



MEMO

Date: June 16, 2015
To: Transportation Advisory Board
From: Jodi Sorrell, Transit Services Director
Re: Southeast Valley Transit System Study

The Maricopa Association of Governments and Valley Metro are jointly conducting a study of the transit system in the Southeast Valley which includes; Apache Junction, Chandler, Florence, the Gila River Indian Community, Gilbert, Guadalupe, Maricopa, Mesa, Phoenix, Queen Creek, Tempe and the surrounding portions of Maricopa and Pinal Counties.

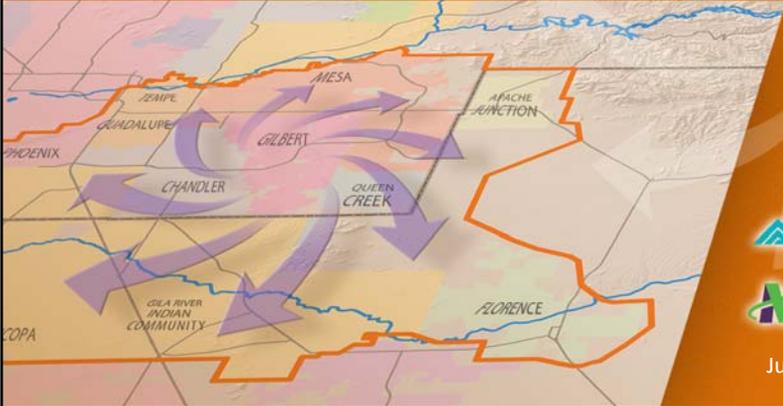
The study recommendations include short, mid, and long- term scenarios that will advance the transit system throughout the study area.

300 East Sixth Street
P.O. Box 1466
Mesa Arizona 85211-1466
480.644.2160Tel
480.644.3909

**SOUTHEAST VALLEY
TRANSIT SYSTEM STUDY**



City of Mesa Transportation Advisory Board Meeting



MARICOPA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS
VALLEY METRO

June 16, 2015

Purpose of this Study

- Identify concepts for optimizing existing transit services
 - Improve efficiencies and align investment with demand
- Develop recommended concepts for addressing mid-term (within 10 years) and long-term (beyond 10 years) transit needs
 - Address unmet needs
 - Respond to growth and changing conditions
 - Develop performance-based transit system

How will results be used?

- Provide a menu of concepts to inform future programming processes and plans

SOUTHEAST VALLEY TRANSIT SYSTEM STUDY

3

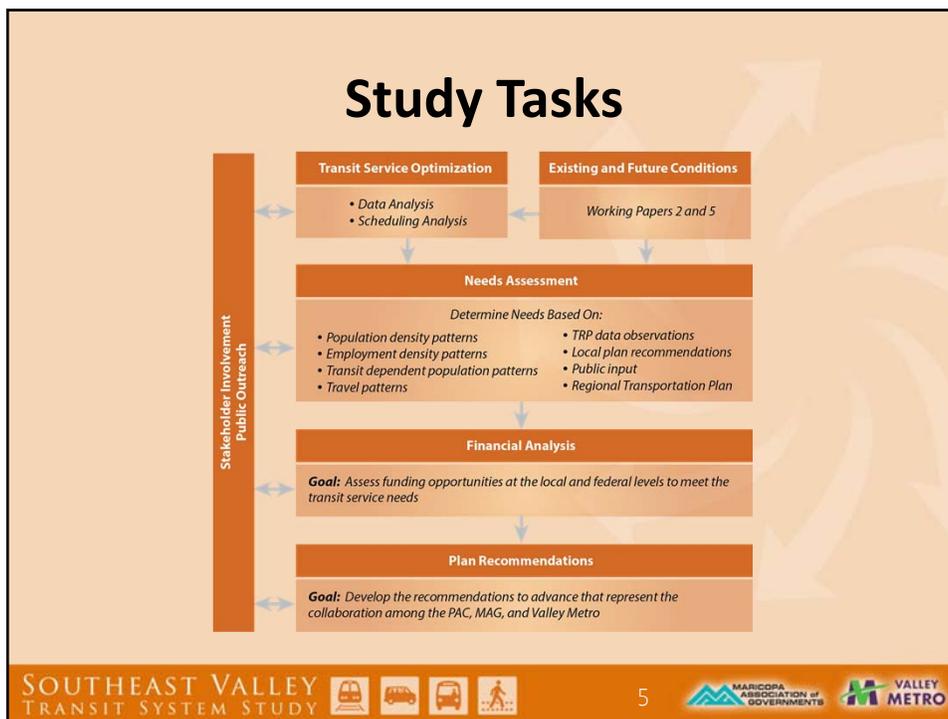
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS VALLEY METRO

Study Area & Existing Transit Network

SOUTHEAST VALLEY TRANSIT SYSTEM STUDY

4

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS VALLEY METRO



Relationship between TSPM & SEVTSS

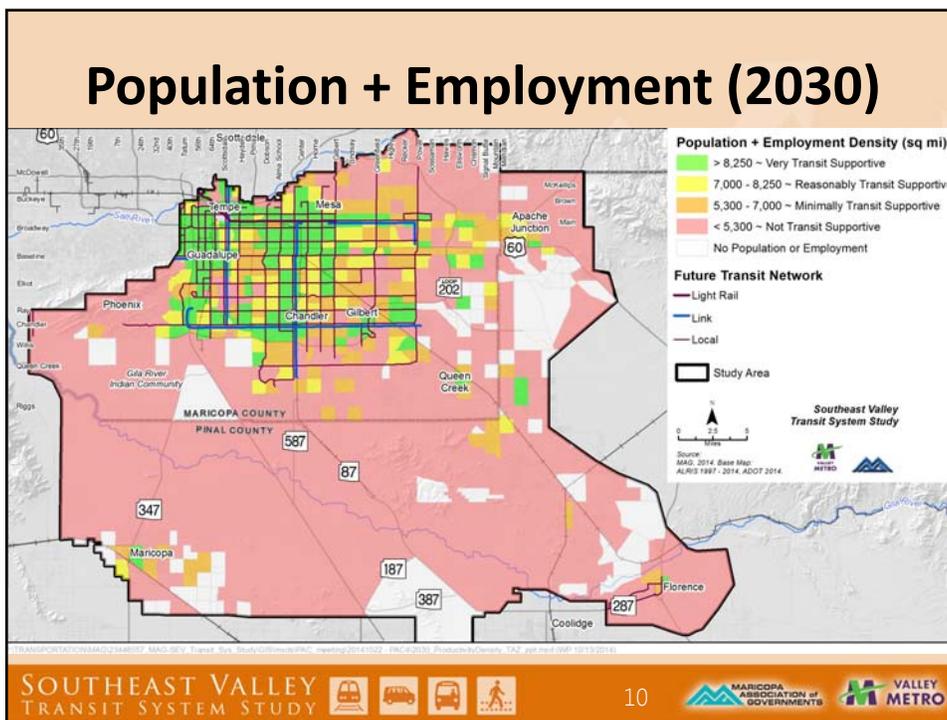
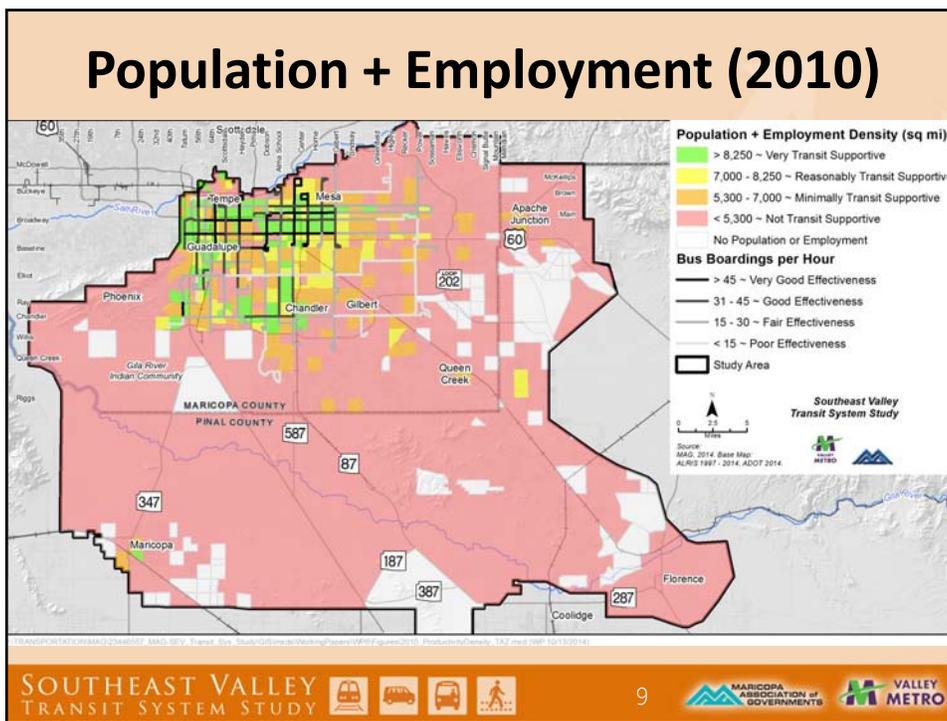
- Current TSPM methodologies (Phase I and II) provide for route-level, short-term analysis for new service versus SEVTSS is area-wide transit planning for a subregion
- SEVTSS is considering a longer term planning horizon as well as short-term recommendations
- SEVTSS recommendations integrates TSPM service standards by service type
- TSPM Phase III (in progress) will analyze fleet, facilities and long-range transit service implementation standards

Transit Optimization Analysis

- Initial approach was completely data-driven that resulted in fine-tuned concepts through discussions with the PAC
- Strengthen the Network
 - Maximize benefits of a grid network
 - Improve frequency where warranted
 - Use bus service to leverage rail investment
- Optimize Use of Resources
 - Streamline alignments to avoid deviations where possible
 - Reduce route duplication
 - Match service investment to demand

Needs Assessment

- **Definition of a Need:** an area that has or is projected to have a set of conditions that may be supportive for effective and productive transit
- **Conditions** are based on:
 - Population density
 - Employment density
 - Auto ownership/poverty/age
 - Travel patterns
- Recommendations from the Needs Assessment focused in the Mid- and Long-Term



Needs Assessment Observations

- Current and planned transit network coverage areas seem reasonable
- Future land use and demographic conditions grow into coverage
- Several additional areas with potential unmet needs identified
- Heavy trip exchange in North Tempe/West Mesa
- Growing trips between Tempe/Mesa and Chandler/Gilbert



Public Input

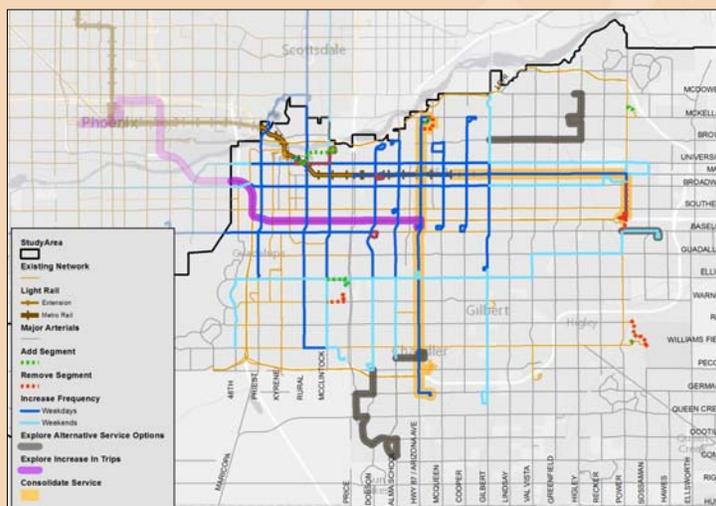
- Online survey conducted Summer 2014
- Outreach at community events
- Input received help to shape overall recommendations
- Planning for additional community events and presentations in Summer and Fall 2015



Draft Recommendations

- Concepts for modifications or additions to the transit system for:
 - Optimization of existing system
 - Mid-term (within 10 years)
 - Long-term (beyond 10 years)
- Specific concepts may be further developed and implemented through programming processes (TLCP, SRTP) or area-specific implementation plans

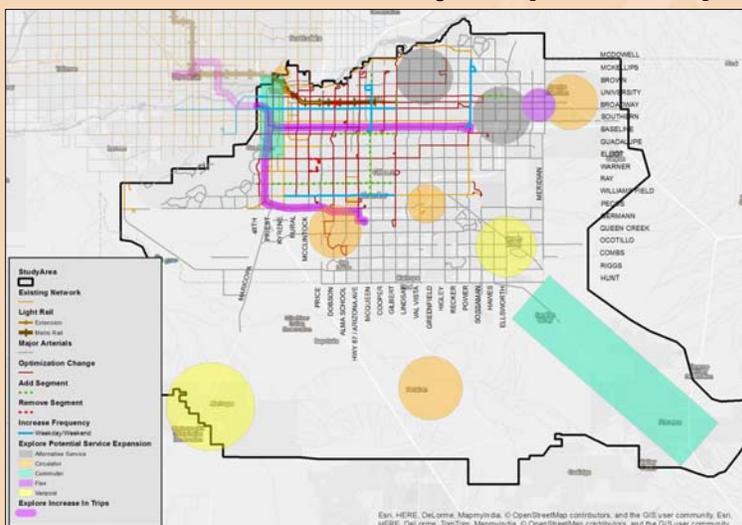
Optimization Concepts (DRAFT)



Key Preliminary Optimization Recommendations

- Improve frequencies on top performing routes to at least 15-minute peak-period service, and to 15-minute all day as possible
 - More frequent east-west connections across the SE Valley
- Obtain minimum 30 minute all-day service on all routes across the Southeast Valley
- Streamline routes to achieve greater efficiency
- Replace underperforming segments with alternative service types

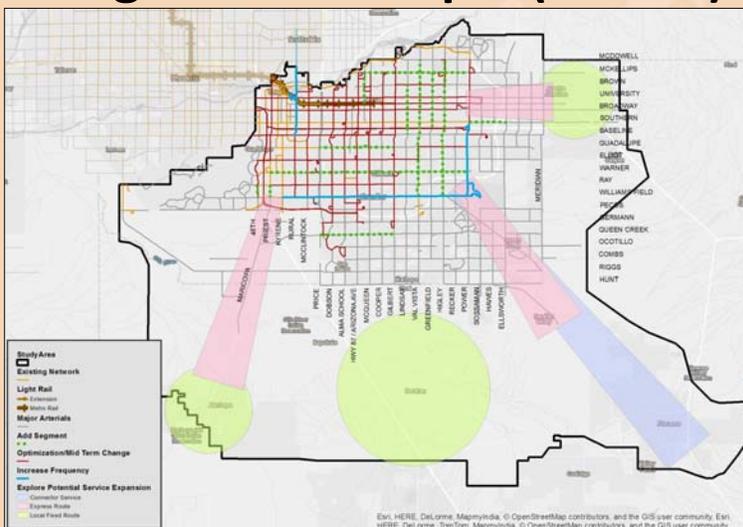
Mid-Term Concepts (DRAFT)



Key Preliminary Mid-Term Recommendations (within 10 years)

- Continue to improve route frequencies in core service area
- Expand service coverage to growing areas to the east and south
- Provide improved connections to Queen Creek, Florence, Apache Junction, Maricopa and GRIC

Long-Term Concepts (DRAFT)



Key Preliminary Long-Term Recommendations (beyond 10 years)

- Continue to improve and maintain frequencies on productive routes
- Fill in service gaps within the existing network coverage area to strengthen the grid
- Expand regional and express connections to Apache Junction, Queen Creek and Maricopa
- Establish fixed route service in growing communities where possible

Schedule

- Recommended concepts are being finalized with the Project Advisory Committee
- Conclude report by the end of June 2015
- Communicate results throughout the study area

Project Contact Information

Marc Pearsall
 Maricopa Association Of Governments (MAG)
 302 North 1st Avenue; Suite 200
 Phoenix, AZ 85003
 Main: 602 254-6300
 email: mpearsall@azmag.gov

Jorge Luna
 Valley Metro
 101 North 1st Avenue; Suite 1300
 Phoenix, AZ 85003
 Direct: 602 744-5543
 email: jluna@valleymetro.org

Schedule

