

Regional Council Meeting Summary

Meeting Summary of Monday, July 31, 2025

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

"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
Chairman Verlon Jose
Chairman Julian Hernandez

Regional Council Members Absent: Mayor Regina Romero

Staff Lead: Michael J. Ortega, P.E., Executive Director

The following is an audio-to-text transcription of the **Regional Council Meeting held on Thursday, July 31, 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

[Item #1 Video Link](#)

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m. and roll call of members was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

MEMBERS PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

- Mayor Winfield
- Mayor Murphy
- Mayor Valenzuela
- Chairman Hernandez
- General Maxwell
- Mayor Post

2. Call to the Audience

[Item #2 Video Link](#)

Adam Ledford confirmed that there were no speakers for this item.

3. Meeting Summary Approval of June 16, 2025, and June 16, 2025

[Item #3 Video Link](#)

Motion was made by Mayor Winfield, seconded by Mayor Murphy and unanimously carried that the Regional Council of Pima Association of Governments approves the meeting summaries of June 5, 2025, and June 16, 2025.

4. Consent Agenda Items

[Item #4 Video Link](#)

Mayor Post: Item 4, consent agenda items for information. Anybody have any questions on the consent agenda? Do I hear a motion? We don't need a motion, OK.

Michael J. Ortega: Mr. Chairman, if I may. I would like a motion. We are asking for authorization to enter into a contract for traffic data collection that is in there, and I apologize if it said for information only. So, action item 4c is for action. So, if we could get a motion and direction from you, I'd appreciate that.

Mayor Post: Can I get a motion for that item?

Mayor Murphy: So moved.

General Maxwell: Second.

Mayor Post: All in favor.

Members: Aye.

Mayor Post: Item passes. We are going to skip item 5 for now, because it is a public hearing scheduled at 12 o'clock and move to item 6, Adam.

6. FY 2025–FY 2029 PAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2025.010

[Item #6 Video Link](#)

Adam Ledford: Mr. Chair, members of the council, good afternoon, TIP Amendment 2025.010 programs FTA funding for regional transit projects. This is a regular process that occurs at least once a year, starting with a call for projects and a

programming exercise that takes place in the Transit Working Group. For this round, these amounts were recommended unanimously by the Transit Working Group, TPC and Management Committee. The only irregularity in this instance is that we are awaiting the air quality conformity determination that is tied to the approval of the RMAP. So, the suggested motion in the packet is to conditionally approve this amendment contingent upon PAG receiving the air quality conformity determination. I'm ready for any questions that you might have.

Mayor Post: Anybody have any questions for staff? Anybody? No. Do I have a motion?

Mayor Murphy: Move as presented.

Mayor Winfield: Second.

Mayor Post: All in favor.

Members: Aye.

Mayor Post: Thank you very much, motion passes.

Adam Ledford: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Mayor Post: Item 7. Jamie.

7. Federal Funding Availability and Constraints

[Item #7 Video Link](#)

Jamie Brown: Thank you, Mr. Chair and members of the Regional Council for the opportunity to introduce this item. Last week, the Transportation Planning Committee, or TPC, met to discuss options for releasing federal funding for regional projects and programs. These federal apportionments subject to obligation authority

and census population area restrictions include those from the Carbon Reduction Program, Transportation Alternatives Program, Surface Transportation Block Grant Program and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act or TIFIA. It was noted that since the current five-year surface transportation authorization bill expires next year, there is some uncertainty about what changes, if any, will be made to funding levels and federal programs. Staff provided background information on the funding sources, amounts available, constraints and potential options. Based on TPC discussion, the committee unanimously approved a motion, one, recommending that PAG staff initiate a limited call for projects to award Carbon Reduction Program funds for federalized bicycle and pedestrian projects that need additional funding and two, expressing support for continuing with a normal Regional Transportation Alternatives Grants, RTAG, competitive process to award and program those funds. As part of the motion, the TPC expressed a strong desire to utilize funds to help fulfill the RTA program through the RTA bicycle and pedestrian, category 41, rather than using TIFIA apportionments to apply to the roadway element. Based on the motion, we are seeking Regional Council approval of TPC's recommendation. Thank you to TPC members for their time and input last week and thanks to Adam and Pari on staff for their preparation for the item. Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes my update, and this is an action item.

Mayor Post: Is there any discussion on this item? Mr. Ortega, what do we need to do?

Michael J. Ortega: Mr. Chairman, basically just give us the direction in terms of the approach that was outlined. So, just keep in mind, this was a conversation that's been going on for quite a while with regard to what role the TPC could play, and I think what Jamie outlined is that they're excited about being at the table and helping to establish the program and establish the process for it. So, basically that's the direction.

Mayor Post: So, would you like that direction in the form of a motion?

Mayor Post: Yes, please.

Mayor Post: All right.

Mayor Winfield: So moved.

Mayor Murphy: Second. All in favor?

Members: Aye.

Mayor Post: Motion passes. Item 8, regional transportation revenues update.
James?

8. Regional Transportation Revenues Update

[Item 8 Video Link](#)

James Towe: Thank you, Mr. Chair, members of the Regional Council. If we look at Table 1 of your revenues report, through May, PAG has collected about \$30.2 million in regional HURF dollars, while the STBG apportionments for the fiscal year are projected at \$21 million. In Table 3 and Figure 1, through May, more than \$174 million in HURF and vehicle license tax was collected across the region. As I mentioned, PAG collected about \$30 million, while the remaining amount was distributed to member jurisdictions. Regional HURF revenues show an almost 3% increase year-over-year and an 11% increase compared to the 5-year average. Table 4 shows HURF 12.6 in more detail. Through May, we collected \$30.2 million, which is about 16% over the ADOT forecast. You might notice that reporting of actuals was delayed in late '24 and early '25, affecting the year-to-year comparison. Table 5 provides HURF 2.6 with stronger-than-expected collections, totaling over \$6.7 million through May. And with Table 6 showing HURF 12.6, through May, PAG had over \$108 million in an interest-bearing account. Keep in mind that most of these dollars are programmed to projects. In Table 7, we have City and Town HURF distributions year-to-date. Table 8 shows HURF 12.6 and 2.6 that we have already seen. This table also provides Pima County HURF and the Pima County Vehicle

License Tax set aside for transportation use. And Table 9 lists HURF and VLT over the previous five years and how it was distributed across the region, while Table 10 shows 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 May, we were just under 13% for the fiscal year. Finally, with Table 11, over \$115 million in TPT was collected through May, which trends closely to the adopted budget and shows a small increase from the same period last year. So that concludes my update. Thank you.

Mayor Post: Any questions? Thank you very much. Item number nine. Approval of Executive Director's Employment Agreement. Lisa, is this you?

Lisa Anne Smith: Yes.

Mayor Post: Have at it.

9. Approval of the Executive Director's Employment Agreement

[Item 9 Video Link](#)

Lisa Anne Smith: I prepared an agreement basically just exactly the same terms as when the Board appointed Mr. Ortega as the Interim Executive Director. I prepared an agreement that was very straightforward and based on just really essentially the same kind of basic terms and conditions of the prior Executive Director, but without any kind of severance or anything because this was a short-term position, and so that was executed by PAG staff because it was under \$50,000, expires no later than today. So, I prepared an additional, a new contract. It's an at-will contract essentially, I made it as a contract of employment, but it's terminable at the will of either party upon 30 days' notice, and I think you have a copy and memo, so if you have any questions, I could answer them.

Mayor Post: Thank you. Are there any questions on this item?

Mayor Winfield: I move to approve.

Mayor Post: Do I have a second?

Mayor Murphy: Second.

Mayor Post: All those in favor?

Members: Aye.

Mayor Post: Congratulations. Well, I don't know.

Mayor Murphy: If we didn't pass it, he could have gone back to retirement.

Michael J. Ortega: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the board. It's my pleasure to serve.

Mayor Post: Thank you, Mr. Ortega. So I think we will take a short break, adjourn for approximately 20 minutes.

Michael J. Ortega: Mr. Chairman, in the interest of time, what you could do is recess this until 12, which is when the public meeting starts or public hearing starts for item 5, but you could also convene the RTA Board, at least start that first item, and then that'll again, just in the interest of time, trying to get through the agenda.

Mayor Post: I think that's an excellent idea. I hear a motion to, do we need a motion? We're in recess.

11:41 p.m.: *Regional Council went into recess.*

5. **2055 Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan (RMAP) Development Update and Public Hearing**

[Item #5 Video Link](#)

12:01 p.m.: *Regional Council reconvened.*

Mayor Post: I would like to reconvene the PAG meeting. We do have two additional members that have joined us. Chairman Jose is online and Supervisor Heinz is here with us. Item 5, 2055 Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan Development update. This is a public hearing.

12:02 p.m.: Mayor Post declared the public hearing open.

Michael J. Ortega: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This has been a very long process. You've heard this presentation or a presentation like this several times. And this is the, I'll call it the final opportunity for the public to comment. It is a public hearing. Mr. Chairman, now that you have opened it, we will go to Adam to ask if there are any members of the public here to speak.

Adam Ledford: Mr. Chair, Mr. Ortega, there are no speakers at this time. I'll just confirm that really quickly. There are no speakers at this time.

Mayor Post: Mr. Chairman, there are no speakers. So you can close the public hearing if that's the will of the board.

Mayor Post: We have no speakers, so I will declare this public hearing closed.

12:04 p.m.: Mayor Post closed the Public Hearing

Mayor Post: Is there any discussion on this item? Hearing no discussion, is there a motion?

Mayor Murphy: Motion to approve the 2055 RMAP.

Mayor Winfield: Second.

Mayor Post: All those in favor?

Members: Aye.

Mayor Post: Motion passes.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 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 31, 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.



Michael J. Ortega, P.E.
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 Recorded Meeting](#)