

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.
MAG Office Building, Cholla 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
Gene Holmerud for Bob Beane, Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists	Lisa Padilla, Queen Creek
* Jason Crampton, Chandler	Peggy Rubach, RPTA
* Douglas Strong, El Mirage	Karen Savage, Surprise
	* Eric Iwersen, Tempe

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Mariah Silk, Maricopa County Public Health
Brian Sager, Kimley Horn
Peter Schelstraete, Tempe Transportation Commission

1. Call to Order

Brandon Forrey called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

2. Approval of the April 19, 2011 Meeting Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Katherine Coles moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee for April 19, 2011. Reed Kempton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Maureen DeCindis reported that the Complete Streets Guide was approved by the Regional Council on April 25, 2011.

Maureen DeCindis reiterated that MAG is going to have remodeling done on its second, third and new fourth floors from June thru September. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee meetings will be held at RPTA for the following dates: June 21, 2011, July 19, 2011, August 16, 2011 and September 20, 2011. Members will need to sign in and get a badge on the 13th floor and then take the elevator down to the 10th floor to the Lake Mead room. Maureen DeCindis announced that she has jury duty on the same date as the next Bike and Ped meeting. The committee agreed to cancel the June meeting rather than try to reschedule.

Maureen DeCindis gave a status report on the newly revised MAG Design Assistance Program. The notice for submittal of new project applications will be sent out May 26, 2011 and will be due back to MAG on June 23, 2011.

Gene Holmerud introduced the new executive director of the Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists, Chris Mosely.

Jim Hash reported that there will be a Ride of Silence at Mountain View. The route will go from Mesa to Gilbert which is an 11 mile round trip. Jim Hash said that this is a world wide event. Katherine Coles explained that this event is to honor those who have been injured or killed on a bicycle, to raise awareness and to ask all people to share the road.

Jim Hash reported that the phase two of the Consolidated Canal will be finished soon. The city of Mesa will then start on phase three.

Brandon Forrey announced the dedication of the bike bridge over 101 freeway at 63rd Avenue this Saturday in Glendale.

Lisa Padilla passed out a copy of the Queen Creek/San Tan Valley Independent newspaper noting how Queen Creek Multi-use Path was funded through enhancements grants.

5. Bicycle Map Update

MAG staff will gave a status report on the Regional Bikeways map. The committee discussed the time schedule and thematic concepts. Maureen DeCindis noted that there will be an insert to include bicycle facilities in Wickenburg. The word FREE will be printed on the front of the bike map.

Jim Hash suggested putting photos on the back of the map. Brandon Forrey agreed. Ken Maruyama suggested tying this to tourism and outdoor activities. Maureen DeCindis suggested photos and

information indicate how bicycle facilities enhance economic development and bring jobs and money into the state. Gene Holmerud suggested putting a photo of the *I RIDE* video, and list existing bike safety programs. Paul Ward suggested a survey in the back of the map so riders can tell us how we can make the system better. Reed Kempton said to make the photos so people are hungry and thirsty. Ken Maruyama suggested including a list of annual bike events with web addresses. Brandon Forrey noted that many events fall through or change dates. This information will be on the map for three to four years. He suggested to just list web sites that have resources and events. List all the cities web sites. Reed Kempton noted that most events are sponsored by private sponsors. Maureen DeCindis noted that the map could show photos of the major activity centers illustrating how the bike facilities link to the centers.

The committee requested a map that one could zoom in if one was reading it on the web site. A map that would allow the user to turn layers of data on and off. Reed Kempton noted that Scottsdale has a map with layers on their website. This GIS formatted map could be updated more frequently.

Mike Sanders suggested keeping the current bike safety rules on the back of the map. Peggy Rubach suggested that Valley Metro list the fact that a sponsor of an event could borrow bike racks from them.

Reed Kempton asked if MAG is able to bring in shape files electronically and not do hand corrections. Reed Kempton encouraged all members to proof all the data. The city of Scottsdale in their new map has separated private and public paths such as those in gated communities, created a new category called walking paths, and designated unpaved trails as public and private. Brandon Forrey asked if any of the cities have sharrows?

6. Bicycle Counts

The committee discussed the proposed Bicycle Count project including hiring a consultant, the scope of the project and implementation of the count. Maureen DeCindis reviewed the draft request for proposals.

Katherine Coles expressed concerns that the final numbers will not justify funding for bike and ped projects. The project should identify an unmet needs and gap analysis. How do we tap into those who are on the fence and get them to bike? Paul Ward noted that the upside is the lack of knowledge could increase more funding. A report recently said that a 80% of the nation's mayors would approve increase sales tax to fund more bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Brandon Forrey asked if MAG had a latent demand model in conjunction with this study. Reed Kempton replied that a latent demand model was developed as part of previous studies.

Reed Kempton reported that in Scottsdale, the city turned a traffic camera from the street onto the multiuse pathway and video taped the users. An intern counted 617 cyclists, 200+ walkers and in-line skaters on a Sunday in March. He suggested getting a portable camera to put on bike paths.

Brandon Forrey said that whatever the data collection method that is used, it needs to be consistent data collection method that can be used around the whole valley. Mike Sanders suggested mechanical counters such as the ones that ADOT is using in the Village of Oak Creek that counts 24/7. ADOT will be testing a second counter on the Beeline Highway.

Gene Holmerud attended a bicycle conference in Seville, Spain. In the vendor area, there were quite a few electronic counting mechanisms for sale.

Paul Ward suggested that traffic counts could be extrapolated to draw direct comparison between traffic and bicycle counts thus making a model.

Denise Lacey noted that bicycle data could be used in writing grants, however, this could negatively impact the County because the highest bicycle counts are outside the County's jurisdiction.

Peggy Rubach suggested coming up with a methodology that is creative so that this improves the chances of funding for bicycle facilities. Peggy Rubach suggested that MAG should count bicycles at night such as those who ride the Metro light rail.

Brandon Forrey suggested keeping Task 1: Develop a Data Collection Methodology intact. He suggested that the consultant consider a sample count from a set of arterial streets, streets with and without bike lanes. Denise Lacey concurred that this should be part of the count as well counting bicycles that are at the high destinations center. The data count should be 24 hours.

Margaret Boone Pixley asked if this data will be required to be used in filling out applications. Maureen DeCindis responded that has not been established as yet. MAG is responding to the national effort of developing performance measures.

Katherine Coles noted that the system is very disperse, therefore, all trip are diffuse throughout the valley similar to a spider web. The count should include bikes on buses.

The committee asked to bring back this as a discussion item in July. Committee members were asked to submit any language changes to MAG staff by June 15, 2011.

7. CMAQ Goals and Funding Limits

The committee discussed the goals of CMAQ funded bike/ped projects for 2015, including appropriate scope and elements, as well as possible limits for individual project application requests.

Brandon Forrey explained that this discussion was to focus on the question as to whether the committee should specify the maximum amount an application could request. Does the committee want to set funding limits on the TIP application? For example, does the committee want to allocate funding for three great projects or ten medium quality projects? Peggy Rubach asked if this decision would be made annually. Brandon Forrey responded that this discussion applies to this year only. Katherine Coles asked if the committee should make a policy. Peggy Rubach suggested that the policy should state that committee will evaluate on all the criteria. Lisa Padilla said that it would make sense to set up a hierarchy of priorities of type of projects that would the committee would want to be funded. This statement is easy for grant writers to use. Brandon Forrey noted that the committee has already established criteria in the application and therefore a policy is not needed.

Katherine Coles asked if the committee could have a pre-meeting where the projects are vetted and comments are provided to strengthen the applications similar to the Enhancements process. Can we phase the projects? Are there more cost effective alternatives? It would be a public meeting and a public discourse.

Maureen DeCindis suggested the committee consider a regional project such as mid-block and HAWK crossings for the canals in the whole Valley. Peggy Rubach suggested that one would lose economies of scale if individual cities compete for construction and that one agency should be responsible to build all the crossings in each of the cities.

Katherine Coles suggested that there should be no amount maximum stated on the application. The committee agreed.

Peggy Rubach announced that she is leaving the committee and will be on long term disability as of June 3rd, 2011. A job description will be sent to MAG staff to send out to all jurisdictions.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Members have the opportunity to suggest future agenda topics. No future topics were suggested.

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.

June 21, 2011 (cancelled)

July 19, 2011 (will be held at RPTA)

August 16, 2011 (will be held at RPTA)

September 20, 2011 (maybe held at RPTA)

October 18, 2011

November 15, 2011

December 13, 2011 (noon) (note change)