

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
POPULATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 19, 2003  
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

George Pettit, Gilbert, Chairman	*Duncan Miller, Paradise Valley
*Bryant Powell, Apache Junction	*Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park
Adrian Williamson, Avondale	Tom Ellsworth, Mesa
**Liz Zeller, Buckeye	John O'Hare for Matt Holm, Maricopa County
*Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek	Prisila Ferreira, Peoria
**David de la Torre, Chandler	Tim Tilton, Phoenix
*Mark Smith, El Mirage	John Kross, Queen Creek
*Denise Ruhling, Fountain Hills	*Harry Higgins, Scottsdale
*Terry Yergan, Gila River Indian Community	*Scott Phillips, Surprise
Ron Short, Glendale	Ryan Levesque, Tempe
Janeen Hollomon, Goodyear	Mark Fooks, Youngtown
*Gary Smith, Guadalupe	Anne MacCracken, RPTA

\*Those members not present  
\*\*Participated via audioconference

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Phil Garthright, Buckeye	Harry Wolfe, MAG
Anubhav Bagley, MAG	

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a .m. by Chairman George Pettit.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no requests from the audience to address the MAG POPTAC.

3. Approval of Minutes of June 17, 2003

Prisila Ferreira requested that the fourth paragraph in item #4 in the minutes be deleted because she had already stated Peoria's position earlier. It was moved by Prisila Ferreira, seconded by and unanimously recommended to approve the meeting minutes of June 17, 2003 as amended.

4. Acceptance of MAG Interim Projections of Population, Housing and Employment by Municipal Planning Area (MPA) and Regional Analysis Zone for July 1, 2010, 2020, 2025, and 2030.

Harry Wolfe explained that on June 25, 2003 the Regional Council accepted the MAG Interim Projections of Population, Housing and Employment by Municipal Planning Area (MPA) and Regional Analysis Zone for July 1, 2010, 2020, 2025, and 2030. He thanked members of the MAG POPTAC and other member agency staff for their diligence in participating in the projections process. Mr. Wolfe noted that the projections are available as a report in PDF format on the MAG Website at <http://www.mag.maricopa.gov/detail.cms?item=2530>, and the full documentation for the projections are available at <http://www.mag.maricopa.gov/detail.cms?item=2531>.

5. Preparation of DES County Population Projections

Harry Wolfe reported that the last set of official DES State and County projections were adopted in February of 1997. He said that DES is currently awaiting the arrival of county to county migration data from Census 2000 to develop an updated set of resident population projections for counties in Arizona; and that after review and input by DES POPTAC members and revisions based on comments received, the projections would then be considered for approval as official projections by both MAG and DES. Mr. Wolfe added that DES staff distributed a tentative schedule for the preparation of the county projections; and that the schedule estimates that it would take about six months to complete the projections from the time of receipt of the Census data to approval.

6. Census 2000

Harry Wolfe reported that he was awaiting the release of County to County migration data by single year of age and the Census Transportation Planning Package. He said he expected the data later this year.

7. Population Options for 2005

Harry Wolfe noted that on July 11, 2003 the MAG Management Subcommittee on 2005 Population Options met to review the allocation of costs for conducting a 2005 Census Survey. It was recommended that the \$9.4 million cost be distributed based upon share of population for jurisdictions under 6,000 people and whose growth rate is less than 3.5 percent. For the other jurisdictions, costs would be distributed based upon their share of the total housing units sampled in the survey.

George Pettit pointed out that there was unanimous support from the Subcommittee on 2005 population options to pursue a Census Survey, but that there was some disagreement on the method for allocating the cost.

Mark Fooks asked whether it was legal to do a survey for distributing state-shared revenue, noting that there was controversy in Census 2000 on whether Census numbers could be adjusted based on surveys. George Pettit responded that an amendment to State law allows for the use of a Census Survey to determine a 2005 population figure for distributing state-shared revenues.

Harry Wolfe pointed out that all MAG member agencies had to go with the same option – either a Special Census or a Census Survey – for Federal Highway Administration to be willing to cover up to \$6 million of the cost of the effort.

Mr. Fooks said that he had requested an estimate of the cost of a Special Census, but that he would consider going along with other member agencies on a Census Survey for uniformity purposes.

David de la Torre asked when would the Special Census be undertaken. Harry Wolfe responded that it would be taken in October 2005.

Mark Fooks asked for an explanation of what was meant by 95 percent confidence interval plus/minus 2 percent versus plus/minus 1 percent. Harry Wolfe responded that the former sample size would provide with a 95 percent degree of confidence that the population estimate would be within 2 percent of the actual number. It could be anywhere from 2 percent greater to 2 percent lower than the actual count.

Harry Wolfe noted that the Subcommittee agreed that 95 percent confidence interval plus/minus 2 percent would be adequate for the survey, but that if member agencies wanted a larger sample size to provide plus/minus 1 percent, they could have that as long as the jurisdiction paid the additional cost of the increased sample size.

Mark Fooks noted that during Census 2000 that Census takers went back to visit homes multiple times as needed to obtain a response to the Census Survey. Harry Wolfe responded that the Census Survey would be mailed out to households and that Census personnel would only visit the homes of those who did not mail in their responses to the survey. He added that if the Census personnel could not contact the household, they would try to confer with a neighbor.

George Pettit noted that the Subcommittee recommendation would be taken to the MAG Management Committee for information in September and that the Management Committee and Regional Council would consider action in October 2003. Harry Wolfe noted that MAG had to enter into an agreement with the Census Bureau by March 2004.

8. Building Permit Completion Status Report

Harry Wolfe stated that residential permit completions for the four quarters ending June 30, 2003 were due on July 15, 2003. He mentioned that MAG forwarded the completions received to the Arizona Department of Economic Security, for use in computing the July 1, 2003 Maricopa County Resident Population.

9. Preparation of July 1, 2003 Maricopa County Resident Population Update

Harry Wolfe stated that in July 2003, DES distributed surveys to MAG member agencies, requesting updates of population in group quarters, and annexations. He explained that this information, together with the residential completions supplied to DES by MAG, would be used to establish a July 1, 2003 Maricopa County Resident Population Update; and that this Update would become the control total from which MAG would develop Municipality Resident Population Updates. Mr. Wolfe also noted that these updates are used to distribute \$23 million annually in lottery funds, to prepare financial plans, to determine municipal per capita water use targets and to set expenditure limitations where necessary.

10. Next Meeting of the MAG POPTAC

Harry Wolfe noted that the next meeting of the MAG POPTAC was scheduled for Tuesday September 16, 2003.