

TO: Members of the MAG Transit Committee

FROM: Eileen O. Yazzie, Transportation Planning Project Manager

DATE: February 1, 2012

SUBJECT: CMAQ FUNDS AVAILABLE TO TRANSIT THROUGH FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2012 YEAR END CLOSEOUT

Each year, through the MAG Committee Process, priorities are established on how to use all of the federal obligation authority for the current federal fiscal year (FFY); this is generally known as Closeout. On February 1, 2012, the TRC recommended to approve Scenario #4: fund projects that will obligate in FFY2012 at a 50% increase of the federal share, up to 100% of project costs, with an additional \$293,000 of federal fund to CHN12-805, and the remaining balance is flexed to transit, with projects and priorities developed at a later time. At the time of the recommendation, the amount to be flexed to transit is \$22,395,731 in federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds.

The item is currently not approved and being heard through the committee process. MAG Management Committee will hear this item on February 8th and MAG Regional Council will hear the item on February 22nd. The amount can fluctuate depending on the final amount of federal CMAQ funds that are apportioned to the MAG region and if projects do not obligate. We should know the final amount by June/July 2012.

Attached to this memorandum is a CMAQ Fact Sheet that outlines eligible and non-eligible items. The Transit Committee is requested to begin discussion on how to program/prioritize the \$22.4 million of CMAQ funds for FFY2012.

There are three projects that can use CMAQ funds, which include bus replacements and the Mesa Light Rail Extension Project. There is \$34 million of 5307 funds programmed to replace buses in 2012. If CMAQ were to fund a portion or all of the bus replacements, the 5307 funds could be used to fund preventive maintenance, which helps offset operating budgets. The Mesa Light Rail Extension project has commitments from the federal government for funding. Additional CMAQ funds can be used.

Please see the attached tables for more information of current FY2012 TIP Transit Listings.

If there are any questions regarding this item, please call Eileen Yazzie at 602-254-6300.