



**MARICOPA
ASSOCIATION of
GOVERNMENTS**

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September 6, 2011

TO: Members of the Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Mayor Lyn Truitt, City of Surprise, Chair

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF MEETING AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 14, 2011
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 N. First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee is scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person, by videoconference, or by telephone conference call. As determined at the first meeting of the Committee, proxies are not allowed. Members who are not able to attend the meeting are encouraged to submit their comments in writing, so that their view is always a part of the process.

For those attending in person, 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 admission 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.

Refreshments and a light snack will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, or Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

c: MAG Regional Council
MAG Management Committee

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
September 14, 2011**

| | <u>COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED</u> |
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| 1. <u>Call to Order</u> | |
| 2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> | |
| 3. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Transportation Policy 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. 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 Transportation Policy Committee 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. | 3. Information. |
| 4. <u>Approval of the March 23, 2011, Meeting Minutes</u> | 4. Review and approval of the March 23, 2011, meeting minutes. |
| 5. <u>Draft Fiscal Year 2012 Arterial Life Cycle Program</u> The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) identified 94 arterial street projects to receive funding from the regional sales tax extension and from MAG Federal Funds. The Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) provides information for each project spanning a 20-year life cycle. Information contained in the ALCP includes project location, regional funding, fiscal year (FY) for work, type of work, status of project and the Lead Agency. As part of the ALCP process, Lead Agencies update project information annually, at a minimum. MAG staff has programmed the Draft FY 2012 ALCP based on the information provided by Lead Agencies and from projected revenue streams of the Regional Area Road Fund (RARF), MAG Surface Transportation Program (STP-MAG) funds, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality | 5. Recommend approval of (1) the Draft FY 2012 Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP), (2) amendments and administrative modifications that are exempt from conformity to the MAG FY 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program for ALCP projects programmed for work and/or reimbursements in FY 2012, and (3) amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and to the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update, as appropriate, contingent on a new Finding of Conformity. |

(CMAQ) funds. Recommendations on this item have been made by the MAG Street Committee on June 14, 2011, and the Transportation Review Committee on August 25, 2011. This item is on the September 7, 2011, MAG Management Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

6. The Future of Federal Transportation Funds

Mary Peters, former US Secretary of Transportation, will provide a report to the Transportation Policy Committee regarding the future of federal transportation funds. The current continuing resolution of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) for federal transportation funds expires on September 30, 2011. The revenue earned by the Highway Trust Fund is projected to be 30 percent less than current levels. Currently there are two bills that have been discussed, one from Rep. John Mica (R-FL) and the other from the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. The House bill extends the transportation program for six years and reduces funding by about 30 percent, which aligns with the projected revenues. The Senate bill extends the program for two years and keeps funding levels as is in SAFETEA-LU, additionally, a short term, four month extension has been proposed. The actual detailed bills have not been released yet. This item is on the September 7, 2011, MAG Management Committee agenda. An update will be provided on discussion by the Committee.

7. SR-202L/South Mountain Freeway Corridor Update

MAG and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) are in the final stages for completing the Environmental Impact Statement that will clear for construction the proposed SR-202L/South Mountain Freeway corridor. This 22-mile corridor is located in the southern and western portions of the City of Phoenix and provides a link from Interstate 10 at the SR-202L/Santan Freeway to Interstate 10 at 59th Avenue. The corridor has been a critical link in the Regional Freeway and Highway Program since initially identified in 1985 for Proposition 300.

6. Information and discussion.

7. Information and discussion.

SR-202L/South Mountain Freeway corridor has been carried forward as part of the Proposition 400 program. An update will be provided discussing the latest information about the corridor's Purpose and Need and planning that has been occurring between MAG, ADOT, the Federal Highway Administration, the City of Phoenix, and the Gila River Indian Community for the eventual construction of this corridor.

8. Update on Interstate 11 and the Punta Colonet Port and Potential Arizona Rail Crossing

Staff will provide a status update on Interstate 11, a freeway corridor proposed between Phoenix and Las Vegas that could potentially reach from Mexico to Canada through the Pacific Northwest. It is envisioned that Interstate 11 will improve upon trade and commerce opportunities for the MAG region. This facility would not compete with current Proposition 400 projects. In this regard, the Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program is undertaking an initiative on structuring, financing and delivering innovative, high impact infrastructure projects with the potential to transform the physical and economic landscape of the region. Brookings requested that MAG submit the Interstate 11 concept to be considered as a transformative investment.

In addition, a status update will be provided on the deep water port project, Punta Colonet, in Baja California. On August, 3, 2011, the Arizona Mexico Commission hosted a breakfast meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Communications and Transportation of Mexico (SCT) to discuss advancing the Punta Colonet project. The SCT discussed issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Punta Colonet project and the need to identify a potential rail crossing in Arizona for the new port. This item will be presented at the September 6, 2011, MAG Economic Development Committee meeting and the September 7, 2011, MAG Management Committee meeting. An update will be provided on discussions at the meetings. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. Information, discussion, and possible action.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

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

9. Information and discussion.

10. Comments from the Committee

An opportunity will be provided for Transportation Policy Committee members to present a brief summary of current events. The Transportation Policy 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.

10. Information.

Adjournment