



# Transit Management Committee Meeting Packet

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NEXT MEETING OF THE

## Transit Management Committee

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MEETING DATE	September 3, 2008
TIME	11:00 a.m.
LOCATION	MAG Saguaro Room 302 N. 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Suite 200 Phoenix





## Regional Public Transportation Authority

302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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August 27, 2008

TO: Members of the Valley Metro RPTA Transit Management Committee

FROM: David Boggs  
Executive Director

RE: September 3, 2008 TMC Packet Notes

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Attached is the September 3, 2008 TMC Meeting agenda and supporting information. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. This meeting will be held at MAG in the Saguaro Room at 302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 200. **This meeting can be attended via teleconference by calling 602-261-7510, ID-7782.**

If you have any questions regarding the information in this packet, please let me know.





August 27, 2008

TO: Members of the Valley Metro Transit Management Committee  
FROM: David Boggs, Executive Director  
RE: Meeting Notification and Transmittal of Agenda

**Transit Management Committee  
Valley Metro RPTA Offices  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 700  
Wednesday, September 3, 2008  
11:00 a.m.**

**Action  
Recommended**

1. Consent Agenda

1. For action

The TMC will be asked to consider the items A through E on consent.

A. Summary Minutes

A. For action

Summary minutes from the July 2, 2008 TMC meeting are presented for approval.

B. Office Space Lease Extension

B. For action

David Boggs, Executive Director, will request the TMC approve the extension of the current office lease with the city of Phoenix at 302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue on the sixth and seventh floors for one year through December 31, 2009 and forward to the Board for consideration.

- C. Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System and a WEB Access System for the East Valley Dial-a-Ride Request for Proposals (RFP) C. For action

David Boggs, Executive Director, will request that the TMC approve the issuance of a Request for Proposals for an IVR and WEB access system and forward this item to the Board for consideration. This item was approved by the VMOCC on August 19, 2008.

- D. Automatic Fuel Management System (FMS) and WEB Access System Request for Proposals (RFP) D. For action

David Boggs, Executive Director, will request that the TMC approve the issuance of an RFP for an Automatic Fuel Management System (FMS) and WEB Access System and forward this item to the Board for consideration. This item was approved by the VMOCC on August 19, 2008.

- E. Vanpool Vans Request for Proposals E. For action

David Boggs Executive Director, will request the TMC approve the request to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for vanpool vans and forward this item to the Board for consideration. This item was approved by the VMOCC on August 19, 2008.

2. AzTECH Transit and Roadway Data Integration Proposal 2. For action

David Boggs, Executive Director, will request that the TMC approve funding for the AZTech Integrated Transit and Roadway Communications System and forward this item to the Board for consideration. This item was approved by the VMOCC on August 19, 2008.

3. Potential Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program Request for Proposals 3. For action

David Boggs, Executive Director, will request that the TMC approve the issuance of an RFP for a Pilot Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program in Chandler and Gilbert and forward this item to the Board for consideration. This item was approved by the VMOCC on August 19, 2008.

4. Legislative Clarification on Vanpool Tax Status 4. For action

David Boggs, Executive Director, will request the TMC approve the request to see legislative clarification on Vanpool tax status. This item was approved by the VMOCC on August 19, 2008.

5. Executive Director's Report 5. For information

David Boggs, Executive Director, will brief the TMC on agency issues.

6. Future TMC Agenda Items 6. For information

Chairman Jamsheed Mehta will request future TMC agenda items from the committee members.

7. Public Comment 7. For information

An opportunity for general public comment on issues related to Valley Metro RPTA. Up to three (3) minutes will be provided for each speaker.

8. Next Meeting 8. For information

The next meeting of the TMC is scheduled for **October 1, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.** at the Valley Metro RPTA offices.

**To attend this meeting via teleconference, contact Rosalia Lopez for the dial-in information.**

Qualified sign language interpreters are available with 72 hours notice. Materials in alternative formats (large print, audio cassette or computer diskette) are available upon request. For further information, please call Nichole Myers, Valley Metro at 602-262-7433 or TDD at 602-495-0936.





# Agenda Item 1

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## Consent Agenda

- A. Summary Minutes
- B. Office Space Lease Extension
- C. Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System and a WEB Access System for the East Valley Dial-a-Ride Request Proposals
- D. Automatic Fuel Management System (FSM) and WEB Access System Request for Proposals
- E. Vanpool Vans Request for Proposals



Regional Public Transportation Authority  
302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003  
602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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# Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #1

**Date**

August 27, 2008

**Subject**

Consent Agenda

**Summary**

The Transit Management Committee (TMC) will consider the following items A through E on consent.

**Fiscal Impact**

Please refer to individual items for this information.

**Considerations**

Please refer to individual items for this information.

**Prior Committee Action**

Please refer to individual items for this information.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the TMC approve the items listed on the consent agenda.

**Contact Person**

Bryan Jungwirth  
Chief of Staff

**Attachments**

None





Regional Public Transportation Authority  
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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #A

**Date**

August 27, 2008

**Subject**

Summary Minutes from the July 2, 2008 Transit Management Committee Meeting

**Summary**

Summary Minutes from the July 2, 2008 Transit Management Committee meeting are presented for review and approval.

**Fiscal Impact**

None

**Considerations**

None

**Prior Committee Action**

None

**Recommendation**

Approval of the Summary Minutes from the July 2, 2008 TMC meeting.

**Contact Person**

David Boggs  
Executive Director

**Attachments**

Summary Minutes from July 2, 2008



## Regional Public Transportation Authority

302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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Summary Minutes  
Valley Metro RPTA Transit Management Committee  
Wednesday, July 2, 2008  
Maricopa Association of Governments  
Saguaro Room  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Phoenix, AZ

### **Members Present**

Terry Johnson for Jamsheed Mehta, City of Glendale  
David Meinhart, City of Scottsdale  
Tom Callow, City of Phoenix  
George Pettit, Town of Gilbert  
Randy Roberts, City of Peoria  
Greg Jordan for Carlos De Leon, City of Tempe  
Clem Ligocki, Maricopa County  
Rogene Hill, City of Avondale  
Mike James, City of Mesa  
Dan Lundberg, City of Surprise  
Pat Dennis, City of El Mirage, via telephone  
Mark Young, Town of Queen Creek, via telephone  
John Farry for Rick Simonetta, METRO  
Matt Carpenter, ADOT

### **Members Not Present**

Mike Normand, City of Chandler  
Chris McMurdy, City of Goodyear

Vice Chair Dave Meinhart called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

#### 1. Consent Agenda

The following items were presented on the consent agenda:

- A. Summary Minutes from the June 4, 2008 TMC Meeting
- B. Contract Change Order with Ajo Transportation
- C. Regional Marketing, Advertising and Public Relations Request for Proposals

**IT WAS MOVED BY GEORGE PETTIT, SECONDED BY TOM CALLOW AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

2. Construction Manager at Risk

Bryan Jungwirth, Chief of Staff, said the Construction Manager at Risk proposed a price of \$16,123,579 which is over the \$12.5 million budgeted for the project. Mr. Jungwirth said staff is recommending going out to bid for construction of the project. He said the VMOCC proposed and approved a hybrid option that would use both the CM@R and the design-bid-build option. Mr. Jungwirth said that staff recommendation is to use the design-bid-build option will lengthen the project to the Spring of 2009. He said service will still begin operating in December 2008 using temporary stops.

Jim Book, Project Manager, said by using design-bid-build, scalable options can be added to the project and it is anticipated that a lower price will be achieved.

George Pettit said Gilbert has used the CM@R method and have experienced savings. He asked why staff is sure the design-bid-build process will produce a lower price. Mr. Book said the bid will be based on cost and not qualifications.

Mike James said Sundt kept several items in-house without requesting sub-contractor quotes. He said bidding out the project may produce a lower cost.

Mr. Book said the budget amount for this project is critical and there is no additional money available. He said the only way to determine if the design-bid-build option is lower is to bid the project.

Mr. Meinhart asked why using both options was proposed. Mr. Book said critical elements could be completed by the December 2008 deadline, however Mr. Book also noted that no elements are critical for the start of service. He said temporary stops will be used until the project is complete.

Mr. Callow asked for a report at the end of the project.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MIKE JAMES, SECONDED BY RANDY ROBERTS AND CARRIED TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ISSUE AN INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR THE MESA MAIN STREET BUS RAPID TRANSIT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$12.5 MILLION. GEORGE PETTIT VOTED NO.**

3. METRO Light Rail Update

Rick Simonetta, Chief Executive Officer, provided an update on the status of the METRO Light Rail.

4. Future TMC Agenda Items Request

None

5. Public Comment

None

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.



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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #B

### Date

August 27, 2008

### Subject

Office Space Lease Extension

### Summary

On January 3, 2006, Valley Metro RPTA and the city of Phoenix entered into an office lease covering the use of 24,967 square feet on the sixth and seventh floors of the Phoenix Transit building at 302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. The lease was for three years through December 31, 2008. The lease included an option to extend the term for two, one (1) year periods. In order to extend the lease, Valley Metro RPTA had to send a notice to the Landlord not later than six months prior to the expiration of the initial term.

Since Valley Metro RPTA was pursuing the Regional Office Center (ROC) in conjunction with the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Valley METRO Rail, and the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA), the existing office lease extension deadline passed. The ROC is no longer being pursued and exploration of a joint building was terminated in July.

Preliminary discussions with the city of Phoenix have indicated that the lease extension is still a viable option. The 2006 lease keeps the annual per square foot leasing rate at the current rate of \$21.82 or \$45,398.33 per month plus any increases in "Tenant's Percentage Share" with respect to increases in taxes and Operating Expenses" through the first extension year.

While Valley Metro RPTA pursues other office possibilities, staff recommends extending the current office lease for the first of the two, one year renewals. Staff will seek Board direction before other office options are explored.

### Fiscal Impact

The office lease currently costs \$545,000 annually plus any extra amount negotiated to cover increases in taxes and operating expenses as outlined in the agreement. The operating budget for the current fiscal year includes sufficient funding to cover the lease. If approved by the Board, the lease extension will be included in the 2009/10 operating

budget. The annual Transit Life Cycle Program (TLCP) includes more than this amount for office leasing.

**Considerations**

Valley Metro RPTA must continue to have centralized administrative offices. Since it will take time plus Board direction and consideration to seek new administrative office space, renewing the existing lease for one year is the best solution.

**Committee Action Process**

None

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the TMC approve the extension of the current office lease with the city of Phoenix at 302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue on the sixth and seventh floors for one year through December 31, 2009 at the lease rate stated in the January 3, 2006 lease and forward this item to the Board for consideration.

**Contact Person**

Christopher F. Curcio  
Deputy Executive Director of Finance  
602-534-0734

**Attachments**

None



Regional Public Transportation Authority

302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #C

### **Date**

August 27, 2008

### **Subject**

Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System and a WEB Access System for the East Valley Dial-a-Ride Request for Proposals (RFP)

### **Summary**

Staff is requesting the Transit Management Committee (TMC) approve the issuance of a solicitation for the procurement of an IVR System and WEB Access System and forward its recommendation to the Board of Directors for consideration. The IVR and WEB Access will provide East Valley Dial-a-Ride users call center access, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The IVR is a digital PBX phone system that will work with our existing East Valley Dial-a-Ride scheduling software. The WEB Access will also work with the existing dial-a-ride scheduling software.

The enhanced services will reduce phone hold and wait times by enabling the caller to confirm, cancel and check on pickup times using any touch tone phone or voice command. During call center hours, the caller may be transferred to a reservationist with one keypad entry or voice command. Outbound reminder calls can be made the night before the planned trip. Additionally, trip arrival notification can be made to customers just before the van arrives. The WEB Access will allow passengers with computers the same communication capability with the call center.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The cost for both the IVR and Web Access is estimated to be \$180,000. Funding for both systems will be derived from 80 percent federal funds from a New Freedom Grant. The additional 20 percent will be funded by the cities of Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa, Tempe and Scottsdale.

**Considerations**

Interactive Voice Response and WEB Access Systems have been shown to improve overall productivity and on-time performance through better passenger communication. No-shows are decreased and customer satisfaction is improved with 24/7 access. System productivity is expected to improve through the reduction of no-shows, the reduction of “where’s my ride” calls and the outbound impending arrival calls.

Many transit systems are using IVR and WEB Access systems for their paratransit call centers. Systems such as WMATA (Washington, D.C.) and MTA (Baltimore) confirmed the IVR and WEB Access improved their customer service and efficiency. WMATA reported driver wait times and no-shows were dramatically reduced and they experienced a decline in same day cancellations.

**Committee Action Process**

VMOCC – August 19, 2008; approved

TMC – September 3, 2008

Board – September 18, 2008

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the TMC approve the issuance of a RFP for the procurement of an IVR System and WEB Access System and forward its recommendation to the Board for consideration.

**Contact Person**

Jim Wright

Acting Deputy Executive Director of Operations

480-287-5980

**Attachments**

None



Regional Public Transportation Authority

302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #D

### **Date**

August 27, 2008

### **Subject**

Automatic Fuel Management System (FMS) and WEB Access System Request for Proposals (RFP)

### **Summary**

The RPTA is seeking to purchase and install an automated FMS and WEB Access System that will operate on real time. Real time means the system is not polled using modems but is live on the Valley Metro transit network allowing for real time interaction with the server. This will enable us to interface with current maintenance software.

The FMS must be compatible with the RPTA's current facility, equipment and technology and use existing fuel site equipment such as dispensers, hoses and nozzles, and as much as possible, use all electrical sources, supplies, junction boxes and cabling.

The proposed FMS shall have a proven standard in the transit community. The proposed FMS will be manufacturer's latest production software and include all standard equipment. The FMS must be capable of 24 hours per day, 7 days a week of unattended operation with a high level of security. The FMS must meet Valley Metro – East Valley's compatibility and integration requirements and allow for expansion and allow for growth. This future growth could be additional fuel sites, vehicles and equipment, and include new technological upgrades.

### **Committee Action Process**

VMOCC – August 19, 2008; approved

TMC – September 3, 2008

Board – September 18, 2008

**Fiscal Impact**

The cost for both the FMS and WEB Access is estimated at \$220,000. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant funding will cover 80 percent of the cost and the remaining 20 percent will be paid by the jurisdictions that receive service from routes operated from the Valley Metro East Valley facility.

**Considerations**

The FMS and WEB Access will:

- Improve accountability for consumable assets.
- Address environmental concerns by 24/7 web access to the tank monitoring system.
- Provide accurate and timely fuel consumption data.
- Eliminate duplicate data entry and redundant data.
- Improve operations costs tracking and reporting of performance indicators by sub-fleet.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Transit Management Committee approve the issuance of an RFP for an Automatic Fuel Management System (FMS) and WEB Access System and forward this item to the Board for consideration.

**Contact Person**

Jim Wright  
Acting Deputy Executive Director of Operations  
480-287-5980

**Attachments**

None



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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #E

**Date**

August 27, 2008

**Subject**

Procure Vanpool Vans Request for Proposals (RFP)

**Summary**

The Valley Metro Regional Vanpool program, through a competitive procurement process, enters into contracts for the purpose of purchasing vans. Currently, the Vanpool Program has contracts with three (3) different vendors (Arizona Bus Sales, Bus West, and VPSI) to supply replacement and expansion vehicles. The three vendor contracts are near their expiration dates.

Valley Metro vanpool vans are eligible for replacement at 100,000 miles or four years of age, whichever comes first, pursuant to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) policy.

On June 30, 2008, the Valley Metro Vanpool Program had 345 active vanpools in Maricopa County transporting 3,474 commuters daily. The vanpool fleet is operating at 99.0 percent seat capacity.

The Program offers nine and 15 passenger bench-seat vans and eight-, 12-, and 14-passenger vans with individual seats. Prior to the expiration of the existing contracts, Valley Metro will need to issue a Request for Proposals in order to establish new five-year contracts for van purchases. The schedule for this procurement is:

Date of Advertisements of Legal Notice:	October 1, 2008
Date RFP Issued:	October 1, 2008
Pre-proposal Meeting	October 15, 2008
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS:	November 4, 2008, 12:00 p.m., MST
Distribute to Review Panel	November 5, 2008
Proposal Evaluation Meeting (kickoff)	November 13, 2008
Issue Best and Final Offer request (optional)	November 20, 2008
Receive Best and Final Offers (optional)	December 3, 2008

Evaluate Best and Final Offers (optional)	December 8, 2008
Tentative Selection Date:	December 8, 2008
VMOCC considers recommendation	January 14, 2009
TMC considers recommendation	February 4, 2009
VALLEY METRO Board considers recommendation	February 19, 2009
Contract Begins	February 20, 2009

### Fiscal Impact

Funding for replacement vehicles is programmed through Public Transportation Funds (PTF) from Proposition 400, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds as programmed in the Transit Life Cycle Program.

Table I below details the programmed funding for replacement of 211 vans over the next five years.

**Table I:**

Replacement:	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2113/14
Public transportation funds	\$111,981	\$34,763	\$53,708	\$55,320	\$56,978
FTA-Section 5307	\$247,074	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
FHWA - STP	\$1,030,152	\$927,000	\$1,432,215	\$1,475,190	\$1,519,425
<b>Total</b>	\$1,389,207	\$961,763	\$1,485,923	\$1,530,510	\$1,576,403
	46 vans	30 vans	45 vans	45 vans	45 vans

Funding for expansion is programmed through Public Transportation Funds (PTF) from Proposition 400. Table II below details the programmed funding for Expansion/Growth of 125 vans over the next five years.

**Table II:**

Expansion:	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Public transportation funds	\$825,513	\$850,278	\$875,787	\$902,061	\$929,122
<b>Total</b>	\$825,513	\$850,278	\$875,787	\$902,061	\$929,122
	25 vans	25 vans	25 vans	25 vans	25 vans

### Considerations

Consolidating all van procurement contract requirements into a single Request for Proposals allows Valley Metro to maximize economies of scale with larger base quantities which will be more attractive to the vendors. This strategy allows Valley Metro to perform a single procurement rather than five (one for each seating configuration) procurements. This procedure is more efficient and gives vendors the opportunity to propose on all van seating arrangements in one solicitation. This creates an advantage for Valley Metro because vendors will be more competitive in proposing the lowest price possible due to large volume purchases.

The \$11,300,000 programmed for vanpool replacements and expansions over the next five years will allow Valley Metro to procure 336 vans. Resultant contract(s) provide for annual price increases based upon the producer price index (PPI) for vehicle manufacturing.

**Committee Action Process**

VMOCC - August 19, 2008; approved

TMC – September 3, 2008

Board – September 18, 2008

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the TMC approve the issuance of an RFP for the purchase of vans to be used in the Regional Vanpool Program and forward to the Board for consideration.

**Contact Person**

Gary Roberts

Vanpool Coordinator

602-534-1808

**Attachments**

None





## Agenda Item 2

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# AZTech Transit and Roadway Data Integration Proposal



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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #2

### **Date**

August 27, 2008

### **Subject**

AZTech Transit and Roadway Data Integration Proposal

### **Summary**

AZTech, a consortium of local and regional public agencies and private sector concerns is proposing to integrate real-time transportation data (generated with existing infrastructure) into a single regional system and then distribute the data for the traveling public's use.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The total amount requested in this action is up to \$50,000 funded from the ITS/VMS Technology fund. This would be to complete the planning phase of the project to determine feasibility and also to identify additional sources of funding. The current estimate to implement the system is \$550,000.

### **Considerations**

Congestion can be better managed with the availability of real-time transit and roadway data. Real-time transit data is currently being generated, but the data is not widely available to the public or to other transportation system managers. Multi-modal real time information will allow travelers to potentially reduce travel time by making more informed decisions.

### **Committee Action Process**

VMOCC – June 25, 2008 for action; this item was tabled for further information

VMOCC – August 19, 2008 for action; approved

TMC – September 3, 2008 for action

Board – September 18, 2008 for action

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Transit Management Committee approve a contract between RPTA and the Maricopa County Department of Transportation for \$50,000 from the ITS/VMS Technology funds to complete the planning phase of the study and to forward this item to the Board for consideration.

**Contact Person**

Jim Book  
Project Manager  
602-495-0586

**Attachments**

PowerPoint Presentation



# AZTech™ Integrated Transit & Roadway Communications System

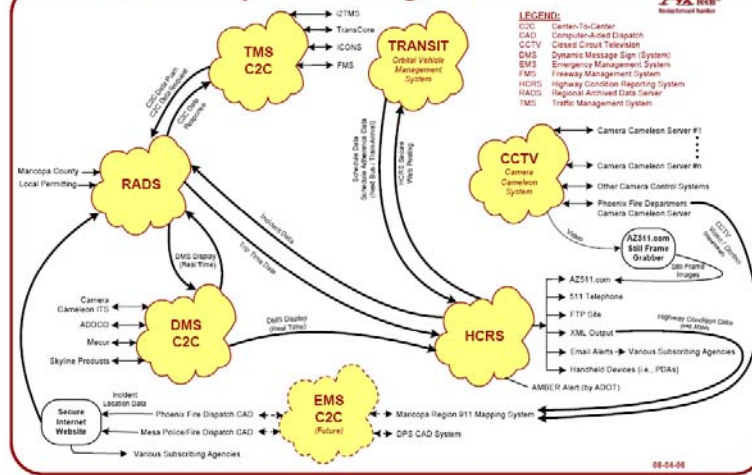
Valley Metro Transit Management Committee

September 3, 2008

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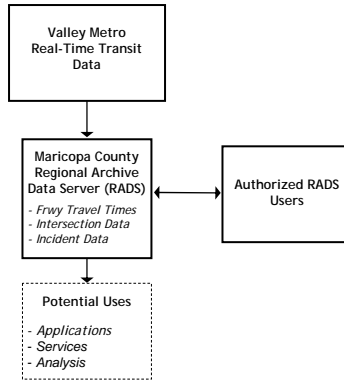
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## AZTech System Diagram



2

# AZTech™ ATIS Concept



3

## Questions

- Why are we considering this and why now?
- What are the benefits to current passengers?
- Will project compete with 700 Mhz project for funding?
- How will system work with existing and future services (LRT and BRT)?
- What about light rail participation?
- What is the timeframe for implementation?



4

## What's Next

- \$50k is necessary to complete a detailed Concept of Operations Plan
- Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) has invested funds for initial system concept and will provide project management services for the Concept of Operations Plan



5

# AZTech™ Integrated Transit & Roadway Communications System

Valley Metro Transit Management Committee

September 3, 2008



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## Agenda Item 3

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# Potential Volunteer Drive Mileage Reimbursement Program Request for Proposals



Regional Public Transportation Authority

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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #3

### **Date**

August 27, 2008

### **Subject**

Potential Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program Request for Proposals (RFP)

### **Summary**

Staff is requesting TMC to forward to the Board a request authorizing the Executive Director to issue an RFP for an 18 month Pilot Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program. The RPTA would seek proposals from non-profit organizations currently providing transportation in the East Valley. The organization must have an established base of active volunteers capable of providing 450 to 500 one-way trips per month using their personal cars to transport seniors and persons with disabilities.

The pilot project is designed to provide mileage reimbursement for volunteer drivers when using their own cars in providing transportation. The organization must not have a current funding source for volunteer driver mileage reimbursement. The RPTA is offering to provide mileage reimbursement at the current Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rate (.585 cents) for medical and shopping/errand trips.

Volunteer driver services offer Chandler and Gilbert seniors and persons with disabilities an additional travel option beyond the current East Valley Dial-a-Ride service and the RideChoice Coupons for Cab Program. A volunteer driver program is especially beneficial for persons who are unable to travel independently.

### **Committee Action Process**

VMOCC – August 19, 2008; approved

TMC – September 3, 2008

Board – September 18, 2008

**Fiscal Impact**

The Pilot Volunteer Driver Reimbursement Project will be funded with 2007 and 2008 Federal New Freedom Grant monies approved for Chandler and Gilbert.

The 18 month pilot project would begin January 2009 and continue through June 2010. If future New Freedom funding is available, the project would be renewable for two one-year periods. The estimated cost for the 18 month project is \$37,000 for Chandler and \$14,000 for Gilbert. The estimated passenger trip cost under the Pilot Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program would be between \$5 and \$6 depending upon trip length. The current subsidy per dial-a-ride trip for a Chandler resident is \$43 and for Gilbert it is \$49.

**Considerations**

The purpose of the New Freedom Program is to reduce transportation barriers and expand mobility options for persons with disabilities beyond the ADA requirements. The New Freedom Program's intention is to "fill the gaps between human service and public transportation services previously available." The New Freedom Program strongly supports finding ways to partner with human services and non-profit organizations to better serve persons with disabilities. Volunteer driver mileage programs are specifically mentioned in the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) New Freedom Circular and are eligible for funding.

The proposed Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Pilot fully meets the New Freedom requirements and is included in the approved 2007 and 2008 East Valley Partners New Freedom Funding Applications.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the TMC approve the issuance of an RFP for a Pilot Volunteer Driver Mileage Reimbursement Program in Chandler and Gilbert and forward this item to the Board for consideration.

**Contact Person**

Jim Wright  
Acting Deputy Executive Director of Operations  
480-287-5980

**Attachments**

None



## Agenda Item 4

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# Legislative Clarification on Vanpool Tax Status



Regional Public Transportation Authority  
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602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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## Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #4

### **Date**

August 27, 2008

### **Subject**

Legislative Clarification on Vanpool Tax Status

### **Summary:**

There is some uncertainty in regards to the application of the state rental car tax on vanpools. While the legislative history appears clear that the rental car tax (used to finance the Maricopa County Stadium District) was not intended to tax vanpools, there is no formal exemption from the tax. Although the Department of Revenue has not attempted to apply this tax to vanpool operations, due to the lack of clarity in the statute, there remains a risk of some future taxation.

The rental car surcharge was designed as a tax paid for by out-of-state tourists to fund tourism generated projects like the cactus league baseball stadiums and the University of Phoenix Stadium. The current statute, ARS. 5-839 provides a clear exemption from the rental car tax for rental vehicles intended to carry over 14 passengers. Since vans used in the vanpool program carry 14 passengers or less, it is unclear whether these vehicles would be subject to the tax. The statute's construction appears to direct its attention to traditional rental car activities and not vanpools. To date, no one has attempted to levy the rental car surcharge on vanpools, but the statute would be much clearer with a specific exemption.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Since it appears that the rental tax is not currently being levied against any vanpool operators there will be no direct fiscal reduction to the state or County Stadium District. If the tax were to be imposed on vanpool operators it would equate to a 3.25% gross proceeds tax which would create significant cost implications and provide a major disincentive to businesses wanting to participate in a vanpool program. If the tax was imposed, it would cost RPTA or the vanpool groups \$ 62,574.00 annually based on 368 vanpools.

**Considerations**

It is always easier to clarify the application of a tax before an agency attempts to levy the tax on a specific activity. Once an agency has attempted to levy the tax, it becomes significantly more difficult to reverse. It seems clear that the Legislature never intended the rental car tax to apply to vanpools. Therefore, the Legislature would view a legislative remedy as a technical or clean-up measure. We anticipate that there would be strong support from the Legislature. With high gas prices and an increased focus on carbon emissions, there will be strong support for keeping vanpools free of the rental car tax. Additionally, the measure should receive strong support from the business community who want to see vanpool operations protected from any new taxes.

The only risk is that by seeking a legislative fix, it does highlight the fact that this activity could have been taxable in the past. However, with some outreach to the Department of Revenue and other stakeholders, it seems that this risk can be greatly mitigated.

**Prior Committee Action**

None

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the TMC forwards the legislative clarification on vanpool tax status to the Board for consideration.

**Contact Person**

Bryan Jungwirth  
Chief of Staff  
(602) 534-1803

**Attachments**

None



## Agenda Item 5

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# Executive Director's Report



Regional Public Transportation Authority  
302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003  
602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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# Transit Management Committee

## Information Summary

Agenda Item #5

**Date**

August 27, 2008

**Subject**

Executive Director's Report

**Summary**

David Boggs, Executive Director, will provide an update on agency issues.

**Fiscal Impact**

None

**Considerations**

None

**Committee Action Process**

None

**Recommendation**

No formal action is required

**Contact Person**

David Boggs  
Executive Director  
602-262-7433

**Attachments**

None





## Agenda Item 6

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# Future TMC Agenda Items Request



Regional Public Transportation Authority  
302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003  
602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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# Transit Management Committee Information Summary

Agenda Item #6

**Date**

August 27, 2008

**Subject**

Future TMC Agenda Items Request

**Summary**

Chair Jamsheed Mehta will request future TMC agenda items from the committee members.

**Fiscal Impact**

None

**Considerations**

None

**Prior Committee Action**

None

**Recommendation**

None

**Contact Person**

Bryan Jungwirth  
Chief of Staff  
602-262-7433

**Attachments**

None





# Agenda Item 7

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## Public Comment



Regional Public Transportation Authority  
302 N. First Avenue, Suite 700, Phoenix, Arizona 85003  
602-262-7433, Fax 602-495-0411

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# Transit Management Committee

## Information Summary

Agenda Item #7

**Date**

August 27, 2008

**Subject**

Public Comment

**Summary**

An opportunity for general public comment on issues related to Valley Metro RPTA. Up to three (3) minutes will be provided for each speaker.

**Fiscal Impact**

None

**Considerations**

None

**Prior Committee Action**

None

**Recommendation**

None

**Contact Person**

None

**Attachments**

None





# Agenda Item 8

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## Public Comment



## Agenda Item 9

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# Future TMC Agenda Items Request



# Agenda Item 10

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## Public Comment