

January 14, 2009

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee

FROM: Vice Mayor Peggy Neely, City of Phoenix, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE  
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND A POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 - Noon (Please note meeting day is on Tuesday due to MLK Holiday)  
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Cholla Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of MAG Regional Council Executive Committee has been scheduled for the time and place noted above with a possible executive session. Members of the Committee may attend the meeting either in person, by telephone conference, or by video conference.

Please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Alana Chávez at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions regarding the Executive Committee agenda items, please contact Vice Mayor Peggy Neely at (602) 262-7445. For MAG staff, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, at (602) 254-6300.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA**

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

1. Call to Order  
The meeting of the Executive Committee will be called to order.
  
2. Call to the Audience  
An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Executive Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Executive Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items will be given an opportunity at the time the item is heard.

2. For information and discussion.

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT\*  
BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

3. Approval of Executive Committee Consent Agenda  
Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk (\*).
  
- \*3A. Approval of the November 17, 2008, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
  
- \*3B. Consultant Selection for the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Integration Plan  
The FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2008, includes \$75,000 for the development of the MAG

3. Approval of Executive Committee Consent Agenda.
  
- 3A. Review and approve the November 17, 2008, Executive Committee meeting minutes.
  
- 3B. Approve the selection of EDAW, Inc. as the consultant to develop the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Integration Plan for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Integration Plan. A request for proposals was advertised on September 19, 2008, for consultant assistance to develop the plan and seven proposals were received in response. A multi-jurisdictional review team evaluated the proposals, conducted consultant interviews, and recommended to MAG that EDAW, Inc. be selected to develop the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Integration Plan. The MAG Regional Bicycle Task Force recommended that EDAW, Inc. be awarded the contract to develop the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Integration Plan for an amount not to exceed \$75,000. On January 14, 2009, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*3C. Consultant Contract for AZ-SMART Support

The FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2008, includes a \$45,000 project for AZ-SMART support. MAG is in the process of developing and implementing a statewide socioeconomic model, Arizona Socioeconomic Modeling, Analysis and Reporting Toolbox (AZ-SMART). The AZ-SMART socioeconomic modeling suite will primarily support socioeconomic activities at MAG. AZ-SMART will build upon a model that MAG currently uses, the Subarea Allocation Model (SAM). This model was developed by Planning Technologies. Since Planning Technologies is the developer of SAM and has been supporting MAG in the design of AZ-SMART, it is uniquely able to provide detailed technical guidance and support on the implementation and testing for AZ-SMART. Staff is recommending that Planning Technologies be selected to provide support for AZ-SMART in an amount not to exceed \$45,000. On January 14, 2009, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval. Please refer to the enclosed material.

3C. Approve the selection of Planning Technologies for AZ-SMART support for an amount not to exceed \$45,000.

\*3D. Amendment of the FY 2009 MAG UPWP to Amend the I-10 Hassayampa Valley Roadway Framework Study to Complete a Request from the Town of Wickenburg to Amend the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Roadway Study

On October 7, 2008, MAG received a request from the Town of Wickenburg to amend the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Roadway Framework Study to expand the recommendations to incorporate the Wickenburg planning area. This request was prompted by recent presentations made by MAG staff to the Town and their business community about the Framework's recommendations. In learning about these recommendations, the Town became aware of the need to evaluate and monitor impacts key corridor recommendations from the Framework may have upon their transportation system. During the presentations, the Town expressed its support for these corridors and the desire to work with MAG to facilitate their eventual implementation as part of the region's transportation network. This is an action item for approval to amend the FY 2009 MAG UPWP and Annual Budget to complete a study for amending the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Roadway Framework Study to encompass the Town of Wickenburg for an amount not to exceed \$75,000. This budget includes the Town's contribution of \$5,000. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*3E. Discussion of the Development of the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies in the spring and approved by the Regional Council in May. Because of the uncertainty of economic conditions, MAG staff is reviewing the calculation of draft Dues and Assessments for FY 2010 for possible cost reductions. Reductions in the Dues

3D. Approve to amend the FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to complete a study for amending the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Roadway Framework Study to encompass the Town of Wickenburg for an amount not to exceed \$75,000. This budget includes the Town's contribution of \$5,000.

3E. Information and input on the development of the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

and Assessments for the fiscal year costs would be covered by MAG reserve funds. Information on estimated draft Dues and Assessments for FY 2010 will be presented. This item is on the January 14, 2009, MAG Management Committee meeting agenda for information. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD  
BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

4. Status Update on the June 30, 2008 Single Audit and Management Letter Comments, MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and OMB Circular A-133 Reports (i.e., "Single Audit") for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

The public accounting firm of Cronstrom, Osuch, & Company, P.C. has completed the audit of MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Single Audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. An unqualified audit opinion was issued on November 10, 2008 on the financial statements of governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information. The independent auditors' report on compliance with the requirements applicable to major federal award programs, expressed an unqualified opinion on the Single Audit. The Single Audit report indicated there were no reportable conditions in MAG's internal control over financial reporting considered to be material weaknesses, no instances of noncompliance considered to be material and no questioned costs. The Single Audit report had no new or repeat findings. No new or repeat Management Letter comments were issued for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. On January 14, 2009, the MAG Management Committee recommended acceptance. Please refer to the enclosed material.

4. Acceptance of the audit opinion issued on the MAG Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2008.

5. Amendment to the FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program for a Commuter Rail Study and Transit Staff Position

At the November 17, 2008, Regional Council Executive Committee meeting, a Union Pacific Rail Development Corridor Plan was discussed. It was noted at the meeting that for MAG to conduct additional commuter rail work a transit staff position would be required and that MAG has a 1/4 staff position that could be assigned toward a full-time position. It was discussed that the potential scope for the project would be discussed at the MAG Commuter Rail Stakeholders Group in December and the issue brought before the Management Committee and Executive Committee in January 2009.

On December 17, 2008, the MAG Commuter Rail Stakeholders Group met and discussed the need for additional commuter rail corridors to be included. The group indicated a desire to conduct a comprehensive study of the rail corridors and possible connection options throughout the MAG region. Due to the expanded nature of this study request, staff has prepared options for consideration by the Management Committee. These range from conducting a systemwide planning study to preparing corridor development plans for certain corridors, with additional corridor development plans to follow in 2010.

At the MAG Commuter Rail Stakeholder Group, the Arizona Department of Transportation indicated that they would be embarking on a statewide rail framework study, including areas within the MAG region. Staff is recommending that new rail studies within the MAG region and connections immediately adjacent to the MAG region be conducted by MAG to achieve better efficiency and coordination with the Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroads. In a subsequent meeting with representatives from ADOT, it was agreed that MAG would take the lead on rail corridors within the MAG region and connections immediately adjacent to the MAG region. MAG would also work cooperatively

5. Approve that MAG continue development of the commuter rail options in the MAG region and the potential connecting routes immediately adjacent to the MAG region and for MAG to include a full-time transit staff position to assist with these and other transportation related studies and to amend the FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to include funding for the study option(s) selected and to continue this work with the URS Corporation as an additional phase of the existing commuter rail study.

with ADOT on the information needed for the connections to the MAG region for the statewide rail framework study. ADOT indicated that their information would be at a higher level than the information developed by MAG. On January 14, 2009, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval. Please refer to the enclosed material.

6. MAG Draft FY 2010 Goals/Work Emphasis Areas and 2009 Results

Each year as part of the Executive Director's evaluation, the goals/work emphasis areas proposed for the coming year and results for the past year are included. The Executive Committee will be requested to provide input on the regional goals/work emphasis areas for FY 2009-2010. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Executive Director's Annual Performance Evaluation.

The employment agreement entered into with the MAG Executive Director in January 2003 provided that the Executive Committee conduct an annual performance review in consultation with the Regional Council. On November 17, 2008, the Executive Committee agreed to move forward with the evaluation survey for the MAG Executive Director's performance review.

On November 20, 2008, the survey was sent to members of the Regional Council to receive their input on the review. A survey was also sent to the members of the Executive Committee. The results of the completed surveys were summarized and will be discussed by the members of the Executive Committee. This information will be sent separately and is forthcoming.

The Executive Committee may vote to recess the meeting and go into executive session to discuss personnel matters relating to the MAG Executive Director's review and salary. The meeting may then be reconvened to take action

6. Possible input into the Draft FY 2010 Goals/Work Emphasis Areas.

7. Information, discussion and possible action to recess the meeting to conduct an executive session to discuss personnel matters relating to the MAG Executive Director's review and salary, and to reconvene the meeting for possible action on the review and salary of the MAG Executive Director.

regarding the review and make a salary determination. It is anticipated that the action of the Executive Committee would be presented to the Regional Council for ratification. The authority for such an executive session is A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1).

8. Adjournment