

May 18, 2004

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 26, 2004  
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

Please note that a light dinner will be served at the beginning of the Transportation Policy Committee meeting that begins at 4:00 p.m., in place of the usual Regional Council dinner arrangement.

The next 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.

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. 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.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL  
TENTATIVE AGENDA  
May 26, 2004**

	<b><u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u></b>
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 Regional Council 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 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.	3. Information.
4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u>  The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	4. Information and discussion.
5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u>  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.	5. Approve the Consent Agenda.

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT\***

**MINUTES**

*5A. <u>Approval of the April 28, 2004 Meeting Minutes</u>	5A. Review and approve the April 28, 2004 meeting minutes.
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## TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

\*5B. Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for ADOT Highway Projects and a Maricopa County Job Access and Reverse Commute Project

The FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved by the Regional Council on November 25, 2003. Since that time, ADOT has requested to accelerate \$2,829,000 in National Highway System (NHS) funds from their FY 2005 Wickenburg By-pass project to acquire right-of-way in FY 2004. In addition, Maricopa County has been awarded \$3,234,705 in Job Access and Reverse Commute funds to continue their program already in progress. It is necessary to amend the TIP to include these projects so that they may proceed to construction. All of the changes are regarded as exempt projects or are regarded as minor project revisions for which no air quality conformity is required and the consultation for this item is considered as a separate agenda item. The Transportation Review Committee and the Management Committee recommended approval of a TIP amendment for these projects. This item is on the May 26th Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5C. Request to Change the Federal Functional Classification of a Town of Gila Bend Roadway and Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP to Reprogram MAG Federal Funds on a Gila Bend Project

The Town of Gila Bend has requested to recognize Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street as a federally functionally classified Rural Major Collector Street. MAG approval is required in order for ADOT to proceed with classification of the facility. In addition, the Town of Gila Bend has requested to reprogram its Watermelon Road project, so that the \$188,600 in STP funding allocated to it is used to complete

5B. Approve an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP to accelerate \$2,829,000 in NHS funds to acquire right-of-way for the Wickenburg By-pass project from FY 2005 to FY 2004, and to add a new phase of the Maricopa County Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program with \$3,234,705 in JARC funds in FY 2004.

5C. Approve that Martin Avenue between Old Main Street and Stout Street in the Town of Gila Bend be recognized as a federally functionally classified Rural Major Collector Street. In addition, to recommend that the funds programmed for improvements to the Watermelon Road intersection be reprogrammed onto the Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street Pedestrian Improvements project and approve an Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP to accomplish this change.

pedestrian improvements on Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street. An amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG TIP is needed to accomplish this reprogramming. This change is regarded as an exempt project or is regarded as a minor project revision for which no air quality conformity is required and the consultation for this item is considered as a separate agenda item. The Transportation Review Committee and the Management Committee recommended approval of the change in functional classification and approval of a TIP amendment for this project. This item is on the May 26th Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**AIR QUALITY ITEM**

\*5D. Conformity Consultation

MAG is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The amendment includes an Arizona Department of Transportation request for a new right-of-way acquisition project for State Route 93 (Wickenburg By-pass) in FY 2004, and the addition of new federal Job Access and Reverse Commute funds for continuing a Maricopa County transit project in FY 2004. In addition, the Town of Gila Bend has requested a new pedestrian improvement project on Martin Avenue, Old Main Street to Stout Street in FY 2005. The amendment includes new projects that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations and a minor project revision that does not require a conformity determination. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5D. For consultation.

**GENERAL ITEM**

\*5E. Ratification of the Executive Committee Action to Approve MAG Joining the Arizona State Retirement System

5E. Ratification of the Executive Committee action to approve MAG joining the Arizona State Retirement System.

On May 13, 2003, the Executive Committee approved MAG joining the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS). The Executive Committee action was ratified by the Regional Council on May 28, 2003. The attorney for ASRS questioned MAG's eligibility and subsequently issued an opinion that MAG was not eligible to join the System. Since then, MAG has been working with ASRS and their attorney to develop legislative language to clear up any ambiguity regarding MAG and similar organizations that are already in the System. This legislation, HB 2049, passed the House of Representatives. On May 12, 2004, the Senate voted 18-8 to approve this measure. The legislation now moves on to the Governor. We have been informed by ASRS staff that we will need to resubmit our application, which includes a resolution from MAG. On May 17, 2004, the MAG Executive Committee approved MAG joining the Arizona State Retirement System.

**ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD**

**AIR QUALITY ITEM**

6. Update on Air Quality Issues

On April 15, 2004, the Environmental Protection Agency officially designated this region as a nonattainment area for the eight-hour ozone standard. The area is located mainly in Maricopa County as well as Apache Junction. Also, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality is working on air quality control measures for the Salt River PM-10 State Implementation Plan Revision to reduce particulate matter. It is anticipated that these measures will be submitted to EPA in August 2004. An update on key air quality issues will be presented.

6. Information and discussion.

## GENERAL ITEMS

7. Draft FY 2005 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

In May 2004, the draft FY 2005 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is being presented for approval. As adjustments to the budget were made, the draft budget document was updated and presented to the Management Committee, Executive Committee, and Regional Council. On May 12, 2004, the Senate approved legislation for MAG to join the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS). This legislation is pending approval by the Governor. If the retirement change is made, the overall 2005 budgeted costs would not change. On May 17, 2004, the Executive Committee approved MAG joining the ASRS. A compensation study begun in February was presented at the May 17, 2004 Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee recommended implementing the study recommendations. It is anticipated that the adjustments to salaries can be implemented within the range of funding identified in the study, using the FY 2005 budgeted amount for personnel, and the funding from the Assistant Director position that is being eliminated. Regarding projects in the Work Program, action on the "Building Codes Compilation and Web Addition" is being deferred until the July Regional Council meeting. The consultant funding (\$300,000) for the "Building a Quality Regional Community" is being removed from the budget and Phase I for this project would proceed using staff resources. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. 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.

7. Approve the resolution adopting the FY 2005 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the member dues and assessments, and to amend the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the FY 2004 Transportation Improvement Program to incorporate the FY 2004 Surface Transportation Improvement Program funds identified in the FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

8. Information.