the Executive Committee recommended that the Vice Chair slot on the EDC held by the Mayor of the City of Mesa be considered vacant immediately, allowing someone else from the City of Mesa, as one of the seven largest cities, to be considered as a member of the EDC. Please refer to the enclosed material.

9. Appointments of the MAG Economic Development Committee New Business Representatives

The MAG Economic Development Committee (EDC) was created to work on diversifying the economy. This committee continues to evolve with its composition adjusted as appropriate. With the EDC's many initiatives reaching across the state, such as its Mexico and workforce efforts, it became apparent that a wider representation was needed on the committee. On May 27, 2015, the MAG Regional Council

8. Approval of the appointments of the MAG Economic Development Committee (EDC) member agency positions.

9. Approval of the appointments of two MAG Economic Development Committee new business representatives.

approved increasing the composition of the EDC to include a representative from the Governor's Office, the Joint Technical Education Districts (JTEDs) and Maricopa County Community Colleges. On June 15, 2015, letters were sent to these organizations soliciting representation on the EDC. On August 10, 2015, the Executive Committee recommended approval of the appointments of two MAG Economic Development Committee new business representatives. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. Legislative Update

An update will be provided on House Bill 2617 and the possible ramifications to the diversion of Proposition 400 sales tax funds for transportation to the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR). Provisions in House Bill 2617 would direct approximately \$3,000,000 in administration and collection assessment fees from MAG and the Pima Association of Governments (PAG). On June 15, 2015, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee discussed House Bill 2617 and recommended approval of selecting a working group to negotiate with the Governor's Office to have an arrangement to assist the State of Arizona through the structural deficit regarding provisions with House Bill 2617. On June 24, 2015, the MAG Regional Council approved the selection of a working group to negotiate with the Governor's Office to have an arrangement to assist the State of Arizona through the structural deficit regarding provisions with House Bill 2617. On August 3, 2015, an invoice to MAG from ADOR was received in the amount of \$2,582,396.24. Also on August 3, 2015, the working group, along with representatives from PAG, met with staff from the Governor's Office to discuss possible accommodations to House Bill 2617. The Governor's staff was informed that an update on House Bill 2617 is planned for the August 26, 2015, MAG Regional Council meeting. An update also will be provided on federal surface transportation legislation called Developing a Reliable, Innovative Vision for the Economy (DRIVE) Act, which was recently passed

10. Information, discussion and possible action.

by the U.S. Senate. Please refer to the enclosed material.

11. Request for Future Agenda Items

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

12. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council 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

11. Information.

12. Information.