

July 14, 2000

TO: Stakeholders for the CANAMEX Corridor

FROM: James M. Bourey, Executive Director
Mary Peters, Director, ADOT

SUBJECT: STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR THE JOINT MAG-ADOT CANAMEX CORRIDOR STUDY

Monday, July 24, 2000 – 2:00 p.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) have developed a possible recommendation for a route through the Maricopa region to be designated as the CANAMEX Corridor. A Forum has been scheduled for the time and place noted above to present the recommendation and to receive feedback from affected agencies and other stakeholders. An agenda for the Forum is attached along with a summary of the recommendation. Representatives from MAG member agencies as well as affected trucking groups, landowners/developers and community associations are encouraged to participate. **Please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the Forum as parking will be validated. Bicycles can be locked in the rack at the entrance to the parking garage.**

Starting from the junction of I-8 and I-10 and proceeding westward and northward, the recommended route includes: I-8, SR 85, I-10, the Sun Valley Parkway (extended north to US 60), US 60, the Wickenburg Bypass, and US 93. The exact alignments for the Sun Valley Parkway extension and the Wickenburg Bypass have not yet been determined. Highlights of the recommended route include:

- A by-pass route in the Wickenburg area,
- A northward extension of the Sun Valley Parkway to connect to US 60, and
- An upgrade of SR 85 between Gila Bend (junction with I-8) and Buckeye (junction with I-10) to four-lane freeway standards.

A Stakeholder Forum held November 1999 reviewed a master list of alternative routes as well as draft evaluation criteria and design guidelines. Eight alternative routes were short-listed following the feedback received at that Forum. Subsequently, the consulting firm Kimley-Horn and Associates Incorporated conducted research and compiled data for the evaluation of the short-listed routes against the criteria established for the project (see the attached executive summary from their report). Additionally, all MAG member agencies were surveyed in a December 28, 1999 memo for their perspective on the potential benefits and impacts of each of the alternative routes under consideration. A meeting with landowners / developers organized by WESTMARC was held on February 18, 2000. Additional public input will be sought following this Forum.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Chris Voigt or me at (602) 254-6300.

Attachments

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM
MAG-ADOT CANAMEX CORRIDOR STUDY**

2:00 p.m., Monday, July 24, 2000
Saguaro Room, Second Floor, 302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, AZ

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Introduction
2. Project Overview
A brief overview of the study process and agency and public feedback received will be presented.
3. Recommendation
The recommendation for the designation of the CANAMEX Corridor through the Maricopa region will be presented.
4. Discussion
The recommendation as well as any related issues will be the subject of an open discussion to be held between representatives of MAG member agencies and other key stakeholders.
5. Call to the Public
An opportunity will be given for members of the public to address the Forum. Speakers will be requested not to exceed a three-minute time period for their comments.
6. Next Steps
Additional public input opportunities will be scheduled starting late August 2000. A recommendation for designation of the CANAMEX Corridor through the Maricopa region is expected to then be brought to the MAG Regional Council and the State Transportation Board for approval.