

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

DATE:

April 27, 2016

SUBJECT:

Changes to Regionally Significant Projects Within the Draft FY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program and Amendment to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Amendment to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

SUMMARY:

Four light rail transit (LRT) projects in the MAG region now require revision to their current opening dates, along with one new light rail capital structure added to the Draft FY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the FY 2014-2018 MAG TIP, and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and will undergo necessary air quality conformity analysis.

These changes are the result of the January 26, 2016, Phoenix City Council decision to approve the acceleration of two light rail projects, the deferral of one phase of a light rail project and the addition of one light rail station. These schedule changes are a result of the T2050 program, which was approved by Phoenix voters with the passage of Proposition 104 in August 2015. The T2050 program is a 35-year tax extension that would provide additional funding for light rail expansion, additional bus routes and street improvements. The Tempe Streetcar project will also be deferred by one year as per the Valley Metro Transit Life Cycle Program (TLCP). This action will more closely align with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding allocations and project delivery schedule.

The City of Phoenix Council approved the following changes on January 26, 2016 (Valley Metro Board action on these items is anticipated by spring 2016):

- Northwest Phase II, Phoenix - New opening date of 2023 from 2026.
- South Central Corridor, Phoenix - New opening date of 2023 from 2034.
- Capitol/I-10 West Phase II, Phoenix (17th Ave./Jefferson to 79th Ave./Interstate 10). This project was segmented into two phases: Phase I, Central/Jefferson to 17th Ave./Jefferson will continue to open on its RTP approved date of 2023; Phase II will now open in 2030.
- 50th Street/Washington St. Station, Phoenix - New light rail station to open in 2019.

The following change is reflected as per the TLCP:

- Tempe Streetcar - move opening year to 2019 from 2018.

The final approval of the project modifications for the MAG FY 2017-2021 TIP, the FY 2014-2018 MAG TIP, and 2035 RTP will be heard formally through the MAG Committee process in May-June 2016 when a new finding of conformity is completed. The accompanying chart and map reflect the current and proposed opening dates of all Valley Metro Rail light rail and streetcar corridor projects.

Additional project details can also be found online at:

http://www.valleymetro.org/projects_and_planning/current_projects

CONTACTS:

Marc Pearsall, Transit Planner III - Rail, MAG (602) 254-6300.

Abhishek Dayal, Manager - Capital Development, Valley Metro (602) 262-7433

Albert Santana, Light Rail Project Administrator, City of Phoenix (602) 262-7242

HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT/ LIGHT RAIL - EXTENSIONS	Technology	Length	Current RTP Year Open	Revised TIP/RTP Year Open
Central Mesa (to Mesa Dr.), Mesa	LRT	3.1	2015	2015
Northwest Phase I, Phoenix	LRT	3.2	2016	2016
Central Mesa (to Gilbert Rd.), Mesa	LRT	1.9	2018	2018
Tempe Streetcar	Modern Streetcar	3.0	2018	2019 (deferred)
50 th Street / Wash. St Station, Phoenix	LRT	----	-----	2019 (new)
Northwest Phase II, Phoenix	LRT	1.7	2026	2023 (accelerated)
South Central, Phoenix	LRT	5.0	2034	2023 (accelerated)
Capitol / I-10 West Phase I (to 17 th Ave /Jefferson), Phoenix	LRT	1.4	2023	2023
West Phoenix / Central Glendale, Phoenix and Glendale	LRT	5.0	2026	2026
Capitol / I-10 West Phase II, (to 79 th Ave /Interstate 10) Phoenix	LRT	9.6	2023	2030 (deferred)
** Northeast, Phoenix	TBD**	12.0	2034	2034

*Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) corridor currently under study. ** Technology to be determined. Projects programmed for after calendar year 2026 are outside of the Transit Life Cycle Program (TLCP). Priority of projects for new future funding is yet to be determined.

