

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

DATE:

September 7, 2011

SUBJECT:

Consultant Selection for the Southwest Valley Local Transit System Study

SUMMARY:

On May 25, 2011, the MAG Regional Council approved the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. The Unified Planning Work Program included \$280,000 in funding for the Southwest Valley Local Transit System Study. On May 28, 2011 MAG issued a Request for Proposals and received responses from Moore & Associates, Inc.; Transportation Management and Design, Inc.; HDR; Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc.; URS Corporation; and Arup. A multi-agency review team evaluated the proposals on July 14, 2011, and conducted consultant interviews on July 21, 2011. The Evaluation Team recommended to MAG that URS Corporation be selected to develop the Southwest Valley Local Transit System Study for an amount not to exceed \$280,000.

Once completed, the study will identify opportunities and strategies for improving the existing transit service in the southwest valley and to develop a short, mid, and long range local transit plan that effectively provides circulation within the southwest valley and also connects to the regional transit system.

Key project objectives are to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive, market based evaluation of current transit service and future needs in the southwest valley and develop a transit plan that effectively provides circulation within the southwest valley and also connects to the regional transit system.
2. Ensure the study results are coordinated with on-going regional transit plans and studies (e.g., Regional Transportation Plan, Regional Transit Framework Study, Sustainable Transportation and Land Use Integration Study).
3. Develop a market-defined phased implementation plan for the short-, mid-, and long-range that strategically expands transit service over time, in concert with development trends and available revenues.
4. Develop a sound financial plan for the defined transit system that identifies capital/operating cost and potential sources of revenue.
5. Foster widespread community support for transit service through an effective public involvement program.
6. Develop an implementation road map.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None.

PROS & CONS:

PROS: This study will look for efficiencies in the current transit service and provide a detailed evaluations for expanding transit service in the southwest valley for the short-, mid-, and long-range.

CONS: None.

TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL: The resulting transit service study will identify capital and operating requirements, needs based service options, and funding opportunities for transit service in the southwest valley.

POLICY: The Southwest Valley Local Transit System Study will provide decision-makers in the southwest valley with a comprehensive perspective on the needs and opportunities as well as the cost implications of implementing transit service.

ACTION NEEDED:

Approval of the selection of URS Corporation to conduct the Southwest Valley Local Transit System Study for an amount not to exceed \$280,000.

PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

This item is on the September 7, 2011 MAG Management Committee agenda for recommendation to approve.

A multi-agency review team evaluated the proposals on July 14, 2011, and conducted consultant interviews on July 21, 2011. The Evaluation Team recommended to MAG that URS Corporation be selected to develop the Southwest Valley Local Transit System Study for an amount not to exceed \$280,000.

This item was placed on the consent agenda for the MAG Management Committee September 7, 2011 meeting.

Proposal Evaluation Team

City of Avondale: Kristen Sexton
City of Goodyear: Cato Esquivel
City of Phoenix: Mark Melnychenko

METRO Light Rail: Abhishek Dayal
Valley Metro/RPTA: Stuart Boggs
MAG: Jorge Luna

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