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For immediate release

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RTA to manage build out of 40 bus stops in City of Tucson

The Regional Transportation Authority will manage the construction of 40 bus stops within the City of Tucson under the transit element of the RTA plan.

The \$7 million cost falls within the \$30 million approved for transit corridor bus pullouts in the \$2.1 billion RTA plan, approved by Pima County voters in May 2006.

"The public expressed strong interest during the public outreach phase for the RTA to expedite bus pullouts as part of the plan," said RTA Executive Director Gary Hayes. "At this time, less than 14 percent of the bus pullouts have been programmed, and members of the RTA Board expressed an interest in accelerating the work on bus pullouts."

During its meeting today, the RTA Board approved the recommendation by RTA staff to program the dollars. The RTA has executed a cooperative purchasing agreement with the City of Tucson to use its as-needed consultant contracts and job order contracts for construction.

Since local jurisdictions are facing budget challenges, the RTA contracted with an engineer to identify the bus stops which had over 100 boardings a day and prepare a comprehensive bus pullout program. The following transit corridors with four or more bus pullouts were identified as part of the program:

- South Sixth Avenue (8)
- Alvernon Way (8)
- Speedway Boulevard (5)
- 1st Avenue (4)
- Oracle Road (4)

"The bus pullouts along these corridors will enhance overall regional mobility," said Jim DeGroot, Director of Transportation Services for Pima Association of Governments, which manages the RTA.

The Regional Transportation Authority is the fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion plan approved by Pima County voters on May 16, 2006. The RTA Board is comprised of representatives from the local jurisdictions in Pima County, including the cities of Tucson and South Tucson, Pima County, the towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Tohono O'odham Nation. A representative of the Arizona State Transportation Board also serves on the board. For more information about the RTA plan, visit www.RTAmobility.com or call (520) 770-9410.