

April 15, 2003

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

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

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 23, 2003

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room

302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 200

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

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank 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 Valerie Day at 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.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
April 23, 2003**

	<u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council for items that are not included on the agenda. 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.	3. For information.
4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u> The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	4. For information and discussion.
5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> 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 that are being presented for action. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	5. Approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

MINUTES

*5A. <u>Approval of March 26, 2003 Meeting Minutes</u>	5A. Review and approve March 26, 2003 meeting minutes.
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TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

*5B. <u>FY 2002-2003 Annual Transit Performance Report</u>	5B. Acceptance of the RPTA Annual Transit Performance Report, contingent upon any air quality conformity analysis that may be required.
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The Annual Transit Performance Report, formerly known as the Short Range Transit Report, is prepared and updated annually by the Valley Metro/Regional Public Transportation Authority on behalf of MAG. In addition to providing recommendations for transit improvements over the next year, the report also includes a summary of the regional transit system's operating characteristics from Fiscal Year 2001-2002. The report was developed using input from MAG member agencies and citizen participation efforts that are normally conducted throughout the year. The Management Committee recommended acceptance of the Report. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5C. Proposal to Accelerate Certain Segments for Rubberized Asphalt

The Arizona Department of Transportation has been working with MAG member agencies to advance certain segments for the application of rubberized asphalt. These advancements would be considered under the MAG Highway Acceleration Policy adopted by the MAG Regional Council in March 2000. This policy provides for the advancement of projects by members if such accelerations do not impact the scheduled delivery of other projects. At the April Management Committee meeting, the City of Scottsdale requested amending the proposed accelerations, depending on ADOT's ability to accommodate the acceleration, with the City of Scottsdale advancing the funding for these amended accelerations. The Management Committee recommended approval of the proposed amended accelerations. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5D. Requested Changes for the MAG Regional Freeway Program

The Arizona Department of Transportation has requested that a \$1.4 million new project be added to the MAG Regional Freeway Program to provide for additional noise mitigation measures at two locations. The first location is the Price Freeway interchange at Guadalupe Road. The other location is along the Red Mountain Freeway

5C. Approve the proposed accelerations, including the amendments that the section of Loop 101 through Scottsdale from McDonald to 90th Street be accelerated from Fall 2005 to Spring 2004; that the segment from Frank Lloyd Wright to Tatum be accelerated from Fall 2005 to Fall 2004; and that the segment north of Raintree to Frank Lloyd Wright be accelerated from 2005 to 2003, depending on ADOT's ability to accommodate the acceleration, with the City of Scottsdale advancing the funding for these amended accelerations.

5D. Approval of the requested change to add the new project to provide additional noise mitigation at the Price Freeway and Guadalupe Road interchange and on the Red Mountain Freeway between Center and Mesa Drive and to provide a portion of the funding for a screen wall on the Red Mountain between Mesa Drive and Gilbert Road, with the understanding that a precedent would not be set for screen walls on the Regional Freeway System.

between Center Street and Mesa Drive. The scope of work for these locations primarily includes construction of new noise walls at an estimated cost of \$1.0 million. The proposed project also includes \$400,000 of RARF funding for a screen wall between Mesa Drive and Gilbert Road. Through an Intergovernmental Agreement with Maricopa County, an additional \$1.7 million is being provided for the remaining costs of the screen wall. A review of the net impact of these changes indicates that the cash balances for the MAG Regional Freeway Program are adequate to accommodate the requested changes. The Management Committee recommended approval of the new project, with the understanding that a precedent would not be set for screen walls. Please refer to the enclosed material.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

6. 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 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.

7. Update on the MAG High Capacity Transit Study

On October 30, 2001, the MAG Regional Council approved the IBI Group as the consultant to develop the High Capacity Transit Study. The study evaluated the possible use of existing railroad corridors for commuter rail and identifies other high capacity transit technologies, such as bus rapid transit or light rail, in other high demand corridors in the region. The planning efforts for the High Capacity Transit Study will be integrated with the development of the Regional Transportation Plan. On March 27, 2003, members of the Transportation Review Committee requested that final approval of the study be delayed to have questions addressed.

6. Information and discussion.

7. Information and discussion.

Due to the complexity of the issues addressed in the study, the questions posed by the TRC are being presented at the April Management Committee and Regional Council meetings, with approval being delayed until these questions are addressed, with possible approval in May 2003. This will allow a greater understanding of the study and outstanding issues before it proceeds. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. Regional Transportation Plan Update

An update will be provided on the development of the Regional Transportation Plan that is being developed by the Transportation Policy Committee.

8. Information and discussion.

GENERAL ITEMS

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

Each year staff develops the Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. The Work Program is reviewed by the federal agencies each April and approved by the Regional Council in May. The Transportation Review Committee (TRC) was presented with ideas for transportation work program elements in December 2002. At the March 27, 2003 meeting of the TRC, some issues were raised relating to two proposed projects for next year's work program. Some suggested that the Arterial Street Bottleneck Analysis for \$400,000 be reevaluated, and asked MAG staff to consider using local information in lieu of the study. It was also questioned whether a consultant study was necessary to update the Pedestrian Area Policies and Design Guidelines. The Management Committee recommended including the projects in the Work Program, with the understanding that the Arterial Street Bottleneck Analysis will be divided into two phases, with Phase II not proceeding without a recommendation by the Management Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

9. Approval to include the update of the Pedestrian Area Policies and Design Guidelines (\$80,000) and the Arterial Street Bottleneck Analysis (\$400,000) in the draft FY 2004 Unified Planning Work Program, with the understanding that the Arterial Street Bottleneck Analysis will be divided into two phases, with Phase II not proceeding without a recommendation by the Management Committee.

10. Maricopa County Interim Resident Population and Employment Projections

MAG is in the process of updating its Regional Transportation Plan, which needs to be completed shortly. This plan requires socioeconomic projections as input. The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) is responsible for preparing the official state and county control population control totals. However, DES has not yet prepared updated county control totals because of the unavailability of certain census data. DES developed the last set of official population projections in 1997. Because MAG needs to develop control totals for our socioeconomic projections for the Regional Transportation Plan, MAG staff has developed an updated set of population and employment projections. These projections draw upon work prepared by Arizona State University and the University of Arizona for the Department of Commerce State Economic Strategies Study, and the MAG REMI (Regional Economic Models, Inc.) model. These projections are for 2010, 2020, 2025, 2030 and 2040. These projections will become the interim control totals for a set of subregional socioeconomic projections that will be brought to the Management Committee and Regional Council in May 2003. The Management Committee recommended approval of the interim projections. Please refer to the enclosed material.

11. Legislative Update

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

12. 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

10. Accept the Maricopa County resident population and employment projections for 2010, 2020, 2025, 2030 and 2040 for use as interim projections.

11. Information and discussion.

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

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. Please refer to the enclosed material.

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.

13. Information.