

MINUTES OF THE
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
February 8, 2012
MAG Office - Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Charlie Meyer, Tempe, Chair	John Fischbach, Goodyear
David Cavazos, Phoenix, Vice Chair	* Bill Hernandez, Guadalupe
# George Hoffman, Apache Junction	Darryl Crossman, Litchfield Park
Charlie McClendon, Avondale	Christopher Brady, Mesa
# Stephen Cleveland, Buckeye	* Jim Bacon, Paradise Valley
Gary Neiss, Carefree	Carl Swenson, Peoria
Wayne Anderson for Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek	John Kross, Queen Creek
Rich Dlugas, Chandler	* Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Dr. Spencer Isom, El Mirage	David Richert, Scottsdale
Alfonso Rodriguez for Phil Dorchester, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation	Chris Hillman, Surprise
# Julie Ghetti, Fountain Hills	Reyes Medrano, Tolleson
Rick Buss, Gila Bend	Joshua Wright, Wickenburg
* David White, Gila River Indian Community	Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
Leah Hubbard for Patrick Banger, Gilbert	Floyd Roehrich for John Halikowski, ADOT
Brent Stoddard for Ed Beasley, Glendale	John Hauskins for David Smith, Maricopa Co. Bryan Jungwirth, Valley Metro/RPTA

* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

Participated by telephone conference call. + Participated by videoconference call.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Charlie Meyer at 12:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chair Meyer noted that George Hoffman, Stephen Cleveland, and Julie Ghetti were participating in the meeting via teleconference.

Chair Meyer noted that the previously transmitted addendum to the agenda (item #5H) and a Legislative Summary for agenda item #9 were at each place.

Chair Meyer announced that public comment cards were available to members of the public who wish to comment. Chair Meyer noted that parking validation was available from staff and transit tickets were available from Valley Metro/RPTA for those using transit to come to the meeting.

3. Call to the Audience

Chair Meyer stated that Call to the Audience provides an opportunity to the public to address the Management Committee on 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. Chair Meyer noted that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard. Public comments have a three minute time limit. 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.

Chair Meyer recognized public comment from Dianne Barker. Chair Meyer expressed that he was pleased that Ms. Barker was at the meeting because he had not seen her in a while. Ms. Barker noted that her attendance at MAG meetings was impacted by situations that affected her physically. She pointed out that buses are federally funded and are not supposed to be damaged. Ms. Barker stated that there is a lot of overgrown vegetation along bus routes and she requested that cities have a staff person ride along and see where vegetation could cause problems. She noted that bus drivers are required to observe time points at bus stops and she noted that the lack of bus pullouts causes traffic congestion. Ms. Barker requested that staff look at whether the buses are being kept too long at stops. She referenced bilateral trade with Mexico and stated her support for elevated freight and passenger rail through Arizona to Las Vegas. Ms. Barker stated that a big project is needed for the economy and this would be suitable. She added that Secretary La Hood is a supporter of elevated rail, but he will not be in his position forever. Chair Meyer thanked Ms. Barker for her comments.

4. Executive Director's Report

Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, reported on items of interest in the MAG region. Mr. Smith noted that at the last Management Committee meeting, he spoke of the "Planning for the Next 100 Years" aging conference that will be held February 15, 2012, at the Phoenix Convention Center. He said that 252 people to date have registered for the event, where an expert from the Atlanta Regional Commission will discuss best practices. Mr. Smith noted that older residents were surveyed on what they are looking for in senior care and the results could be presented at the March Management Committee meeting.

Mr. Smith announced that the MAG Domestic Violence Protocol Evaluation Project had been awarded a \$160,000 grant from the Governor's office. He said that more than 500 law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, and victim advocates have been involved in this effort to address misdemeanor and felony-level domestic violence crimes. Mr. Smith stated that many project partners, cities and towns have been involved in the project.

Mr. Smith noted that MAG is leading the way in innovative practices. He announced that MAG was published in the *Transportation Research Board Journal* for Innovative Methods for

Collecting Data and for Modeling Travel Related to Special Events. Mr. Smith acknowledged the MAG modeling team: Vladimir Livshits, Lavanya Vallabhaneni, and Ted Brown, assisted by MAG consultants, Cambridge Systematics and Kathy DeBoer from WestGroup Research.

Mr. Smith reported that new features on the Greater Phoenix Rising website have now been activated. He acknowledged the efforts of MAG staff Kelly Taft, Jason Stephens, Matt Nielsen, Gordon Tyus, Anubhav Bagley, Jami Garrison, Shannon Acevedo, Peter Burnett, Amanda Stanko, Mark Roberts, Russell Miles, Chandana Malempati, and Denise McClafferty, and MAG Associate Gary Stafford. Mr. Smith stated that he did not know of another metropolitan planning organization that has married its data with its regional development. He offered a demonstration of the website, and noted that reports can be viewed on such topics as high tech jobs, weather and natural disasters, lifestyles, commute times and education. Mr. Smith stated that one innovative map is the childcare locations, which is of importance to prospective business owners. He requested that member agencies offer a link on their websites to the Greater Phoenix Rising website, and he explained that the more links to a site, the higher the incidence of search results. Mr. Smith then played the video that had been produced for the website. He noted that suggestions for improving the website are always welcome.

Chair Meyer thanked Mr. Smith for his report. No questions for Mr. Smith were noted.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Meyer stated that agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, and #5H were on the Consent Agenda. No requests for public comment were received.

Mr. Crossman moved to recommend approval of #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, and #5H. Mr. Buss seconded. Chair Meyer asked if there was any discussion of the motion. Being none, the vote on the motion passed unanimously.

5A. Approval of January 11, 2012, Meeting Minutes

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, approved the January 11, 2012, meeting minutes.

5B. ADOT Red Letter Process

In June of 1996, the MAG Regional Council approved the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Red Letter process, which requires MAG member agencies to notify ADOT of potential development activities in freeway alignments. Development activities include actions on plans, zoning and permits. ADOT has forwarded a list of notifications from July 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011. Of the 70 notices received, none had an impact to the State Highway System.

5C. FY 2013 MAG Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the fiscal year (FY) 2013 MAG Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan. The federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requires the

establishment of a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan for all Federal Transit Administration programs for underserved populations: the Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities program (Section 5310); the Job Access and Reverse Commute program (Section 5316); and the New Freedom program (Section 5317). Since 2007, MAG has updated this coordination plan annually in compliance with this requirement. The FY 2013 MAG Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan was recommended for approval by the MAG Human Services Technical Committee on January 12, 2012, and the MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee on January 25, 2012.

5D. Recommendation to the Arizona Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School Program

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the ranked list of projects for submission to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Safe Routes to School Program. The ADOT Safe Routes to School Program provides annual grants for road safety improvement projects that are related to access to schools. The program provides grants to public and non-profit agencies for projects that improve road safety and encourage more K-8 children to walk or bike to their neighborhood schools. This is the sixth cycle of the program, and grants will be provided to projects that implement infrastructure improvements as well as projects that would involve education, training and encouragement. In response to the ADOT request for proposals announced in October 2011, a total of 16 project applications from the MAG region were received by ADOT. The ADOT proposal review process stipulates that MPOs and COGs must recommend a ranked list of projects to ADOT by February 24, 2012. These recommendations will be considered by a statewide Safe Routes to School panel that will make a final recommendation to ADOT. The MAG Transportation Safety Committee reviewed all project proposals, and on January 24, 2012, recommended a ranked list of projects from the region as the MAG recommendation to ADOT.

5E. Update on the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is in the process of preparing information for the Draft MAG 2012 Five Percent Plan for PM-10 regarding their commitments to assess the effectiveness of the voluntary and emerging control measure (Dust Action General Permit) and to provide a plan revision to incorporate changes to the Agricultural Best Management Practices Program. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is informally reviewing the technical aspects of the plan. Once these items are addressed, the draft plan document will be completed. In addition, the region needs three years of clean data as measured by the monitors for EPA to determine that the standard has been met. It is critical for the MAG member agencies to maintain their aggressive efforts to prevent exceedances at the monitors and throughout the region. To date in 2012, there have been two PM-10 exceptional event exceedances due to a frontal high wind system on January 21, 2012, and residual dust on January 22, 2012. ADEQ is continuing to prepare the documentation for the 21 days of exceptional events in 2011 with technical assistance from Maricopa County and MAG staff. The documentation for the first group of exceptional events for July 2-8, 2011, will be available for a 30 day public comment period in February and then submitted officially in March 2012. Due to the extensive documentation required, ADEQ will be hiring a consultant to prepare the documentation for the remaining 12 packages of exceptional events for 2011.

5F. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment and administrative modification involve several projects, including the deferral, deletion, and advancement of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality projects for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014. The amendment includes projects that may be categorized as exempt from conformity determinations. The administrative modification includes minor project revisions that do not require a conformity determination. Comments were requested by February 17, 2012.

5G. Social Services Block Grant Allocation Recommendations

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) allocation recommendations for FY 2013 to be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Economic Security. Through a partnership with the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), the MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee prioritizes services to receive funding with locally planned Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) dollars. Services funded by SSBG support assistance to the most vulnerable people in the region, including four target groups of Older Adults; People with Disabilities; People with Developmental Disabilities; and Adults, Families, and Children. Upon completion of research and a service ranking exercise, it is proposed to move \$118,654 to the highest priority services. On January 25, 2012, the MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee voted to recommend approval of the FY 2013 SSBG allocation recommendations. The MAG Human Services Technical Committee voted to recommend approval of the SSBG recommendations on January 12, 2012.

5H. Amendment to the Elliot D. Pollack and Company Contract for the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative in the Amount of \$60,000

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval to amend the Elliot D. Pollack and Company contract by \$60,000 to conduct the additional work for the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative and other MAG efforts. On November 14, 2011, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee approved the selection of Elliot D. Pollack and Company to conduct the analysis needed to support the selection of the lead initiative in the Metropolitan Business Planning effort. The purpose of the amendment is to seek additional expertise in providing a national and global perspective of the economic strategies for this region, and also to extend the amount of time that Elliot D. Pollack and Company can be engaged in the Metropolitan Business Planning effort beyond the data collection and analysis. Elliot D. Pollack and Company will subcontract with Michael Gallis and Associates to analyze existing MAG efforts, such as the Metropolitan Business Planning Initiative, the Freight Transportation Framework Study and the Thunderbird efforts. This and other information will be used to create the foundation for the Greater Phoenix region to better position itself in the global network and to enhance the strategic process capable of producing results. It is anticipated that in June 2012, the results of the subcontractor effort will be a written report and findings presented to MAG and other economic development groups.

6. Development of the FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Becky Kimbrough, MAG Fiscal Services Manager, provided a report on the development of the FY 2013 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. She noted that the draft timeline and dues and assessments were presented last month. Ms. Kimbrough stated that the material in this month's agenda packet included the draft dues and assessments, the timeline for budget development, the budget webinar invitation, and the proposed new projects narratives and cost estimates. She advised that the majority of new projects are ongoing projects such as Don't Trash Arizona and air quality technical assistance on-call, and some are for the second phases of projects, such as the Managed Lanes Network Development Strategy. Ms. Kimbrough stated that early input through April into the development of the Work Program is requested.

Chair Meyer thanked Ms. Kimbrough for her report. No questions from the committee were noted.

7. MAG Federally Funded Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report

Eileen Yazzie, Transportation Planning Project Manager, stated that the Federally Funded Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report is a part of the approved MAG Federal Fund Programming Guidelines & Procedures. She noted that because project development is usually a two-year process, new this year is the inclusion of two years of projects – those that are scheduled to obligate in federal fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

Ms. Yazzie stated that this status report contains 93 projects. Of the 47 projects programmed to obligate in FFY 2012, 12 are requesting a deferral to a later year, four are requesting to be deleted or have funds reprogrammed, six are requesting a project change, and 31 are projected to obligate based on the schedule submitted. Of the 46 projects programmed to obligate in FFY 2013, two are requesting to be advanced to FFY 2012, 12 are requesting a deferral to a later year, four are requesting to be deleted or have funds reprogrammed, two are requesting a project change, and the rest are projected to obligate in FFY 2013 based on the schedule submitted. Ms. Yazzie noted that the full status report is posted on the MAG website.

Chair Meyer thanked Ms. Yazzie for her report. No questions from the committee were noted.

Mr. Kross moved to recommend approval of federal fund projects to be deferred, deleted, advanced, and changed; and of the necessary amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and as appropriate, to the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. Mr. Swenson seconded, and the motion passed with Mr. Roehrich abstaining.

8. Tier 3 - Closeout Priorities for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012

Ms. Yazzie presented a report on Tier 3 funding, which is made available through unprogrammed, deleted, and unobligated funding. She noted that the agenda material includes a summary transmittal, memorandum, tables of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Program (STP) program projects, and the Scenario #4 recommendation by the

Transportation Review Committee. Ms. Yazzie noted that this process is in accordance with the approved MAG Federal Fund Programming Guidelines & Procedures.

Ms. Yazzie stated that this process was usually conducted in the April to June timeframe annually, but due to the approval of the MAG Federal Fund Programming Guidelines & Procedures, the process has been moved up. She advised that additionally, ADOT sent notification that the deadline for all signed agreements and clearances has been moved up to June 30. Ms. Yazzie noted that MAG is in a good position right now for addressing closeout.

Ms. Yazzie stated that approximately \$60 million in CMAQ and almost \$100 million in STP funds need to obligate. Ms. Yazzie stated that the amount of federal funds available for FFY 2012 is an estimate only and is subject to change, but is anticipated to be the final amount.

Ms. Yazzie then addressed the program of projects. She stated that from the Federally Funded Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report, the CMAQ and STP projects that will obligate this year are known. Ms. Yazzie stated that they are not recommending programming any additional projects with STP funds because the STP amount is currently just an estimate. She noted that there is still a fairly large balance of \$36 million in CMAQ funds.

Ms. Yazzie stated that the Transportation Review Committee worked on developing a scenario over two meetings and recommended Scenario #4. She said there is about \$58 million in CMAQ projects to obligate and the TRC recommended increasing their federal funds by about \$14 million to \$72.8 million and flexing the remaining balance of \$22.3 million to transit. Ms. Yazzie noted that once the funds are flexed from FHWA to FTA, they are considered obligated and are off the books.

Ms. Yazzie stated that the MAG Transit Committee is meeting the next day and will be discussing how to program the funds to transit. She said there are two viable options, replacing buses and funding light rail.

Chair Meyer thanked Ms. Yazzie for her report and asked if there were questions.

Mr. Jungwirth expressed appreciation for the \$22 million, which he said could not come at a better time. He noted that due to budget deficits of about \$100 million, transit was considering implementing a fare increase and reductions in service this July. Mr. Jungwirth indicated that making up the deficits with a reduction in service would result in a decrease of eight percent in transit miles. Mr. Jungwirth stated that transit appreciates and needs these funds. He stated that one of the options the Transit Committee could recommend is reprogramming the funds toward preventive maintenance which means that the money will go back to those communities that invest in transit. Mr. Jungwirth stated that this appeared to be an equitable option for the funds.

Mr. Roehrlich expressed appreciation for the great work staff did on this. He said that he would abstain on the votes for these issues because they still need to go through the ADOT process and ultimately to the State Transportation Board. Mr. Roehrlich stated that ADOT staff appreciates the work by MAG staff and is fully in agreement on a staff level.

Mr. Buss moved to recommend approval of Scenario #4: fund projects that will obligate in FFY 2012 at a 50 percent increase of the federal share, up to 100 percent of project costs, with an additional \$293,000 of federal fund to CHN12-805, and the remaining balance is flexed to transit, with projects and priorities developed at a later time to Closeout Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012; and of the necessary amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and as appropriate, to the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. Mr. Jungwirth seconded, and the motion passed, with Mr. Roehrich abstaining.

9. Legislative Update

Nathan Pryor reported on legislative issues of interest. He first reported on the Gila River Indian Community referendum on the South Mountain Freeway. Mr. Pryor stated that in 2009, the Gila River Indian Community's then-Lt. Governor Joseph Manuel expressed interest in looking at an on-reservation alignment for the freeway. He stated that the Gila River Indian Community's then-Governor William Rhodes sent a letter to Governor Brewer expressing interest. Mr. Pryor stated that since 2010, Gila River Indian Community, ADOT, and MAG staff have been working on a potential alignment. He said that the Community brought the issue through its process and the Tribal Council decided on having a referendum. Mr. Pryor stated that on February 7, 2012, community members went to the polls and out of 1,481 votes cast, 603 voted to build the freeway on Pecos Road, 158 voted to not build the freeway on community land, and 720 voted for no-build. Mr. Pryor stated that the next steps are to complete the environmental impact statement on the Pecos Road alignment, receive a record of decision in 2013, and begin construction in 2015. Mr. Pryor expressed his appreciation to Gila River Indian Community Manager David White for his efforts and professionalism during this process.

Mr. Smith expressed his appreciation also to Mr. Pryor, MAG Senior Engineer Bob Hazlett, and ADOT Deputy State Engineer Rob Samour, who worked with David White. He said that the Gila River Indian Community has now given its answer and now the environmental impact statement needs to be completed to receive a record of decision. Mr. Smith stated that the South Mountain Freeway, along with the Loop 303, is a legacy project, having been approved by the voters back in 1985. He said that it is time to move forward and build the freeway.

Chair Meyer asked members if they had questions on this section of the report. None were noted.

Mr. Pryor stated that a bill summary of state legislation was at each place. He said that he would not be reviewing each bill today, and requested that members let him know if they had questions.

Mr. Pryor then reported on reauthorization of federal transportation funding, which currently is authorized through March. He said that House and Senate versions are moving through each body. Mr. Pryor stated that there are concerns for MPO provisions and transit funding in the House version. In addition, there are political considerations, such as the pipeline. Mr. Pryor stated that there are also concerns for the MPO provisions in the Senate version which provides more authority to states.

Mr. Pryor stated that there are challenges to reauthorization in 2012, for example, a lot of work would be needed to combine the House and Senate versions into one bill and there are primaries

and the presidential election in 2012. Mr. Pryor noted that the National Association of Regional Councils thinks an extension is more likely than reauthorization in 2012.

Chair Meyer thanked Mr. Pryor for his report. No questions from the committee were noted.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the Management Committee would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting were requested.

No requests from the committee were noted.

11. Comments from the Committee

An opportunity was provided for Management Committee members to present a brief summary of current events. The Management Committee is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

No comments from the committee were noted.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Crossman moved, Mr. Buss seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Chair

Secretary