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August 29, 2011

TO: Members of the MAG Economic Development Committee

FROM: Mayor Thomas Schoaf, City of Litchfield Park, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE MAG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 6, 2011 - 12:00 Noon
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the MAG Economic Development Committee (EDC) has been scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person or by telephone conference. A light lunch will be provided.

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 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 Denise McClafferty at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions regarding the EDC agenda items, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, or Denise McClafferty, Management Analyst, at (602) 254-6300.

A Voluntary Association of Local Governments in Maricopa County

City of Apache Junction ▲ City of Avondale ▲ Town of Buckeye ▲ Town of Carefree ▲ Town of Cave Creek ▲ City of Chandler ▲ City of El Mirage ▲ Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation ▲ Town of Fountain Hills ▲ Town of Gila Bend
Gila River Indian Community ▲ Town of Gilbert ▲ City of Glendale ▲ City of Goodyear ▲ Town of Guadalupe ▲ City of Litchfield Park ▲ Maricopa County ▲ City of Mesa ▲ Town of Paradise Valley ▲ City of Peoria ▲ City of Phoenix
Town of Queen Creek ▲ Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community ▲ City of Scottsdale ▲ City of Surprise ▲ City of Tempe ▲ City of Tolleson ▲ Town of Wickenburg ▲ Town of Youngtown ▲ Arizona Department of Transportation

MAG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 6, 2011

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be called to order.

2. Call to the Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Economic Development 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. Members of the public 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 Economic Development Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items will be given an opportunity at the time the item is heard.

3. Approval of the July 5, 2011 Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

4. Discussion on the Start Time of the Economic Development Committee Meetings

The Economic Development Committee (EDC) has been scheduled during the lunch hour to accommodate committee members' work schedules. Due to the length of the agendas, it is being suggested to start the EDC meetings at 11:30 a.m to better conform to member's calendars. The Committee will discuss the idea of changing the meeting start time to 11:30 a.m.

5. Update on the MAG Freight Transportation Framework Study

On October 27, 2011, the MAG Regional Council approved the consultant selection for the MAG Freight Transportation Framework Study.

2. Information and discussion.

3. Review and approval of the July 5, 2011 Economic Development Committee meeting minutes.

4. Information, discussion and possible action to approve changing the start time of the Economic Development Committee meetings to 11:30 a.m.

5. Information and discussion.

The Freight Framework Study will develop a multimodal freight framework that will describe the movement of goods (truck, rail, air, and pipeline) through the study area, identify possible network deficiencies to the safe and efficient flow of goods in, out, through and within the region and propose strategies to improve the transportation network that will enhance regional mobility for freight. Parsons Brinckerhoff, the consultant for the Freight Framework Study, will provide an update on the status of the study.

6. Trucking Industry Update

The purpose of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) is to ensure transportation planning fosters economic development in the MAG region. Staff has invited representatives from the Arizona Trucking Association to provide an update on the trucking industry as it relates to economic development strategies for the region. A representative from the Arizona Department of Transportation will also be there to discuss border permitting.

7. Nogales Port of Entry Discussion

At the July 19, 2011 Joint Planning Advisory Council (JPAC) meeting, the Council discussed the low hours of operation for Arizona's border crossing compared to the border crossing in Texas. This is resulting in commerce, such as produce, shifting from the Nogales port of entry to Texas. The JPAC suggested that more information be collected and a fact finding delegation be sent to the Nogales port of entry to explore how the border crossing could be improved to be more competitive with other crossings, which could improve Arizona's economy. The Committee will discuss the idea of working with the Arizona Mexico Commission to coordinate a trip to the Nogales port of entry. Please refer to the enclosed material.

6. Information, discussion and possible action.

7. Information, discussion and possible action to work with the Arizona Mexico Commission to coordinate a trip to the Nogales port of entry.

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

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 deep water port project, Punta Colonet, in Baja California. 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. Staff will provide an update on the discussions at this meeting. Staff will also provide an update on Interstate 11.

9. Brookings Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative Update

On May 25, 2011, the MAG Regional Council authorized submitting a proposal to Brookings for MAG to be considered to participate in the Brookings Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative. Brookings Institution announced the selection of the Phoenix region for the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative. A press release was issued on August 15, 2011 and the official launch of the project is anticipated in October 2011. Brookings will work with MAG and its partners on an innovative, bottom-up approach to regional economic development. The result will be a comprehensive business plan that includes an overview of the region's economy, one or more lead initiatives, a prospectus, and a policy memorandum to align the plan with federal priorities and opportunities. Staff will provide an update on the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

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

8. Information, discussion and possible action.

9. Information, discussion and input on the Brookings Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative.

10. Information and discussion.

II. Comments from the Committee

An opportunity will be provided for the Economic Development Committee (EDC) members to present a brief summary of current events. The EDC 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

II. Information.