

MAG Submits Strengthened Dust Plan Responds Quickly in Effort to Avoid Federal Sanctions

Working furiously to stave off threatened sanctions by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on December 23, 1999 the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) submitted to the EPA a revised plan for reducing unhealthy dust.

But whether the EPA will review the new plan in time to avoid restrictions on large industrial sources of particulates remained to be seen at press time.

“It’s our hope that EPA will expedite the review process so that no sanctions are imposed on March 2nd,” said MAG Environmental Manager Lindy Bauer. That is the date the EPA set for a first set of restrictions to go into effect. Those restrictions apply to major producers of dust and other particulate matter, such as power plants or sand-and-gravel operations. The restrictions would prohibit any industry producing more than 70 tons per year of air-polluting particles from starting up or expanding, unless they could reduce dust emissions by two pounds for every pound created.

Fine dust — called PM-10 because it refers to particulate matter less than ten microns in diameter — can cause health problems when the particles become lodged in the lungs, irritating respiratory membranes.

In November, the EPA notified MAG that it wasn’t satisfied with the 1999 MAG Serious Area Particulate Plan for PM-10. The EPA maintained that the Plan relied too heavily on Maricopa County’s fugitive dust control rule, known as Rule 310. The original Plan assumed a 90-percent compliance for Rule 310 to help reach attainment of federal dust standards by 2006. After reviewing Maricopa County’s enforcement efforts, the EPA did not concur with the assumed compliance rate. The EPA also said the plan should be amended to address dust on paved public and unpaved private roads.

“MAG staff immediately began reviewing potential options for addressing the EPA’s concerns,” said Bauer. “We determined that using federal Congestion



Purchasing PM-10 certified street sweepers is one of the control measures in the updated plan.

Mitigation and Air Quality funds for region-wide paving projects; purchasing PM-10 certified street sweepers; and reducing the assumed compliance rate for Rule 310 to 80 percent; should be adequate to reach attainment by 2006.”

MAG Executive Director James M. Bourey pointed out that the deadline imposed by the EPA made it virtually impossible to avoid the first sanctions. “The EPA informed MAG it would take a minimum of four months

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Tempe Mayor
Neil G. Giuliano

From the Chair

Thirty women dead. Eight men dead. One unborn child dead. Sixty-six children without mothers, and seven children without fathers. These numbers tell the awful truth about the aftermath of just one year of domestic violence in Maricopa County — and they don't even include all of the broken bones, bruises or black eyes.

Everyone pays attention when a pitcher from the Arizona Diamondbacks is accused of domestic violence — but who pays attention when the accused or the victim is not famous?

Like Laura Munoz. This mother of six tried to escape the horrible violence in her home, but all of the Valley's domestic violence shelters were full. She was forced to remain in her home, and then her children were forced to watch as their father stabbed their mother to death.

MAG has many important responsibilities regarding basic services,

such as transportation, transit and air quality. These issues should, and do, take up a great deal of our time. But we must also take a leadership role in larger, societal issues. We are doing that with MAG's new regional homeless planning process. And I am proud to say that we are also now taking a regional approach to dealing with domestic violence.

A regional approach to domestic violence is the reasonable and rational approach because domestic violence doesn't stop at city or county borders — it pervades every segment of our population, and every corner of every community. We must do whatever we can to educate citizens and community leaders, and we must do whatever is required to help those who have been unable to help themselves.

If you have not already, I am asking you to take the time to read through the MAG Regional Domestic Violence Plan. This plan is the result of a community-wide effort by more than 150 professionals and individuals from throughout the region. Whether or not your community already has systems or programs in place to deal with domestic violence, all of the MAG communities need to work together to develop a consistent, coordinated approach if we are to make an impact on this crime.

We owe it to the children of Laura Munoz. And we owe it to the 100,000 men, women and children in Maricopa County who call police each year for help with domestic violence. 

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- ◆ Executive Committee Members



MAGAZine is a quarterly newsletter of the Maricopa Association of Governments focusing 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.

Neil G. Giuliano
Mayor of Tempe
Regional Council Chairman

James M. Bourey
Executive Director

Kelly Taft
Editor

Gordon Tyus
Graphic Design



Domestic Violence Council Begins Work

Hoping to stem the tide of domestic violence in the region, the MAG Domestic Violence Council convened for the first time in January. The task of the 35-member council will be to oversee the implementation of 41 recommendations contained in the MAG Regional Domestic Violence Plan.

The Plan was developed following one of the Valley's bloodiest years for domestic violence. The community-wide effort pulled together more than 150 professionals and individuals, who spent four months developing the recommendations.

"The Council begins its task with a clear outline of the steps that must be taken to address domestic violence through a coordinated community response," said MAG Domestic Violence Specialist Mary Thomson. "We hope that by putting these strategies in place, we can reduce the number of domestic violence incidents in the Valley — and perhaps save lives," she said.

Thomson said the strategies contained in the plan seek to prevent violence through education, awareness and training, and to put in place a seamless, effective system of domestic violence services regionwide. 

Mayors, Managers Look Ahead

The New Economy, organizational structure, visioning and regional leadership — those were just a few of the discussion topics undertaken at separate retreats for city managers and Regional Council members in December and January.

The retreats gave city administrators a chance to look at some of the leadership and regional governance issues that face them in the 21st Century.

"A major impact on local governments will be the changing economy, as we move from an industrial-based economic era into a knowledge-based era," said Doug Henton, a consultant with Collaborative Economics who presented information on the New Economy at the Regional Council retreat. "The advent of computers has resulted in a decentralization of employment centers and a new emphasis on speed, quality, flexibility, knowledge and networks. Local governments need to learn how to function in that economic environment, or risk getting left behind," he said.

Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza, vice-chairman of the MAG Regional Council, said the retreat served as a reminder of the importance of regional cooperation. "Metropolitan regions are increasingly the economic unit in the global economy," he said. "Therefore, the success of individual jurisdictions depends on the success of the region."

Additional agenda items included a review of MAG's membership



policies and organizational structure, as well as discussions centering around Valley Vision 2025, a regional visioning effort initiated by MAG. Here are just a few of the conclusions reached during the retreat:

- No changes to the MAG bylaws are necessary in allowing the City of Apache Junction a seat at the table during Management Committee and Regional Council meetings, because the city will be a non-voting participant and will not be required to pay dues.
- The Regional Council would vote on a second ADOT representative's participation on the Regional Council. (The council voted at a later meeting to allow each to participate, and each to vote.)
- MAG should pursue options for private sector involvement in MAG activities.
- Support recommendations made by the Management Committee, including examining barriers to regional cooperation; developing unified building permits and collaborating with business, education and governmental interests. 



Internet Taxation Forum Focuses on Fairness

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Investigating the future of taxation on the internet and its effects on local services.

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Thank you for visiting!

Want a copy of the latest bestseller? Click. Some camera equipment? Click. Baby clothes? Click. Click.

Today, with a few clicks of a computer mouse, consumers can order everything from groceries to gaskets, videos to vacations — without paying a cent in sales taxes. But what may be a good deal for consumers may put local businesses at a disadvantage, straining local revenues and impacting a city’s ability to provide services such as police and fire protection.

The future of taxation on the Internet and its effects on local services was the focus of an Internet Taxation Forum sponsored by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG).

Panelists included Rep. Jeff Hatch-Miller (District 26), Mesa Councilman Dennis Kavanaugh, Arizona Department of Revenue Assistant Director Terry Trost, and Westcor President and CEO Rob Ward.

“The purpose of the forum was to find out what local governments and businesses see as the major implications e-commerce will

burns down, we should e-mail them a picture of a fire truck.”

Kavanaugh also bristled at recent newspaper articles which referred to cities as “greedy.”

“All cities want is to be able to collect a reasonable tax for the goods and services being bought in our communities, and to preserve our revenues,” he said.

“This is the largest tax loophole in government history.”

have on our communities,” said MAG Executive Director James M. Bourey. “We’re looking for ideas on how we might attain equitable taxation on all goods and services.”

Westcor President and CEO Rob Ward said the Internet taxation debate can be summed up in one simple question: “Where is the fairness in all of this?” he asked.

Representative Jeff Hatch-Miller said his biggest concern is the impact Internet sales will have on small businesses. “That group, which employs the most Americans, is going to be hurt most,” he said.

Rep. Hatch-Miller added that taxes should apply equally to all transactions: Internet, mail-order and telephone, as well as face-to-face.

The panelists said that collecting taxes through the Internet might be achieved using a trusted third party, such as the credit card company which bills the customer for the Internet purchase. They suggested that credit card companies could use the consumer’s zip code or other such database to bill the customer the appropriate local sales tax.

Mesa Councilman Dennis Kavanaugh said cities have only to look at the numbers to see that the impact of e-commerce on cities is huge. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Internet retail sales are expected to top \$30 billion in the Year 2000. The League of Arizona Cities and Towns estimates that in 1998 alone, retail sales tax revenue loss to Arizona (state, counties and municipalities combined) was \$15.2 million dollars.

“This is the largest tax loophole in government history,” said Kavanaugh. “People want services, but they don’t want to pay for them. We once suggested that the next time a Web-based business

MAG Moment



MAG planner Jason Stephens shows Santa how to do the “Heismann pose” during a staff retreat.

What is that Stuff?



A split-image photograph shows what the Valley looks like on the average of the worst air quality days in Phoenix (left) and an average of the cleanest days (right). Data from 1994-1998.

MAG Releases Brown Cloud Report

We've all seen it: that nasty Brown Cloud that converts the Valley of the Sun into the Valley of the Haze, obscuring visibility and triggering an increase in respiratory ailments. What's in it, and what can be done about it?

Finding the answer to those questions is the purpose behind the 1999 Brown Cloud Project conducted by the Maricopa Association of Governments.

"The most common complaint about the Brown Cloud has to do with aesthetics," said MAG Environmental Manager Lindy Bauer. "Other residents are concerned that it is unhealthy. The purpose behind the Brown Cloud study was to help identify the emission sources which create it and recommend measures to abate it," she said.

Brown clouds occur over most urban areas in the western United States. The brown-colored haze is a suspension in the atmosphere of minute particles that are not individually seen but impair visibility by scattering light. The dominant source of the haze is particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter, known as PM-2.5. The Brown Cloud report finds that the dominant source of PM-2.5 is exhaust from combustion engines.

"Our study found that gasoline and diesel engine exhaust accounts for about 70 percent of the ambient PM-2.5" said Bauer. "Geological sources make up about ten-and-a-half percent, and ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate the remaining part of the pie," she said.

Based on the study's findings, MAG recommends six control measures to reduce the Brown Cloud. The recommended

measures include: mandating the use of clean burning diesel fuel; encouraging retrofits and replacements of nonroad diesel engines and equipment; strengthening the voluntary onroad diesel vehicle retirement program; electrifying truck stops (giving truck drivers with refrigerated rigs a place to plug in and not keep engines idling); implementing a toll-free number for smoking vehicle complaints; and implementing a smoking vehicle identification and citation program.

"Fighting pollution is not always easy or popular," said Bauer. "But when people see the Brown Cloud and associate it with dirty, unhealthy air, it diminishes our attractiveness as a place to live, work, and visit."

Copies of the MAG Brown Cloud Project report are available by calling (602) 254-6300. 



Clean Fuels Make Clean Cities

Forum Promotes Alternative Fuels

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) believes that a critical step toward cleaning up the Valley's "Brown Cloud" is to eliminate or reduce dirty emissions coming from vehicle tailpipes. The primary goal of the MAG Clean Cities program is to promote the use of alternative fuel use in the region to help clean Valley air.

On April 25, 2000, MAG will host "Arizona Alternatives: Clean Fuels for Clean Cities." The forum is designed to promote, celebrate and showcase alternative fuel programs. The first-ever statewide forum will be held at Centennial Hall in Mesa. It will recognize the achievements of stakeholders in supporting and encouraging the use of alternative fuels. The forum will also provide a chance for citizens to learn more about the benefits of driving an alternative fuel vehicle.

"Clean air is consistently rated as one of the highest priorities for Valley residents," said Clean Cities Planner Anne MacCracken. "A MAG study found that nearly 70 percent of the grime in the Valley's Brown Cloud comes from tailpipe emissions. Alternative fuels can be an effective weapon in helping to clean up the Brown Cloud."

MacCracken said the forum is split into two categories: events and discussions aimed at alternative

fuel providers, fleet managers, Clean Cities stakeholders and other decision makers; and information booths and displays designed to teach the motoring public more about alternative fuels and how they can be used.

"One display will feature a 'ride-and-drive' where participants can drive or be driven in a variety of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles," said MacCracken. "Vehicles range from an electric Porsche to passenger cars to electric bikes. We want to show people that there is nothing mystical or complicated about owning an alternative fuel vehicle. There's no difference in appearance, handling or performance. The difference comes only in what's happening to the environment," she said.

Types of alternative fuels showcased will include natural gas, propane, electricity, hydrogen and solar. Vehicle displays, ride-and-drives and exhibits are free of charge in the afternoon. For those who wish to participate in the daylong conference, a registration fee of \$95 will be required. Registrants will be eligible for Grand Prize drawings, including a one-month-free lease of the General Motors EV₁ and a natural gas Honda Civic. Sponsors to date include American Honda, EV₁ Electric/General Motors, Salt River Project, U.S. Postal Service, Southwest Gas Corp. and the U.S. Department of Energy. 

Clean Fuels for Clean Cities

- **What:** "Arizona Alternatives: Clean Fuels for Clean Cities" Alternative Fuels Forum
- **When:** Tuesday, April 25, 2000, Conference: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Public Activities: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Centennial Hall and Conference Center, 201 N. Center St., Mesa
- **Contact:** Anne MacCracken, (602) 254-6300.

Smooth Road for Transportation Process

From noise walls to bus stops, from bike lanes to accelerated freeway construction — the draft FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) contains projects for just about everyone. It includes additions of \$33 million dollars in street projects, \$14 million in transit projects, and \$11 million in bicycle/pedestrian projects — and that's just with MAG federal funds.

But perhaps the most exciting aspect of the TIP isn't what's in it, but how it was developed. The 2001-2005 TIP marked the first major program to be developed using a new regionally-based transportation planning and programming process set in the "Casa Grande Resolves."

In late April, 1999, representatives from federal, state and regional organizations met in the City of Casa Grande to forge a new, cooperative, multi-modal transportation planning process. Dubbed the "Casa Grande Resolves," the process marks a significant departure from the old way of doing business.

"The process used in developing the current TIP is light years ahead of where we've been in the past," said MAG Executive Director James M. Bourey. "Instead of the State and MAG developing their own project lists and integrating different programs late in the process, this TIP was developed cooperatively right from the start," he said.

In the past, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), transit agencies and individual

What's in the TIP? A few examples:

- Completion of High Occupancy Vehicle lanes on the Superstition, Squaw Peak, and Black Canyon Freeways.
- Grade separations of eight traffic interchanges along Grand Avenue.
- Improvements on portions of State Route 85 from Buckeye to Gila Bend.
- Paving of dirt roads throughout the region.
- Construction of bike lanes and pedestrian facilities.
- Improvements to bus stops and other transit programs.
- Rideshare and Telework programs.
- Intelligent Transportation System projects, including Freeway Service Patrols.
- "Work Links," a brokerage system to help welfare recipients access transportation to jobs, training, and child care.
- Air quality improvement programs.

regions throughout the state developed transportation plans on parallel but separate tracks, each conducting their own public input process and often working under different timelines.

Under the guiding principles of the Casa Grande Resolves, the separate processes are combined, with regular dialogue and interaction starting early and continuing throughout the program. In addition, public hearings are held jointly, giving citizens the opportunity to speak to all agencies at the same time.

"In terms of improvement, this is significant," ADOT Director Mary Peters told city managers. "Citizens now have a process they can understand — one which is both cooperative and convenient."



Mary Peters,
Director, ADOT

The need for a cooperative process becomes evident in light of the numbers of projects requested and the number that can actually be funded.

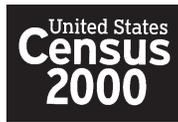
"We received requests for new projects totaling more than \$400 million," said MAG Transportation Programming Manager Paul Ward. "We only had \$80 million in MAG federal funds available for those projects. You can see why it's important that we work together in determining which projects get funded first," he said.

Ward said those numbers don't reflect projects programmed during earlier funding cycles. In all, the amount of money MAG included in the 2001-2005 TIP is about \$4 billion and encompasses more than 1300 projects. 

Census 2000: Counting the Reasons to be Counted

If you live in the Valley, you'll soon be receiving a Census 2000 Questionnaire in the mail asking you to take a few moments and fill out the form. If you're like many people, filling out a form that comes by mail may be the last thing on your "to do" list.

Still, there are many reasons why you should fill out your form — and the main reason is one that few people realize: because the data collected will directly benefit you. Here's what's in it for you when you fill out the form:



1 Filling Out the Census Questionnaire Means Money to You

- Census population counts are used to distribute billions of dollars of federal and state funds to local governments each year. Each housing unit counted is worth about \$10,000 in federal and states fund to your city or town in the decade after the census. These funds are used for such purposes as:
 - Supporting recreational programs for children
 - Providing social services for the elderly
 - Offering school lunch programs for the needy
 - Building schools
 - Establishing transit service
 - Constructing libraries

2 Filling Out the Census Questionnaire Is Important For Your Safety

- The data from the census are needed to ensure that the location of fire stations are within a reasonable response time from the neighborhoods they serve.
- The data from the census are used to determine how many police officers must be hired in your city or town; the population per square mile determines the number of police officers assigned to a specific precinct.



3 Filling Out the Census Questionnaire can help your business and/or enhance your sales

- The census enables people to identify the markets for their products or services.
- Do you want to know where the highest concentrations of single professional women are located? You can find it in the census. Want to know where high income families reside so that you can target them for investment planning? You can find it in the census. How about finding out where people who own their home reside? You can find it in the census.

The results of Census 2000 will be at your fingertips using the Census Bureau's Web site. Just go to the Web site at www.census.gov and click on "American Fact Finder." You will be able to generate data and maps for your markets by geographical area. Remember, the U.S. Census only comes along once every 10 years, so the numbers you see today are the results of the 1990 Census — another reason why it's important for you to fill out the 2000 Questionnaire.

4 Filling Out the Census Will Not Disclose Personal Information

- By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your answers with others, including welfare agencies, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Internal Revenue Service, courts, police or the military.
- Anyone who breaks this law will receive up to five years in prison and \$5,000 in fines. This policy has not been violated since 1790.

5 Filling Out the Census Can Help You and Your Family

While individual records are held confidential for 72 years, you can request a certificate from past censuses that can be used as proof to establish your age, residence or relationship, information that could help you qualify for a pension, establish citizenship or obtain an inheritance.

So perhaps the best reason to fill out your census questionnaire isn't because it is required by law, or even because it is your civic duty. It's because doing so will benefit you, your family and your community. ▲▲



Nomination Process Underway for 2000 Desert Peaks Awards

The Maricopa Association of Governments will be accepting nominations for its Desert Peaks Awards program from February 1 through March 31, 2000. Nominations for the Awards are accepted in five categories: Regional Excellence; Regional Partnership; Public-Private Partnership; Public Partnership; and Distinguished Service.

The Desert Peaks Awards are intended to recognize MAG member agencies, groups, projects and individuals committed to promoting, recognizing, demonstrating and attaining the ideals of regionalism.

For more information about the awards, contact Kelly Taft at (602) 254-6300.

Staff Retreat Provides Insight into Employee Work Habits

Is it a higher compliment to be called a person of real feeling, or a consistently reasonable person? If you were a teacher, would you rather teach fact courses, or courses involving theory?

These are just samples of the questions posed to MAG staff members through the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator test during a staff retreat and workshop in December. The test helps identify types of temperament and the behavioral characteristics

type has its weaknesses. If we understand another's values and perspective, we can interact more efficiently and work better as a team," he said.

MAG Human Services Manager Carol Kratz called the experience enjoyable. "It was interesting to learn not only more about myself, but also more about my co-workers," she said. "The retreat gave us a chance to know each other better and to learn what our individual styles are."



MAG Regional Council Chair Neil Giuliano kicks off a staff retreat by encouraging employees to have fun as they learn.

associated with each. For example, staff members learned the differences between introverts and extroverts, and how those differences influence work habits and communication styles.

"The purpose of the Myers-Briggs training is to help employees recognize that each of us approaches the world differently," said MAG Executive Director James M. Bourey. "Every type has its strengths, and every

The retreat marked a first for MAG staff, but many employees hope it won't be the last.

"We are so often focused on how we relate to our external customers," said Kelly Taft, MAG communications program manager. "It's nice to step back once in a while to look at how we work together within the organization, and to remember that we must take care of our internal customers — ourselves — as well." 

Valley Vision 2025 Committee Finishes Report



After two years of tapping into the Valley's community consciousness to identify the region's values and visions, the Valley Vision 2025 Committee is wrapping up work on its first major report.

The "Valley Vision 2025 Report" is a comprehensive look at the work of the Committee during its two-year journey toward a regional Vision Plan.



Diane McCarthy,
Valley Vision 2025
Co-Chair

"This report is a culmination of the efforts of hundreds of people from every corner of our region," said Valley Vision 2025 Co-Chair Diane McCarthy. "It is a major step toward identifying the values we hold dearest as a region and the goals we want to achieve, to ensure the Valley remains a great place to live, work and raise a family."

The Valley Vision 2025 Committee began its work in January of 1998. During the next two years, the Committee gathered information through three main sources: collaborative groups, thematic subcommittees, and public forums.

The collaborative groups served as the eyes and ears of the Visioning process. These were groups formed in individual cities throughout the region to collect input from their communities.

The thematic subcommittees focused on nine critical areas of interest, including: Cultural, Economy, Education, Human Services, Natural Features, Public Safety/Civic Infrastructure, Public Utility/Governance, Transportation, and Urban Features. The subcommittees held meetings, sponsored workshops, and helped devise a survey that was distributed throughout the Valley to collect input about each issue area.

In addition, 13 public forums were held at the beginning and end of the visioning process. These forums included a "Citizens' Summit on the Future" in June of 1998, as well as a series of 12 forums held in separate communities in late 1999. During the forums, citizens identified the need for a quality transit system, control of urban sprawl, and wise use of open space as their highest priorities for the region.

"While the work of the Valley Vision 2025 Committee has been extensive, there are still a few remaining steps which must be taken before the final Vision Plan is complete," said Richard Thomas, Valley Vision 2025 co-chair and one of the first local leaders to recommend the regional visioning effort. "These additional steps will include conducting a statistically-valid, random-sample telephone survey and establishing a joint public/private partnership, implementation strategies and performance measures for the Vision," he said.

Thomas said when those steps are complete, the Valley Vision 2025 Plan will be presented to the MAG Regional Council, cities, towns and civic organizations throughout the Valley for their endorsement.



Richard Thomas,
Valley Vision 2025
Co-Chair

Thomas added that once the Vision is adopted, it can be used as a road map by city planners, local governments, and civic leaders to ensure that the Maricopa region is an attractive place for citizens to raise families, teach children, make a living, build businesses and enjoy our natural environment. 

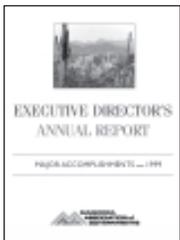
Dust Plan cont. from page 1

to review the revised Plan," he said. "This means that to avoid the March 2nd sanctions, MAG would have had to submit its revised plan to the EPA November 2nd, 1999 — seven days *before* MAG was notified of the approvability problem. We feel the timeline made avoiding the sanctions unrealistic."

If the revised Plan is not approved by September 2, 2000, the next sanction — loss of federal highway funds resulting in a conformity lapse — would occur. Such a lapse would mean that ALL new projects of regional significance, even those funded by cities through local funds, would be halted. 

MAG Report Reflects Year of Accomplishments

In the whirlwind of activity that surrounds MAG's many regional tasks, it isn't often that the organization takes time out to reflect on its accomplishments. But once a year, through the Executive Director's Annual Report, the agency pauses long enough to look back on what has been accomplished over the past twelve months. It's an exercise MAG's director calls gratifying and informative.



"It is always helpful to see, in black-and-white, what you've been able to accomplish in any given year," said MAG

Executive Director James M. Bourey. "Not only does it remind us of the many successes we've had, it helps us see where we're going and any adjustments needed on the road ahead," he said.

Following are just a few of the highlights contained in the report:

- Completed two major Air Quality Plans
- Initiated and spearheaded completion of the Freeway System by 2007, seven years earlier than planned
- Developed Agreement with ADOT on a New Planning and Programming Process
- Completed Grand Avenue Major Investment Study

- Completed 1999 Update of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan
- Completed Annual Human Services Plan
- Developed Plan for Regional Videoconferencing
- Completed Successful First Year of Operation of MAG Information Center (MAGIC)
- Collaborated with other Metropolitan Regions
- Partnered with Business Community and Governmental Agencies
- Published Domestic Violence Safety Brochure and Regional Domestic Violence Plan
- Completed Draft Goal Statements for Valley Vision 2025
- Awarded the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting and Annual Budget
- Received \$100,000 Award for Alternative Fuel Vehicles
- Prepared Census Projections for Distribution to Member Agencies

Bourey said the annual report provides a valuable snapshot of the many ways MAG works in making the region a better place to live. "I'm continually impressed by the diverse and comprehensive ways in which MAG contributes to the quality of life of nearly three million residents," he said, "It's a responsibility that we take seriously, and this report helps those both within and outside of the organization recognize that." 

Youth Speak Out Against Violence



Students intent on stopping youth violence attended the MAG Regional Council meeting in December, to ask Valley mayors to support their efforts to end juvenile bloodshed.

Students pose with Mayor Sam Campana to publicize the Youth Stand Up! Against Violence Rally.

The students belong to a group called "Ambassadors for Change," a youth-based organization committed to diffusing aggression in young people. The group came to the Regional Council meeting at the invitation of mayors to encourage attendance at the Youth Stand Up! Against Violence Rally. The rally will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Coliseum from 7:00-11:30 p.m. on April 20, 2000. The date marks the one-year anniversary of the shootings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

Jenifer Storey, president of the Executive Youth Leadership Forum of Ambassadors for Change, said the idea for the rally came from students who believe youth violence is far too high in America. The students hope that if enough people educate themselves about the realities of youth violence, those people might make a personal difference in their own communities. 

For more information about the rally or to learn more about youth violence in America, contact Ambassadors for Change at (602) 840-0007.

EVENTS *Calendar*

MEETING *Times*

SPRING 2000

February	March	April
2 nd 1:30 PM, Specifications and Details Committee	1 st 1:30 PM, Specifications and Details Committee	5 th 1:30 PM, Specifications and Details Committee
4 th 9:00 AM, Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Committee	7 th 1:00 PM, Continuum of Care Steering Committee	6 th 9:00 AM, Human Services Technical Committee
8 th 12:00 PM, Management Committee	8 th 12:00 PM, Management Committee	6 th 1:30 PM, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee
8 th 1:30 PM, Street Committee @ RPTA	14 th 1:30 PM, Street Committee	11 th 1:30 PM, Street Committee
15 th 1:00 PM, Regional Transportation Stakeholders	15 th 9:00 AM, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee	12 th 12:00 PM, Management Committee
16 th 9:00 AM, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee	15 th 1:00 PM, Clean Cities Issue Forum	18 th 1:30 PM, Regional Bicycle Task Force/ Pedestrian Working Group
16 th 2:00 PM, Building Codes Committee	16 th 10:00 AM, Telecommunications Advisory Group Study Session	19 th 9:00 AM, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee
17 th 9:00 AM, Census Media Outreach Group	21 st 10:00 AM, Transportation Review Committee	19 th 2:00 PM, Building Codes Committee
17 th 10:00 AM, Population Technical Advisory Committee	21 st 1:30 PM, Regional Bicycle Task Force/ Pedestrian Working Group	20 th 9:00 AM, Census Media Outreach Group
17 th 9:00 AM, Telecommunications Advisory Group Study Session	21 st 4:00 PM, Regional Trails Forum	20 th 10:00 AM, Population Technical Advisory Committee
22 nd 10:00 AM, Transportation Review Committee	22 nd 5:00 PM, Regional Council	20 th 1:00 PM, Telecommunications Advisory Group Study Session
22 nd 1:30 PM, Regional Bicycle Task Force	23 rd 9:00 AM, Census Media Outreach Group	25 th 10:00 AM, Transportation Review Committee
22 nd 4:00 PM, Transportation Open House	23 rd 10:00 AM, Population Technical Advisory Committee	26 th 5:00 PM, Regional Council
22 nd 5:00 PM, Transportation Public Hearing	23 rd 1:00 PM, Telecommunications Advisory Group	27 th 10:00 AM, Telecommunications Advisory Group
23 rd 5:00 PM, Regional Council	29 th 2:00 PM, Building Codes Committee	27 th 1:30 PM, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee
24 th 10:00 AM, Telecommunications Advisory Group	30 th 1:00 PM, Continuum of Care Steering Committee	
24 th 1:00 PM, Clean Cities Issue Forum		

The dates, times and locations of all meetings may change.
Other committees not listed here may meet during these months.
Please call (602) 254-6300 for confirmation.

All meetings, unless indicated otherwise will be held in the conference rooms located in the MAG offices on the second floor of the Arizona Bank Building, 302 N. 1st Avenue. Parking is available under the building. Please ask for parking validation.



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