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February 2, 2011

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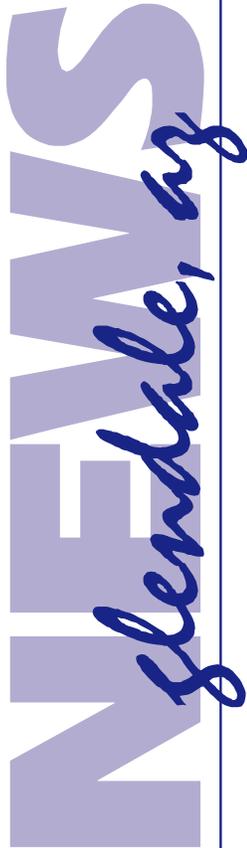
**GLENDALE SAVES \$2.5 MILLION AS REGIONAL
FUNDING COVERS NORTHERN PARKWAY/LOOP 303
INTERCHANGE**

GLENDALE, Ariz. – The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) recently approved funding the remaining cost of \$2.5 million for the traffic interchange connecting Northern Parkway and the Loop 303. Funding for the interchange had previously been the responsibility of the city of Glendale.

Loop 303 is a regional freeway project that was originally included in the 1985 Proposition 300. Construction of the complete facility was deferred into Proposition 400 and is included in MAG's current Regional Transportation Plan. Construction has already begun on the northern portion of the freeway. Loop 303 is currently being built as a six lane divided freeway. The segment of the Loop 303 from Glendale Avenue to Peoria Avenue which will include the regionally funded interchange is scheduled for construction beginning in fiscal year 2012 at a cost of \$113 million. In order to construct the interchange in a cost effective way, the project will be included in the construction package for the Loop 303.

Northern Parkway is a high capacity, controlled access expressway running east to west from Grand Avenue to Loop 303. The project is a joint partnership with Glendale, Peoria and El Mirage and Maricopa County. Northern Parkway will be constructed in phases from west to east with construction beginning in 2011 at Sarival Avenue at the western end and extending to Loop 101 by 2025.

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Northern Parkway Interchange

Add 1.1.1

The project will be funded with \$221 million in federal funding and \$95 million of local match from the partner agencies.

“MAG’s decision to fund the interchange between the Loop 303 and Northern Parkway demonstrates the regional significance of the project, which will not only facilitate regional mobility, but more importantly bring major economic development to the entire region,” Glendale Mayor Elaine Scruggs stated. “Furthermore, MAG’s decision allows Glendale’s transportation dollars to go further in funding other much-needed projects for our residents.”

Original cost estimates for the traffic interchange required an additional \$10 million; however, planners and engineers worked diligently to reduce the additional costs to \$2.5 million. Part of that process included Glendale deferring four miles of frontage road which enabled the project to stay on track and within budget.

Construction of both Loop 303 and Northern Parkway is slated to begin in 2011-12. For more information about the Northern Parkway project, contact the Glendale Transportation Department at 623-930-2940.

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