

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE

August 15, 2002  
MAG Cholla Room, 2nd Floor  
302 North First Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Jim Book, Glendale	Bruce Dressel, Scottsdale (via phone)
Alan Sanderson, Mesa	Jim Decker, Tempe
Mike Mah, Chandler	Tim Wolfe, ADOT
*Bruce Ward, Gilbert	Scott Nodes, Peoria
Dale Thompson, Maricopa County	Chuck Hydeman, Goodyear
*Bob Steele, Phoenix	*Mary Kihl, ASU
Bob Ciotti, RPTA	Alan Hansen, FHWA
*Terry Conner, DPS	*Michael Smith, Avondale
Ellis Perl, Surprise	

OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Maki, Surprise	Chris Jordan, Kimley-Horn & Assoc.
James Colyar, FHWA	Ryan Gulick, IBI Group
Don Wiltshire, MAG Associate	David Walter, PBS&J
Mike Nevarez, Phoenix Transit	
Sarath Joshua, MAG	

\* Not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jim Book called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

2. Approval of June 5, 2002 Meeting Minutes

Alan Sanderson moved and Chuck Hydeman seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve minutes of the June 5, 2002 ITS Committee meeting.

3. Call to Audience

Chairman Book made a call to the audience providing an opportunity to members of the public to address the ITS Committee. There was no comment from the audience.

#### 4. Program Managers Report

- Launching of the Concept of Operations Project: A briefing was provided on the project's scope of work. The project will be kickoff meeting will be held at 10:30 AM following the September MAG ITS Committee meeting. The project tasks and schedule was described for the benefit of members. It was pointed out that over \$100m in state, local and federal funds have been programmed for the period 1999-2007.
- Schedule of regional ITS activities: Over the next 12 months all MAG ITS meetings will be held at 9:00 am on the first Wednesday of the month. Concept of Operations project meetings will be held at 10:30 AM on the same days as committee meetings.
- Update on TIP Programming Process: TEA-21 expires on September 30, 2002. There will be no TIP programming of CMAQ funds for FY 2008 due to uncertainties associated with reauthorization. Chairman Book asked where the funds would come for operations improvements recommended by Concept of Operations. Possible funding sources were identified as MAG federal funds, RARF funds. Alan Sanderson stated that TMC staff and operations ought to be funded at the local level and not rely on federal funding.
- Recent ITS Developments – Amber Alerts: During last month Amber Alerts on VMS signs were used in California to notify motorists to lookout for vehicles involved in child abductions. Tim Wolfe provided a brief description of current ADOT policy on this issue – at this time ADOT will not use VMS signs to post Amber Alters. ADOT has joined the states's Amber Committee and will work out details on protocol, cost etc. Alan Hansen stated that FHWA has also looked at Amber alerts and has determined it is an appropriate use of VMS signs, provided messages are developed. Bruce Dressel expressed interest in pursuing what will be developed by ADOT.
- A new full time staff person to work on ITS and Safety planning will be starting at MAG in September.
- Reauthorization – members were requested to provide input to USDOT for developing the reauthorization. A web page link on further information will be sent to the committee.

#### 5. Enhanced 511 Project

USDOT recently selected Arizona DOT as the single location for developing a model 511 program for the nation. Arizona DOT was awarded \$1.5 million for an enhanced 511 system for the state. Tim Wolfe of ADOT provided an overview of various enhancements. Enhancements to the content of 511 system will include adding arterial road information, transit system information. Another area is airport information, parking management, public safety. Each of these enhancements will also be applied statewide. Second area is improving the voice system by going to a voice activated system. This will enable users to interact without entering numbers from a phone key pad. A third part is to add premium services such as route planning, reserving shuttle services. ADOT will announce an RFP to solicit interest in premium services. The project will also be evaluated by FHWA. Chuck Hydeman asked if information will be provided only in Spanish. Tim Wolfe responded that it will provide information only in English. The goal is to make sure that majority of US residents will have access to a 511 system. A statewide 511 steering committee is providing oversight to this project. The project has a two-year span, first year for implementing and

second for evaluation.

6. ITS Safety and Security Proposal

FHWA recently released an RFP calling for proposals from state DOTs for statewide Security and Reliability improvements tied to ITS. Maricopa County has been requested by Arizona DOT to utilize one of County's on-call consultants to help prepare a proposal that will be submitted to USDOT by the State of Arizona. Dale Thompson of Maricopa County provided a detailed written description of the proposal requirements. The proposal is due on September 13<sup>th</sup>. An outline showing current progress was made available. Three primary focus areas: 1. data collection, 2. data sharing/integration, and 3. operational use of the data. Altogether 20 projects will be implemented. Sky Harbor airport will also be part of the proposal. Jim Book suggested that smaller airports also need to be added from a security viewpoint. He added that even railroads need to be considered. Sarath Joshua mentioned it may be worth examining the new Regional Alert System recently funded by a large ADEQ grant. There was some discussion on likely routing of nuclear waste material Yucca Mountain in Utah via the I-10 corridor. Tim Wolfe suggested that a motion by the ITS Committee to support the proposal. Chairman Book suggested that this be added to the September agenda for action. Jim Decker asked how new private sector partners such as EIS can join the proposal. Dale Thompson responded that current private sector partners in the proposal are based on current AZTech partners and indicated that EIS is an AZTech partner.

7. Status Reports by Committee Members

Ellis Perl of Surprise introduced Bob Maki their new traffic engineer moved to Arizona from Michigan. Jim Book stated that Glendale and ADOT will be discussing ITS on Loop 101 around the new Coyotes arena. Jim Decker announced that Tempe reached an agreement with APS to include fiber conduit with high tension voltage lines.

Scott Nodes announced that Peoria ATMS Phase 1 project will replace traffic signals and add TBC ADOT will let a contract in Oct. Phase 2 will be additional fiber links and a TMC for Peoria. Alan Hansen stated that Glendale, Mesa and Peoria all have ITS projects in FY 2002 that need to be obligated by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Alan Sanderson announced that Mesa council has adopted a 25-year transportation plan which identified a funding shortfall of \$1.5billion. Tim Wolfe announced that ADOT has had a change of management and change in philosophy on earmarked federal funds. Tim Wolfe has been asked to develop a few recommendations for ITS earmarked funding. The plan is for AZ legislative liaisons to go to lobbyists in DC with a packet on a few projects that AZ would like to be earmarked for ITS funds. Tim asked for projects ideally a MAG, PAG and a statewide project. He requested an item at next month's agenda for a review of the MAG ITS Strategic Plan for selecting a MAG project in the \$2m range. Alan Hansen suggested that the committee recommend projects that can be classified as an ITS integration project. Sarath Joshua commented on his observations on ITS applications in Australia: freeway travel time to major destinations in Melbourne and Sydney fairly accurate and useful, ramp metering not observed, VMS usage was not that impressive, freeway speed cameras were very common.

8. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting date was announced as 9:00 AM on Thursday September 4, 2002. The Concept of Operations project meeting was announced as 10:30 AM on the same day.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jim Book at 11:20 AM.