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For immediate release

Contact: Sheila Storm, (520) 792-1093

How transportation spending works, projects selected part of transportation open house discussions in March

Pima Association of Governments will hold three transportation open houses starting March 29 where the public can learn about transportation spending, comment on project selection and criteria, share insights on transportation needs in the region, and review highlights of a draft Strategic Transportation Safety Plan.

The public is invited to provide feedback on PAG's short-range transportation improvement program (TIP) and the Strategic Transportation Safety Plan (STSP). The five-year TIP includes projects to be scheduled for construction or design during FY 2017-21 across the greater Tucson region. The value of programmed improvements identified within the TIP is approximately \$1.1 billion. The STSP outlines regional vision, goals, objectives, strategies and countermeasures for transportation safety that are consistent with the Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

The open houses are scheduled as follows:

- **Tuesday, March 29, 4 to 6 p.m.**, Randolph Clubhouse, 600 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson
- **Wednesday, March 30, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, Community Performance Art Center, 1250 W. Continental Road, Green Valley
- **Thursday, March 31, 4 to 6 p.m.**, Foothills Mall, 7401 N. La Cholla Blvd., Tucson

Representatives of PAG member jurisdictions, Sun Tran and the Regional Transportation Authority will be available to answer questions.

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The proposed improvements are part of PAG's federally mandated capital improvement program. A subcommittee made up of PAG's jurisdictional members updates the TIP annually. The TIP identifies priorities for federal, state and local roadways, transit or bus services, aviation projects, and programs such as ride sharing, vanpooling, or bicycle and pedestrian safety projects.

Major projects in the FY 2017-21 TIP, including new and continuing projects, are:

- Kolb Road Connection to Sabino Canyon Road
- Widening of Cortaro Farms Road between Camino de Oeste and Thornydale Road
- New or reconstructed traffic interchanges on I-10 at Country Club, Ina, Ruthrauff and Houghton roads, and on I-19 at Ajo Way.

The TIP includes projects funded through the Regional Transportation Authority plan, which Pima County voters approved on May 16, 2006. The \$2.1 billion RTA plan will be implemented through fiscal year 2026.

The draft TIP document will be available for review online at www.PAGregion.com and at several locations, starting March 29, as follows:

- Pima Association of Governments, 1 E. Broadway Blvd., Suite 401, Tucson.
- City engineers' offices for the cities of Tucson and South Tucson, and for the towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita.
- Pima County Department of Transportation Administrative Offices at 201 N. Stone Ave., 7th floor.
- Tribal offices of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Tohono O'odham Nation and the San Xavier District.

The TIP is scheduled to be presented to PAG's Regional Council for final approval at its May 26 meeting.

The meeting room is open to people with disabilities. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), those requiring special assistance, such as large-type face print, sign language or other reasonable accommodations, may request those through the administrative offices at: 1 E. Broadway Blvd., Suite 401, Tucson, AZ 85701 (520) 792-1093, at least 24 hours before the meeting. Si necesita ayuda con traducción, llame por favor al 792-1093 y comuníquese con Nathan Barrett.

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, energy, watershed and air quality. PAG's staff gather and analyze data, provide accurate information, and coordinate an open and cooperative planning process to promote good decision-making for the region. Please visit www.PAGregion.com for more information or www.facebook.com/PAGregion