



Executive Director's Report

At the annual meeting of the Regional Council in June, we had the election of officers (*see action item below*). As we thanked Councilwoman Peggy Neely from the City of Phoenix for her leadership as chair of MAG, we welcomed our incoming chair, Mayor Tom Schoaf from the City of Litchfield Park.

Those who have served as chair of MAG have had a great opportunity to leave their indelible mark on this region. Councilmember Neely worked closely with the Regional Council members to augment regional cooperation. She also pushed for regionalism beyond our borders through the formation of the Joint Planning Advisory Council.

In looking back, previous chairs have also made their mark on the region—working to complete the Proposition 300 freeway system, developing and implementing Proposition 400, and stressing long range planning through framework studies in our region and statewide. These are just a few examples of regional leadership through past MAG chairs. Our region is blessed with a relative small number of governments representing a region of four million in population, and all MAG members have a voice at the regional table.

I am confident that under the leadership of our new chair, Mayor Schoaf, that the MAG region will continue to address the challenges facing this region and be a leader in the nation.

For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.

Regional Council Meeting Report for Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Action Items



Election of Regional Council Officers and Executive Committee Members

The MAG annual meeting held June 30, 2010, included the election of officers. Litchfield Park Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf was elected to serve as MAG chair. He succeeds Phoenix City Councilwoman Peggy Neely, who has chaired the Regional Council since January 2009. Mayor Schoaf will lead the organization for the next year and will also preside over the MAG Executive Committee, which serves as MAG's finance committee. Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman was elected vice chair, and Avondale Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers was elected treasurer. The elected officers

will serve a one-year term with a succession of positions occurring through the ascending order of officers.

In addition to the officers, three at-large members were elected, including Mayor Scott Smith of Mesa, Mayor W. J. "Jim" Lane of Scottsdale, and Mayor Michael LeVault of Youngtown. Peggy Neely will remain on the Executive Committee as past chair.

For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.

Appointment of Members and Officers for the Transportation Policy Committee

The annual meeting also included approval of officers and members of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). Mesa Mayor Scott Smith was elected to serve as TPC chair, with Phoenix Councilwoman Peggy Neely elected as vice chair. New members to the committee include Mayor Bob Barrett, who will represent the city of Peoria, and Phillip Matthews of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, who will represent the three Native American Indian Communities on the TPC.

The TPC, created in 2002, is responsible for making policy recommendations to the Regional Council on transportation issues, including the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program.

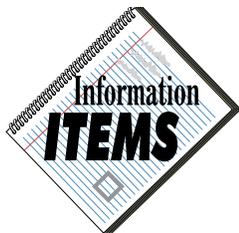
For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.

MAG Regional Plan to End Domestic Violence Approved

The MAG Regional Council approved the MAG Regional Plan to End Domestic Violence. The plan was developed by the MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council, working with more than 150 stakeholders, to respond to the changing dynamics created by the recession. The plan is built on four key areas of focus: funding; training and education; coordination and collaboration; and services. The goal of the plan is increasing survivor safety, holding abusers accountable, and trimming costs through streamlined processes. The plan outlines 15 strategies over the four key focus areas and was developed to maximize impact with limited resources.

For more information, please contact Renae Tenney, MAG Human Services Planner, (602) 254-6300.

Information Items



Update on Exceptional Events and MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10

The MAG Regional Council received an update on recent activities following the decision of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to not concur with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality documentation that four exceedances at the West 43rd Avenue monitor in 2008 were the result of exceptional events. MAG staff reported that this means that the MAG region will have a violation for 2008. As

a result, the EPA intends to disapprove the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10 for reducing dust pollution in the Valley.

At the May Regional Council meeting, the Regional Council directed staff to bring recommendations to the Executive Committee on obtaining legal advice and suggested that staff work with the Governor and the Arizona Congressional Delegation to stay the action of EPA until EPA corrects its flawed exceptional events policy. Staff reported that on June 21, 2010, the MAG Executive Committee directed staff to retain legal counsel and other consultants to take administrative action needed regarding the EPA nonconcurrence on the four exceptional events at the West 43rd Avenue monitor in 2008, and the EPA's intent to disapprove the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10 for reducing dust pollution in the Valley.

Staff also noted two recent developments. On June 23, 2010, the EPA indicated that the proposed consent decree was lodged with the court, but it still has to go out to public notice. In addition, the EPA has to propose action on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10 by September 3, 2010, and finalize the action by January 28, 2011.

Staff reported that once the final decision is published in the Federal Register, it will be 30 to 90 days before the MAG region enters into a conformity freeze. MAG is reviewing EPA's technical support document and intends to submit comments to ADEQ, who will submit them to EPA. Staff and the consultants are working on providing supplemental information to the EPA in hopes of preventing the proposed and final disapproval.

For more information, please contact Lindy Bauer, MAG Environmental Director, (602) 254-6300.

Desert Peaks 2010 Recognizes Regionalism and Innovation

The biennial Desert Peaks Awards were held following the MAG Regional Council Annual meeting at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel. The awards mark a longstanding tradition in the MAG region to recognize and highlight regionalism and innovation. Awards were distributed in five categories and included the following recipients:

Public Partnership (Two recipients were selected in this category):

- METRO Light Rail
- Phoenix Urban Education Initiatives

Public-Private Partnership (Two recipients were selected in this category):

- Communiversity @ Surprise
- Ellsworth Loop Road Improvement District Project

Professional Service

- Sandie Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer, Pinal Partnership

Regional Partnership

- Chandler/Gilbert Joint Water Treatment Plant (Santan Vista Water Treatment Plant)

Regional Excellence

- William (Bill) Post, Chairman Emeritus, Pinnacle West Capital Corporation

Costs of the event were offset through sponsorships. Gold Sponsors included Cambridge Systematics, Inc.; HDR, Inc.; Pinnacle West Capital Corporation; and Salt River Project. Silver Sponsors included AECOM; Arizona Lottery; Kimley-Horn and Associates; Mariscal, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander, P.A.; Piper Jaffray; URS Corporation; and Wilson & Company, Inc., Engineers and Architects.

Recipients were selected by a distinguished panel of judges who represent diverse interests from throughout the Valley. The judging panel for the 2010 Desert Peaks Awards included the Honorable Bill Arnold, former state legislator and former Goodyear mayor; Dr. Keith Hjelmstad, vice president and dean of the College of Technology and Innovation at Arizona State University; Mike Hutchinson, former Mesa city manager and current director of Superstition Vistas; John Strittmatter, president of the Southwest Division of Ryan Companies; Rebecca M. Timmer, corporate relations, Dibble Engineering; and Nancy Welch, associate director of the Morrison Institute for Public Policy.

For more information, please contact Kelly Taft, MAG Communications Manager, (602) 254-6300.

Next Regional Council Meeting

The next meeting of the MAG Regional Council is scheduled for Wednesday, July 28, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. in the Saguaro Room, 302 N. 1st Avenue, Phoenix. Agenda items are expected to include findings of conformity for the Draft FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Draft Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update; an update on public input received during the FY 2010 Final Phase Public Input Opportunity; Approval of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update; Approval of the Draft FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program; a resolution supporting the expansion of Amtrak passenger service into the Metropolitan Phoenix region as part of the National Intercity Rail Network; an update on exceptional events and the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10; and an update on efforts conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Additional agenda items are pending.

For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.