



## Executive Director's Report

The June Regional Council meeting and Desert Peaks Awards Program culminated in a great night to recognize our elected official leadership and to celebrate regionalism. Many of our past officers were in attendance to see the fruits of their labors, especially with the progress in building the regional freeway system. MAG is a high-performing organization and it is rewarding to see the current MAG officers follow in the footsteps of the past officers in making a difference for this region.

The awards program was a reminder that MAG provides an incredible opportunity for elected officials to make an impact on our region through the many programs MAG implements. In addition, through our committee structure, our members also work closely with the business community and others to make us more globally competitive.

There was a great sense of accomplishment in hearing about the many innovative projects and efforts taking place in this region. Not only was I amazed at the level of cooperation involved, but at the enterprising nature of so many of the projects that were highlighted. It was additionally enlightening to read a description of all of the nominees that had been submitted for the awards beyond those specifically recognized at the event. There is great work taking place across the region, offering true cause for celebration.

**For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.**

## Meeting Report for Wednesday, June 25, 2014

### Action Items



#### Election of Regional Council Officers and Executive Committee Members

The election of the Regional Council officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee occurs at the MAG Annual Meeting. Youngtown Mayor Michael LeVault was elected for a full term as chair, extending the appointment he received in April following the resignation of Mesa Mayor Scott Smith, who stepped down to pursue a run for Governor. Mayor LeVault will serve as chair through June 2015.

In addition to Mayor LeVault's selection as chair, Scottsdale Mayor Jim Lane was elected as vice chair, and Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton was elected as treasurer.

Elected as at-large members of the Executive Committee were Buckeye Mayor Jackie Meck, El Mirage Mayor Lana Mook, Queen Creek Mayor Gail Barney, and Tempe Mayor Mark Mitchell. An extra at-large member was elected because there is no sitting past chair.

The Regional Council also appointed members of the MAG Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). The TPC is responsible for making policy recommendations to the Regional Council on transportation issues. Chandler Councilmember Jack Sellers was elected as chair of the TPC, while Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers was selected as vice chair. New members appointed to the committee included Mayor Kenneth Weise of Avondale and Mayor Lana Mook from El Mirage. A full listing of Regional Council and TPC members is available on request.

**For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.**

### **MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Point Source Update**

The Maricopa Association of Governments has revised the Point Source Section of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan. The revision incorporates the 208 Plan Amendments and Small Plant Review and Approvals that have been approved by the Regional Council since the last update in 2002. In addition, the revised plan includes the latest socioeconomic projections and Municipal Planning Areas. Updated information was also provided by the MAG member agencies to reflect their wastewater treatment needs.

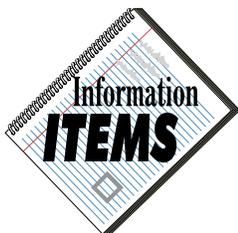
The MAG 208 Plan Point Source Update describes the preferred wastewater treatment system to serve the wastewater treatment needs of the area over a 20-year planning period. The MAG 208 Plan is the key guiding document used by Maricopa County and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in granting permits for wastewater treatment systems in the MAG region. A public hearing on the Draft Point Source Update was conducted in May. The Regional Council unanimously approved the update.

**For more information, contact Julie Hoffman, MAG Environmental Planning Program Manager, (602) 254-6300.**

## **Information Items**

### **Desert Peaks Awards Highlight Regional Excellence**

During a special ceremony following the meeting, MAG honored partnerships and individuals who have been selected to receive the 2014 Desert Peaks Awards. The prestigious regional awards are presented to those agencies and individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to promoting, recognizing, and attaining the ideals of regionalism. In addition, MAG presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to Congressman Ed Pastor. Congressman Pastor has been a driving force in Arizona



for the past 23 years, advocating for the resources needed to meet the demands that come with rapid growth, and he has been a staunch supporter of transportation and other regional efforts. His wife, Verma Pastor, accepted the award on behalf of the Congressman.

Following the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Desert Peaks Awards were distributed in six categories: Public Partnership, Public-Private Partnership, Professional Service, Regional Partnership, Outstanding Economic Development Champion, and Regional Excellence.

This year, two individuals were selected to receive the program's highest honor for Regional Excellence—Buckeye Mayor Jackie Meck and Chandler Mayor Jay Tibshraeny. Mayor Meck has made it a mission to build jobs and opportunities in Buckeye, and he has been a passionate advocate for growing his city and the region. He currently serves as an at-large member of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee, and is a member of the MAG Economic Development Committee.

Mayor Tibshraeny, who formerly served as MAG treasurer, was recognized as the 2013 Municipal Leader of the Year by American City and County Magazine for creating, protecting and preserving the Price Corridor. He helped Chandler grow into a major metropolitan city—the fourth largest in Arizona. While he led Chandler through this period of exceptional growth, he continued to focus on quality development in both the residential and commercial sectors of the city. Mayor Tibshraeny has served two terms as mayor and has served as a state senator.

Additional recipients included:

**Public Partnership:**

- Northern Parkway - Phase One (Sarival Avenue to Dysart Road)

**Public-Private Partnership:** (Two recipients were selected in this category):

- *Don't Let Our Air Go Up in Smoke* Winter No Burn Campaign 2013-2014
- Greater Phoenix Age-Friendly Network

**Professional Service:**

- Charlie McClendon, former city manager, City of Avondale

**Regional Partnership:**

- East Valley Recycling Alliance

**Outstanding Economic Development Champion**

- West Valley Partners - *Luke Forward* Campaign

Additional information on each of the recipients is available on request. Costs of the event were offset through sponsorships. The Platinum Sponsor was CopperPoint Mutual Insurance Company. Gold Sponsors included Chanen Construction Company; HDR Engineering, Inc.; MJ Insurance, Inc.; and Parsons Brinckerhoff. Silver Sponsors included the Arizona Association of General Contractors; Arizona Commerce Authority; Arizona Lottery; Arizona Public Service (APS); Arizona State University; Delta Dental Of Arizona; Dickinson Wright PLLC; Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.; Lee Engineering; Salt River Project (SRP); and Wilson & Company, Inc. Bronze Sponsors included Burgess & Niple, Inc.; TerraSystems Southwest, Inc.; Triadvocates LLC; and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

Recipients were selected by a distinguished panel of judges who represent diverse interests from throughout the Valley. The judging panel for the 2014 Desert Peaks Awards included Kerwin V. Brown, president and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Black Chamber of Commerce; Boyd Dunn, former mayor of Chandler and current Superior Court judge of the Arizona Superior Court in Maricopa County; Diane McCarthy, director of business partnerships and government affairs with West-MEC; Art Othon, president and CEO of El Bravo Sky Harbor LLC; George Pettit, professor of practice with the School of Public Affairs of Arizona State University; David Smith, former Maricopa County manager and current chief operating officer of St. Vincent de Paul, Phoenix; and Claudia Walters, former vice mayor of the city of Mesa and current executive vice-president with the Mesa United Way.

**For more information, please contact Kelly Taft, MAG Communications Manager, (602) 254-6300.**

## **Next Meeting**

There will not be a July meeting of the MAG Regional Council. The next meeting of the MAG Regional Council will be held on Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. at the MAG offices, 302 N. 1st Avenue, Phoenix, second floor, Saguaro Room. Agenda items are pending.

**For more information, please contact Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, (602) 254-6300.**