

June 15, 1999

TO: Members of the MAG Transportation Review Committee

FROM: Gary Brown, Chairman, Tempe

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Tuesday, June 22, 1999 - 10:00 a.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

The next meeting of the MAG Transportation Review Committee (TRC) will be held at the time and place noted above. Please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting as parking will be validated. Bicycles can be locked in the rack at the entrance to the parking garage. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Johnson or Stephen Tate at 254-6300.

Please be advised that under procedures adopted by the MAG Regional Council on June 26, 1996, all MAG committees need to have a quorum in order to conduct business. A quorum is a simple majority of the membership or nine people for the MAG TRC. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please make arrangements for a proxy from your jurisdiction to represent you.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of May 25, 1999
3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Committee. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments.

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

2. Approve minutes of May 25, 1999
3. For information.

4. Transportation Manager's Report

Recent transportation planning activities and upcoming agenda items for the MAG Management Committee will be reviewed by the Transportation Manager.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Committee members can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information, discussion and possible action to approve the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

*6. Red Letter Notifications

MAG has received a Red Letter Notification concerning development in the planned alignment of the grade separated interchange on Grand Avenue at Thomas Road and 27th Avenue. Please refer to the enclosed attachment (Attachment A).

*7. Regional Off-Street System Plan

In May 1999, the Regional Council approved the FY 2000 Unified Planning Work Program which included the development of a Regional Off-Street System (ROSS) Plan. The concept for this Plan was initiated by the MAG Regional Bicycle Task Force (RBTF). The plan will include a system of pathways for non-motorized travel. These pathways would be located in desert green belts and linear parkways built on rights-of-way along canals, high-voltage transmission lines, gas line easements, and flood control channels. These types of rights-of-way and easements are found throughout Maricopa County and intersect numerous arterial streets where the local daily

6. For information.

7. For information, discussion and possible action.

destinations people travel to are typically located.

The RBTF has proposed that oversight for development of the plan be provided jointly by the Pedestrian Working Group and the Regional Bicycle Task Force. The request for proposals is being targeted for advertisement in July, 1999 and a copy of a draft scope of work is included as Attachment B.

*8 MAG Transportation Management Systems Report FY 2000 Update

With the revisions to the MAG programming process resulting from the Casa Grande resolves, the MAG Management Systems has been developed on an earlier schedule. The report provides information to facilitate programming for transportation projects in the region. Technical information is provided by the management systems on safety, bridge conditions, transit vehicle needs, intermodal projects, pavement conditions and congestion levels. Information is also provided on air quality conditions, Title IV factors and congestion management strategies. Federal statutes require that Title IV factors and alternatives to single occupancy vehicles must be considered in the programming of new projects. A draft executive summary for the MAG Transportation Management Systems Report FY 2000 Update is included as Attachment C.

*9 Final Phase Hearing Summary

As part of its FY 1999 Public Involvement Program, MAG held a joint open house/public hearing on June 1, 1999. The purpose of the meeting was to

8. For information, discussion and recommendation to accept the MAG Transportation Management Systems Report FY 2000 Update.

9. For information, discussion and possible action.

inform the public and obtain final input on four documents: the FY 1999 MAG Long Range Transportation Plan, the FY 2000-2204 Transportation Improvement Program, the 1999 Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Supplemental Emissions Reductions Test for the Approved 1998 Conformity Analysis. A transcript of the hearing was created, and responses to citizens comments are include in the FY 1999 Final Phase Input Opportunity Report. The executive summary of the report is enclosed for your reference (see Attachment D), and the entire report is available upon request.

*10. Special Transportation Needs Study

With the elimination of welfare and an aging population there is an increasing need for specialized transportation services. The MAG Special Transportation Needs Study has been completed in cooperation with the MAG Human Services Committees. Target population included (1) low income and cash assistance clients, (2) frail elderly, and (3) people with disabilities. Needs were identified, current resources analyzed and gaps in service were identified. Sixteen options were identified to address the special transportation needs of the targeted populations. A draft executive summary is included as Attachment E, and a full copy of the report is available on request.

*11. Process to Develop the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

A new process has been developed to integrate the MAG, ADOT and RPTA annual programming process. Figure F illustrates this general concept. The Long Range Transportation Plan provides the

10. For information, discussion and possible action to recommend acceptance of the MAG Special Transportation Needs Study.

11. For information, discussion and possible action.

overall concept. The MAG Management Systems Report and guidelines approved by the Regional Council provide general direction for identifying and selecting projects for programming. The public stakeholders and elected officials are involved throughout the process.

A schedule for the FY 2001-2005 program cycle is included as Attachment G. Projects requests for regional funding need to be submitted to MAG by September 24, 1999. Locally funded projects need to be submitted to MAG by January 21, 2000 for inclusion in the draft TIP for air quality conformity analysis. The draft TIP is scheduled for approval for conformity analysis in March and final approval is targeted for June.

*12. Summary of Stakeholder Comments

As part of its FY 2000 Public Involvement Program, MAG sponsored a Regional Transportation Stakeholders Meeting to obtain initial input on updating the Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program. Representatives from MAG, the Arizona Department of Transportation, Valley Metro, and several community groups attended and provided input on important needs and issues to consider in updating the adopted Policy Guidelines for Programming Regional Transportation Funds. A summary of comments has been provided as Attachment H.

12. For information, discussion and possible action.

ITEMS TO BE HEARD

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| <p>13. <u>Report on the MAG Freeway Program</u></p> <p>MAG Freeway Program Management will address issues related to the Freeway Life Cycle Program.</p> | <p>13. For information and discussion.</p> |
| <p>14. <u>Maricopa County Work Links Program Update</u></p> <p>In March the Transportation Review Committee took action to recommend that the FY 1999 MAG federally funded program be amended to include the Maricopa County Work Links Program for \$750,000 subject to the availability of funding, and to recommend that this project be a priority for two additional years (at \$750,000 per year) subject to the availability of funding.</p> <p>Subsequent to TRC action, Maricopa County received a grant for an additional \$800,000. A letter from the County describing this grant and indicating that the MAG funding will allow the program to include an additional 1000 clients and accelerate equipment purchases is attached (See Attachment I).</p> | <p>14. For information, discussion and possible action.</p> |
| <p>15. <u>Closeout Status of the FY 1999 MAG Federally Funded Program</u></p> <p>At the May 25, 1999 meeting, the TRC recommended deferring some projects to FY 2000. No further requests for carry forward have been received. Prospects of additional obligation authority are limited at this time. Without the Work Links Program, \$470,000 remains to be obligated.</p> <p>Funding the Work Links Program will assist this region in addressing an important TEA-21 welfare to work objective. To expedite this project it is recommended that obligation authority be used on STP funds. If this TEA-21</p> | <p>15. For information, discussion and possible action to recommend contingency closeout projects for the MAG FY 1999 federally funded program.</p> |

welfare to work objective is not funded another project ready to obligate this year would be recommended. The latest status of the closeout of the FY 1999 MAG Federally funded program is shown in attachment J.

16. District Engineer's Report

At the stakeholders meeting on June 8, 1999, the ADOT district engineers for the Valley suggested the following additions to the FY 2001-2005 TIP: (1) continuation of the ADOT traffic interchange improvement program, (2) SR 87 shoulder widening and divided highway construction, (3) a design concept report for the I-10 collector distributor system from Baseline Road to 16th Street (4) interim improvements at the SR-143/I-10 interchange, (5) reconstruction of traffic interchanges on I-10 at Riggs Road and on US 60 at Mill Avenue, (6) construction of a new traffic interchange on US 60 at Lindsey Road and (7) consideration of additional HOV lanes on freeways not already included in the TIP.

17. Potential Update to Policy Guidelines for Programming Regional Transportation Funds

In December 9, 1999, the Regional Council took action to adopted guidelines for the programming of regional transportation projects (see Attachment K). Since that time, additional public meetings have been held, and the plan updated and new plans and programs have been approved, technical analysis have continued and policy makers have provided further direction. Previous agenda items summarized some of this new information.

As the guidelines are only six months old, major revisions are not recommended, but some adjustments are in order. The major

16. For information, discussion and possible action.

17. For information, discussion and possible action to recommend updates to Policy Guidelines for Programming Regional Transportation Funds.

goals on (1) regionalism, (2) multimodalism, (3) air quality, (4) congestions and human services needs are robust and do not need to be changed. However based on public comments and ongoing events, it is proposed that a new major goal on safety be added. Several changes to sub-points are recommended such as supporting alternative fueled vehicles. All recommended changes to guidelines are shown in bold type on Attachment K.

18. Potential Input Process for Park and Ride Site Selection

An overview of the proposed MAG initiative to site ten near term and ten long term park and ride lots was presented at the last meeting of this Committee. The establishment of an input process for this project is needed. It is suggested that a working forum be established based on volunteers from the following: (1) voting members of the Transportation Review Committee, (2) the non-voting Modal Committee Chairmen or their representative, (3) a representative of the Valley Metro Operations Staff (VMOS) and (4) the rideshare coordinator.

Since the last meeting, a comparative review of previous park and ride studies has been conducted. Two studies similar to the proposed MAG study were identified, one was conducted for the I-78 and I-80 corridors by New Jersey DOT, and the other was conducted for San Diego by CalTrans. The budgets for these studies were in the range of \$300 to \$400 thousand for the site selection and evaluation components. This is similar to the budget range of the proposed MAG site selection project. Note that an additional \$100 thousand for an HOV

18. For information, discussion and possible action.

usage survey and \$200 thousand for environmental assessments could be added to the proposed contract. This project is included in the MAG FY 2000 Unified Planning Work Program for \$700,000. Please see Attachment L.

19. Corridor Update

Environmental studies are being conducted on the Red Mountain, Santan, Superstition and Squaw Peak corridors. Other studies are underway on Grand Avenue, Interstate 17, Interstate 10, State Route 85, and design work is active in several areas. A status report on corridor development activity will be presented by staff.

20. Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 27, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Office, Saguaro Room.

19. For information, discussion and possible action.

20. For information