

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE FORMATION OF A JPAC WORKING GROUP
September 13, 2010
MAG Offices, Mesquite Room
302 N. 1st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Councilwoman Peggy Neely, Phoenix
Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale

Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa
Mayor Jim Lane, Scottsdale

* Not present

Participated by video or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Subcommittee for the Formation of a JPAC Working Group (Subcommittee) meeting was called to order by Councilwoman Neely at 11:07 p.m. Councilwoman Neely stated that public comment cards were available for those members of the public who wish to comment. Transit tickets were available from Valley Metro for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

2. Call to the Audience

Councilwoman Neely noted that, according to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the public comment cards. She stated that there is a three-minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Councilwoman Neely noted that there was one public comment card, Amy Bratt from the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. Chair Neely asked if Ms. Bratt would like to speak before or after discussion on agenda item number three. Ms. Bratt responded that she will hold her comments until after the discussion.

3. Approval of the August 16, 2010 MAG Executive Committee Subcommittee for the Formation of a JPAC Working Group Meeting Minutes

Mayor Lane moved to approve the August 16, 2010 Executive Committee Subcommittee for the Formation of a JPAC Working Group meeting minutes. Mayor Lopez Rogers seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

4. Formation of a MAG Joint Planning Advisory Council Working Group

Chair Neely commented that she is concerned that this process is not moving forward. She noted that the Executive Committee chairman has been receiving phone calls on how this will all work. Chair Neely stressed the importance of finalizing the composition and not letting the group get too large. Denise McClafferty gave a brief update on activities since the last subcommittee meeting. She noted that MAG staff contacted the suggested business members that would represent region-wide interests and a brief background on the JPAC and the potential duties of the JPAC Working Group were provided. Ms. McClafferty stated that it was stressed that staff was contacting potential members to determine their interest in serving on the working group and that they would be considered by the MAG Regional Council for appointment. She stated that it was also suggested at the August Executive Committee meeting that letters of interest be solicited from MAG member agency elected officials for the representation of the cities and towns. Ms. McClafferty noted that she was contacted by the Town of Buckeye, the City of Surprise and Maricopa County expressing their interest in serving on this working group. She then presented the subcommittee with a draft mission statement, proposed composition and proposed terms of membership. She noted that bios were also provided to the subcommittee. Ms. McClafferty stated that an agenda item for the MAG JPAC Working Group Composition is on the September 22, 2010 Regional Council agenda.

Mayor Smith stated that he attended the East Valley Partnership meeting and received comments regarding this working group. He noted that we need to get buy-in and emphasis that projects like the proposed Interstate 11 and Punta Colonet will be a benefit to the entire region. Mayor Smith stated that we need to work hard to show this is a regional initiative. Chair Neely agreed. She stated that in her 18 months as Chair of the Regional Council, she worked hard to take down the walls. She stated that if Scottsdale, Mesa, Avondale and Buckeye are healthy, then Phoenix benefits. Chair Neely stated that it is time to start talking about economic development and economic opportunities for this region. There will be numerous issue and they will all be different. Mayor Smith stated that the focus needs to be on the concept. He noted there are benefits to increased interaction with Mexico and our state taking advantage of this new economy. He stated that he was disappointed that his discussions at the East Valley meeting came down to "a road" and they missed the concept. Dennis Smith explained that the success of Proposition 300 and 400 was successful because of the collaboration with the private sector. It is important to include the private sector. He noted that projects such as Interstate 11 north to Las Vegas, Mexico's Punta Colonet and CANAMEX can be elevated through this working group.

Mayor Lane asked what is the purpose of this working group and scope of the committee. He asked if this is a statewide issue. Chair Neely explained that the working group would oversee projects such as the Freight Framework Study, Interstate 11 and Punta Colonet from a regional perspective and through the MAG planning process. Mayor Lopez Rogers stated that she believes a member from the ADOT Board should be on this working group. Chair Neely explained that the working group oversees JPAC issues in the MAG region and ADOT is involved in JPAC. She also expressed her concern about not being able to get things done if the group becomes too large. Mayor Lopez Rogers stated that she feels it is more important to have both ADOT and business members on the working group. Mr. Smith stated that ADOT and State Land are involved in the larger group, JPAC. He noted that the idea for this working group is the focus on the economy in the Maricopa County region, keep the momentum and report back to JPAC, Executive

Committee and Regional Council. Mr. Smith stated that 60 percent of people in the state live in one county and 70 percent of the sales tax comes from one county, Maricopa County. He then suggested maybe someone from the Commerce Committee would be good to have on this working group. Mayor Lane agreed that the business members are important. He stated that both business members as well as elected officials are concerned about local issues. Chair Neely stated that ADOT will be a part of the process through their involvement in the MAG Regional Council. Mayor Smith agreed that we need to keep the momentum going on these issues. Mayor Lane agreed that there should be someone from the Commerce Committee on the working group. Mr. Smith stated that part of the mission is not to have a Plan that sits on the shelf, but to be able to act on issues as they arise. Mayor Lopez Rogers agreed that it will be a challenge to get individuals to see the big picture and that all will benefit. She noted that cities and towns will see where the funding has gone and that there is not rail or bus in all jurisdictions. She stated that she does not want to see jurisdictions working in silos and believes it is important to look at the big picture. Mayor Lane stated that this is an economic issue and not a transportation issue. Mr. Smith commented that nothing will move forward unless you have all the elements, local officials, business members and the state.

Chair Neely asked if the public would like to comment at this point. Councilwoman Sharon Wolcott from the City of Surprise stated that Mayor Smith touched on most of her points. She stated that she did not want to see east versus west and that this is clearly an opportunity to continue to break down walls. She stated that she agrees that the focus now should be on the economy and likes the idea of a representative from the Commerce Committee being on the working group. Councilwoman Wolcott stated that she spoke with Congressman Oberstar and he indicated that nothing like this is in the reauthorization bill, but is asking for ideas like this to come together, maybe as a showcase project. She then stated her concern that the Sun Corridor does not go north to Las Vegas and that they should be an ad hoc voice.

Amy Bratt from the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce (GPCC) stated that she was here on behalf of the GPCC and would like to express their interest in participating in the Joint Planning Advisory Council Working Group. With nearly 3000 members from small businesses to large corporations, this community has a vested interest in the economic development activities of the Greater Phoenix area. She stated that based on a survey of the GPCC members taken in July, the business community is interested in providing input to the business climate, creating additional focus on international services and resources, and presenting more leadership on economic issues and development opportunities. Ms. Bratt stated that as a leader in the local community, the GPCC would appreciate the opportunity to join partners and colleagues as they move toward creating a more optimal economic environment.

Chair Neely thanked both Councilwoman Wolcott and Ms. Bratt for their comments. She asked Ms. Bratt who they would recommend from the GPCC to serve on the working group. Ms. Bratt stated that she would get back to MAG staff with an approved recommendation. Chair Neely asked the subcommittee if they had any other changes or additions to the proposed composition other than adding a representative from the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and the Commerce Committee. Mayor Lopez Rogers suggested that both the vice chair and treasurer of the MAG Regional Council be represented on the working group within the eight MAG member agency positions. The subcommittee agreed. Chair Neely suggested that a quorum be a simple

majority of the Regional Council members on the working group and that use of a proxy is not permitted. She also suggested that if a member misses three (3) consecutive meetings, the position will be considered vacated. The subcommittee agreed.

Mayor Lane moved to approve the composition of the MAG JPAC Working Group as presented with the conditions. Mayor Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chair Neely asked if there were any requests for future agenda items. There were none.

6. Comments from the Committee

Chair Neely asked if there were any comments for the committee members. There were no comments.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith moved to adjourn the Subcommittee meeting. Mayor Lane seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Subcommittee adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Chair

Secretary