

NOTES



US-60/Grand Avenue COMPASS

Loop 303 to Interstate 10

City Managers Meeting
June 11, 2014; 1:53 – 2:18 p.m.

MAG
Chaparral Conference Room

AGENCY ATTENDEES

Mike Celaya, City of Surprise
Spencer Isom, City of El Mirage
Rick Naimark, City of Phoenix

Tom Remes, City of Phoenix
Brent Stoddard, City of Glendale
Amber Wakeman, City of El Mirage

MAG STAFF

Dennis Smith

Bob Hazlett

CONSULTANT TEAM

Dana Biscan, Burgess & Niple
Jason Pagnard, Burgess & Niple

Audra Koester Thomas, PSA

HANDOUTS

Draft vision; draft decision tree graphic

WELCOME

Bob Hazlett, MAG project manager, thanked participants for attending.

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

Mr. Hazlett announced that there would be public open houses on June 23 (Glendale) and June 24 (Surprise).

ACCESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

Mr. Hazlett briefly reviewed recent project activities, including access management workshops and coordination facilitated amongst city staff to assist in the development of the access management plan and improvement concepts. Mr. Hazlett concluded the discussion highlighting zoning overlays as a potential implementation tool communities could use in incrementally implementing an access management plan and handed out a draft decision tree graphic for consideration. He explained that the decision tree would allow for a review process of proposed access points not included in the plan.

NOTES

CORRIDOR OPTIMIZATION

Mr. Hazlett reviewed the proposed locations for future grade-separated traffic interchanges. He noted that implementing grade-separated traffic interchanges would assist in prioritizing US-60/Grand Avenue and improving operations of the facility. Mr. Hazlett noted that of the proposed traffic interchanges, only two were currently funded and the remaining were conceptual.

Dennis Smith, MAG executive director, asked if the proposed improvements were consistent with the previously proposed “expressway” concept. Mr. Hazlett noted that while the improvements certainly promoted US-60/Grand Avenue’s priority, they reduced—not eliminated—private access points along the corridor; the “expressway” concept would allow no private access onto the facility.

Mr. Smith expressed the desire that this project would devise not just a consensus plan, but a commitment to implementing that plan.

Spencer Isom, City of El Mirage, asked if there was consideration of aligning 75th Avenue below the proposed traffic interchange; Mr. Hazlett indicated that it had been considered, but was determined less feasible due to the existing BNSF Railway.

Rick Naimark, City of Phoenix, asked if the plan considered implementation of protected lanes. Jason Pagnard, study team project manager, indicated that there was, however, any strategy has trade-offs that were considered throughout the Corridor. Mr. Naimark asked how the plan impacts improvements in place on “lower Grand”; Mr. Hazlett noted that the City of Phoenix had offered the concept of directing traffic south of McDowell Road onto 19th Avenue, however, the Grand Avenue Merchants Association expressed concerns of “cul-de-sacing” US-60/Grand Avenue and limiting traffic movements through the business district.

Mr. Smith asked when elected officials would receive a project update; Mr. Hazlett indicated that there was anticipation of holding a Charter Partners meeting in the fall, after another meeting with the Management Partners.