

MINUTES OF THE  
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
August 5, 2015  
MAG Office, Saguaro Room  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

- \* Darryl H. Crossman, Litchfield Park, Chair  
Ed Zuercher, Phoenix, Vice Chair  
Matt Busby for Bryant Powell, Apache Junction  
David Fitzhugh, Avondale  
George Diaz for Stephen Cleveland, Buckeye
- \* Gary Neiss, Carefree  
Peter Jankowski, Cave Creek  
Marsha Reed, Chandler  
Amber Wakeman for Dr. Spencer Isom, El Mirage
- # Jess Knudson for Lisa Garcia, Florence  
Alfonso Rodriguez for Phil Dorchester, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation  
Grady Miller, Fountain Hills
- \* Ernest Rubi, Gila Bend
- \* Tina Notah, Gila River Indian Community  
Patrick Banger, Gilbert  
Brent Stoddard for Dick Bowers, Glendale  
Brian Dalke, Goodyear
- \* Rosemary Arellano, Guadalupe
- \* Gregory Rose, City of Maricopa  
Christopher Brady, Mesa  
Kevin Burke, Paradise Valley  
Jeff Tyne for Carl Swenson, Peoria
- # Louis Andersen for Greg Stanley, Pinal County  
John Kross, Queen Creek
- \* Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- \* Fritz Behring, Scottsdale  
Rick Buss for Bob Wingenroth, Surprise  
Marge Zylla for Andrew Ching, Tempe  
Reyes Medrano, Tolleson  
Joshua Wright, Wickenburg  
Jeanne Blackman, Youngtown  
Sintra Hoffman for John Halikowski, ADOT  
Joy Rich for Tom Manos, Maricopa County  
John Farry for Steve Banta, Valley Metro/RPTA

\* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

# Participated by telephone conference call.      + Participated by videoconference call.

1.     Call to Order

The meeting of the MAG Management Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Ed Zuercher, Phoenix, at 12:00 p.m.

2.     Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. John Kross led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Louis Anderson, Mr. Matt Busby, and Mr. Jess Knudson joined the meeting via teleconference.

Vice Chair Zuercher welcomed Mr. Grady Miller, who was named Town Manager for Fountain Hills.

Vice Chair Zuercher announced that public comment cards were available to members of the public who wish to comment on items for action or under MAG's jurisdiction.

Vice Chair Zuercher stated that parking validation was available for those who parked in the MAG parking garage and transit tickets were available for those who purchased transit tickets to come to the meeting. Hearing assisted devices were available from MAG staff.

3. Call to the Audience

Vice Chair Zuercher stated that Call to the Audience provides an opportunity to the public to address the Management Committee on items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard. Public comments have a three minute time limit. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the committee requests an exception to this limit.

Vice Chair Zuercher recognized public comment from Ms. Dianne Barker, who noted that the Chair had been a teacher in his former occupation and likely was more inclusive. Ms. Barker stated that she used multimodal options to travel to the Management Committee meeting and she appreciated receiving a transit ticket. She said that although rapid buses are the best value in the Valley, she thought there was always room for improvement. Ms. Barker reported how she used to visit her parents in Mesa using transit. Ms. Barker encouraged decision makers to consider comments made by citizens. She stated that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality needs more information in decision making. Ms. Barker indicated she thought efforts to publicize measures to reduce pollution in the trip reduction plan should be increased and discussed at meetings. She noted that the 1992 plan includes a requirement for a five percent reduction in single occupant vehicle travel. Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Barker.

4. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, reported on items of interest to the MAG region. He announced that a press conference and signing ceremony will take place August 20, 2015, at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns. The event will commemorate a partnership between the Building an International Economic Network (BIEN) partners and CANACINTRA promoting the (ConnectBIEN.com) website in Mexico. Mr. Smith noted that CANACINTRA is a type of chamber of commerce in Mexico consisting of approximately 30,000 members.

Mr. Smith extended MAG's appreciation to ADOT and specifically to Mr. Reza Karimvand and his team for their efforts that resulted in an increase in the number of hours and days when electronic message boards will transmit messages to drivers on Valley freeways. He stated that

ADOT now has 82 overhead message boards, which can display messages to drivers on such things as commute times and crashes.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG, in partnership with Read on Arizona and the Virginia Piper Foundation, produced an educational viewer of preschool through grade three. He explained that the viewer displays education test scores and demographics for public and charter grade schools throughout Arizona. Mr. Smith acknowledged the contributions of MAG staff members Anubhav Bagley and Verne Wolfley to develop the viewer. He stated that the viewer website will be unveiled August 25, 2015. Mr. Smith spoke of school clubs, such as the robotics club at Carl Hayden High School, which defeated MIT in a robotics competition. He said that clubs such as these operate on very small amounts of funds and he suggested that cities could sponsor robotics teams in their high schools and perhaps bringing this through the MAG process. Mr. Smith noted that some of the students from this program have graduated Summa Cum Laude in engineering at ASU and the program has been sanctioned by AIA.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG will be conducting a Household Travel Survey of 7,000 households regarding their travel. He noted that the survey will be conducted in Maricopa, Pinal, and portions of Yavapai and Gila counties. Residents who choose to participate will be asked to provide details of the travel patterns of those living in the household.

Mr. Smith stated that at the direction of the MAG Executive Committee, a MAG Annual Report has been produced. He noted that copies have been provided to each member agency for distribution to their council members or public. Mr. Smith stated that extra copies are available.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Mr. Smith for his report. He noted that he recently visited the state of Michigan and electronic messaging signs on its freeways are operational at all times. He extended his appreciation to ADOT for increasing the operating time of the electronic message signs on the region's freeways.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Vice Chair Zuercher stated that agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, and #5G were on the Consent Agenda.

Vice Chair Zuercher recognized public comment from Mr. Marvin Rochelle, who stated that he suggested to ADOT in 1997 that Interstate 17 should be double-decked. He said ADOT finally admitted in 2002 that he was right, but the double-decking has still not occurred. Mr. Rochelle stated that Interstate 17 and Interstate 10 from Phoenix are bad situations and need to be taken care of soon because federal money is getting tight. He stated that his average ride into downtown Phoenix at 6:30am from the Loop 101 area on Interstate 10 is 45 minutes. Mr. Rochelle stated that people oppose double decking the HOV lanes and tolls, but having a toll is less expensive than a 45-minute drive due to fuel costs, emissions, and time spent. Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Mr. Rochelle.

Vice Chair Zuercher recognized public comment from Ms. Dianne Barker, who expressed appreciation for Mr. Rochelle's participation. She expressed that her comments had been reflected accurately in the meeting minutes. Ms. Barker noted that as transportation commissioner, she will serve the people, but will speak for herself. She remarked that the region still has PM-10 and ozone problems. Ms. Barker spoke of the discussion on the Phoenix transportation election and indicated there needs to be a commitment to multimodalism. She noted that anything approved at the City of Phoenix must be approved at MAG. Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Barker.

Vice Chair Zuercher asked members if they had questions or requests to hear a presentation on any of the Consent Agenda items. None were noted.

Vice Chair Zuercher called for a motion to recommend approval of Consent Agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, and #5G.

Ms. Jeanne Blackman moved, Mr. Kevin Burke seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5A. Approval of the June 10, 2015, Meeting Minutes

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, approved the June 10, 2015, meeting minutes.

5B. ADOT Red Letter Process

In June 1996, the MAG Regional Council approved the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Red Letter process, which requires MAG member agencies to notify ADOT of potential development activities in freeway alignments. Development activities include actions on plans, zoning, and permits. ADOT has forwarded a list of notifications from January 1, 2015, to June 30, 2015. Seven of the 87 notices received have an impact to the state highway system.

5C. MAG Federally Funded, Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended acceptance of the MAG Federally Funded, Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report. The MAG Federal Fund Programming Guidelines & Procedures were first approved by the MAG Regional Council on October 26, 2011, and were updated by the Regional Council on June 24, 2015. They outline the requirements for local agencies to submit information on the development and status of their federally funded projects. The Project Development Status Report focuses on projects funded with suballocated Federal Highway Administration funds (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Highway Safety Improvement Program, regionwide Transportation Alternatives, and Pinal County Surface Transportation Program). These projects are programmed to obligate in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 and 2017. The Status Report was recommended for acceptance by the MAG Transportation Review Committee on July 23, 2015.

5D. Programming of Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School Projects in FY 2016-2017

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the list of six projects, in the amounts shown in the handout provided, with a total budget of \$305,650 in FY 2016 and a budget of \$50,000 in FY 2017. Through prior MAG action, a total of \$400,000 in Transportation Alternatives funds is set aside each fiscal year for Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure projects. A call for qualifying projects was issued in March 2015 to program \$400,000 in FY 2016, and \$463,707 in FY 2017 (includes \$63,707 moved to FY 2017 from an earlier year). Six project applications requesting a total of \$305,650 in FY 2016 and one project application for \$50,000 in FY 2017 were received. On July 21, 2015, the Transportation Safety Committee conducted a technical review and evaluation of the project applications and recommended approval of a list of projects. The list of projects was recommended for approval by the MAG Transportation Review Committee on July 23, 2015. Available Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School funds exceed the amounts needed to program the recommended projects for FY 2016 and FY 2017. Remaining Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School funds will be programmed as part of the MAG Transportation Improvement Program call for projects to be announced in August 2015.

5E. Amendment to the FY 2016 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Add the RTSIMS Software Enhancements and Maintenance On-Call Project

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval to amend the FY 2016 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to add the new Transportation Safety Planning on-call project named RTSIMS Software Enhancements and Maintenance On-Call, and to increase the FY 2016 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget by \$40,000 using the Arizona Department of Transportation state funds provided for this work. MAG has developed a custom software tool for performing crash data analysis named Regional Transportation Safety Information Management System, or RTSIMS. This effort is funded by a grant provided by the Arizona Department of Transportation to support regional road safety planning. The software tool is used extensively by MAG staff for performing crash data analysis. The current version of the software was last updated in 2013. A new project is proposed to be added under the projects in the existing on-call contract. The project will implement a number of software enhancements and also provide one year of maintenance support. A consultant from the approved list of MAG On-Call consultants will be utilized to conduct the project. An amendment to the FY 2016 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is being requested to add the RTSIMS Software Enhancements and Maintenance On-Call project.

5F. Status of Remaining MAG Approved PM-10 Certified Street Sweeper Projects That Have Not Requested Reimbursement

A status report was provided on the remaining PM-10 certified street sweeper projects that have received approval, but have not requested reimbursement. To address new Federal Highway Administration procedures to minimize inactive obligations and to assist MAG in reducing the amount of obligated federal funds carried forward in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, we are requesting that street sweeper projects for FY 2015 CMAQ funding

be purchased and reimbursement requests be submitted to MAG within one year from the date of the MAG authorization letter.

5G. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. The amendment and administrative modification involve several projects, including Arizona Department of Transportation and other miscellaneous projects. The amendment includes projects that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations. The administrative modification includes minor project revisions that do not require a conformity determination.

6. Streamlining of the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process

Vice Chair Zuercher expressed appreciation to MAG for taking the lead on this issue. He remarked that this was a significant topic of discussion.

Mr. Dennis Smith stated that the process for streamlining the 208 Water Quality Management Plan process was a team effort. He credited the assistance of MAG staff, Ms. Julie Hoffman and Ms. Lindy Bauer, and it was truly a team effort among many entities.

Ms. Julie Hoffman provided the staff report. She noted that in September 2014, she reported to the Management Committee on efforts by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to streamline the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process. She noted that ADEQ had been working with the State Water Quality Management Working Group, which includes representatives from the councils of governments across the state, who had expressed concern with the ADEQ streamlining approach that would result in the issuance of permits for wastewater treatment facilities without first going through the 208 Process and receiving Regional Council approval.

Ms. Hoffman stated that during her reports in September 2014, the members of the Management Committee and Regional Council also expressed concern with the ADEQ streamlining approach. She indicated that on October 1, 2014, MAG staff met with the ADEQ director and discussed the concerns of the MAG member agencies. The ADEQ director indicated that ADEQ is committed to reducing its permitting time and being more responsive to its customers, the regulated community.

Ms. Hoffman stated that there was a lot of common ground discussed at the meeting. MAG shares the importance of economic development for the region with ADEQ and agreed to work with ADEQ on streamlining options that would not jeopardize the integrity of the 208 Process. Ms. Hoffman stated that the goal of this streamlining effort was to make the 208 Process more efficient and the region more globally competitive.

Ms. Hoffman stated that MAG was designated by the Governor as the Regional Water Quality Management Planning Agency for Maricopa County in accordance with Section 208 of the Clean Water Act. It is in this capacity that MAG prepares the 208 Water Quality Management Plan. Ms. Hoffman noted that the MAG 208 Plan only applies to Maricopa County.

Ms. Hoffman stated that there are two major elements of the MAG 208 Plan: the Point Source element and the Nonpoint Source element. She explained that the Point Source element describes the preferred wastewater treatment system to serve the wastewater treatment needs of the region over a twenty-year planning period. The Nonpoint Source element primarily describes the regional surface and groundwater quality, and the federal and state program activities designed to control nonpoint source pollution.

Ms. Hoffman stated that there are a number of permits and approvals linked to the MAG 208 Plan and it is the key guiding document used by ADEQ and Maricopa County in granting permits for wastewater treatment plants in the MAG region. Ms. Hoffman stated that consistency is required for Aquifer Protection Permits and Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits issued by ADEQ and for the Approval to Construct issued by the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department.

Ms. Hoffman stated that a small Stakeholder Group was formed for evaluation of the 208 Process. The MAG member agencies on the stakeholder group included representatives from the West Valley, East Valley, the central city and Maricopa County. The Stakeholder Group also included representatives from private utilities, the homebuilders, and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Representatives included Roger Klingler from the City of Buckeye, Javier Setovich from the City of Glendale, Brandy Kelso from the City of Phoenix, John Kross from the Town of Queen Creek, Dale Bodiya from Maricopa County, Troy Day from EPCOR, Bhaskar Kolluri from Liberty Utilities, Spencer Kamps from the Homebuilders Association of Central Arizona, Ray Jones, a consultant used by the homebuilders on water issues whom the homebuilders requested be included in the group, and Trevor Baggiore, Linda Taunt, Debra Daniel, Edwina Vogan from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

Ms. Hoffman stated that five stakeholder meetings were conducted where the group evaluated the entire 208 Process, streamlining from the point in which the applicant contacts the jurisdiction in which the facility would be located, until approval by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ms. Hoffman stated that a proposal has been developed that identifies the streamlining efforts of the stakeholder group. And these streamlining efforts identified in the proposal have shortened the 208 Process from approximately 18 to 24 months to approximately nine months – a 50 to 63 percent reduction in the overall timeline for a 208 amendment.

Ms. Hoffman stated that as part of the streamlining process, improvements have been made to the local process (before an amendment is submitted to MAG), to the MAG process (at the regional level), and to the ADEQ process (from the point in which the approved amendment is submitted to ADEQ from MAG). She noted that these improvements are identified in the draft proposal.

Ms. Hoffman stated that MAG developed two business-friendly fact sheets that describe when an amendment is required or not required and a step-by-step description of the 208 Process. She noted that MAG also developed two streamlined 208 amendment checklists that only require information that would be pertinent to each specific type of amendment. Ms. Hoffman added that other areas of the country were contacted and a white paper was prepared describing their 208 processes.

Ms. Hoffman stated that the Stakeholder Group also thoroughly reviewed the 208 planning approach used in SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization and Yuma County. ADEQ staff provided two presentations to the Stakeholder Group on the 208 planning approach used in these rural areas.

Ms. Hoffman stated that the draft proposal identified improvements to the 208 Process that do not jeopardize the integrity of the 208 Process. Improvements to the MAG member agency portion of the 208 Process provide clarity, assistance to the business community, and a shortened timeframe.

Ms. Hoffman stated that the applicant would contact the jurisdiction in which the facility would be located to discuss the need for the amendment and the pre-application packet that would be developed by MAG and made available on the MAG website. If an amendment is required, the applicant would complete the appropriate checklist, draft the amendment document, and submit it to the sponsoring jurisdiction.

Ms. Hoffman stated that a 60-day deadline has been set for the sponsoring jurisdiction to determine an application complete. Once determined complete, a deadline of 60 days is set for the sponsoring jurisdiction to review the amendment and submit it to MAG. Also, during the 60-day review period, the sponsoring jurisdiction would conduct a workshop with jurisdictions within three miles of the amendment to inform them on the amendment and request letters of no objection, support, or comment. Ms. Hoffman stated that the sponsoring jurisdiction would also provide updates to MAG staff on these timelines so that MAG knows when the amendment would be coming to MAG. In addition, the applicant would identify and contact any private utilities within three miles of the amendment.

Ms. Hoffman stated that improvements to the MAG portion of the 208 Process include changes that provide clarity, transparency, and a shortened timeframe due to the pre-application packet. The pre-application packet would include fact sheets on when an amendment is required and not required, and a step-by-step description of the 208 Process, streamlined 208 amendment checklists, and links to previously approved amendments to use as an example. The pre-application packet would be made available on the MAG website.

Ms. Hoffman stated that an amendment would no longer be required for service area expansions. Instead, the impacted jurisdictions would provide letters to MAG indicating that there is agreement on the service area expansion. Ms. Hoffman stated that a representative from the Water Utilities Association of Arizona would be included on the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee. MAG would also develop a table for the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee

on the reviews and approvals conducted by other agencies for wastewater treatment facility permits for information.

Ms. Hoffman stated that improvements on the ADEQ portion of the 208 Process provide for parallel processing, concurrent reviews, and a shortened timeframe. A major change is ADEQ indicating that they could issue conditional Aquifer Protection Permits and/or Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits, which would allow for parallel processing and concurrent reviews with the 208 Process. Ms. Hoffman noted that this is significant since previously, ADEQ would not proceed with reviewing an Aquifer Protection Permit or Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit application until the 208 amendment was approved. Ms. Hoffman stated that ADEQ would now be able to conduct its review at the same time the 208 amendment is going through the process. In addition, the State Water Quality Management Working Group could meet as needed and use conference calls to save time.

Ms. Hoffman stated that ADEQ has indicated that it will make its certification decision within 15 days. If there is no Clean Water Act nexus, the process would be complete. If there is a Clean Water Act nexus, which would be the amendments in this region, such as a new plant discharge, ADEQ would submit the amendment to the Environmental Protection Agency for approval. If no comments are received from the Environmental Protection Agency within 30 days, ADEQ considers the amendment approved.

Ms. Hoffman stated that in general, these improvements to the MAG 208 Process identified in the proposal were the consensus of the Stakeholder Group. She noted the homebuilders representative on the Stakeholder Group indicated that they got more out of the streamlining process that they thought they would, however, it did not go far enough. They preferred that any entity be able to bring an amendment to MAG. Ms. Hoffman stated that the MAG member agencies on the Stakeholder Group felt sponsorship of a 208 amendment was important and so there was not agreement on that. Ms. Hoffman stated that the Stakeholder Group has requested that corresponding changes be made to the MAG Small Plant Review and Approval Process. This process is used for wastewater treatment facilities 2.0 million gallons per day or less with no discharge.

Ms. Hoffman stated that the Stakeholder Group also requested that an annual evaluation be conducted of the streamlined 208 Process to determine if there is a need for any additional improvements. Ms. Hoffman expressed appreciation to the Stakeholder Group for their participation and for sharing their ideas to make the 208 process more efficient and business friendly.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Hoffman for her report. He asked Mr. John Kross if he would like to add any comments.

Mr. Kross stated that during this three-month process, he learned a lot about the Clean Water Act and a lot of interesting issues were discussed. He stated that sponsorship was discussed and the Stakeholders Group recommended a 60-day filing stipulation for submittal of the 208 amendment to MAG so there is a time limit when the application has to move forward. Mr. Kross stated that

the MAG member agencies felt this was a significant response to the sponsorship issue and moving the process forward. He stated that the Stakeholders Group reviewed the parameters of the Clean Water Act as it relates to Section 208. Mr. Kross noted that the Act and Section 208 are somewhat broad with respect to the issues local governments are required to review before issuing permits. Those include such issues as economic, social, environmental, transportation, and land use. Mr. Kross stated that the other stakeholders wanted that review to be more narrowed. He noted that the MAG member agencies in the Stakeholders Group felt it was important to retain in the amendment process that sponsoring agencies have a broader perspective review so stakeholders can have a dialogue regarding impacts and potentially unforeseen issues. Mr. Kross noted that MAG staff provided significant research and did outstanding work to make the streamlining process easier.

Mr. John Kross moved to recommend approval of the Draft Proposal for Streamlining the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process. Mr. Brian Dalke seconded.

Vice Chair Zuercher noted that no public comment cards had been received. Vice Chair Zuercher asked if the Stakeholders Group would stay together to provide the annual reviews that were requested. Ms. Hoffman replied yes. Vice Chair Zuercher asked members if they had questions.

Mr. Brent Stoddard complimented MAG staff and echoed the remarks by Mr. Kross. He remarked that 208 Water Quality Management Planning is a critical issue and the battle for cities to control their own destinies with water was fought years ago. Mr. Stoddard stated that we are not perfect and want to find ways to streamline processes and improve efficiency. He commented that the way MAG approached this, with stakeholders that know their business and the process, is a model on how good work can be accomplished. Mr. Stoddard extended his appreciation to MAG staff and Mr. Kross. He said they are very happy with the effort and realize the work is not yet done. Mr. Stoddard stated that a lot was on the line and what was accomplished was critical.

With no further discussion, the motion passed. The votes of Mr. Jess Knudson and Mr. Louis Andersen were abstentions, in observance of the MAG By-Laws regarding Pinal County voting: "Members of MAG that are in the Pinal County Area are entitled to vote on all matters coming before any meetings of its membership except those that are exclusive to the Maricopa County Boundary defined by State Law or through a planning designation by a Governor's Executive Order, including but not limited to the Transportation Excise Tax enacted by Maricopa County, Section 208 Water Quality Management Planning, and Solid Waste Management Planning."

#### 7. Programming of Road Safety Projects in FY 2016-2018

Ms. Margaret Boone, MAG staff, reported that the Arizona Department of Transportation receives nearly \$42 million in federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds each fiscal year for road safety improvements. She noted that 20 percent of that allocation is provided to Arizona councils of governments and metropolitan planning organizations to program qualifying projects. Ms. Boone stated that MAG's suballocation is \$1.9 million of the \$42 million.

Ms. Boone reported that in May 2015, ADOT announced a new process for programming HSIP funds that stipulates FY 2018 as the last year of the HSIP suballocation to MAG. In the new program, all HSIP projects would compete for project funding statewide and there will be no suballocation to any Arizona council of governments or metropolitan planning organization starting in FY 2019. Ms. Boone noted that the new guidance also included more stringent qualifying criteria, effective immediately.

Ms. Boone stated that the new HSIP criteria were incorporated into the MAG Call for Projects, which included funding from FY 2016 and FY 2017 made available from the deletion of ineligible projects or advancement of projects. She noted that the resulting amounts were approximately \$323,000 for FY 2016 and \$257,054 for FY 2017, along with the full \$1.9 million suballocation for FY 2018.

Ms. Boone reviewed the Call for Projects for FY 2016, FY 2017, and FY 2018. She said that two projects were received from Apache Junction, two from Glendale, and one from Tempe. Ms. Boone advised that the Apache Junction projects were subsequently withdrawn following ADOT pre-review of project eligibility for federal funds. The three projects remaining were recommended for approval by the Transportation Safety Committee on July 21, 2015, and the Transportation Review Committee on July 23, 2015.

Ms. Boone described the projects. She stated that the first Glendale project is to install flashing yellow arrows at 12 intersections and implement intersection modifications. She noted that this option is established as safer and more easily understood by motorists than “yield on green ball.” Ms. Boone added that the City plans on funding the installation at all of their major arterial intersections in future phases.

Ms. Boone stated that the second Glendale project is for the procurement and installation of GPS-based emergency vehicle preemption devices to be installed at 48 locations. She reported that the project was proposed based on a Glendale Council and management goal to decrease response times while increasing emergency vehicle safety. Ms. Boone noted that this equipment allows intersections to return to normal operation more quickly, which could reduce the potential of secondary crashes.

Ms. Boone stated that the Tempe project is for safety improvements at the intersection of Rural Road and Southern Avenue. She indicated that the basis for this application was the consistent high crash ranking of the location both in the City of Tempe and MAG. Ms. Boone explained that a road safety assessment for this location was completed in 2011 and a project assessment in 2015.

Ms. Boone stated that pending MAG approval, the list was submitted to ADOT to meet its deadline of July 31, 2015.

Vice Chair Zuercher asked if there was a way to grow this pot of money, given the rate of safety on roadways in this region. Mr. Dennis Smith responded that after FY 2018, the suballocation to MAG will go away and MAG would participate in the application process and compete with the

rest of the state for the approximately \$42 million in safety funds. He added that due to the new, stricter guidelines, this region might rank highly in the application process.

Ms. Boone noted that due to its high rate of fatal and serious injury crashes, this region should rise to the top in the application process and ideally, receive a higher award of safety funds.

Ms. Sintra Hoffman stated that Mr. Smith stated the process well. She indicated that streamlining is difficult. Ms. Hoffman remarked that she loved MAG, but there are a lot of needs statewide and that is the reason changes were made. She noted that the criteria will be looking at the needs.

Mr. Smith stated that he thought the MAG region would be all right if the process is data-driven.

With no further discussion, Ms. Jeanne Blackman moved to recommend approval of a list of safety projects to be funded with the available Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds suballocated to MAG in FY 2016-2018. Mr. Rick Buss seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Project Changes - Amendment and Administrative Modification to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2016 Arterial Life Cycle Program, and as Needed, to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

Ms. Teri Kennedy, MAG staff, reported on requested project changes. Ms. Kennedy noted that the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program is a \$7.5 billion program. She noted that most of the project changes being requested are very general in nature.

Ms. Kennedy stated that Congress approved a continuation to fund surface transportation authorization for three months. She noted that the late signing puts MAG in a precarious position because the apportionment number is not yet known. Ms. Kennedy stated that MAG staff will work with ADOT on the regional freeway/highway program. She explained that she expected that a few changes will be forthcoming from ADOT between now and the August 26 Regional Council meeting, so there would be a couple of changes to the project change tables.

Ms. Kennedy also noted that there are currently six projects on the suballocation ledger that will not be able to authorize this year in the amount of \$4.5 million. She stated that another project is needed to advance, otherwise the funds could be at risk to be lost. Ms. Kennedy noted that the suballocated amount is expected to be known in the next couple of weeks and staff anticipates this will be a very busy time. She added that the funds on any project that advances are not added money, it is early money.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Kennedy for her report and asked if there were questions. There were none.

Mr. John Kross moved to recommend approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, FY 2016 Arterial Life Cycle

Program, and as needed, to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Patrick Banger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

9. Legislative Update

Mr. Nathan Pryor, MAG staff, provided a report on legislative issues of interest. He stated that surface transportation authorization was extended through October 31, 2015. Mr. Pryor stated that the Senate passed its version of reauthorization, the DRIVE Act (Developing a Reliable, Innovative Vision for the Economy), which is a six-year proposed bill with only three years of funding sources identified.

Mr. Pryor noted that the extension does create some certainty, but he noted there are still some concerns. For example, MAP-21 resulted in an approximate 12 percent in funding reductions to the MAG region. He said that MAP-21 funding levels were pegged at 2009 allocation levels and tied to the 2000 Census, which hurts faster growing states such as Arizona, and benefits older areas of the country where population is relatively flat or declining.

Mr. Pryor stated that under the DRIVE Act, funding continues to erode. He said it includes less Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding because it takes 15 percent off the top for bridges. Mr. Pryor stated that Senators Wicker and Booker proposed an amendment that would increase STP funds to local areas based on population, however, it was not adopted. Mr. Pryor stated that he has had conversations with Florida MPOs, the Western Regional Alliance, and Transportation for America and work continues to call attention to this issue in the House.

Mr. Pryor then addressed Arizona House Bill (HB) 2617, which was passed in the late hours of the legislative session. Mr. Pryor noted that HB 2617 would transfer annually almost \$3 million in sales tax funds (approximately \$2.5 million from MAG and approximately \$500,000 from the Pima Association of Governments) to fund the Arizona Department of Revenue.

Mr. Pryor stated that a working group, including Mayor Michael LeVault, Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane, Mayor Mark Mitchell, and Supervisor Denny Barney, met with representatives from the Governor's Office. He noted that the group's findings were discussed at the June Regional Council meeting, and due to some concerns, the working group continued discussions with the Governor's Office. Mr. Pryor stated that the hope is to have some sort of accommodation by the August Regional Council meeting.

Mr. Smith stated that the Governor's Office recommended that representatives from the House and Senate attend the next group meeting in order to have a full discussion of this issue.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked staff for the report. No questions from the Committee were noted.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

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

No requests were noted.

11. Comments from the Committee

An opportunity was provided for Management Committee members to present a brief summary of current events. The Management Committee is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

No comments were noted.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

---

Chair

---

Secretary