

Regional Council Meeting Summary

Meeting Summary of Thursday, July 27, 2023

Full Video Recording (YouTube): [YouTube Meeting Link](#)

"We encourage and uphold the importance of regional collaboration as the RTA Board addresses regional priorities and pursues regional solutions."

To view the full Regional Collaboration and Unity Pledge, visit: PAGregion.com/pledge

Regional Council Members Present: Mayor Ed Honea
Mr. Ted Maxwell
Mayor Tom Murphy
Supervisor Rex Scott
Mayor Paul Diaz
Chairman Peter Yucupicio
Mayor Joe Winfield
Mayor Regina Romero

Regional Council Members Absent: Chairman Ned Norris Jr.

Staff Lead: Farhad Moghimi, Executive Director
Secretary

The following is an audio-to-text transcription of the **Regional Council Meeting held on Thursday July 27, 2023**, and is being used as the written summary of the discussion.

Minor changes were made to the transcription to include grammar or formatting for clarity, YouTube links/time stamps, spelling corrections and the addition of the agenda number or items based on the posted agenda.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

[Item #1 Video Link](#)

Chairman Peter Yucupicio called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. and roll call of members was taken.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

[Item 2 Video Link](#)

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by those in attendance.

3. Call to the Audience (Remote Access Option)

[Item #3 Video Link](#)

Farhad Moghimi: Mr. Chair, Jamie is going to take care of that if we have anyone.

Jamie Brown: Mr. Chair, we do not have any speakers for the call to the audience.

4. Approval of the May 25, 2023, Meeting Summary

[Item #4 Video Link](#)

Chairman Yucupicio: Move on to our next item for the May minutes.

Mayor Winfield: I move to approve.

Mayor Murphy: Second.

Mayor Romero: Mr. Chair, I have some corrections to the meeting minutes, corrections to the meeting summary and I'll give these to Jacki after. The description at the top of page three of the May 23 meeting summary, it says that Mayor Romero said that keeping it light doesn't set goals and doesn't think it's appropriate to not add any further information or strategies in terms of developing multimodal components of RMAP. Please change this paragraph to Mayor Romero said that keeping it light doesn't set goals, period. She doesn't think it's appropriate to not add any further information or strategy. In contrast, goal four in terms of developing multimodal components of the RMAP has 8 strategies based on input that I have given, or she has given at this table about how slim any detail on environmental justice planning and to continue having such a flimsy strategy. Is contrary to what a PAG member has been asking this organization to do. I'll provide a printed copy for you. Another one on page four between the paragraphs, the third paragraph that begins with Supervisor Scott asked that the 4th paragraph that begins with motion was made. Please add the following, Mayor Romero asked if any PAG committees were given the opportunity to work on Title VI and environmental justice planning and if anyone was able to give feedback and input on the overall work program and specifically on Title VI and environmental justice issues. Mr. Moghimi responded that every document goes through a committee process before being finalized.

Chairman Yucupicio: OK, motion was made, and seconded, all-in favor say aye with the amendments or the corrections. Aye, thank you. We'll move on to #5 consent agenda.

5. Consent Agenda Items for Information:

[Item #5 Video Link](#)

- a. Regional Transportation Revenues Update**
- b. Program Highlights Report**
- c. Contracts and Agreements Report**

Farhad Moghimi: Mr. Chair, this is for information only unless anybody has any questions, I'll be happy to answer any questions if you have any. No action required.

Chairman Yucupicio: Move to number 6, the mobility plan.

6. Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan (RMAP) Update

[Item #6 Video Link](#)

Farhad Moghimi: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jeanette will give us an update on the status of the long-range plan. Thank you, Jeanette.

Jeanette DeRenne: Alright. Thank you, Farhad, Chair, members of the Regional Council. Hello again. My name is Jeanette DeRenne, Transportation Planning Director here at PAG just here to provide a quick update on all the happenings of the RMAP since we last met. Since this committee last met, we do have a few significant activities. First, following this body's approval of the population projections, our team began the process of refining those population projections for census-designated places so as you remember, the county population projection came in. Jurisdictional population projections, came in, and now we're refining those even further down to the designated places. The PopTech committee will be meeting next month to go over this work and continue discussions on those population projections. Pop Tech will also discuss the inputs to the land use model. This effort requires a great deal of cooperation with your team, so we do appreciate working with our partners and all the hard work that your teams have provided in this effort. The inputs into the land use model include information pertaining to development, redevelopment, permits, existing and future land use, and some other components as well. But due to the cooperation we've had with our jurisdictional partners, the model includes the most up-to-date and detailed information, so we'll continue to work together and make sure that those updates come in and are incorporated appropriately. We'll continue to work on data updates for that model, so it's an ongoing process. As you all know, the RMAP takes 4 years and so we are constantly putting the most up-to-date information into our work. We've also really worked closely on our methodology for

refining and assessing redevelopment areas. So that's been a challenge in the past where how do we incorporate redevelopment into the land use model. It's not as simple as regular development permits and plans. So, our team has worked together on that, and we'll be discussing that further at PopTech next month. As mentioned in my last update to this group, updates to the RMAP Project Explorer tool have been made, and since that time we've opened the project explorer for our TPC partners to go in and load the projects. So, they have actually begun loading their projects and we're really happy to see folks logging in, and we have also seen some new staff signing into that. And we will be, we will have a training set up for, I believe it's going to actually be next week. So, we will provide opportunities for our TPC partners to work directly with us and then ask questions. As we get those projects into the explorer, as we all know, and I've probably mentioned dozen times to this group and to all audiences talking about the RMAP, all projects that are programmed through the TIP have to be in the long-range plan so it takes, it's a process to build that project list and to continue to refine it. Details on the projects that we're getting right now, our cost, scope and location and those are sort of the valuable first steps and inputs to that project list and as with PopTech, we're also looking at getting the latest and greatest datasets into the explorer, so all of our performance measured data goes into that Project Explorer. And so those datasets get updated, most datasets are yearly but we're constantly getting those in, for instance, we just got fresh data from ADOT. We get free data quite frequently, so we're updating the explorer as we go along. The RMAP finance plan was built last year, and we wrapped that effort up at the beginning of this year with assistance from TPC and right now we are updating that with the actual revenue numbers from this past year. So that is something we consistently do. We update the methodology, we have our TPC partners agree on how we're going to project our revenue and then as we get the actual numbers, we update. So, we're in the process of doing that as well. As always, coordination with RTA Next effort is ongoing. Most specifically because the RMAP requires physical constraint. The cost estimation work that Rick and his team are doing will be important into keeping the project details as up to date as we can. Any other project details including projects that are already programmed are already under construction, we try to keep those numbers as up to date as possible so our

projects that are in the future 30 years we're looking at planning level cost estimates, whereas projects that are in the TIP that are under construction or ADOT projects will have much more detail cost estimates that we will incorporate into that and we're very grateful for the TPC and their contributions. Thus far, we've been meeting regularly with them, and we'll continue to work with our PAG technical committees throughout the process, including POP Tech and TPC specifically. That's all the updates I have this go around. If you have any questions, happy to answer them.

Chairman Yucupicio: Questions? I have a question. Does this regional plan go five years, 10 years 15 or is it a 50-year plan?

Jeanette DeRenne: It's a 30-year plan, but we update it every four years.

Chairman Yucupicio: Any other questions?

General Maxwell: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, on the population updates that you're doing right now it's obviously adopted from the CDPs, and will that affect the numbers we use in revenue projections for RTA Next?

Jeanette DeRenne: I'm going to defer that to Farhad.

Farhad Moghimi: Be happy to, Mr. Chair, Mr. Maxwell. So, the population projections were approved at the last meeting, we used those obviously for long-range planning purposes. The revenue projections were developed by Eller College, and they update their revenue projection every three years. But based on our conversations with them, I don't believe that there will be an impact. There's not that much of a difference in the growth projections from the last update, but when we do the next update, obviously they will take a look at that as well.

General Maxwell: Thank you.

Chairman Yucupicio: Any other questions?

Jeanette DeRenne: Thank you.

Chairman Yucupicio: Item 7, Jamie.

7. **Legislative Update**

[Item #7 Video Link](#)

Jamie Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and members of the Regional Council. I appreciate the opportunity to provide a brief legislative update. Hopefully you can hear me if you can just do this, and I'll hold the microphone. I'll try to speak up though. I'm filling in for David Zynda, who always does an excellent job with these. He's out today. Today is Day 200 of the state legislative session that began on Jan. 3 of this year. This is the longest session in state history. The previous record was in 1988 at 173 days. Bills introduced this session totaled 1,672. Of those, 202 have been signed and 143 have been vetoed. At the May meeting, David reported on the passage of the fiscal year 2024 state budget, which includes one-time appropriations for various transportation projects. For example, these include \$89 million for the I-10 widening project between Casa Grande and Chandler. \$10 million for the I-10 Cortaro Rd. traffic interchange, \$15 million for the Drexel Road bridge improvements and other projects throughout the state. As you all may know, the Legislature is currently in recess and is likely to return next week. I'm reading probably on Monday. In addition to administrative matters, it sounds like there may be another attempt at a bill that would allow for the extension of proposition 400 in Maricopa County, which is set to expire after 2025. Proposition 400 generated \$665 million last year, so the loss of this revenue could strain other state revenue sources distributed throughout Arizona. Now turning to some bills, we have been watching. This list has been narrowed down from a report in May. All three deal with limiting the amount of transportation funding. Senate Bill 1312 establishes prohibitions on considering vehicle miles of travel and transportation or land use planning, recording a person's vehicles, vehicle miles of travel, and imposing a fear tax based on vehicle miles of

travel. This passed out of the Senate as well as the transportation and infrastructure House committee. This also passed out of the House committee as a whole before the Legislature temporarily adjourned in June. So, we'll continue to watch this one if there is any movement. Senate Bill 1340 prohibits the County Board of Supervisors from granting an application to construct a toll road if the proposed toll road will be converted from a publicly funded or maintained street or highway. This prohibits ADOT from entering into a public private partnership agreement that allows the conversion of an existing publicly funded or maintained street or highway to a toll road including a conversion to implement the traffic management strategy as prescribed, and this was signed into law by Governor Hobbs on May 8. And finally, the Senate concurrent resolution 1018. This would be subject to voter approval and would constitutionally prohibit the imposition of a tax or fee based on vehicle miles traveled and any rural law that monitors or limits a person's vehicle miles traveled. This passed out of the Senate and also passed to the House committee, so will continue to watch this. That concludes my report. Thank you very much. Happy to take questions.

Supervisor Scott: Mr. Chair, Mr. Brown, thank you very much for making reference in your report to the fact that if Proposition 400 is not reauthorized in Maricopa County, it could have a deleterious effect on state revenues that all of us depend upon. And I think it has been unfortunate to see some members of the Legislature try to micromanage the components of the MAG package, even despite the objections of mayors and local officials of both political parties in Maricopa County. And I would encourage my colleagues, if any of you have any relationships with members of legislative leadership, that you encourage them to work with MAG and work with the Governor so that this can move forward because all of us are going to suffer if it does not. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman Yucupicio: Are there any other comments or questions?

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. I guess it's going to last another day to the session in regard to replacing the Representative that resigned and moving on to other things. Betty Villegas will be sworn in on Monday.

Chairman Yucupicio: Any other comments?

Mayor Romero: Chairman, I'd like to attach myself to the comments made by Supervisor Scott.

Chairman Yucupicio: Any others? None.

8. Executive Session

[Item #8 Video Link](#)

Chairman Yucupicio: Next on the agenda is the Executive Session. Do we have to say all in favor?

Farhad Moghimi: You do need a vote to go into Executive Session, yes.

12:18 p.m.: Motion was made by Supervisor Scott, seconded by Chairman Yucupicio and unanimously carried that the Regional Council of Pima Association of Governments move into closed Executive Session.

1:40 p.m.: Motion was made by Mayor Romero, seconded by Mayor Murphy and unanimously carried that the Regional Council of Pima Association of Governments reconvene into Regular Session.

1:40 p.m.: Motion was made by Mayor Honea, seconded by Mayor Winfield and unanimously carried that the Regional Council of Pima Association of Governments move back to the agenda item under discussion.

Chairman Yucupicio: We ask for a small report on the Executive Session.

Thomas Benavidez: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Regional Council, this successfully concludes the Council's 360 review process, and staff will move forward as discussed in Executive Session.

Chairman Yucupicio: Any questions? Move on to item number 9.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a meeting summary of the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) Regional Council meeting held on July 27, 2023. This summary is not intended to be verbatim. It serves as the summary of action items taken at the meeting upon approval by the PAG Regional Council. An audio recording is available upon request and serves as the official minutes. I further certify that a quorum was present.



Farhad Moghimi, Executive Director

In compliance with the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the PAG Regional Council legal actions and this meeting summary are posted online, and an audio recording which serves as the official minutes of the meeting is available upon request. In addition, a meeting video is also available at: [YouTube Meeting Link](#)