

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
October 20, 2003
MAG Offices
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek,
Chair
Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa, Vice Chair
Mayor John Keegan, Peoria, Treasurer

Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix
* Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise
Mayor Woody Thomas, Litchfield Park

* Not present

Participated by videoconference or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr at 12:20 p.m.

Mayor Keegan moved to approve the consent agenda items #2A Approval of the September 15, 2003 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, #2B Consultant Selection for the MAG Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services Request for Qualifications and #2C Amendment to the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Accept the Governor's Innovative Domestic Violence Prevention Grant from the Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families. Mayor Manross seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2A. Approval of the September 15, 2003 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved the minutes of the September 15, 2003 meeting.

2B. Consultant Selection for the MAG Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services Request for Qualifications

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved a selection list of consultants for the Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Service, for an amount not to exceed \$100,000. The FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program includes potential consultant assistance for air quality planning and modeling activities. A request for qualifications was advertised on

August 26, 2003 for technical assistance in development of air quality plans, conformity, modeling, and addressing issues resulting from a future court ruling on the Serious Area PM-10 Plan lawsuit. Proposals were due September 25, 2003. On October 1, 2003, a multi-jurisdictional evaluation team reviewed the proposals received. On October 8, 2003, the Management Committee recommended approval of a selected list of consultants for the Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call Services.

2C. Amendment to the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Accept the Governor's Innovative Domestic Violence Prevention Grant from the Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families.

_____ The Executive Committee approved, by consent, amending the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to accept a \$34,195 grant from the Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families to support implementation of the MAG Domestic Violence Council recommendations. MAG has received a \$34,195 grant from the Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families to support implementation of the MAG Domestic Violence initiatives to train crisis response teams and healthcare professionals. MAG staff will implement these initiatives that strive to educate and prevent domestic violence and children witnessing domestic violence, as well as train key community responders to identify domestic violence.

3. Regional Transportation Plan Update

_____ Dennis Smith thanked the Regional Council members for their unanimous vote on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which was followed by unanimous approval of the State Transportation Board. Mr. Smith mentioned that he and Eric Anderson attended an Arizona General Contractors' (AGC) meeting this morning that was led by Representative Gary Pierce. He noted that the Southeast Area Transportation Study was recognized and will be looked at in the Statewide Plan (Move AZ). Mr. Smith added that the meeting was a success. Mayor Rimsza asked if there was any discussion about the timing of the vote. Mr. Smith replied that there was no discussion on the timing element. However, a letter from Representative Gary Pierce and Senator Robert Blendu, that was distributed at the TPC meeting, referenced a May 18th election date. Mr. Smith also stated that MAG has been invited to the Legislature to explain the Plan.

Mr. Smith stated that Mayor Feldman-Kerr worked with the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) to schedule a meeting on November 20, 2003 in Casa Grande to discuss the MAG Regional Transportation Plan. He noted that the meeting will consist of MAG Executive Committee members, PAG Regional Council, some Central Arizona Association of Governments (CAAG) members and ADOT members. Also invited are the TPC Chair and Vice Chair. Mayor Thomas referenced a discussion to scheduling a meeting with the TPC and the State Legislature. Mr. Smith noted that these meetings seem to be happening more on an ad hoc basis. Mayor Manross asked if there was any discussion regarding legal restrictions. Mr. Smith replied that there was not. Mayor Rimsza stated that he thought it

was a good idea that these different meetings were taking place. This way people will develop an understanding of the Plan. Mayor Rimsza asked if staff would be available if needed, to attend any of these meetings. Mr. Smith confirmed that staff would be available. Eric Anderson noted that at the AGC meeting, the East Valley representatives questioned why some of the routes could not be considered in the Maricopa County Plan. It was noted that the Plan was complete.

5. 2004 Desert Peaks Awards

This agenda item was taken out of order. Denise McClafferty gave an update on the status of the Desert Peaks Awards event for 2004. She noted that the Executive Committee, at their September meeting, believed that the awards were important to the region and should continue to be held. The discussion at that meeting was to restructure the awards event so that it would continue to recognize regional partnerships and continue to consider the budget demands of jurisdictions. Ms. McClafferty stated that the Executive Committee suggested that the event be held in conjunction with the Regional Council annual dinner in June. The event could begin with a reception with hors d'oeuvres in place of the Regional Council dinner, followed by the annual meeting where the awards would be distributed. She noted that after receiving proposals from several different facilities, a reception type event is expected to be held at half the cost of last years event, with no cost to attendees. Ms. McClafferty noted that the Executive Committee also requested feedback from the Management Committee on restructuring the event, as well as disclosing the award recipients prior to the event. On October 8, 2003, in comments received from the Management Committee, there appeared to be support for restructuring the event and with announcing the awards recipient prior to the event. Ms. McClafferty stated that after speaking with other COG's, such as Denver Regional Council of Governments, Mid America Regional Council and Puget Sound Regional Council, it was determined that they inform the winners prior to the event, but formally announce the award recipients after the event. She noted that these COG's also have 500 to 600 attendees at their awards program.

Ms. McClafferty noted that if the event is approved by this Committee and the Regional Council, staff could send out early notification of the restructured event and the call for nominations will be sent out in February. The Executive Committee agreed with restructuring of the event and announcing the award recipients prior to the event. The Executive Committee suggested that this item be taken to the Regional Council for approval. The Executive Committee also agreed that early notification should be sent out as soon as possible. Chair Feldman-Kerr thanked Ms. McClafferty for her presentation.

4. Update on Compiling Information on Regionally Significant Development Projects

Jack Tomasik reviewed past approvals on compiling information regionally significant development projects that might create impacts to the transportation system. He explained that specific criteria was developed by the Planners Stakeholders Group and MAG Executive Committee that defined these projects. The Regional Council approved these criteria on June

25, 2003. He explained that MAG staff would meet with the submitting member agency after compiling the information on regionally significant development projects. Mr. Tomasik noted that the information would be used by the member agency at their own discretion. In addition, a compilation of the cumulative impact of all of the regionally significant development projects would be included in a Regional Annual Report.

Mr. Tomasik stated that since the approval in June, meetings have taken place with planning directors of the largest member agencies that might have developments of significant size. A formal criteria sheet and transmittal form were developed at the request of planning directors and were mailed in mid-September. Mr. Tomasik stated that, since July, eleven regionally significant development projects have been submitted. He noted there was a delay in reports on the projects because information services and transportation modeling staffs were dedicated to the higher priority of the Regional Transportation Plan in August and September. Mr. Tomasik stated that presently we are obtaining projects that meet the criteria after policy was approved for implementation. We have also done land development and socioeconomic build out analyses. He added that the methodology on regional transportation impacts had been developed and networks have been coded for five large projects in Peoria. We will be showing average daily traffic, level of service and infrastructure cost for each roadway segment. As MAG staff have noted that the transportation networks for the five Peoria projects are not aligned, we have made assumptions in network coding. This has shown MAG staff that it is necessary to add a step for review of assumptions by the submitting member agency. We hope to have Peoria done in November. Chair Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Tomasik for his presentation.

Mayor Hawker questioned the timing of the information received as it relates to voting on amendments to the 208 Water Quality Management Plan or the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Lindy Bauer gave the example of the wastewater treatment plant in Buckeye and noted that the water committee reviews the plans and checks for adverse health and environmental effects and how it affects other jurisdictions. She noted that by the time the 208 Plan amendment is submitted to MAG, the development has already been approved. Mayor Hawker asked how the MAG Regional Council could get involved before the development is approved so that, for example, if a development in Queen Creek negatively impacts Mesa, Mesa can have a voice. Mr. Smith explained that there is not a nexus between the 208 Plan and stopping development for land use reasons. Through the regionally significant development projects review process, communities could share that information. Mayor Hawker expressed his concern about approving the TIP without knowing how it affects the region.

Mayor Rimsza stated that he is not comfortable supporting a policy to avoid creating documents to get around the public meeting law. The Committee discussed the importance of adhering to the Open Meeting Law and Public Records Law. They discussed that this is a trial period of 18 months and hope to develop more trust during this time. Mayor Keegan stated that this trial period is more like providing a community with information on impacts to them and other surrounding communities. Mr. Smith noted that MAG does not want be

a land use control agency. He noted that it would be the choice of the jurisdiction to share information from any conversations or meetings with MAG. The Committee agreed that each community effects the other with some of its decisions. The focus should continue to be on the greater good of the region. Chair Feldman-Kerr suggested that part of the trial period should include the question “at what point in the process would the information be helpful.” Mr. Smith stated that the goal is to provide quality information, on time. He also noted that MAG will provide this information to other member agencies on their request.

6. Regional Council Retreat

Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr stated that the Committee needs to discuss the next Regional Council Retreat, where and when it will be, and topics to cover. She noted that she was disappointed in last year’s turn out for the retreat. Mr. Smith suggested including the business community as a part of the retreat. Chair Feldman-Kerr suggested having a two part retreat with a meeting of the members for the first half, and then include the business community in the second half. Mayor Rimsza suggested that a topic for the retreat could be a discussion on water issues, and Mayor Thomas suggested revenue sharing issues. Mayor Rimsza suggested choosing the business representatives carefully. He suggested looking at those who represent the Valley in every industry. Chair Feldman-Kerr stated that the Regional Council needs to meet on the topics and have agreement before meeting with the business community. The Executive Committee discussed several different topics and agreed to focus the Regional Council Retreat on the success of the RTP and a general discussion of interests with the business community.

7. Process for Executive Director Performance Evaluation

Chair Feldman-Kerr stated that traditionally, each January, a performance review is scheduled for the MAG Executive Director. She noted that when the current Executive Director was hired, it was envisioned to have a consultant facilitated performance evaluations. Mayor Keegan explained that they used a consultant to hire and review their city manager and it helps to get issues out on the table. Mayor Hawker asked if the performance evaluation was part of CPS’s contract. Chair Feldman-Kerr explained that it was not and that it would be a new contract and not necessarily with CPS. Mr. Smith noted that the budgeted amount for the Executive Director’s performance evaluation is \$3,000. Mayor Keegan explained that the evaluation process in Peoria consists of the consultant talking with the mayor and council, the city manager does a self-evaluation, and the city council does an evaluation on specific performance points. He added that there is communication with staff and council. The consultant then compiles information in an anonymous format. Mr. Smith noted that his contract provides that the Executive Director’s evaluation is done by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Regional Council. Mayor Hawker and Mayor Thomas stated that they prefer no consultant.

Chair Feldman-Kerr asked when Mr. Smith’s contract was signed. Fredda Bisman replied that January 20, 2003 is the date of the contract. Chair Feldman-Kerr stated that she does not

feel that it is necessary, at this time, to have a consultant facilitate the evaluation process. Mayor Hawker asked Mr. Smith if he thought a consultant was worthwhile. Mr. Smith responded that he likes to keep an open mind. He also feels that the elected officials have a far better understanding of what has been accomplished, and that the outcome speaks for itself. Mayor Manross stated that, personally, she is pleased with Mr. Smith's performance and if the Executive Committee feels favorable about Mr. Smith's performance, then we do not need a consultant. Mayor Thomas suggested that, in the future, there be performance criteria set on which to do an evaluation. Mayor Keegan stated that he was more interested in the self-evaluation. Mr. Smith stated that staff participated in a process call Appreciative Inquiry, which focuses on the positive of an organization. He noted that out of this process came seven primary characteristic of MAG employees.

The consensus of the Executive Committee was that it was not necessary to have a consultant facilitated performance evaluation for the MAG Executive Director, but recognize that it is part of the Executive Director's contract and could be use in the future. Chair Feldman-Kerr stated that discussion should be continued at the next meeting and asked Mr. Smith to share the Appreciative Inquiry results.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary

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1. Call to Order

The Regional Community Partners meeting was called to order by Chair Wendy Feldman-Kerr at 1:45 p.m.

2. Amendment to the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Accept a Grant from the Saint Luke's Health Initiative

Regional Community Partners has received a grant from Saint Luke's Health Initiative to assist victims of domestic violence access resources and support in the workplace. In April 2002, the Employers Against Domestic Violence requested \$45,000 over two years (\$30,000 the first year and \$15,000 the second year) for a community capacity building project. This grant will help to increase the capacity of employers of all sizes in Arizona to respond to domestic violence in the workplace by assisting victims with resources and providing a supportive and safe work environment.

Mayor Hawker moved to approve amending the FY 2004 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to accept a \$15,000 grant from Saint Luke's Health Initiative to assist victims of domestic violence access resources and support in the workplace. Mayor Keegan seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. Adjournment of the Regional Community Partners Board of Directors

There being no further business, Mayor Hawker moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Keegan seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary