

# OWP Monthly Report

March 2024

Mobility | Sustainability | Livability

## 40 – Transportation Activities

### Goal 1: Meet federal mandates for regional transportation planning

- Began discussion of RMAP Title 6 analysis for the plan update.
- Continued development of 2055 RMAP performance measure targets.
- Continued development of Performance Measures Report for FY 2025-FY 2029 TIP.
- Continued: GIS mapping support through refinements of maps for the next TIP plan document for new project year ranges (FY 2025–FY 2029).
- Monitoring planning document conformance between the RMAP listing of projects and the PAG TIP listing of projects and maintaining project numbers.
- TIP project development, including programming and monitoring new project linework of GIS mapping for the TIP database and documents.
- Continued to coordinate individually with jurisdictions to refine the 2055 RMAP project list.
- Continued to draft and develop components of the 2055 RMAP.
- GIS staff added line and point geometry to the RMAP database taken from input from the member agencies including continued support of RTA Next project mapping updates for TMC.

### Goal 2: Establish and Implement a Performance Management Program

- GIS staff continued mapping coordination of updates to project locations for TIP project development and selection within the FY 2025–FY 2029 TIP.
- TIP planning staff continues ongoing project development, including programming and monitoring new project linework of GIS mapping for the TIP database and documents.

### Goal 3: Title VI and Environmental Justice Planning and Compliance

- Prepared Title VI analysis of FY 2025–FY 2029 TIP.
- Began planning for an April EPAC meeting. Agenda topics will focus on environmental justice and regional environmental issues per the approved EPAC Top Environmental Issues List for 2024.
- Began negotiations with a consultant to develop a Regional Active Transportation Plan.
- PAG departments each contributed to an exercise summarizing each program that completes Title VI engagement and GIS, Modeling or other assessments. In addition, staff listed efforts that go above the Title VI/EJ requirements such as efforts to test and prepare to comply with J40 regulations that have interim guidance available.
- GIS staff verified TAZ data and took final steps in development of the FY 2025-FY 2029 TIP Title VI maps.

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

- Began planning a second 2055 RMAP Working Group meeting to discuss and further refine the multimodal project components of the plan as part of the project list.

- Met with a working group to discuss the 2055 RMAP project list which comprises of multimodal components.
- Attended Smart Growth America's webinar "Complete Streets Power Hour."
- Continued GIS mapping support through development of a draft template map for the next RMAP plan update document and delineation of project locations.
- Held a third 2055 RMAP Working Group meeting to discuss and further refine the multimodal project components of the plan as part of the project list, including PAG staff recommendations.
- Continued development of 2055 RMAP performance measure targets.
- Continued development of Performance Measures Report for FY 2025–FY 2029 TIP.

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

- Supported staff activities related to administering the FY 2022–FY 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), including conducting meetings, preparing amendments, and HURF reimbursements.

**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**

- Supported implementation steps for the Regional Transportation Alternatives Grants program projects.
- Continued coordination process with PAG regional partners to develop the FY 2025–FY 2029 TIP
- Continued the ongoing coordination process with the PAG regional partners to develop the TIP project lists and delivery schedules.

**Goal 11: Maintain funding levels to the region**

- 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.**
- Continued reorganizing ArcGIS Online content and evaluated online content and transfer some items to archives.
- Initiated GIS mapping support through development of a test StoryMaps and graphics for map symbology for the next RMAP update and TIP databases.
- Hired a Senior GIS Analyst.

**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.**
- Began meeting with a consultant to develop a Microtransit Study. A signed contract is pending.

**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 22: Develop Multimodal Components of the long-range RMAP, including the construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation.**

- PAG staff began working with Kimley-Horn to begin development of the PAG Regional Active Transportation Plan, which will inform the multimodal components of the RMAP.

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

- Continued to work with jurisdictional partners to refine the 2055 RMAP project list and associated multimodal components.
- Continued to draft and develop multimodal components of the 2055 RMAP.
- Continued to coordinate with Kimley-Horn on the development of the PAG Regional Active Transportation Plan which will inform multimodal components of the RMAP. A Technical Working Group is being formed to advise on the plan and will meet in April.
- Worked with a consultant to refine the scope of the Dial-a-Ride and Microtransit Service Area Analysis. This effort will ultimately help inform multimodal components of the RMAP, and the contract will be considered by Regional Council at the next meeting.
- Began preparing for a fourth 2055 RMAP Working Group meeting to discuss and further refine the multimodal components of the plan via the project list.
- Attended Smart Growth America's webinar "Complete Streets Power Hour."
- Continue to work with jurisdictional partners to refine the 2055 RMAP project list and associated multimodal components.
- Continued to draft and develop multimodal components of the 2055 RMAP.
- Began working with Kimley-Horn on the PAG Regional Active Transportation Plan which will inform multimodal components of the RMAP.
- One response was received for the Dial-a-Ride and Microtransit Service Area Analysis RFQ that was re-released to three consulting firms from the SVMPO on-call list for planning services. A selection panel comprised of PAG staff and a subject matter expert reviewed the proposal. PAG will be entering into negotiations with the firm. This effort will ultimately help inform multimodal components of the RMAP.
- Held a third 2055 RMAP Working Group meeting to discuss and further refine the multimodal plan.

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

- GIS team provide data for the continued development of printed version of Tucson Metro Bikeways Map.
- Continue to work with jurisdictional partners to refine the 2055 RMAP project list and associated multimodal components.

**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 22: Develop Multimodal Components of the long-range RMAP, including the construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation**

- GIS staff coordinated points for usage of ortho feature extraction by the RATP project.

**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.**

- Continues discussion and development of main scenarios of ABM exploratory tool.
- Discussed and presented ABM exploratory tool development at Transportation Planning Committee meeting.

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

- Reviewed literature of multimodal transportation data source performance measures and data source.
- Discussed and presented multimodal transportation performance measures development project at Transportation planning committee.
- Continued DTA project procurement process.
- Continued DTA development project: discussed regional input data of the DTA model, results of initial consultant review of network, validation targets, and supplemental data sources.
- Presented DTA development project purpose and scope of work at Transportation Planning Committee meeting.
- Continued development of 2023 traffic count report.
- Continued turning movement count estimation using a new machine learning algorithm.
- Prepared a memo of PAG Household Travel Study and Assessment project for Regional Council meeting in April.
- Discussed the schedule of a pilot study with ETC Institute to include samples of University of Arizona students.
- Scope of Work development for orthophoto feature extraction to support alternate modes of transportation gap/assets/needs assessment in order to inform the RATP.

## **11 - Regional Integrated Watershed Planning**

- Continued work to automate overall process to estimate emissions using travel model output and MOVES model.
- 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, including the Copper World APP. Continued working on annual Administrative Updates to the appendices of the PAG Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (208 Plan).
- Continued data processing for December riparian health assessments for Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon, within the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve.
- Continued to build a test interactive StoryMap utilizing PAG's long-term Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon riparian health assessment data to highlight trends over the past four decades and demonstrate the value of long-term, consistent monitoring and data collection.

- Continued planning a potential May meeting of the PAG Watershed Planning Subcommittee (WPS) to cover requested PFAS updates in coordination with EPAC.
- Continued review and cleanup of PAG's riparian health assessment water quality data.
- Began testing ArcGIS Survey123 application for riparian health assessment data collection and looked into other available options, including ArcGIS Field Maps and ArcGIS QuickCapture.
- Conducted March quarterly riparian health assessments for Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon, within Pima County's Cienega Creek Natural Preserve and Bar V Ranch, in coordination with the Pima County Regional Flood Control District, Office of Sustainability and Conservation, and Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation.
- Finished initial data processing for December riparian health assessments for Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon, within Pima County's Cienega Creek Natural Preserve.
- Received notice from ADEQ about an AZPDES permit renewal application for the Avra Valley Wastewater Reclamation Facility and determined that the application should not trigger a PAG 208 process.
- Planned, coordinated and chaired a meeting of ADEQ's Statewide Water Quality Management Working Group to vote on chair and vice chair positions and discuss ADEQ funding and contract updates, NACOG's 604(b) grant project for the Upper/Middle Verde River Watershed, and Designated Planning Area updates.
- Attended the Water Resources Research Center 2024 Annual Conference virtually.
- Provided updates on regional watershed priorities and local water issues for the PAG's Environmental Planning Advisory Committee (EPAC) Top Environmental Issues List for 2024.
- Participated in a free Esri massive open online course on Going Places with Spatial Analysis, utilizing ArcGIS Online to perform spatial data analysis and enrich data for use in planning tools such as PAG's Resiliency Planning Maps.

## 12 - Regional Air Quality Planning

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

- Continued participation in Regional Active Transportation Plan project task discussions.
- Participated in meeting to plan next EPAC meeting.
- Participated in ABM Exploratory Tool development project meeting.
- Participated in discussion of microtransit and dial-a-ride service area analysis contract statement of qualifications.
- Attended three FY 2-25-FY 2029 TIP Open House meetings to support air quality-related questions.
- Attended Marana State of the Town event.
- Send interagency consultation memo to agency partners to share results of air quality conformity analysis for the FY 2025-FY 2029 TIP.
- Conducted meeting of the Air Quality Subcommittee and presented federal Greenhouse Gas Performance Measure requirements to solicit member recommendations.
- An EPAC meeting was held where members were asked to recommend approval of the EPAC Top Environmental Issues List for 2024, which included items related to clean air and air quality.
- Prepared input, ran MOVES 4 model, and compiled and reviewed output for 2024 performance measures for PAG region and 2029/2035/2045 action and no action scenarios for Rillito PM 10 nonattainment area
- Prepared input for AP 42 spreadsheet calculations and reviewed output for 2029/2035/2045 action and no action scenarios for Rillito PM 10 nonattainment area

### Goal 2: Conduct a regional air quality planning program.

- Attended Sustainable Cities Network Federal Infrastructure Workgroup meeting.

## 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

- Senior GIS Analyst was sent to GPS problem areas on the Sabino Canyon route to conduct a slope analysis and conducted elevation assessment using Open Topography.
- Operated the Sabino Canyon Shuttle
  - Sabino Canyon Trips = 392
  - Bear Canyon Trips = 340
  - Total Passengers in February = 15,898

## 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.

- **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.
- **Strategy: Communicate and collaborate with program partners, ADEQ, PDEQ and member jurisdictions, on common goals and initiatives related to supporting regional commuters.**
- Confirmed 5 of 10 seats employer representative seats for 2024-2026 Regional Task Force.
- Collected employee surveys from 11 TRP companies totaling 5,133 employees in February through the online survey tool. Granted three extensions: Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, The Forum, Life Care Center of Tucson.
- **Strategy: Communicate and collaborate with program partners, ADEQ, PDEQ and member jurisdictions, on common goals and initiatives related to supporting regional commuters.**
- Submitted final ADEQ billing and program activity summary for February 2024 expenses.
- Conducted outreach for zero activity TRP employers stressing compliance with local ordinances.
- Prepared for 2024 AIR Survey launch April 1.

## 39 - Commuter Services

### Goal 1: Reduce auto emissions by providing a commuter assistance/rideshare program and promoting alternative transportation to employers and commuters

- Held second of two required virtual TC Training sessions on March 19 with 18 registrants.
- Invited two new employers to join TRP. CTI and Whole Foods. Follow up orientation meetings to be held in April.

## 61 - Orthophotos

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

- Ongoing: QCed the Ortho contractors 2023 acquisition for the GIS program to conduct final Quality Control and uploads and contacted jurisdictions for commitments of financial match support.

## 63 - Regional Modeling

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

- Continued review of inputs and outputs for 2055 RMAP modeling.
- Continued collection of information about known projects for 2055 RMAP employment information.
- Initiated trip based TDM run process for 2029 TIP including TAZ data and roadway/transit network update.
- Attended AOEO CTS webinar to discuss regional population changes and data.
- Collected jurisdictional annexation and reported collected annexation information to AOEO.
- Continued collection and review of building permits data
- Reviewed information about known projects for 2055 RMAP employment information.
- Discussed RMAP land-use model inputs with jurisdictions through in-person one-on-one meetings.
- Completed TDM runs in TransCAD 7 for 2024 base year, 2029 build/no build, and 2029/2035/2045 action and no action scenarios; compiled, post processed, and reviewed output for TIP and relevant air quality conformity evaluation.

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

- Initiated review of equity and J40 performance measures and developed a quick measure for J40 disadvantaged group roadway usage percentage using select link analysis.

### **Goal 5: Develop regional employment data**

- Continued employment data processing optimization.

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

- Continued literature review of multimodal transportation system performance measures.
- Initiated development of Python code to stream real time GTFS data for transit performance measures.
- Presented and discussed multimodal transportation performance measures development project at Transportation Planning Committee.

## **46 - RTA Support**

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

- Continued contract compliance and monitoring for Total Ride/National Express.

### **Transit planning and data analysis**

- Reviewed financial exhibits for new IGAs and IGA amendments.
- Sun Tran Marketing discussions with Sun Tran marketing team for targeted marketing campaigns for **5310 planning**

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

- **Strategy:** Administer Mobility Management Program in partnership with ADOT under the ADOT MPD 5310 Transit Grant Agreement.
- Prepared for and facilitated the Mobility Coordination Working Group meeting held on March 25, 2024. Topics on the agenda included: Regional Coordination Goals – New or Expanded Service, Project Management, and Fleet Maintenance.
- Worked on elements pertinent to the growth and development of the Ambassador Program administered by National Express.

- Attended and offered facilitation support for the National Express Ambassador's Meeting on March 27, 2024
- Submitted the FTA Section 5310 Grant Application for Mobility Management to ADOT.
- Facilitated the administrative amendment to the coordinated plan to reflect recent awards and forecasted projects for FTA Section 5305, 5310 and 5311 funding.
- Worked with ADOT/EQS to support agencies in their efforts to meet vehicle inspection compliance requirements and vehicle transfer requests.
- Worked with subrecipients regarding participating as presenters for the sessions at the upcoming 37th annual AzTA conference in Mesa.
- Ongoing development of efforts to share resources and best practices throughout the region.
- 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.
- Provided technical support to subrecipients regarding RTAP eligibility requirements, FTA guidelines pertinent to vehicle disposals.
- Worked with ADOT to provide technical assistance and updates regarding pending awarded non-modified vehicles in the PAG region.
- Worked with subrecipients regarding the submission of operational statistics for use in the updates to the PAG Public Transit – Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Supported subrecipients of FTA Section 5310 funding and members of the Coordinated Mobility Working Group to improve their understanding of the Safety Section of the FTA Section 5310 grant application.
- Supported subrecipients of FTA Section 5310 funding and members of the Coordinated Mobility Working Group to improve their understanding of Regional Coordination and important documentation.
- Worked on elements related to potential policy updates for clarifying guidelines for curb-to-curb vs. hand-to-hand service.
- **Strategy: Update Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan under the ADOT MPD 5310 Transit Grant Agreement.**
- Began developing an outline of developmental and research-based tasks and prospective public comment initiatives pertinent to the major update to the PAG Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan in 2024.

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

- **Strategy: Identify new stakeholders and coordinate group meetings/presentations throughout the region.**
- Met with non-profits interested in seeking FTA Section 5310 funding and inclusion in the PAG Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Prepared for and facilitated the Mobility Coordination Working Group meeting held on March 25, 2024. Topics on the agenda included: Regional Coordination Goals – New or Expanded Service, Project Management, and Fleet Maintenance.
- 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.
- **Strategy: Update Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan under the ADOT MPD 5310 Transit Grant Agreement.**



- Began developing an outline of developmental and research-based tasks and prospective public comment initiatives pertinent to the major update to the PAG Public Transit Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan in 2024.

**Goal 19: Provide a resource where travelers can acquire real-time travel information.**

- 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.

**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 3,088 businesses located on 12 major RTA projects currently in construction or design. Roadway Construction: #8, #16 (Phase 3&4), #18 (Phase 3&4). Roadway Design: #1 (Phase 2), #5 (Phase 2), #14, #15, #18 (Phase 5&6), #19 (Phase 2), #22, #25, #32 (Phase #5).
- Continued providing project update emails to current outreach area businesses with an average of 1,750 project update emails sent per month.

**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**

- Program administration, including maintenance and implementation of procedures and policies that facilitate public TABY installations.
- Jurisdictional support in the development of approved projects.