

May 24, 2018

**For immediate release**

Sheila Storm, (520) 495-1451

## Regional Transportation Authority approves citizens' advisory committee membership

Thirty-five citizens were appointed to a three-year term on a citizens' advisory committee that will provide input on an update to Pima Association of Governments' long-range transportation plan and on the future development of a continuation plan for the Regional Transportation Authority's half-cent sales tax and future RTA projects.

The members were selected based on a well-balanced geographical representation of the region and diverse knowledge and perspective of transportation, mobility and accessibility needs. Technical expertise is provided by the RTA's Technical Management Committee, which includes both public and private sector members.

Of the 35 CAC members, seven are former members of the original RTA CAC to help provide historical knowledge and continuity in the planning process. In order to ensure fair participation, PAG and RTA adhere to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

The Regional Council of PAG, which manages the RTA, reviewed and approved the CAC bylaws prior to action by the RTA Board, which made the final decision on the appointees for the new PAG/RTA committee.

The appointees were selected among a pool of more than 70 applicants. The committee is expected to hold its first meeting in early summer and will receive an overview of the PAG and RTA transportation planning process and background on how transportation is financed.

A task of the committee will be to provide input on recommended updates to PAG's 2045 Regional Mobility and Accessibility Plan, or 2045 RMAP, later this year. PAG is federally

--MORE--

required to update the long-range plan every four years, and the next RMAP update is due in May 2020.

As their work moves into the RTA continuation process, the CAC will work with the RTA's Technical Management Committee to review a subset of projects from the 2045 RMAP that will be considered for future RTA projects. When the RTA continuation process launches, a formal public involvement process will get underway. All CAC meetings will be open to the public. Meeting notices will be posted at least 24 hours in advance of any meeting. The location and meeting times will be announced at a future date.

The 35 members on the CAC include: Michael Balicki Jr., Scott Barnett, Kent Bauman, Jesus Bonillas Jr., James Bradley, Courtney Braren, Thomas Bush, Dale Calvert, Carolyn Campbell, Christopher Carusona II, Melvin Cohen, Arlan Colton, Roger Cracraft, Megan Dickey, Charles (Chuck) Dorr, Ramon Gaanderse, Lawrence Hecker, Yolanda Herrera, Ronald Hill, John Holden, Scott Hurlburt, Jayme Kahle, Brian Keeley, Jodi (Jade) Magaña, Edmund Marquez, Edward (Ted) Maxwell, Tom McGovern, Leticia Rodriguiz, Jo Ann Sabbagh, Christopher Schmaltz, Diane Shifflett, Jack Swiergol, Kevin Thornton, Mary Veres and Bruce Wright.

"Our goal in establishing this regional committee is to not only to seek public input but also to orient citizens on our transportation planning and financing process," said RTA Chair Satish Hiremath. "This is a complex, yet important process for our region that we need to conduct and help others understand as we prepare to update both our long-range plan and the future RTA continuation plan."

*Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, watershed, air quality and economic vitality. Please visit [www.PAGregion.com](http://www.PAGregion.com) or [www.facebook.com/PAGregion](https://www.facebook.com/PAGregion) for more information.*

*The Regional Transportation Authority is the fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion regional transportation plan approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006. The RTA Board is comprised of elected representatives from the cities of Tucson and South Tucson, Pima County, the towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Tohono O'odham Nation. The Pima County representative of the Arizona State Transportation Board also serves on the board. The RTA is managed through Pima Association of Governments, the region's metropolitan planning organization. For more information about the RTA plan, visit [www.RTAmobility.com](http://www.RTAmobility.com), see RTA Pima County on Facebook, or call (520) 792-1093.*