

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at noon
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	Steve Hancock, Glendale
Michael Sanders, ADOT	Joe Schmitz, Goodyear
* Tiffany Halperin, ASLA, Arizona Chapter	Paul Ward for 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
Bob Beane, Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists	Lisa Padilla, Queen Creek
Jason Crampton, Chandler	Suzanne Day for Peggy Rubach, RPTA
* Doug Strong, El Mirage	Karen Savage for 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
Dawn Coomer, Valley Metro

1. Call to Order

Brandon Forrey called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m.

2. Approval of the October 19, 2010 Meeting Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Katherine Coles moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee for October 19, 2010. Margaret Boone Pixley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously given the following corrections: under Staff and Agency reports, "Gold Water" is one word and add "in the" to El Mirage discussion.

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

Reed Kempton noted that 1,000 people turned out for the Solari Bridge opening which was 20 years in the making. A non-slip surface was created for equestrian riders.

Lisa Padilla said that the town manager of Queen Creek is very excited about the multi-use path Enhancement project that was recently funded. The Town is also finishing another trail project on Queen Creek Wash and will host an event with a bike, walk, and horse ride.

Suzanne Day distributed a calendar of the events for the Valley Metro Bike Month. In the past couple of years, the bike to work day was held on earth day April 22nd but this year it will be on a Wednesday April 20th, 2011. The Great Bike Chase was a huge group ride that was very expensive with police escort and barricades. There will still be a ride but this year Valley Metro is promoting individual and small group rides. The Diamond Backs will sell the tickets directly to the public. Suzanne Day is requesting ride marshalls to assist those who wish to ride in a group. She is also seeking recommended routes, for example, riding from the Giants spring training grounds in Scottsdale to downtown Phoenix. The Diamondbacks will be playing against the Giants that day.

Brandon Forrey reported that Trail of Two Cities event was held on December 4, 2010 between Glendale and Peoria. There were 75 riders.

Jim Hash reported that the city of Mesa mayor and police chief declared an initiative to increase awareness of bicycling in Mesa. Mesa has started building the pathway on the Consolidated Canal and will incorporate ped activated signals.

Ken Maruyama reported that the Town of Gilbert installed driver feedback signs for two elementary schools which was partially funded by Safe Routes to School funds.

Paul Ward noted that Litchfield Park received the funds for the underpass at Wigwam Blvd and Litchfield Road and is planning to go to bid in January.

Denise Lacey at MCDOT has been approached by Maricopa County Parks to build bike lanes in the parks for additional connectivity.

Maureen DeCindis reported on the results of the inventory for the bike maps. MAG holds 43,000 maps. According to estimated usage, this amount of maps will easily last until next year. MAG staff will put in a request to fund a new map in 2012 plan.

Maureen DeCindis explained that MAG has just produced a Pedestrian DVD entitled "Talking the Walk" and distributed a copy to each member.

Maureen DeCindis reported that the MAG Design Assistance Consultant On-Call List was approved by the Executive Committee and the Design Assistance projects of Mesa: Porter Park Pathway; Phoenix: Grand Canal MUP at 22nd St.; and the El Mirage: Rancho El Mirage MUP were approved.

5. Mesa Project Change Request

Jim Hash explained that the City of Mesa is requesting that funding originally awarded for the FY-2013 construction of the Consolidated Canal Shared-Use Path, Phase II 8th Street to Lindsay Road, be re-scoped. The City of Mesa would like to request the funding to be utilized for construction of phase III of the Consolidated Canal Lindsay Road to Baseline Road, due to ARRA funding that was awarded to Mesa that has accelerated the construction of the second phase to the current fiscal year. Jim Hash explained that the city would like to move the phase II money to the phase III. This last section will then connect 17 miles of continuous path and connect to Chandler and Gilbert. This is a regional opportunity. Paul Ward suggested that this project is not really setting a precedent. Margaret Boone Pixley noted that it would be a different situation if Mesa was asking to take the funding from one canal project and apply it to another project in a different section of the city. Jim Hash noted that this project is shovel ready with the design and environmental completed. Reed Kempton noted that this is an extension of the original project. Reed Kempton noted that if this project was being moved to another canal, then it would be going to another project but that this request seems as though a change in scope to the original project request. Brandon Forrey agreed that this project is part of the same system and is ready for construction quickly.

Reed Kempton moved to approve Mesa request for project change. Paul Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Complete Streets Guide

Maureen DeCindis explained that the Complete Streets Guide has been completely overhauled with new fonts, page layout, and photos. All members were encouraged to read it carefully and submit any changes by December 20, 2010.

Brandon Forrey noted that this document is a huge improvement from the past. Mesa staff noted that the document looks more professional. Reed Kempton said that the document is light years better than the original. There were some corrections to page nine.

Karen Savage asked about the diagram from Seattle that illustrates two way bicycle traffic on one side of the road. Reed Kempton would prefer to put bike lanes on each side of the street. Should the language in the text reflect the diagram? Brandon Forrey suggested putting a sentence under the photo indicating that this is a Seattle context sensitive solution. Reed Kempton, however, doesn't want an advocate to use this diagram to demand a two way bicycle lane on one side of the street and suggested that MAG put a photo in instead of the diagram.

Karen Savage also noted that there is a statement in the document that there should be a prioritization of projects if the city has a Complete Streets Policy. Reed Kempton responded that this Guide is intended to be used as an incentive for all cities to adopt Complete Streets policy. Paul Ward noted that cities could use it as prioritization technique for the their own local funding.

7. Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Education

Maureen DeCindis explained that there is \$165,000 in the 2012 TIP that needs a project description to be included in the 2012 UPWP (Unified Planning Work Program). After working with the working group and MAG staff, Maureen DeCindis described the following elements:

"Bicycle Education for Law Enforcement Agencies"

This project will develop a modular educational program with at least 15 training sessions comprised of 6 modules each covering Arizona laws related to bicycling (and one module covering dangerous riding and "do's" and "don'ts" for bicyclists) that can be delivered in 5-10 minute segments to police officers (such as a squad meeting setting). Educational materials/handouts will contain content similar or identical to materials already developed for bicyclists by ADOT, Valley Metro and the League of American Bicyclists and will be reviewed by the staff attorney of the Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists. This project will also include an instructor/trainer manual to facilitate consistent presentation. Budget for instructor manuals (20 copies), participant materials (200 sets), assembly and review of content and pilot course presentations: \$15,000.

"Get Ready to Ride"

This program will consist of a 3-4 hour combination of classroom, hands on and on-bike education and training, designed to better prepare novice to intermediate bicyclists to more confidently and safely ride a bicycle on the streets. Each course will be conducted by a League of American Bicyclists certified instructor. In addition to the instruction during the program, participants will be given written materials covering safe bicycling techniques and Arizona laws related to bicycling. 24 courses will be conducted at different locations around the Valley in an attempt to maximize geographic coverage. Depending upon the time of year and availability of facilities, courses may be staged at public facilities (parks, community centers) and/or bicycle shops. Budget for advertising/promotion, trainer compensation and course materials: \$24,000.

"Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Project"

According to the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project, "one of the greatest challenges facing the bicycle and pedestrian field is the lack of documentation on usage and demand. Without accurate and consistent demand and usage figures, it is difficult to measure the positive benefits of investments in these modes, especially when compared to the other transportation modes such as the private automobile. The basic assumptions of the methodology are that, in order to estimate existing and future bicycle and pedestrian demand and activity, agencies nationwide need to start conducting counts and surveys in a consistent manner similar to those being used by Institute of Traffic Engineers (ITE) and other groups for motor vehicle models." The MAG region needs an effective methodology to count bikes and determine trip generation taking into consideration the region's size, topography, geographic equity and weather. The consultant will work with the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian committee members in every aspect of this project. Budget for consultant services: \$50,000

"Bike Education on Buses"

This project will print and install bike education posters on buses in the various sizes of tails and queens the project will also print and install bike education posters in bus shelters. The posters will be displayed throughout the year. Budget for posters for Buses and Bus Shelters: \$30,000

8. Regional Bicycle Facilities

Reed Kempton lead a discussion on regional bicycle facilities. Does your project connect to the regional facility? Should this question be asked if it is a regional pedestrian project? How do we define regional connections? There are 1,500 miles of bicycle facilities in the Maricopa County Regional Trail System. There are connections to local streets, should these be considered regional if they connect to a regional system. Are the canals considered regional facilities? The purpose of the Maricopa County Regional Trail System was to develop a non-motorized route for equestrians to connect to regional parks. All the shared use paths near the park trails are not on the County map.

Katherine Coles said that regional might not be the correct word, or does it reflect work with the adjacent jurisdiction to fix a gap.

Paul Ward defined regional had been defined in the past as more than one jurisdiction. A MAG GIS map identified the routes on arterial streets that were regional, those that connected between two agencies.

Brandon Forrey noted that regional connectivity is not relevant for pedestrian projects.

Katherine Coles asked if a project that could only serve a neighborhood is more important than a project that fills a gap. Paul Ward noted that the Mesa Consolidated canal project will connect up Mesa, Gilbert and Chandler.

Brandon Forrey suggested members consider this issue and its ramifications for a discussion at the January meeting.

Ken Maruyama noted that a sidewalk project could connect to transit, that is regional connectivity and then a pedestrian project could receive the extra points. Katherine Coles suggested that a pedestrian connection to light rail is also regional connectivity.

9. Request for Future Agenda Items

Members will have the opportunity to suggest future agenda topics. The following items were suggested for the January meeting.

- Continue the discussion on the definition of “regional.”
- Discuss any final issues with the Complete Streets document.
- How the Congestion Management Process may affect CMAQ project scoring.
- Potential for dividing the CMAQ fund for pedestrian only projects.

10. 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.

January 11, 2011 (note change)

February 15, 2011

March 15, 2011

April 19, 2011

May 17, 2011

June 21, 2011

July 19, 2011

August 16, 2011

September 20, 2011

October 18, 2011

November 15, 2011

December 13, 2011 (noon) (note change)