

October 23, 2013

TO: Members of the MAG Management Committee

FROM: Dean Giles, Air Quality Planning Program Specialist

SUBJECT: PAVING UNPAVED ROAD PROJECTS IN THE WEST CENTRAL PINAL PM-2.5  
NONATTAINMENT AREA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014, 2015, 2016, AND 2017  
CMAQ FUNDING

Federal transportation legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), placed an increased focus on addressing particulate matter PM-2.5. The Arizona Department of Transportation has allocated PM-2.5 CMAQ funding to the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) for programming projects that reduce PM-2.5 in portions of the West Central Pinal PM-2.5 Nonattainment Area located within the planning boundaries of both MAG and the Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization. MAG is soliciting Paving Unpaved Road Projects in the West Central Pinal PM-2.5 Nonattainment Area for FY 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017. Jurisdictions in the West Central Pinal PM-2.5 Nonattainment Area that may apply include the City of Maricopa and Pinal County as well as Pinal County as the lead agency for the City of Casa Grande in the Sun Corridor planning area.

On November 5, 2013 a workshop is scheduled on the application form. The project application form and other materials (attached) are available at <http://www.azmag.gov/>. Signed project applications for Paving Unpaved Road Projects in the West Central Pinal PM-2.5 Nonattainment Area for FY 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 CMAQ funding are due to MAG by 10:00 a.m., on November 22, 2013. Late applications will not be accepted.

On July 6, 2012, a new Surface Transportation Authorization Act; Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century, was signed into law. The MAP-21 legislation calls for a state that has PM-2.5 (fine particulate matter) nonattainment and maintenance areas to use a portion of its CMAQ funds for projects that reduce PM-2.5 in such areas. An estimated \$700,000 in federal CMAQ funds is available in each fiscal year.

Federally-funded Paving Unpaved Road Projects will follow the ADOT Local Government Project Development Process. Information on the Project Development Process may be obtained by contacting John Dickson, ADOT, at (602) 712-8683, or from the MAG website.

Since the West Central Pinal PM-2.5 Nonattainment Area is also included in the larger West Pinal PM-10 Nonattainment Area, MAG staff will estimate the PM-10 and PM-2.5 emission reductions for each paving

project and the cost-effectiveness based on the amount of CMAQ funding requested. Methods contained in the MAG Methodologies for Evaluating Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Projects, September 30, 2011, will be used to calculate the emissions reductions and cost-effectiveness. The cost-effectiveness and PM-2.5 emission reduction for each paving project will be used to rank order the Paving Unpaved Road Projects for CMAQ funding in each fiscal year.

The MAG Street Committee will initially review the project applications for data completeness in December 2013. The Paving Unpaved Road Project applications will be presented and reviewed at the MAG Street Committee and any additional data requested at the first Street Committee meeting will be provided at a second Street Committee meeting tentatively scheduled for January 2014.

The MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee may make a recommendation on a ranking of the proposed Paving Unpaved Road Projects on January 23, 2014. The MAG Transportation Review Committee may consider the Paving Unpaved Road Projects in January 2014. The recommendations may be considered by the MAG Management Committee, Transportation Policy Committee, and MAG Regional Council in February 2014.

If there are questions regarding the application or process, please contact Teri Kennedy or me at (602) 254-6300.

Attachments

cc: Transportation Review Committee  
Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee  
MAG Intergovernmental Representatives  
Street Committee  
MAG Public Works Directors