

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

July 1, 2010

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

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Peoria: David Moody	Litchfield Park: Paul Ward for Woody Scoutten
ADOT: Steve Hull for Floyd Roehrich	Maricopa County: John Hauskins
Avondale: Shirley Gunther for David Fitzhugh	Mesa: Jeff Martin for Scott Butler
Buckeye: Scott Lowe	*Paradise Valley: Bill Mead
Chandler: RJ Zeder for Patrice Kraus	Phoenix: Rick Naimark
El Mirage: Jorge Gastelum for Lance Calvert	Queen Creek: Tom Condit
*Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel	RPTA: Bob Antilla for Bryan Jungwirth
Gila Bend: Eric Fitzer	Scottsdale: Dave Meinhart
Gila River: Sreedevi Samudrala for Doug Torres	Surprise: Bob Beckley
Gilbert: Michelle Gramley Tami Ryall	Tempe: Jyme Sue McLaren for Chris Salomone
Glendale: Terry Johnson	Valley Metro Rail: John Farry
Goodyear: Cato Esquivel	Wickenburg: Rick Austin
#Guadalupe: Gino Turrubiarres	Youngtown: Grant Anderson for Lloyce Robinson

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Street Committee: Dan Cook, City of Chandler	Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee: Peggy Rubach, RPTA
* ITS Committee: Debbie Albert	*Transportation Safety Committee: Kerry Wilcoxon, City of Phoenix

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Anderson, MAG	Andy Granger, Peoria
Alice Chen, MAG	Chris Plumb, Phoenix
Maureen DeCindis, MAG	Shane Silsby, Phoenix
Bob Hazlett, MAG	Karen Savage, Surprise
Micah, Henry, MAG	Jeanne Sapon, Austin Bridge & Road
Roger Roy, MAG	Tim Muller, Austin Bridge & Road
Ed Stillings, FHWA	Art Brook, Strand
Susan Flores-Dias, FHWA	Andrew Matusak, Baker
Steve Hull, ADOT	Vinay Vanapalli, Stantec Inc.
Kwi-Sung Kang, ADOT	
Jeanna Goad, Glendale	
Brent Stoddard, Glendale	

1. Call to Order

Chairman David Moody from the City of Peoria called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. Approval of Draft May 27, 2010 Minutes

Chairman Moody asked if there were any changes or amendments to the May 27, 2010 meeting minutes, and there were none. Mr. Bob Antilla from Valley Metro/RPTA motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Paul Ward from the City of Litchfield Park seconded, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. Call to the Audience

Chairman Moody stated that he had not received any request to speak cards from the audience and moved onto the next item on the agenda.

4. Transportation Director's Report

Chairman Moody invited Mr. Eric Anderson to present the Transportation Director's report. Mr. Anderson reported that year-to-date Regional Area Road Fund (RARF) revenues were down 9.2 percent. He stated that actual revenue collection for fiscal year (FY) 2010 was approximately \$300 million compared to the forecasted revenue collection of \$315 million.

Mr. Anderson reported that RARF revenues for May were relatively flat. He stated this was positive news given the consistent decline in sales tax revenues over the previous two years. He added that some jurisdictions in the region had experienced a slight increase in revenues.

Next, Mr. Anderson addressed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). He stated that although the status report was on consent, he would like to provide additional information regarding ARRA. Mr. Anderson announced that the majority of jurisdictions had spent their respective ARRA allocation noting \$292,390 in ARRA bid savings. He stated that the region had met the goal of spending all of the funds allocated to the region. Mr. Anderson stated that the ARRA process emphasized areas that needed improvement between local governments, MAG, and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). He announced that ADOT's Local Governments Section would be updating their manual. Mr. Anderson stated that MAG had offered to assist ADOT with the undertaking citing MAG's research on efforts in other states and regions.

Mr. Anderson reported that he and Ms. Eileen Yazzie, MAG Transportation Programming Manager, had met with ADOT management to discuss a local government's tracking system. He explained the system would allow agencies to determine where projects were in the federal process. He stated that the system would generate an email if a project was not progressing through the federal process in accordance with established time frames. Mr. Anderson reported that ADOT had hired additional staff and was working to bring the department into the 21st

century.

Chairman Moody asked if there were any questions or comments about the Transportation Director's Report. There were none, and he proceeded to the next agenda item.

5. Consent Agenda

Addressing the next item of business, Chairman Moody directed the Committee's attention to the consent agenda. He asked the Committee if there were any questions or comments regarding the consent agenda item 5a on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Status Report. There were none. Mr. John Hauskins from Maricopa County motioned to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Grant Anderson from the Town of Youngtown seconded, and the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

6. Project Changes/Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Chairman Moody invited Ms. Eileen Yazzie, MAG Transportation Programming Manager, to present project changes to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Yazzie directed the Committee's attention to handouts at their places.

Ms. Yazzie announced that MAG Staff has received a request from the Town of Buckeye for a one-time deferral a federally fund project to a later year. She explained that MAG had not received the request before the agenda had been mailed, which was why a Federal Fund Closeout item was not on the agenda. She added that a closeout item would be included on agendas as the request proceeded through the MAG Committee process for approval.

Ms. Yazzie noted another project change. She stated that as staff worked to closeout Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2010 that an issue had been noted with the 5309 discretionary funds. She stated that a project needed to be re-added to the TIP for tracking and to ensure those funds were available.

Chairman Moody inquired if there were any questions or comment regarding the agenda item. There were none. Mr. Jeff Martin from the City of Mesa motioned to approve the amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP. Mr. Hauskins seconded, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, Ms. Peggy Rubach, the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee representative, thanked MAG Staff for their efforts in developing the Draft FY 2011-2015 Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) - 2010 Update. She stated that staff efforts had reduced the work required by local agencies, which made the process relatively painless for the local agencies.

7. L101 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane Budget Increase

Moving on, Chairman Moody invited Mr. Anderson to discuss the Loop 101 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) budget increase request. Before addressing the request, Mr. Anderson provided a summary of the project's history. He stated that in January 2010, the Regional Council approved a design-build project to construct HOV lanes on L101 from Tatum Boulevard to the junction with Interstate-10 in the West Valley as a project to use a potential second round of stimulus funding.

Mr. Anderson reported that in May 2010, the Regional Council was informed that the prospects for the second round of stimulus funding had diminished, but that ADOT and MAG had determined the \$138.5 million project could be funded from the available cash flows of the Freeway Life Cycle Program. He explained that since then, ADOT recommended the proposed project budget be increased by \$9 million to include the realignment of the freeway in the vicinity of the Maryland Overpass as part of the design-build project in order to accommodate planned direct access ramps in the future. Mr. Anderson stated that the initial plan for the Maryland Overpass included direct connection ramps to provide access to a nearby park-and-ride lot and the Westgate and the University of Phoenix stadium complex.

Mr. Anderson announced that through a review of program cashflows with ADOT, MAG Staff was recommending that the project budget be increased by \$9.0 million to \$147.5 million. He explained that as the HOV lanes were being built, ADOT determined it would be cost-effective to bow out the alignment for future ramps. Mr. Anderson stated that it was important to make cost-effective adjustments to the freeway alignments. He added that in conversations with Mr. Steve Hull from ADOT that there was a significant possibility that the project would come in below budget anyway.

Mr. Hauskins recommended that the Loop 101 HOV project budget be increased by \$9 million to include the proposed realignment of the freeway in the vicinity of Maryland Avenue. Mr. Zeder seconded the motion. Mr. Rick Naimark from the City of Phoenix inquired about the source of the additional \$9 million in funding. Mr. Anderson replied that the funding was available through cash flows and project savings on other projects, such as the right-of-way acquisition for Loop 303.

Chairman Moody asked if there were any additional questions or comments about the agenda item, and there were none. Chairman Moody called for a vote on the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Public Hearing on Draft FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Regional Transportation Plan – 2010 Update, and Draft 2010 MAG Conformity Analysis

Continuing on, Mr. Moody invited Mr. Jason Stephens from MAG to present on the public hearing on the Draft MAG FY2011-2015 TIP, the Draft RTP 2010 Update, and the Draft 2010 MAG Conformity Analysis. Mr. Stephens reported that a public hearing was held on June 21, 2010 to receive comments on the draft documents.

Mr. Stephens stated that majority of comment received pertained to transit. He explained that the public was concerned about transit service cuts, especially dial-a-ride services. He stated the individuals also expressed concerns about safety on the bus and light rail systems. Mr.

Stephens added that the public had requested a review of the RTP to determine how transit could play a larger role in the Plan.

Mr. Stephens reported that several comments had been made about the Transit Life Cycle Program (TLCP). He stated that the public questioned why some TLCP projects were programmed after FY 2025. He also reported that concerns were expressed about transit cuts in the west valley.

Ms. Rubach stated that Valley Metro/RPTA also had held public hearings. She stated that if the comments from the MAG public hearings were published that they would be helpful to the Valley Metro/RPTA. Mr. Stephens stated he would get the comments to Ms. Rubach that week.

Mr. Martin inquired in the comments from the public hearings would be provided to the elected officials in the region. Mr. Stephens replied that the comments would be provided to the officials at the Management Committee, Transportation Policy Committee, and Regional Council meetings.

Mr. Martin stated that it was important for the elected officials to receive the comments. He stated that sometimes the region focused too much on freeways when transit system were poor. Mr. Martin suggested that MAG review the coverage of transit service across the valley. He stated that while some areas have good coverage other areas do not have transit service at all. He added that he was unsure if current state of the transit system had been adequately conveyed to elected officials.

Chairman Moody asked if there were any additional questions or comments about the agenda item. There were none, and he proceeded to the next agenda item.

9. DRAFT FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Chairman Moody invited Ms. Eileen Yazzie, MAG Transportation Programing Manager, to present the Draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Yazzie stated that full copy of the Draft TIP was not sent out with the agenda packet due to printing costs. She explained that an electronic copy of the current draft was available for download from the MAG-TIP website for those interested. Ms. Yazzie informed the Committee that minor modifications may be made to the Draft TIP as the document proceeded through the MAG Committee process.

Ms. Yazzie stated that the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) required Metropolitan Planning Organizations to report on transportation investments within their region. She announced that the Act had expired; however, Congress had approved continuing resolutions until a new bill was enacted. Ms. Yazzie explained that the TIP may need to be revisited depending on the provisions of the new Act.

Ms. Yazzie explained that under the current legislation, an approved TIP must report on all

federally funded and regionally significant projects as well as provide information of the air quality analysis. She stated the federal regulations mandated that the TIP cover a four-year period and must be updated every four years at a minimum. Ms. Yazzie informed the Committee that the MAG TIP currently covered a five-year period and had been updated every one to two years.

Ms. Yazzie stated that MAG Staff worked with federal, state, and local agencies through the TIP Guidance Report process. She stated that local agencies updated project data through the TIP Data Entry System, which was then incorporated into the Draft TIP. Ms. Yazzie explained that while gathering and analyzing data for the TIP, MAG Staff accounted for public and technical input through an established process.

Next, Ms. Yazzie discussed the number and type of projects programmed in the Draft TIP. She stated the Draft TIP included over 1,200 projects. She detailed the projects programmed by category, which included 568 street projects, 208 transit projects (bus & rail), 166 freeway projects, 82 ITS projects, 75 bicycle/pedestrian projects, 92 air quality or transportation demand management projects, 11 bridge projects, 10 safety projects, and 20 maintenance projects.

Then, Ms. Yazzie discussed funding commitments in the Draft TIP. She reported that approximately \$7 billion in funding was committed between FY2011 and FY 2015. She stated that the funding commitment had decreased by 6 percent in comparison to the approved FY 2008-2012 TIP. Ms. Yazzie noted that the two largest funding commitments were from local agencies and the Regional Area Road Fund. She stated the two sources accounted for 66 percent of the \$5.9 billion of committed Highway project funds.

Ms. Yazzie moved on to discuss transit project funding. She explained that federal transit funds accounted for 45 percent of transit funding in the Draft TIP. She stated the Public Transit Funds, which were the half cent sales tax funds designated for transit projects, comprised 23 percent of the total \$1.43 billion committed to fund transit projects in the region. Ms. Yazzie noted that \$358 million of the \$413 million in local transit funding was associated with the City of Phoenix's Airport Sky Train project. She added that without that project, the local commitment to transit would be approximately \$50 million.

Mr. John Farry from METRO noted that highway projects included state funding while transit projects did not. He stated the lack of transit funding from the State was a critical point. He informed the Committee that Arizona was one of five states in the country that did not fund transit at the state level. Chairman Moody encouraged Ms. Yazzie to make a notation on the slide as the presentation proceeded through the Committee process.

Mr. Meinhart inquired about the \$11 million in funding from ADOT. He asked if the funding was proportionally based on population or had the formula changed since the region had a transportation sales tax. Ms. Yazzie stated she would look into the issue further and report back to the Committee.

Ms. Yazzie announced that MAG Staff would seek approval of the Draft TIP throughout July with presentations being made to the Management Committee, Transportation Policy

Committee, and the MAG Regional Council. She explained that once the Draft TIP was approved by the Regional Council, MAG Staff would submit the TIP to the State for approval. She stated that after the State's approval, the TIP would be sent to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for approval of the conformity analysis. Ms. Yazzie explained that pending FHWA and FTA approval, the TIP would then be incorporated into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Mr. Anderson provided a brief update on the air quality particulate matter issue. He stated that MAG had not received additional information on the disapproval timeline. He reported that MAG Staff anticipated being unsuccessful in overcoming the Environmental Protection Agency's objections. Mr. Anderson explained that if MAG was unsuccessful, the region would be under a conformity freeze in January 2011. He added that between now and January, MAG Staff would be very aggressive about amending the TIP.

Chairman Moody inquired if Ms. Lindy Bauer, MAG Environmental Director, should provide a status update to the Committee. Mr. Anderson replied that Ms. Bauer would probably provide an update to the Committee at the next meeting. A brief discussion followed about the air quality and the potential conformity freeze.

Mr. David Meinhart from the City of Scottsdale expressed concerns about the allocation of transit funding for preventive maintenance. Ms. Yazzie replied that the preventive maintenance programmed was inherited from RPTA. She added that MAG Staff did not have sufficient time to open up the rationale behind the existing allocations stating that it was a priority in the upcoming year. Ms. Yazzie stated that MAG Staff would review preventative maintenance for all operators. A brief discussion followed.

Mr. Meinhart motioned to recommend approval of the Draft FY2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, contingent on a finding of conformity of the TIP and Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update with applicable air quality plans and that the programming of transit preventative maintenance be reviewed for potential amendments and administration modifications no later than December 2010. Mr. Hauskins seconded, and motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

10. Draft FY 2011 Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP)

Chairman Moody invited Ms. Christina Hopes from MAG to present on the Draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP). Ms. Hopes announced that her presentation would address the development of the Draft FY2011 ALCP, revenue streams, inflation, and project changes in the ALCP. She informed the Committee that the annual update process was initiated in November 2009 with the release of customized annual update workbooks. She stated the MAG Staff and Lead Agency Staff coordinated over the following months to update project schedules and costs in the Draft FY11 ALCP and Draft FY11-15 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Hopes discussed decreasing program revenues over the past two years. She addressed the deferral of \$22 million in programmed reimbursement to FY2027 or later in the during the

development of the FY2010 ALCP. Ms. Hopes announced that no additional funds were deferred to FY2027 or later in the Draft FY2011. However, she noted that programmed reimbursements shifted in the Draft FY2011 ALCP due to revenue stream changes in STP-MAG funds.

Next, Ms. Hopes addressed inflation in the ALCP. She reported that the Draft FY2011 ALCP had been inflated from 2009\$ to 2010\$ using an inflation factor of 1.588 percent. She explained that all programmed reimbursements were inflated in accordance with the ALCP Policies and Procedures approved by the MAG Regional Council on December 9, 2009.

Then, Ms. Hopes discussed reimbursements and deferrals in the FY2010 ALCP. She announced that \$55.9 million had been reimbursed in FY2010. She attributed 57 percent of the reimbursements for the year to the FY2010 Regional Area Road Fund (RARF) Closeout Process. Ms. Hopes reported that \$37.3 million in programmed reimbursements had been deferred to FY2011 or a later year. She stated that 36 projects were deferred to another phase during the annual update. She attributed the number of deferrals to economic hardships encountered by member agencies as well as declining local revenues.

Ms. Hopes summarized project changes made in the Draft FY2011 ALCP. She informed the Committee that the ALCP Policies and Procedures required significant project changes, such as substitute projects and changes in project scope, to be presented to the MAG Street Committee for approval before inclusion in the Draft ALCP. She reported that the cities of Chandler, Peoria, and Phoenix had requested project changes that required Street Committee approval. Ms. Hopes provided a brief overview of those changes, which included adding substitute projects and changes in project scope. She also noted that in the Draft ALCP eight project advanced, four projects changed in scope, two project segments were combined, and two projects were exchanged. A brief discussion followed.

Chairman Moody asked if there were any questions or comments about the agenda item. There were none. Mr. RJ Zeder from the City of Chandler motioned to approve the Draft FY 2011 Arterial Life Cycle Program contingent on a new Finding of Conformity for the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update and FY2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program with the applicable State and Federal air quality implementation plans. Mr. Meinhart seconded the motion, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

11. The Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan - 2010 Update

Chairman Moody invited Mr. Roger Herzog from MAG to present on the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. Mr. Herzog stated that only the executive summary of the Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) 2010 Update was sent out with the agenda packet due to costs. He stated that an electronic copy of the full report was available for download from the MAG-RTP website for those interested.

Mr. Herzog informed the Committee that the RTP Update addressed a wide range of projects, such as freight, transportation demand management, and safety projects. He explained that the RTP Update was a comprehensive document that extended out to FY 2031. He stated the plan

was divided into phases with each phase covering a period of five years.

Mr. Herzog announced that the major planning issues addressed in the update was declining revenues. He stated the region had faced a historic decline over the past few years. He explained that declining revenues required adjustments to the three life cycle programs in the RTP: the Freeway Life Cycle Program (FLCP), the Transit Life Cycle Program (TLCP), and the Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP). Mr. Herzog reported that adjustments to these life cycle programs had been made through MAG Committee process over the last year.

Next, Mr. Herzog addressed public input in the update process. He informed the Committee that MAG Staff had conducted a series of public hearings to receive input for the update. He stated the first public hearing occurred in June 2009 and focused on transportation planning issues and the programming outlook. He stated the second public hearing was held in October 2009 and focused on cost and revenue factors and plan/program adjustments. He reported that the third meeting, which was held in March 2010, reviewed the Draft RTP Update. Mr. Herzog announced that the final public hearing was held on June 21, 2010, and included the Draft RTP, TIP, and air quality conformity analysis.

Chairman Moody asked if there were any questions or comments about the presentation, and there were none. Mr. Meinhart motioned to recommend approval of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan - 2010 Update, contingent upon a finding of conformity with the applicable State and Federal air quality implementation plans and that the programming of transit preventative maintenance as included in the RTP Update be reviewed for potential amendments and administration modifications no later than December 2010. Mr. Grant Anderson seconded the motion, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Johnson stated that part of the intent of agenda item seven was that the RTP would include the ramps as an illustrative project. Chairman Moody concurred that it was the intent adding that language of the intent had not been included in the motion for agenda item seven. Mr. Hauskins motion to reconsider the vote for agenda item seven. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Then, Mr. Johnson motioned that the previous motion for agenda item seven stand with the addition in the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update of the ramps at Loop 101 and Maryland as an illustrative project. Mr. Grant Anderson seconded the motion, and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

12. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chairman Moody inquired if the members had any topics or issues of interest they would like to have considered for discussion at a future Committee meeting. There were none, and Chairman Moody moved onto the next agenda item.

Mr. Grant Anderson inquired when MAG would provide an update on the Federal Fund Working Group efforts. Mr. Eric Anderson apologized for the delay citing pressing issues,

including the potential conformity freeze. He stated an update would be provided at the next meeting.

Mr. Grant Anderson also inquired if a report on the ARRA allocations could be made. Mr. Eric Anderson replied that a presentation could be made to the Committee once all the information was available.

Ms. Rubach inquired about the sustainability and livability grant. She asked if there was a way the Committee could assist with improving the application. Mr. Anderson replied that Ms. Amy St. Peter at MAG was the lead contact on the application. He explained that a meeting on the grant application was held the previous day and encouraged interested individuals to contact Ms. St. Peter to be added to the mailing list.

Chairman Moody inquired if there were any additional requests. There were none, and he proceeded to the next agenda item.

13. Member Agency Update

Chairman Moody asked members of the Committee if they would like to provide updates, address any issues or concerns regarding transportation at the regional level, and asked if any members in attendance would like to address recent information that was relevant to transportation within their respective communities.

Ms. Rubach expressed gratitude to MAG Staff for their efforts on Desert Peaks. She stated the event was a success and provided encouragement to further regional activities. Chairman Moody asked if there were any additional comments, and there were none.

14. Next Meeting Date

Chairman Moody informed members in attendance that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee would be held on July 31, 2010. There being no further business, Chairman Moody adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.