

**MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE**

April 6, 2016

MAG Ironwood Room, 2nd Floor  
302 North First Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| # Reza Karimvand, ADOT   | # Faisal Saleem for Nicolaas Swart,<br>Maricopa County                       |
| # Yingyan Lou, ASU<br>Chris Hamilton, City of Avondale                                       | * Avery Rhodes, City of Mesa<br>Steve McKenzie, City of Peoria               |
| # Mike Mah, City of Chandler<br>Sergeant Daniel Williams for Captain<br>Burley Copeland, DPS | Marshall Riegel, City of Phoenix<br>Reginald Fitzpatrick, City of Scottsdale |
| Bryce Christo, City of El Mirage<br>Toni Whitfield, FHWA                                     | Albert Garcia, City of Surprise  |
| * Leslie Bubke, Town of Gilbert<br>Allan Galicia for Debbie Albert, City of<br>Glendale      | # David Lucas, City of Tempe   |
| # Luke Albert, City of Goodyear  | # Suresh Shrivastava for Abhishek Dayal,<br>Valley Metro                     |

**OTHERS PRESENT**

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Farzana Yasmin, ADOT                       | Jim Schoen, Kittelson             |
| Khamchanh Ratsavong, City of<br>Scottsdale | Sandy Thoms, Jacobs               |
| Tom Deitering, FHWA                        | Shanthi Krishnan, Jacobs          |
| Jodi Rooney, ADOT                          | Natalie Carrick, Michael Baker    |
| Mark Poppe, ADOT                           | Don Tappendorf, Michael Baker     |
| Vinay Vanapalli, Stantec                   | Scott Kelley, Amec Foster Wheeler |
| Srini Goundla, PB                          | Paul Porell, RTE                  |
| Arnab Gupta, AECOM                         | Terry Conner, Gannett Fleming     |
| Lisa Burgess, Kimley-Horn                  | Cory Steele, Strand               |
| Don Wiltshire, YSMA                        | Margaret Boone, MAG               |
| Jeff Jenq, OZ Engineering                  | Micah Henry, MAG                  |
| Anita Johari, ASJ Engineering              | Monique de los Rios Urban, MAG    |

- \* Not present or represented by proxy
- # Participated by teleconference
- + Participated by videoconference

1. Call to Order  
Chair Marshall Riegel called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
  
2. Approval of the March 9, 2016 ITS Committee Meeting Minutes  
Chair Riegel requested approval of the meeting minutes from the March 9<sup>th</sup> ITS Committee meeting. **Chris Hamilton from City of Avondale moved, Albert Garcia from City of Surprise seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 9, 2016.**

3. Call to Audience

Chair Riegel made a call to the audience providing an opportunity for any members of the public to address the ITS Committee. No comments were received.

4. Program Manager's Report

Chair Riegel invited Margaret Boone from MAG, proxy for Sarath Joshua, to present the Program Manager's Report. Ms. Boone addressed the following items in the report:

➤ Status of Traffic Signal Optimization Program Projects:

For FY2015 TSOP projects ten out of the eleven projects have been completed. The task order for the final project for the I-10 ICM Final Phase is underway by Lee Engineering. For FY2016 TSOP projects, seven (7) projects, including the Before and After Evaluation and the Synchro training, are underway. The arterial projects are in the Synchro modeling phase and signal timing development. The Synchro Training Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup> through Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM at the MCDOT Training Facility. Invitations will be provided in June.

➤ I-10 ICM Deployment Planning Study Project

Effort for the national ICM Deployment Planning Pilot Project is on-going. The focus of the study is on effective operations and strategies for major incidents and closures on I-10. This includes communications to support enhanced real-time traffic monitoring, supporting freeway-arterial coordination, and traveler information for real-time decision making and route alternatives. Phase 1 included development of the Project Management Plan (PMP) and the System Engineering Management Plan (SEMP) and has been completed. The scope of work for the next phase is being developed. This includes the Concept of Operations (ConOps), the Analysis, Modeling and Simulation (AMS) Plan, and the System Requirements Plan. The PMP and SEMP documents will also be updated. This scope of work will be advertised as a Request for Proposals (RFP) in the near future.

➤ TOPS-BC Workshop

FHWA, ADOT and MAG have collaborated to hold a one-day workshop at MAG on the Tool for Operations Benefit-Cost Analysis (TOPS-BC). This is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM in the MAG Ironwood conference room. There is a capacity of 25 people so interested parties should respond to the RSVP sent by Brent Cain with ADOT. Toni Whitfield with FHWA stated the Excel-based tool will help agencies identify the Benefit-Cost ratios for different operations strategies. As the focus so far has been on Traffic Incident Management (TIM) and Active Traffic Management (ATM), the planning process is identifying the operations component and is currently being updated. Variable Speed Limits (VSL) will also be considered. The invitation will identify the appropriate number of attendees for agencies. The TOPS-BC tool is available to be downloaded and it is requested that attendees bring laptops for demonstrations.

➤ RFP for MAG Systems Management & Operations Plan

A Request for Proposals (RFP) for developing the Systems Management &

Operations (SM&O) Plan was advertised on March 11<sup>th</sup>. The Pre-proposal Conference was held on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Proposals are due on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Following the submissions, proposals will be distributed to the evaluation team and the recommendation for the consultant will be on the May 4<sup>th</sup> ITS Committee meeting agenda as a possible action item. FHWA is about to begin an effort to develop guidelines for TSMO Planning; Sarath Joshua with MAG is in Washington, D.C. to assist in this effort.

5. 2016-2019 MAG ITS On-Call Consultant Qualification

Chair Riegel invited Margaret Boone with MAG to present the recommendations from the evaluation team for the 2016-2019 MAG ITS On-Call. A total of twenty-three (23) proposals were received in response to the MAG Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for ITS On-Call Consulting Services on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The evaluation team consisted of ITS committee members and MAG staff. The panel reviewed the proposals and convened on March 30<sup>th</sup> to develop recommended ranked lists of consultants for each of the five (5) areas of technical expertise identified in the RFQ. In addition to the ITS component the RFQ called for three (3) areas of technical expertise for Safety related projects for which a list of ranked consultants was recommended by the Transportation Safety Committee in March. Ms. Boone referred the committee to Attachment One provided in the agenda packet for the list of the fifteen (15) consultants recommended for each of the areas of expertise.

Committee action was requested to recommend the ranked list of consultants for the MAG ITS On-Call Consulting Services. **Reza Karimvand from ADOT moved, Albert Garcia from City of Surprise seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the recommended ranked list of consultants for the MAG ITS On-Call Consulting Services.**

Ms. Boone thanked those who served on the evaluation team. This recommendation will go before the MAG Management Committee and then Regional Council Executive Committee for approval on April 18, 2016. The resulting new On-Call Services contracts are expected to be in place by the end of August 2016.

6. Buy America Compliance Requirements

Chair Riegel invited Tom Deitering with FHWA and Jodi Rooney with ADOT to discuss the potential impacts of recent changes for procurement of federally funded projects. On January 11, 2016, ADOT released a memo that stated all local public agencies administering Federal-Aid projects must ensure Buy America-compliance for all steel and iron manufactured products.

The current regulatory requirements state that all manufacturing processes for steel and iron materials must take place in the U.S. Expansion of these requirements to the federal-aid program projects occurred in 1991, 1998, and 2012. Oversight issues were introduced with the development of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects. To mitigate these issues FHWA issued a technical memorandum in December 2012 for clarification. Requirements were upheld but regulations did not apply to manufactured products that are not predominantly steel or iron (90% steel and/or iron content), and miscellaneous steel or iron components necessary to encase, assemble, and construct manufactured products.

The 2012 FHWA memo established Buy America requirements to include these new clarifications. In February of 2013, a group of eight (8) manufacturing corporations and labor unions filed a petition for review, citing concerns regarding the loss of Buy America coverage. In response, a Federal Register Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was issued with a request for comments to gain a better understanding of implementation issues. Comments were received by Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) advocates, public agencies, steel manufacturers and labor unions.

In December 2015, the US District Court granted the Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgement ruling that; setting the 90% threshold was a substantive rule implemented without appropriate notice and comment, that the threshold was arbitrary and capricious, and that the miscellaneous products exception was also substantive. In January 2016, FHWA withdrew the 2012 memo noting that recipients must use the existing policies in place. Contracting agencies should take reasonable steps to implement the revision consistent with their procurement process. FHWA is still reviewing the revised process, but has provided their field offices with minimum guidance at this time. There are still enforcement concerns on how to verify compliance and specific policies are in place for justification of waivers. The local FHWA division office does not have the authority of approval for waiver requests. Approval comes from the Office of the Secretary of Transportation.

The committee discussed concerns and implications of this requirement on federally funded ITS projects in the MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The impact of these revisions is not yet known. Margaret Boone with MAG inquired on the process of submitting requests and concerns. Project-level inquiries or issues should be submitted to Jodi Rooney with ADOT. Comments or questions in general should be submitted to Toni Whitfield with FHWA. Marshall Riegel looked for clarification of a non-steel/iron casing held together with steel/iron bolts. Mr. Deitering stated that the bolts would be subject to Buy America requirements and that aluminum poles are frequent concerns. Buy America requirements apply at every stage of manufacturing and production. Jodi Rooney with ADOT agreed with FHWA. Faisal Saleem with MCDOT stated that waivers are commonly requested for vehicles purchased by agencies. FHWA will review to provide guidance.

#### 7. Reports by Committee Members

Chair Riegel called on members to report items of interest to the committee. Albert Garcia with City of Surprise stated that the Bell Road and Grand Avenue intersection improvement project was kicked-off, including a full closure of the intersection. He recognized MAG staff, specifically Ryan Gish, City of Peoria, and Maricopa County for a successful collaboration to establish a redundant link for the Regional Community Network (RCN) and cities' signal systems communication. He stated that Ryan Gish with MAG was assisting City staff well into the evening to aid this effort. Faisal Saleem with MCDOT echoed the praise of the collaboration for establishing communications for monitoring and signal timing coordination. Toni Whitfield with FHWA, reminded Committee members of the SHRP2 Implementation Assistance Program has been announced. Applications are due at the end of April, with the selection completed by June.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items  
Chair Riegel called on members to request future agenda items. There were no requests.
9. Next Meeting Date and Place  
Chair Riegel noted that the next meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 4, 2016, in the Ironwood Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) at MAG.
10. Adjournment  
Chair Riegel adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.