

February 3, 2010

TO: Members of the MAG Transit Committee

FROM: Debbie Cotton, City of Phoenix, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Thursday, February 11, 2010, 1:30 p.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the MAG Transit Committee will be held at the time and place noted above. Please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting as parking will be validated. Bicycles can be locked in the rack at the entrance to the parking garage. Committee members or their proxies may attend in person, via videoconference or by telephone conference call. Those attending video conference must notify the MAG site three business days prior to the meeting. Those attending by telephone conference call please contact MAG offices for conference call instructions.

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 Marc Pearsall or Jason Stephens at the MAG Office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Please be advised that under procedures adopted by the MAG Regional Council on June 26, 1996, all MAG committees need to have a quorum in order to conduct business. A quorum is a simple majority of the membership or twelve people for the MAG Transit Committee. If the Transit Committee does not meet the quorum requirement, members who have arrived at the meeting will be instructed a legal meeting cannot occur and subsequently be dismissed. Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please make arrangements for a proxy from your jurisdiction to represent you. Please contact Kevin Wallace at (602) 254-6300 if you have any questions or need additional information.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Draft January 14, 2010 Minutes

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Transit Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. 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 Transit Committee requests an exception to this limit.

4. Transit Program Manager's Report

The MAG Transit Program Manager will review recent transit planning activities and upcoming agenda items for other MAG committees.

5. Programming 2009 and 2010 for the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Transit Component of the Draft 2011-2015 MAG TIP

The MAG Transit Committee is tasked with programming federal transit funds for the MAG region. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has made final apportionments for 5307 and 5309 funds in 2009, and estimates for 5307 and 5309 in 2010 are reliable. There are currently unprogrammed federal 5307 and 5309 balances in 2009 and 2010 in the FY 2008 - 2012 MAG TIP. The Transit Committee needs to approve changes, modifications, and amendments to the FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP for projects in 2009 and 2010.

The development of the DRAFT FY 2011 - 2015 TIP has been underway since summer

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

2. Approve Draft minutes of the January 14, 2010 meeting.

3. For information and discussion.

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information, discussion, and possible action to recommend approval to amend the FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP for projects to be funded with 5307 and 5309 federal funds in 2009 and 2010, and recommend approval for the transit listing of projects, excluding Light Rail projects, for inclusion in the Draft FY 2011-2015 MAG TIP.

2009. MAG has worked with the results of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) program of projects, the Transit Life Cycle Program (TLCP) priorities, the transit projects in the current 2008-2012 MAG TIP, and the current transit programming guidance to develop a listing of Transit projects for 2009-2015. Both the current amendments to the FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP and the transit listing of projects for the Draft FY 2011-2015 MAG TIP needs to be reviewed and analyzed collectively to gain a full understanding of transit projects in the region. Please note, transit projects related to Light Rail are excluded from this analysis at this time. The memorandum and list of transit projects will be mailed separately from this agenda.

6. Federal Economic Stimulus Legislation

The potential for a second round of stimulus funding has been on the agenda for information and discussion during MAG committee meetings. While the timeline and the certainty of a bill passing is still unknown at this time, it is anticipated that if a bill does pass, it will have similar or shorter spending provision deadlines than that of the original ARRA program. Unlike the original 90-day obligation period, the spending provision requires projects to be under contract within a 90-day period. The legislation in its current form allocates \$6.15 billion to transit which is approximately \$750 million less than the ARRA.

In anticipation that a second round of stimulus legislation will be passed and given the need for operating and preventative maintenance assistance regionwide, staff is recommending that funds that are required to be under contract within 90-days be allocated towards preventative maintenance, ADA operations, and ADA preventative maintenance by applying the principles outlined by RPTA for project savings from ARRA I funds. For the balance of funds the MAG Transit Committee will tasked with

6. For information, discussion, and possible action to recommend that funds that are required to be under contract within ninety days be allocated towards operations (10%), ADA operations and ADA preventative maintenance (10%), and preventative maintenance by applying the principles outlined by RPTA for project savings from ARRA I funds; and amend the FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP as appropriate.

recommending projects and priorities at a future date. Please refer to Attachment Two for the allocation guidelines recommended by the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) for project savings from ARRA I funds.

7. Regional Transit Framework Study

In cooperation with MAG member agencies, the Regional Public Transportation Authority, (RPTA) and Valley Metro Rail (METRO), MAG has developed a Regional Transit Framework to identify regional transit needs beyond the current Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The framework provides decision-makers with a comprehensive perspective on the costs, schedules, trade-offs, impacts, and policy implications of three distinct transit investment scenarios for year 2030. In addition, the framework defines more conceptual transit needs for year 2050.

The Transit Committee received a briefing on the draft Framework at the January 2010 meeting. Copies of the draft document and executive summary were distributed in the January meeting packet. The study documents are also available on the following website: www.bqaz.org. Please refer to Attachment Three for additional materials.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the Transit Committee would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting will be requested.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next regular Transit Committee meeting will be scheduled Thursday, March 11, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the MAG Office, Saguaro Room.

7. Recommendation to accept the findings of the Regional Transit Framework as the public transportation framework for the MAG region; accept the enclosed Illustrative Transit Corridors map for inclusion as unfunded regional transit illustrative corridors in the Regional Transportation Plan; and recommend future planning actions identified in the study for consideration through the MAG Unified Planning Work Program process.

8. For information and discussion.

9. For information.