

OWP Monthly Report

September 2023

Mobility | Sustainability | Livability

40 – Transportation Activities

Goal 1: Meet federal mandates for regional transportation planning

- Began cleanup of GIS delineation for submitted RMAP projects in the project explorer.
- Began a colorblind compatible template for the static maps in the RMAP planning document.
- Continued: Monitoring planning document conformance between the RMAP listing of projects and the PAG TIP listing of projects and maintaining project numbers.
- Began development of 2055 RMAP performance measure targets.

Goal 2: Establish and Implement a Performance Management Program

- Continued GIS coordination of updates to project locations for TIP project development and selection.
- Calculated performance measures including three reliability measures and non-single occupancy vehicle travel measure for 2022.
- Continued turning movement count estimation using a new machine learning algorithm.
- Discussed with ADOT about Census Urban Area boundary smoothing and attended FHWA urban area boundary training.
- Continued: TIP project development, including programming and monitoring new project linework of GIS mapping for the TIP database and documents.
- Continued ongoing maintenance and updates to the Performance Measure Dashboard tool.
- Continued ongoing monitoring of ADOT's performance measures for the FAST Act.

Goal 3: Title VI and Environmental Justice Planning and Compliance

- Submitted PAG Title VI Plan to Regional Council for review and approval.

Goal 4: Develop Multimodal Components of the long-range RMAP

- Attended Tucson Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting.
- Attended FHWA webinar "Complete Streets Safety Analysis."

Goal 5: Coordinate transportation planning efforts conducted by other agencies with regional studies

- Continued: Partnerships with PAG regional agencies related to grant awards and support documentation, including project phasing, planning, and programming in the TIP.

Goal 7: Enhance community engagement in and understanding of regional long- and short-range transportation plans and processes

- Continued: Stakeholder outreach for the TIP development process and programming processes.

Goal 8: Provide planning support for development of the RMAP and RTA plan continuation.

- Continued: The oversight, management, and transportation program delivery for the TIP and the RTA, including policy and finance.

Goal 9: Meet federally mandated requirements for transportation program administration and development in order to secure funding for the region.

- Continued: Supported staff activities related to the FY 2022-FY 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), including amendments and HURF reimbursements.
- Continued: Supported staff activities related to conducting meetings for development of the next TIP and other TIP development tasks.

Goal 10: Work collaboratively with PAG member agencies to develop TIP project lists that deliver projects in the program in a timely manner and that optimize funding available to the region

- Continued: The ongoing coordination process with the PAG regional partners to develop the TIP project lists and delivery schedules.
- Continued: Supported implementation steps for the Regional Transportation Alternatives Grants program projects.

Goal 11: Maintain funding levels to the region

- Continued: Supported implementation steps for the Regional Transportation Alternatives Grants program projects.
- Continued: Monitoring transportation revenues on regional, state, and federal levels.

Goal 12: Assess and maintain fiscal constraint for transportation plans and programs

- Continued: Monitoring and management of regional plans and programs.

Goal 18: Enhance database analysis tools and map products to better support regional planning efforts

- **Strategy: Develop database applications and map products.**
- Employed the ESRI HUB community engagement platform to improve internal data organization. This platform will allow us to maximize engagement, communication, collaboration regarding our geographic information.

Goal 20: Reduce auto emissions by providing a commuter assistance/rideshare program and promoting alternative transportation to employers and commuters. Shifting transportation demand to nonpeak hours or other transportation modes, increasing vehicle occupancy rates, or otherwise reducing demand for roads.

- **Strategy: Provide vanpool subsidies to reduce commute costs.**
- Processed vanpool subsidy invoice for vanpool program.

Goal 24: Plan for incident management and emergency response on a regional level for advanced transportation technologies to improve emergency evacuation and response by federal, state, and local authorities

- **Strategy: Participate as appropriate in recurring Traffic Incident Management Self-Assessment with transportation and emergency response personnel. As needed, coordinate emergency response planning among transportation providers and emergency services through dialogue, goal setting and performance tracking.**

- Finalized static maps for PCOA volunteer driver programs using the supplemental mobility management grant.
- Developed dynamic map for evaluating service area boundaries, the collective reach of FTA Section 5310 funded providers, NEMT and private transportation providers and volunteer driver programs. This effort includes the ability to identify the scope and breadth of transportation services available to elderly and disabled populations in the PAG planning area.

Goal 4: Develop multimodal components of the long-range RMAP

- An RFQ and associated scope of work sent to three firms for the Active Modes Plan which will be used to inform future RMAP efforts.

Goal 4: Develop multimodal components of the long-range RMAP

- Completed annual update to online version of Tucson Metro Bikeways Map.
- Continued development of printed version of Tucson Metro Bikeways Map.
- Continued preparations for annual bike and pedestrian count.
- Presented an overview of bike and pedestrian count program to PAG's TSSS Subcommittee.

Goal 20: Reduce auto emissions by providing a commuter assistance/rideshare program and promoting alternative transportation to employers and commuters. Shifting transportation demand to nonpeak hours or other transportation modes, increasing vehicle occupancy rates, or otherwise reducing demand for roads

- Strategy: Provide vanpool subsidies to reduce commute costs.
- Processed vanpool subsidy invoice for vanpool program.

Goal 26: Apply developed activity-based model (ABM) to support PAG's planning efforts including RMAP and TIP. Deploy advanced transportation and congestion management technologies such as transportation system performance data collection, analysis, and dissemination systems.

- Initiated the review of PAG ABM development documentation.
- Continued the ABM exploratory tool development project literature review.
- Continued review of purchased Street Light volume estimates by vehicle class over PAG's TDM network.

Goal 29: Evaluate the regional multimodal transportation performance through regional multimodal transportation system

- Prepared UA project SOW development for multimodal transportation data collection.

Other CRP-eligible Items

- Prepared relevant documentation or memo for household travel study and assessment, DTA project procurement process.
- Continued to review and upload 2023 Miovision counts to PAG MS2 website.
- Began development of base DTA model (PM period).
- Began 2023 PAG traffic count data collection.
- Reviewed PAG greenhouse gas report for the QA/QC of statistics.

11 - Regional Integrated Watershed Planning

Goal 1: Fulfill Mandatory Designated Watershed Planning Responsibilities

- Continued to monitor ADEQ's AZPDES permits-in-process map and public notices for advance notice of potential consistency reviews or other PAG 208 processes.

- Continued to draft presentation to ADEQ's Statewide Water Quality Management Working Group (WQMWG) on WQMWG and Designated Planning Agency roles and responsibilities.
- Continued planning for a potential future Stormwater Management Working Group (SWMWG) meeting, covering topics of interest to SWMWG members and potential speakers.
- Conducted and facilitated September quarterly riparian health assessments for Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon, within Pima County's Cienega Creek Natural Preserve, in coordination with the Pima County Regional Flood Control District.
- Completed QA/QC and finalized March 2023 and June 2023 riparian health assessment data.
- Prepared the draft Riparian Health Assessment Summary for Monitoring Year (MY) 2022-23 for internal review and approval.
- Attended a meeting of Pima County's Local Drought Impact Group and provided brief oral updates on PAG's annual riparian health assessment results for MY 2022-23.
- Continued an organizational update of the riparian health assessment quarterly wet/dry mapping data by standardizing pool point shapefiles, cleaning up files, and adding attributes from handwritten datasheets, where needed.
- Prepared and submitted the draft Stormwater Program Annual Summary for Fiscal Year 2022-23 for internal review and approval.
- Attended ADEQ's Triennial Review kickoff effort and began tracking the Triennial Review process to determine how or if the rulemaking might affect impaired, important, vulnerable or protected waters within the PAG region.

Goal 2: Enhance Watershed Coordination for a more Vibrant Human Environment

- As a partner of the Santa Cruz Watershed Collaborative (SCWC), contributed to planning efforts for the SCWC Fall Forum, to be held in December 2023.
- Responded to a data request for PAG's shallow groundwater areas shapefiles.

12 - Regional Air Quality Planning

Goal 1: Fulfill mandated responsibilities for air quality modeling and planning

- Initiated: Met with PDEQ staff to discuss EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant emission inventory needs
- Initiated: Attended EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants for State, Territory, Municipal, and Tribal Governments webinar
- Initiated: Attended USDOE H2IQ Hour Webinar: Decarbonizing Heavy-Duty Vehicles
- Initiated: Attended USGBC Mountain Region Webinar: Reducing Your Concrete's Carbon Footprint
- Continued: Attended EPA Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator (MOVES) 4th version information webinar
- Continued: Presented draft Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report data to EPAC's Air Quality Subcommittee
- Continued: Solicited and evaluated comments for PAG's Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report
- Continued: Attended Pima County Air Quality Hearing Board meeting
- Continued: Attended Sustainable Cities Network (SCN) Electric Vehicle subgroup monthly meeting
- Completed: Provided requested data to PDEQ relating to data from PAG's Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory for 2021

44 - Regional Economic Vitality

Goal 2: Enhance the region's ability to compete in a global economy

- Continued: Participation in meetings and activities of the Making Action Possible (MAP) Dashboard.

36 - Regional Partnering Center Support

Goal 1: Provide staff and administrative support for oversight of RPC projects and programs.

- Met with TEP Director of Government Relations to address RPC Board seat, Vehicle Replacement plan and future planning through end of contract in 2029.
- Operated the Sabino Canyon Shuttle.
- 245 of shuttle trips occurred on the Sabino Canyon Route.
- 240 of shuttle trips on the Bear Canyon Route.

38 - Travel Reduction Program

Goal 1: Meet the goals and objectives and implement all the tasks and activities as described in the TRP Scope of Work for the ADEQ Air Quality Grant.

- Kicked Off NTD Report package and began entering NTD Vanpool data.
- Completed and submitted ADEQ Annual Report by Sept. 30 deadline.
- **Strategy:** Manage web-based Annual TRP Employer Survey platform for major regional employer data collection and reporting.
- Internet-based employee survey on commuter behavior/alternative mode usage and summary reports.
- Collected employee surveys from 19 TRP companies totaling 21,436 employees in September through the online survey tool.
- **Strategy:** Transportation Coordinator (TC) Training sessions for TRP employers.
- Conducted orientation for Tucson Airport Authority new Transportation Coordinator (TC).
- **Strategy:** Communicate and collaborate with program partners, ADEQ, PDEQ and member jurisdictions, on common goals and initiatives related to supporting regional commuters.
- Addressed Remote Work Employer (RWE) site reconfirmation process to reconfirm in second year of RWE implementation.
- Submitted final ADEQ billing for August 2023 expenses.
- Conducted outreach for zero activity TRP employers stressing compliance with local ordinances.
- Updated PAG budget tracking sheet for FY 23-24 ADEQ Grant contract period.

61 – Orthophotos

Goal 1: Coordinate data gathering and remote-sensing activities to enhance planning and decision making

- The fall 2023 acquisition of regional orthophotography was an action item presented to Regional Council on Sept. 28. It was approved to move forward with executing a contract with Digital Mapping Inc. which occurred thereafter.
- The GIS program posted an employment opportunity for GIS staff.
- An article about the Open Topography portal subscription service was created with GIS staff and distributed to the GIS network.

63 – Regional Modeling

Goal 1: Apply developed ABM to support PAG's planning efforts including RMAP and TIP

- Initiated the review of PAG ABM development documentation.
- Continued the ABM exploratory tool development project literature review.
- Continued review of purchased Street Light volume estimates by vehicle class over PAG's TDM network.

Goal 3: Conduct Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2055 RMAP modeling and Title VI Analyses, as needed

- Began review of inputs and outputs for RMAP 2055 modeling.
- Initiated information of known projects for RMAP 2055 employment information.
- Continued to collect building permit records (January to June 2023) from the jurisdictional partners and reviewed records of four jurisdictions.

- Initiated meetings with jurisdiction members Oro Valley, Pima County, Sahuarita, Marana, South Tucson, Pascua Yaqui Tribe to discuss land use data updates for RMAP 2055.

Goal 5: Develop regional employment data

- Continued 2021/2022 business listing review and processing for employment database.
- Completed employment density data request for consultant.
- Completed one top 10 employer data request.
- Continued employment data processing optimization.

Goal 6: Evaluate the regional multimodal transportation performance through regional multimodal transportation system

- Prepared UA project SOW development for multimodal transportation data collection.

46 - RTA Support

Goal 1: Provide staff and administrative support for oversight of RTA projects and programs.

- Provided budgetary approval of RTA invoices from jurisdictions.
- Developed financial exhibits for new IGAs and IGA amendments.
- Maintained off-line RTA cashflow sheet. This sheet tracks fund balances and programming through 2026 of RTA and supplanted HURF (12R).
- Updated project and IGA budget within RTA web.
- Revised the Project Cost Worksheet to include fiscal years 2027 and 2028. This revision is intended primarily for STBG allocations in post-RTA years.
- Attended monthly project updates for Element I roadway projects.
- Provided unexpended budgets from projects to jurisdictions in annual rollover meetings.
- Provided final expenditures and rollover budgets for transit.
- Updated TIP Proposed with FY 2023 final expenditures and FY 2024 RTA TPT programming.

Transit contract management and reporting

- Continued contract compliance and monitoring for Total Ride/National Express.
- Conducted RTA/Total Ride Operations Meeting.
- Prepared and Submitted 5311 funding reimbursements for June 2023 services.
- Monitoring contract compliance for new National Express contract.
- Overseeing new Second Generation contract to ensure compliance.
- Working with National Express Ltd. on the transfer of Ajo transit services.
- Monitored Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) with contractor, and updated invoicing protocol.
- Worked with Ecolane and Tripshot software companies to enhance Sun Shuttle paratransit trip data collection.
- Drafted contract amendment with new price sheet for Total Ride/National Express.
- Worked with Total Ride/National Express to continue troubleshooting operational issues.
- Brought Electric vehicle procurement agenda item to the RTA Board for review and approval.
- Discussed ADA paratransit eligibility process with the City of Tucson for more frequent collaboration.

Transit planning and data analysis

- Sun Tran Marketing discussions with Sun Tran marketing team for targeted marketing campaigns for new Sun Shuttle route changes.
- Monthly data reports reviewed and uploaded into internal database.
- Evaluated and made improvements to Sun Shuttle timetables and routes.
- Sun Shuttle November route booklet updated to represent new changes to routes and schedules.
- Attended September Tucson Transit Task Force meeting.
- Chaired Transit Working Group discussing Sun Shuttle service changes.

- Created memo for RTA Board approval concerning EV vehicle procurement using funds from the recently awarded No-Low Grant.
- Participated in preliminary brainstorm for feasibility and methodology for a student mobility survey with modeling team and regional educational partners.
- Met with ADOT partners to ensure all transit team members were familiarized with current ADA-eligibility requirements and the appeals process.
- Reviewed new pricing for Ajo fixed-route service with contractor; developed plan for implementation pending chain of approval and coordination with Maricopa Co. partners.
- Participated in the monthly Paratransit Ambassador Meeting with Contractor and community members to recognize successes and collaborate on solutions to challenge areas in RTA-funded paratransit services.
- Solicited RFQs from consultants on the planned RTA microtransit study.
- Attended stakeholder meetings, COA meetings, and advised the CAC on several issues.
- Began planning for Transit TIP development for FY 24-FY 28.
- Met with ADOT to discuss details on the RTA's submitted FTA Grant 5339 application for vehicle enhancements.

5310 planning

- Facilitated the Mobility Coordination Working Group Meeting on Sept 26, 2023. Topics on the agenda included Drug and Alcohol Testing guidelines, Maintenance Guidelines, Accident Checklists, Emergency Preparedness and maintenance for ADA Accessibility Equipment.
- Provided guidance and support to subrecipients regarding vehicles listed as past due for annual inspections, as per the ADOT Coordinated Mobility Program Guidebook.
- Discussions with PCOA regarding expansion of Neighbors Care Alliance Programs (volunteer driver programs) and initiatives for proactive identification of changes in mobility among elderly and the associated transportation needs.
- Continued work on a draft document to determine feasibility of a pilot Accessibility Advocate Program in the PAG region to provide a level of service to support non-traditional riders in using transit and/or typically client-based transportation services via coordination.
- Conducted individual training on FTA Section 5310 compliance elements to individual agencies with new staff or role changes within the program.
- Worked on the development of guidelines for Personal Care Attendants and a potential certification program through PCOA.
- Continued work on draft plan to help identify agencies with a core competency around accessibility and functional needs with the goal of inviting these agencies into the Coordinated Mobility Working Group discussions. The discussions would have a primary aim of advancing regional coordination, improving driver training and regional travel training.
- Worked with ADOT/EQS to support agencies in their efforts to meet vehicle inspection compliance requirements and vehicle transfer requests.
- Ongoing development of compliance-related checklists and tools to offer supplemental support for adhering to compliance standards.
- Ongoing development of efforts to share resources and best practices throughout the region.
- Continued development of potential approaches to coordinating with case managers across social service agencies and healthcare agencies to address the unique transportation needs of elderly and disabled in both urban and rural areas of the PAG region and incorporate strategies and/or data into the Pima Find a Ride website and potential support for regional disaster preparedness planning.
- Continued support to agencies by providing information, guidance, tools and resources.
- Worked on the development of a "Welcome Packet/ 5310 Fundamentals and Intro Packet" for new agencies interested in the program.
- Exploring potential shared platforms for pre- and post-trip inspections.
- Worked with subrecipients in identifying potential opportunities for MOUs for shared vehicles and emergency planning.

- Began planning for joint training initiatives pertinent to ADA, PTASP, TAM Plans and Federal Braiding.
- Initial preparations for different opportunities to coordinate with first responders for Safety and Emergency Planning Training.
- Worked on final stages of the Mapping Project including the integration of census block data/TAZ, major cross street integration and search related layers for pulling specific visual data in the maps for trip planning and regional planning/ future updates to the Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Transportation plan. All these elements play a role in the associated enhancements to Pima Find a Ride.

47 - MainStreet Business Outreach and RTA Project Implementation

Goal 1: Assist businesses impacted by construction of RTA plan projects.

- **Strategy: Identify and engage business impacted by transportation project construction before and throughout project implementation.**
- Continued providing ongoing complimentary MainStreet Business Assistance Program outreach and direct consulting services to the 4,265 businesses located on 12 major RTA projects currently in construction or design. (Roadway Construction: #8, #16 (Phase 3&4); Safety Construction #38; Roadway Design: #1 (Phase 2), #5 (Phase 2), #14, #15, #18 (Phase 3&4); #18 (Phase 5&6), #19 (Phase 2), #22, #25, #32 (Phase #5).
- Continued providing project update emails to current outreach area businesses. Currently 11,838 project update emails sent year-to-date (January 2023 through September 2023).

95 - Transportation Art by Youth Program

Goal: Enhance the transportation experience, improve the quality of life within the community, and strengthen community identity, while also providing education and opportunity for local youth to create public art

- Continued: Program administration, including maintenance and implementation of procedures and policies that facilitate public TABY installations.
- Completed: The issuance of the FY 2024 TABY application, policy, and map.
- Continued: Jurisdictional support in the development of approved projects.