

March 17, 2009

TO: Members of the Transportation Review Committee

FROM: Eileen O. Yazzie, Transportation Programming Manager

SUBJECT: FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2009 CLOSEOUT – PROJECT REQUEST

The Closeout process for MAG region federal funds in federal fiscal year (FFY) 2009 is underway. To submit a project that can utilize federal funds for the Federal FY2009 Closeout, please complete the attached Project Request Closeout form. ***Project Request Forms for Federal FY 2009 Closeout are due on April 20, 2009 at noon/12:00 p.m. No late requests will be accepted.*** The Project Request Form must be transmitted by a member of the MAG Management Committee, Transportation Review Committee, or Intergovernmental Affairs Group.

The primary criteria for the projects submitted for closeout funding is that they must be able to obligate federal funds by the end of FFY 2009. This means that the projects submitted must be able to complete the necessary design, right-of-way, utility, and environmental clearances required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in order for them to 'obligate' the funding for the project. These requirements are administered by the ADOT Local Governments section and have to be approved/completed by them prior to the end of FFY 2009, September 30, 2009. ADOT and FHWA work to have the required clearances completed by early September 2009. MAG staff will review the projects submitted for Closeout funds with ADOT to ensure that the projects can be obligated before the end of FFY 2009.

DRAFT FY 2009 MAG Federal Fund Programming Principles

The 2009 Closeout process will follow the DRAFT FY 2009 MAG Federal Fund Programming Principles (Principles) which set forth guidelines on project selection for available federal funds.

Per the DRAFT Principles:

- 700.2 Projects submitted for use of Closeout funds will be selected based on the following three priorities in order:
- a. Advancing projects (or phases of projects) of the same mode, that are already programmed in the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with MAG federal funds from a future year, in chronological order of the TIP;
 - b. Adding additional federal funds to an existing, unobligated project, up to the originally programmed, federal-aid maximum, or the maximum established by the mode in the RTP, whichever is less.
 - c. New projects

MAG staff will continue to work on the Closeout and update the MAG Committees in March and April 2009. MAG Staff is still working with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) regarding the FFY 09 apportionment and allocation amounts to the MAG region.

Attached to this memorandum is the Project Request Form. All forms and information are available electronically on the MAG website <http://www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=413>, at the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) webpage. If there are any questions regarding the FFY 2009 year-end Closeout process, or the submittal of projects, please call Eileen O. Yazzie at eyazzie@mag.maricopa.gov, Steve Tate at state@mag.maricopa.gov, or at 602-254-6300.

cc: Intergovernmental Representatives ITS Committee
Street Committee Regional Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group