

MINUTES OF THE
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
January 6, 2016
MAG Office, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

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| Jim Rumpeltes for Darryl H. Crossman,
Litchfield Park | # Gregory Rose, City of Maricopa |
| Ed Zuercher, Phoenix, Vice Chair | Christopher Brady, Mesa |
| Bryant Powell, Apache Junction | Kevin Burke, Paradise Valley |
| David Fitzhugh, Avondale | Carl Swenson, Peoria |
| # Stephen Cleveland, Buckeye | # Louis Andersen for Greg Stanley, Pinal
County |
| # Gary Neiss, Carefree | John Kross, Queen Creek |
| * Peter Jankowski, Cave Creek | * Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community |
| Marsha Reed, Chandler | * Fritz Behring, Scottsdale |
| Dr. Spencer Isom, El Mirage | Rick Buss for Bob Wingenroth, Surprise |
| Brent Billingsley, Florence | Andrew Ching, Tempe |
| Alfonso Rodriguez for Phil Dorchester, Fort
McDowell Yavapai Nation | * Reyes Medrano, Jr., Tolleson |
| Grady Miller, Fountain Hills | Joshua Wright, Wickenburg |
| # Ernest Rubi, Gila Bend | * Jeanne Blackman, Youngtown |
| * Tina Notah, Gila River Indian Community | Sintra Hoffman for John Halikowski,
ADOT |
| Marc Skocypec for Patrick Banger, Gilbert | Joy Rich for Tom Manos, Maricopa County |
| # Jenna Goad for Dick Bowers, Glendale | John Farry for Eric Anderson, Valley
Metro/RPTA |
| Brian Dalke, Goodyear | |
| # Rosemary Arellano, Guadalupe | |
- * Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
Participated by telephone conference call. + Participated by videoconference call.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the MAG Management Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Ed Zuercher, Phoenix, at 12:04 p.m.

Vice Chair Zuercher noted that Mr. Darryl H. Crossman is in great spirits and is working from home. He stated that Mr. Crossman appreciates all of the prayers and good wishes and hopes to be back at work soon. Vice Chair Zuercher encouraged members to send their greetings to Mr. Crossman.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ms. Rosemary Arellano, Mr. Louis Andersen, Mr. Stephen Cleveland, Ms. Jenna Goad, Mr. Gary Neiss, Mr. Gregory Rose, and Mr. Ernest Rubi joined the meeting via teleconference.

Vice Chair Zuercher welcomed the new Florence Town Manager, Mr. Brent Billingsley, to the Management Committee.

3. Call to the Audience

Vice Chair Zuercher recognized public comment from Ms. Dianne Barker, who stated that she traveled to the Fiesta Bowl game by bicycle and light rail. She stated that she is a former Ohio State cheerleader and met the current cheerleaders at the game. Ms. Barker stated that she could still demonstrate cartwheels and splits, but did not tell them MAG has told her not to do them in MAG meeting rooms. She suggested that shuttles be added to make it easier for people to use transit and we need to do more with less. Ms. Barker stated that new federal legislation includes nine percent additional transit funding and \$500 million in TIGER grants in 2016. She stated that she would try to use transit to attend the January 8 Sun Corridor meeting. Ms. Barker spoke of the Arizona-Canada week in February. She said this is a long time coming because we have had the CANAMEX corridor and added that trade is needed. She wished everyone a Happy New Year. Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Barker.

Vice Chair Zuercher recognized public comment from Mr. Marvin Rochelle, who indicated that he was normally not combative, but was approached by a person who said to him that Dial-a-Ride was a waste of time and money. Mr. Rochelle stated that this region has upwards of 110,000 people who are older than 65 years of age or have disabilities. He stated that this region needs Dial-a-Ride so people can travel across the region conveniently. Mr. Rochelle stated that currently, it would take him more than four hours to take transit from his home at 103rd Avenue and Indian School Road in Phoenix to Gilbert. He said that he has been working on implementing Dial-a-Ride in this region and it almost happened in 2008, but the economy crashed. Mr. Rochelle expressed appreciation for the support for Dial-a-Ride. Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Mr. Rochelle.

4. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, reported on items of interest to the MAG region. He noted that the opening of the Northwest Light Rail Extension is anticipated for March 19, 2016.

Mr. Smith stated that Pro Mexico office has opened in Phoenix, which is one of 48 Pro Mexico offices located in 31 countries. Mr. Smith stated that working with Mexico has been one of the concepts of the MAG Economic Development Committee since its formation five years ago. Mr. Smith stated that the office will work on promoting exports from Arizona to Mexico.

Mr. Smith stated that the founder of MAG, Mr. Jack DeBolske, recently received the Legacy Award from the ASU Morrison Institute. Mr. Smith noted that he worked 20 years for Mr.

DeBolske, who will be remembered for his efforts on the Groundwater Act and the Proposition 300 election.

Mr. Smith stated that work continues on the Tourism and Shopping Initiative (formerly the Border Crossing Card). He stated that shoppers and visitors from Mexico spend approximately \$181 million statewide each year. Mr. Smith stated that a meeting with the field command will follow the January 8, 2016, Joint Planning Advisory Council meeting in Tucson.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG recently hosted a meeting of regional planning agencies in the state and provided presentations on best practices.

Mr. Smith stated that a meeting of the Joint Planning Advisory Council called “The Sun Corridor - A Connected Economy” will take place on January 8, 2016, at the Tucson Convention Center. Mr. Smith noted that more than 150 people have registered. He stated that 85 percent of Arizona’s economy is generated by three counties: Maricopa, Pinal, and Pima. Mr. Smith stated that the majority of people in a recent survey indicated they care mainly about the environment and the economy, and this meeting is to discuss plans for the corridor. Mr. Smith stated that event presenters will include representatives from the Sonoran Institute and the Utah Chamber of Commerce and Department of Transportation. He remarked that a solution to fund the Arizona Department of Public Safety is needed. Last year, the Governor’s budget included an increase to the vehicle registration fee for this purpose, but it was not implemented.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG staff participated in a videoconference with Toulouse Metropole (a region in France similar in size to the MAG region). He noted that videoconferencing allowed meeting attendees to meet without having to travel. Discussion included the economic overview of the regions and mutual areas of interest. Mr. Smith noted that the next videoconference call will focus on health care, bioscience, and pharmaceutical sectors in the regions. He added that economic development staff from member agencies might work with MAG on this effort.

Mr. Smith stated that Arizona Canada Week will take place February 6-14, 2016. He noted that MAG elected officials will be receiving invitations to some of the scheduled events.

Mr. Smith stated that the annual Point-in-Time Homeless Street Count will take place on January 26, 2016. He noted that approximately 500 volunteers for the count are needed. Mr. Smith noted that the results of the count are very important because the numbers will be used in obtaining grants for homeless programs. Mr. Smith stated that MAG will be sending out information on volunteering opportunities.

Mr. Smith announced that the Desert Peaks Awards evening will take place after the June 22, 2016, MAG Regional Council meeting. He noted that the award nomination forms are available on the MAG website.

Mr. Smith stated that Code Day is February 13-14, 2016, to teach children computer coding. He stated that mentors and youth are needed for the event. Mr. Smith stated that a coupon will be provided so that children can participate at no cost to them.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Vice Chair Zuercher stated that agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, #5I, #5J, and #5K were on the Consent Agenda.

Vice Chair Zuercher asked members if they had questions or requests to hear a presentation on any of the Consent Agenda items.

No questions were noted. No public comment cards were received.

Vice Chair Zuercher called for a motion to recommend approval of Consent Agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, #5I, #5J, and #5K.

Mr. Kevin Burke moved, Mr. Rick Buss seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5A. Approval of the November 18, 2015, Meeting Minutes

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, approved the November 18, 2015, meeting minutes.

5B. MAG Federally Funded, Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended acceptance of the MAG Federally Funded, Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report. A Project Development Status Report is produced twice each year, and project changes are completed quarterly or as needed. Monitoring of member agency project schedules within the Status Report, and the assurance by each agency that their project(s) will obligate federal funds as noted in the federally approved Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) listing, assist with ensuring that the regional suballocation of federal funds will be utilized and not swept from the region. The Project Status Report also assists with providing needed information in preparation of closing out Federal Highway Administration funding for the current year. On December 17, 2015, the MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended acceptance of the Report.

5C. Programming of Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School Projects in FY 2017

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of a list of six Safe Routes to School projects for FY 2017 in the total amount of \$260,407 of Transportation Alternatives Program funding to be added to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, the draft FY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program, and the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan as appropriate. Through prior MAG action, a total of \$400,000 in Transportation Alternatives funds is set aside each fiscal year for Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure projects. A call for qualifying projects was issued in August 2015 to program \$508,057 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 (includes \$108,057 moved to FY 2017 from earlier cycles). Six Safe Routes to School project applications were received requesting a total of \$260,407 in FY 2017. On November 17, 2015, the MAG Transportation Safety Committee reviewed and

recommended approval of a list of Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School projects. Since this recommendation will not result in the programming of all available funds, remaining Transportation Alternatives/Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure funds will be transferred to the Transportation Alternatives Program to be used to program infrastructure projects for FY 2018-2020. On December 17, 2015, the MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended approval of the six projects to receive funding.

5D. Request for Connection to the Regional Community Network

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the revisions to the Regional Community Network Roles and Responsibilities document. MAG recently received a request from Arizona State University (ASU), with sponsorship from the City of Tempe, to obtain a connection to the Regional Community Network (RCN) fiber optic communications backbone. This connection would enable the ASU Traffic Engineering Laboratory to get access to traffic data from a partnering local agency for research purposes. Such a request cannot be approved within the Roles and Responsibilities document as approved by the Regional Council. This request was discussed at meetings of a Working Group and the MAG Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and MAG Technology Advisory Group (TAG) committees. Steps necessary to address member agency concerns were noted. The RCN Roles and Responsibilities document has been revised based on discussion, and changes have been incorporated as necessary to accommodate this and similar requests in the future. A draft letter of authorization is also provided. On December 2, 2015, a joint session of the MAG ITS Committee and the MAG TAG recommended approval. On December 17, 2015, the MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended approval.

5E. Arterial Life Cycle Program Status Report: April 2015 - November 2015

The Arterial Life Cycle Program Status Report provides detail about the status of projects, revenues, and other relevant program information for the period between April 2015 and November 2015. This is the program's twenty-second status report and the first published in Fiscal Year 2016.

5F. Recommendation of Projects for the MAG FY 2016 Traffic Signal Optimization Program

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the list of FY 2016 Traffic Signal Optimization Program projects. On October 7, 2015, MAG announced a call for new projects for the FY 2016 Traffic Signal Optimization Program (TSOP). The budget available for new TSOP projects is \$300,000. A total of six project applications was received. On December 2, 2015, the MAG Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Committee reviewed all applications and recommended all six of the proposed projects and two additional projects that would involve performing before-and-after evaluations and a workshop to provide training on traffic signal timing software. These projects would help improve traffic signal coordination along a number of major arterial corridors in addition to freeway-arterial coordination in the Interstate 10 corridor. The total estimated cost for all eight projects is estimated to be \$304,000. An additional \$10,000 is available in TSOP funds carried over from FY 2015. All projects will be

carried out using MAG on-call consultants. On December 17, 2015, the MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended approval.

5G. Federal Fiscal Year 2015 Year End Actuals Report of Federal Highway Administration Suballocated MAG Regional Funds, and Evaluation of Estimated Federal Fiscal Year 2016 Funding Levels

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 Federal Highway Administration funding that was suballocated to the MAG region includes Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program, Surface Transportation Program, Highway Safety Improvement Program, Transportation Alternatives, and planning funds and programs. Final amounts for those funding allocations and project authorizations were reported by the Arizona Department of Transportation in October 2015. An update is being provided for the FFY 2015 year end actuals and an estimated outlook for FFY 2016 funding.

5H. Programming of Paving Unpaved Road Projects for MAG Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program Funding in the Draft FY 2017-2021 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the list of FY 2018 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funded Paving Unpaved Road projects to be added to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement, and to add the lists of FY 2018, 2019, and 2020 Paving Unpaved Road projects to the Draft FY 2017-2021 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan as appropriate. MAG is developing a new Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A call for projects was announced in August 2015 and the results from the evaluation and prioritization process for the Paving of Unpaved Road projects funded with the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds have been generated. The lists of FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2020 CMAQ funded Paving Unpaved Road projects were recommended for approval on November 10, 2015, by the MAG Street Committee, and on December 17, 2015, by the MAG Transportation Review Committee.

5I. Programming of Intelligent Transportation Systems Projects for MAG Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program Funding in the Draft FY 2017-2021 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the list of FY 2018 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funded Intelligent Transportation Systems projects to be added to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and to add the lists of FY 2018 and 2019 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funded projects to the Draft FY 2017-2021 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan as appropriate. MAG is developing a new Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A call for projects was announced in August 2015 and the results from the evaluation process are included for the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) projects that are funded with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds. The lists of FY 2018 and FY 2019 CMAQ funded ITS projects were recommended for approval on December 2, 2015, by the ITS Committee, and on December 17, 2015, by the MAG Transportation Review Committee.

5J. Programming of the Pinal County Surface Transportation Program Projects in Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2020

The MAG Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval to award full requested Surface Transportation Program funding to the Gilbert Road project and partial requested Surface Transportation Program funding to the Southern Avenue project in the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, draft FY 2017 - FY 2021 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan as appropriate. Inclusion of the Southern Avenue project is contingent on a new finding of air quality conformity, anticipated in June 2016. MAG is developing a new Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). On August 10, 2015, MAG released a call for projects for the Pinal County Surface Transportation Program. An estimated \$1.620 million is available for FY 2018 and FY 2020. Three project applications were received by the September 21, 2015, due date. On October 13, 2015, the MAG Street Committee reviewed the applications and deemed one ineligible for funding under the program and had questions concerning the data in the two remaining project applications. The Street Committee requested that the agencies provide additional information at the next meeting. On November 10, 2015, the Street Committee reviewed the updated applications. The two remaining project applications received an identical project score based on the committee's technical review, program measures, and evaluative weights. At the meeting, the Gila River Indian Community indicated that it would not be able to proceed with its Gilbert Road project with partial funding. The City of Apache Junction subsequently indicated that it would be able to go forward with its Southern Avenue project with partial funding. On December 17, 2015, the MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended approval to award full requested funding to the Gilbert Road project and partial requested funding to the Southern Avenue project.

5K. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. The amendment and administrative modification involve several projects, including miscellaneous highway projects, transit projects, as well as Transportation Alternatives Program/Safe Routes to School, Paving Unpaved Road, Intelligent Transportation System, and Pinal County Surface Transportation Program projects for fiscal years 2017 and 2018. 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.

6. Status Update on the June 30, 2015 Single Audit and Management Letter Comments, MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and OMB Circular A-133 Reports (i.e., "Single Audit") for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015

Ms. Becky Kimbrough, MAG staff, stated that CliftonLarsonAllen LLP has completed the audit of MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Single Audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. She noted that a copy of the CAFR was included in the agenda packet. Ms. Kimbrough introduced Mr. Dennis O'Such, Principal of the accounting firm of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP.

Mr. O'Such stated that his firm conducted both the Single Audit Report of major federal programs and financial statement. For the Financial Statement Audit, his firm issued an unmodified opinion that it was in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Mr. O'Such stated that for the Single Audit Report they issue two reports. The first report is the Government Auditing Standards Report, in which they do not issue an opinion, but do report on internal controls related to the financial statements. Mr. O'Such indicated they found no significant deficiencies nor material weaknesses. He said that the second report is the OMB Compliance Supplement and they provide an opinion on compliance with major federal programs and issue an unmodified or clean opinion and report on internal controls as they relate to major federal programs. Mr. O'Such indicated they found no significant deficiencies nor material weaknesses.

Mr. O'Such stated that the Fiscal Year 2014 finding related to documenting some DUNS numbers for subrecipients has been fully corrected. He pointed out one major item in the financial statement is a restatement of net position in the government-wide statements, which was not related to an error, but to new pension standards of GASB 68 and 71. Mr. O'Such explained that this requires all governments to report their unfunded pension liability for the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS). He noted that previously, this was not required to be reported, just the required annual contributions and whether the government was making the contributions. Mr. O'Such stated that this is a \$13 million liability that is booked to the government wide financial statements on the full accrual basis of accounting and account for long-term assets and liabilities. As a result, a negative net position of \$8 million on the full accrual basis is being reported for MAG. Mr. O'Such explained that this means future liability for the unfunded pension portion but MAG still makes annual contributions based on ASRS contribution rates. He added that MAG's situation is not unusual, and a number of agencies are reporting a negative net position due to pension liability restatement.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Kimbrough and Mr. O'Such for their reports. He stated that most agencies are experiencing the same issues with the GASB rules in their CAFRs.

Mr. Brian Dalke moved to recommend acceptance of the audit opinion issued on the MAG Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2015. Mr. Bryant Powell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chair Zuercher congratulated Mr. Smith and MAG staff on a clean audit. Mr. Smith commended Ms. Kimbrough and her staff.

7. Project Changes – Amendment and Administrative Modification to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

Ms. Teri Kennedy, MAG staff, provided a report on requested transportation project changes to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program by member agencies. Ms. Kennedy reviewed the changes shown on Table C, which include ADOT projects (pavement preservation projects, spot safety improvement projects, railroad crossing improvement projects and the final Grant Anticipation Notes payment); agency project changes related to the MAG Federally Funded, Locally Sponsored Project Development Status Report and general project changes; general transit project changes, FTA Grant bus procurement project changes, and advance purchase of eight rail vehicles to take place in one year (which saves approximately \$1.5 million per vehicle).

Ms. Kennedy addressed the requested project changes in Table D that resulted from the calls for projects in August 2015. Projects were programmed for the Safe Routes to School Program eligible activities projects, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program paving projects, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program intelligent transportation system projects, and Pinal County Surface Transportation Program projects.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Kennedy for her report. No public comment cards were received.

Ms. Sintra Hoffman moved to recommend approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2014-2018 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, and, as appropriate, to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Carl Swenson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Final Recommendations on the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization, Access Management Plan, and Systems Study (COMPASS)

Mr. Bob Hazlett, MAG staff, provided a report on the US-60/Grand Avenue Corridor Optimization, Access Management Plan, and System Study (COMPASS). Mr. Hazlett stated that MAG decided to conduct the study because a few years ago, ADOT was ready to turn over US-60/Grand Avenue to local control of the agencies the corridor passed through. He stated that the leadership along US-60/Grand Avenue said the corridor is a regional facility and not a local road.

Mr. Hazlett stated that the Charter Partners, elected officials from the member agencies along Grand Avenue, developed a vision statement and guiding principles of the COMPASS study. He indicated that four alternatives were identified during the study: continue with planning improvements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan; reconsider the US-60/Grand Avenue Expressway option; plan for commuter rail with operational improvements; identify other high capacity transit options with US-60 enhancements.

Mr. Hazlett stated that an alternatives screening process was conducted and he pointed out where criteria of travel demand, safety and accessibility, economic opportunity, investment needs, and corridor vision were met and not met by the different alternatives. He noted that neither the Expressway Option nor the Other High Capacity Transit Option the criteria as alternatives for the corridor. Mr. Hazlett stated that the study recommended establishing a corridor access management system; continuing with improvements in the Regional Transportation Plan; addressing remaining bottlenecks and congestion points; and planning for commuter rail with operational improvements.

Mr. Hazlett noted that the 51-page COMPASS recommendations document is posted on the MAG website. He stated that the corridor could be optimized by maintaining private property access, adding ten overcrossings of the BNSF railroad, cleaning up existing geometries of intersections, and reducing the need for traffic signals at some locations. Mr. Hazlett displayed an aerial photograph of the 35th Avenue/Indian School Road/Grand Avenue intersection and noted some of the corridor driveways are recommended for closure to improve operations.

Mr. Hazlett stated that the recommendations are only concepts at this point, and design and environmental clearances are the next steps with required local, state and federal agency approvals. Mr. Hazlett stated that 230 access points could be consolidated from the 429 driveways along the corridor over time, leaving a remainder of 197 driveways. Mr. Hazlett noted that they are currently working with the Town of Youngtown on a couple of access points.

Mr. Hazlett stated that cities along the corridor could form a zoning overlay district to allow them to enforce access management along the corridor. He noted that at the Transportation Policy Committee meeting, Mayor Sharon Wolcott and Mayor Greg Stanton recommended that annual COMPASS progress updates be provided. Mr. Hazlett added that Burgess & Niple, the consultant firm that worked on the study, had received an award for the GIS mapping in the project.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Mr. Hazlett for his report and asked members if they had questions.

Dr. Spencer Isom expressed his appreciation to MAG staff for their efforts to facilitate this process.

Vice Chair Zuercher stated that conceptual impacts to historic properties in the State Fairgrounds area were identified. He asked if COMPASS identified impacts to other historic properties elsewhere along Grand Avenue. Mr. Hazlett stated that the study identified the locations of the historic districts and properties on Grand Avenue and the concepts take into account impacts to historic properties. He said that this study allows the process to see if the concepts work and he added that design and environmental clearances would still be needed.

Mr. Dennis Smith noted that people might wonder if COMPASS will amount to anything since it is not on the agenda for action. He stated that there will be an annual progress report and added that at the heart of the study is access management. Mr. Smith stated that the annual reports will call attention on those who have not consolidated or have even added access points.

Vice Chair Zuercher stated that the cleanup on Grand Avenue from Thomas Road to Camelback Road already has been significant.

Ms. Sintra Hoffman expressed appreciation for Mr. Smith's comments. She indicated that the COMPASS study represents a lot of work. Ms. Hoffman stated that ADOT is not in the business of maintaining local roads and Grand Avenue presents challenges. The fewer access points on this corridor, the better.

9. EPA Proposed Revisions to the Exceptional Events Rule

Ms. Lindy Bauer, MAG staff, reported that on November 20, 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a proposed rule with revisions to streamline the 2007 Exceptional Events Rule. Ms. Bauer noted that Exceptional Events include natural events such as dust storms, wildfires, stratospheric ozone intrusion and volcanic activities. She said that when these events occur and there are exceedances at air quality monitors, MAG must submit extensive documentation so that exceedances will not count against the region.

Ms. Bauer said that MAG, Maricopa County, and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality are working together on further streamlining. Ms. Bauer stated that the period to submit written comments on the proposed changes to streamline the process has been extended to February 3, 2016.

Ms. Bauer reported that on December 8, 2015, EPA conducted a public hearing on these proposed revisions. She said that MAG, among others, testified at the public hearing. Ms. Bauer stated that one of the mayors, at the December 9, 2015, MAG Regional Council meeting, suggested that MAG include comments regarding transport from China, Mexico, and Canada into this region, which can contribute to Exceptional Events.

Vice Chair Zuercher asked Ms. Bauer for clarification of transport. Ms. Bauer replied that an example of transport is the smoke from a wildfire in San Bernardino in June, which drifted over the MAG region and contributed to ozone exceedances at the air quality monitors. Ms. Bauer noted that MAG is working with ADEQ on documentation so that this exceedance does not count against the MAG region.

Vice Chair Zuercher asked about air quality on New Year's. Ms. Bauer replied that there were exceedances of PM-10 and PM-2.5.

10. Discussion of the Development of the FY 2017 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Vice Chair Zuercher expressed his appreciation to Ms. Becky Kimbrough for the clean audit. He remarked that a good audit does not just happen, it takes an exceptional amount of work.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG staff works very hard to ensure that requirements are met in order to accomplish an audit clear of issues.

Ms. Kimbrough acknowledged the hard work by MAG Fiscal Services staff.

Ms. Kimbrough then reported on the development of the FY 2017 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. She noted that the draft Dues and Assessments and the proposed budget production timeline were included in the agenda packet. Ms. Kimbrough stated that the development of the Work Program begins in January each year in order to provide opportunities for early input and review.

Ms. Kimbrough explained that the draft MAG Dues and Assessments are calculated using the prior calendar year average Consumer Price Index-Urban Consumers (CPI-U) estimated at 2.34 percent. She noted that the draft Dues and Assessments figures were calculated in December 2015. Ms. Kimbrough noted that the calendar year 2015 CPI-U average is not yet available, but is due January 20, 2016. At that time, the draft MAG Dues and Assessments will be updated and the adjusted draft MAG Dues and Assessments will be presented. Ms. Kimbrough noted that MAG anticipates little change to the estimated CPI-U.

Ms. Kimbrough noted that the draft Dues and Assessments total is approximately \$4,700 higher than FY 2016 total.

Vice Chair Zuercher thanked Ms. Kimbrough for her report and asked members if they had questions.

Mr. Kevin Burke asked for clarification of the reason the CPI-U is used to calculate the Dues and Assessments. Ms. Kimbrough replied that MAG used to use freeway system inflation factor from ADOT, but in 2005, the MAG Executive Committee decided to use the CPI-U from the previous calendar year.

11. Legislative Update

Vice Chair Zuercher noted that no legislative update was needed.

12. 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 were made.

13. 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.

Dr. Spencer Isom stated that Phase II of the El Mirage Road project is beginning. He explained that this is a very important project for the city. Dr. Isom also noted that the City will be breaking ground on the new El Mirage city hall located in its foreign trade zone. He thanked everyone for their support and conveyed wishes for a happy new year.

Vice Chair Zuercher noted that the next Management Committee meeting will be February 10, 2016.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Chair

Secretary