

MEETING MINUTES  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSIT COMMITTEE - SPECIAL MEETING

June 22, 2010

Maricopa Association of Governments Office  
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200, Cholla Room  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Phoenix: Debbie Cotton, Chair	Paradise Valley: William Mead
*ADOT: Mike Normand	*Peoria: David Moody for Maher Hazine
Avondale: Rogene Hill	#Queen Creek: Wendy Kaserman
#Buckeye: Andrea Marquez	Scottsdale: Theresa Huish
Chandler: RJ Zeder	*Surprise: Michael Celaya
*El Mirage: Pat Dennis	Tempe: Robert Yabes for Jyme Sue McLaren
Gilbert: Michelle Gramley for Tami Ryall	#Tolleson: Chris Hagen
Glendale: Cathy Colbath	Valley Metro Rail: John Ferry for Wulf Grote
*Goodyear: Cato Esquivel	Regional Public Transportation Authority: Carol Ketcherside
Maricopa County: Mitch Wagner	
Mesa: Jeff Martin for Mike James	

\* Members neither present nor represented by proxy. + - Attended by Videoconference  
# - Attended by Audioconference

OTHERS PRESENT

Kevin Wallace, MAG	Jenna Goad, Glendale
Marc Pearsall, MAG	Jorie Bresnahan, Phoenix
Alice Chen, MAG	Ken Kessler, Phoenix
Eileen Yazzie, MAG	Bob Antila, RPTA
Kristen Sexton, Avondale	Greg Jordan, Tempe
Matthew Dudley, Glendale	Lauren Neu, Strand

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Chair Debbie Cotton from the City of Phoenix. Chair Cotton welcomed everyone in attendance and announced that a quorum was present. She introduced three members of the Transit Committee, Ms. Andrea Marquez, Wendy Kaserman and Chris Hagen who were participating via teleconference. Chair Cotton proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

2. Call to the Audience

Chair Cotton stated that she had not received any request to speak cards from the audience and moved onto the next item on the agenda.

3. Federal Fiscal Year 2010 Program of Projects for 5307, 5309 FTA Funds, and STP-Flex

Chair Cotton introduced Ms. Eileen Yazzie from MAG to explain the Federal Fiscal Year 2010 Program of Projects for 5307 & 5309 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Funds and STP-Flex.

Ms. Yazzie noted that in the two week duration between the current meeting and the previous June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, MAG had been notified by ADOT that Surface Transportation Program (STP) Flex Funds had increased by a total of \$11.5 million. The MAG Region's share increased to \$3.3 million from the original projection of \$1 million. She noted that because of the recharge and influx of cash, the Glendale's right of way acquisition project would no longer need to be split over a two year period as a cost saving measure and could now proceed on its original budget schedule for FY 2010. Discussion followed.

Ms. Yazzie referred to her presentation and the agenda packets for the benefit of the committee members. The item had been previously discussed at the June 10, 2010 Transit Committee meeting and Ms. Yazzie explained that there were some changes in agenda packet from the previously mailed version.

Ms. Yazzie explained that on May 13, 2010, the FTA published the FY20 10 Apportionments, Allocations, and Program Information. She stated that the FFY 2010 apportionment for 5307 Urbanized Area (UZA) were \$49,837,007 for the Phoenix-Mesa UZA, and \$1,000,309 for the Avondale UZA. She noted that the total amount of projects programmed for 2010 in the current 2008-2012 MAG TIP with 5307 funds for the Phoenix-Mesa UZA was \$49,575,696 and \$1,049,778 for the Avondale UZA. She also mentioned that the FFY2010 apportionment for 5309 Fixed Guideway Modernization (FGM) was \$3,648,847 for the Phoenix-Mesa UZA and that the total amount of projects programmed for 2010 in the current 2008-2012 MAG TIP with 5309FGM funds for the Phoenix-Mesa UZA was \$4,185,473.

Ms. Yazzie also provided more detail on the June 14, 2010 letter ADOT had sent to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) asking that \$3,333,533 of STP to the FTA be used in the

MAG region. The total amount of funds programmed for 2010 with STP Flex was \$1,021,450 and that there were \$2,312,083 in additional funds to be programmed. Ms. Yazzie noted that adjustments were needed for projects programmed with 5307, 5309 FGM, and STP flex to complete the 2010 Program of Projects for the MAG region in order to move forward with FTA grant requests. She acknowledged that those actions would also effect the projects programmed in the DRAFT 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Chair Cotton asked if there were any questions or comments for Ms. Yazzie.

Ms. Rogene Hill asked if the funds were available every year. Ms. Yazzie explained that with Regional Public Transportation Authority's (RPTA) guidance, there was updated summary of the varied STP Flex Fund allocations over the past two years. She cited an example for 2008, which had approximately \$2-3 million in Flex Funds. In 2009, the funds were severely reduced to approximately \$900,000 due to the State's budget woes. Ms. Yazzie noted that ADOT had reported the STP Flex fund outlook had improved from 2009, with the FY 2011-2015 time frame rewarding \$3.3 million to the MAG Region.

Mr. RJ Zeder inquired if there had been any other projects aside from Glendale's project that had been pushed out. Ms. Yazzie replied no other projects had been deferred.

Ms. Teresa Huish asked if the MAG Region's bus purchases were based on service levels from before or after the July 26th cuts. Ms. Yazzie mentioned that perhaps each city/operator within the Transit Committee could offer some additional input on the question. Ms. Yazzie noted that all of the bus purchases reflected the revised operations levels that were approved with the changes to the RPTA TLCP. Discussion followed.

Ms. Yazzie stated that the item was on the agenda for action. Chair Cotton called for a motion to approve the action item. Mr. RJ Zeder motioned to recommend approval to amend and modify the 2008-2012 MAG TIP for projects to be funded with 5307, 5309-FGM, and STP-flex funds in 2010 for the 2010 Program of Projects.. Mr. Robert Yabes seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Hearing no further comments, Chair Cotton thanked Ms. Yazzie for her presentation and proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

#### 4. Programming the Transit Component of the DRAFT 2011-2015 MAG TIP

Chair Cotton requested that Ms. Yazzie explain the Programming the Transit Component of the DRAFT 2011-2015 MAG TIP. Ms. Yazzie explained that there were changes to the handout in the packets, and that as discussed previously at the June 10, 2010 Transit Committee meeting, administrative errors between the revenue stream projections between the RTP and the TIP were identified. After a conference with RPTA staff, it was determined that the revenue project revisions shall be in compliance with the numbers reflected in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Ms. Yazzie provided a brief overview of the 5307/5309 funds. She noted that 5307 enhancement funding had been lowered, and that the City of Phoenix was proceeding with its purchase of 37 buses, with an additional three purchased, for a total of 40 with STP Flex.

She continued with explanations of some of the split projects, with City of Phoenix construction for a park and ride, with deference of \$950k of \$9 million to 2013 for the Glendale Park & Ride. She also detailed 5309 Fixed Guideway Modernization, STP Flex for allowance to purchase vanpools, and the 2014 changes that reflect a 1% reduction in enhancements. She also mentioned Scottsdale/Rural Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) enhancements and lower fuel costs.

Ms. Yazzie also acknowledged that Bus Rapid Transit 'Lite' was not applicable for 5309 funds as the project was not considered a true BRT by the FTA. She mentioned that the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding projections for Rail Transit projects had been confirmed and modifications to the rail transit projects in FY 2011-2015 were requested to be modified to meet funding projections and project schedules.

Ms. Yazzie noted that in order meet the fiscal constraint requirement of the MAG TIP, transit projects programmed in FY2011-2015 with 5307, 5309, STP, and CMAQ fund needed to be revised. Chair Cotton stated that the Committee appreciated Ms. Yazzie's efforts over the past few months on these issues and helping to clarify complicated elements. She asked if there were any questions or comments for Ms. Yazzie.

Mr. John Farry inquired as to whether Scottsdale Road BRT could be funded from 5309 New Starts, and compete for the same funding that Light Rail Transit (LRT) used. Ms. Yazzie responded that Scottsdale Road BRT could be funded through a different 5309 funding source for 'Fixed Guideway Modernization.' She further explained that there were three types of 5309 funding sources: New Starts, Fixed Guideway Modernization, and Bus, which was traditionally a funding source for maintenance.

Mr. Farry inquired that if Fixed Guideway Modernization funds were increased someday, would the MAG Region receive credit from FTA for expenditures budgeted and invested in FGM. He also inquired if the increase would occur in FY2015. Ms. Yazzie replied that FGM was formula based on High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane usage calculations. She added that a January 2010 memo from the FTA featured a 'seven year clause', that seven years after operations began on a New Fixed Guideway line, could an interested party request review by the FTA for an increase in FGM.

Mr. Ken Kessler offered further clarification. He mentioned that date for the formula lagged by two years, therefore the request date would occur in 2017. Chair Cotton thanked Mr. Kessler for the clarification.

Chair Cotton called for a motion to approve the action item. Ms. Teresa Huish motioned to recommend approval for the project changes to the transit listing of projects for inclusion in the DRAFT FY2011-2015 MAG TIP. Ms. Rogene Hill seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Hearing no further comments, Chair Cotton thanked Ms. Yazzie for her presentation and proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

5. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chair Cotton asked the members of the Transit Committee if there were any issues that they would prefer to be added as future agenda items. Mr. Yabes requested two future agenda items. He requested a discussion on the process for dividing up TIP Preventative Maintenance funds for the region. He also requested that all future TIP process meetings be held exclusively at MAG to encourage more dialogue, and transparency and to reduce duplicate meetings.

Hearing no further comments, Chair Cotton proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

6. Next Meeting Date

Chair Cotton thanked those present for attending the special meeting for the MAG Transit Committee. She announced that the July 8th meeting had been cancelled and that the next MAG Transit Committee would be held on Thursday, August 12, 2010 at a time and conference room to be determined. There being no further business, Chair Cotton adjourned the meeting at 3:04p.m.