

Regional Council Meeting Summary

Meeting Summary of Monday, June 16, 2025

Full Video Recording (YouTube): YouTube Video Recording

"We encourage and uphold the importance of regional collaboration as the Regional Council 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 Jon Post

General Ted Maxwell
Mayor Tom Murphy
Supervisor Matt Heinz

Mayor Roxanna Valenzuela

Mayor Joe Winfield Mayor Regina Romero

Regional Council Members Absent: Chairman Verlon Jose

Chairman Julian Hernandez

Staff Lead: Dave Atler, Acting Executive Director

The following is an audio-to-text transcription of the **Regional Council Meeting held on Thursday**, **June 16**, **2025**, 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 (3:32 p.m.)

<u>Item #2 Video Link</u>

Mayor Romero: We will move into the PAG meeting, and we need to go to roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

- Mayor Winfield
- Mayor Murphy
- Mayor Valenzuela
- General Maxwell
- Mayor Post
- Mayor Romero
- Supervisor Heinz

Mayor Romero: All right, we will go directly into call to the audience.

2. Call to the Audience (Remote Access Option)

<u>Item #2 Video Link</u>

Adam Ledford: Madam Chair, there are no calls at this time.

Mayor Romero: OK, item three is meeting summary.

3. Meeting Summary Approvals

Item #3 Video Link

- March 3, 2025 Regular Meeting
- April 21, 2025 Special Meeting

Mayor Winfield: I move to approve.

Mayor Murphy: I'll second that.

Mayor Romero: There's a motion to approve and a second. Any further discussion on item three? Hearing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

Members: Aye.

Mayor Romero: Any against? Motion carries. Item four, Consent Agenda items.

4. Consent Agenda Items for Information

Item #4 Video Link

- a. Program Highlights Report
- b. Contracts and Agreements Report

Mayor Romero: May I have a motion to approve? Oh, I think there's actually some staff presentations if necessary. Mr. Atler?

Dave Atler: No, this is information only. So, if you have questions about the content of the packet.

Mayor Romero: Any questions from the Council, colleagues? Hearing none, may I get a motion to approve the consent agenda?

Mayor Post: Motion to approve.

General Maxwell: Second.

Mayor Romero: There's a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

Members: Aye.

Mayor Romero: Any against?

Mayor Romero: I just have a question. Do we have to go to roll call or is a voice vote OK?

Lisa Anne Smith: Voice is OK.

Mayor Romero: Voice vote, OK. All right, so we move on to item five, Federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill Update and Regional Perspectives.

 Federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill Update and Regional Perspectives

Item #5 Video Link

Mayor Romero: Mr. Ledford, do you have a presentation for us today?

Adam Ledford: I do, a short one if you'd like to hear it.

Mayor Romero: Perfect.

Adam Ledford: All right, good afternoon, Madam Chair, members of the Regional Council. As a fulfillment of work element 40 in the OWP, PAG will track, monitor, assess, and report on the financial resources, policies, and proposals related to transportation and the capacity of the region to deliver both long-range and short-range transportation plans and programs. Per the council's request, I or other PAG staff will offer regular updates on the progress of the surface transportation reauthorization. The current authorization under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act IIJA was signed into law on Nov. 15, 2021, and will expire on Sept. 30, 2026. Bipartisan support exists for a thorough and efficient reauthorization process before the IIJA expiration in 2026. But as a reminder, reauthorization processes have historically required numerous short-term extensions and have not passed on time. Meetings of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure started in January under the umbrella term. "America Builds." They're still in the early stages, with the primary stated focus being to stay on schedule and delivering a consensus plan before the expiration of the IIJA. For example, a committee meeting in mid-May kicked off a comment period from legislators, which closed on May 30. The Highway and Transit Subcommittee discussed the Highway Trust Fund insolvency on April 29, 2025, noting it could be exhausted by 2028 without intervention. Since 2008, \$275 billion has been transferred from the General Fund and other sources to the HTF, including \$118 billion under the IIJA in 2021. A proposal to assess new vehicle registration fees was introduced. \$250 for EVs and \$100 for hybrid vehicles. These fees are proposed to adjust annually for inflation and would represent the first new Highway Trust Fund revenue stream in over 30 years. This item now appears in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which passed by the House by one vote and is now slated for the Senate. We look forward to providing updates in future meetings as substantive developments come to light, and I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have at this time.

Mayor Romero: Any questions from any of the Council, colleagues? Hearing none, thank you so much. Do you need any direction on this? All right, thank you so much, Mr. Ledford. On to item six, Regional Transportation Revenues Update.

6. Regional Transportation Revenues Update

Item #6 Video Link

Mayor Romero: Is there a presentation from staff on this? Mr. Towe? Thank you.

James Towe: Thank you, Madam Chair, Members of the Regional Council. If you'll turn to table one of the Regional Transportation Revenues Report, through March, PAG has collected about \$24.3 million in regional HURF dollars, while the STBG apportionments for the fiscal year are projected at \$21 million. In table three and figure one, through March, more than \$132 million in HURF and vehicle license tax was collected across the region. As I mentioned, PAG collected about \$24 million, while the remaining amount was distributed to member jurisdictions. Regional HURF revenues show a slight decrease yearover-year and a 4% increase compared to the five-year average. Table four shows HURF 12.6 in detail. Through March, we collected \$24.3 million, which is more than 16% over the ADOT official forecast. Reporting of actuals was delayed in November and December of FY 2024, affecting the year-to-year comparison. Table five shows HURF 2.6 with stronger-than-expected collections, totaling over \$5.4 million through March. And with table six, through March, PAG had over \$119 million in an interest-bearing account. Most of these dollars are spoken for. In table seven, we look at the city and town HURF distributions year-to-date. Table eight shows HURF 12.6 and 2.6 we have already seen. We also have Pima County HURF and Pima County vehicle license tax, the portion set aside for transportation use only. And table nine has the previous five years and lets you see how much HURF your city or town received, while table 10 shows us

gallons of gas sold in Pima County through various fiscal years. Keep in mind that the amounts shown are for the same year-to-date period during the previous four fiscal years. The region typically sees about 13% of statewide gasoline sales, and through March, we were just under 13% for the fiscal year. And in table 11, nearly \$94 million has been collected in TPT through March, trending closely to the adopted budget, while showing a small increase from the same period last year. Madam Chair, thank you. Happy to address any questions.

Mayor Romero: Any questions on this item? Supervisor Heinz.

Supervisor Heinz: Thank you. In terms of interest over time, how much comes in just from interest on the funds we keep on account? Like in the average year, approximately?

James Towe: Are you referring to, Madam Chair, Supervisor Heinz, are you referring to TPT or the HURF dollars?

Supervisor Heinz: Kind of everything. So, I'm sorry to be clarifying, because I don't know.

James Towe: Yeah, well, I believe last year, the audited numbers show that we collected about \$7.5 million in interest on excise tax, the excise tax portion. The HURF amount is not quite as easy to isolate. It's not something that I follow as closely, so I would have to get back to you on that.

Jamie Brown: If I may, Madam Chair, Members of the Regional Council. Lately, we've been accruing about \$400,000 monthly for the HURF 12.6 account in interest.

Supervisor Heinz: Wow, that's more than \$10 million, right? That's cool. All right, great. Thank you.

Mayor Romero: Any other questions?

Mayor Murphy: Can I just have a follow-up on that? So, typically, when we earn that kind of interest, is it part of the programming to future projects or close the shortfall or whatever it might be? Specifically, what do we do with that interest that we're earning?

James Towe: So, there is an unencumbered portion that is not programmed in a TIP, but it is part of the \$261 million fund balance that we've discussed. So, it's there in an unencumbered state, but it's not in the TIP.

Mayor Murphy: Right. OK. Got it. Thanks.

Mayor Romero: Any other questions or comments on this? All right, hearing none, thank you so much, Mr. Towe. Item 7 is the 2055 Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan Development Update, and I do have listed Jeanette DeRenne.

7. 2055 Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan (RMAP) Development Update

Item #7 Video Link

Jeanette DeRenne: Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the Regional Council. My name is Jeanette DeRenne. I'm the Transportation Planning Director here at PAG. I'm here to provide an update on our 2055 Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan. This is our federally mandated long-range plan that you've received updates on pretty much every one of your past meetings, but I'm really happy to be here today, mainly to let you know that the draft is available. It is live on our website, and it has been shared with our Transportation Planning Committee last week. They did take a motion to open the 30-day public comment period, which opened on Saturday, so that'll run through July 14. At that time,

once we receive all those public comments, we'll be taking those into consideration, as well as any comments that we receive from our TPC members and our RMAP Working Group members, and we'll be wrapping that effort up here, hopefully at the end of next month. I did just want to take a few seconds here to point out some of the key elements of the plan. There are 170 in-plan projects. That list has been included with your packet now for the past several meetings, but included in that list are \$800 million of categorical funding for bicycle and pedestrian improvements, \$5.5 billion for transit operations, maintenance facility improvements and expansions, and \$7.1 billion in multimodal roadway capacity improvements, so we hope that those investments will be good for our region. We also track 39 performance measures, and we're on pace to meet 59% of those performance measures, so the full report on our performance is in the plan, as well as a full complement of all different data that pertains to the existing conditions of our roadway network. Also included are a detailed air quality analysis, as well as Title VI analysis, as well as a full rundown of the outreach that we did last year, where we received 4,500 survey responses and the results of 10 drop-in events that we had at that time. So right now, we anticipate bringing the final draft to this group at your July meeting for consideration and adoption, and between now and then, we look forward to receiving comments from the public, as well as from your teams. That's all I have today, unless you have any questions.

Mayor Romero: Any questions? General Maxwell.

General Maxwell: As always, outstanding briefing, appreciate it. The one thing I might ask, because for those watching us online, if you just had those numbers you put down that were summarized and everything, it'd be a great single slide to throw up and have up there. That way, everybody who's watching can see a little bit more, because you do a great job highlighting and summarizing all that. So let's spread the news.

Mayor Romero: Thank you so much. Really appreciate the update. We move on to item eight, which is adjournment. May I have a motion to adjourn?

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 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 June 16, 2025. 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.

Dave Atler, Acting 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 Video Recording