

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 17, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.
MAG Office Building, Saguaro Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Brandon Forrey, Peoria, Chair of Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee	Ken Maruyama for Tami Ryall, Gilbert
Reed Kempton, Scottsdale, Vice-Chair of Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee	Thomas Delucio for Steve Hancock, Glendale
Michael Sanders, ADOT	* Joe Schmitz, Goodyear
Tiffany Halperin, ASLA, Arizona Chapter	Michael Cartsonis, Litchfield Park
Margaret Boone-Pixley, Avondale	Denise Lacey, Maricopa County
Robert Wisener, Buckeye	Jim Hash, Mesa
^ D.J. Stapley, Carefree	Katherine Coles, Phoenix
Dennis Dempsey for Bob Beane, Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists	Lisa Padilla, Queen Creek
Bob Bortfeld, Chandler	* Peggy Rubach, RPTA
* Doug Strong, El Mirage	Hobart Wingard, Surprise
	Eric Iwersen, Tempe

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Mara Deluca, Maricopa County Public Health
Gene Holmerud

Jason Harrington, e group
Leticia Vargas, Phoenix

1. Call to Order

Brandon Forrey called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

2. Approval of the June 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Denise Lacey moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee for June 15, 2010. Margaret Boone-Pixley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Margaret Boone Pixley noted that in item seven spelling for Michael Cartsonis's name was incorrect.

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public were requested not to exceed a

three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes was provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Bicycle and the Pedestrian Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items were given an opportunity at the time the item was heard. No one wished to address the committee.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Staff and committee members were invited to provide an update of pedestrian and bicycle-related activity in their agencies.

Maureen DeCindis explained that MAG is making another video for Channel 11 public service broadcasting on Walking in the Valley. Staff will be filming part of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee as a segment to be included in the video.

Proposals from the MAG Request for Qualifications for the On-Call Consultant list for the Design Assistance program are due on Tuesday, August 31, 2010.

MAG has \$2,200 remaining in the bike/ped budget. Maureen DeCindis asked for ideas from the committee other than printing more bike maps. Members suggested purchasing bike helmets, sponsoring a judicial/legislative/enforcement conference, and establishing a bike loaner program (as a seed project).

Brandon Forrey reported on the success of the regional crossing guard training. There were three workshops held around the Valley.

Brandon Forrey reported that the City of Peoria provided secondary access to a high school and replaced uncontrolled warning signs. He asked if any committee member has had a request for a crash barrier in a median that would hold up to a vehicle collision. Bob Bortfeld said that he looked at one barrier at 24th Street and Camelback. Pedestrians were forced to stop in the median with modified barrels that looked like landscaping. Tiffany Halperin noted that safety spots in the median can present a dangerous situation for vehicles. Margaret Boone-Pixley noted that trees will grow and create sight visibility issue unless trimmed properly. Bob Bortfeld suggested using fake rocks. Tiffany Halperin asked if a pedestrian signal would be better.

5. MAG Complete Streets Guide

The committee was asked to submit any final comments for the MAG Complete Streets Guide for committee discussion.

Bob Bortfeld asked if MAG was going to formally request each city adopt a Complete Street policy. Brandon Forrey responded that this was a Guide only.

Michael Cartsonis commented that older adults should have their own section because they are a growing segment of the population. Michael Cartsonis said that improved facilities makes the neighborhoods more accessible. Improved pathway networks support local transportation because half of the trips are less than two miles in length. Aging in place and health considerations were discussed.

Michael Sanders suggested that The Ohio Regional Planning Commission has adopted a Complete Street

Policy. This information should be added to the Guide. Reed Kempton suggested the Guide started at State level and go down regionally to the local level in discussing those agencies adopting plans.

Why would re-landscaping trigger a Complete Street? Tiffany Halperin suggested that planting a tree lined street impacts future development decisions. What happens to a street is based in large part on what is already there. Margaret Boone-Pixley suggesting adding the word “may”.

Jim Hash said that this Guide should have been more focused with drawings. Who is the target audience for this document? This contradicts the MAG Specs & Details in terms of five-foot sidewalk. Bob Bortfeld suggested that many professionals are changing jobs and that they could use this detailed information in their new roles.

Reed Kempton noted that this document makes Complete Streets way more complicated than it needs to be. Michael Cartsonis said that simplicity allows for misinterpretation.

Denise Lacey noted that there was too much fluff in this document. The quality of the document is not there. Eric Iwersen noted that it is very hard to come out with a document that will appeal to each city. Tiffany Halperin said that during the process it became clearer that this was to be an individual guide.

Ken Maruyama suggested changing the name from Guide to Study. Brandon Forrey explained the history of the title went from Plan to Guide.

Reed Kempton suggested that incorporating a sample policy statement and volunteered to author the statement.

Gene Holmerud reviewed the document and said that Complete Streets is engineering process that includes best practices etc. where engineers choose from many combinations of factors to consider.

Brandon Forrey brought up the description of “grassed swales”. Reed Kempton reported that cities don’t vegetate their drainage channels. It was agreed to change the text to change “grassy” to “vegetation” in swales to avoid the installing concrete.

With the statement B.7. “Consider a 10' foot vehicle lane next to a 5' bicycle lane” add the language “where appropriate with lower travel speeds”.

Michael Sanders noted that the bike box is not indicated in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and that maybe it should not be kept in as a best practice. Eric Iwersen said that the City of Tempe is installing bike boxes as appropriate.

Other comments included that truncated domes are not required on private property and Reed Kempton pointed out that the photo on page 50 still has barricade next to the crosswalk. This photo should be replaced.

Bike lanes should be installed where feasible in downtown areas but perhaps not where angle parking exists. Angle parking is not appropriate on an arterial street.

Katherine Coles suggested that this is a guide that provokes thinking about these issues.

Reed Kempton suggested re-writing the Introduction so that it is clear that this is a Guide and recommended inserting sample policy language. Reed Kempton volunteered to write that section.

6. MAG Bike Video

Committee members received a copy of the new MAG “I BIKE” video and each member was encouraged to distribute it locally.

7. Design Assistance Application

MAG staff presented the revised Design Assistance Application for review and comment by committee members. The funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects has been folded into one program. Katherine Coles suggested using language from the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) application in the Design Assistance Application. Maureen DeCindis said that she would revise the application and that it would be available on August 23, 2010.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Members will have the opportunity to suggest future agenda topics.

9. Next Meetings

All meetings will be on the third Tuesday of the month in the Cholla Room at 1:30 p.m., except where otherwise noted.

September 21, 2010

October 19, 2010

November 9, 2010 (note change)

December 14, 2010 (noon)