

April 19, 2011

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Tom Schoaf, Litchfield Park, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 27, 2011  
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

The next MAG 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. MAG will host a dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor.

Please park in the garage underneath the 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 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.

c: MAG Management Committee

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL  
TENTATIVE AGENDA  
April 27, 2011**

**COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED**

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Call to the Audience

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.

4. Executive Director's Report

The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

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 (\*).

3. Information.

4. Information and discussion.

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT\***

**MINUTES**

\*5A. Approval of the March 30, 2011, Meeting Minutes

5A. Review and approval of the March 30, 2011, meeting minutes.

**TRANSPORTATION ITEMS**

\*5B. FY 2011 Section 5310 Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Transportation Program Priority Listing of Applicants

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides Section 5310, Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Transportation Program funding, to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). These capital assistance awards support agencies and public bodies that provide transportation services for older adults and for people who have a disability. The Councils of Governments, including MAG, prepare priority listings of applications for ADOT to be used when determining awards. Approximately \$3.9 million is available statewide for funding this year's projects. The priority listing of applicants for the FY 2011 Section 5310 Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Transportation Program has been recommended by the MAG Ad Hoc Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Committee on March 29, 2011, and by the MAG Management Committee on April 13, 2011. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5C. Project Changes -- Amendment and Administrative Modification to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and FY 2011 Arterial Life Cycle Program

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) 2010 Update were approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 28, 2010, and have been modified four times with the last modification approved in January 2011. The FY 2011 Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) was approved by the MAG Regional Council on June 30, 2010, and has been modified once with the last modification approved in January 2011. Since January 2011, there have been requests from member agencies to modify projects in the programs. On March 30, 2011, the Transportation Review Committee (TRC) recommended approval of the requested changes. Since the TRC took action, additional

5B. Approval to forward the priority listing of applicants for the FTA Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Transportation Program to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

5C. Approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Plan, the FY 2011 Arterial Life Cycle Program, and as appropriate, to the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update.

project change requests were received. The project change requests received to-date were recommended for approval by the MAG Management Committee on April 13, 2011. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5D. Interim Closeout of the Federal Fiscal Year 2011  
MAG Federally Funded Program

The Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 Closeout Process is underway. To defer a project from FFY 2011 to a later year, MAG member agencies must complete and submit a deferral notification form, and, depending on the number of times previously deferred, submit a justification letter. The deadline to notify MAG of project deferrals is ongoing; however, MAG staff would prefer member agencies report project deferrals for a first analysis by Friday, April 15, 2011. It is also requested that member agencies submit project requests to utilize these unused FFY 2011 funds. The deadline to submit projects requests for closeout was April 14, 2011; late project submittals are not allowed. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5E. Road Safety Assessments at Intersections

Each year more than 60,000 crashes occur on the local and arterial street system in the MAG region. About half of these crashes occur at intersections. They result in a total of nearly 30,000 injuries and fatalities each year. The MAG Transportation Safety Committee (TSC) has recommended Road Safety Assessments (RSAs) as a regional initiative to help identify and address safety issues at intersections. Based on a prior MAG action, a total of \$398,000 is available for conducting RSAs, utilizing qualified MAG on-call consultants, and with assistance from the Arizona Department of Transportation's RSA Program. The MAG TSC recommended a list of 23 intersections for the first cycle of RSAs to be performed. It was also recommended that RSAs be prioritized using the MAG Rank based on intersection crash risk, in case the funds available are insufficient to address all locations. The recommendation was generated considering: (1) intersections nominated by MAG member agencies from the MAG Top 100 list of

5D. Information and discussion.

5E. Approval of the list of 23 intersections, prioritized based on MAG Crash Risk Rank, for performing Road Safety Assessments.

high crash risk intersections, and (2) intersections nominated by MAG member agencies based on crash history or observed safety/risk concerns. The list of 23 intersections, prioritized based on MAG Crash Risk Rank, for performing Road Safety Assessments, was recommended for approval by the MAG Transportation Safety Committee on March 22, 2011, the MAG Transportation Review Committee on March 30, 2011, and the MAG Management Committee on April 13, 2011. Please refer the enclosed material.

**\*5F. MAG Complete Streets Guide**

The FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2008, included \$75,000 for the development of the MAG Complete Streets Guide. The Guide provides a process for integrating bicycle and pedestrian facilities as institutionalized components of streets. The MAG Complete Streets Guide was recommended for approval by the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee on February 15, 2011, the MAG Transportation Review Committee on March 30, 2011, and the MAG Management Committee on April 13, 2011. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**\*5G. Revised Approach for MAG Design Assistance Program**

On February 17, 2011, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) representatives and MAG staff met to discuss the MAG Design Assistance Program. FHWA representatives expressed concerns that the current program, which allowed designs for bicycle and pedestrian projects to be completed up to 95 percent, had to be changed since the design process went beyond what is allowed under federal guidelines. FHWA further asserted that there was a lack of federal oversight of the design process which at times preceded the environmental work. FHWA affirmed the value of the program but stated that the MAG Design Assistance Program can only support projects through the Scoping Phase (less than 15 percent). Since the inception of the program in 1996, approximately \$2.5 million has been spent on

5F. Approval of the MAG Complete Streets Guide.

5G. Information and discussion.

designs which resulted in \$23.3 million in constructed bicycle and pedestrian projects. MAG staff has revised the Design Assistance program accordingly. The process will remain the same for member agencies but future emphasis will be on scoping projects for design and construction funding through the Arizona Department of Transportation - Transportation Enhancement Funds, the Safe Routes to School program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5H. Arterial Life Cycle Program Status Report

A Status Report on the Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) for the period between October 2010 and March 2011 addresses ALCP project work, the remaining Fiscal Year 2011 ALCP schedule, program deadlines, revenues, and finances. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5H. Information.

**AIR QUALITY ITEMS**

\*5I. Status of Remaining MAG Approved PM-10 Certified Street Sweeper Projects That Have Not Requested Reimbursement

A status report is being provided on the remaining PM-10 certified street sweeper projects that have received approval, but have not requested reimbursement. To assist MAG in reducing the amount of obligated federal funds carried forward in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, MAG is requesting that street sweepers be purchased and reimbursement be requested by the agency within one year plus ten calendar days from the date of the MAG authorization letter. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5I. Information and discussion.

\*5J. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. The amendment and administrative modification

5J. Consultation.

involve several projects, including Arizona Department of Transportation projects on Interstate-17, State Route 87, State Route 303 and Maricopa County projects on Northern Parkway. The amendment includes projects that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations. The administrative modification includes minor project revisions that do not require a conformity determination. Comments are requested by April 22, 2011. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD**

**TRANSPORTATION ITEMS**

6. Multimodal Transit System Tour Travel Costs - MAG Region Peer Cities

MAG staff have been exploring the possibility of a multimodal transit tour of a MAG Peer Region city. The purpose of the on-site tour would be for MAG region leaders to gather information and investigate the benefits of the connectivity between bus transit, light rail, and commuter rail. MAG staff researched the request and the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) appears to be the best example of daily, multimodal connectivity in the Intermountain West. UTA staff has offered to host a tour for MAG region leaders in the October 2011 timeframe. A pricing summary of airfare, ground transportation and hotel accommodations is provided for review. Please refer to the enclosed material.

6. Information and discussion.

7. Regional Freeway and Highway Program Update

In October 2009, the Transportation Policy Committee recommended the MAG Regional Council approve a Tentative Scenario to balance the Regional Freeway and Highway Program and to incorporate it into the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update and the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, with the understanding that due to the present cost and revenue uncertainties that this represents a placeholder and the program would be reevaluated in 18 months. The MAG Regional Council approved the Tentative Scenario at its

7. Information and discussion.

October 2009 meeting. As this 18 month period approaches its conclusion, an update will be provided on work efforts and accomplishments in delivering the Regional Freeway and Highway Program, as well as a presentation about current cost and revenue projections for the program and the potential need for additional rebalancing. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**AIR QUALITY ITEMS**

- 8. Update on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10

It is anticipated that a new Five Percent Plan for PM-10 would need to be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency in January 2012. On April 1, 2011, Maricopa County provided the Revised 2008 Annual PM-10 Emissions Inventory that would be used as the basis for the new plan. A Rapid Response Action Plan Template has been prepared by MAG to assist member agencies in preventing exceedances of the PM-10 standard. On April 11, 2011, the Senate Committee of the Whole adopted an amendment to HB 2208 to address the early implementation of measures to reduce PM-10 on days that are at high risk for exceeding the standard. Please refer to the enclosed material.

- 8. Information and discussion.

**GENERAL ITEMS**

- 9. Development of the FY 2012 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed incrementally in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year in year in the spring by the federal agencies and approved by the Regional Council in May. The Intermodal Planning Group meeting was held March 29, 2011, and any recommendations from that review, as well as any other significant budget revisions, will be brought to the Regional Council. Please refer to the enclosed material.

- 9. Information and input on the development of the fiscal year (FY) 2012 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

10. Nominating Committee

Each April, the Chair of the Regional Council appoints a five-member Nominating Committee from the Regional Council. According to the Nominating Process, revised by the Regional Council in April 2002, the Nominating Committee develops a slate of seven candidates. These candidates include a Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, the Past Chair, and three members at-large. If the Past Chair is not a current member of the Council, the Nominating Committee nominates an additional at-large member. The past Chair of the Regional Council, if still a current member, serves as Chair of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is required to provide a balanced slate of officers. The slate of nominations is forwarded to all of the Regional Council members at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting in June. A report on the members of the Nominating Committee will be provided at the Regional Council meeting.

11. Legislative Update

An update will be provided on legislative issues of interest.

12. Request for Future Agenda Items

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

13. 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.

Adjournment

10. Announcement of the appointment of the members of the Nominating Committee by the Chair of the Regional Council.

11. Information, discussion, and possible action.

12. Information and discussion.

13. Information.