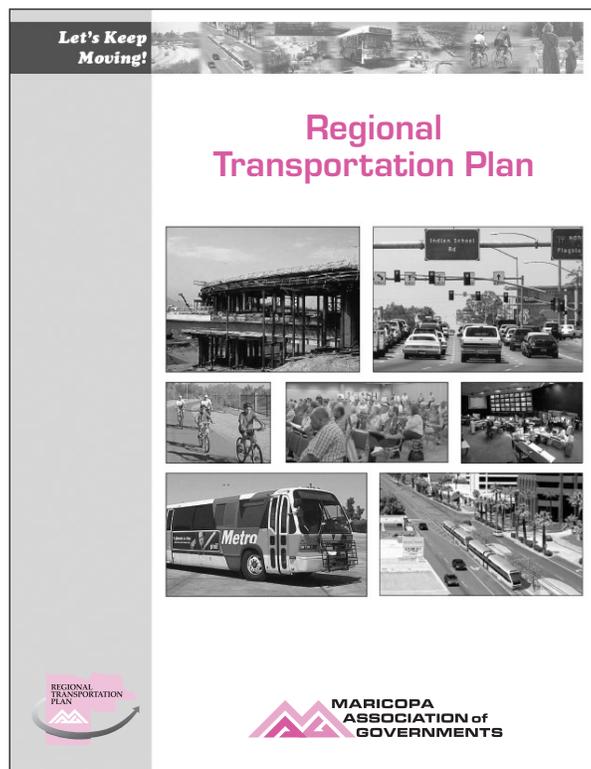


Voters to Decide Transportation Future in November

When Maricopa County voters go to the polls November 2, they will have the opportunity to decide whether to approve Proposition 400, which would continue a half-cent sales tax for transportation. Officially titled “Regional Transportation Plan,” the ballot contains the following descriptive title:

“A measure continuing the current transportation excise (sales) tax to address the regional transportation system by building new freeways, expanding existing freeways with additional access and capacity, constructing streets and intersections, expanding transit by extending the planned light rail system, increasing the frequency of bus service and providing additional bus, dial-a-ride and vanpool services.”



Let's Keep Moving!

Regional Transportation Plan

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

If passed, Proposition 400 will help fund the Regional Transportation Plan approved by the MAG Regional Council in November 2003.

Utilizing input from the community, the Plan was developed by the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC), a 22-member committee that included elected officials and representatives from cities and towns across the region, the business community, the Arizona Department of Transportation, Maricopa County, the freight industry, transit, and the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee.

The Plan lays out 20 years of transportation improvements, including the construction of four new freeways: Loop 303 (expanded to a full six-lane freeway), the I-10 Reliever, Williams Gateway Parkway and the South Mountain Loop. New lanes will be added to Loop 101, Loop 202, Interstate 10,

Voters Decide Transportation Future continued on page 6

“Do you favor the continuation of a county transaction privilege (sales) tax for regional transportation purposes in Maricopa County?”

- Question as it will appear on the November ballot.

INSIDE <i>this issue</i>	From the Chair 2	Employers Help DV Victims 5
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Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa

From the Chair

It is with much anticipation that I begin my service as Chair of the Maricopa Association of Governments. For more than 37 years, MAG has worked to plan and improve the region's transportation infrastructure, air and water quality, and the accessibility and delivery of human services. I am honored to be a part of this innovative organization.

During my tenure as chair, I hope to work with the Regional Council on further enhancing regional cooperation and advancing the region's transportation goals. All of the member agencies worked hard to reach consensus on the Regional Transportation Plan, which would allow us to not only build and maintain the streets that join our communities together, but also ensure we have the regional, multimodal transportation infrastructure that quality employers are looking for and our residents expect. All voters are encouraged to become informed about the Regional Transportation Plan prior to the

November vote. Detailed information on the Plan is available at www.LetsKeepMoving.com, or by calling the MAG office at (602) 254-6300.

Second, we should look at ways to encourage greater regional cooperation on such important issues as retail incentives, sales tax revenue sharing, creating better matches between job centers and housing within shorter commute times, and planning for state trust lands.

Third, we must encourage all of our communities to reexamine the potential for partnerships with educational institutions, nonprofits, government entities and the business community, to make taxpayer dollars go further and create a future far more dynamic than what we could accomplish alone.

In order to successfully compete as a region for the best jobs and minds in the nation, we must work together, combining our strengths with innovative ideas and supporting the partnerships needed to make those ideas a reality. We invite you to join us in this endeavor, and I look forward to working with you. 



The gavel passes from past chair Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr to Mayor Keno Hawker during the Desert Peaks event.

REGIONAL council members

- ◆ **Mayor Keno Hawker** Mesa, *Chair*
- ◆ **Mayor J. Woodfin Thomas** Litchfield Park, *Vice Chair*
- ◆ **Mayor Mary Manross** Scottsdale, *Treasurer*
- ◆ **Mayor James M. Cavanaugh** Goodyear, *At-Large Member*
- ◆ **Mayor Phil Gordon** Phoenix, *At-Large Member*
- ◆ **Mayor Joan Shafer** Surprise, *At-Large Member*
- ◆ **Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr** Queen Creek, *Past Chair*
- Mayor Douglas Coleman** Apache Junction
- Mayor Ron Drake** Avondale
- Mayor Dusty Hull** Buckeye
- Mayor Edward C. Morgan** Carefree
- Vice Mayor Ralph Mozilo** Cave Creek
- Mayor Boyd Dunn** Chandler
- Mayor Robert Robles** El Mirage
- Mayor Wally Nichols** Fountain Hills
- Mayor Christopher Riggs** Gila Bend
- Governor Richard P. Narcia** Gila River Indian Community
- Mayor Steve Berman** Gilbert
- Mayor Elaine M. Scruggs** Glendale
- Mayor Vinicio Alvarez** Guadalupe
- Supervisor Max W. Wilson** Maricopa County
- Mayor Ronald Clarke** Paradise Valley
- Mayor John Keegan** Peoria
- President Joni Ramos** Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Mayor Hugh Hallman** Tempe
- Mayor Adolfo Gamez** Tolleson
- Mayor Ron Badowski** Wickenburg
- Mayor Bryan Hackbarth** Youngtown
- Rusty Gant and Joe Lane** Arizona Department of Transportation
- F. Rockne Arnett** Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee

◆ Executive Committee Members

www.mag.maricopa.gov/members.cms

MAGAZine

MAGAZine is a quarterly newsletter of the Maricopa Association of Governments. It focuses on the issues and concerns of the cities, towns and tribal communities of Maricopa County. If you know of a friend or colleague who would like to receive MAGAZine, please call the MAG office, (602) 254-6300.

Keno Hawker
Mayor of Mesa
Regional Council Chair

Dennis Smith
Executive Director

Kelly Taft
Editor

Gordon Tyus
Graphic Design



Voices from the Council



The thing that I've really come to appreciate...is what an impressive, dedicated, wonderful group of people (the MAG Regional Council members) are. It's been a terrific association for me.

– Retiring Paradise Valley Mayor Ed Lowry, after receiving a resolution of appreciation during his last Regional Council meeting.

Major kudos to MAG for another outstanding Desert Peaks Awards program. With each passing year, I'm more impressed with the quality of the programs honored at this event and at the progress we're making by joining together to address common challenges. Thank you, MAG, for continuing to shine the light on successes arising from regional cooperation.

– Chandler Mayor Boyd Dunn on the MAG Desert Peaks Awards to honor regional excellence.



Growing a city is like raising a child through all phases—from birth through puberty to adulthood.

– Surprise Mayor Joan Shafer, responding to a citizen's question about the challenges her city faces with its explosive growth.

It's time for everyone to put aside their doubt and skepticism. Because this project is so visionary and massive, it has taken this much time.

– Glendale Mayor Elaine Scruggs at a recent press conference to announce the Sept. 29, 2004 groundbreaking date for Phase One of Glendale's Westgate City Center.



One priority for regional focus is aviation infrastructure. We need to focus on establishing regional solutions to our expanding aviation needs. Those solutions should provide opportunities for communities in the region to benefit directly from the dispersion of aviation resources. The communities will then have the chance to fully develop independent commercial and industrial tax bases.

– New Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman, citing his top priorities for the region.

Homeless Funding Sought

The MAG committee charged with addressing homelessness in the region has filed an application seeking more than \$19 million dollars in federal assistance to help the Valley's homeless.

The MAG Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness filed the consolidated application for the Stuart B. McKinney grant funds on behalf of 51 homeless service providers in the region. The committee submitted the application after first reviewing dozens of local proposals and ranking them in order of priority. The rankings are designed to help implement recommendations contained within the *Regional Plan to End Homelessness* developed by the committee in 2003.

Stuart B. McKinney funds are allocated through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are specifically designated for addressing homelessness.

MAG has been the planning entity responsible for the coordinated funding application since 1999. Last year the region received \$15.9 million through a similar application process, and was ranked as one of the highest scoring applications nationally.

“The MAG Continuum has come a long way since 1999, when it received less than \$8 million from HUD,” said Ernest Calderón, chair of the Continuum of Care committee. “It has been awarded increased funding almost every year and has grown organizationally to become one of the most respected homeless planning organizations in the country,” he said.

If granted, the requested amount would be the highest homeless funding award ever received by the region, surpassing the current record of \$18.6 million granted in the year 2000. HUD will announce its funding awards in December. 

Regional Profile: New Phoenix Mayor Finds Pleasure in Hard Work



Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon

His wife says he's "triple-booked." He says he's "multitasking." Semantics aside, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon doesn't hesitate to admit he's a workaholic. He gets up at 4:30 every morning and still complains there aren't enough hours in the day.

"I will leave public office the day that I lose my passion to work hard and work long hours," says Mayor Gordon, who took office in January after garnering 72 percent of the popular vote. When asked what he does in his limited free time, the mayor admits he often goes back to the office.

"My job is my hobby," he says. "I love it, so coming to work on the weekend is my relaxation. I get to think, I get to read stuff. In my other free time, I like to spend a few minutes outside cutting the grass, reading to my son, or jogging—just taking a few minutes away from my other hobby (of work)," he says.

Gordon says his work ethic stems from the rewards he gets. "I love coming to work every day and knowing that I'm a partner with

14,000 city employees, eight city council colleagues and my colleagues throughout the Valley, and that we're helping people improve their lives," he explains. "That's what I love about it. That's what's stimulating and addictive, that you're really making a difference for people."

Born in Chicago in 1951, Gordon's parents moved to Phoenix in the mid-1950s, where Gordon attended Madison Meadows Elementary and Middle School and Central High School. He received his bachelor's degree in education at the University of Arizona, and his law degree from Arizona State University. Gordon joined the Phoenix City Council in 1997, and was re-elected in 2000.

Since taking public office, Gordon has focused on crime initiatives, spearheading such legislation as Shannon's Law, which makes it a felony to discharge a firearm within city limits. As mayor, he launched his "front porch bench initiative," encouraging people to sit on their front porch as a means of reducing crime.

"If you're outside, the bad guy's not going to be inside, and if you know who belongs in your neighborhood, the bad guys are going to get reported," he says. The initiative has garnered attention around the world, which Gordon attributes to a responsive chord that comes as a result of human nature. "Deep within us, we all want to be part of our community, and this is a way in which anybody—no matter what age, what physical ability, what



Mayor Gordon presents Peoria Councilmember Pat Dennis with a Desert Peaks award.

socioeconomic status—can participate," he says.

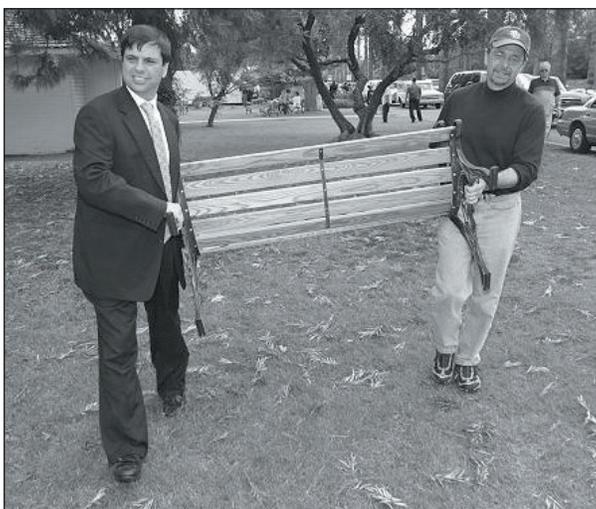
Another key area of interest for Gordon is economic viability, which he calls the "most significant issue" facing the region today. If people can't earn a good living, he says, crime, blight, poverty and poor education follow.

"I think economic success is the most critical issue for all of us and it leads and builds on all the other challenges we all face as a community: public safety, education, safe neighborhoods, quality of life," he says. "It has a cascading effect, so I believe economic success as a region is critical to all of the other challenges we face."

Despite his focus on crime and the economy, when asked what legacy he would like to leave, Gordon's answer is, "None."

"I think legacy is an overplayed word," he says. "I hope there is no legacy other than when I leave public service I leave my community better than I found it. And it was already pretty darn good. But if we get too focused on building a legacy, we're not making good public decisions," he says. 

Mayor Gordon helps carry a bench at an event to highlight Phoenix's front porch bench initiative.



Keeping Kids Safe:

Workshop Trains Crossing Guards

In early June, crossing guards from elementary schools across the Valley converged at MAG for a "Train-the-Trainer" workshop. The workshop was cosponsored by MAG, the City of Phoenix and AAA Arizona. It was offered free of charge to provide training and support materials to individuals who are in turn responsible for training crossing guards at the district level.

"We got a lot of good information and resources out of the training," said Kelly La Rosa, assistant city traffic engineer for the City of Peoria, "We're definitely going to be using a lot of it in our crossing guard training class that we'll be having at the beginning of August, which will be for the entire Peoria Unified School District," she said.

The workshop addressed a high priority road safety need identified by the MAG Safety Stakeholders Group, a regional collaboration charged with planning a safer transportation system. The workshop was based on the successful School Crossing Guard Training Program run by the City of Phoenix for nearly 40 years.

"Better trained crossing guards will make for safer conditions for children to walk or bike to their neighborhood schools," said MAG Safety Program Manager Sarath Joshua. "The training provided through the MAG workshop also complements the National Safe Routes to School Program being launched by the federal government," he said.

Each participant was provided with a Crossing Guard Safety Kit that included safety literature, several training videos, a safety vest and a hat.



Employers Seek Ways to Help Domestic Violence Victims

One of every four women experiences domestic violence in her lifetime. Every year in Arizona, more than 100 women are killed in domestic violence incidents. With October marking Domestic Violence Awareness Month, statistics like these are reminders that there is still much work to be done when it comes to addressing domestic violence.



Certainly police agencies, health care workers, and human services agencies care about these statistics. But why should Valley businesses be interested in doing something about them? Because, say the experts, domestic violence affects employers through lower productivity, absenteeism, and higher turnover, with U.S. businesses losing up to \$5 billion each year due to the effects of domestic violence.

"A recent study reports that domestic violence abusers harass 74 percent of employed battered women at work, either in person or over the telephone," said JoEllen Lynn, co-chair of Employers Against Domestic Violence (EADV). "This results in their being late to work or missing work altogether, and eventually, 20 percent lose their jobs. The situation is tragic for the victim, and costly for the employer," she said.



More employers are recognizing their responsibility in addressing domestic violence at the workplace. EADV, a subcommittee of the MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council, is made up of more than 100 businesses committed to providing workplace resources for victims. Resources range from providing materials and resources to victims to holding training seminars and establishing written workplace policies.

To spotlight the issue during October, EADV is providing employers with an "E-Mail Tool Kit" filled with fliers, shelter lists, posters, safety plans, sample paycheck envelope stuffers, sample e-mail messages, and suggestions for recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the workplace. 

To receive an E-mail Tool Kit at your place of business, please contact Teresa Franquiz at (602) 254-6300.

More information is available on the MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council Web site: www.mag.maricopa.gov/dv



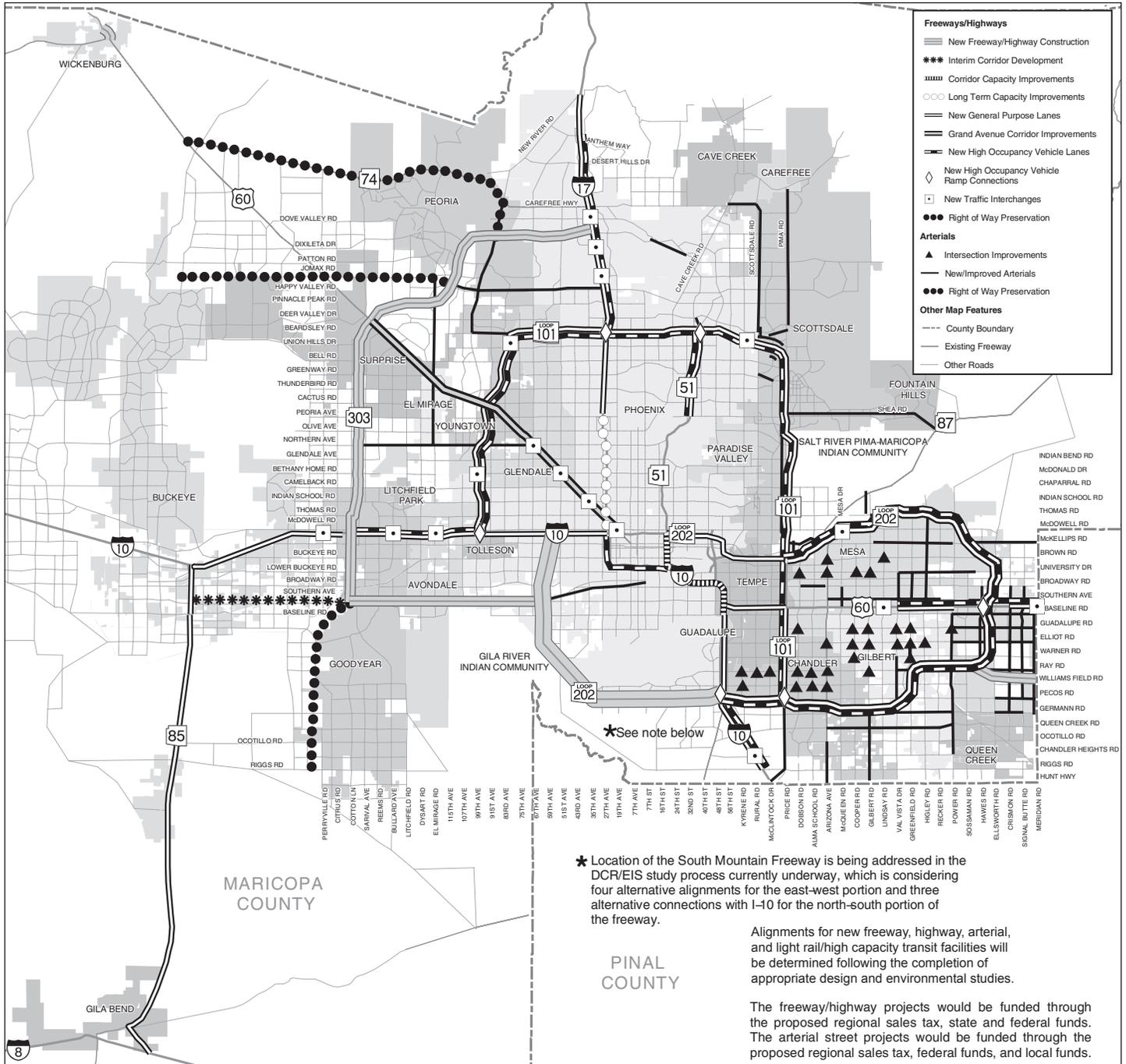


Voters Decide Transportation Future (continued from page 1)

Interstate 17, State Route 51 and US 60. The following list highlights some of the improvements contained in the Plan:

- 344 miles of new and improved freeways and highways.
- 275 miles of improved streets and intersections to relieve congestion.
- 27.7 miles of extensions to the planned light rail system.
- 40 new or improved regional bus routes.
- 14 new express/bus rapid transit routes.
- 2,100 new buses and 1,000 new dial-a-ride vehicles.
- 1,200 improved bus stops (pullouts, shelters).

Freeways/Highways and Arterials



- 34 new and improved intersections.
- Rubberized asphalt and noise walls for quieter neighborhoods.
- Freeway maintenance (litter control and landscaping).

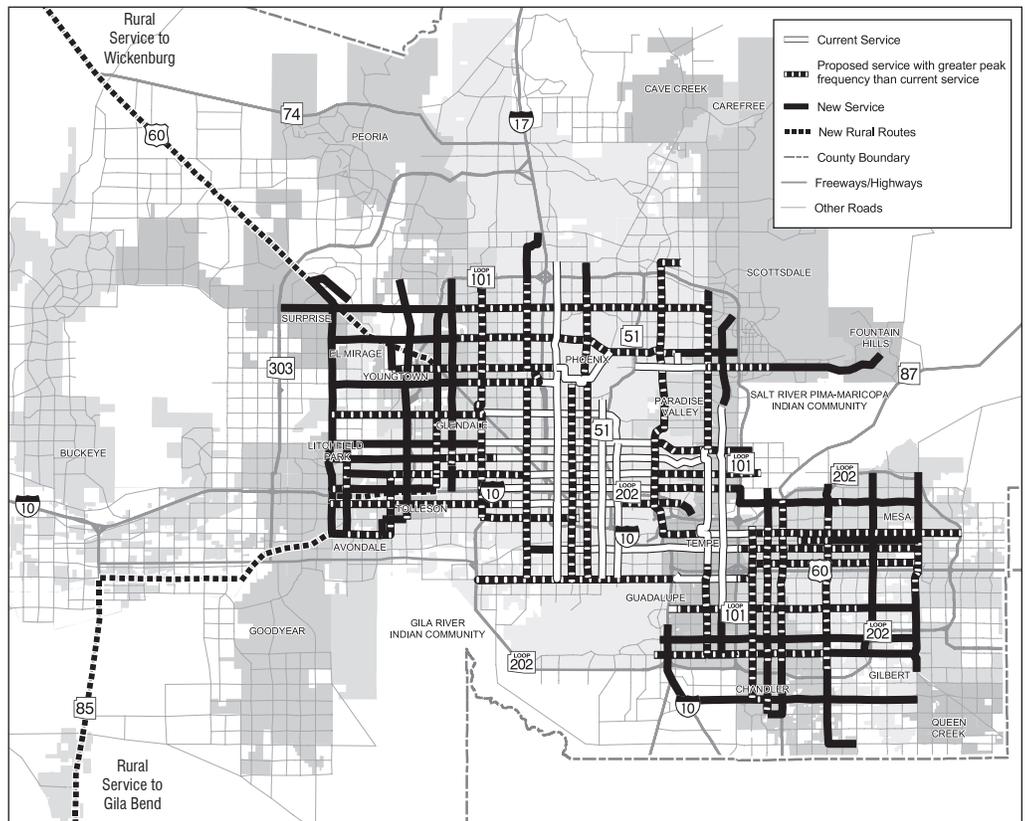
In addition to projects, the Plan includes accountability measures, oversight provisions and procedures for Plan amendments. Among the elements that are required by law:

- **Life Cycle Certification Program.** An annual budgeting process that will keep revenues and expenditures in balance.
- **Funds Kept Separate.** Funding for freeways, streets and transit will be kept separate so funds can't be moved from one account to another.
- **Five-Year Performance Audits.** Projects will be analyzed every fifth year by an independent auditor to evaluate performance.
- **Major Amendments.** Major changes will require public review and must undergo a strict amendment process.
- **Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee.** Set up in state law, the committee will monitor the Plan.

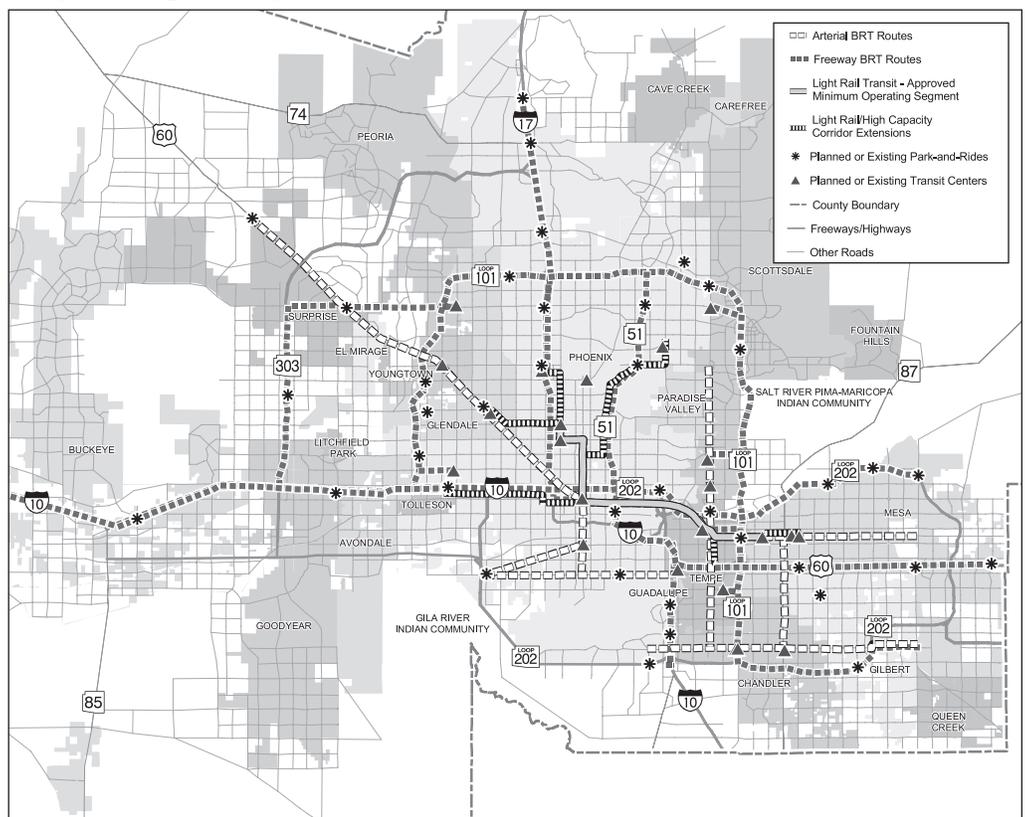
If approved by the voters, the tax will start on January 1, 2006 and be in effect for 20 years. The continuation is projected to produce approximately \$9 billion over the life of the tax. 

For more information about the Plan visit: www.LetsKeepMoving.com

Regional Bus Service



High Capacity Transit Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Light Rail Transit (LRT)



MAG Recognized for Cooperative Planning

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) region is being held up as a national example of integrated transportation planning, due to a recently-launched collaborative effort known as the Regional Concept of Transportation Operations (RCTO). The RCTO is a plan for coordinating transportation operations among traffic management agencies, transit agencies and emergency responders.

The Phoenix metropolitan area is the first in the nation to develop an RCTO, which focuses on coordinating operations using Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)—systems that rely on computers and technology to manage traffic flow.

“The purpose of the MAG RCTO is to develop a plan for coordinated operations across the region,

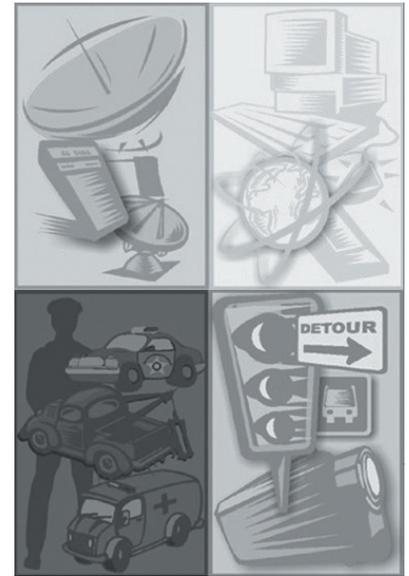
so that all agencies get the most benefit out of existing systems and transportation resources,” said Jim Book, chair of the MAG ITS Committee. “We wanted to come up with strategies that go beyond individual system operations and emphasize how various local agencies can get their systems to work together at a level that provides regional mobility, security and safety,” he said.

Benefits of such collaboration include the ability to provide coordinated signal timing across city boundaries, advanced traveler information, automatic vehicle location, and freeway incident management.

“We focused on elements that were regional in nature, such as freeways, transit, travel information, communications among the various centers, and standard practices for timing traffic lights,” said Book.

The MAG effort has already gained notice around the nation. It was recently cited as a successful example of cooperative planning by an author for *Regions*, a national newsletter published by the National Association of Regional Councils.

“To the stakeholders, the development of the RCTO provided a round-table environment to work out solutions for some of the common problems they had experienced with the ongoing deployment of ITS,” wrote Meifu Wang, a highway engineer for the Federal Highway Administration. “The group felt that the solutions



worked out jointly in an open environment would favor regional cooperation, which would in turn enhance local operations,” she wrote.

The final product of the MAG RCTO has three main components:

- Goals with 3-year and 5-year milestones.
- Initiatives as a roadmap to the goals and performance measures for monitoring progress.
- Guidelines or policies that help to strengthen regional collaboration.

Wang identified several factors contributing to MAG’s success, including clearly identified needs, good working relationships, equal partnerships among stakeholders, strong leadership by the project manager, inclusion of technical experts, and adequate funding. 

For more information about the RCTO visit: www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=1395

MAG Moment



A video featuring the MAG Regional Transportation Plan received a Pegasus Award of Excellence in a national competition of video productions. The Pegasus Awards were developed by video professionals to applaud producers of educational and governmental videos. The winning video was produced jointly by MAG staff in cooperation with Godec, Randall & Associates, Gunn Communications, and Small Feat Productions. (Above: Still frame from the video.)

Partnerships Honored Through Regional Awards



Partnerships and individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to promoting, recognizing, and attaining the ideals of regionalism were honored during the Sixth Maricopa Association of Governments Desert Peaks Awards June 23, 2004. More than 200 people attended the awards ceremony.

Costs of the event were offset through sponsorships. Sponsors included The Arizona Republic; Associated General Contractors; Audio Visual Resources; Bank of America; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona; Cox Communications; DMB Associates; e group; Kimley-Horn & Associates; Mariscal, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander, P.A.; Pinnacle West Capital Corporation; and Salt River Project.

Recipients were selected by a diverse panel of judges, including Tom Ambrose, Phoenix Suns; Anna Maria Chavez, Governor's Office; Dr. Larry Christiansen, Mesa Community College; Dr. Lattie Coor, Center for the Future of Arizona; James Creedon, Retired Brigadier General; Sandra Hicks, Challenger Space Center; and Joel Nilsson, The Arizona Republic.

The Desert Peaks Awards celebrate some of the Valley's best examples of regional cooperation. The following summaries provide a brief insight into the dedicated people and partnerships who were honored with awards.

PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP

City of Glendale Chemical Weapon Full-Scale Exercise

In February 2003, the city of Glendale hosted the largest multi-agency/multi-disciplinary emergency preparedness drill in Arizona history. As a leader in emergency preparedness pertaining to Weapons of Mass Destruction, Glendale was selected by the Department of Justice to participate in a comprehensive program that provided training, equipment and exercises to all stakeholder agencies. The exercise involved a simulation in which a chemical nerve agent was released on the campus of a local university. More than 250 participants from dozens of agencies responded to 400 "victims." The exercise was one of the largest of its kind in Arizona history.

Partnering agencies: Luke Air Force Base and the cities of Avondale, Chandler, Glendale, Goodyear, Peoria, Phoenix.



Glendale Assistant Fire Chief Tom Shannon accepts the Public Partnership Award on behalf of the Glendale Chemical Weapon Full-Scale Exercise.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Employers Against Domestic Violence (EADV)

EADV was established in October 2000 as a way to collaborate with other employers and businesses to address the growing problem of domestic violence and its detrimental impact on the workplace and communities. Each employer has implemented policies or procedures to assist employees dealing with issues surrounding domestic violence. EADV's members include municipalities, businesses, insurance companies, health care providers, nonprofit organizations, shelters, financial institutions, and advocacy groups. EADV's mission is to create more productive workplaces intolerant of violence and to engender safer, more responsive communities.

Partnering agencies: Employers Against Domestic Violence has more than 100 member agencies. Members include Maricopa County and the cities of Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, and Phoenix.



Employers Against Domestic Violence representatives Gene D'Adamo, Tracy Bame and Craig Mills pose with their Public-Private Partnership awards. Mr. Mills gave the acceptance speech earlier in the evening.



EADV is a sub-committee of the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Domestic Violence Council.

Desert Peaks continued on page 10

Desert Peaks Awards (continued from page 9)

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROFESSIONAL SERVICE



City of Glendale/Phoenix Coyotes/The Ellman Companies Development Project

This partnership paves the way for a 223-acre development, dubbed the Westgate City Center, that will feature up to six million square feet of development.



Artist's rendering of the planned Westgate City Center in Glendale.

The mixed-use project will include a 17,799 seat arena, 1.6 million square feet of retail, two million square feet of class-A office space, 600,000 square feet of entertainment and dining, major resort hotels and a unique mix of residential options. The public-private partnership will provide a sports and entertainment destination option for the entire region, and serve as a job-creating economic engine for western Maricopa County.

Partnering agencies: The Ellman Companies, City of Glendale, Phoenix Coyotes.

Glendale Mayor Elaine Scruggs accepts the Public-Private Partnership Award on behalf of the City of Glendale/Phoenix Coyotes/Ellman Co. Development Project.



Jeff Martin, Assistant Development Services Manager, City of Mesa

Jeff Martin has been a driving force in the planning and financing of regional transportation. Martin was hired by the City of Mesa in 1990 as assistant to the city manager for intergovernmental relations. One of his responsibilities was to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) and other cities on regional transportation issues. Martin has served on MAG's Transportation Review Committee since its inception. He played a pivotal role in moving the legislature toward adopting a series of laws to accelerate highway construction, working cooperatively with lawmakers and the governor's office, business community and Arizona Department of Transportation on innovative financing efforts that will help complete the freeway program earlier than planned. Martin has been a strong proponent of a



Professional Service Award recipient Jeff Martin addresses the audience.

number of regional transportation studies, such as the Bottleneck Study and High Capacity Transit Study. He has also been a dedicated advocate for a regional approach to transit funding, including bus and dial-a-ride services.

Desert Peaks Online

You can view more photos of the 2004 Desert Peaks event and the presentation shown that night at:

<http://www.mag.maricopa.gov/archive/DP2004/DP-Pics/index.html>



View previous years' winners and more on the MAG Desert Peaks page:

<http://www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=385>

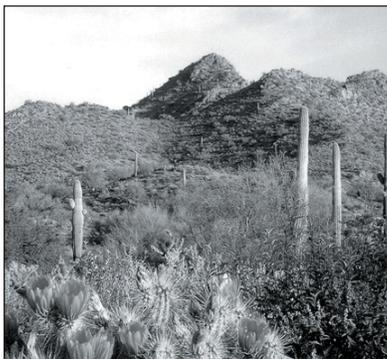
Desert Peaks Awards (continued)

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

San Tan Mountains Regional Park Master Plan

Requests from citizens in the Southeast Valley for a usable regional park and natural preserve prompted this cooperative venture. Queen Creek sought cooperation from Chandler, Gilbert, Maricopa County, Pinal County and Mesa to move forward with planning and development of an 11,000 acre master-planned regional park. The plan seeks to provide recreational and educational opportunities appropriate for a Sonoran Desert mountain park setting while rehabilitating, protecting and responding to the unique natural and cultural resources of the park. The project's success is credited to a diverse group of governments and citizens dedicated to furthering and preserving the quality of the region.

Partnering agencies: City of Chandler, Town of Gilbert, Maricopa County, City of Mesa, Pinal County and Town of Queen Creek.



The San Tan Mountains Regional Park Master Plan will help preserve the natural landscape, provide recreational and educational opportunities, and rehabilitate and protect its natural and cultural resources.

REGIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Honorable Gary Pierce (R-Mesa)

Representative Gary Pierce was instrumental in guiding the \$15.8 billion Regional Transportation Plan through the legislative process. He sponsored House Bill 2292, which laid the framework for the planning process and formalized the Transportation Policy Committee in state law. To help legislators keep abreast of developments, Representative Pierce created the Joint Ad Hoc Committee on the Maricopa County Regional Transportation Plan, a bicameral, bipartisan committee made up of lawmakers interested in transportation issues. His leadership helped advance House Bill 2456, calling for a continuation of the half-cent sales tax for transportation, after it stalled in a Senate subcommittee. His efforts are credited with the ultimate approval by the legislature of an election that will allow voters to decide their transportation future.



Representative Gary Pierce receives the Regional Excellence Award from Queen Creek Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr. Representative Pierce also helped present the Summit Award later in the evening.

SUMMIT AWARD

Regional Transportation Plan

In November 2004, Maricopa County voters will determine whether to continue the half-cent sales tax for transportation for another 20 years. The continuation would be used to fund a Regional Transportation Plan that provides for new and improved freeways; improvements to the arterial street system; more regional bus and special transportation services; high capacity transit facilities such as light rail, bus rapid transit and express buses; and bike and pedestrian facilities. The Plan was developed by the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) in conjunction with the Valley business community.

The Regional Transportation Plan includes \$15.8 billion in projects, taking into account all regional funding sources. About half of the funding, \$9 billion (including \$500 million set aside for interest expense and based on 2002 dollars), would come from the passage of Proposition 400.

Partnering agencies: Maricopa Association of Governments Transportation Policy Committee and the Valley business community.



Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano, chair of the Transportation Policy Committee, accepts the Summit Award on behalf of the committee for its work on the Regional Transportation Plan.

EVENT Calendar

MEETING Times

SUMMER 2004

August

- 3rd 10:30 am, Pedestrian Working Group
- 4th 1:30 pm, Standard Specifications and Details Committee
- 5th 1:30 pm, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee (if necessary)
- 10th 10:00 am, Population Technical Advisory Committee
- 10th 1:30 pm, Street Committee
- 17th 1:30 pm, Regional Bicycle Task Force
- 18th 2:00 pm, Building Codes Committee
- 19th 2:30 pm, Domestic Violence Council
- 26th 10:00 am, Transportation Review Committee



The **MAGAZine** newsletter is available in electronic format and in Spanish on the **MAG Web site**: www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=433

The dates, times and locations of all meetings may change. Other committees not listed here may meet during these months.

For confirmation call (602) 254-6300, or visit the Web site: www.mag.maricopa.gov/meetings.cms

September

- 1st 10:00 am, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee
- 1st 1:30 pm, Standard Specifications and Details Committee
- 2nd 1:30 pm, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee
- 7th 10:30 am, Pedestrian Working Group
- 8th 12:00 pm, Management Committee
- 9th 2:30 pm, Human Services Coordinating Committee
- 14th 1:30 pm, Street Committee
- 15th 2:00 pm, Building Codes Committee
- 16th 1:00 pm, Human Services Technical Advisory Committee
- 21st 9:00 am, Transportation Safety Committee
- 21st 10:00 am, Population Technical Advisory Committee
- 21st 1:00 pm, Planners Stakeholders Group
- 22nd 4:00 pm, Transportation Policy Committee
- 23rd 10:00 am, Telecommunications Advisory Group
- 23rd 1:30 pm, Regional Continuum of Care Committee on Homelessness
- 29th 5:00 pm, Regional Council
- 30th 10:00 am, Transportation Review Committee
- 30th 1:30 pm, Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee

All meetings, unless indicated otherwise, will be held in the conference rooms located in the MAG offices on the second floor of the Compass Bank Building, 302 N. 1st Avenue.

October

- 5th 1:30 pm, Pedestrian Working Group
- 6th 10:00 am, Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee
- 6th 12:00 pm, Management Committee
- 6th 1:30 pm, Standard Specifications and Details Committee
- 12th 1:30 pm, Street Committee
- 13th 4:00 pm, Transportation Policy Committee
- 14th 1:00 pm, Human Services Coordinating Committee
- 19th 10:00 am, Population Technical Advisory Committee
- 19th 1:00 pm, Planners Stakeholders Group
- 19th 1:30 pm, Regional Bicycle Task Force
- 20th 2:00 pm, Building Codes Committee
- 21st 10:00 am, Telecommunications Advisory Group
- 21st 1:00 pm, Human Services Technical Advisory Committee
- 21st 2:30 pm, Domestic Violence Council
- 27th 5:00 pm, Regional Council
- 28th 10:00 am, Transportation Review Committee

Parking is available under the building. Please ask for parking validation at the meeting. Transit tickets will be provided for those using transit. Bike racks are available at the entrance to the parking garage.



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