

DRAFT MINUTES OF MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

May 24, 2011
MAG Cholla Room, 2nd Floor
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mark Gotsch for Linda Gorman, AAA Arizona	Chris Lemka, City of Glendale
Tom Burch, AARP	Hugh Bigalk, City of Goodyear
Kohinoor Kar, ADOT	Chris Plumb, Maricopa County
Shane Kiesow, City of Apache Junction	Renate Ehm, City of Mesa
Margaret Boone-Pixley, City of Avondale	* William Mead, Paradise Valley
+Thomas Chlebanowski for Paul Ward, Town of Buckeye	Mannar Tamirisa for Jamal Rahimi, City of Peoria
* Martin Johnson, City of Chandler	Kerry Wilcoxon, City of Phoenix
Jorge Gastelum, City of El Mirage	*Paul Porell, City of Scottsdale
Kelly LaRosa, FHWA	+ Tracy Eberlein, City of Surprise
Kurt Sharp, Town of Gilbert	Julian Dresang, City of Tempe (Chair)
	* Gardner Tabon, RPTA

OTHERS PRESENT

+ Beth Wemple, Cambridge Systematics	Marta Gerber, Baker
Lauren Neu, Strand Associates	Sarath Joshua, MAG
Tim Gibson 3M –TSSD	Kiran Guntupalli, MAG
Ryan Cook, PB	Leo Luo, MAG
Ashish Agarwal, AMEC	
Shanthi Krishnan, Jacobs	
+Teleconference	
# Videoconference	
*Not present	

1. Call to Order
Chairman Julian Dresang called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Approval of March 22, 2011 Meeting Minutes
Kerry Wilcoxon from Phoenix moved to approve the minutes, Kurt Sharp seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 22, 2011.
3. Call to Audience
Chairman Julian Dresang made a call to the audience providing an opportunity to members of the public to address the Transportation Safety Committee. No public comments were received.

4. Program Manager's Report

The following items were highlighted by Sarath Joshua in his report:

- ***MAG School Crossing Guard Training Workshop:***
 - Planning has commenced for 2011 Workshops
 - Three workshops will be held in July/August, 2011
 - July 28, 2011 – Sunnyslope High School, Phoenix
 - August 2, 2011 – Mesa Education Center, Mesa
 - August 4, 2011 – Rio-Vista Recreation Center, Peoria
- ***ADOT Cycle 5 SRTS Applications:***
 - \$4 million available for FY 2012
 - ADOT is planning to call for projects in September, 2011
- ***Decline in Road Deaths in Recent Years:***
 - A recent publication from International Traffic Safety Data and Analysis Group (IRTAD) shows that there is decline in fatalities resulting from crashes on roadways in many countries across the world.

5. Application Process for FY2012-2014 HSIP Funds

ADOT allocates \$1 million in HSIP funds to MAG each fiscal year for programming system-wide safety improvements across the region. Funds are available in fiscal years 2012 through 2014. The ADOT and FHWA are developing the application guidelines that follow federal rules and simplify the application process. This item was tabled for the next meeting as the guidelines are still being reviewed by FHWA and ADOT.

6. The Effectiveness of Non-Engineering Road Safety Countermeasures

A MAG study has been initiated to document the effectiveness of Non-Engineering road safety countermeasures. The primary purpose of this study is to gain a better understanding of the significant role and effectiveness of non-engineering road safety countermeasures. This study will examine the experiences and knowledge in this area within and outside the United States and develop metrics that could be used to support and guide road safety planning activities at the regional and local level. MAG has hired the on-call consultant Cambridge Systematics to perform the study. Sarath Joshua introduced Beth Wemple (participating via telephone) to go over the scope of the study. Beth Wemple described the work in each task and the deliverables. She also went over the schedule of the project and stated that she will be in Phoenix to present study the findings at the July and September committee meetings.

7. Update on Statewide HSIP Funds

Nearly \$30 million in Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds are received by the state each fiscal year. Nearly \$20 million, or 70 percent of this, has been made available by ADOT for safety improvements on all public roads in the state. Last year the committee generated a recommendation from MAG to ADOT that included nine (9) safety projects in FY 2011-2013 that requested a total of \$25.9 million in HSIP. All except two of the smaller projects have been approved for funds. An additional two safety projects have also been accepted by ADOT. The total federal cost of these approved safety projects is \$42.8 million. Sarath Joshua informed the committee that MAG plans to announce a call for projects for safety improvements and generate a

recommendation to ADOT. In response to a question from Sarath Joshua if safety improvements could be part of a capital improvement project and funded with HSIP funds, Kelly LaRosa of FHWA replied that only the components of the project that deal directly with transportation safety improvements could be funded with HSIP funds.

8. Road Safety Assessments Update

Sarath Joshua reported that the list of 23 intersections recommended by the committee for RSAs was approved by the Regional Council on April 27, 2011. He also said that the RSAs will be performed at these locations, prioritized on the intersection crash risk rank, and the RSAs are planned to commence in Fall 2011 as summer traffic volumes are lower than regular time of the year. He also mentioned a recent newspaper article about upcoming MAG Road Safety Assessments.

9. Reports by the Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities

Chair Julian Dresang had no specific report of activities in Tempe but he strongly suggested all agencies to get in touch with the schools and schools districts to encourage them to attend the upcoming school crossing guard training workshops. Shane Kiesow reported that Apache Junction is working with ADOT, MCDOT and the local Fire District to install Emergency Vehicle Preemption at a few signalized intersections. Chris Lemka reported that the City of Glendale is currently working on a safety improvement project at the intersection of 51st Avenue and Northern Avenue. Planned safety improvements include raised medians, bus pullouts, improved traffic signals, undergrounding the power lines etc. It is expected to be completed by end of June. Kohinoor Kar from ADOT reported that per SAFETEA-LU, ADOT is required to identify the top 5 percent crash locations in the state for each fiscal year. ADOT has generated the list for 2011 and have sent it to the respective agencies for their review. This list will be forwarded to FHWA after the comments are addressed. Kerry Wilcoxon reported that the City of Phoenix has published 2009 crash numbers in the metro safety book. He mentioned that the all of the neighborhood safety functions in the city have now been consolidated. He also reported that the City of Phoenix has completed a safety project along 35th Avenue to audit all arterial-arterial intersections and change out all 8-inch signal heads to 12-inch signal heads. Chris Plumb reported that Maricopa County recently published the State of the County report. The report consists of various aspects of traffic with one section of the report discussing safety. The safety section included a report on 13 safety improvement projects that the County has completed this year. Chris Plumb reported that the County has also made an interesting observation that truck traffic on County roads appear to have dropped by 49 percent from its peak a few years ago.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

No agenda item requests were received from committee members.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, July 26, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the 20th Floor Conference room at City of Phoenix Offices.

12. Adjournment

Chairman Julian Dresang adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.