

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE**

September 4, 2013
MAG Ironwood Room, 2nd Floor
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Reza Karimvand, ADOT	** Hugh Bigalk for Luke Albert, City of Goodyear
+ TBD, ASU	Faisal Saleem for Nicolaas Swart, Maricopa County
Chris Hamilton, City of Avondale	Avery Rhodes, City of Mesa
**Daymara Cesar for Thomas Chlebanowski, Town of Buckeye	Ron Amaya, City of Peoria
Mike Mah, City of Chandler	Marshall Riegel, City of Phoenix
**Captain Burley Copeland, DPS	+ TBD, Town of Queen Creek
Jorge Gastelum, City of El Mirage	**Steve Ramsey, City of Scottsdale
**Jennifer Brown, FHWA	Albert Garcia for Jason Mahkovtz, City of Surprise
Erik Guderian, Town of Gilbert	Catherine Hollow, City of Tempe
Debbie Albert, City of Glendale	Ratna Korepella, RPTA

OTHERS PRESENT

Douglas McCants, Atkins	Lisa Burgess, KHA
Adam Krupa, URS	Marc Porter, Arcadis
Vinay Vanapalli, Stantec	Arnab Gupta, PB Inc
Rick White, Schneider Electric	Sandy Thoms, Jacobs
David Riley, UCG	Sarah Simpson, UCG
Steve Blair, ITS Engineers	Dan Hartig, Ayres Inc
Sanjay Paul, ADOT	Cory Steele, Strand
Eldon Dehnert, Sierra Trans	Tom McGovern, Sierra Trans
Saroja Devarakonda, HDR	Jeff Jenq, OZ
Margaret Boone, MAG	Ryan Gish, MAG
Kiran Guntupalli, MAG	Sarath Joshua, MAG
Leo Luo, MAG	

+ Not present
** Teleconference

1. Call to Order

Chair Catherine Hollow called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Approval of the August 7, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Reza Karimvand moved and Rom Amaya seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 7, 2013.

3. Call to Audience

Chair Catherine Hollow made a call to the audience providing an opportunity for any members of the public to address the ITS Committee. No comments were received.

4. Program Manager's Report

Sarath Joshua addressed the following items in his report:

- RCN Update – A brief report from RCN Working Group meeting was provided by Ryan Gish. He reported that last month there was a RCN network outage in Surprise and it was repaired fast. He is continuing to provide technical support for Camera Cameleon users at MAG agencies. The regional fiber mapping project is underway and he expected that project to produce a fiber map in a few months.
- Status of MAG ITS & Safety On-call Contracts: The execution of new contracts have started. It is expected that all contracts will be executed by the end of September and project work will begin by January or February.
- FHWA Workshop on Planning for Operations was held at MAG on August 27, 2013. The workshop was conducted by FHWA and Cambridge Systematics staff. The workshop presented new models and planning tools. It was a success with nearly 35 attendees that included staff from local agencies, PAG, ASU, U of A and local consultants.
- Revised MAG quorum requirements for committee meetings was explained to the committee. If a member agency with a seat on the committee is absent from formal committee meetings on three consecutive meetings, and also does not attend the fourth meeting, then that member agency is not counted towards the committee quorum requirement. This status will remain until the member agency starts attending meetings again, at which point the agency will be counted towards the quorum.

5. FY2014 TSOP - Call for Projects

The recent MAG call for projects has resulted in a total of 12 projects that includes a regional Synchro workshop. The budget available is, \$300,000 from the FY2014 work program and \$39,000 from remaining funds from the previous cycle of TSOP projects. The total for all project requests added up to \$394,000. Sarath Joshua indicated that he could seek additional funds from the Work Program for the shortfall and ensure that all proposed project will be funded. In response to a question from Marshall Riegel, Sarath indicated that he could find out about additional funding availability in about a week. The complete project application package has not been distributed to the committee as yet. It will be sent out via email later today. Committee action regarding a recommendation of a project list to be funded would be scheduled for the October meeting. Agencies that have proposed projects were requested to provide brief descriptions. Marshall Riegel described the four TSOP projects that have been proposed by the City of Phoenix. Two of the projects address Integrated Corridor Management(ICM) along I-10. Chair Cathy Hollow, representing the City of Tempe, described the two ICM projects proposed by the city with partner agencies ADOT and DPS. Both projects address developing signal timing for ICM along US60. Albert Garcia described the project proposed by the City of Surprise. Avery Rhodes described the

project proposed by the City of Mesa. Faisal Saleem described the two projects proposed by Maricopa County, one of which is located in a county island in Mesa. A project proposed by Pinal County at Ironwood/Gantzel Road. The project applications have also identified the need for 11 seats at the SYNCHRO training workshop. Sarath Joshua asked Leo Luo to explain some new options for SYNCHRO training available from the vendor TrafficWare. He described two types of training: Classical training level 1 or level 2 as in the past OR Workbook-based training on specific subjects such as signal coordination or timing at interchanges etc. The workshop could also be a mix of the two types of training with Level 1 training for days 1 and 2 and workbook training for day 3. Two agencies have requested Level 1 training. MAG will seek input from member agencies in figuring out the best course content for the workshop. An email with the SYNCHRO course content will be sent to all agencies. Approximately 22 persons can be accommodated at the County training facility where this workshop is typically held. In response to a question from Debbie Albert, Sarath responded that other names can still be added to the list of persons wishing to attend the workshop. This item will be brought back for committee action at the next meeting.

6. ADOT Freeway Ramp Metering Study Recommendations

Reza Karimvand provided an overview of the Ramp Metering Study. He stated that ADOT is now moving from congestion monitoring to congestion management. He said that the ramp metering study was launched in response to request from local agencies desiring improved ramp meter operations. The project goals were to improve effectiveness of ramp meters and develop guidelines on when to install ramp meters. The underground infrastructure will be installed, in conjunction with FMS or other construction, even in locations where ramp meter warrants are not met. Objectives of the study were to help minimize travel times and fuel consumption. ADOT on-call consultant United Civil Group (UCG) was assigned to the project. Sarah Simpson explained how UCG went about gathering data for the study and how they also checked with 20 other state DOTs to review their ramp metering practices. She said that the freeway system was modeled with ramp meters turned off to determine which ramp meters were not effective. New ramp metering rates were tested at US60 and Val Vista Dr interchange. An interesting finding she noted was that for new ramp metering installation warrants – the total traffic volume on the rightmost lane and the on-ramp must exceed 2050 vehicles/hr. Mike Mah asked if all ramp meters can be turned on or off from the TOC. Reza indicated that ADOT could do that from the TOC. Mike Mah asked if on the FMS projects in design will ADOT use these warrants and if they are not met will the conduits be built. Sarath Joshua asked how frequently ADOT planned to check potential ramp meter locations to see if they meet these warrants. Reza indicated that ADOT is moving rapidly to smart ramp metering and that ADOT has an internal policy system to check ramp metering warrants. Sarath also asked if there were any ramp meter locations that are not tied to the FMS central control. Reza responded that only 2 or 3 ramp meters are not linked to the central FMS system. ADOT is working on adding them soon. Debbie Albert asked when time of day ramp metering will be implemented. Reza asked Sanjay Paul of ADOT to respond to the question and Sanjay said ADOT is exploring options and there is no specific timeline established as yet. Reza indicated that ADOT will move towards smart ramp metering. Faisal said that would be a huge leap forward from where we are.

7. Reports by Committee Members

Jorge Gastelum informed the committee that Bryce Christo will be replacing him as the representative from El Mirage on the committee. Reza Karimvand announced that ADOT is hiring a number of new staff for the TOC.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

No comments were received.

9. Next Meeting Date and Place

Next meeting date was announced at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 2, 2013, in the Ironwood Room (2nd floor) at MAG.

Adjournment

Chair Catherine Hollow adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.