

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

September 25, 2003

Maricopa Association of Governments Office
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Scottsdale: Jan Dolan, Chairperson
Phoenix: Tom Callow for Jack Tevlin,
Vice Chairperson
*ADOT: Dan Lance
Avondale: Dave Fitzhugh
Buckeye: Carroll Reynolds for Joe Blanton
Chandler: Bryan Patterson for Patrice
Kraus
Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel for Tom
Ward
*Gila Bend: David Evertsen
*Gilbert: Tami Ryall
Glendale: Terry Johnson for Jim Book
Goodyear: Grant Anderson

Guadalupe: Antonio Figueroa-Iturralde
Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis
Maricopa County: Chris Plumb for Tom
Buick
Mesa: Jim Huling for Jeff Martin
Paradise Valley: Robert M. Cicarelli
*Peoria: David Moody
RPTA: Ken Driggs
*Surprise: Scott Phillips
Tempe: Mary O'Connor
*Wickenburg: Shane Dille

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Regional Bicycle Task Force: Pat
McDermott, Chandler
*Street Committee: Don Herp, Phoenix
*ITS Committee: Jim Book
* Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

Pedestrian Working Group: Reed Kempton,
Maricopa County Dept of Transportation
*Telecommunications Advisory Group: Greg
Binder

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Anderson, MAG
Ken Hall, MAG
Paul Ward, MAG
Andy Smith, ADOT
Chris Voigt, MAG
Sarath Joshua, MAG
Peggy Carpenter, City of Scottsdale
Kelly Taft, MAG

Bob Antila, RPTA
C.J. Norris, BNSF
Peggy Carpenter, City of Scottsdale
Ali Makarachi, City of Phoenix
Tom Remes, MAG
Bryan Jungwirth, RPTA
Karen Scott, MAG

1. Call to Order

In the absence of Chairperson Jan Dolan and Vice Chairperson Jack Tevlin, Mr. Tom Callow of the City of Phoenix called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

2. Approval of Draft June 26, 2003 Minutes

Addressing the first order of business, Mr. Tom Callow asked if there were any changes or amendments to the Draft meeting minutes. Mr. Ken Driggs moved to approve the Draft minutes as presented. The motion was simultaneously seconded by several members in attendance, and the Draft minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. Call to the Audience

Mr. Tom Callow stated that he had not received any request to speak cards from the audience, and moved to the next item on the Agenda.

4. Transportation Director's Report

Mr. Callow introduced MAG Transportation Director, Mr. Eric Anderson, who gave the Transportation Manager's report. Mr. Anderson informed the Committee on the status of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and stated that on September 17, 2003, the MAG Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) recommended the Final Draft Summary of the RTP for an air conformity analysis. Mr. Anderson also reported that the MAG Regional Council approved the Final Draft Summary of the RTP for an air quality conformity analysis at their September 24, 2003, meeting. He also noted that a presentation on the RTP process was provided to the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, and that it was well-received by chamber representatives.

Mr. Anderson then provided an overview of the next steps in the RTP process, and answered several questions from those in attendance. Mr. Anderson expressed his appreciation to the Committee; city and town staff; MAG Staff; and to all of those who were actively involved, or that provided some form of assistance throughout the RTP planning process. Discussion followed, and Mr. Ken Driggs wanted to personally commend Mr. Eric Anderson, Mr. Dennis Smith and MAG Staff for a "job well done." Mr. Driggs also addressed the fact that throughout the development of the plan, there was a tremendous public level of support for multi-modal transportation. Several members in attendance concurred with Mr. Driggs on his comments pertaining to the RTP, and also thanked Mr. Anderson and MAG Staff for their efforts. There were no additional comments or questions, and this concluded Mr. Anderson's report.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Tom Callow addressed Agenda item #6 (ADOT Red Letter Notification), and asked members in attendance if they would like to entertain a motion to approve this item as presented, or to remove the item for discussion. There was no discussion on this item, and Ms. Mary O'Connor moved to approve the consent agenda item as presented. Ms. Michelle Korf seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee.

7. Special 2004-2007 Draft MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Callow introduced Mr. Paul Ward, MAG Transportation Programming Manager, who provided an update of the Special 2004-2007 Draft MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Ward informed the Committee that the Special MAG TIP for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 through FY 2007 was in fact "special," from the perspective that MAG was temporarily transitioning from a traditional 5-year TIP, to a 4-year TIP covering the years from 2004 to 2007. According to Mr. Ward, it was decided that developing a FY 2004-2007 TIP would allow for maximum flexibility in adopting the subsequent full 5-year FY 2005-2009 TIP.

Mr. Ward stated that the Special 2004-2007 Draft TIP contained 18 advanced projects; 224 projects that were currently underway; and that less than 50 projects were actually deleted from the TIP. Mr. Ward stated that of the projects which were deleted, most have been locally approved. He also stated that there were only 14 new projects within this TIP, compared to the last MAG TIP which was approved in July of 2002.

Mr. Ward then informed the Committee of some recent changes which have occurred in the TIP, and distributed Errata Sheet 04-01, dated September 25, 2003. Mr. Ward called the Committee's attention to the Errata Sheet, and addressed four City of Phoenix projects that were locally funded. Mr. Ward stated that three were listed as new on the errata sheet, and that one was listed as being a deferred project. He also addressed a City of Glendale project (a major investment study) at the bottom of the Errata Sheet, and stated that although this project is listed, it was already underway and therefore would be eliminated from the Special 2004-2007 TIP. Mr. Ward answered several questions from the Committee, and informed those in attendance that the entire 2004-2007 TIP contained over 1,100 projects.

Several Committee members asked about the time lines associated with the MAG FY 2005-2009 TIP, and Mr. Eric Anderson stated that MAG has not initiated work on this process. Mr. Anderson stated that MAG was addressing the concept of developing a schedule, and was hopeful that it would be completed after the extension of the one-half cent sales tax extension. Mr. Anderson reminded those in attendance that the first 3 years of the TIP cannot directly include half-cent sales tax extension money.

Discussion followed, and Mr. Chris Plumb called Mr. Ward's attention to a City of Mesa project listed on Page VII-39 of the Draft TIP. Mr. Plumb stated that the project was listed as construction to widen Power Road from 4 lanes to 6 lanes between Baseline and Williams

Field Roads. Mr. Plumb informed Mr. Ward that MCDOT had no intention participating in the project with the City of Mesa and should consider whether to withdraw or defer the project. Mr. Ward reported that the project had originally been submitted in FY 2001. When clarifying the Power Road project, which extends between Baseline and Guadalupe Roads, Mr. Ward stated that MCDOT already lists this project in the TIP; whereas the individual communities that contain the project do not necessarily list it in its entirety within the TIP, and in some cases, are expending local funds for various segments of Power Road. Discussion followed, and Mr. Ward agreed to resolve the project's status with the City of Mesa and MCDOT.

Mr. Terry Johnson then addressed the Committee, and called their attention to Page III-3 in the Draft 2004-2007 TIP, which was the section including transit projects. Mr. Johnson informed Mr. Ward and the Committee that the first project on the list, located near the intersection of Loop 101 and Glendale Avenue, should be changed to read, "*Acquire land and construct a park-and-ride lot.*" Mr. Johnson then addressed his second concern, which was a listing on the same page, and involved another transit project located near the intersection of Loop 101 and Glendale Avenue. He stated that the project should be noted as "*Construct access at park-and-ride lot.*" Discussion followed concerning funding sources, such as FTA funding and STP flex funds. Mr. Ward addressed the proposed changes to the City of Glendale projects, and informed Mr. Johnson and the Committee that he did not have any concerns with regard to the Air Quality Conformity Analysis. However, Mr. Ward said that he will follow up with the parties concerned prior to the October 2003 Management Committee meeting.

Mr. Ken Driggs then addressed a project listed in the Draft TIP on page III-9, which called for the purchase of a bus in Sun City. This project was listed under a category heading for the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA). Mr. Driggs stated that in the future, all RPTA projects should be identified under the category which has been established in the TIP for Valley Metro. Mr. Ward agreed, and said that this change would be reflected on a future Errata Sheet.

Mr. Grant Anderson then asked how much time individual communities would have to provide comments and suggestions back to MAG Staff for consideration in the Draft FY 2004-2007 TIP. Discussion followed, and Mr. Ward stated that communities would have time to submit changes prior to the upcoming October 2003 MAG Management Committee and MAG Regional Council meetings. Mr. Ward informed the Committee that he would be addressing the upcoming changes in the form of errata sheets, and that he anticipated more changes before the TIP's formal approval.

Following additional discussion, Mr. Tom Callow asked the Committee to entertain a motion on this item. Mr. Terry Johnson moved to approve the Special FY 2004-2007 Draft MAG Transportation Improvement Program, with the understanding that there would be subsequent changes to the document via Errata Sheet updates, prior to its final approval by the MAG Regional Council on October 22, 2003. Mr. David Moody seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote of the Committee. There were no further questions from the Committee, and this concluded Mr. Ward's presentation.

8. National I-10 Freight Corridor Study

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Eric Anderson informed the Committee that Item #8 on the Agenda was being postponed until a later meeting. Mr. Anderson informed those in attendance that the ADOT representative who was scheduled to present this information was not able to attend the meeting, due to other obligations. There were no questions or comments regarding this item.

9. Update on the Regional Transportation Plan Process

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Callow introduced Mr. Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, who provided an update on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) process. Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that the RTP was approved by the MAG Regional Council for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis at their September 24, 2003, meeting. Mr. Anderson said that after final approval of the RTP by the Regional Council, it would be sent to the Arizona Legislature and to the Governor for certification by November 30, 2003. Mr. Anderson also stated that legislative authorization for the half-cent sales tax extension was needed by January of 2004.

Mr. Anderson then informed the Committee that he recently traveled to Dallas, Texas, with several MAG Staff members, community officials and Arizona legislators to observe the Dallas light rail system. He informed those in attendance that the group was very impressed with their visit to Dallas, and shared a positive view toward the benefits of light rail. Mr. Anderson addressed details on the efficiency and connectivity of the Dallas transit system, and discussed how the same elements and success of the Dallas system could potentially be duplicated within the MAG Region over time.

Mr. Anderson provided a brief chronology of the RTP planning process, and addressed the concept of including a provision within the plan that allows for a 5-year review process of the RTP. Mr. Anderson said that he was presently involved in discussions with ADOT and MAG member agencies on how to develop and implement 5-year review mechanism for the plan. He assessed several of the fiscal components inherent in the RTP process, and informed the Committee that it may in fact be necessary for changes to occur at 5-year intervals throughout the 20-year planning horizon in order to ensure its fiscal efficiency and integrity, while guiding the expenditure of public tax monies for regional transportation improvements.

Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that he prepared a PowerPoint presentation for the meeting. However, Mr. Anderson stated that since most people on the Committee were already knowledgeable on issues pertaining to the RTP process, that he would rather respond to any questions or comments. Discussion followed, and several members in attendance asked questions pertaining to air quality conformity analysis and time lines associated with the legislative process. Several members also had questions regarding project phasing, and asked Mr. Anderson how “firm” the phasing would be in terms of the plan’s ability to expend

the allotted funds on time. Mr. Anderson addressed the concept of implementing spending “firewalls” throughout the planning process, to ensure that dollars are expended within their appropriate modal categories. Mr. Ken Driggs then addressed the concept of having the ability to switch projects/funding within the firewalls, based on overall project readiness and the availability of funding.

Discussion followed, and Mr. Dave Fitzhugh asked Mr. Anderson about the process of local funding, and how the RTP planning process would allow for the administration and expenditure of local monies. Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that this was an issue which would be addressed over the next several months. While the Committee discussed funding for arterial projects, Mr. Anderson stated that ADOT would serve as the depository for the funds, but also noted that ADOT doesn’t necessarily want to be held accountable for the arterial life cycle. He acknowledged that the issue of funding arterial projects was more difficult, because a local match is required. Mr. Anderson stated that the concept of addressing arterial road projects and developing a process for expenditures was possibly something that the TRC Committee should be actively involved with in the immediate future.

Mr. Anderson said that he would like to meet with individual communities to discuss the Phase I projects, and that he would eventually like to see the implementation of an annual process for Phase II Projects. Discussion followed, and Mr. Chris Plumb stated that the discussion pertaining to arterial projects, and the process needed to address funding and construction would be well-suited for the MAG Street Committee. There were no further questions or comments from the Committee, and this concluded Mr. Anderson’s presentation.

10. Next Meeting Date

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Eric Anderson informed members in attendance that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on October 23, 2003. There being no further business, Mr. Tom Callow adjourned the meeting at 10:45 p.m.