

**FINAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**TRANSIT COMMITTEE**

December 11, 2014  
Maricopa Association of Governments; Ironwood Room;  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Phoenix, Arizona

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

*ADOT: Nicole Patrick	*Paradise Valley: Jeremy Knapp
Avondale: Kristen Sexton	Peoria: Stuart Kent
#Buckeye: Sean Banda for Andrea Marquez	Phoenix: Maria Hyatt, Vice Chair
Chandler: Jason Crampton for RJ Zeder	Queen Creek: Mohamed Youssef
El Mirage: Jose Macias	Scottsdale: Madeline Clemann, Chair
Gilbert: Kristin Myers	Surprise: Martin Lucero
Glendale: Debbie Albert	#Tempe: Robert Yabes
Goodyear: Cato Esquivel	#Tolleson: Chris Hagen
*Maricopa: David Maestas	Valley Metro: Wulf Grote
Maricopa County DOT: Suparna Dasgupta	Youngtown: Grant Anderson
Mesa: Jodi Sorrell	

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Eileen Yazzie, MAG	Jeff Martin, Chandler/Mesa
Marc Pearsall, MAG	Patrick Sage, Glendale
Alice Chen, MAG	Ken Kessler, Phoenix
Sarath Joshua, MAG	Eve Ng, Scottsdale
	David Kohlbeck, Surprise
	Abhishek Dayal, Valley Metro
	Robert Forrest, Valley Metro
	Bill Blair, Total Transit

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chair Madeline Clemann. She welcomed everyone in attendance and announced that a quorum was present. She noted that three members were joining the meeting by teleconference: Mr. Sean Banda of Buckeye, Mr. Robert Yabes of Tempe and Ms. Chris Hagen of Tolleson. Chair Clemann thanked the committee and explained that the meeting would be her last as Chair, with Vice Chair Maria Hyatt of City of Phoenix ascending as the new Chair in January 2015. She further added that she would remain as the primary committee member for Scottsdale, but that Ms. Eve Ng and Ms. Ratna Korepella would assume the role as proxies for Scottsdale. She asked if there were any public comment cards, and there being none, proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

## 2. Approval of Draft October 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Chair Clemann inquired if there were any comments or corrections to the Draft October 9, 2014 Minutes. Mr. Jose Macias noted that he was in attendance at the October meeting. Chair Clemann advised MAG staff that the correction would be included in the corrected minutes. Hearing no further comments, she called for a motion on the Draft October 9, 2014 Minutes. Mr. Grant Anderson of Youngtown moved to approve the motion, Mr. Cato Esquivel of Goodyear seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Chair Clemann then proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

## 3. Call to the Audience

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

## 4. Transit Program Manager's Report

Chair Clemann invited Ms. Eileen Yazzie of MAG to brief the Committee with the Transit Program Manager's Report. Ms. Yazzie noted that she was presenting on the following three items and that there was nothing to report at the time. She did offer thanks to the committee members for all of their work over the past year and thanked Chair Clemann for her leadership of the committee and commitment to moving transit forward in the region.

Chair Clemann thanked Ms. Yazzie and asked if there were further questions or comments regarding the agenda item. Hearing none, she moved onto the next item on the agenda.

## 5. Strategic Transportation Safety Plan Update

Chair Clemann invited Ms. Yazzie of MAG to present a report on the Strategic Transportation Safety Plan (STSP). Chair Clemann noted that the item was on the agenda for action and possible approval.

Ms. Yazzie explained that the STSP Update item was initially presented in October by Margaret Boone. She noted that there was an attachment #1, with a table, that was included with agenda item #5, where practice #3 was highlighted for the committee's review. She summarized that in order to address strategies identified during the process of developing the new STSP, a Working Group was formed with members of the Transportation Safety, Transit, and Bike and Pedestrian Committees to help identify practices that could be recommended for implementation through the STSP. The resulting list produced by the Working Group included recommended practices, of which one practice will affect the TIP programming process.

She noted that at the October Transit Committee meeting, committee members indicated concerns with wording in the proposed practice that may not be appropriate for all TIP programming for which the Transit Committee provides oversight. The committee requested that MAG staff revise the proposed practice wording of how transit was different from the other items and then to bring it back for Transit Committee recommendation at the December meeting. She stated that Ms. Boone and Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Chen, Mr. Joshua and herself worked with the members to revise the #3 to include the following new language - 'Encourage submittal of TIP projects that include safety elements, for improving safer access for all modes, by including safety as an explicit project evaluation criteria for all TIP projects that currently have evaluation criteria as a means of prioritizing a list of projects. Exceptions to this practice are those Transit Maintenance and Operations programs funded through the MAG TIP.' Further discussion included information regarding the potential competitive applications process, should it be required. She reminded the Committee that the item was on the agenda for information on promoting a practices relating to bicycle and pedestrian safety on access to transit stops and stations, and discussion and possible action to recommend approval of the revised proposed practice #3. She concluded her presentation.

Chair Clemann thanked Ms. Yazzie for her report and asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the agenda item. Mr. Lucero inquired that if the Transit Committee did support the item, would it in turn have regional support. Ms. Yazzie replied that the new language and criteria would address any lingering concerns and would not negatively affect any process related to the Bike-Ped, Streets, and ITS-Safety committees, which had all previously approved this measure. Mr. Anderson noted that regarding the new recommendations, he was satisfied that the additional language in practice three would not negatively affect the STSP and he also believed it remedied any lingering issues.

Chair Clemann thanked the members and asked if there were any further questions or comments regarding the agenda item. Hearing none, she called for a motion on the approval of promoting practices relating to bicycle and pedestrian safety on access to transit stops and stations, and discussion and possible action to recommend approval of the revised proposed practice #3. Mr. Martin Lucero of Surprise moved to approve the motion as presented, Mr. Anderson of seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Chair Clemann then proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

## 6. MAG Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Call for Planning Projects for FY2016

Chair Clemann then invited Ms Yazzie to continue with presenting on the MAG Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Call for Planning Projects for FY2016.

Ms. Yazzie explained that back in October, MAG had solicited a call for planning projects for the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY2016 (annual budget for July 1 2015 through June 30, 2016). She had previously asked for any thoughts from the Transit Committee members on possibly sharing ideas that the committee as a whole would discuss for consideration and inclusion in the next UPWP. She noted that it was for information and discussion and possible action. She advised that a few new items included in the UPWP as a part of MAG staff's project list included set aside funding for Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies as well as funding for MAG's On Call List for regional Transit Oriented Development (TOD) efforts.

Ms. Debbie Albert of Mesa noted that Phoenix and Valley Metro had been doing a lot of work on data collection for transit routes, and inquired if there could be efforts to create some sort of web mapping tool for a data collection clearinghouse, which agencies may then use for gathering localized info on ridership and boardings. She also added that a study on Wi-Fi for transit would also be very helpful to the region. Mr. Wulf Grote replied that at Valley Metro there was already an implementation plan for onboard Wi-Fi that staff had been working on for some time, but that a status update was forthcoming. Chair Clemann added that perhaps an analysis of the pros, cons and costs would be most beneficial for the region's agencies. Ms. Yazzie asked that perhaps Mr. Grote could return in February or March with an update report on the Wi-Fi status, and Vice Chair Hyatt offered to do a joint presentation on the topic since City of Phoenix was currently performing a transit communications study.

Ms. Albert also inquired on the possibility of a sidewalk-access gap analysis on where there may be inadequacies in the infrastructure for ADA compliance. Ms. Kristin Myers inquired about a transit tool she had heard of, and when there would be a web-based statistics tool on bus facilities and bus routes by stop. Mr. Abhishek Dayal of Valley Metro noted that staff was also currently working on this issue. Mr. Anderson added that he thought Ms. Albert's idea for a ridership statistics was good, as the region's agencies need to continually know about underperforming routes. Ms. Yazzie added that the new Transit Standards and Performance Measures (TSPM) by Valley Metro, which was underway, was looking at addressing the data, for route segmentation, analysis and performance, among other attributes.

Mr. Lucero inquired if for the new data and modeling, if the region could reevaluate the transit screen lines, by looking at system-wide mode splits and loading by quadrant, and how lines in the Northwest might effect lines in the Southeast. Ms. Yazzie offered that the issue might be best introduced at the Service Planning Working Group at Valley Metro, especially in light of their regional HASTUS coordination efforts. Chair Clemann also advised that MAG staff would be giving an update on MAG transit modeling in January 2015, and Ms. Yazzie offered that a more specific presentation on the MAG 4 stop model and an update on the Activity Based Model would be included for discussion by the Transit Committee. Brief discussion followed.

Vice Chair Hyatt inquired if the region was satisfied with the current designs of bus shelters. She noted that Phoenix has had the same shelter design for many years and had been engaged in a shading study, but offered that they were open to new design ideas and perhaps revised regional bus stop/shelter guidelines. She asked if there was interest in perhaps an artistic or architectural competition for a few new prototypes for new shelters. Ms. Myers added that within Gilbert, there had been an ongoing issue of operators missing passengers who could not be seen at the bus stop. She asked if there might be an opportunity pilot program for a push button detection/bus stop light-beacon that would notify drivers that passengers were present, but seeking refuge in shade or in dark.

Chair Clemann added that there were commercial products that perform that task. She also added that Scottsdale had previously looked into solar, but pulled back from implementing solar stops because they had difficulty in acquiring specifications from vendors. Mr. Grote stated that Valley Metro's Phase III of the Transit Standards and Performance Measures (TSPM) would be looking at transit facilities, bus stops, shelters, fleet and a number of other issues beginning in January 2015. He noted that while it wouldn't be looking for absolute standards, it would however offer agency guidelines and options on shelters, stops, and other amenities. He noted that if there is a regional desire for such a direction on this task, he would be happy to include them as a part of Phase III so that the region would have some options to choose from in regards to facilities. Mr. Anderson added that those efforts seem to fall right in line with the notion of complete streets. Chair Clemann said that Scottsdale would forward City of Phoenix and Valley Metro on some of the elements they discovered with their bus shelter analysis in years past.

Ms. Yazzie also advised that there had been discussion in the recent past about a regional sidewalk inventory, which had not yet been performed on a regional scale. Mr. Yabes offered that Tempe did currently have a city-wide sidewalk inventory, but that one of the issues facing the city was that there were differing interpretations of what ADA criteria means. He advised that if such a study is performed, that perhaps the study help determine ADA bus stop requirements on a region-wide basis. Mr. Dayal noted that the Valley Metro bus stop inventory included a field attribute for ADA compliance characteristics, but that there was still a general question as to whether that met the true definition of Federal ADA compliance. Mr. Grote also asked if he could check the database to see if there is an ID attribute for the sidewalk characteristics. Ms. Myers asked if the study could go beyond the immediate proximity of the bus stop area and analyze the entire local 1/4 mile corridor area to measure its accessibility and physical components. Mr. Yabes noted that it was important to measure the width of sidewalk to ensure ADA compliance, as some sidewalks can be very narrow, with a minimum 4ft wide requirement for ADA.

Ms. Yazzie noted that she would edit the ideas presented by the members and bring back a summary list in the January 2015 Manager's Report. Chair Clemann again thanked Ms. Yazzie for her report and asked if there were further questions or comments regarding the agenda item. Hearing none, she moved onto the next item on the agenda.

## 7. Transit TIP Listings and Regional Federal Fund Programming Priorities

Chair Clemann then invited Ms Yazzie to continue with presenting on the Transit TIP Listings and Regional Federal Fund Programming Priorities.

Ms. Yazzie began by explaining that at a previous Transit Committee meeting, Mr. Jason Crampton of Chandler had inquired about information on what was currently programmed within the TIP and what available financial resources were there for additional fleet expansion. Specifically, he asked that if there was a local route which a city wanted to fund, was there money available, outside of the TLCP, to purchase fleet.

She noted that there was a two page memo that she had prepared to help answer these questions. On the first page, she noted that there was a list of the current approved programming priorities for use of the federal funds. She added that items 1 through 8 support the TLCP as well operations, maintenance and federal requirements. She also said that the third priority listed for 5307 was in regards to Preventive Maintenance, which the region agreed upon previously. She then explained that item 9, fund additional projects based upon a regional competitive evaluation process, those would be the remaining funds after the first eight priorities are funded. She then discussed page two, where she had reviewed the current TIP summary for Fiscal Years 2015-18, where she noted that in Table 3 for 2017, there was a clerical funding priorities error. The provision for Grant Management support services with Phoenix reads \$2.3 million, but however should read in the amount of \$40 thousand, the same as the other three tables.

Ms. Yazzie explained that if all four tables were reviewed, in general for FY2015-16 there were reprogramming issues that must be remedied, so at current it may not be likely that there would be a need for a new competitive process for surplus funds. However, she noted that there might be opportunities, with the needed reprogramming of BRT (Scottsdale) and the Glendale Park and Ride in January, as well as working with City of Phoenix on some older grant closeouts. She added that there was approximately a \$1.5 million buffer for the region to meet its current guideline obligations and priorities. She concluded that depending on what happens in Congress in 2015-16 with the federal reauthorization and appropriations budget, there may or may not be additional opportunities. She concluded her presentation.

Brief discussion followed. Mr. Crampton thanked Ms. Yazzie and referred to item #5 and wondered if those TLCP funds were for replacement fleet and small expansion fleet only. She confirmed they were. He also inquired on the twenty buses mentioned in previous discussions. Ms. Yazzie noted that they were in the 5307 program for Phoenix' service expansion in October and that a grant was applied for to supplement the funds, but were not awarded by the federal government. He advised that the region keep an eye on available resources in the future for additional expansion efforts.

Chair Clemann again thanked Ms. Yazzie for her report and asked if there were further questions or comments regarding the agenda item. Hearing none, she moved onto the next item on the agenda.

#### 8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chair Clemann asked the members of the Committee if there were any issues that they would like added as future agenda items. Hearing no further comments, Chair Clemann proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

#### 9. Next Meeting Date

Chair Clemann thanked those present and announced that the next meeting of the MAG Transit Committee would be held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Ironwood Room. There being no further business, Chair Clemann adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.