

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.
MAG Office Building, Cholla Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Brandon Forrey, Peoria, Chair of Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee	Ken Maruyama for Tami Ryall, Gilbert
Reed Kempton, Scottsdale, Vice-Chair of Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee	^ Steve Hancock, Glendale
Michael Sanders, ADOT	Joe Schmitz, Goodyear
Tiffany Halperin, ASLA, Arizona Chapter	Paul Ward for Michael Cartsonis, Litchfield Park
Margaret Boone-Pixley, Avondale	* Denise Lacey, Maricopa County
* Robert Wisener, Buckeye	Jim Hash, Mesa
* D.J. Stapley, Carefree	Katherine Coles, Phoenix
^ Bob Beane, Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists	Lisa Padilla, Queen Creek
* Jason Crampton, Chandler	Peggy Rubach, RPTA
* Doug Strong, El Mirage	Karen Savage for Hobart Wingard, Surprise
	Eric Iwersen, Tempe

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Mara Deluca, Maricopa County Public Health
Joe Perez, Phoenix
Kevin Wallace, MAG

1. Call to Order

Brandon Forrey called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

2. Approval of the December 14, 2010 Meeting Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Brandon Forrey asked members if there were any changes to the minutes. Brandon Forrey noted correction to agenda item #5 Mesa Project Change. He said to strike out the sentence referring to funding for the region is a good thing and add this sentence: Brandon Forrey agreed that this project is part of the same system and is ready for construction early.

Margaret said to strike the word “canal” and replace with the word “project”.

And under Bicycle/Pedestrian Bicycle Education add “Planning” into the UPWP name.

Paul Ward suggested adding the phrase “had been defined in the past” under agenda item #8.

Katherine Coles moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee for December 14, 2010. Margaret Boone-Pixley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public were requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes was provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Bicycle and the Pedestrian Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items were given an opportunity at the time the item was heard. (Joe Perez announced that on March 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the Burton Barr Library, the city of Phoenix is hosting the annual Bicycle Summit of Phoenix). Mara de Luca announced that the Maricopa County Public Health Department has created a new Office of Policy. The director is yet to be hired along with a manager, educators and a dietician.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Maureen DeCindis reported that the MAG Design Assistance Program is on hold until the Federal Highways Administration reviews the program. The feds are not sure that the program is intended to fund projects all the way through to the Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase. The costs of developing projects beyond the scoping phase, through the PE and final design phases, and then construction should be funded from the regular program of federal aid. The activities that are covered in scoping include:

- Location
- Limits
- Project area, length or size
- What is the need?
- Who will benefit?
- Design concepts or renderings
- Maps, graphics and photographs
- Coordination with nearby projects
- Coordination with other agencies and stakeholders
- Preliminary estimates of cost
- Preliminary review of environmental issues, impacts or constraints
- Preliminary review of anticipated utility impacts
- Preliminary look at R/W – existing and needed

There are internal meetings at Federal Highways this week and then next week with MAG and ADOT. This will be an agenda item at the March meeting.

Reed Kempton noted that this description is essentially a feasibility study and not a design, therefore, there is no pressure to build the project. Reed Kempton also noted that the Design Assistance project at 70th Street in Scottsdale demonstrated that the issue is more of an irrigation problem that interfered with transportation. Joe Perez said that he has data to show the demand for more facilities. A city doesn't need a feasibility study to know the demand.

Peggy Rubach noted that the CMAQ funding was established to reduce congestion not just study a problem. The main purpose is to construct facilities.

Peggy Rubach reported that Valley Bike month will have 11 events and partnerships with REI and community agencies. The Coalition is holding their Swap Meet on March 12, 2011 so that will be the first event. Valley Metro will send out a copy of the previous distribution lists of give-away items. Peggy Rubach explained that in the future she will be working with this committee as part of the coordination of the Enhancement Statewide Education program. She will also coordinate with the other metropolitan planning organizations in the state.

Brandon Forrey asked the committee who would like to volunteer to be the Bike/Ped liaison to the Transportation Review Committee. Katherine Coles volunteered to be the liaison.

Paul Ward, Litchfield reported that the Litchfield Underspass has had its final review from ADOT. In March, the city anticipates bidding the project and opening the underpass in time for Christmas. Paul Ward thanked the city of Goodyear for their coordination with the project.

Katherine Coles noted that the Phoenix city council subcommittee met to talk about the 19th Ave Greenway Bridge. There were many supporters from the bicycle and arts communities there to speak on behalf of the project. The project has gone out to bid. It is possible that this project could move forward.

5. Complete Streets Guide

MAG staff gave an update on the changes to the Complete Streets Guide. The committee was asked to recommend acceptance of the Complete Streets Guide. Peggy Rubach made a motion to recommend acceptance of the Complete Streets Guide and thanked all that worked on it. Jim Hash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Brandon Forrey suggested to put the status of the Guide up on the website.

6. Sustainable Transportation and Land Use Integration Study

In November 2010, MAG initiated a study to define a coordinated, comprehensive approach for promoting sustainable transportation and transit supportive land use patterns in the region. Kevin Wallace, Transit Manager provided an overview of the upcoming study process. Economy and environment are the basics for sustainability. Many regions across the US are discussing this issue. This study will focus on sustainable transportation and what is the role for transit and best practices between land use and transit.

Key elements include:

- stakeholders
- expert review panel
- best practices research
- regional economic analysis
- sustainable transportation issues
- scenario model and menu of strategies

Scenario Modeling will include a base case and three alternative development scenarios for high transit corridors including financial stability and policies and programs.

Tools include MAG socioeconomic and travel forecasting models and I-PLACES-3 (a tool for regional and local analysis).

Paul Ward noted that neighborhood level analysis tends to be the purview of the cities and towns. Is this regional planning or local planning? Kevin Wallace responded that the intent is to indicate where the best places are for further investment, not to pursue regional growth management. This is to get tools out to the cities if they are interested in using the tool.

Peggy Rubach asked about the work situation such as work weeks and telecommuting and if anybody is studying the impact on this. Kevin Wallace noted that the team hired to do this is studying all forms of work aspects across the US. The bulk of the work is focused on transit.

Alternate Land Use Scenarios

Long Range planning will consider a double population based on current plans. How would this growth occur in high transit corridors? What are the potential place types? MAG will develop “place types” such as rural, urban, commercial, mixed use and model the changes for each area.

This is an 18 month study with extensive data collection, five stakeholder meetings, and two forums.

Reed Kempton asked what bicycling data will be incorporated. Kevin Wallace responded that this program will use transportation and land use model data. He explained that bicycling and walking will be built into the I-PLACES model. For example, Walkscore has been incorporated into other models. Reed Kempton reiterated that the neighborhood level bikeways are essential to get to transit. Joe Perez reported that the Trip Reduction Program data indicates that there are 41,000 people saying that they would like to bicycle.

Michael Sanders asked who was on the expert panel. Kevin Wallace responded that there will be representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency and a transit expert from Utah. Bob Beane asked who represents bicycling for the stakeholders. Kevin Wallace responded that it was the MAG Management committee that were asked to send representatives. Members of the Bike/Ped committee will be invited.

7. Bicycle Education

Brandon Forrey explained that the current CMAQ Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) application and scoring sheet only takes into account infrastructure projects. How should education projects be reviewed and considered?

Peggy Rubach expressed concerns that this could become similar to how the Transportation Enhancement Review Committee feels that education is important but there is no way to score the projects in their application process. There should be a regional commitment that education projects should not have to compete against infrastructure projects.

Brandon Forrey doesn't see any way to adjust the application so that education projects can compete fairly. A more prudent course of action might be that this committee could designate a certain percentage

of funding specifically for education. Reed Kempton asked if education is really reaching the folks that need it the most. Is education valuable? Peggy Rubach responded by asking who is going to address shift workers riding the wrong way without helmets and lights. Isn't there a responsibility here? Where would the intervention come from? Jim Hash noted that is an enforcement issue, maybe have police educate instead of enforce.

Eric Iwersen noted that the most important thing is to get projects built especially in this economic downturn.

Bob Beane noted a *City Lights* program in Los Angeles county that educates people in Spanish. Tucson has diversion program that allows a four hour class instead of a traffic ticket. This program is built into the court system in Tucson.

Brandon Forrey suggested that this is an issue to discuss in a future agenda.

Paul Ward noted that there are three areas under CMAQ Guidance:

- establish a state coordinator
- construct bike and ped facilities
- fund non-construction educational outreach

He suggested that the simplest way to do this would be to designate funds.

Brandon Forrey noted that if there were funds designate that may garner increased interest and better education project.

Paul Ward noted that originally there was only \$200,000 for the Pedestrian Program and \$400,000 for the Bicycle Program. He suggested that the committee consider dedicating \$100,000 a year for education and that this amount will not impact infrastructure funding.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Members will have the opportunity to suggest future agenda topics.

Brandon Forrey suggested finalizing the approach for education funding.

9. Next Meetings

All meetings will be on the third Tuesday of the month in the Cholla Room at 1:30 p.m., except where otherwise noted.

March 15, 2011

April 19, 2011

May 17, 2011

June 21, 2011

July 19, 2011

August 16, 2011

September 20, 2011

October 18, 2011

November 15, 2011

December 13, 2011 (noon) (note change)