

~ REVISED MEMO SEPTEMBER 6, 2013 ~

September 6, 2013

To: MAG Transit Committee
From: Alice Chen, Transportation Planner III
Subject: Regional Competitive Grants – Project Priority Listing and Funding Allocation

On March 27, 2013, the MAG Regional Council approved The MAG Regional Programming Guidelines for Federal Transit Formula Funds. Under Section 701 of the Guidelines document, it was recommended that any unprogrammed funds in the Phoenix-Mesa Urbanized Area be utilized through a competitive evaluation process. The process began in February 2013. Eight projects were submitted for consideration of funding. The Evaluation Committee met on April 24, 2013 to review staff presentations and recommend a list of priority projects. At the April 24, 2013 meeting, there were no available funds to be programmed towards the projects submitted. On August 21, 2013, MAG Regional Council approved the deletion of a duplicate Transit Life Cycle Program (TLCP) Project which made available \$3,989,281 in FY2013 funds. The Evaluation Committee met on August 12, 2013 to discuss funding of the projects.

Projects are recommended for funding priority utilizing the evaluation criteria worksheet developed by the working group and approved by the Transit Committee. The working group recommended:

- 1) Partial funding in the amount of \$2.5 million for the project ranked first, the *South Transit Facility Refurbishment*. ~~This project was submitted to FTA USDOT for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant program in early 2013. The awards for TIGER have not been announced. Given the uncertainty of the TIGER grant, the committee recommended setting aside \$2.5 million for this project, pending FTA decision. The funds will be "freed up" if the project is awarded TIGER funding or made available for the project if it is not awarded TIGER funding.~~ Funding awards for TIGER grants was announced on September 5, 2013. The *South Transit Facility Refurbishment* project did not receive any funds therefore the recommendation is to move forward with awarding \$2.5 million to City of Phoenix for the *South Transit Facility Refurbishment*.
- 2) Funding the full requested amounts for projects ranked numbers 2-*HASTUS 2013 Upgrade*, 3-*EVBOB - Building systems and CO/O2 sensors*, 4-*Tempe Route 56 Bus Stop Improvements*, 5-*Chandler Shelter Procurement and Installation*, 6-*EVBOB - CNG Pump Expansion*.
- 3) Fund the minimum requested for project ranked number 7-*Crosscut Canal Bridge - Pathways to Transit*
- 4) The balance of funds, \$37,163 was made available to City of Chandler for the ranked 8-*Park and Ride Parking Canopies*. This amount was below their minimum requested amount. The city declined the funds. These funds will remain unprogrammed pending future needs.

Please refer to the attachment for the recommended priority listing and funding amounts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Alice Chen, Transportation Planner III at achen@azmag.gov or Teri Kennedy at tkennedy@azmag.gov at 602-254-6300.