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For immediate release
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PAG’s growing vanpool program brings federal dollars into the region

You can help bring more federal dollars into the region if you decide to vanpool. Pima Association of Governments received increases in federal funding over the past three years due its expanding vanpool program.

PAG first submitted a vanpool program report to the National Transit Database in FY 2009-10. The following year, PAG submitted revenue miles and passenger counts of 13 vanpools and received an additional $97,313 for its apportionment under the Federal Transit Administration’s 5307 program, which provides federal dollars to urbanized areas for transit capital and operating assistance.

The PAG vanpool program began in 2005 with a handful of vanpools and has grown ever since. In early 2009, the program was rebranded as Sun Rideshare to make it a component of the seamless transportation system in Pima County. Vans are leased on a 30-day basis and can seat 7 to 15 passengers. Monthly lease costs are divided among the vanpool passengers. Vanpooling is an affordable and convenient transportation option for area workers who are not served by public transportation.

In FY 2011-12, PAG reported 30 vanpools, which should result in approximately $200,000 additional federal dollars to PAG to support public transportation.

Monthly vanpool fares are discounted for eligible vanpools through a subsidy provided by PAG. New increases in the subsidy will make vanpooling a more affordable option for low income workers. In some cases, employers also provide a subsidy.

To start a vanpool, visit www.PAGregion.com and learn more about vanpooling under the Sun Rideshare program.

Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, energy, watershed and air quality. PAG’s staff gather and analyze data, provide accurate information, and coordinate an open and cooperative planning process to promote good decision-making for the region. Please visit www.PAGregion.com for more information or www.facebook.com/PAGregion