

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WEST VALLEY RESIDENTS ASKED TO PROVIDE INPUT FOR REGIONAL TRANSIT STUDY

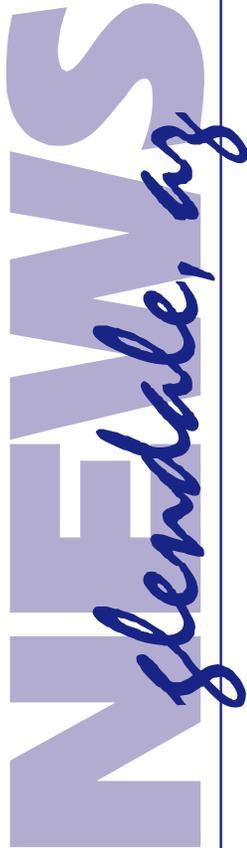
GLENDALE, Ariz. – Glendale is encouraging West Valley residents to learn how regional transit plans may impact them in the future. The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) is holding public meetings as part of a Regional Transit Framework Study.

The next meeting will be held in the West Valley on Thursday, Nov. 20 from 6 - 8 p.m. at Sunrise Mountain Branch Library in Peoria, 21200 N. 83rd Ave.

Information about future regional transit needs and potential transit corridors will be presented. Attendees will have the opportunity to comment on the potential transit corridors and the types and levels of services needed. A presentation will be provided at each meeting.

The Regional Transit Framework Study was initiated by Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Valley Metro Rail (METRO) and the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) to identify and prioritize regional transit improvements that will supplement the existing transportation plan through year 2030, with consideration for even longer-range planning through year 2050.

Nearly 700,000 new residents were added to Maricopa County between 2000 and 2006. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the total county population to be nearly 4 million people today. Regional forecasts for growth indicate that



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Maricopa County may be home to more than 6 million residents by 2030. Despite a funded Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and efforts by local communities, additional dedicated public transit funding will be required to keep up with growth.

“The importance of transit as an affordable, reliable means of travel is increasing more rapidly than ever in our Valley's history,” said Glendale Mayor Elaine Scruggs. “Unfortunately, the West Valley lags in the number, frequency, and operating hours of needed routes. The Transit Framework Study Public Meetings are extremely critical for residents to attend. I strongly encourage West Valley citizens to make the time to attend these meetings and speak up and let our needs be known and included in the data that will be used to develop plans for future transportation improvements.”

MAG’s Regional Transit Framework Study will identify and prioritize future transit needs for the entire Maricopa County region. All of the regional framework studies will serve as input into a comprehensive statewide multi-modal transportation planning framework.

For more information, visit www.maricopa.gov

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