

June 12, 1998

TO: Members of the MAG Transportation Review Committee

FROM: Jim Matteson, Phoenix, Chairman

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TENTATIVE AGENDA

Tuesday, June 23, 1998, 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 John Farry 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 26, 1998 for the regular MAG Transportation Review Committee, and a Special Subcommittee Meeting
3. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

2. Approve minutes of May 26, 1998.
3. For information, discussion and possible action to approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

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| <p>*4. <u>Status Report on ADOT Access Control Study on U.S. 60 South of the Superstition</u></p> <p>Development is occurring on U.S. 60 south of the Superstition Freeway. Access control in this gateway corridor to the region is a major issue, and ADOT is in the process of developing an Access Control Plan. A scope of work for the study is included as Attachment A.</p> | <p>4. For information and discussion and possible action.</p> |
| <p>*5. <u>Special Transportation Needs Study: Identification of Need</u></p> <p>In June 1997, the TRC reviewed a scope of work for the MAG Special Transportation Needs Study. Transit Plus has been awarded a contract to complete this Study at a cost not to exceed \$80,000. The TRC in cooperation with the MAG Human Services Technical Committee will provide guidance for the Study. This project could establish a bases for the region to compete for funding for new welfare-to-work programs included in TEA 21. A copy of the first working paper that identifies special transportation needs is included for your review (see Attachment B). Please provide any comments to John Farry of the MAG staff at 254-6300 by July 6, 1998.</p> | <p>5. For information, discussion and possible action.</p> |
| <p>*6. <u>Partnering Session with ADOT on 2000-2004 Program</u></p> <p>A partnering session has been scheduled with ADOT, regarding project needs. The meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 2, 1998 in the Saguaro Room at MAG; representatives of MAG member agencies will be invited to attend.</p> <p>The current certification of MAG and TEA 21 specifies that ADOT needs to provide an estimate of the ADOT funding level targeted for this region. As part of the project development process ADOT will be requested to provide this estimate. Potential project needs will be discussed and forwarded to the MAG Transportation</p> | <p>6. For information, discussion and possible action.</p> |

Review Committee. It is anticipated that MAG priorities for ADOT funding in the region will be adopted by the Regional Council in September.

*7. Proposed Amendment to the FY 1998-2002 MAG TIP

Subsequent to approval of the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), seven federally funded Enhancement Fund projects have been identified that need to be added to the TIP in FY 1998, to be eligible to proceed in FY 1998. These projects are all exempt projects for air quality conformity analysis purposes and only a "minor" amendment will be required, omitting the full public comment period. (See Attachment C)

7. For information, discussion and amendment of the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), to add the following federally funded Enhancement Fund projects to the TIP in FY 1998: ADOT, Spence Ave at McAllister Ave, ASU project to construct a multi-use path linking existing ASU and Tempe bike lanes (\$67,288); ADOT, 17th Ave: Van Buren St to RR, DOA pedestrian improvements (\$575,000); Glendale, Grand Ave at 43rd Ave, billboard removal and pedestrian, bike, railroad and artwork (\$430,415); Guadalupe, Calle Magdalena: Calle Maravilla to Avenida del Yaqui, construct sidewalk and landscaping (\$180,000); Litchfield Park, Litchfield Rd Bypass: Indian School Rd to City of Goodyear, construct multi-use path and artwork (\$140,000); Maricopa County, Utery Pass Rd, construction of shoulder enhancements to provide safer bike lanes (\$300,000); and Phoenix, Central Ave: South Mountain Park to Jefferson St, construct and/or improve bike lanes, landscaping, rest areas, gateway and artwork (\$500,000).

ITEMS TO BE HEARD

8. Potential Considerations in Programming MAG Federal Funds

A special subcommittee meeting of the TRC on the programming of MAG federal funds has been scheduled for the hour proceeding the regular TRC meeting. Results of the subcommittee meeting will be reported to the full committee for possible action. Potential topics to be addressed include: (1) Update process, (2) Allocation to freeways, (3) Other modal allocations, (4) Size of project and matching rates, (5) Congestion Management System, (6) Regionalism, (7) Multimodalism, and (8) New Funding.

8. For information and discussion and possible action.

9. Major Investment Study Stakeholders Meeting for Restriping I-10 Between 59th Avenue and 7th Avenue

ADOT is scheduled to advertise a project in December 1998 to restripe I-10 between 59th Avenue and 7th Avenue from four to five lanes in each direction. ADOT has requested MAG to call a Major Investment Study (MIS) Stakeholder meeting on this project and will recommend that the MIS be waived (see Attachment D). Representatives of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will be invited to provide input on this agenda item as part of a MIS Stakeholders process.

Factors that need to be considered include:

- This is not a major investment
- TEA 21 has modified the MIS requirement
- The project requires a conformity analysis
- The ADOT/MAG Value Lane Study will assess the need for additional High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes or High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes in this corridor.

10. Upcoming Management Agenda Items

The next meeting of the MAG Management Committee will be held on July 15, 1998. Potential agenda items for this meeting will be reviewed by MAG staff.

11. Report by MAG Freeway Program Management

MAG Freeway Program Management will address potential issues related to the Freeway Life Cycle Program.

12. Closeout of FY 1998 MAG Federal Program for Freeways

Up to 70 percent of MAG federal funds have been reserved for freeway construction.

9. For information, discussion and possible action.

10. For information and discussion.

11. For information and discussion.

12. For information, discussion and possible action.

Based on current best estimates of MAG FY 1998 funding levels, \$6.6 million in MAG CMAQ funds remain to be committed to specific freeway projects. The method for utilizing these funds is not known at the time of this writing. Options include: (1) A Freeway Management System could be advanced. (2) The money could be exchanged for ADOT STP funds programmed for Black Canyon HOV lanes; this could prohibit potential value lanes in the future. (3) MAG STP funds could be used rather than CMAQ funds; leaving CMAQ funds unutilized is not in accord with adopted MAG policy. (4) ADOT could carry forward the unused obligation authority to utilize MAG CMAQ funds next year. (5) Uncommitted CMAQ funds for freeways could be used for other CMAQ projects such as buses; freeways would not receive 70 percent of MAG federal funds. (See Attachment E).

13. Closeout of FY 1998 MAG Federal Program for Non Freeways

At the last TRC meeting, options were presented for closeout of the FY 1998 MAG Federal-Funded Program. All projects must be ready to be obligated and a final check was made for projects ready to be obligated. An updated list of four options for closing out FY 1998 is included in Attachment E.

Options are generally based on the closeout guidelines (1) Acceleration of projects as listed in 1998-2002 TIP only, (2) Number one plus 1998 projects with cost increases, (3) Numbers one and two plus projects included in the draft 1999-2003 TIP, and (4) Numbers one, two and three plus requested new design projects not separately listed in a TIP. Each option is in prioritized order to allow for fluctuations in final funding levels including redistributed obligation authority. Priorities reflect Regional Council action supporting a MAG teleconferencing project. See Attachment E for a listing of projects in each option.

13. For information, discussion and possible action to recommended closeout priorities and related TIP amendments.

14. Recommendation for Low-Cost Projects on the State Highway System

In December 1996, the Regional Council approved a list of recommended low-cost improvements to the State Highway System. Many of these recommended projects have been addressed through the ADOT scoping and programming process.

At the last TRC meeting members were requested to submit potential low-cost projects for inclusion in the ADOT FY 2000-2004 program. An updated list of low-cost projects is included as Attachment F.

15. Designation of Southwest Passage Corridor for Federal Funding

Section 1118 of TEA 21 makes federal funds available for planning and construction in transportation corridors of national significance. Representatives of the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas and the Councils of Governments within those states have been conferring for over a year to develop an integrated and comprehensive trade/transportation strategy for the East-West trade corridor, named the Southwest Passage. The objective of the Southwest Passage is to connect the East-West trade routes along the U.S./Mexico border with a seamless freight transportation system extending between Los Angeles and Houston. To date the only portion of the corridor that has been identified for funding in TEA 21 is that section extending from Los Angeles to the Arizona border. However, there are provisions in the TEA 21 legislation for designating additional corridors. At a meeting on June 10, 1998 in Tucson, representatives from several states and Councils of Government met to discuss possibly the designation of the Southwest Passage Corridor for federal funding under TEA 21. Representatives in attendance were requested to seek support for the designation from their policy boards. The Transportation Review Committee will be requested to

14. For information, discussion and possible action.

15. For information, discussion and recommendation to the Management Committee to endorse the designation of the Southwest Passage Corridor for federal funding under TEA 21.

recommend that the Management Committee support designation of the Southwest Passage for federal funding in TEA 21. (See Attachment G)

16. New Regional Transportation Funding Opportunities

A coordination meeting between ADOT, Councils of Government and Metropolitan Planning Organizations will take place on July 10, 1998. "Each COG/MPO will review the transportation needs in their region as related to the development of a long term (20 years) 'Imagine Program.' " These efforts relate to statewide transportation funding initiatives.

The MAG Long Range Transportation Plan is based on a trend funding concept. The Plan includes a doubling of bus service, completion of freeway projects and a 50 percent increase in lane miles of street. Potential plan refinements for statewide funding or a regional half cent sales tax will be discussed.

17. Status Report of TEA 21

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21) has been signed into law. The principal difference between ISTEA and TEA 21 is a 40 percent increase in funding levels. Planning requirements remain similar to ISTEA. MAG staff will provide an overview on TEA 21. The current MAG certification and TEA 21 specifies that ADOT needs to provide an estimate of the ADOT funding level targeted for this region. This will be discussed in the context of donors and donees.

18. Report on Transit Issues

Report on recent transit activity will be made by RPTA staff. This will include an update on the status of the Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail Transit project, as well as the Phoenix/Glendale Major Investment Study.

16. For information, discussion and possible action.

17. For information and discussion.

18. For information and discussion.

19. Next Meeting Dates

The next regular TRC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Office, Saguaro Room.

19. For information