

RESOLUTION NO. 4507 NEW SERIES

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
GLENDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA,  
SUPPORTING THE GRAND AVENUE CORRIDOR.

**WHEREAS**, the Phoenix metropolitan area has experienced unprecedented population growth over the last several decades, impacting all aspects of community development, land use, public service delivery, and particularly the demand on the region's transportation system; and

**WHEREAS**, continued population growth and associated land development in the outlying areas of Maricopa County will dramatically increase travel demands throughout the region, particularly on the Grand Avenue corridor through the northwest Phoenix metropolitan area; and

**WHEREAS**, Grand Avenue is a vital link that connects commuters to three important freeways, including Loop 303, Loop 101, and Interstate 17, serving as a conduit to Kingman and Las Vegas and moving freight from California to Arizona and other states; and

**WHEREAS**, Grand Avenue bisects and serves several communities, including the incorporated communities of Phoenix, Glendale, Peoria, Youngtown, El Mirage, Surprise and Wickenburg, as well as the unincorporated Maricopa County communities of Sun City, Sun City West, Wittmann, Circle City, and Morristown; and

**WHEREAS**, We have a sincere interest in preserving Grand Avenue as an expressway facility that remains a state highway under the control of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and recognize that it is essential for us to support ADOT in preserving existing and planned investments to increase mobility and preserve the expressway character of the facility; and

**WHEREAS**, in passing Propositions 300 and 400, voters have twice supported using regional sales tax funds along with ADOT funding to maintain Grand Avenue as an expressway;

**WHEREAS**, Grand Avenue is part of the National Highway System and is ranked seventh busiest in the state in terms of traffic for a non-freeway urban facility; and

**WHEREAS**, The average annual daily traffic on the 23-mile length of Grand Avenue from Phoenix to Surprise ranges between 35,000 and 44,000 vehicles per day and the average commuter trip length is 14.5 miles, which is approximately twice the average length in the urban area, indicating this is a key commuter and freight link for the Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, The importance of this heavily traveled commuter facility transcends the responsibility of local jurisdictions and is best maintained as a vital link of the state highway system; and

**WHEREAS**, A study of multimodal transportation options (including commuter rail, light rail and Bus Rapid Transit) could potentially provide an additional tool to serve travel demand in a manner that would provide more transportation choices, support local transit oriented mixed-use development and community revitalization through smart growth; and

**WHEREAS**, Implementation of multimodal transportation options may promote economic and land use development opportunities if paired with local efforts to facilitate transit-supportive development; and

**WHEREAS**, There is a strong public interest in such development in ongoing planning efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, A number of communities along Grand Avenue voluntarily formed the Grand Avenue Coalition to collaborate and coordinate their activities in the development of Grand Avenue; and

**WHEREAS**, The mission of the Grand Avenue Coalition is to revitalize and redevelop the Grand Avenue Corridor through coordinated planning, actions, and targeted public investments in transportation and community development; and

**WHEREAS**, The goal of the Grand Avenue Coalition is to tie the Western Maricopa entities together to collectively pursue a common transportation goal along the Grand Avenue Corridor, which can include cities, the county, railroad, unincorporated communities and target public such as major land owners; and

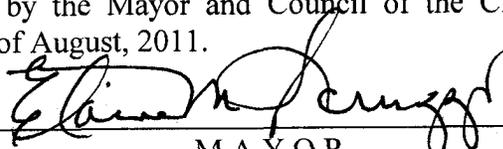
**WHEREAS**, On June 22, 2011, the Mayors of El Mirage, Glendale, Peoria, Phoenix, Surprise, and Youngtown, as well as Supervisor Max Wilson of Maricopa County, expressed their desire in a joint letter to John Halikowski, Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), to preserve Grand Avenue as an expressway facility that remains a state highway under the control of ADOT and to develop a vision for the US-60/Grand Avenue corridor between Interstate 17 and Loop 303 in the West Valley, and

**WHEREAS**, MAG has agreed to take the lead on the effort in a project identified as a Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan study.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE** as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The City of Glendale supports and will participate in the Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization and Access Management Plan study and work to identify multimodal transportation options in this vital corridor.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Glendale, Maricopa County, Arizona, this 23rd day of August, 2011.

  
MAYOR

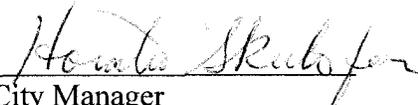
ATTEST:

  
City Clerk (SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
City Attorney

REVIEWED BY:

  
City Manager