

**MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 21, 2004  
MAG Office, Saguaro Room  
Phoenix, Arizona

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

* Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe, Chair	Mayor Boyd Dunn, Chandler
Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale, Vice Chair	*Rusty Gant, ADOT
Benito Almanza, Bank of America Arizona	*Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa
F. Rockne Arnett, Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee	Eneas Kane, DMB Associates
Mayor Steven Berman, Gilbert	Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
* Dave Berry, Swift Transportation	Mayor Lon McDermott, Wickenburg
* Jed S. Billings, FNF Construction	Diane Scherer, Phoenix Association of Realtors
Vice Mayor Peggy Bilsten, Phoenix	Vice Mayor Daniel Schweiker, Paradise Valley
Mayor James Cavanaugh, Goodyear	Martin Shultz, Pinnacle West Capital Corp.
* Councilmember Pat Dennis, Peoria	Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County
Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale	Mayor J. Woodfin Thomas, Litchfield Park

\* Not present

# Participated by telephone conference call

+ Participated by videoconference call

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) was called to order by Vice Chair Elaine Scruggs at 4:08 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Vice Chair Scruggs announced that transit tickets were available for those who used transit to come to the meeting. Validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage. Vice Chair Scruggs stated that updated summary transmittals for agenda items #4B and #4C, reflecting action taken at the Management Committee meeting, were at each place.

Mayor McDermott introduced Wickenburg Mayor-elect Ron Badowski, who takes office June 7, 2004.

Dennis Smith introduced Rick Simonetta, Valley Metro Rail Chief Executive Officer, who comes to the region from Atlanta.

Vice Chair Scruggs announced that the date of the May 19, 2004 TPC meeting had been changed to May 26, 2004, just prior to the Regional Council meeting. Vice Chair Scruggs stated that the consultation on modifications to the certified Regional Transportation Plan will be considered at the TPC meeting. She added that a memorandum on the date change will be sent out.

3. Call to the Audience

Vice Chair Scruggs stated that an opportunity is provided to the public to address the Transportation Policy Committee on items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. She noted that an opportunity is provided to comment on agenda items posted for action at the time the item is heard. Vice Chair Scruggs noted that no public comment cards had been turned in.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

Vice Chair Scruggs stated that any member of the committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. Vice Chair Scruggs stated that agenda items #4A, #4B, and #4C were on the consent agenda. She noted that no public comment cards had been turned in. No comments from the Council were noted.

Mayor Thomas moved to approve consent agenda items #4A, #4B, and #4C. Mr. Shultz seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4A. Approval of January 14, 2004 Meeting Minutes

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, approved the January 14, 2004 meeting minutes.

4B. Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for ADOT and Phoenix Highway Projects

The Transportation Policy Committee, by consent, recommended an amendment to the 2004-2007 MAG TIP to: make changes to the Rubberized Asphalt (Quiet Pavement) Pilot Program; add a locally funded bridge replacement project in Phoenix with \$2,000,000; and add two Enhancement Funded projects in the Phoenix for a combined \$1,000,000. The FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved by the Regional Council on November 25, 2003. Since that time, ADOT and the City of Phoenix have requested changes and additions to projects currently shown in the TIP, which include restructuring the Rubberized Asphalt (Quiet Pavement) Pilot Program; adding a locally funded bridge replacement project in Phoenix in FY 2004; and adding two Enhancement Funded projects in Phoenix in FY 2005. All of the changes are regarded as exempt projects or are regarded as minor project revisions for which no air quality conformity is required and the consultation for this item is considered as a separate agenda item. The Transportation Review Committee and the Management Committee recommended approval of a TIP amendment for these projects.

#### 4C. Conformity Consultation

MAG is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The City of Phoenix is requesting to add a 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Grand Canal bridge replacement project and add two transportation enhancement projects. In addition, the Arizona Department of Transportation is requesting to restructure the Rubberized Asphalt (Quiet Pavement) Pilot Program. These projects are considered as exempt and as minor project revisions. This item was on the agenda for consultation.

#### 5. Annual Report on the MAG Regional Freeway Program

Eric Anderson presented the Annual Report on the status of the MAG Regional Freeway Program. Mr. Anderson stated that the Annual Report was presented at a joint public meeting that afternoon with officials from MAG, the State Transportation Board, and Valley Metro. He stated that this is the 13th year MAG has produced the Report, which is a statutory responsibility and provides oversight of the regional freeway program. Mr. Anderson said that the Program will be completed in 2007, at which time 138 miles of freeway will have opened. He reported on projects being constructed in the past year. Mr. Anderson summarized the revenues from the Regional Area Road Fund and the Highway Users Revenue Fund. He reported that the average cost per freeway mile is approximately \$39 million, which includes design, right-of-way, and construction costs. Mr. Anderson stated that the Regional Freeway Program is in fiscal balance and has met the construction schedules. Mr. Anderson mentioned that if the election for the extension of the half-cent sales tax for transportation is successful, the Life Cycle Program for highways will be extended to other modes, and the responsibilities of the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee will expand to all modes. Vice Chair Scruggs thanked Mr. Anderson for his report and asked if there were questions.

Mayor Thomas asked how funding the Santan Freeway with a completion date of 2007 worked with the 1985 half-cent sales tax. Mr. Anderson replied that two sources other than the half-cent sales tax are funding the freeway, federal funds and earmarked 15 percent state highway funds, which were incorporated as part of the 2007 completion. Mayor Thomas commented that was part of the \$17 billion discussed in earlier TPC presentations. Mr. Anderson stated that \$1.8 billion was taken off the top to account for the funds needed to complete the regional freeway system in order that it would not be double counted.

#### 6. Proposed Changes to the Regional Transportation Plan

Mr. Anderson addressed the TPC on proposed modifications to the certified Regional Transportation Plan related to the light rail transit system. He stated that the completion date of the 20-mile starter segment has been modified to be completed in December 2008 from December 2006. Mr. Anderson noted that the original plan was to open one segment in 2006 and two segments in 2007; later, it was thought that it would be preferable to open the entire 20-mile segment at one time. Mr. Anderson noted that the budget cost is \$1.3 billion in year of expenditure dollars. Mr. Anderson stated that modifications also include a change to the completion date for the five-mile Metrocenter extension from Phase I to Phase II.

Mr. Shultz asked for clarification of the starter segment. Mr. Anderson replied that the starter segment is the 20-mile segment in Phase I, and is also termed the minimum operating segment.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the consultation process that was established by HB 2292. Mr. Anderson said that HB 2292 says that the certified Regional Transportation Plan cannot be modified through December 31, 2005 unless it goes back through the formal consultation process. He noted that if the TPC takes action, the modifications would be submitted for a 30-day consultation period to the Regional Public Transportation Authority, the Arizona Department of Transportation, Maricopa County, Indian communities and to cities and towns to comply with A.R.S. 28-6308. Mr. Anderson stated that those agencies would provide written recommendations by May 22nd to the TPC whether the proposed modifications should be approved, modified, or disapproved. Mr. Anderson stated that the TPC would consider and reply to the comments received from the consultation process at its meeting on May 26th. He added that the air quality conformity analysis is now in process. Mr. Anderson stated that a public hearing would be conducted in early June. The final adoption would be considered by the TPC June 16th, and by the Regional Council June 23rd. Vice Chair Scruggs thanked Mr. Anderson for his report. She noted that Mr. Simonetta was also available to answer questions from the TPC. No comments from the TPC were noted. Vice Chair Scruggs noted that no public comment cards had been turned in.

Mr. Shultz moved to approve submitting the proposed modifications to the Regional Transportation Plan for consultation to the Regional Public Transportation Authority, the Arizona Department of Transportation, Maricopa County, Indian communities and to cities and towns as prescribed in 28-6308. Mayor McDermott seconded. There being no discussion on the motion, the vote on the motion carried unanimously.

7. Update on the Information to be Submitted for the Ballot for the November General Election

Tom Remes reported on a request from the Maricopa County Elections Department for the information to be placed on the General Election publicity pamphlet and ballot for the Regional Transportation Plan so that they can begin the printing process. He said that staff has met with the Elections Department to discuss what they needed for the publicity pamphlet and ballot. Mr. Remes stated that many of the requirements of the publicity pamphlets and ballot were included in the legislation. He explained that the Elections Department's new standard for publicity pamphlets is a 5" x 8" format. however, with the detailed information required for the maps, the 8.5" x 11" size was included in the legislation.

Mr. Remes said that due to the vendor the County uses and the length of the ballot, a black and white format is needed for the ballot publicity pamphlet. He noted that three black and white maps were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Remes requested that TPC members and their staff review the maps and provide input. He noted that some input has been received adding clarity and a footnote that would state that the Regional Transportation Plan reflects a combination of funding sources. Mr. Remes pointed out target dates that included May 15th as the date when the Elections Department would be putting together the publicity pamphlet layout. Vice Chair Scruggs thanked Mr. Remes for his report and asked members if they had questions.

Mr. Shultz commented that with size and color limitations on the maps, detail could become an issue. He asked if there was an option to legally refer a reader to a Web site for further detail or information. Mr. Remes replied that Karen Osborn from the Elections Department has indicated they would be open to having a Web site link identified in the publicity pamphlet for informational purposes. In addition, the Department indicated it would be open to having large color maps placed at the voting sites throughout the County. Mr. Shultz asked if this would be pursued. Mr. Remes replied that was correct and discussions were continuing with the Elections Department.

Vice Chair Scruggs commented that the increase in numbers of people voting by mail. She suggested that perhaps Maricopa 2020 might send information on the RTP, which could include large maps, using those lists from requests for early ballots. Mr. Remes noted that Ms. Osborn indicated that the Elections Department was willing to mail out the trifold brochure to those who call in for information. He said that the Elections Department has been very flexible and helpful in providing information on the election.

Mayor Thomas referred to the long term capacity improvements shown on the freeway map. He asked the status of the double-decking on I-17. Mr. Anderson replied that double-decking concept was discussed, however, the study of capacity improvements to I-17 will include other options. He added that this terminology would imply something would be done to increase capacity on I-17 without being specific when it has not been determined what will be built. Mayor Thomas commented that the City of Phoenix Council discussed their concerns for double-decking I-17 during a Council meeting. He asked how the Phoenix efforts on I-17 fit in with TPC efforts. Mr. Anderson replied that the improvements to I-17 would be determined through a scoping, design, and environmental process conducted by ADOT, which would also include an extensive public process. He recalled how residents along I-17 had expressed their desire to the TPC to be involved in the process.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chairman