

MINUTES OF
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

April 9, 2014
Maricopa Association of Governments
Ironwood Room, Suite 200
302 N. 1st Ave,
Phoenix, AZ 85003

MEMBERS ATTENDING

+Linda Gorman, AAA Arizona
*Tom Burch, AARP
+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
Kristin Myers for Erik Guderian,
Town of Gilbert
+Kiran Guntupalli for Chris Lemka,
City of Glendale

*Alberto Gutier, GOHS
+Hugh Bigalk, City of Goodyear
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
*Martin Lucero for Jason Mahkovtz,
City of Surprise
+Julian Dresang, City of Tempe
*Gardner Tabon, RPTA

OTHERS PRESENT

Sarath Joshua, MAG
Margaret Boone, MAG
Teri Kennedy, MAG
Eric Nava, MAG
Micah Henry, MAG
Maria Deeb, City of Mesa

Jaime Blakeman, J2 Design
Jothan Samuelson, Wilson
Martin Lucero, City of Surprise
Skye Gentile, Parsons
Mike Manthey, Parsons
BriAnne Turpin, Michael Baker

+ Teleconference
Videoconference
* Not present

1. Call to Order
Chair Renate Ehm called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
2. Approval of March 25, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Chair Renate Ehm called for a motion to approve the March 25, 2014 minutes. Nicolaas Swart made a motion to approve, Kristin Myers 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. None requested.
4. Program Manager's Report
 - o Sarath Joshua provided an update on the MAG RSA program:
 - DBE requirement issue being resolved; it may delay performance of the RSAs to the fall when school is back in session
 - April 28th workshop
5. FY2014 HSIP Available Funds
Margaret Boone from MAG provided information on the availability of FY2014 HSIP funds based on projects that have realized cost savings at project close-out as well as funds that were transferred into the MAG ledger as part of the MAG Planning Area expansion process. Ms. Boone then explained that a Gilbert project which was originally reported to be deferred was later confirmed to have been obligated and completed in FY2014 and that it resulted in a cost savings noting to strike the agenda summary description where it states that it would require additional funding. Ms. Boone then referred to the previous committee action to recommend adding funds to FY2014 Chandler and Tempe projects in a total amount of \$77,287. Ms. Boone continued to outline the new request from Apache Junction requiring an additional amount of \$161,746, a City of Phoenix project requiring \$70,000, and the advancement from FY2015 to FY2014 of a City of Tempe project in the amount of \$637,317 for a total of \$869,063. Ms. Boone stated that the amount of available for funding these new requests as well as the amounts recommended by a previous committee action is \$805,402 and that recommendation of funding these projects would have the effect of a FY2014 deficit in the amount of \$104,948. Ms. Boone invited the MAG TIP Manager, Teri Kennedy to describe the options for funding the additional dollars in FY2014. Ms. Kennedy stated that the overall funding allocation is fixed but that when final vouchers are closed out MAG sees that amount come back to the MAG region. Ms. Kennedy continued to say that if the amount coming back to the MAG region does not cover the amount that MAG can coordinate with another region to borrow the amount but that she is confident that the amount would be able to be funded through the ADOT closeout process. Ms. Kennedy clarified that a loan would be paid back with future fiscal year allocations and still allows for existing project funding. Martin Lucero of Surprise asked what would be the cascading effect of this option stating that the City of Surprise has projects ready to bring to MAG and would like to explore the options with whatever HSIP funding could be available with the shifting of projects and funding years. Ms. Kennedy said that the MAG HSIP suballocation is about \$1.9M per year and that for

example, FY2016 HSIP is currently programmed at about \$2M but there is typically a lot of project cost savings and overages that are tracked in order to move funding between the program years. Sarath Joshua noted that if there are a lot of funds left available in any fiscal year that there would have to be a call for projects which takes time to develop and suggested that the committee consider funding existing projects to advance into the under-programmed fiscal year. Kristin Myers asked if the Apache Junction project had already obtained eligibility and what the status is of the agreement process with ADOT which could potentially delay the process at this late date. Teri Kennedy stated that ADOT has communicated with her that eligibility and the agreement are imminent for the amount requested of the committee. Kristin Myers of Gilbert asked if ADOT has come forward with information on providing eligibility of potential HSIP projects even if there is no funding available until FY2019. Maria Deeb of Mesa stated that the City of Mesa has had locally funded projects in the TIP that were advanced with HSIP funding after eligibility had been determined. Teri Kennedy stated that the process of eligibility determination prior to entering projects into the TIP is a new process at ADOT and that they are working on refining the process to get the project eligibility determination for projects already in the TIP in an effort to solve the problem of projects going to ADOT and then not obtaining eligibility. Ms. Kennedy noted that the process of locally funded projects in the TIP that could be advanced for HSIP funding in the future is a long process but important to ensuring we spend allocated funds and overall safety in the region. Kiran Guntupalli of Glendale stated that he understands that ADOT will not look at determining eligibility of a project unless it is in the TIP. Kelly LaRosa of FHWA clarified that there are no federal restrictions on getting eligibility in pursuing a project but that it should be coordinated with ADOT as to what their overall program resources are. Mr. Guntupalli asked Kohinoor Kar if they have staff availability to review projects for eligibility. Mr. Kar stated that ADOT does not have these resources but would do their best. Sarath Joshua commented that seeking eligibility of a project ahead of time may help in the long run but that it may undermine what is being done by the committee when setting project priorities which may have the effect of local agencies that have obtained this eligibility will have the impression that their project will automatically be recommended and also disadvantage those projects that do not have prior eligibility. Mr. Kar stated that evaluation is done before determining eligibility and that through this process sometimes find that projects are not eligible and recommends that the local agencies do the work to analyze projects and develop a cost/benefit ratio before submitting projects. Renate Ehm asked when the next call for HSIP projects is anticipated for FY2018-20. Sarath Joshua stated that this could be discussed at one of the upcoming committee meetings. Sarath Joshua pointed out that the on-going development of the MAG STSP will identify action areas and countermeasures that may drive priorities for the next call for HSIP projects. One of the goals outlined in the STSP refers to prioritizing HSIP projects. Renate Ehm requested a motion to recommend approval of the additional funds for the Apache Junction and Phoenix projects and advancing the Tempe project. **Julian Dresang moved to recommend funding of the Apache Junction and Phoenix projects and advancing the Tempe project to FY2014, Kristin Myers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

6. Reports by Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities

Chair Renate Ehm deferred this item to the next regular meeting due to time constraints.

7. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chair Renate Ehm asked for requests for future agenda items. Nicolaas Swart requested an agenda item to clarify concerns raised regarding the HSIP process at this meeting and that members of ADOT be available to address questions from the committee. Kohinoor Kar suggested that MAG reach out to the ADOT LPA section.

8. 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.

9. Adjournment

Chair Renate Ehm adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.