

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
PEDESTRIAN WORKING GROUP AND THE
REGIONAL BICYCLE TASK FORCE

Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.
MAG Office Building, Saguaro Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

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| * Tami Ryall, Gilbert, Chair, Regional Bicycle Task Force and Acting Chair of the Pedestrian Working Group | * Farhad Tavassoli, Goodyear |
| Michael Sanders, ADOT | * Michael Cartsonis, Litchfield Park |
| Brian Fellows, ADOT | Denise Lacey, Maricopa County |
| Michael Eagan, ASLA, Arizona Chapter | Jim Hash, Mesa |
| * Margaret Boone-Pixley, Avondale | Brandon Forrey, Peoria |
| Robert Wisener, Buckeye | Katherine Coles, Phoenix |
| Brian Craig, Carefree | Briiana Leon, Phoenix |
| * Michael Normand, Chandler | Mike Roche, Queen Creek |
| Rich Rumer Coalition for Arizona Bicyclists | Peggy Rubach, RPTA |
| Doug Strong, El Mirage | Susan Conklu for Reed Kempton, Scottsdale |
| Steve Hancock, Glendale | * Eric Iwersen, Tempe |
| | Janice See, Surprise |

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Susan Bookspan, Phoenix Children's Hospital

1. Call to Order

Jim Hash called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the January 20, 2009 Meeting Minutes of the Pedestrian Working Group and the Regional Bicycle Task Force

Brandon Forrey moved to approve and Michael Eagan seconded the move to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle Task Force and Pedestrian Working Group for January 20, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public were requested not

to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes was provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items were given an opportunity at the time the item was heard. No one wished to address the committee.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Staff and committee members provided an update of pedestrian and bicycle-related activity in their agencies.

Maureen DeCindis reported on the status of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for MAG member agencies. There will be more information as the Act is finalized. MAG staff has compiled a list of projects submitted from the member agencies. This equates to over 750 projects requesting \$7.4B. Approximately, \$100M will be available to the region.

Projects Using Economic Recovery Funds will be required to report on:

- How the dollars are being used
- Economic Impact of the project
 - # of Project Bids and Awards
- Project Completion
 - # of Jobs created
 - # of Jobs sustained

MAG Staff and Member Agencies are currently coding projects regarding the project status for:

- Environmental Clearance/NEPA
 - Projects already approved or have Categorical Exclusions = Group 1 (A)
 - Projects that just need Categorical Exclusions = Group 2 (B)
 - Projects that are Long Term = (C)
- Projects must be in an approved TIP/STIP
 - Projects in TIP = (A)
 - Projects that need to be amended administrative modification such as Conformity Consultation or Conformity Neutral = (B)
 - Projects to be amended: Conformity Determination = (C)

Possible Project Selection Criteria

- Projects that can be obligated and/or constructed in short term
- Construction projects vs. Purchases
- Projects that are in a regional program
- Projects that provide Service vs. Enhancement/Capacity vs. Maintenance
- Projects that create local jobs
- Regional priority projects
- Regional Packages of Projects that fit Categorical Exclusions such as:
(Regional Pavement Preservation, Traffic Signal Optimization, Signal Replacement, Sign Replacement)

5. Project Evaluation Criteria for 2014 Transportation Improvement Program

MAG staff distributed a draft Bicycle/Shared Use Project Evaluation Criteria and a Pedestrian Project Evaluation Criteria for committee members to read and review. Committee members were asked for comments. Maureen DeCindis explained that the criterial evaluation was taken from previously approved documents i.e., the MAG Bikeway Master Plan and the MAG Pedestrian Plan.

On the bicycle form, Brian Fellows suggested adding bike racks to the list under the Safety and Security section.

Mike Roche suggested to include a “weights factor” to the pedestrian criteria which would make it an even playing field for smaller outlying communities who don’t have access to transit and light rail categories. Brandon Forrey said that it might be easier to put in a “range in points” rather than a “weight system”. Brian Fellows explained that a “range in points” allows more variables in the score versus a “weight system”.

Steve Hancock noted giving points to a bike friendly local jurisdiction who would have a dedicated staff person or a staff person that has bike duties or attends the MAG Bike Committee meetings.

Janice See suggested that small communities should get a certain amount of points than larger jurisdictions. Brian Craig suggested some criteria for points for having had a project funded through the TIP process in the past. Brian Fellows said that Safe Routes has a criteria for those who have done well on their projects before.

Peggy Rubach suggested that Score have a n/a (not applicable) possibility and the score would be calculated based on what is feasible.

Brandon Forrey suggested that if you did not receive a project in previous round, the project would get five points. Brian Fellows said that the application could include the question whether they received a project the previous year.

Brian Craig wants to make sure that projects that are large, but are only submitted once, get consideration.

Brandon Forrey noted that larger communities serve more people. Brian Fellows suggested giving a few extra points to projects that focus on underserved. Peggy Rubach responded that the category of the underserved was already on the form.

Maureen DeCindis asked if the committee would like to form a subcommittee to develop a revised set of forms. Brandon Forrey, Jim Hash, Brian Craig, and Brian Fellows volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. Robert Wisener liked the Design Assistance criteria and suggested the subcommittee review it.

Peggy Rubach noted that there will be increased scrutiny for good projects.

Maureen DeCindis pointed out that Transportation Review Committee will receive a notation for each project why it was not funded.

6. Queen Creek Request for TIP Change of Project Description

The Town of Queen Creek is requesting a design location change to the 2013 TIP project awarded for the Queen Creek Wash Pedestrian By-pass. The path needs to be shifted from the north bank of Queen Creek Wash to the south bank. This change is requested due to the poor condition of the embankment and some right-of-way problems on the north side of the wash. In addition, the Town has “cash in lieu” monies from a developer available for the south side which would allow them to move forward with construction of the path. Steve Hancock made a motion to approve the request and Brandon Forrey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Complete Streets Workshop

MAG staff presented the plan for the Complete Streets Workshops and requested names for those who should be invited. Michael Sanders explained funding for the Workshops is provided by a grant from the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety. There will be a two hour Overview on April 7th that will be open to the public including policy makers, elected officials, upper management, landscape architects, planners, etc. On April 8th, there is an all day workshop for MAG members and the product is a proposed policy. On April 9th, there will be an all day workshop for ADOT members. Maureen DeCindis was asked to email the committee the request for the names of people to be invited.

Maureen DeCindis explained that an electronic Survey Form for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Integration Plan will be emailed out to each member of the Task Force. This information will provide the basis for understanding where we are in the region in terms of current bicycle accommodation policies. This will also be the basis for the Complete Streets workshop.

8. Bike Education Campaign 2009

Valley Metro presented the bicycle safety education messages that will be used on the posters and t-shirts. Committee members will be asked for comments. Peggy Rubach reported on the results of her Zoomerang survey. The message and design has been sent to the Valley Metro branding and design phase. The messages were:

- Please Ride Safely!
- Your helmet is your airbag on a bicycle!
- Expect the unexpected. Gear up for safety.
- Avoid the worst, put safety first.
- Be safety smart right from the start.
- Ride It Right (Ride on the right)
- Stop It Right (Obey traffic laws, ie stop sign)
- Ride On!
- Bike Right!
- Fit Right
- Ride Right
- Stop Right
- Ride On!
- Wear It Right (Helmet)
- Always be Bright, Ride on the Right

Look Left-Right-Left
Drive Your Bike!
Eyes and Ears Open Wide Every Time You Ride
Lights, Helmet, Bicycle!
Know the way...ride your bike today!
Share the Street – Bikes Get 3 feet
Come Ride With Us

Three bike rodeo workshops will be held end of March. There is a spreadsheet that will be identifying who received the helmets. The goal is to support the programs by illustrating the demand in a report. If you know a school or youth group that would like to be invited, please let Peggy Rubach know. All agencies must come to the training to receive the Rodeo Kits.

9. Next Meetings

All meetings will be on Tuesday in the Cholla Room at 1:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted:

March 17, 2009
April 21, 2009
May 19, 2009
June 30, 2009 (note 4th Tuesday)
July 21, 2009
August 18, 2009
September 15, 2009
October 20, 2009
November 17, 2009
December 15, 2009 (noon)