

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

December 4, 2013

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

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Farzana Yasmin for Reza Karimvand, ADOT	Barbara Hauser for Nicolaas Swart, Maricopa County
Chris Hamilton, City of Avondale	Avery Rhodes, City of Mesa
+ Thomas Chlebanowski, Town of Buckeye	Steve McKenzie for Ron Amaya, City of Peoria
Mike Mah, City of Chandler	+ Marshall Riegel, City of Phoenix
Captain Burley Copeland, DPS	* Steve Ramsey, City of Scottsdale
Bryce Christo, City of El Mirage	+ Jason Mahkovtz, City of Surprise
+ Jennifer Brown, FHWA	Catherine Hollow, City of Tempe
Erik Guderian, Town of Gilbert	Ratna Korepella, Valley Metro
Casey Huskey for Debbie Albert, City of Glendale	
+ Luke Albert, City of Goodyear	

OTHERS PRESENT

Natalie Carrick, Michael Baker	Cory Steele, Strand
Deanna Haase, KHA	Jamie Blakeman, Burgess & Niple
Don Tappendorf, Tappendorf Engineering	Torrin Smith, Transcore
Joey Paskey, Atkins	Yogesh Mantri, YSMA
Jason Watson, Stantec	Keith Winney, United Civil Group
Mike Manthey, Parsons	Gail Chimel, Maricopa County
Saroja Devarakonda, HDR	Ryan Gish, MAG
Dan Hartig, Ayres	Sarath Joshua, MAG
Jeff Jenq, OZ Engineering LLC	Kiran Guntupalli, MAG
Arnab Gupta, PB	

+ Not present

* Teleconference

1. Call to Order
Chair Catherine Hollow called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
2. Approval of the November 5, 2013 Meeting Minutes
Erik Guderian from Gilbert moved and Steve McKenzie from Peoria seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the meeting held on

November 5, 2013.

3. Call to Audience

Chair Catherine Hollow 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:

- Status of MAG ITS & Safety On-call Contracts:
 - The 17 on-call contracts have been executed
 - TSOP project
 - Task Orders are being developed and will be signed after January RC approval
 - Projects will be launched in early February
- USDOT ICM Deployment Planning Grant Proposal
 - Focus on I-10 corridor between Loop 101 in the West Valley to Loop 202 in the East Valley
 - Proposal deadline is December 31, 2013
 - A draft of the proposal will be sent out to committee members for comments
- TIP Project Description Changes
 - Modifications to TIP project descriptions were made and agreed upon
 - Committee members were asked to contact MAG if any questions or comments on modified project descriptions
- VASTO – FHWA Research Project by University of Arizona & GMU
 - The VASTO research team will be presenting on the latest developments of an Agent-Based Modeling and Simulation (ABMS) Model
 - Two case studies involving incident modeling and incorporating crash information for route choice
 - Committee members were invited to participate/observe the meeting
 - Meeting will be in Ironwood Room December 12th 10am – 5pm & 13th 8:30 – Noon

5. Project Development Process at ADOT Local Public Agency Section

Patrick Stone from ADOT presented on Project Development Process at ADOT for local public agencies. There is a new organization chart for the local public agency (LPA) section. Last September the “local government agency” section within ADOT was reorganized to be the LPA section. The section is broken into two groups: Process and Program. The state is split into three regions: northern, southern and MAG. The LPA process for a project life cycle was presented in four sections:

- Planning/Programming: Projects must be listed in the TIP and STIP to be authorized. HSIP projects should have eligibility established prior to the inclusion in the TIP. MAG is in the process of getting eligibility for all projects for FY 2014. Projects should not have design and construction within the same year. Projects may be separated by more than 1 year for large projects. An ample amount of time should be considered for critical project issues such as environmental and right of way. In initiating a project with ADOT, a project initiation letter will be sent to the ADOT LPA section. An IGA is prepared and executed between ADOT and the local public

agency. For MAG projects, JPAs will be coordinated by the LPA section. Submittal of Review Fee is now fully loaded onto project costs. The last step is to complete the Request for Design Authorization and Notice to Proceed for project design.

- Development/Design: The design review fee is eligible for federal reimbursement if the fee is a cost of the project from the early stages of the project. Self-administration is still allowed for design only, but must be approved by ADOT. Allow enough time for stage submittal reviews and tasks requiring consultation. Projects can proceed to the 60% design stage prior to NEPA clearance if projects are relatively smaller; larger projects may only proceed to 30%. Sarath Joshua from MAG stated that the types of projects this committee deals with are considered larger projects in the range of \$300,000; however, Patrick mentioned that larger projects are larger than \$1,000,000. ADOT advertised project must meet ADOT standards. Work with the project manager early on to get approval if Public Interest Finding is needed. Identify potential issues with clearances that may affect the project schedule and communicate with the project manager. Certification Acceptance agencies using federal funds for acquisition must submit all Right of Way information to ADOT for approval to their issuance of the ROW Clearance, effective 07/01/13.
- Construction: Buy America is a critical component. Audits into the project will look for complete compliance with Buy America and may jeopardize funding of the project. Responsibility for “as-builts” is now defined in IGAs. ADOT will have larger role in project oversight and monitoring during construction. Mike Mah from Chandler asked what materials are considered as part of Buy America. Patrick stated all steel material incorporated into the project must be domestically sourced and documented, except for incidental items. Sarath asked if this applies to electronic equipment, such as dynamic message signs. Patrick was not completely sure, but if other questions regarding what construction items of a project must comply with Buy America to contact him via email and he would find the answer.
- Final Acceptance: Project files need to be well documented and accessible for expected audits in order to keep local agencies in compliance. Project close out information, including inactive projects, should be completed in a timely manner.

Chair Catherine Hollow from Tempe asked what the process is to handoff the project from LPA to the project manager. Patrick replied that the process depends on whether the local agency is a CA or non-CA agency. Sarath asked how on-call consultants are assigned in the design process and who oversees the technical aspect in the design process. Patrick responded saying in the future, all contracts will be under a single contract that can cover multiple project types. ADOT still must follow the FHWA process of assigning contracts to consultants with equitable distribution of work. The project manager and a technical section will be a part of the project management team that will manage all technical oversight.

6. I-10 & I-17 Corridor (“Spine”) Near-Term Improvements Strategy Update

Sarath Joshua informed the committee that the Working Group C generated a list of recommended near-term improvement strategies. Each strategy showed the costs with and without I-10 West. The list of recommended strategies was presented to the Study Management Team by members of the Working Group C describing the philosophy behind the recommended list. The list of strategies that were recommended by the Working Group C were included many items from the ICM Action Plan developed by the ITS committee. The next step is to produce a prioritized list of strategies. A meeting with the Working Group C to produce a prioritized list of recommended strategies has been scheduled for December 9, from 2 to 4pm at MAG in the Cholla Room. The prioritized

list of recommended strategies will then be presented to the Study Management Team at the next scheduled meeting. The Study Management Team will then select strategies to include in the study recommendation. The complete list will be sent to the ITS Committee members for review.

7. Proposed Modifications to the FMS Project Phasing

Farzana Yasmin from ADOT reported that ADOT made adjustments to the ADOT RTP program due to changes in CMAQ funding availability. Additional adjustments to the program were incorporated because it was found that construction cost is lower than anticipated, and ADOT is building more than what was programmed for various corridors. ADOT is proposing changes to the 2015-2025 RTP program in the following locations:

- I-10 from 83rd Ave. to Dysart – ADOT can expand the limit further east
- Loop 202 Santan Freeway from I-10 to Dobson Rd. – remaining programmed funds will be used to add FMS on I-10 from Chandler Blvd. to Queen Creek Rd.
- I-17 from Loop 101 to SR 74 – the project was extended to Anthem Way.
- Loop 202 Santan Freeway from Dobson Rd. to Val Vista Dr. – can expand further east to Ray Rd.
- Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway from Gilbert Rd to Broadway – two projects were initially funded by RTP programmed funds, but instead will be built with ADOT state funds for HOV lanes.

All proposed projects will be completed and there will be some unused funds programmed in the RTP. MAG and ADOT are having discussions on using the remaining funds for installing FMS on Loop 303 from I-10 to I-17. Sarath commented that the Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway project included all FMS costs which saved \$14 million. ADOT has recommended using the remaining funds on Loop 303. Currently, it is being determined where are the best locations to install FMS on Loop 303. Sarath asked to confirm that FMS on I-17 reaches Anthem Way, which Farzana confirmed. Sarath then asked that all FMS work would be completed on Loop 101 Santan Freeway from I-10 to Val Vista Rd. in 2015. Farzana responded saying that from Dobson Rd. to Val Vista Rd. will be completed in 2016. Sarath continued that many residents in the area are requesting ramp metering due to congestion. Farzana has also received requests from residents. ADOT is reviewing all received data with new ramp metering criteria and is also coordinating with Chandler. Sarath commented that this report was presented to the ITS Committee because MAG relies on the committee for oversight and feedback on FMS expansion. Any recommendations from a local agency perspective should be incorporated in the planning process.

8. Reports by Committee Members

Farzana Yasmin from ADOT reported that a change to ramp meter timing will be made on the ramps on Loop 202 Red Mountain at 52nd St., 40th St., 32nd St. and 24th St. On US 60 Superstition Freeway, ramp meter timing changes will be made at Val Vista Rd., Gilbert Rd., Stapley Dr., Mesa Dr. and Country Club Dr. Some of these locations are currently on for AM periods, but will not be activated for PM periods. There is a new ramp meter analyst who will coordinate with local agencies regarding ramp metering changes. Mike Mah from City of Chandler reported that the city has awarded the final phase the TMC upgrade project. The city will be decommissioning the I2 system and switch to TransSuite. The city will be replacing the Siemens controller software to B4 software used with existing controls. It will take a few months to switch to the new

systems. Erik Guderian from the Town of Gilbert reported that the town is upgrading to a new central system which will be fully installed by February. The town has recently started a fiber optics installation project along Baseline Rd which will cover 7 intersections. Design will be completed by June, and construction will begin next fiscal year. Steve Ramsey from the City of Scottsdale reported that the new TMC is currently under construction and will be finished by the end of the month. The city is also upgrading system software.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

None.

10. Next Meeting Date and Place

Next meeting date was announced at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, in the Ironwood Room (2nd floor) at MAG.

Adjournment

Chair Catherine Hollow adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.