



# Executive Director's Report Regional Council



March 28, 2012





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## ■ Desert Peaks Awards Program

- Biennial awards program began in 1998 to recognize regional excellence, innovation and cooperation.
  - 20 entries received in six categories:
    - Public Partnership (8)
    - Public Private Partnership (3)
    - Professional Service (2)
    - Regional Partnership (3)
    - Regional Excellence (2)
    - Outstanding Economic Development Champion (2)
  - Judging panel will select recipients in mid-April.
    - Recipients will be notified in advance.
  - Ceremony will be held on June 27, 2012, following Regional Council Annual Meeting.
    - Venue: Downtown Sheraton
    - Reception at 5:30 p.m.; awards at 6:15 p.m.
    - Sponsors still welcome to contribute!





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- **FRA Southwest Multi-State Rail Planning Study Workshop**
  - *Thursday, March 15th*
- **Western High Speed Rail Alliance Board Meeting**
  - *Thursday, March 15th*
- **Intermountain MPO/TMA Meeting**
  - *Friday, March 16th*





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## ■ Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan System Study Launched

### ● Partnering Charter Members:



- ADOT
- El Mirage
- Glendale
- Maricopa County
- Peoria
- Phoenix
- Surprise
- Youngtown

- Create a vision
- Define operational character
- Establish access management system
- Develop guidelines for signage, landscape and aesthetic treatments