

Transportation Bill Passes Legislature Gives Go-Ahead on Sales Tax Extension

The Arizona State Legislature has approved a bill that authorizes an election in November 2004 on the extension of the half-cent sales tax for transportation. If voters approve the extension, it will pave the way for the implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan developed by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) through its Transportation Policy Committee (TPC).

“This is a tremendous success for the citizens of this region, the business coalition, and all local governments,” said MAG Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr, mayor of Queen Creek. “In fact, all of Arizona wins, because a good transportation system serves as an economic building block for the entire state,” she said.

Mayor Feldman-Kerr said the legislative approval is the second of what she hopes will be three major triumphs for the Plan.

“Our first success was getting the Plan unanimously through the MAG process,” said Mayor



Governor Janet Napolitano is surrounded by mayors, legislators, business representatives and other transportation advocates at a ceremonial signing of HB 2456.

Feldman-Kerr. “Our second success is getting the state legislature to authorize a public vote on the extension of the half-cent sales tax for transportation. Our third success is yet to come – securing a key funding source needed to implement the Plan,” she said.

The bill passed both houses during the first week of February, with a 50-8 vote in the House and a 25-3 vote in the Senate. The bill met with some early difficulty in getting to the floor of the Senate, stalling for several days in the Senate Finance Committee, where

some members wanted a separate vote on the light rail component of the Plan. Another proposal in that committee would have imposed the tax without a vote by the public.

The logjam was broken when a coalition of TPC members, business representatives, and elected officials conceded to the Senate’s insistence on a November election, allowing the bill to move forward – with the Plan intact – to the floor for a vote.

Transportation Bill Passes
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From the Chair



Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr,
Queen Creek

In all my time in public service, a few moments come close to the unparalleled pride I felt in seeing the state legislature pass a bill allowing voters to decide their transportation future. My gratification came not only from the hours of personal investment in the process, but because I was on hand to witness the result of one of the most amazing collaborations in state history.

Perhaps the moment of greatest clarity came with the appearance of dozens of elected officials, business representatives, citizens and advocates with disabilities who attended the legislative hearings on this issue. The range of individuals present was incredible, from the Valley's top CEOs to those representing the most disadvantaged communities – all in one room, to speak with one voice.

There were advocates like Donna Kruck, director of Arizona Bridge to Independent Living, and Mary Hartle-Smith, a representative for the National Federation of the Blind of Arizona, who stayed past nine o'clock one evening in the

hope that they would be given the opportunity to testify in favor of the Plan before a Senate committee. While neither ultimately was given the opportunity, their dedication was just one example of the exceptional commitment so many have had throughout this process.

It is impossible to thank everyone who has worked so diligently to develop the Regional Transportation Plan and to guide it through the legislative process. But we are indebted to House Transportation Chair Gary Pierce for his leadership in sponsoring House Bill 2456, and to the legislative members who supported that bill. We are also grateful to the broader business community, including all those businesses represented through Maricopa 2020, the Greater Phoenix Business Coalition, Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Greater Phoenix Leadership, WESTMARC, East Valley Partnership and the many others who worked with us throughout this process.

I especially want to thank my fellow MAG member agencies and their staffs, who have worked hard for almost four years on this process, beginning with the first transportation studies that were conducted in preparation for the Plan's development.

I am glad to be part of this historic effort. Just as we are enjoying the benefits of a transportation system envisioned by Valley leaders 20 years ago, I am confident that come November, the next generation of residents will be given the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the system we envision today. 

REGIONAL council members

- ◆ **Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr**
Queen Creek, *Chair*
- ◆ **Mayor Keno Hawker**
Mesa, *Vice-Chair*
- ◆ **Mayor John Keegan**
Peoria, *Treasurer*
- ◆ **Mayor J. Woodfin Thomas**
Litchfield Park, *At-Large Member*
- ◆ **Mayor Mary Manross**
Scottsdale, *At-Large Member*
- ◆ **Mayor Joan Shafer**
Surprise, *At-Large Member*
- Mayor Douglas Coleman**
Apache Junction
- Mayor Ron Drake**
Avondale
- Mayor Dusty Hull**
Buckeye
- Mayor Edward C. Morgan**
Carefree
- Vice Mayor Ralph Mozilo**
Cave Creek
- Mayor Boyd Dunn**
Chandler
- Mayor Robert Robles**
El Mirage
- Mayor Wally Nichols**
Fountain Hills
- Mayor Christopher Riggs**
Gila Bend
- Governor Richard P. Narcia**
Gila River Indian Community
- Mayor Steve Berman**
Gilbert
- Mayor Elaine M. Scruggs**
Glendale
- Mayor James Cavanaugh**
Goodyear
- Mayor Vinicio Alvarez**
Guadalupe
- Supervisor Max W. Wilson**
Maricopa County
- Mayor Edward F. Lowry**
Paradise Valley
- Mayor Phil Gordon**
Phoenix
- President Joni Ramos**
Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community
- Mayor Neil G. Giuliano**
Tempe
- Mayor Adolfo Gamez**
Tolleson
- Mayor Lon McDermott**
Wickenburg
- Mayor Bryan Hackbarth**
Youngtown
- Rusty Gant and Joe Lane**
Arizona Department of Transportation
- F. Rockne Arnett**
Citizens Transportation
Oversight Committee
- ◆ Executive Committee Members

www.mag.maricopa.gov/members.cms

MAGAZine

MAGAZine is a quarterly newsletter of the Maricopa Association of Governments. It focuses on the issues and concerns of the cities, towns and tribal communities of Maricopa County. If you know of a friend or colleague who would like to receive MAGAZine, please call the MAG office, (602) 254-6300.

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Regional Council Chair

Dennis Smith
Executive Director

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Voices from the Council



I promise the people of Phoenix that we will all work together. We may disagree at times, on rare occasions we may even get upset, but we will keep coming back to the table. We will work cooperatively and we will build consensus. And we will be respectful in everything we do, to everyone we meet, and throughout the course of our time together.

– **Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, during his inaugural address January 5, 2004.**

We recognized that no one mode of transportation is going to be the answer for the entire region, so we had to work and we had to compromise and we had to take limited resources and allocate them in a way that met the demands. And in the end, everyone who came to the table with their requests for what was needed in their part of the region, left the table having received that component (for which) they were asking.

– **TPC Chair Neil Giuliano, mayor of Tempe, at a legislative luncheon to provide information on the Regional Transportation Plan.**



The completion of the San Tan and giving us an opportunity to complete some roads and intersections. By and large, cities right now are awfully short of money and the building of roads is hard to finance. So there is money now that's going to be there for us to make the transportation system work.

– **TPC Member Steven Berman, mayor of Gilbert, on how the Regional Transportation Plan benefits the Town of Gilbert.**

I think it is important to the region because the issues facing the region are large and they are issues that affect all communities. What happens in one community really affects the health of others, so we need to look more holistically... The fact that we were successful in coming together (on the Regional Transportation Plan) I think gave us a lot of confidence that we can do it on all other issues.

– **Scottsdale Mayor and TPC Member Mary Manross on the cooperative development of the Regional Transportation Plan.**



Ozone Plan Includes Redesignation Request

A new Ozone Maintenance Plan prepared by the Maricopa Association of Governments includes a request that the Environmental Protection Agency change the region's designation from a "nonattainment" area to one of "attainment" for ozone pollution.

Nonattainment is a classification given to areas that are unable to meet, or "attain," federal requirements for pollution levels. But with the Valley's eight-year track record of clean data for ozone, a redesignation appears a likely possibility.

"No violations of the one-hour ozone standard have occurred since 1996," said MAG Environmental Director Lindy Bauer. "With the submission of the redesignation request and maintenance plan, the

region has satisfied all of the requirements necessary to change our classification to one of attainment," she said.

The Valley is currently considered a "Serious Area" for the one-hour ozone standard. In a finding May 30, 2001, the EPA determined that the Valley has attained the standard, a necessary step in the process of redesignation. In order to redesignate the region, EPA must determine, among other criteria, that the improvement in air quality is due to permanent and enforceable reductions in emissions. ♪

A copy of the Ozone Maintenance Plan and redesignation request is available for public review on the MAG Web site at www.mag.maricopa.gov or by calling (602) 254-6300.

Regional Profile:

Mayor John Keegan a Real Cannon



Peoria Mayor John Keegan

You might say life is booming for Peoria Mayor John Keegan these days. He is enjoying his third term as mayor, has a new grandson to pamper, and serves on the boards of a number of civic organizations. Oh, and he has a new cannon to play with.

Wait a minute – a *cannon*?

“Last fall I bought a cannon. I bought a reproduction, full-scale, Civil War cannon. I haven’t taken my grandson out yet, but I have three boys and a son-in-law and we take it out and actually shoot it from time to time,” Keegan says with a laugh. “It’s a very, very, bad pun but fairly appropriate to say it is a real blast.”

Perhaps his fascination for things military stems from his 27 years of service in the U.S. Army and U.S. Naval Reserve, from which Mayor Keegan recently retired with the rank of commander.

Mayor Keegan also served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 1991 to 1995.

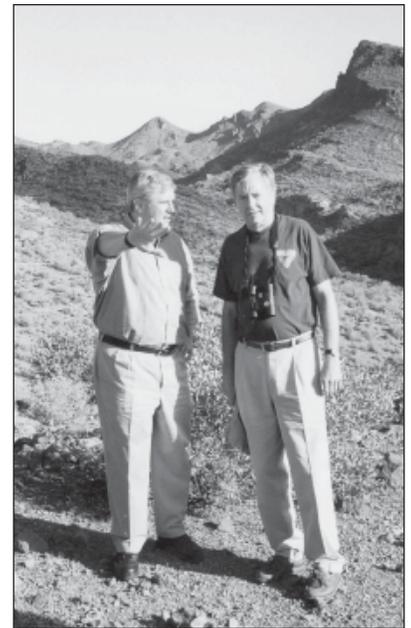


Keegan attributes his military service with giving him a better appreciation of the issues surrounding another of his passions – preserving Luke Air Force Base. Keegan calls Luke important not only for our national defense, but also for Arizona as the largest single-site employer in the state. Keegan has been instrumental in helping to secure more than \$27 million in federal appropriations to buy land and development rights around Luke to preserve vital areas and provide access for fighter planes in and out of the base.

“We had spent probably 20 years talking about the fact that there was a problem at Luke, and finally, within the last couple of years, I’ve actually seen some real progress being made. And I’m fairly proud of the fact that I feel like I’ve contributed to some of that progress,” says Keegan, who spent two years bringing pressure on the issue to Congress by working with the Arizona delegation to have the preservation of Luke addressed.

“For the first time in my recollection, you had all members of the congressional delegation, both House and Senate, Republicans and Democrats, to go on record writing letters in support of Luke. That’s a level of unanimity that I had not seen from our congressional delegation for a very long time,” he says.

On the regional front, the key issue occupying Keegan’s attention is the passage of the half-cent sales tax for transportation.



Mayor Keegan meets with Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt in fall 2000 to discuss preservation of federal lands.

“Our transportation system is more than just a method for moving people. It is fundamental to our economic generation and therefore fundamental to the entire quality of life in the metropolitan area,” he states.

Other focal points for Keegan are growth management and the need for better partnerships among all levels of government when it comes to land use.

“Really, the role of state and federal government is more to warehouse lands, whereas the role of the city government is to develop and manage land use,” says the mayor. “And right now I see a major disconnect between those that are just warehousing the land and those who actually have to determine what use its going to be put to,” he says.

Keegan holds a bachelor’s degree

Mayor Keegan continued on page 5

Mayor Keegan (continued from page 4)

in civil engineering from Arizona State University and a master's degree in urban planning from Pacific Western University. He has conducted post-graduate studies in strategic planning at the Naval War College and Harvard University. He owns an engineering and planning consulting firm, and enjoys spending time with his wife, Lisa Graham-Keegan, their six children, and their 20-month old grandson. When asked what he expects to be doing in 10 years, the mayor says whatever it is, it will be in Arizona.

"My grandson is a sixth-generation Arizonan, so we have a long-term commitment to Arizona. I hope that I'm still actively involved in the community. We have term limits in Peoria, so I



know that I will not be mayor, but beyond that I don't know if I have specific plans."

Keegan doesn't rule out the possibility of additional public service. "If the opportunity were there and I felt like I could provide something to the community in terms of additional service, I would consider it," he says.

In the meantime, Keegan is enjoying his work as mayor, where he says he hopes to have a

positive effect on Peoria residents' day-to-day lives.

"At city hall you affect people – the quality of their life – every day. When they turn on the water spigot to brush their teeth in the morning, when they get in their car and drive to work, the streets they use, the water services – all those things are provided by municipal government, and it has a major effect on people," he says.

When asked what one gift he would give the Valley if he could, Keegan replies, "Seventy degree weather in August."

This last was said wistfully from a location in Washington, D.C. – where the temperature at the time of the interview was 15 degrees and the wind chill minus five. 

Region Receives Homeless Funds

The Maricopa region will receive nearly \$16 million in grant funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), following a cooperative application process spearheaded by the MAG Regional Continuum of Care Committee on Homelessness. The money will be used to provide emergency shelter, vital support services and permanent housing to homeless individuals and families throughout the Valley.

The \$15.9 million in funding is part of more than \$26 million awarded to Arizona through HUD's Stuart B. McKinney grants, which provide permanent and transitional housing to homeless people, as well as funding support services such as job training, health care, mental health, counseling, substance abuse treatment and child care.



Regional Continuum of Care Chair Ernest Calderón (center) receives a symbolic \$15.9 million check from HUD Representatives Ken Einbinder (left) and Martin Mitchell.

"We'd like to thank each of the area providers for their ongoing work to end homelessness and for their collaboration in developing a consolidated application for the Stuart B. McKinney funds," said Continuum of Care Committee Chair Ernest Calderón. "We are proud to be part of the process, along with MAG Human Services Manager Debbra Determan and her staff, to leverage federal funds to assist with services to homeless individuals and families," Calderón said. 



Transportation Bill Passes (continued from page 1)

Although disappointed that the later date means a delay in jump-starting the economy, TPC Chair Neil Giuliano said he is glad that voters will be given the chance to decide their transportation future.

“The good news for the region is that voters will have the opportunity to vote on a comprehensive, multimodal Regional Transportation Plan,” said Giuliano. “That was our overarching goal, and we are pleased that the Plan as we envisioned it will move forward as the basis on which voters determine whether to extend the half-cent sales tax,” he said.

“Most importantly, the legislation will provide financial and performance oversight of the entire plan, ensuring that voters get what they vote for – on time and on budget,”

– J. Doug Pruitt, Chairman Maricopa 2020

TPC member Peggy Bilsten, vice mayor of Phoenix, said the success is one that can be attributed to numerous individuals and entities who worked to develop the Plan.

“From the beginning, this effort has been about partnerships. MAG opened up its process to the broader community,” she said. “That is why, in the end, you had such a solid coalition of folks who pulled together to shepherd the Plan through the process. From the business community to citizens to the

legislative leadership, the reason there was so much support for the Plan is because everyone’s input had been encouraged, considered and included,” said Bilsten.

J. Doug Pruitt, Chairman of Maricopa 2020, a coalition of businesses supporting the half-cent sales tax continuation, praised accountability measures included in the bill.

“Most importantly, the legislation will provide financial and performance oversight of the entire plan, ensuring that voters get what they vote for – on time and on budget,” said Pruitt.

Valerie Manning, president and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, was another active participant throughout the development of the Regional Transportation Plan.

“Good planning takes preparation and that’s why so many people and organizations have spent countless hours over the last couple years meeting and reaching out to the community to develop an effective transportation plan for the future,” said Manning.

TPC Vice Chair Elaine Scruggs said the focus can now shift from the legislative process to informing residents about what is in the Regional Transportation Plan.

“Our role will be to present information about the Plan so that residents have the factual information they need to make a decision on whether to continue



Transportation Policy Committee Chair Neil Giuliano is interviewed about the plan.

the funding transportation in our region,” said Mayor Scruggs.

The \$15.8 billion Regional Transportation Plan will serve as the blueprint for transportation investments for the next 20 years. An extension of the half-cent sales tax is expected to raise \$9 billion over the life of the tax extension to implement the projects in the Plan, including new and widened freeways, additional HOV lanes and traffic interchanges, improved streets and intersections, 27.5 miles of extensions to the light rail system, and a regional bus system with more routes across the region. It also includes more transportation choices, including a tripling of vanpool and ADA Dial-a-Ride services, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and rideshare programs that reduce travel and improve air quality. 🏞️

For more information about projects in the MAG Regional Transportation Plan visit: www.LetsKeepMoving.com or call (602) 254-6300.



Legislative Luncheon

A Regional Transportation Plan Day at the Legislature was held January 14th as part of a luncheon sponsored by Maricopa 2020. MAG, Valley Metro and the Arizona Department of Transportation presented information and had experts on hand to answer questions about the Regional Transportation Plan.



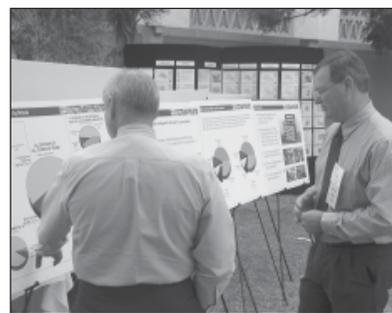
Legislators learn more about the Regional Transportation Plan during a luncheon at the state capitol. Displays providing information on the Plan were set up on the lawn in front of the House of Representatives.



House Transportation Chair Gary Pierce sponsored the legislation calling for a vote to continue the half-cent sales tax for transportation.



Above: State Representative Ray Barnes reviews information about the economic impact of the Plan.



Above left: Scottsdale Mayor Mary Manross. Above: Gilbert Mayor Steve Berman. Left: State Senator Jack Harper.

Right: Marty Shultz, Transportation Policy Committee member.



Left to Right: MAG Transportation Director Eric Anderson, MAG Executive Director Dennis Smith, and Representative Gary Pierce.

Groundbreaking Moment

Former Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza and a group of Valley officials made transportation history on November 6, 2003 – breaking ground on the site of the first official construction project for the new light rail system.

The 48th Street bridge reconstruction project will provide construction access across the Grand Canal to the light rail maintenance and storage facility for the 20-mile starter segment of the light rail system, as well as for possible future extensions. All light rail operators will start their shifts

from the maintenance facility and all cars will be stored at the facility when not being operated.

“The page is turning from the planning and design chapter to the construction chapter and we’re gaining momentum,” said Mayor Rimsza during the ceremony. “We’re moving from light rail as a concept to light rail as a reality.”

At one point during the festivities, Mayor Rimsza, who spearheaded the successful effort to bring light rail to the Valley, climbed aboard a bulldozer, waved his shovel, and jubilantly declared, “We did it!”

In addition to the 20-mile starter segment of the system, there are 27.5 additional miles of light rail/high capacity

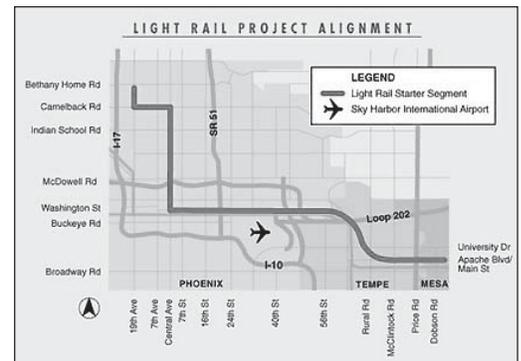


Conceptual illustration of planned light rail vehicles as they would appear on Jefferson Street in downtown Phoenix.

improvements in the new Regional Transportation Plan, which is expected to go before voters in November. 

For more information on the light rail project, visit www.valleymetro.org.

Wulf Grote,
Assistant Executive
Director, Valley
Metro Rail



Former Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza celebrates with former City of Phoenix Public Transit Director Ed Zuercher.



Representatives from the four cities initiating light rail participate in the historic groundbreaking. From left to right: Mesa Councilman Mike Whalen, Tempe Councilman Len Copple, Glendale Vice Mayor Tom Eggleston, former Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza.

Desert Peaks Nominations Sought

The Maricopa Association of Governments is seeking nominations for its restructured 2004 Desert Peaks Awards.

The Awards were established in 1998 to recognize excellence in regional cooperation, and already have made their mark as one of the most prestigious regional honors bestowed in the state. The awards are intended to recognize individuals and local governments that have demonstrated a commitment to regionalism through partnerships or individual efforts.

Awards are distributed in five categories: Public Partnership, Public-Private Partnership, Professional Service, Regional Partnership and Regional Excellence.

Nomination forms will be available in mid-February through the Maricopa Association of Governments, (602) 254-6300, or via the MAG Web site, www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=385

Entries will be due by 5:00 p.m. March 29, 2004. Award recipients will be announced at a Desert Peaks Awards Reception June 23, 2004.



Regional Council Retreat Focuses on Future

The MAG Regional Council met in its annual retreat in January to develop priorities for the FY 2005 work program and to discuss ideas about future partnering opportunities with the business community.

“Working with the private sector has proven to be extremely successful in the development of a new Regional Transportation Plan, and that process of collaboration can be used as a model for additional regional projects,” said MAG Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr, mayor of Queen Creek. “Among the ideas we explored at the retreat were to look at how we can work together to develop a more competitive regional community,” she said.

Regional Council members proposed holding a business summit next year to help set objectives for the region, with potential recommendations from the summit brought forward to a Regional Town Hall for further action.

One method of developing information about the region may come through a Regional Annual Report, which could measure regional factors such as growth, urban form, transportation, regional infrastructure, housing, environment and social well-being.

“The annual report could provide important information about our region that we can use in partnership with the business

community to set strategic direction. This direction will help us build a regional community that can compete with other regions in the nation, especially the West,” said Feldman-Kerr.

At the retreat, special recognition was given to members of the Transportation Policy Committee for their work in developing the new Regional Transportation Plan and to House Transportation Committee Chair Gary Pierce, who sponsored legislation



The second annual Regional Town Hall is planned for 2004.

“Working with the private sector has proven to be extremely successful in the development of the Regional Transportation Plan.”

– MAG Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr

based on the Plan to continue the half-cent sales tax for transportation. Also acknowledged were members of Maricopa 2020, which represents numerous Valley businesses, as well as intergovernmental representatives from MAG member agencies, who worked hand-in-hand with the business community and state legislature to move the transportation bill through the legislative process. 

Emergency Notification System May Save Lives

Valley residents can now be quickly warned when their lives or homes are in danger, through a new computerized telephone dialing system that can contact large numbers of households in just a matter of minutes.



Regional Council Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr addresses the media while Mayor Keno Hawker of Mesa and CENS Program Manager Liz Hunt listen.

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), in partnership with the City of Phoenix as the contract agent for the Valley 9-1-1 system, and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, announced the launch of the Community Emergency Notification System (CENS) during a press conference in December. The system became fully operational January 1, 2004.



Mesa Fire Chief Harry Beck chairs the MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team.

“CENS is designed to rapidly notify a predefined area of an emergency by sending a recorded message through the telephone system, informing residents of the nature of the emergency and what steps to take to address it,” said MAG Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr during the press conference. “Potential uses for CENS could include warnings of major floods or fires, hazardous

materials or hostage situations, police incidents, endangered children or elderly, or any imminent threats to life or property,” she said.

Relying on the 9-1-1 database, CENS uses a special technology that allows emergency personnel to draw a line around a specific area on a map, then launch the message to only the telephone numbers in that area. Valley fire and law enforcement agencies said the system will increase their effectiveness in emergencies.

“The beauty of the CENS system is that you can choose any sized area – whether it’s two blocks, two miles, 20 miles, or the entire region – to make notification calls,” said Mesa Fire Chief Harry Beck, who chairs the MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team.

Residents receive the recorded message in both English and Spanish, or other languages as appropriate. Recipients have the option of replaying the message as many times as necessary. The system can make up to 1,000 calls per minute.

“Due to the speed and efficiency of the system, residents can act quickly to reduce or eliminate risks associated with the emergency,” said Feldman-Kerr. “In doing so, it also reduces the number of response personnel required to perform the task, allowing them instead to focus on the emergency,” she said.

Any public safety agency in the region can activate the system, which will be used only for emergency incidents that pose a danger to life or property. The system is designed to call back three times if the line is busy or if there is no answer. If the system reaches voice mail or an answering machine, it leaves the recorded message.

Text messages are sent to hearing impaired residents who rely on telecommunications devices such as TTY or TDD. For phones with Caller ID, the display shows “Priority Alert” or “Alert Call.” Due to the location of the service provider, the display shows a Colorado area code.

CENS will work for both published and non-published numbers. It won’t work in homes without telephones or for cellular phones, although developers are working to create the ability to send out the message on cell phones using text message technology.

Funding to implement the system and approximately three years of operating costs comes from a \$2.5 million award given to MAG by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. The funding was the result of a settlement between the state and an Arizona company for hazardous waste violations. 

For more information about CENS visit: www.mag.maricopa.gov/committee.cms?item=84

Unforeseen Value Found in MAG Videoconferencing System

With a clang, a cell door opens at the Madison Street Jail in Phoenix. A defendant walks out, escorted by a Maricopa County Sheriff's Officer. It's time for the defendant's arraignment in the town of Guadalupe. But instead of heading for a courtroom that is miles away, they take a short walk down the hall to a conference room.

Across town, Judge Victor Ortiz also passes up the courtroom, instead entering a Guadalupe conference room where he sits down and conducts the arraignment – via videoconference. This scene is repeated each week on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Town of Guadalupe.

"When the MAG videoconferencing unit was installed

in our town, we were aware that some other cities were using videoconferencing for court proceedings," said Guadalupe Court Administrator Marilyn Trujillo, explaining that Maricopa County, Mesa and Scottsdale helped Guadalupe get started with its court videoconferencing efforts.



Victor Ortiz, Guadalupe's Magistrate, said the videoconferencing system offered a valuable opportunity. "The transition has been very



Judge Victor Ortiz conducts an arraignment via videoconference.

smooth and we had lots of help from the County Sheriff's Office, from MAG and from our staff here in Guadalupe," he said. "We have saved a great deal in transportation costs and jail fees. Conducting arraignments via videoconference also provides greater security for the officers," he added.

Guadalupe Town Manager Tom Morales said he also had not anticipated the value to be found in using videoconferencing. "Using videoconferencing for our court arraignments has been a success. We are very happy with it," he said.

More than 100 defendants have been arraigned via videoconference since April. Guadalupe now arraigns about 90 percent of its defendants through the MAG Videoconferencing System. Cases requiring victim testimony are done in person at the Guadalupe courtroom. Sentencing is also done in person. 

For more information about the MAG Regional Videoconferencing System visit: www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=403

MAG Moment



Governor Janet Napolitano honors mayors of East Valley cities for cooperating in the first Unity March in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 31, 2004.

February	March	April
<p>4th 10:00 AM, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee</p> <p>4th 1:30 PM, Standard Specifications and Details Committee</p> <p>5th 1:30 PM, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>10th 1:30 PM, Street Committee</p> <p>10th 1:30 PM, Pedestrian Working Group</p> <p>11th 12:00 PM, Management Committee</p> <p>17th 1:00 PM, Planners Stakeholders Group</p> <p>18th 2:00 PM, Building Codes Committee</p> <p>18th 4:00 PM, Transportation Policy Committee</p> <p>19th 10:00 AM, Telecommunications Advisory Group</p> <p>19th 1:00 PM, Human Services Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>19th 2:30 PM, Domestic Violence Council</p> <p>25th 5:00 PM, Regional Council</p> <p>26th 10:00 AM, Transportation Review Committee</p> <p>26th 1:30 PM, Regional Continuum of Care Committee on Homelessness</p>	<p>3rd 10:00 AM, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee</p> <p>3rd 1:30 PM, Standard Specifications and Details Committee</p> <p>4th 1:30 PM, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>9th 1:30 PM, Pedestrian Working Group</p> <p>9th 1:30 PM, Street Committee</p> <p>10th 12:00 PM, Management Committee</p> <p>16th 10:00 AM, Elderly Mobility Stakeholders Group</p> <p>16th 1:30 PM, Regional Bicycle Task Force</p> <p>17th 2:00 PM, Building Codes Committee</p> <p>17th 4:00 PM, Transportation Policy Committee</p> <p>18th 10:00 AM, Telecommunications Advisory Group</p> <p>18th 1:00 PM, Human Services Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>24th 5:00 PM, Regional Council</p> <p>25th 10:00 AM, Transportation Review Committee</p> <p>25th 1:30 PM, Regional Continuum of Care Committee on Homelessness</p> <p>30th 1:30 PM, Pedestrian Working Group</p>	<p>1st 1:30 PM, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>7th 10:00 AM, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee</p> <p>7th 1:30 PM, Standard Specifications and Details Committee</p> <p>8th 1:00 PM, Human Services Coordinating Committee</p> <p>13th 1:30 PM, Pedestrian Working Group</p> <p>13th 1:30 PM, Street Committee</p> <p>14th 12:00 PM, Management Committee</p> <p>15th 10:00 AM, Telecommunications Advisory Group</p> <p>15th 1:00 PM, Human Services Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>15th 2:30 PM, Domestic Violence Council</p> <p>21st 2:00 PM, Building Codes Committee</p> <p>21st 4:00 PM, Transportation Policy Committee</p> <p>22nd 12:30 PM, Regional Continuum of Care Committee on Homelessness</p> <p>28th 5:00 PM, Regional Council</p> <p>29th 10:00 AM, Transportation Review Committee</p>
<p>The dates, times and locations of all meetings may change. Other committees not listed here may meet during these months.</p> <p>For confirmation call (602) 254-6300 or visit the Web site: www.mag.maricopa.gov/meetings.cms</p>	<p>All meetings, unless indicated otherwise, will be held in the conference rooms located in the MAG offices on the second floor of the Compass Bank Building, 302 N. 1st Avenue.</p>	<p>Parking is available under the building. Please ask for parking validation at the meeting. Transit tickets will be provided for those using transit. Bike racks are available at the entrance to the parking garage.</p>

The *MAGAZine* newsletter is available in electronic format and in Spanish on the MAG Web site: www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=433



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