

November 12, 2009

TO: Members of the MAG Management Committee

FROM: Dennis Smith, Executive Director

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ACTION TAKEN ON AGENDA ITEM #5G ON THE
NOVEMBER 18, 2009, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Since mailing the MAG Management Committee agenda for the November 18, 2009, meeting, action has been taken on agenda item #5G, Consultant Selection for the Non-Recurring Congestion Study. On November 10, 2009, the MAG Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee met and recommended that Lee Engineering, LLC be selected to perform the Non-Recurring Congestion Study at an amount not to exceed \$300,000. Supporting material regarding this action is attached. Please contact the MAG office if you have any questions.

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review

DATE:

November 12, 2009

SUBJECT:

Consultant Selection for the Non-Recurring Congestion Study

SUMMARY:

The FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2008, included a study on Non-Recurring Congestion (NRC) to be carried out as a consultant study with a budget of \$300,000. The study scope was developed by the MAG Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee. The study goal is to better understand the magnitude of NRC in the MAG region and determine possible ways to mitigate it. A request for proposals for a consultant to conduct the study was announced by MAG on August 31, 2009, and six proposals were received from the following: ARCADIS Inc., Cambridge Systematics, Inc., Lee Engineering, LLC, Morrison Maierle, Inc., PBS&J Inc., and Telvent Farradyne, Inc. A multi agency proposal evaluation panel reviewed the proposals and interviewed two of the consultant teams, Cambridge Systematics, Inc. and Lee Engineering, LLC, and recommended to MAG that Lee Engineering, LLC, be selected to conduct the study at an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

Non-Recurring Congestion on both freeway and arterial systems is defined as the unexpected traffic delays caused primarily by crashes, traffic incidents, vehicle breakdowns, road construction activities, special events, extreme weather events, etc. In addition, NRC is also caused by rubbernecking motorists, police investigations at crash sites, and in some instances by electronic Dynamic Message Signs that display long messages. A number of existing programs in the region support traffic management functions that aim to mitigate the overall impact of NRC on traffic operations.

A review of all 2006 police reported crashes in the Phoenix metropolitan region indicate that nearly 50 percent of the 21,000 freeway crashes occurred during the AM and PM peak traffic periods. In comparison, nearly 55 percent of 73,000 reported crashes on the arterial street system occurred during peak traffic periods. Nearly two-thirds of all travel in the MAG region occurs on the arterial street system, therefore, it is possible that arterial travel is much more affected by NRC than freeway travel. The countermeasures for NRC that are sought through this project may require a special focus on solutions that are applicable on the arterial system.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None has been received.

PROS & CONS:

PROS: The study findings would help identify effective strategies to minimize the impact of non-recurring congestion on the arterial and freeway systems in the region.

CONS: None.

TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

TECHNICAL: The implementation of the countermeasures that are identified as suitable for reducing congestion would have to be adopted and implemented by local agencies on arterials and by the Arizona Department of Transportation on the freeways.

POLICY: Additional resources may be needed for implementing the countermeasures identified through this study for recovering lost roadway capacity due to traffic congestion.

ACTION NEEDED:

Recommend approval to select Lee Engineering, LLC to perform the Non-Recurring Congestion Study at an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

MAG Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee: On November 10, 2009, the MAG Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee recommended approval of the firm Lee Engineering, LLC to perform the Non-Recurring Congestion Study at a cost not to exceed \$300,000.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Lydia Warnick for Scott Nodes, ADOT | Nicolaas Swart, Maricopa County |
| Soyoung Ahn, ASU | Derrick Bailey, City of Mesa |
| Gus Woodman, City of Avondale | Ron Amaya, City of Peoria |
| # Thomas Chlebanowski, Town of Buckeye | Marshall Riegel, City of Phoenix |
| Mike Mah, City of Chandler | Bob Ciotti, Phoenix Public Transit |
| * Jenna Mitchell, DPS | Michael Pacelli, Town of Queen Creek |
| Jerry Horacek City of El Mirage | Bruce Dressel, City of Scottsdale |
| Jennifer Brown, FHWA | John Abraham, City of Surprise |
| Kurt Sharp, Town of Gilbert | Jim Decker, City of Tempe |
| Debbie Albert, City of Glendale | Arkady Bernshteyn, Valley Metro Rail |
| Luke Albert, City of Goodyear | |

* Members neither present nor represented by proxy. + Attended by Videoconference
Attended by Audioconference

On October 8, 2009, the proposals were reviewed by a multi agency proposal evaluation panel. On October 15, 2009, the panel interviewed two of the consultant teams, Cambridge Systematics, Inc. and Lee Engineering, LLC, and recommended to MAG that Lee Engineering, LLC, be selected to conduct the study at an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION PANEL

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| John Abraham – City of Surprise | Mike Mah – City of Chandler |
| Jennifer Brown - FHWA | Scott Nodes – ADOT |
| Jeff Jenq - City of Mesa | Nicolaas Swart - MCDOT |
| Sarath Joshua – MAG | |

CONTACT PERSON:

Sarath Joshua (602) 254-6300.