

April 25, 2012

TO: Members of the MAG Intelligent Transportation Systems Committee  
FROM: Debbie Albert, City of Glendale, Chair  
SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Wednesday, May 2, 2012- **10:00 a.m.**  
MAG Office Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ironwood Room  
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the ITS Committee has been scheduled at the time and place noted above. Committee members or their proxies may attend **in person or by video conference or by telephone conference call**. Those attending by telephone conference call please contact MAG offices for conference call instructions.

Please park in the garage under the MAG building, bring your ticket, parking will be validated. For those using transit, Valley Metro/RPTA will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

In 1996, the Regional Council approved a simple majority quorum for all MAG advisory committees. If the ITS Committee does not meet the quorum requirement, members who have arrived at the meeting will be instructed a legal meeting cannot occur and subsequently be dismissed. Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Jason Stephens at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Sarath Joshua at (602) 254-6300.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

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|--|--|
| 1. <u>Call to Order</u>                                  | 2. Review and approve minutes of the meeting held on March 14, 2012. |
| 2. <u>Approval of the March 14, 2012 Meeting Minutes</u> |  |

3. Call to Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the ITS 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 will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the ITS Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items will be given an opportunity when the item is heard.

4. Program Managers Report

The following items will be discussed:

- Traffic Signal Optimization Program Update

5. ITS Strategic Plan Update

The ITS Strategic Plan serves as the guidance document for implementing technology solutions for improving transportation operations in the region. The planned update of the Plan will address the following key areas:

- a) Freeway ITS: Establish the status of all freeway ITS infrastructure, operations, planned expansions; establish priorities for future investments and expansion of freeway ITS applications.
- b) Arterial ITS - Establish the status of arterial ITS infrastructure and operations - this has been mostly completed through a recent MAG study; establish priorities for future investments and expansion of arterial ITS applications.
- c) Incorporation of ITS priorities in the Congestion Management Process.
- d) Identify opportunities for implementing ITS solutions that improve road safety.

3. For information and discussion.

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information and discussion.

6. Freeway Management System (FMS) Improvements

The Arizona DOT is working on a number of areas to improve FMS and related traffic management operations. Among these are the efforts to develop a centralized system for ramp meter control and a centralized signal control system. A briefing will be provided on these and other on-going efforts at improving traffic management and related ITS services provided to travelers through the FMS.

7. Adaptive Traffic Control Systems Study

Based on the recommendation by the committee a project has been included in the MAG Work Program to conduct a study on Adaptive Traffic Control Systems (ATCS). The intended purpose of the study was to better inform local agencies on the different types of ATCS in the market and how they might address existing traffic management challenges in the MAG region. The study results were meant to be used as information well before a decision is made to procure or develop specifications for such a system. A decision on moving ahead with the MAG study was delayed until the completion of a FHWA sponsored workshop on the application of Model Systems Engineering Guidelines recently released by FHWA. The committee will discuss if the proposed study is no longer needed in view of the FHWA guidelines.

8. Reports by Committee Members

Members will be provided an opportunity to share information related to on-going ITS activities in their jurisdictions.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the ITS Committee would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting will be requested.

6. For information and discussion.

7. For information and discussion.

8. For information and discussion.

9. For information and discussion.

10. Next Meeting Date and Place

The next committee meeting is scheduled to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 6, 2012. It will be held in the Ironwood Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the MAG office building.

Adjournment

10. For information.

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE**

March 14, 2012  
MAG Ironwood Room, 2nd Floor  
302 North First Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Farzana Yasmin for Reza Karimvand,  
ADOT

\*Soyoung Ahn, ASU

\*\*Bennie Robinson, City of Avondale

\*\*Thomas Chlebanowski,  
Town of Buckeye

Mike Mah, City of Chandler

\*Captain R. Brant Benham, DPS

Jorge Gastelum, City of El Mirage

\*\*Jennifer Brown, FHWA

Kurt Sharp, Town of Gilbert

Debbie Albert, City of Glendale

Luke Albert, City of Goodyear

\*\*Faisal Saleem for Nicolaas Swart,  
Maricopa County

\*Suresh Shrimavle, METRO

Avery Rhodes, City of Mesa

\*\*Ron Amaya, City of Peoria

Marshall Riegel, City of Phoenix

Nancy Steptoe for Bob Ciotti, Phoenix  
Public Transit

\*\*Bill Birdwell, Town of Queen Creek

\*Bruce Dressel, City of Scottsdale

\*\*Tracy Eberlein for Nicholas Mascia,  
City of Surprise

Catherine Hollow, City of Tempe

Ratna Korepella, RPTA

OTHERS PRESENT

Lee Jimenez, Maricopa County

Joey Markuson, Atkins

Steve Blair, ITS Engineers

Jason Watson, Horrocks

Deanna Haase, KHA

Sarah Simpson, UCG

Jeff Jenq, OZ Engineering

Art Brooks, Strand

Teri Kennedy, MAG

Leo Luo, MAG

Anita Shanker, Stantec

Jay Yenerich, PB

Dan Hartig, Ayres

Natalie Carrick, Michael Baker

David Riley, UCG

Sarah Simpson, UCG

Don Wiltshire, YSMA

Shanthi Krishnan, Jacobs

Kiran Guntupalli, MAG

\* Not present

\*\* Via teleconference

1. Call to Order

Chair Debbie Albert called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. Approval of the February 1, 2012 Meeting Minutes

**Kurp Sharp moved, Marshall Riegel seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 1, 2012.**

3. Call to Audience

Chair Debbie Albert made a call to the audience providing an opportunity for any members of the public to address the ITS Committee. No comments were received.

4. Program Manager's Report

Sarath Joshua addressed the following items in his report:

- FY2011 TSOP project update: Eleven (13) projects completed and six (4) underway.
- A total of 15 FY2012 TSOP projects are included in the UPWP. The SYNCHRO training workshop was completed and well received. Higher level SYNCHRO training will be considered next year. MAG expects to launch the rest of the TSOP projects in the next few months.
- He also requested Chair Debbie Albert to provide a brief update on the RCN working group meeting held earlier in the morning. Debbie mentioned that member agencies need to contact Audrey Skidmore at MAG if they are interested in receiving notices related to RCN outages. She also indicated that MAG could provide assistance to local agencies regarding connecting to the RCN. MAG member agencies could propose new ITS projects for FY2015, FY2016 TIP that would program such projects. The RCN network manager position is still open to be filled. ADOT will be conducting fiber splicing on March 15, which will result in loss of connections for some member agencies. Sarath added that funding is available for MAG to use on-call CONSULTANT to provide cost estimation for MAG member agencies to connect to RCN.

5. Adaptive Signal Control Systems Study

During the last ITS Committee meeting, Jennifer Brown mentioned that a document developed by FHWA could have addressed some of the issues that the study is looking at. Sarath shared the document as well as the draft scope of work of the study with the committee members. He said that no comments were received. Sarath also invited Avery Rhodes of Mesa to provide updates on their new SCATS adaptive signal control project at Superstition Spring Mall area. Avery reported mixed results between the adaptive control system and time of day signal timing plans as both seemed to work pretty well. The adaptive system may incur more investment and requires more equipment in the field, but may respond better if a major incident occurs in the adjacent area. Avery also briefly explained how the before-and-after study was conducted in comparing the two control strategies. No public complains were received due to the system change. Sarath mentioned that the MAG Adaptive Signal Control Systems study was added to the MAG Work Program based on a request from the ITS committee. He said that MAG would like to confirm if the study should proceed ahead or be canceled in light of the FHWA document. Jennifer mentioned that FHWA is working with the Bell Road Coalition to apply the System Engineering Analysis Model Development process for evaluating three potential locations for adaptive control systems. She also mentioned that a two-day workshop regarding the Model Systems Engineering Documents will be held from April 10 to 11 at Maricopa County. Upon her suggestion it was agreed that a decision on the MAG study will be delayed until the SEA work on the Bell Road project has been completed.

6. Congestion Management Process and ITS Project Prioritization

Sarath introduced Teri Kennedy, the new MAG TIP program manager to the committee.

Teri briefly explained the sketch tool developed through MAG congestion management process (CMP). She also provided an overview of MAG future programming process. The FY2015, FY2016 and FY2017 TIP programming process will apply the FHWA approved CMP tool and provide project rankings, which can be utilized for adjustments according to the potential change of funding levels. She also mentioned that the local match for CMAQ funding will be adjusted to 5.7%. Jennifer mentioned that some of the federal projects are funded at 100% level without local match. Teri agreed to follow up on the general policy regarding the local match. Teri also confirmed with Faisal that project design and project construction will be programmed as two separate items in the TIP. Vice Chair Kurt Sharp asked the ranking process in the past TIP programming process. Sarath mentioned that the committee developed a ranking process in the past with the basic requirement to conform with the Regional ITS Architecture, ITS Strategic Plan, Air Quality Score and etc. However, the committee was always able to accommodate the projects with available funding. With the uncertainty of future federal funding, it is necessary to generate a formal project ranking to cope with potential TIP amendments. Jennifer mentioned that there could be two scores from the process, the CMP Score and the Air Quality Score for each project. Teri mentioned that the discussion will continue as MAG prepares for the programming process. Chair Debbie Albert confirmed with Sarath and Leo that most of the projects conform to the Regional ITS Architecture, including the adaptive control systems. A Regional ITS Architecture Update will include the new projects that may not be included in the previous Regional ITS Architecture. Teri also confirmed with Chair Debbie Albert that MAG will be requesting project development information from MAG member agencies to make sure all the projects can be obligated on time so that the region is not at the risk of losing federal funding. She could provide more detail information on the topic in future meetings. Debbie reminded the committee members to properly fill out the information and provide realistic schedule to avoid losing funding on those projects. Sarath confirmed with Cathy Hollow that ITS Committee members will also be added to the distribution list of project development workbook and project status update request. Teri confirmed with Debbie that the previous submitted information from MAG member agencies will also be included in the workbook each time the request is sent. Teri and Sarath confirmed with Luke Albert that the FY2014 projects were approved and included in the current TIP.

7. ADOT Ramp Metering Study

Farzana Yasmin from ADOT provided background information about the ramp metering study. David Riley from United Civil Group Inc. provided a brief update on the ADOT ramp metering study. The project team has conducted interview with stakeholders including DPS and collected many data. The project team is conducting a literature review and will start analyzing the data. The project team will also work closely with MAG on potential modeling efforts. He mentioned that ADOT will be conducting field testing on some of the operations strategies. The project team will also assist ADOT in updating a ramp metering guideline.

8. Status Reports by Committee Members

Farzana Yasmin from ADOT provided an update on new FMS projects including I-17, Loop 202 San Tan freeway and Loop101 from I-10 to I-17 in the west valley. Chair Debbie Albert mentioned that Glendale is conducting a final acceptance test on the KIDS signal control system. The Northern parkway project starts construction and is expected to be completed in April 2013. Conduit will be installed as part of the project. Debbie

mentioned that she recently utilized the MAG ITS information brochures posted at the MAG website and asked when they will be updated. Sarath agreed that the brochures need to be updated and he will look for funding for such an update.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

No future agenda item was received.

10. Next Meeting Date and Place

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 4, 2012, in the Ironwood Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) at MAG at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

Chair Debbie Albert adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.