



Regional Council

12:00 p.m., Thursday, January 28, 2010

Pima Association of Governments
177 N. Church Ave - Transamerica Building
5th Floor Main Conference Room - Suite 501

Partnering
Planning
Projecting

AGENDA (4 pages)

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the public and to the Council's members, that the Regional Council of Pima Association of Governments will have a meeting at the above stated time and location. This meeting is open to the public. The following is an agenda of the matters to be considered, discussed and acted upon. The sequence of the agenda may be changed by order of the Council.

The Council may vote to go into Executive Session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S 38-431.03 (A) (3), for discussion and consultation for legal advice with its attorney on any matter(s) as set forth on the agenda.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Election of Officers

Article VII, Section 1, of the Bylaws of Pima Association of Governments (PAG) and Section VIII of the Articles of Incorporation state that the following offices shall be elected at the January Annual meeting: Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer.

3. Action

Regional Council is asked to appoint the officers for calendar year 2010.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. Report from the Executive Director

This is a summary of all PAG's recent activities, including activities of its committees.

4. Information

5. Call to the Audience

Speakers are limited to a three-minute oral presentation and may submit written comments of any length for the Council's files. Those wishing to address the Council should complete a Citizen Information Card prior to the meeting being called to order, which will specify the topic to be addressed. Individual Council Members may respond to criticism made by those individuals who have addressed the Council and may ask staff to review a matter and place it on a future agenda. However, the Council will not discuss or take action on a matter raised during a Call to the Audience that is not already on the agenda.

5. Information

DISCUSSION/ACTION

6. Approval of Minutes of Dec. 10, 2009

6. Discussion/Action

That the Regional Council approve the meeting minutes from Dec. 10, 2009.

7. PAG Appointment to Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities (TREO)

The Board of Directors of Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities (TREO) includes an appointment from PAG to represent the smaller jurisdictions (region) on the TREO Board. Said appointment is to be a Mayor from a smaller jurisdiction in the region.

8. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) 2

In 2009 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed in an effort to “jump start” the economy by providing jobs to do necessary transportation projects.

While the deadlines associated with the obligation of ARRA funds approach, the U.S. House of Representatives have passed provisions similar to the ARRA funds in the current “Jobs” bill. It is expected that the Senate may take up this “Jobs” bill in February. For lack of a better term, the funding in the “Jobs” bill that is similar to the ARRA funds is being called ARRA 2 until such time as the administration develops another name.

9. FY 2010-2011 Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)/Title XX Plan

Each year the PAG region completes and adopts a Title XX plan to allocate Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds. The PAG region has drafted a FY 2010-2011 SSBG/Title XX plan for consideration based on an anticipated budget of \$1,551,134.

PAG staff and the chair of the Social Services Planning Committee will be available for any questions about the draft FY 10-11 SSBG/Title XX Plan.

10. PAG 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Draft Project List

The PAG 2040 RTP Task Force has finalized a draft project list that totals nearly \$18 billion in transportation improvements over the next 30 years. The fiscally constrained list consists of improvements in four modal categories: roadway, transit, regional programs, and bicycle/pedestrian projects throughout Pima County. PAG is soliciting feedback on the draft project list and will hold public open houses on March 8, 9, and 10. The 2040 RTP needs to be finalized and adopted by June 2010.

7. Discussion/Action

That PAG’s Regional Council appoint a representative from PAG to serve on TREO’s Board.

8. Discussion/Action

Information/possible direction.

9. Discussion/Action

Regional Council will be asked to adopt the FY 2010-2011 SSBG/Title XX Plan.

10. Discussion/Action

Regional Council will be asked to review the draft project list and offer direction or additional input prior to finalization of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan.

CONSENT AGENDA

11. Consent Reports.

a. Amendment #5 to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) prepared by Pima Association of Governments (PAG) is a five-year schedule and budget of proposed transportation improvements within eastern Pima County. The TIP is typically updated through a multi-step process in association with PAG’s member jurisdictions and other implementing agencies. From time to time, it becomes necessary to amend the TIP to reflect the current costs to construct the projects.

11. Recommend Approval of Consent Agenda

a. Discussion/Action

Regional Council is asked to approve Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP.

b. 2010 Legislative Policy Positions

The 2010 legislative session began on Jan. 11, 2010; as of Jan. 20, 2010, 774 bills were filed for consideration during the session. PAG staff will update the Council on relevant legislative issues that may impact transportation as appropriate.

c. Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) 5-Year Program Recommendations

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has provided Pima Association of Governments (PAG) its five-year schedule and budget of proposed transportation improvements within Pima County. Our region will receive an estimated \$60.1 million in ADOT discretionary funds in FY 2015. Reviewing where funds were most needed, ADOT also considered traffic volumes and crash data, with the desire to fully fund as many projects as possible before adding any new projects.

d. PAG's 2009 Annual Report for Hydrologic Monitoring in Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon Reveals Drought Impacts

Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon are rare perennial stream reaches that possess habitat and water resources unique in southern Arizona. PAG recently completed its 2009 annual report on Cienega Creek, which details work completed during FY 2008-2009 and compares current data with past hydrologic findings. In addition to surface flow and groundwater information, this year's report also included a discussion of drought reporting to the state, progress on the Cienega headcut study and information about flow extent in the westernmost part of the Preserve, near Vail, Arizona. The report will be posted on the PAG Web site.

e. Environmental Planning Advisory Committee (EPAC) Report

PAG's Environmental Planning Advisory Committee meets monthly. A summary of the last committee meeting and subcommittee meeting activities is provided as an information item for the Regional Council.

Each year, EPAC develops a list of priority environmental issues facing the PAG region. The document is reviewed by EPAC subcommittees and is also placed on the PAG Web site so that the public can have access and an opportunity to comment. At the Dec 4 EPAC meeting, EPAC approved the issues list and moved that PAG forward it to Management Committee and Regional Council for approval. The committee also took action to endorse nominees, Stephen Dean for Chair and Jorge Riggenschach for Vice Chair, for the next two year term.

f. Program Highlights Report

A list of program highlights for December 2009 is attached.

g. RTA Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Report

Staff is available to report on the meeting of Jan. 6, 2010.

h. PAG Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Report

Staff is available to report on the meeting of Jan. 6, 2010.

b. Discussion/Action

This is an information item.

c. Information/Discussion

Regional Council is asked to approve ADOT's 5-year Program.

d. Information/Discussion

This is an information item.

e. Information/Discussion

Regional Council is asked to approve EPAC's Environmental Issues List, which outlines guiding principles and EPAC's perspective on a variety of issues concerning water, air quality, climate change, sustainability, open space and wildlife, clean fuels/ fleets and energy.

Regional Council is asked to approve the nominees, Stephen Dean for Chair and Jorge Riggenschach for Vice Chair of the Environmental Planning Advisory Committee. Their term of service will be from the present until December 2011.

f. Information/Discussion

This is an information item.

g. Information/Discussion

This is an information item.

h. Information/Discussion

This is an information item.

OTHER INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

12. Future Agenda Items

Members of the Council and the Executive Director may request items for future discussion/action.

13. Adjournment

10. Discussion

ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM

Two Council Briefing Packets containing material related to the Meeting are available for public review the day before and the day of the Meeting during office hours at: 177 N. Church, Suite 405, Tucson, Arizona 85701 (520) 792-1093. The Briefing Packets also are available for public review at the Meeting.

The Meeting Room is accessible to the handicapped. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), those requiring special assistance, such as large-type face print, sign language or other reasonable accommodations, may request those through the administrative offices at: 177 N. Church, Suite 405, Tucson, Arizona 85701 (520) 792-1093, at least twenty-four hours before the meeting.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT****AGENDA ITEM #3- ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Article VII, Section 1, of the bylaws of Pima Association of Governments (PAG) and Section VIII of the Articles of Incorporation state that the following officers shall be elected at the January Annual meeting: Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer. Therefore, it is necessary to elect these officers to serve until January 2011.

Discussion:**Officers and Members for 2009:**

Chair Lynne Skelton

Vice Chair Ned Norris Jr.

Treasurer Jennifer Eckstrom

Members: Paul Loomis, Robert Walkup, Ed Honea, Robert Valencia, Ramon Valadez, S.L. Schorr

Suggested Officers and Members for 2010:

Chair Ned Norris Jr.

Vice Chair Jennifer Eckstrom

Treasurer Paul Loomis

Members: Robert Walkup, Ed Honea, Robert Valencia, Ramon Valadez, Steve Christy, Lynne Skelton

Suggested Motion:

That the Regional Council of Pima Association of Governments elect Ned Norris Jr. as Chair; Jennifer Eckstrom as Vice Chair; and Paul Loomis as Treasurer.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTAGENDA ITEM #7 – PAG APPOINTMENT TO TUCSON REGIONAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES (TREO)**Background:**

The Board of Directors of the Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities (TREO) includes an appointment from PAG to represent the smaller jurisdictions (region) on the TREO Board. Said appointment is to be a Mayor from a smaller jurisdiction in the region. Mayor Paul Loomis has been the PAG Representative to TREO since the latter's inception in 2005.

Discussion Points:

Although not explicitly articulated, the appointment of a small jurisdiction's Mayor to TREO as the PAG representation was intended to be established as a rotating appointment. Accordingly, at PAG's organizational meeting in January 2010 the said appointment needs to be made. Some fundamental issues:

- The PAG representative is intended to represent all small jurisdictions not just the specific jurisdiction in which the Mayor serves;
- The PAG representative needs to come from a small jurisdiction that is a full programmatic and financial participant in TREO.
- The PAG representative will provide a quarterly report on TREO activities to PAG member jurisdictions.

Suggested Motion:

That PAG's Regional Council approve the appointment of Mayor Skelton from Sahuarita as PAG's 2010 appointment to TREO.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**AGENDA ITEM #8 – AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) 2****Background:**

In 2009 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed in an effort to “jump start” the economy by providing jobs to do necessary transportation projects.

While the deadlines associated with the obligation of ARRA funds approach, the U.S. House of Representatives have passed provisions similar to the ARRA funds in the current “Jobs” bill. It is expected that the Senate may take up this “Jobs” bill in February. For lack of a better term, the funding in the “Jobs” bill that is similar to the ARRA funds is being called ARRA 2 until such time as the administration develops another name.

Discussion:

Staff will provide an update on the progress made to date on the obligation of ARRA funds as well as provide an overview of what is known about ARRA 2 and regional strategies to program ARRA 2 funds.

Suggested Motion:

This is an information item, however, the Regional Council may want to provide direction and/or take action if federal time lines associated with ARRA 2 warrant immediate action.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #9 – FY 2010-2011 SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (SSBG)/TITLE XX PLAN**Background:**

Each year the PAG region completes and adopts a Title XX plan to allocate Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds. The PAG region has drafted a FY 2010-2011 SSBG/Title XX plan for Regional Council consideration based on an anticipated budget of \$1,551,134.

Discussion:

The Social Services Planning Committee met on Aug. 26, Oct. 21 and Nov. 2, 2009, to identify service needs and funding to meet specified service intents. The Committee decided to use a new process this year to develop the SSBG budget in an effort to select services that better reflect the current social services needs in the community. The process included the creation of fact sheets on the current human services conditions in the region, the use of score sheets to evaluate recommended services and detailed discussions of the priorities for SSBG funds. There was broad, active participation from the jurisdictions and the social services agencies who have received SSBG funding over the past five years. As a reminder, the Management Committee helped to reinvigorate the Social Services Planning Committee and ensure a more regional process by assigning a staff person to the committee earlier this year, if one wasn't already participating.

The Department of Economic Security is currently estimating that FY10-11 SSBG funds will hold constant with the FY09-10 SSBG funding levels; therefore the anticipated budget is \$1,551,134. The SSBG plan is due to the Arizona Department of Economic Security by Feb. 26, 2010.

After the Social Services Planning Committee finished its planning process, Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Inc. submitted a letter to PAG requesting additional funding for legal services in the SSBG plan; the letter and some SALA case study information is attached. The Committee determined that reduced funding for legal services this year from \$97,515 to \$60,000 was needed in order to fund other basic needs such as emergency shelter for adults and families and congregate meals for children. The letter from Southern Arizona Legal Aid was shared with the Committee. Committee members responded by confirming support of the final SSBG plan and the process that was used to develop the funding amounts. Some members agreed that in an ideal world there would be more funding available overall and if that were the case, additional funding could go to legal services.

A representative from SALA appeared at Management Committee and reiterated concern over the legal services funding reduction. He distributed the attached case study information. Management Committee decided to forward the recommendations of the SSBG Committee as presented and asked that the SALA case study information also be made available to Regional Council.

PAG staff will be available to answer any questions about the draft FY 10-11 SSBG/Title XX Plan.

Suggested Motion:

That the Regional Council of the Pima Association of Governments adopts the FY 2010-2011 SSBG/Title XX Plan.

Attachments: FY10-11 SSBG/Title XX Final Draft Plan; Letter from Southern Arizona Legal Aid (SALA); Case Studies from SALA; Letter from Social Services Planning Committee Chair Margaret Kish

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #10 – PAG 2040 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) DRAFT PROJECT LIST**Background:**

In mid 2008, PAG began work on a 2040 Regional Transportation Plan and established a broad-based task force to guide development of that plan. Extensive public and stakeholder outreach programs provided input to the work of the 2040 Task Force. Work of the task force during 2009 included assessment of public input, development of a 2040 Vision and Goals statement, identification of potential projects and programs, review of anticipated transportation revenues, analysis of modal split alternatives and development of preliminary project/program recommendations for the plan. Regional Council has heard regular reports on the progress of the RTP. The vision and goals were approved in May 2009.

Discussion:

The PAG 2040 RTP Task Force has finalized a draft project list that totals nearly \$18 billion in transportation improvements over the next 30 years. The fiscally constrained list consists of improvements in four modal categories: roadway, transit, regional programs, and bicycle/pedestrian projects throughout Pima County. The modal breakdown is comparable to that established for the RTA plan approved by the voters. This modal breakdown reflects a growing need to develop alternative modes and provide many transportation choices for a diverse population as is also indicated in the vision and goals.

The attached draft project list has been simplified from a more detailed spreadsheet. Projects shown in bold on this list represent several smaller projects that have been combined along the same corridor or in the same program category. The more detailed list can be provided upon request or downloaded from the PAG RTP Web site

Please note that in the column labeled "RTP Status" the term "Committed" means that funding is assured or required for reasons that include: a) projects are in the RTA plan; b) projects are already programmed in the PAG TIP; or c) projects relate to federal or state requirements. The term "Proposed" means a project has neither an identified funding source nor a state or federal requirement. The term "In Plan" is shown where a project consisting of smaller combined projects may contain both committed and proposed funding.

PAG is currently soliciting feedback on the draft project list. In addition, a series of public open houses will be held on March 8, 9 and 10. The 2040 RTP needs to be finalized and adopted by June 2010.

Suggested Motion:

That the Regional Council of the Pima Association of Governments offer direction or additional input prior to finalization of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan.

Attachments: Map of 2040 RTP Roadway Projects
Map of 2040 RTP Transit Projects
Summary of Draft 2040 RTP Project List

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTAGENDA ITEM #11a – AMENDMENT #5 TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**Background:**

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), prepared by Pima Association of Governments (PAG), is a five-year schedule and budget of proposed transportation improvements within Pima County. The TIP is typically updated annually through a multi-step process in association with PAG's member jurisdictions and other implementing agencies. The TIP addresses improvements to diverse elements of the regional transportation system including national, state and local highways, transit, aviation, ride sharing, bikeways and pedestrian facilities. The TIP also responds to various state and federal regulatory requirements for development of a transportation improvement program.

As the annual TIP is developed, the last four years of the previous TIP are adjusted for changing project costs and regional fund revenue estimates. The fifth year of the TIP is developed based on regional funds available, with priority given to finish projects already in the TIP before any new projects are added.

Discussion:

The following is a summary of the items included in TIP Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP, recommended by the TIP Subcommittee for approval:

- Item A – ADOT's request to advance design and increase funding for its I-19: Sahuarita Rd. Traffic Interchange project.
- Item B – ADOT's request to increase design funds for its SR 77: Tangerine to Pinal County Line widening project by decreasing funding on its SR 86: Valencia to Kinney widening project.
- Item C – ADOT's request to take two projects out of reserve: SR 86: MP 120.2 (Fresnal) to MP 124.5 widening project and SR 86: MP 124.5 to MP 128.5 (San Isidro) reconstruct and widening project by decreasing excess funds from bid savings on its SR 86: MP 127.1 to MP 141.1 (San Pedro Road Segment) reconstruct and widening project.
- Item D – Adds the ADOT sponsored RTA project to construct three wildlife crossings on SR 77: Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line previously approved by the RTA Board and RTA TIP Subcommittee.
- Item E – Adds the regions Round 17 TE projects that have been approved by the Arizona State Transportation Board.

Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
 (*All numbers are in thousands)

Project/TIP ID Number	Sponsor/ reason for the amendment	Funding before amend.*	Funding after amend.*	Total change*
Item A				
I-19: Sahuarita Rd. Traffic Interchange (TIP ID #101.08)	Advances design and increases funding for ADOT's I-19: Sahuarita Rd. interchange improvement project	7700	8600	+ 900
Item B				
SR 77: Tangerine to Pinal County Line (TIP ID #11.02)	Increases design funding on ADOT's SR 77: Tangerine to Pinal County Line widening project (to 6 lanes)	32477	33977	+ 1500
SR 86: Valencia to Kinney (TIP ID #2.02)	Decreases funding on ADOT's SR 86: Valencia to Kinney widening project	33875	32375	- 1500
Item C				
SR 86: MP 120.2 (Fresnal) to MP 124.5 (TIP ID #47.06)	Takes ADOT's widening project on SR 86: MP 120.2 (Fresnal) to MP 124.5 out of reserve by moving bid savings from another project	0	1500	+ 1500
SR 86: MP 124.5 to MP 128.5 (San Isidro Rd. Segment) (TIP ID #45.01)	Takes ADOT's reconstruct and widening project on SR 86: MP 124.5 to MP 128.5 (San Isidro Rd.) out of reserve by moving bid savings from another project	0	1600	+ 1600
SR 86: MP 137.1 to MP 141.1 (San Pedro Road Segment) (TIP ID #104.03)	Decreases excess funds from bid savings on ADOT's SR 86: MP 137.1 to MP 141.1 (San Pedro Road Segment) reconstruct and widening project to take two projects out of reserve.	15100	12000	- 3100
Item D				
SR 77: Wildlife Crossing Structures; Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County Line (TIP ID #86.09)	Adds ADOT sponsored RTA project to construct 3 wildlife crossings on SR 77: Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line to the TIP	0	8231	+ 8231
Item E				
Canada del Oro Shared Use-Path Final Phase (TIP ID #88.09)	Adds Oro Valley sponsored TE Project to construct the final phase of the shared use-path from First Ave. to Steam Pump Village	0	522 873 RTA	+1395
Glenn Street Neighborhood	Adds City of Tucson sponsored TE			

Project/TIP ID Number	Sponsor/ reason for the amendment	Funding before amend.*	Funding after amend.*	Total change*
Improvement Project (TIP ID #87.09)	Project to construct a pedestrian path from Columbus to Country Club Rd.	0	500 119 RTA	+ 619
San Xavier Path Mission Gateway-SRTS (TIP ID #91.09)	Adds Tohono O'odham sponsored TE Project to construct a pathway in coordination with the SRTS program	0	518 400 RTA	+ 918
San Xavier Road: Pedestrian Bridge Approaches (TIP ID #90.09)	Adds Tohono O'odham sponsored TE Project to construct a pedestrian bridge at the San Xavier Rd I-19 interchange	0	892	+ 892
Streetcar and Transit Museum Displays (TIP ID #89.09)	Adds City of Tucson sponsored TE Project to construct exhibits within the Southern Arizona Trans. Museum	0	578	+578

The proposed change will not have a significant effect on the air quality conformity findings or fiscal constraint analysis of the TIP.

Suggested Motion:

That the Regional Council of the Pima Association of Governments is asked to approve Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP.

Attachment: Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP

AGENDA PACKET MEMO**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT****AGENDA ITEM #11b – 2010 LEGISLATIVE POLICY POSITIONS****Background:**

The 2010 legislative policy positions are a set of 17 legislative positions to guide regional coordination of legislative issues and provide for timely and effective actions to meet the legislative goals of the Regional Council. At its Dec. 10, 2009, meeting, PAG Regional Council adopted these 2010 legislative policy positions which include:

- A. Maintain Integrity of the Highway Users Revenue Fund (HURF)
- B. Adjust and Index State Gas Tax
- C. Seek to Expand Transportation Revenues such as a statewide Sales Tax for Transportation
- D. Support a Statewide Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program
- E. Continue Local Transportation Assistance Funds (LTAF I and II) for Transportation Purposes
- F. Protect and Retain State Shared Revenues
- G. Maintain Vehicle License Tax Revenues
- H. Support Restoration of HURF Revenues Lost to the Region
- I. Support Adoption of a Primary Seat Belt Law
- J. Maintain the Airport Capital Improvement Program
- K. Protect and Maintain the Integrity of the Regional Transportation Authority Enabling Legislation
- L. Support Legislation that Provides for Tax Equity Exemption for Prior Purchases
- M. Oppose Intergovernmental Competition for Economic Development
- N. Support Bottle-Bill Legislation that Requires a Deposit for Certain Recyclable Retainers
- O. Support Legislation that Provides for Safer and More Efficient Transit Operations such as "Yield to Bus" Legislation
- P. Oppose Any Change in the Make-up of the Arizona State Transportation Board Unless that Change Results in Improved Representation for the PAG Region
- Q. Support Legislation that Recognizes Buffelgrass as a Health and Safety Hazard

Discussion:

The 2010 legislative session began on Jan. 11, 2010; as of Jan. 20, 2010, 774 bills were filed for consideration during the session. PAG staff will update the committee on relevant legislative issues that may impact transportation as appropriate.

Suggested Motion:

This is an information item.

Attachment: 2010 Legislative Policy Positions

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTAGENDA ITEM #11c – ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ADOT) 5-YEAR PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS**Background:**

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), prepared by Pima Association of Governments (PAG), is a five-year schedule and budget of proposed transportation improvements within Pima County. The TIP is typically updated annually through a multi-step process in association with PAG's member jurisdictions and other implementing agencies. State-funded transportation projects in the PAG region must be included in the PAG 5-year TIP.

Discussion:

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has provided Pima Association of Governments (PAG) its five-year schedule and budget of proposed transportation improvements within Pima County.

Our region will receive an estimated \$60.1 million in ADOT discretionary funds in FY 2015.

Reviewing where funds were most needed, ADOT also considered traffic volumes and crash data, with the desire to fully fund as many projects as possible before adding any new projects.

The TIP Subcommittee recommends approval of ADOT's proposed 5-year program (see attached).

Suggested Motion:

That the Regional Council of the Pima Association of Governments approves the ADOT 5-year Program.

Attachment: ADOT 5-year Program spreadsheet

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #11d – PAG's 2009 ANNUAL REPORT FOR HYDROLOGIC MONITORING IN CIENEGA CREEK AND DAVIDSON CANYON REVEALS DROUGHT IMPACTS**Background:**

Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon are rare perennial stream reaches that possess habitat and water resources unique in southern Arizona. These streams have priority aquatic and riparian resources as specified in the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan and are designated as Outstanding Arizona Waters by the State and a Natural Preserve by Pima County. In coordination with Pima County, PAG has conducted hydrologic monitoring in the Cienega Creek watershed since 1989. The purpose of PAG's monitoring program is to firmly establish baseline hydrologic conditions in the event that future drought or development threatens this exceptional natural resource.

PAG recently completed its 2009 annual report on Cienega Creek, which details work completed during FY 2008-2009 and compares current data with past hydrologic findings. In addition to surface flow and groundwater information, this year's report also included a discussion of drought reporting to the state, progress on the Cienega headcut study and information about flow extent in the westernmost part of the Preserve, near Vail, Arizona. The report will be posted on the PAG Web site.

Discussion:

PAG's hydrologic monitoring data reveal that drought has significantly impacted the Cienega Creek Preserve area. Between 2002 and a 2008 groundwater levels declined by approximately 5 feet. Even more significantly, wells showed as much as 14 foot drop in groundwater levels between September 2008 and September 2009 (a one-year time frame). Streamflow extent measurements show a similar story. In July 1984, the creek flowed continuously through the Preserve area, but in the last 10 years (since 1999), an average of 28 percent of the stream length has been dry. In September 2009, more of the stream area within the Preserve was dryer than for any previous measurement, even those made during June months, which are generally the lowest flow months of the year. Additionally, the volume of water flowing in September was approximately 10 percent of the volume found in pre-drought years.

PAG contributes hydrologic monitoring data to the Local Drought Impact Group through AZ Drought Watch in order to help the Governor's Drought Task Force assess the status of drought statewide. PAG's data is highly valued by this effort because it is the only consistent long-term data set that has been collected along Cienega Creek.

In addition, PAG's annual report provides details on new Cienega Creek projects. PAG has been studying a dynamic erosional headcut that is actively migrating upstream through the drainage system. During 2009, the headcut migrated 1,000 feet upstream disrupting vegetation and habitat along the streambed. Finally, PAG documented with photos the extent of flow in downstream portions of the creek, below Del Lago Dam. Del Lago Dam is the location where water is transported from the creek to Vail Water Co. In 2007, the flume at the dam was opened and water flowed 2,200 feet downstream, creating fish habitat and raising groundwater levels by as much as 18 feet. Photo documentation showed that while water rarely overtops the dam when the flume is closed, flow does extend downstream after large storm events.

Recommendation:

This is an information item.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT****AGENDA ITEM #11e – ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EPAC) REPORT****Background:**

EPAC provides information to and coordinates among jurisdictional and other members in order to advise the PAG Regional Council, Management Committee and Executive Director on regional environmental planning issues.

Discussion:**EPAC Updates**

- EPAC meeting was held on Dec. 4, 2009

December EPAC Items of Interest:

At the December EPAC meeting, the committee recognized the service of Dennis Skelton, Town of Sahuarita Citizen representative, and Robert Medler, Chamber of Commerce representative, for their service as Chair and Vice Chair of EPAC for 2008 and 2009. The committee also took action to endorse nominees, Stephen Dean for Chair and Jorge Rigenbach for Vice Chair, for the next two-year term.

Each year, EPAC develops a list of priority environmental issues facing the PAG region. The document is reviewed by EPAC subcommittees and is also placed on the PAG Web site so that the public can have access and an opportunity to comment. This list is not a policy document, but rather includes guiding principles and perspectives of the committee as a whole. Various EPAC members, and the groups they represent, may have differing perspectives on specific issues. At the Dec 4 EPAC meeting, EPAC approved the issues list and moved that PAG forward it to Management Committee and Regional Council for approval.

EPAC received two presentations on the water/energy topics pertinent to Arizona. First, Marie Pearthree, Assistant General Manager with the Central Arizona Project (CAP), about the water/energy nexus and the critical role of the Navajo Generating Station (NGS) as an energy source for CAP. Discussion was held about new air quality regulations that will likely require additional retrofit technology be added to NGS in order to reduce emissions, and the effect that this will likely have on CAP water pricing. Additional discussions will be held on this topic at the Jan. 14, 2010, Air Quality Subcommittee meeting. Also, Laura Grignano, Arizona Department of Water Resources, provided an overview of various solar technologies and the implications for water use in Arizona. She described ADWR's role in permitting large scale solar power plants and gave the committee an update on future facilities that are being planned in the state.

EPAC Subcommittee and Program Updates**Air Quality**

The Air Quality Subcommittee held its quarterly meeting on Oct. 6, and the meeting focused on climate change. Presentations were given by PAG on the updates to the City and County inventories along with an update by the County on their Sustainability Action Plan Report Card and a presentation by the City on its Climate Change Committee and mitigation and adaptation activities. Staff also reported that ozone levels for the Tucson region for the summer remained below the EPA health standard, but that EPA will be reconsidering the ozone standards set in March 2008. The next quarterly meeting is being held on Jan. 14, with a presentation by EPA on regional issues of concern. These will include the current status concerning the coal-fired Navajo Generating Station and the related

air quality controls and potential water/energy issues, EPA's proposal to strengthen the ozone standards and actions regarding particulate matter in Pinal County.

Watershed Planning Subcommittee

At the most recent Watershed Planning Subcommittee, Oct. 26, PAG presented the Watershed Planning Program's recent findings of an acute drought with the lowest water levels on record at Cienega Creek. The Subcommittee also heard from the Local Drought Impact Group and the UA Cooperative Extension who presented a survey which assessed the public's perceptions of water reuse in Arizona. In addition, WPS members provided input on the EPAC 2010 Environmental Issues List. A subsequent meeting was held in conjunction with EPAC on Dec. 4 covering the water/ energy nexus. The next meeting is on Jan. 25, 2010, and will cover various organizations' watershed plans at neighborhood to regional scales.

Stormwater Management Working Group

The Stormwater Management Working Group plans to meet again in early January 2010. The group has taken a hiatus after the summer stormwater outreach activities. The 2009 Stormwater Outreach received first place in the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA) "Excellence in Communication" award in the "Improving Water Quality" category. A copy of the PAG outreach campaign has been circulated to all NAFSMA members throughout the nation. The group will meet early next year and resume planning and preparation for 2010 Stormwater Outreach and Stormwater Construction Seminar.

Future EPAC Agenda Items

The next EPAC meeting will be held on Friday, Feb. 5 at 9:30 a.m. in PAG's 5th floor conference room. Dr. Colin Kaltenbach, Vice Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Director of the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station, will provide a presentation on biofuels in Arizona, and Pima County Office of Conservation Science and Environmental Policy will present an overview of its recently released Multiple Species Conservation Plan. In addition, Pima County Dept. of Environmental Quality will provide an overview of its air quality services.

Suggested Motion:

Approval of the nominees, Stephen Dean for Chair and Jorge Rigenbach for Vice Chair of the Environmental Planning Advisory Committee. Their term of service will be from the present until December 2011.

Approval of EPAC's Environmental Issues List, which outlines guiding principles and EPAC's perspective on a variety of issues concerning water, air quality, climate change, sustainability, open space and wildlife, clean fuels/ fleets and energy.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #11f – PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

Background:

Lists of program highlights for December 2009 are attached.

Discussion:

Highlights are provided for Technical Services, Transportation, Environmental and Communications.

Suggested Motion:

This is an information item.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTAGENDA ITEM #11g – RTA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE (TPC) REPORT**Background:**

Staff is available to report on the January 6, 2010, RTA Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) meeting. The RTA TPC agenda included:

Discussion:

- Project recommendations from the RTA Safety Working Group.
- Monthly committee report on the status of jurisdictional RTA projects, billings received, IGA status and RTA TIP Subcommittee activities.
- A quarterly report from the RTA Transit Working Group.

Suggested Motion:

This is an information item.

AGENDA PACKET MEMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTAGENDA ITEM #11h – PAG TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE (TPC) REPORT**Background:**

Staff is available to report on the January 6, 2010, Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) meetings. The TPC agenda included:

Discussion:

- A monthly committee report on the TIP Subcommittee's activities
- FY 2011-2015 TIP STP and 12.6% Cash Flow Adjustments needed for fiscal constraint of the new TIP.
- ADOT's 5-year Program
- 2010 Legislative Policy Positions & Legislative Update
- Monthly report from the Transportation Finance Subcommittee
- Update on ARRA I project status by ADOT staff
- PAG staff report on the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) development and request for jurisdictional comments
- A quarterly report handout from the ADOT District Engineer.

Suggested Motion:

This is an information item.