

February 26, 2014

TO: Members of the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

FROM: Katherine Coles, Phoenix, Chair of the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.  
MAG Offices, Ironwood Room, Second Floor  
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee will be held at the time and place noted above. If you are attending in person, please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting as parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the parking garage.

Committee members may attend the meeting either in **person, by video conference or by telephone conference call**. Those attending by videoconference must notify the MAG site three business days before the meeting. Those attending by telephone conference call please contact MAG offices for conference call instructions.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Maureen DeCindis at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Please be advised that under procedures adopted by the MAG Regional Council on August 21, 2013, all MAG committees need to have a quorum to conduct business. A quorum is a simple majority of the membership based on the attendance of the three previous Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee meetings. If the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee does not meet the quorum requirement, members who have arrived at the meeting will be instructed that a legal meeting cannot occur and will subsequently be dismissed. Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please make arrangements for a proxy from your jurisdiction to represent you. Please contact Maureen DeCindis at (602) 254-6300 or send email to [mdecindis@azmag.gov](mailto:mdecindis@azmag.gov) if you have any questions or need additional information.

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order

For the March 2014 meeting, the quorum requirement is 11 committee members.

2. Approval of the February 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

2. For information, discussion and action to approve the meeting minutes of the February 11, 2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee meeting.

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the 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 will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Committee requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items will be given an opportunity at the time the item is heard. Please fill out blue cards for Call to the Audience and yellow cards for Action Items.

3. For information.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

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

4. For information and discussion.

5. Off-Street Bicycle Network Wayfinding Guidelines: Project Scope and Schedule

MAG has entered into a contract with Alta Planning and Design to provide an intuitive wayfinding system that unifies the off-street bicycle network while promoting the assets of the region. Karen Vitkay, project manager, will provide an overview of project scope and schedule.

6. Wayfinding Opportunities and Constraints

MAG staff and the Alta Planning team will discuss the first impressions of the bicycle network and wayfinding needs. At the meeting, committee members will be asked for additional information on how users discover, arrive at and use the off-street network. Members will also be asked what existing navigational elements are effective and to identify the primary challenges/opportunities of the current system.

7. Wayfinding Vision and Branding Strategy

John Bosio, Merje Design, will discuss the five brand traits of personality, culture, promise, experience and environment. He will lead the committee members through a series of interactive exercises.

5. For information and discussion.

6. For information and discussion.

7. For information and discussion.

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 Ironwood Room at 1:30 p.m., except where otherwise noted.

April 15, 2014

May 20, 2014

June 17, 2014

July 15, 2014

August 19, 2014

September 16, 2014

October 21, 2014

November 18, 2014

December 16, 2014 (possibly  
noon)

8. For information and discussion.

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 1:30  
MAG Office Building, Ironwood Room  
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Katherine Coles, Phoenix, Chair of Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee	^ Dave Gue for Thomas Chlebanowski, Litchfield Park
Tracy Stevens, Avondale, Vice-Chair of Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee	David Maestas, Maricopa
Michael Sanders, ADOT	^ Denise Lacey, Maricopa County
Raquel Schatz, Apache Junction	Jim Hash, Mesa
Robert Wisener, Buckeye	^ Brandon Forrey, Peoria
* D.J. Stapley, Carefree	Rich Purcell, Queen Creek
* Ian Cordwell, Cave Creek	Ben Limmer, Valley Metro
Jason Crampton, Chandler	Susan Conklu, Scottsdale
Jose Macias, El Mirage	Stephen Chang, Surprise
* Nicole Lance, Gilbert	Eric Iwersen, Tempe
^ Steve Hancock, Glendale	* Robert Carmona, Wickenburg
* Joe Schmitz, Goodyear	^ Grant Anderson, Youngtown

\*Members neither present nor represented by proxy

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

^ Bob Beane, Coalition of AZ. Bicyclists	Alex Oreschak, MAG
Kenneth Steel, Maricopa County Health Dept.	Margaret Boone, MAG
Anissa Janovich, Valley Metro	Kelly LaRosa, FHWA
Reed Kempton, Wilson & Company	Christine Fanchi, Avondale

1. Call to Order

Chair Katherine Coles called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Approval of the December 17, 2013 Meeting Minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Jason Crampton moved to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee for December 17, 2013. Rich Purcell 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 on the proposed recommendation to the Management Committee regarding MAG Closeout. Under MAP-21 many programs and funding levels changed. MAG staff postponed the summer closeout of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) projects until clarification of funding levels was published by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). MAG has received preliminary estimated FHWA funding projections. Currently, we are over programmed based on the estimates. MAG will accept Tier 2 requests at this time in the event additional revenues become available. If MAG receives final apportionment amounts that are higher than estimated, we may be able to move forward with FFY 2014 CMAQ Tier 2 and Tier 3 Dynamic TIP Process.

The MAG Regional Council approved the MAG Federal Fund Programming Guidelines and Procedures on October 26, 2011. Requirements of the 500.3- Step 5: Federal Project Development Process and Dynamic TIP Process. Tier 2 of the process is as follows:

- Tier 2 – CMAQ projects programmed in the TIP that are in a future fiscal year and could be advanced to obligate in the (current) fiscal year Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, have second priority overall. Priority in the category will be based on completed milestones.
- For construction projects (currently programmed in FY 2015 or FY 2016) to be advanced into the current fiscal year FY 2014, it is required that three milestones are met:
- Environmental clearance approved if the project is federally funded, otherwise the environmental clearance has been submitted (to ADOT).
- Completed 60 percent Design/Engineering plans.
- For right-of-way purchases, properties are inventoried and appraisals are completed.
- For procurement projects to be included in Tier 2, it is required that the environmental, right-of-way and project scoping documents needed to obtain the related clearance have been submitted.

- The project sponsor is required to submit a letter signed by the sponsor agency engineer for construction projects that design plans are at 60 percent, the date that the environmental clearance was approved or submitted depending on the funding used to design the project, and a letter that certifies that the right-of-way (if applicable) is underway with properties inventoried. For procurement projects the letter is to identify the dates that submittals were made for the scoping document, the environmental clearance document and the right-of-way clearances document. This information is due to MAG by February 13, 2014 (for summation and evaluation) at the February Transportation Review Committee (TRC) meeting.
- At the February TRC meeting, if requests have been submitted, project milestone information will be presented, discussed to move Tier 2 projects into the current federal fiscal year of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- If recommendations from TRC move forward, they will be included in the March agendas of the Management Committee and Regional Council.

The request to advance FFY 2015 and FFY 2016 project(s) to FFY 2014 is to be printed on member agency letterhead and signed by the sponsor agency engineer. MAG staff is available to help with information and questions regarding the Federal Fund Project Commitment Letter Requirements. Please contact Steve Tate at or (602) 254-6300.

Maureen DeCindis reported that the contract with Alta Planning for the Wayfinding and Brand Name of the bikeways is signed. The next step is to:

- Identify local jurisdictional sign ordinances and/or guidelines to be reviewed. Alta Planning is requesting copies from ten jurisdictions in PDF format by February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Please send these to Maureen DeCindis.
- Brainstorm/identify example wayfinding systems for review if there are any that the Committee would specifically like the consultant to look at.

Joe Perez announced that 200 bikes will roll out for the Phoenix Bike Share program in April. The Phoenix Bike Masterplan will be finished at the end of year and then the plan will go for City Council approval. Susan Conklu asked if the Phoenix Bike Masterplan will include a description of how projects will be prioritized for funding. Joe Perez responded that there will be a description of the prioritization process.

Brandon Forrey announced that Peoria held their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike Safety event in the Peoria Centennial Plaza with 450 children participating. The previous record for attendance of the bike skills course was 525 children. In future there may be four smaller separate events.

Margaret Boone announced that the Non-Infrastructure Safe Routes to School deadline is February 20, 2014 deadline and the deadline to ask MAG for crash data is February 17, 2014.

Tracy Stevens introduced Christine Fanchi as the new multi-modal planner for the city of Avondale. She also announced that Avondale is coming out with a Request for Proposal to hire a consultant to develop a comprehensive multi-modal plan for Avondale.

Denise Lacey announced that Maricopa County Department of Transportation has two senior transportation planner positions open and is seeking qualified applicants.

5. Request for 2<sup>nd</sup> Deferral of the City of Scottsdale Arizona Canal from Chaparral to Indian Bend Wash Project

Teri Kennedy explained that the city of Scottsdale is requesting to defer the Arizona Canal project from Chaparral to Indian Bend Wash. The project was previously deferred so per MAG programming policies, the request must be reviewed by MAG member committees to establish that the sponsoring agency has continuously worked on the project since it was deferred and that the cause of the delay is due to nonfinancial circumstances beyond the control of the sponsoring agency. The committee must consider the policy and procedures.

Paul Basha, from the city of Scottsdale briefed the Committee on the status of the project, the cause of the delay and the ability of the City to complete the project should the approval of the request of the City be approved.

Arizona Canal Multi-Use Path: Chaparral Road to Indian Bend Wash

- First deferral request granted by MAG Regional Council on February 22, 2012

Then it was combined into one project: SC14-104

- Chaparral Road to McDonald Drive: SC12-810
- McDonald Drive to Indian Bend Wash: SC13-901

Simultaneously expedited from 2014 to 2012 Project: SC14-101

- Arizona Canal Multi-use Path, 64<sup>th</sup> Street to Goldwater Boulevard
- (Construction completed September 2013: 60<sup>th</sup> Street to Goldwater Boulevard)

Pre-Design Process

- January 2012: ADOT approval stating no reimbursement until FHWA authorization
- March 2012: ADOT approval of Design Request for Proposals
- April 2012: Request for Proposals advertised
- May 2012: 20 Proposals received
- June 2012: 3 Consultants interviewed
- July 2012: Consultant selected
- August 2012: Contract authorized
- September 2012: Design began
- October 2012: FHWA authorized reimbursement (dated February 2012)

Public Hearings

- 6 December 2012

- 1 May 2013
- 3 May 2013 (Public-invited field walk)
- 9 September 2013
- 19 September 2013 (Transportation Commission)
- 29 October 2013
- 5 November 2013 (Trails Subcommittee)
- 21 November 2013 (Transportation Commission approval)

#### Project Goals

- 10-foot wide concrete multi-use path
- 5-foot wide canal clearance
- 2-foot wide shoulders
- Remainder of canal bank unpaved
- Landscaping for screening and erosion control

#### December 2012 Preferred Alignment

- East side (Completely conforms to project goals)
- Intense public opposition

#### September 2013 Reconsideration

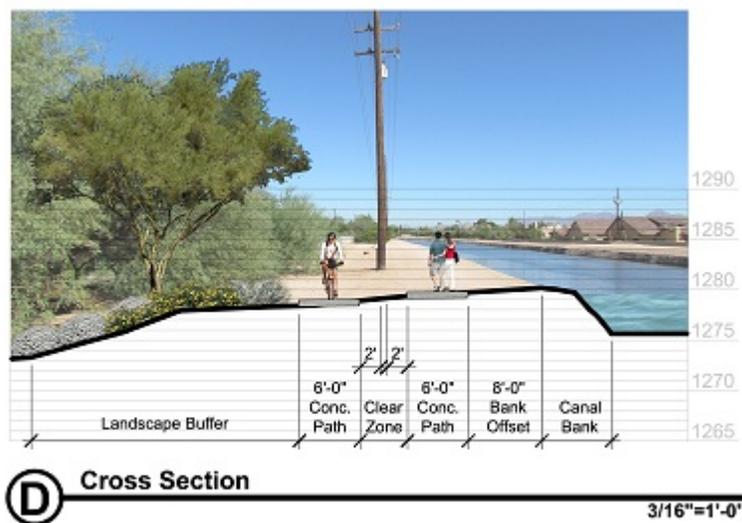
- West side acceptable: 900' (of 10,000') narrow path or clearance

#### October 2013 Recommended Alignment

- West side
- Public support

#### Final Alignment: West Side

- 500 feet of 8-foot path and 4-foot canal clearance
- 200 feet of 6-foot one-direction path and 5-foot canal clearance
- 200 feet of 6-foot one-direction path and 8-foot canal clearance



## Summary

- First Deferral for combining two adjacent separate projects
- 9-month delay for FHWA design reimbursement approval
- 11-month delay to gain public acceptance
- No funding or right-of-way concerns
- Second Deferral request for 6 to 12 months

Reed Kempton addressed the committee. He was the principal planner on this project. There were Enhancement funds also funding this project and there was a preliminary design done for this project. This is a hugely important connection from Tempe to Scottsdale and when completed this pathway will create a 17 mile loop. Reed Kempton urged the committee to support the request. Grant Anderson asked if FHWA would approve the new design. Paul Basha said that the new design is not really substandard and Scottsdale feels that FHWA will approve this new plan. Susan Conklu said that the width does meet minimum FHWA standards.

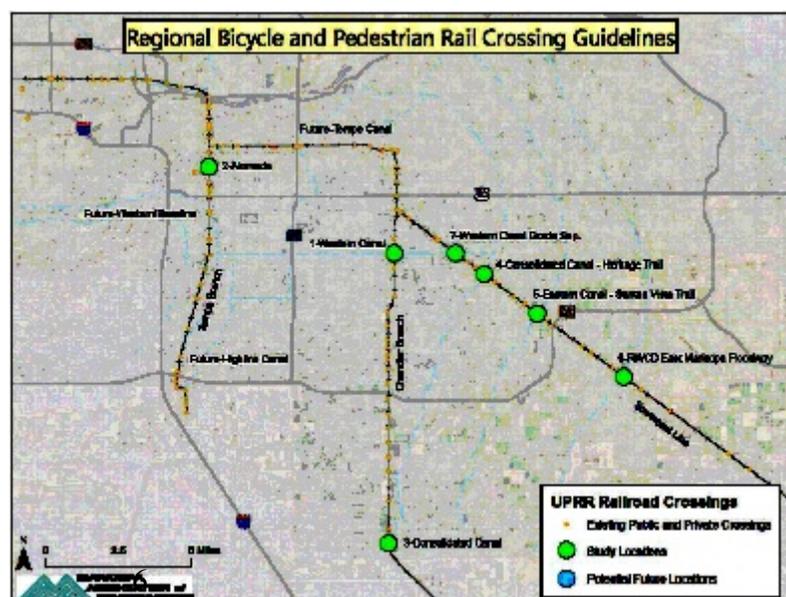
Eric Iwersen said that as a city representative understands how the public can cause a delay in a schedule. Eric Iwersen made a motion to approve the request by city of Scottsdale for a second deferral and Jim Hash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## 6. MAG Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathway/Railroad Crossing Recommendations Report

Alex Oreshak reported that this project started as Design Assistance request but because of the regional issues, MAG hired Kimley-Horn. Throughout Maricopa County there are several existing and planned pedestrian/bicycle shared-use paths that cross railroad tracks that are not located on public streets or at intersections. There were no regional guidelines for the treatment of these unique path crossings of railroads. Brian Sager from Kimley-Horn presented the findings and recommendations of this report. Brian Sager announced the partners in the study.

### Project Need:

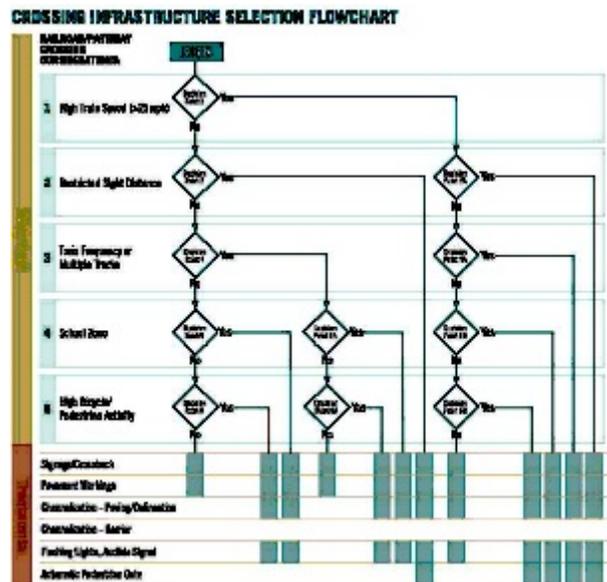
- Popular Regional Trail System
- Gaps where trails meet railroad tracks
- No Trespassing
- Safety Concerns



## Standards

- No National Trail Crossing Design Standard
- However, Design Guidelines Do Exist In:
  1. MUTCD
  2. AASHTO Greenbook
  3. FHWA Guidance on Traffic Control Devices at Highway-rail Grade Crossings
  4. FHWA Designing Sidewalk and Trail for Access, Part II

## Decision Matrix:



## Crossing Options

### Passive Warning

1. Signs (Crossbuck, Stop, Yield, Warning, Both Ways)
2. Pavement Markings
3. Detectable Tactile Tiles
4. Clearly mark stopping location and crossing location
5. Fencing
6. Swing gates

### Active Warning

1. Flashers
2. Devices
3. Automated pedestrian gates
4. Maze barriers
5. Variable message signs
6. Site-by-Site Evaluation
7. MAG staff, City/Town staff, UPRR conduct site visits, determine conditions and needs
8. UPRR makes recommendations for crossing treatments
9. UPRR prefers grade-separated crossings at all locations

## Seven Identified Sites

- #1 Test Case
- #2 Existing Crossing
- #3-6 Other Crossings
- #7 Grade Separation

### Western Canal - Chandler: Issues

- City of Chandler Design Assistance Grant
- FY2016 CMAQ construction funding
- Desire to connect to future path in Gilbert
- Low train volume, low train speeds

### Western Canal - Chandler: Solutions (15% Design Plans were developed).

- New concrete crossing surface
- Flashing lights
- Additional signage
- Clear vegetation
- Tactile warning strips
- Crossing agreement UPRR, SRP, Chandler, Gilbert

### Alameda - Tempe: Issues

- Uneven surface
- Minimal crossing treatments
- Excessive bollards

### Alameda - Tempe: Solutions

- Flashing lights and bell
- New signage
- Pavement advance warning markings
- New surface
- Remove bollards

### Western Canal - Gilbert: Issues

- Intersects with UPRR mainline
- High-speed trains (60mph)
- Adjacent school
- Recommended grade-separated crossing

### Western Canal - Gilbert: Solutions

1. Grade Separation Channelization (fencing/pavement)
- Fencing along UPRR tracks

### At-Grade Flashing lights and bells

- New crossing surface
- Pavement markings

### Overall Recommendations

- Implement grade-separated crossings
- Work with RR to implementing safe at-grade crossings (UPRR requires closing of two existing at-grade crossings to open one new at-grade crossing)
- Address crossings on a case-by-case basis
- Involve the railroad

- Follow decision matrix and step-by-step guide from report when considering crossing treatments

Grant Anderson asked if the bollards at the Tempe crossing were to be established to deter vehicles. On the photo there are two walls that look like they would limit vehicle entry. Eric Iwersen responded that bollards were installed to cause a dismount zone. Active warning devices in the new design would mean that the bollards can be removed.

Marc Pearsall reported that the consultant Kimley-Horn did a great job on this project. MAG has been asked why West Valley sites were not considered. There were no illegal canal crossings of this type in the West Valley. All communities, though, can use these guidelines to improve safety at any railroad crossing.

Jason Crampton thanked MAG for taking on this study. Through the process, the UPRR worked well with the cities and towns.

A member of the audience asked if the Guidelines will be published. Maureen DeCindis responded that the Guidelines will be available on the MAG website.

Joe Perez asked about the railroad crossing at the Grand Canal near 44<sup>th</sup> Street. Eric Iwersen said that there are many more crossings that need to have safety improvements.

Jose Macias noted that in El Mirage is a spur railroad crossing near a cargo center. There is grade crossing that runs thru the heart of El Mirage and the city sees how this guideline will be very helpful.

7. Updates to the MAG On-line Bikeways Map

Maureen DeCindis presented concepts and ideas on updating and enhancing the on-line bike map with photos, videos and wayfinding instructions. The map was projected and as a beta test, current photos of bike facilities were demonstrated. The committee was informed that MAG will be procuring a camera that can be fitted on a bicycle. Maureen DeCindis requested ideas for ideal locations to photograph.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Members will have the opportunity to suggest future agenda topics.

Joe Perez suggested having a speaker address “How to Use Maricopa County Trip Reduction Data” to encourage more riders. Annisa Janovich suggested that Dawn Coomer and Maricopa County Trip Reduction staff could provide this presentation.

9. Next Meetings

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

- ~~March 18, 2014~~ **March 11, 2014**
- April 15, 2014
- May 20, 2014
- June 17, 2014
- July 15, 2014
- August 19, 2014
- September 16, 2014
- October 21, 2014
- November 18, 2014
- December 16, 2014 (possibly noon)