



Executive Director's Report

The August Regional Council meeting had an abbreviated agenda via telephone conference to accommodate members' attendance at services for the late Senator John McCain. Senator McCain was a strong supporter of MAG and we say farewell with a heavy heart.

Senator McCain was the latest in a legacy of Senators from Arizona who rose to prominence on the national scene. He clearly loved his adopted state of Arizona and took every opportunity to showcase this great state. One project he was committed to was Rio Salado Reimagined, designed to bring life back to the Salt River as a uniting element for the region from Mesa to Buckeye.

MAG and our member agencies are engaged in many efforts along the river to create quality places for work, living and recreation while improving the ecological sustainability of the corridor. This will not happen overnight, or even over a few years. It will take dedication and perseverance—two of many qualities exemplified by Senator McCain—to deliver Rio Salado Reimagined. Senator McCain's vision can be brought to life as one of his enduring legacies.

For more information, please contact Eric Anderson, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.

Meeting Report for Wednesday, August 29, 2018



Action Items

Deletion of Glendale Light Rail Extension

After approving the consent agenda, the MAG Regional Council heard one action item. The MAG Regional Council approved the first step in the process to delete the planned light rail extension to Glendale from the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). This light rail extension, included in the 2003-adopted RTP, was envisioned to extend west from 19th Avenue to downtown Glendale. In December 2017, the Glendale City Council voted to discontinue participation in the West Phoenix/Central Glendale project and requested that the RTP reflect that decision. A major amendment to the RTP is required to satisfy such a request.

The project is funded through federal, regional and local sources. Valley Metro's FY 2019 Transit Life Cycle Program has moved Glendale's portion of Proposition

400 funding previously allocated to this project, approximately \$51 million, to the program's fund balance.

The next step is consultation with the Regional Public Transportation Authority (Valley Metro RPTA), Arizona State Transportation Board, and Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, as well as Native American Indian communities, cities, and towns in Maricopa County as required by state statute. Consideration of approving the amendment would take place during the September and October 2018 MAG committee process. In December 2018, MAG would anticipate a finding of air quality conformity of the amended RTP.

For more information, please contact Audra Koester Thomas, MAG Transportation Planning Program Manager, (602) 254-6300.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the MAG Regional Council will be held on Wednesday, September 26, 2018, at 11:30 a.m. at the MAG offices, 302 N. 1st Avenue, Phoenix, second floor, Saguaro Room. Agenda items are expected to include an update on Proposition 400 extension tasks and a discussion of MAG policy principles. Additional agenda items are pending.