

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

September 19, 2006
MAG Cholla Room, 2nd Floor
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Robert Maki, Surprise	Shelly Seyler for Marc Scott, City of Tempe
Kohinoor Kar for Reed Henry, ADOT	Kelly LaRosa, City of Avondale
*Martin Johnson, Chandler	*Town of Youngtown
+Ken-ichi Maruyama, Gilbert	Mary Kihl, ASU
Sandy Adams, Glendale	Karen King for Jennifer Brown, FHWA
*Doug Dobson, Apache Junction	Stuart Boggs for Teri Collins, RPTA
Peggy Rubach for Chris Plumb, Maricopa County	Lt. Mike Lockhart, DPS
Larry Talley, Mesa	Linda Gorman, AAA Arizona
William Mead, Paradise Valley	*Linda Mendyka, GOHS
*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

Dalks Gold, Senate	Sarath Joshua, MAG
John Dickson, ADOT	Leo Luo, MAG
+Bill Birdwell, Queen Creek	Kiran Guntupalli, MAG

+Teleconference

*Not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order

Chairman Robert Maki called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. Approval of July 18, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Kerry Wilcoxon moved and Larry Talley seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the July 18, 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 reported on the following items:

- Activities at Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Council and subcommittee activities – members requested that electronic copies of proceedings be shared with the committee. It was agreed that summaries of GTSAC activities currently posted at the MAG safety website will be updated
- Regional School Crossing Guard Workshop – held on August 7th in Glendale was reported as very successful with nearly 220 attendees. Chairman Maki thanked and appreciated all members of organizing group for the event's success. Kiran Guntupalli of MAG and Sandy Adams of Glendale were thanked for their role in organizing the event. Next year's event was briefly discussed. It is likely there will be two such events in 2007 – one in west valley and one in east valley
- Regional Transportation Safety Forum
 - MAG is planning on hosting a Regional Transportation Safety Forum in April, 2007 as stated in the Strategic Transportation Safety Plan.
 - The following volunteered to help organize the event:
 - Kelly LaRosa, Linda Gordon, Bill Birdwell, Kerry Wilcoxon, Bob Maki agreed to volunteer in organizing this Forum.
 - Jennifer Brown and Paul Porell will be contacted by MAG to check their availability.

5. Safety Improvement Project Application Review Process by ADOT Local Government

John Dixon from ADOT Local Government Section presented the ADOT review process for Safety Improvement Project Applications for HES funds. His presentation highlighted the following.

- Funding Available – HES \$1.6 million per year for all local agencies statewide
- Eligible Improvements
- Review Criteria
- Application Process - Traffic Accident And Safety Analysis Report
- Project Development Model

6. AAA Grant Opportunity for Safety Project

Linda Gorman of AAA Arizona announced an opportunity for a safety grant. She reported that her office is working with the AAA regional office in California to identify potential traffic safety projects that involve innovative technologies. The maximum amount of the grant is \$100,000 and does not require any local match. The projects can be at the regional or city wide level and will be reviewed starting in November. AAA would like to channel the grant through MAG as a partnership with a regional planning agency. Chairman Maki mentioned that this item could also be discussed at the MAG ITS Committee as they deal with new technology applications and possibly generate ideas about the potential safety projects.

7. City of Phoenix's Road Safety Audit Program

Kerry Wilcoxon from the City of Phoenix reported on City of Phoenix's programs on Road Safety Audits and Pedestrian Safety Audits. He explained the process in conducting these

audits and described the steps for implementing the recommendations from audits in the street

improvement program. He explained each program with examples carried out in 2005.

8. Video on Two Stage Crosswalks

Kerry Wilcoxon introduced the City of Phoenix's 8-minute video that demonstrated the use of two-stage crosswalks on busy arterials, particularly near high schools. The video was developed by the city's Channel 11 staff. He offered to share copies of the video in both English and Spanish with interested committee members.

9. Reports by Committee members on Transportation Safety Activities

Linda Gorman reported on an upcoming Car Fit event that will be organized by AAA, AARP and American Society of Aging and Occupational Therapy. On Nov 13th there will be a Car Fit training from 9am-3pm held at AAA. On Nov 14th there will be an event in Sun City West where seniors could have their cars tested in about 15 minutes. This testing would determine how well a car fits the driver to identify any necessary adjustments or the need for assistance from an occupational therapist or medical help. Peggy Rubach reported that Mike Ellegood, Maricopa County's has retired and that his position will be filled through a national search. Sarath Joshua reported that MAG has recently posted results from crash data analysis at the website, including information on 2005 crashes. He presented statistics on crashes linked to alcohol involvement highlighting that in the MAG region such crashes have dropped in recent years. These contrasts with statistics recently reported by GOHS, indicating that statewide such crashes seem to have increased. In response to a question about the status of the Elderly Mobility Road Sign Project, it was explained that Phoenix's city council has recently approved the swap of the project's federal funds for local funds from Phoenix. As the next step, a call for project proposals will be released by MAG in the near future.

Larry Talley raised another question on the status of funds for safety projects and the call for safety projects. Sarath Joshua informed that there was very little response from member agencies in response to MAG's call for road safety projects. He asked members to send in their proposals. He also stated that internal discussions at MAG, exploring RTP funds for road safety, has led to the conclusion that it would be possible for MAG to obtain at least 37 percent or as much as 50 percent of the HSIP funds that ADOT will allocate to road safety. However, this would only apply to HSIP funds obligated under SAFETEA-LU. ADOT will have access to SAFETEA-LU funds only after the state completes the required Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) due to FHWA by October 1, 2007.

Peggy Rubach commented that ADOT is not likely to give funds to this region unless we are able to utilize such funds. Sarath Joshua stated that the region is able to demonstrate the need based on the large number of crashes. However, the region must also demonstrate the desire to do something about it by identifying road safety projects and also show that projects can be implemented in a timely manner following FHWA guidelines.

Kelly LaRosa raised some concern regarding recommendations included in a draft report from an on-going MAG study on mid-block street crossings. Several other members also indicated

similar concerns. Sarath Joshua assured the committee that he would contact the MAG

project manager for the study and obtain the draft report for the committee to review and comment prior to its finalization.

10. Adjournment

Next meeting is scheduled on November 21st, 2006 at 10:00AM in Cholla Room at MAG.
Chairman Robert Maki adjourned the meeting at 11:45 AM