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For immediate release

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RTA ballot count confirms election results

The state Attorney General's recount of the ballots from the May 16, 2006, election for the Regional Transportation Authority plan and half-cent sales tax confirmed that the election results stand.

"Although the recount was targeted to determine any criminal activity associated with the 2006 election, the results offer reassurance of the wishes of Pima County voters that supported the RTA plan," said Gary G. Hayes, executive director of the Regional Transportation Authority. "We hope that this news puts to rest any doubts that people have about the support for needed transportation improvements in the region,"

For all those who have been associated with the RTA, i.e. the Board Members, its employees, and all those who worked and supported the RTA all along, there never was any doubt and that is why we pushed legally for a recount.

The RTA was approved because the citizens of the region did not heed the never ceasing voices of parochialism and negativity but responded to the transportation needs of the region.

And since that election the RTA continued its mission and plan aggressively but always in the shadow of gossip, unwarranted allegations from those who sought to subvert the stated wishes of the public.

The plan that the RTA pursued included road, safety transit, and environmental and economic vitality improvements. Through February 2009, the RTA Board has approved 261 projects. Currently 133 are under development, 32 are in construction, nine transit projects have been implemented and 87 projects have been completed.

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Among the major projects that are under way are: planning and design of the \$167 million Grant Road project, the largest road project in the plan; the implementation of a regional seamless transit system, planning for a modern streetcar, 81 intersection improvements and 30 high-intensity activated pedestrian signals.

"We are continuing to encourage the jurisdictions to accelerate projects and to take advantage of favorable material pricing opportunities to move ahead on project implementation as cost efficiently as possible," said RTA Chair and Marana Mayor Ed Honea.

Through February, \$182.5 million in sales tax revenues have been collected.

The Regional Transportation Authority is the fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion plan approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006. The RTA Board is comprised of representatives from the local jurisdictions in Pima County, including the cities of Tucson and South Tucson, Pima County, the towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Tohono O'odham Nation. A representative of the Arizona State Transportation Board also serves on the board. For more information about the RTA plan, visit www.RTAmobility.com or call (520) 770-9410.