

April 4, 2014

TO: Members of the MAG Transportation Safety Committee

FROM: Renate Ehm, City of Mesa, Chair

SUBJECT: SPECIAL MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Wednesday April 9, 2014 9:00 a.m.
MAG Office Building, 2nd Floor, **Cholla Room**
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the MAG Transportation Safety Committee will be held at the time and place noted above. Committee members or their proxies may attend **in person, via videoconference or by telephone conference call**. Those attending by video conference must notify the MAG site three business days prior to the meeting. Those attending by telephone conference call please contact MAG offices for conference call instructions.

Please park in the garage under the MAG building, bring your ticket, parking will be validated. For those using transit, Valley Metro/RPTA will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

In 1996, the Regional Council approved a simple majority quorum for all MAG advisory committees. If the Transportation Safety Committee does not meet the quorum requirement, members who have arrived at the meeting will be instructed a legal meeting cannot occur and subsequently be dismissed. Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Jason Stephens at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Sarath Joshua at (602) 254-6300.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

1. Call To Order

For the April 9, 2014 meeting, the quorum requirement is 10 committee members.

2. Approval of March 25, 2014 Meeting Minutes

3. Call to Audience

An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Transportation Safety Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless members request an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items will be given an opportunity at the time the item is heard.

4. Program Managers Report

None

5. FY2014 HSIP Available Funds

At the March 25, 2014 Transportation Safety Committee Meeting, some of the unprogrammed FY2014 HSIP funds were allocated to two safety projects, with the remaining balance to be programmed at a Special Meeting. The remaining FY2014 balance included funds from a project noted as deferred to FY2015 by the Town of Gilbert in the MAG TIP, plus additional HSIP funds

2. Review and approve minutes of the meeting held on March 25, 2014.

3. For information.

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information and discussion and possible action to recommend approval of the programming of FY2014 HSIP funds for the following projects in the stated amounts: 1) \$161,746 to the City of Apache Junction project, 2) \$70,000 in HSIP funds to the City of Phoenix project in FY2014, and 3) advancement of the City of Tempe project to FY2014 in the amount of \$637,317.

transferred to MAG due to the recent expansion of the MAG Planning Area. MAG has since verified that the Town of Gilbert project will obligate in FY2014 and would also need additional funds to complete the project. In addition, MAG has received information from ADOT on the final HSIP allocation to MAG for FY2014. The amount remaining for safety projects in FY2014 as of April 1, 2014 was \$728,115 based on deferrals and cost savings on past completed HSIP projects.

MAG has received the following requests for additional FY2014 HSIP funds for projects:

(1) City of Apache Junction project for the construction of roadway improvements at SR88 and Old West Highway in the amount of \$161,746.

(2) City of Phoenix FY2012 Dunlap Road from 31st Avenue to 43rd Avenue Safety project (Dunlap & 35th ranked #1 worst crash site in the state at the time) for the installation of LED lighting per current City standards in the amount of \$70,000.

(3) FY2015 City of Tempe project for installation of streetlights as a part of the Broadway Road Rural to Mill Avenue improvement project in the amount of \$637,317 is ready for construction bidding and has been requested to be advanced to FY2014 by ADOT and the City of Tempe.

The total required to fund all three requests exceed available FY2014 funds by \$140,948. This could be accommodated by MAG entering into a HSIP loan agreement with ADOT.

6. Reports by Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities

Deferred to the next regular meeting.

7. Request for Future Agenda Items

Members will be provided the opportunity to suggest future agenda topics.

6. For information and discussion.

7. For information and discussion.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular scheduled Transportation Safety Committee meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday May 27, 2014 at 9:30 a.m in the MAG Ironwood Room.

Adjournment

8. For information and discussion.

MINUTES OF
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

March 25, 2014
Maricopa Association of Governments
Ironwood Room, Suite 200
302 N. 1st Ave,
Phoenix, AZ 85003

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Michael Duhamel for Linda Gorman,
AAA Arizona
Tom Burch, AARP
Larry Talley for Kohinoor Kar, ADOT
Shane Kiesow, City of Apache Junction
Dana Chamberlin, City of Avondale
Thomas Chlebanowski, Town of Buckeye
Martin Johnson, City of Chandler
*Bob Senita, City of El Mirage
+Kelly LaRosa, FHWA
Erik Guderian, Town of Gilbert
Kiran Guntupalli for Chris Lemka,
City of Glendale

*Alberto Gutier, GOHS
+Hugh Bigalk, City of Goodyear
Mazen Muradovich for Nicolaas Swart,
Maricopa County
Renate Ehm (Chair), City of Mesa
*Jeremy Knapp, Town of Paradise Valley
+Mannar Tamirisa for Jamal Rahimi,
City of Peoria
*Kerry Wilcoxon, City of Phoenix
George Williams, City of Scottsdale
*Jason Mahkvtz, City of Surprise
Steven Horstman for Julian Dresang,
City of Tempe
Sam Diggins for Gardner Tabon, RPTA

OTHERS PRESENT

Sarath Joshua, MAG
Margaret Boone, MAG
Eric Nava, MAG
Micah Henry, MAG
Chaun Hill, MAG
Mike Blankenship, AMEC
Patrick Stone, ADOT
Shanthi Krishnan, Jacobs Engineering
Melissa Holdaway, ACA
Janeen Gaskins, City of Surprise
Maria Deeb, City of Mesa
Chelsea Erickson, MCDPH

Zoraida Ettrick, MCDPH
Elexia Torres, MCDPH
Dave Paul, Driving Arizona
Dawn Coomer, Valley Metro
Ashley Barinka, City of Mesa
Jaime Blakeman, J2 Design
Mark Poppe, ADOT
Natalie Carrick, Baker
Jothan Samuelson, Wilson
Stephen Chang, City of Surprise
Martin Lucero, City of Surprise
Dave Sabers, Stanley Consultants

+ Teleconference
Videoconference
* Not present

1. Call to Order
Chair Renate Ehm called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.
2. Approval of January 7, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Chair Renate Ehm called for a motion to approve the January 7, 2014 minutes. Erik Guderian moved, Kiran Guntupalli seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Call to Audience
Chair Renate Ehm made a call to the audience providing an opportunity to members of the public to address the Transportation Safety Committee. Dawn Coomer from Valley Metro addressed the committee on the Transportation Alternatives Program Non-infrastructure Program, item #5 below.
4. Program Manager's Report
 - MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan
 - Review of Technical Memorandum 3
 - Feedback on Performance Measures
 - Predictive Road Safety Analysis Workshop – Jan 28th
 - NPRM - Safety Performance Measures - March 11th
 - Emphasizes need to identify realistic strategies and performance measures for MPO and State
 - March 13th Webcast available at <http://www.yorkmedia.com/dot/2014/03/17>
 - Document available at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpm/>
 - Workshop Today after TSC meeting
 - GOAL: Reach Consensus on Action Areas & PMs
 - Status of RSA and PA projects
 - RSA Workshop
 - Tentative 4/24/2014 – 2HR
 - Project/Task Order development currently underway
 - 11 RSAs and 3 PAs
 - 5 RSAs tentatively scheduled for late April through the beginning of June
 - 6 remaining RSAs will be conducted Sept-Nov
 - 3 PAs will be developed during April-June
 - PA scope developed in coordination with ADOT
 - MAG Staff Addition – Micah Henry, PE – has joined the ITS & Safety Group at MAG
 - School Crossing Guard Workshops
 - Phoenix – July 29, 2014
 - Mesa – July 31, 2014
 - Peoria – August 7, 2014
 - “Guardians of the Future” video updated to include white crossings, HAWKS, signalized crossings, etc.
5. MAG TA Program – Non-infrastructure SRTS
Dawn Coomer from Valley Metro made a statement to the committee on this agenda item and provided a hard copy included as an attachment to the minutes. Sarath Joshua noted

the call for projects was provided in January for the TA non-infrastructure Safe Routes to School projects as a new program under MAP-21 and that \$400,000 was allocated for the non-infrastructure programs for each of the FY2015-2017 with an upper limit of \$45,000 for each application. Mr. Joshua stated that MAG received three (3) applications; two from the Maricopa County Health Services and one (1) project for the City of Surprise which leaves \$285,501 available in FY2015 and \$310,000 available in each FY2016 and FY2017. Mr. Joshua stated that there will need to be action by the committee to recommend the projects listed and as a next step, discuss how to proceed programming the remaining funds. Chair Renate Ehm asked if it was necessary to show the evaluation scores from the committee members. Mr. Joshua stated that due to the number of applications submitted the evaluation scores were not anticipated to be presented unless any committee member felt that it warranted discussion. Maria Deeb asked if the maximum project amount is increased would those who submitted applications have the opportunity to revise their applications to increase the amount of their projects or would there be a second call for projects. Mr. Joshua stated that would be for committee to discuss and possibly take to a working group to revise the program criteria and increase the maximum application amount in a second call for projects. Kiran Guntupalli stated that he is in favor of approving these projects as is and providing a second call for projects in which the current applicants would have the opportunity to supplement their projects as a separate application. Dana Chamberlin suggested that the applicants be given the opportunity to say if they agree with getting their projects in the books with the funding level as is. Mr. Joshua stated that the applicants are available to make a statement. Chair Ehm stated that in the interest of time she suggested that the committee take action on recommending the projects unless any member would like the applicants to state their concurrence with the funding amounts as listed. Kiran Guntupalli asked if we could recommend the projects to be approved with the increased funding amounts now. Mr. Joshua noted that this could not be done with this committee action because the call for projects was advertised with a maximum of \$45,000. **Kiran Guntupalli moved to recommend the list of three projects and to issue a second call for projects, seconded by Shane Kiesow and the motion passed unanimously.**

6. Chandler and Tempe HSIP Project Modification

Chair Renate Ehm noted that the committee should refer to the addendum that was provided for this agenda item. Sarah Joshua stated that there was a call for projects that previously programmed all of the HSIP funds available at the time in FY2014. However, since then a Chandler project was determined as ineligible by FHWA and a Gilbert project was deferred to FY2015. Erik Guderian noted that the Gilbert project was not deferred to FY2015 to his knowledge and that they are working with ADOT to obligate this project. Mr. Joshua stated that after correcting for the Gilbert project there was still an amount remaining due to funds added to the MAG HSIP due to the expansion of the MAG Planning Area in the amount of \$120,254. Mr. Joshua stated that the action required today is to recommend adding funds to a City of Chandler sign project that requires an additional \$39,287 and a City of Tempe emergency preemption project that requires an additional \$38,000 for a total of \$77,286 leaving a balance of \$42,968 remaining to be programmed. Shane Kiesow asked if the Chandler sign project was for upgrades of the current signs. Martin Johnson stated that the sign project is for retroreflectivity and font upgrades to meet new standards and that during the redesign process that the total sign

square footage was twice as much as originally thought and the funds would cover these additional costs. Shane Kiesow asked if the cards for the emergency preemption project involved Tempe owned signals or if it was to install to a standard for existing ADOT signals. Steve Horstman from the City of Tempe stated that all the equipment is being installed on Tempe maintained signals. Mr. Joshua added that the original amount included funding for one preemption card for each intersection when in fact each intersection requires two cards and that the funds would cover the cost for one additional card for each of the intersections. Chair Renate Ehm requested a motion to recommend the approval of the modifications to the FY2014 HSIP projects. **George Williams made a motion to recommend approval of the addition of \$39,287 to the City of Chandler sign upgrade project and \$38,000 to the City of Tempe emergency preemption project, seconded by Dana Chamberlin and the motion passed unanimously.** Kiran Guntupalli asked what would be done to program the remaining HSIP funds. Sarath Joshua stated that the status of the Gilbert project that appears to have been deferred would need to be verified and the resulting amount would need to be brought back to the committee for action on recommending adding funds to any additional projects ready to be obligated by the June 30th deadline. Kiran continued that the City of Glendale is looking for funding for an existing project in FY2015 and asked if there was going to be funding left over for FY2015 and would like to know soon because it is difficult for agencies who are not approved by ADOT to administer their own projects to move on funding that is left over at this late a date. Margaret Boone stated there are still FY2015 projects that do not yet have eligibility determination and several other factors that would go into realizing any amount left over and that as of now the MAG HSIP is still fully programmed in FY2015. Sarath Joshua added that HSIP funds left unprogrammed for FY2014 would not be able to be carried forward to FY2015.

7. Safety Implications of the Vehicle-to-Vehicle Communications
Chair Renate Ehm deferred this item to the next regular meeting due to time constraints.
8. Reports by Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities
Chair Renate Ehm deferred this item to the next regular meeting due to time constraints.
9. Request for Future Agenda Items
Chair Renate Ehm asked for requests for future agenda items. None requested.
10. Next Meeting
Chair Renate Ehm stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 27th at 9:30 a.m. in the Ironwood Room and invited committee members to remain for the Strategic Transportation Safety Plan workshop to convene at 10:00 a.m. after the adjournment of this meeting.
11. Adjournment
Chair Renate Ehm adjourned the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

MAG Safety Committee

March 25, 2014

Members of the MAG Safety Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I'm here to address the committee on agenda item 5, the transportation alternatives program. My name is Dawn Coomer, and I'm the TDM Manager at Valley Metro. Our department, Commute Solutions, receives funding from MAG and other public agencies for activities that reduce congestion and VMT to help improve regional air quality and reduce pollutants. Since 2008, we've received \$2.4 million dollars in funding from ADOT through the transportation enhancements program – four separate projects – for bicycle and pedestrian safety and education programs, and prior to that we received money for similar programs directly from MAG. I've been with Valley Metro since December of 2010, and before that I worked for two different local agencies on managing capital projects using federal aid, and prior to that I worked at MAG for about 7 years. It's always a bit surreal when addressing a MAG committee like this since I used to staff them myself!

I'm here today for two reasons: one, to support the Maricopa County Department of Public Health application for funding, and two, to offer suggestions to improve the transportation alternatives non-infrastructure project selection process.

We have an ongoing partnership with the Maricopa County Department of Public Health on safe routes to schools programs. We work together to educate and encourage children and parents to walk and bicycle safely to school. We value these programs because it provides parents with additional opportunities to use alternatives for their own commutes when their children are able to safely and independently travel to school. According to saferoutesinfo.org, up to 25% of peak period congestion is attributable to parents driving their children to school. We also recognize the importance of increasing the number of children who walk and bicycle because obesity has become a public health crisis. My husband works at a school and sees the congestion during drop off and pick up. We've all seen the chaos during these times. Any effort we can do to help address these problems improves our community.

The second reason why I'm here is to encourage the committee to evaluate ways to simplify the application process to increase the number of transportation alternatives funding applications submitted. Nationwide, there are less bicycle and pedestrian safety projects being funded with transportation alternatives due to flexible funding provisions. We know there is tremendous need for these types of projects in the region. A well-developed bicycle and pedestrian safety program with print/electronic resources, web applications, and curriculum education such as Valley Metro's can be used in schools who have had to remove bus routes due to funding cuts and in other cities where there's a need to improve bicycling and pedestrian safety in schools and surrounding neighborhoods. While there is limited data on the specific costs of unintentional related bicycle and pedestrian collisions for those 19 or younger in Maricopa County, we do know that bicycle injuries and deaths affect children and young people at a greater rate than any other age group. (Source: Childrens Safety Network)

We know that Transportation Alternatives funding provides for non-traditional transportation programs and projects, and this type of federal aid has decreased in amount since the passage of MAP-21. Here are some specific suggestions to improve the overall MAG application process, increase the number of applications submitted, and ensure that funding allocated to applicants is effectively spent.

Number one: Increase the maximum funding of \$45,000 per application. As all of you with local governments who use federal-aid are well aware, administering small federal-aid projects is cumbersome and time-consuming. The cap of \$45,000 does not provide sufficient funding for direct labor, fringe and overhead of professional staff to manage a program. Given the resource restrictions that we are all under due to staffing reductions still in place from the economic downturn, being asked to do more with less, it is simply too much hassle for local governments to administer small federal-aid projects.

Number two: modify the application to focus on programs rather than the built environment. Successful Safe Routes to School programs are evaluated on awareness, mode shift, actual changes in safe behavior, such as wearing a helmet while riding, and whether walking and bicycling are viewed as fun and healthy activities by parents, students, and school faculty. This information is not required in the application, and should be to ensure that funding is allocated to those using established education methods in their programs.

Number three: for each school, use data collection and evaluation best practices outlined by the National Center for Safe Routes to School and best practices for implementation identified by the Safe Routes to School National Partnership. Valley Metro uses many of these tools, including providing bicycle and pedestrian safety education curriculum, structured for appropriate grade and age levels, and comprehensive data collection and analysis at various stages of our programs.

In closing, I'd like the committee to consider the following proposal. While MAG is not eligible to receive transportation alternatives funding directly, regional transportation authorities such as Valley Metro are. Furthermore, federal guidelines allow MPOs to partner with an eligible entity project sponsor to carry out a project. Valley Metro would welcome the opportunity to partner with MAG to advance Safe Routes to School in the region through the Valley Metro Be Bright program. Be Bright is a comprehensive program that includes data collection, evaluation, in-classroom education, special events, helmet fittings and individual education customized by age group. We are actively working with six schools this year on comprehensive programs and have three more on a waiting list. We would welcome the opportunity to work with MAG staff, the MAG Transportation Safety Committee and other MAG member agencies to use existing Valley Metro program resources to expand bicycle and pedestrian safety education throughout the region. If you'd like to see more of our programs, speak to me after the meeting or visit our website: bebright.valleymetro.org.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to speak with you today. I hope you view the Maricopa County Public Health Department application favorably, and also look for ways to increase the number of applications submitted for transportation alternatives non-infrastructure funding using the ideas I've provided today.