

October 31, 2001

TO: Scott Schrader, Manager, City of Avondale
Joe Blanton, Manager, Town of Buckeye
Shane Dille, Manager, Town of Gila Bend
Urban Giff, Community Manager, Gila River Indian Community
Steve Cleveland, Manager, City of Goodyear
Horatio Skeete, Manager, City of Litchfield Park
Frank Fairbanks, Manager, City of Phoenix
Ralph Velez, Manager, City of Tolleson
Mary Lynn Tischer, Director, Transportation Planning Division, ADOT
Ken Driggs, Executive Director, RPTA
Tom Buick, Chief Public Works Officer, MCDOT

FROM: Eric Anderson, Transportation Manager, MAG

SUBJECT: KICKOFF AGENCY FORUM FOR THE MAG RTP SOUTHWEST AREA
TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Thursday, November 15, 2001 - 10:00 a.m.
Goodyear City Hall, Public Meeting Room 117
190 North Litchfield Road, Goodyear 85338

An Agency Forum to kickoff the MAG Southwest Area Transportation Study has been scheduled for the time and place noted above. You are invited to attend this Forum or to send a representative. To help ensure continuity of participation, we are requesting that each participating agency designate at least one staff person to serve as the ongoing principal technical contact for this study for their agency.

The designated staff person(s) would assist the study by providing local transportation and related information as needed, attending meetings, reviewing draft working papers, and providing a contact point(s) for other local agency staff. Staff that are already participants (or wish to participate) in the MAG Regional Transportation Planning (RTP) process may be best positioned to assist in this study.

The primary topics for discussion at the first Forum will be a review of attached scope of work, study boundaries, and field tour for the project. The study is expected to take nine months to complete. Agency Forums will be held regularly throughout this period. Public events will also be scheduled.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Chris Voigt at (602) 254-6300. Copies of project materials including agendas are available on the MAG website, located at www.mag.maricopa.gov, under "Transportation".

Attachments

c: Study Area Intergovernmental Representatives
Study Area Transportation Review Committee Representatives
Previous Forum Attendees

AGENCY FORUM
MAG RTP SOUTHWEST AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Introduction
2. Project Overview & Scope of Work
An overview of the project will be presented, highlighting key tasks and decision points as well as related studies and schedules. Input from local agency representatives is requested on any needed changes to the scope of work that might be incorporated before work on the project proceeds. Key issues that need to be addressed in the study are of particular interest. Local studies or plans that may be relevant to the study are also requested. Specific points of interest in the website and GIS deliverables for the project may also be discussed.
3. Study Area Boundaries
Task 1 of the scope of work tentatively identifies the boundaries of the study area to be 75th Avenue on the east, I-8 on the south, the County border on the west, and Camelback Road on the north. This area includes the jurisdictions of Avondale, Buckeye, Gila Bend, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, and Tolleson, as well as a portions of Phoenix and the Gila River Indian Community. Unincorporated portions of Maricopa County within the area are also to be addressed in the study. There is the question of overlapping study areas with the Northwest Area Transportation Study. Following consideration of any new input received at this Forum, the boundaries will be refined as appropriate and finalized.
4. Field Tour
Task 1 of the scope of work also includes a field tour. Input from local agency representatives is requested on the preferred route, format and scheduling of the tour, as well as the invitees and speakers.
5. Staff Contacts
For continuity of participation throughout the study, each participating agency is requested to designate at least one technical contact from their agency. The designated staff person(s) would assist by providing local transportation and related information as needed, attending meetings, reviewing draft working papers, and providing a contact point(s) for other local agency staff. This local staff person may also serve as a key resource once the study is completed, in the RTP process specifically and also in the general implementation by your agency of the study findings. Please let us know before or at this meeting the name of the principal technical staff contact(s) for your agency for this study.
5. Next Steps
The scope of work will be revised as needed. A field tour will be if possible scheduled for early December 2001. The consultant will develop a consultation and coordination plan. Project documents will be loaded on the website to be established for this project.