

April 21, 2003

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee

FROM: Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, April 21, 2003 - 12:00 noon
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Cholla Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. 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.

A meeting of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee has been scheduled for the time and place noted above. Members of the Committee may attend either in person, by telephone conference, or by video conference. If you have any questions, please contact me at (480) 968-4474 or Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the January 17, 2003 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
3. Input on the Draft Regional Annual Report Table of Contents

On December 11, 2002, the Regional Council approved the development of an annual report. This project was approved with an 18 month evaluation period. Staff indicated that the draft table of contents for the annual report would be developed and brought to the Executive Committee before proceeding with the report. A draft table of contents has been

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

2. Review and approval of the January 17, 2003 Executive Committee meeting minutes.
3. Information, discussion and input on the development of the Regional Annual Report Draft Table of Contents.

developed with assistance from the Planners Stakeholders Group and the Intergovernmental Representatives. Please refer to the enclosed materials.

4. Draft Process for Compiling Information on Regionally Significant Development Projects

On December 11, 2002, the Regional Council approved an 18-month evaluation period for compiling information on Regionally Significant Development Projects. Input from the Planners Stakeholders Group and the Intergovernmental Representatives helped to define the size threshold of Regionally Significant Projects, the information to be compiled and the process for compiling the information. The recommendations from the Planners Stakeholders Group have been divided to reflect the original direction from the Regional Council and additional ideas from the Planners Stakeholders Group. Please refer to the enclosed materials.

5. Regional Transportation Plan - Phase II Contract Amendment

The MAG Unified Planning Work Program includes a total of \$750,000 for consultant services for Phase II of the MAG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). On October 30, 2002, the Regional Council approved contracting with HDR Engineering, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$500,000, to assist in the development of the RTP. At that time, it was noted that a portion of the \$250,000 balance might be required later, depending on possible study scope revisions. Certain revisions are now being proposed for the scope that would result in an increase of \$60,000 in the total amount of the contract with HDR. The increased contract amount is needed to cover additional public attitude surveying (\$45,000), and a project video (\$15,000). At its April 9, 2003 meeting, the Management Committee recommended

4. Information, discussion and input on the draft process for compiling information on Regionally Significant Development Projects.

5. Approval to increase the contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. for the Regional Transportation Plan - Phase II, from \$499,917 to an amount not to exceed \$559,917.

approval to increase the contract with HDR Engineering for the Regional Transportation Plan - Phase II from \$499,917 to an amount not to exceed \$559,917. This item is on the April 16, 2003 Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) agenda. An update will be provided on the action taken by the TPC. Please refer to the enclosed material.

6. Update on the Development of the FY 2004 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

At the March 26, 2003 Regional Council meeting, the Draft FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget was presented, with approval scheduled for the May Regional Council meeting. Since that time, the document has been reviewed by State and Federal agencies at the Intermodal Planning Group meeting, with minor modifications requested. At the April 9, 2003 Management Committee meeting, two proposed consultant projects were further reviewed with a phasing recommendation made for one of the projects. Staff will discuss the final development of the Work Program and Annual Budget in preparation for approval at the May Regional Council meeting. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. MAG Employee Retirement Plan Options

When the MAG staff was combined into one agency in 1996, it was necessary to create a retirement system for the employees. Beginning in 1997, MAG joined the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Retirement Corporation program, which is a 401 (a) defined contribution plan. Recently, MAG has been exploring the possible advantages of joining the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) defined benefit plan, which is used by many cities/towns, counties and school districts. The possible advantages of joining the ASRS will be

6. Information, discussion and input on the development of the FY 2004 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, and to recommend approval of the Management Committee action regarding the Pedestrian Area Polices and Design Guidelines (\$80,000) and the Arterial Street Study (\$400,000).

7. Information, discussion and input on the MAG employee retirement plan options.

discussed with the members of the Executive Committee. If the consensus of the Executive Committee is to further explore this option, representatives from the ASRS will be invited to discuss the program with the members of the MAG staff. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. Amendment to the Contract with Shannon Executive Search

On August 19, 2002, the Executive Committee approved a contract with Shannon Executive Search (CPS) for a professional fee of \$18,000 and expenses of \$6,999. The professional fees did not exceed the projected amount of \$18,000. At the conclusion of the contract, MAG was informed by Shannon Executive Search that there were additional costs of \$2,211.17 in reimbursable expenses. These costs were attributed to advertising fees being higher than initially anticipated. It is recommended that MAG reimburse CPS for the out-of-pocket expenses that exceeded the original estimates. Please refer to the enclosed material.

9. MAG and United Way Database Partnership

MAG, in partnership with the Valley of the Sun United Way and The Arizona Republic, has been working on a data publication that could be used by non-profit and MAG member agencies in displaying information from the 2000 Census and other local socioeconomic data. Staff will provide an update on this collaboration and a potential joint launch of the project between the two agencies in August 2003. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. Update on MAG Town Hall on Transportation

On March 28, 2003, the first MAG Town Hall was held. More than 100 Valley residents, mainly from local leadership groups, worked throughout the day to gain a better

8. Approval of an amendment to the Shannon Executive Search (CPS) contract to increase the total contract amount from \$24,999 to \$27,210.17.

9. Information, discussion and possible action.

10. Information and discussion.

understanding of the Valley's transportation challenges. Electronic voting was held at the end of the session to summarize the thoughts of the participants. An update will be provided.

11. Legislative Update

Staff will provide a legislative report on HB 2292 regarding the half cent sales tax.

12. Adjournment

11. Information and discussion.