



State Transportation Board

Performance Audit of the Regional Transportation Plan

**Michael Kies, Assistant Director
Multimodal Planning Division**

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Statutes References of the Audit



- A.R.S. § 28-6313 A., states: **Beginning in 2010 and every fifth year thereafter**, the Auditor General shall contract with a nationally recognized independent auditor with expertise in evaluating multimodal transportation systems and in regional transportation planning to **conduct a performance audit of the Regional Transportation Plan** and projects scheduled for funding during the next five years.
- A.R.S. § 28-6313 E., states: **Within forty-five days after the release of the audit**, the Regional Public Transportation Authority, the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee; the State Transportation Board and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, **by a majority vote of each entity**, shall submit written recommendations to the Transportation Policy Committee that the findings are agreed to or disagreed with and the recommendations should be implemented; implemented with modification or not be implemented.



General Information



- **Audit Firm: Sjoberg Evashenk Consulting, Inc**
- **Audit Entrance Conference: April 26, 2016**
- **Audit Exit Conference: October 20, 2016**
- **Audit Released Date: November 23, 2016**



Objectives of the Audit



- **Assess the efficiency, effectiveness, and performance of the MAG’s Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).**
- **Examine projects previously funded and their impact on relieving congestion and improving mobility.**
- **Review future RTP projects scheduled for funding during the next 5 years.**
- **Recommend ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the RTP.**



Audit Recommendations to the Agencies



12 Total Recommendations

- One applies to MAG only
- One applies to Valley Metro only
- Seven applies to ADOT only
- One applies to MAG & ADOT
- One applies to MAG & Valley Metro
- One applies to all three agencies



Audit Recommendations to the Agencies

9 Total Responses

- One applies to MAG only
- One applies to Valley Metro only
- **Seven applies to ADOT only**
- **One applies to MAG & ADOT**
- One applies to MAG & Valley Metro
- **One applies to all three agencies**



To comply with the Joint Legislative Audit Committee's procedures, we must incorporate one of the following statements for each recommendation.

- 1. Agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented. (ADOT: 5 Items)**
- 2. Agreed to and a different method of dealing with the finding will be implemented. (ADOT: 1 Item)**
- 3. Not agreed to, but the recommendation will be implemented. (ADOT: 2 Items)**
- 4. Not agreed to and the recommendation will not be implemented. (ADOT: 1 Item)**



Recommendation No. 1



MAG should work with ADOT and the local jurisdictions to enhance freeway and arterial project cards by including baseline budgets and baseline schedules to allow comparisons against actual.

(Agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented)



Recommendation No. 4



RTP partners should fully employ best practices and establish performance targets for key indicators for freeway, arterial streets, and transit performance.

(Agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented)

(RTP Partners are MAG, ADOT and Valley Metro)



Recommendation No. 5



ADOT should work with the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee to ensure responsibilities, such as annual reporting, are fulfilled and methods of committee operations are changed to be more effective in meeting statutory requirements.

(Agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented)



Recommendation No. 6



ADOT, as the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee's administrative support, should encourage the County Board of Supervisors and the Governor's Office to fill vacancies on the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee and encourage the committee to meet on a regular basis as statutorily required. (Agreed to and a different method of dealing with the finding will be implemented)



Recommendation No. 7



ADOT should report freeway bridge and pavement condition data at the Maricopa County or Phoenix-Mesa Urbanized Area level, in addition to current statewide data already available.

(Not agreed to, but the recommendation will be implemented)



Recommendation No. 8



ADOT should track and report internal project delivery performance metrics at the Maricopa County or Phoenix-Mesa Urbanized Area level.

(Not agreed to and the audit recommendation will not be implemented)



Recommendation No. 9



ADOT should consider using additional project delivery metrics including "project administrative costs as a percent of budget."
(Not agreed to, but the recommendation will be implemented)



Recommendation No. 10



With many innovative project management practices employed on the South Mountain Freeway project, ADOT should consider applying techniques and tools from this project to other ADOT freeway projects, as appropriate.

(Agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented)



Recommendation No. 12



ADOT should continue its efforts currently underway to scientifically explore, evaluate, and implement active traffic management techniques where practical or feasible, including continued efforts to work with RTP partners on considering and prioritizing the maintenance of the communication infrastructure to remain functional and current.

(Agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented)



Summary of Findings and Recommendations



“ Based on the audit work performed, there are no significant changes warranted for the transportation system. However, to enhance the existing solid RTP and Prop 400 framework, we provide 12 recommendations to the RTP partners.”



Where to Find Audit Report

- <https://www.azauditor.gov/reports-publications/state-agencies/transportation-department/report/maricopa-association>



Thank You !!

Questions ??