

**MINUTES OF MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE**

July 18, 2006
MAG Cholla Room, 2nd Floor
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Robert Maki, Surprise	*Marc Scott, City of Tempe
Reed Henry, ADOT	Kelly LaRosa, City of Avondale
*Martin Johnson, Chandler	*Mark Fooks, Town of Youngtown
Lloyd Y. ASATO for Ken-ichi Maruyama, Gilbert	Mary Kihl, ASU
*Sandy Adams, Glendale	*Jennifer Brown, FHWA
*Doug Dobson, Apache Junction	Stuart Boggs for Teri Collins, RPTA
Chris Plumb, Maricopa County	Lt. Mike Lockhart, DPS
Larry Talley, Mesa	Linda Gorman, AAA Arizona
*William Mead, Paradise Valley	Linda Mendyka, GOHS
*Scott Nodes, City of Goodyear	Tom Burch, AARP
Kerry Wilcoxon, City of Phoenix	*Jamal Rahimi, City of Peoria
George Williams for Paul Porell, City of Scottsdale	

OTHERS PRESENT

Sarath Joshua, MAG	Kiran Guntupalli, MAG
Leo Luo, MAG	

* Not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order
Chairman Robert Maki called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.
2. Approval of May 16, 2006 Meeting Minutes
Kerry Wilcoxon moved and Larry Talley seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2006 meeting.
3. Call to Audience
Chairman Robert Maki made a call to the audience providing an opportunity to members of the public to address the Transportation Safety Committee. No comments were received from the public.
4. Program Managers Report
Sarath Joshua addressed the following two items:
 - o A number of Safety Action Plans were approved by the Governor's Traffic Safety

Advisory Council Activities on May 10, 2006.

- The School Safety Subcommittee welcomed the state coordinator for the Safe Route to School Program (SRTS). A call for projects is expected in September 2006 for this program. The total amount of funding available for the first year is \$ 400,000.
- Regional Council has approved the swap of federal funds with City of Phoenix funds to allow the flexibility needed for the road sign project cosponsored with Elder Mobility Stakeholders Group. The City Council is expected to approve it in August. The call for projects is expected in September.
- MAG has only received two responses to the call for road safety projects since May.

5. A Strategy for Road Safety Improvement Projects in the MAG Region

Sarath Joshua mentioned that approximately 37 percent of the federal and state transportation funds were allocated to the MAG region by a formula. This amount of funding has been programmed into the MAG RTP. He stated that it was not clear whether the federal road safety improvement funds were included in that formula or not. Reed Henry from ADOT clarified that the funding for safety improvement projects is dedicated to Hazard Elimination Safety (HES) program and that based on his understanding it was not part of the 37% federal and state funds. Sarath Joshua also mentioned that only 25% of the safety funding is available for the local agencies statewide. Reed Henry stated that in previous years, this amount of funding made available for local safety projects were not all spent and returned to ADOT. In response to a question by Chris Plumb, on how much the 25% of the safety funding is for each year, Reed estimated that it would be about \$5M to \$6M each year, but he stressed that this was for all the local safety projects statewide. Chris Plumb expressed concern that the state process takes too long for the local agencies to pursue the safety projects. Robert Maki informed the committee that MAG staff could assist local agencies in performing the required crash analysis so that the process can be simplified, resulting in fully utilization of the available funding. Members also mentioned that the Environmental clearance usually is the most time consuming step in the process. Sarath Joshua also provided a list of safety projects that were funded in the past few years upon committee's request. The committee agreed to request John Dixon from ADOT to briefly introduce the safety project application process. The committee also agreed that MAG staff could perform safety analysis for local agencies upon their requests.

6. Phase I of Regional Transportation Safety Information Management System

Kiran Guntupalli provided an overview on the Transportation Safety Information Management System project and requested committee action to approve the proposed scope of work. Sarath Joshua mentioned that the project would also standardize the definition of crash data fields and this will act as an input to the state effort in improving the ALISS database. When it is difficult in some cases, the project will clearly identify the differences across the jurisdictions. Kerry Wilcoxon expressed concern that some crash data inconsistency errors were caused by the original crash report and initial data input. Kiran Guntupalli mentioned the inconsistencies in definitions would be identified and documented. Chris Plumb pointed out that they see 10-15% error in reporting of crashes in Maricopa County jurisdiction but they fall under different jurisdiction. Chris Plumb also suggested that an accurate roadmap that should be used by all the agencies was needed to provide the foundation of accurate crash location. There is a need to identify the differences of road maps that different agencies are using. Kerry Wilcoxon moved a motion and Chris Plumb seconded

and it was unanimously approved to carry out the project with the scope of work.

7. Reports by Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities

Linda Mendyka, GOHS informed the committee of a Highway Safety conference on August 14th 2006 in Tucson. Linda Gorman, AAA Arizona continues to be involved in GTSAC as well as in subcommittees under it. Tom Burch mentioned AARP launched an online driver safety program on July 1st, 2006 nationally. Larry Talley mentioned that a meeting with the Mesa police department will kick off a program to make officer more visible and would involve city employees to observe traffic violators. In the past five years, they have on average 33 fatal crashes each year. The goal is to reduce the fatalities by 25%. Reed Henry mentioned that the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee developed a strategic plan to improve traffic data. It was submitted to NHTSA in June and the GOHS is expecting \$500,000. ADOT is planning on hiring a manager for the Road Safety Audit program of the state. ADOT is also working on annual report for the HES program in state. Robert Maki mentioned that Surprise finished an evaluation of the first six months of operations of the REACT program. It was proved to be an effective program.

8. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting is scheduled on September 19th, 2006 at 10:00AM in Cholla Room at MAG.

9. Adjournment

Chairman Robert Maki adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM