

MINUTES OF
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 27, 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
Kohinoor Kar, ADOT
Heather Hodgeman for Shane Kiesow,
City of Apache Junction
Dana Chamberlin, City of Avondale
#Chris Lemka for Thomas Chlebanowski,
City of Buckeye
Martin Johnson, City of Chandler
Bob Senita, City of El Mirage
*Kelly LaRosa, FHWA
Erik Guderian, Town of Gilbert
#Kiran Guntupalli, 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
Mike Mecham, City of Surprise
Julian Dresang, City of Tempe
*Sam Diggins, RPTA

OTHERS PRESENT

Sarath Joshua, MAG
Margaret Boone, MAG
Monique de los Rios-Urban, MAG
Eric Nava, MAG
Micah Henry, MAG
Kristin Myers, Town of Gilbert
Larry Talley, ADOT
Brian Fellow, ADOT
Mark Poppe, ADOT
Natalie Carrick, Baker

Dawn Coomer, Valley Metro
Anissa Janovich, Valley Metro
Tracey Fejt, Cardon Children
Jothan Samuelson, Wilson
Ellie Volosin, AECOM
Ashley Barinka, City of Mesa
Mike Blankenship, AMEC
Joe Spadafino, CivTech
Doug McCants, Atkins

- * Not present or represented by proxy
- # Participated by teleconference
- + Participated by videoconference

1. Call to Order
Chair Renate Ehm called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.
2. Approval of April 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Chair Renate Ehm called for a motion to approve the April 9, 2014 minutes. Eric Guderian noted the correct spelling of Kristin Myers' name for revision in the minutes and made a motion to approve, Bob Senita 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
 - Strategic Transportation Safety Plan: Sarath Joshua reported that a workshop was held on March 25th to refine the Action Areas, Strategies and that the MAG PM, Margaret Boone is working with MAG Performance Measurement staff to refine the performance measures associated with the strategies developed to complete Technical Memorandum #3. MAG Staff is compiling comments for finalization of Technical Memorandum #4 on the Network Screening Methodology. Task 5 and 6 are currently underway to incorporate safety in the Regional Transportation Plan and the TIP programming process. A Working Group has been formed between the Transportation Safety Committee, Transit Committee and Bike and Pedestrian Committee to come up with practices to include safety in the RTP specifically to address bicyclists and pedestrian safety access to transit. Ms. Boone reported that the working group meetings will be held in June and July.
 - Status of RSA and PA projects: Sarath Joshua reported that one RSA has been completed with the remaining 10 RSAs delayed until fall 2014 when school is back in session. The PA projects will be launched shortly. A workshop on RSAs will be conducted on May 28th to provide basic training on how to conduct an RSA. Local Agency staff is encouraged to participate for information on the RSA process from the agency standpoint and to generate a pool of volunteers that could participate in future RSAs. On-call consultants are required to attend the workshop. Eric Guderian asked if the fall RSAs have been scheduled. Ms. Boone stated that she would send the tentative schedule out to the local agencies who have requested the RSAs.
 - 2014 School Crossing Guard Workshops: Margaret Boone reported that this is the 10th year of providing this training. She noted that a revision of the "Guardians of the Future" video is in the process of filming, editing, and development of animations to be included in the video. Ms. Boone thanked Don Cross from Phoenix, Dale Brunk, Ray Parmigiani from Mesa and Brandon Forrey from Peoria for their help in this production process. Ms. Boone then reported the schedule for the upcoming workshops; July 29th in Phoenix at Washington High School, July 31st at the Mesa Convention Center and August 7th at the Rio Vista Community Center in Peoria.
 - Vice Chair nominations – The Vice Chair position has become vacant due to the current Vice Chair Chris Lemka leaving employment at the City of Glendale. It is likely that he will be nominated by the City of Buckeye. Any others interested should contact MAG.

5. MAG Transportation Alternatives Program: Non-Infrastructure - Second Call for Projects
Margaret Boone provided background information on the Transportation Alternatives program and the need to issue a second call for projects based on previous action of the committee on March 25th and invited Kristin Myers to inform the committee on the recommendation of the working group formed to discuss the guidelines for issuing the second call. Kristin Myers explained that the group first discussed the challenges in programming projects now that school is out and to reduce the stress on local agencies in this effort as well as reasonably meet obligation deadlines recommended issuing a second call to complete programming FY2015 projects only to include 1) existing projects such as the Maricopa County and City of Surprise projects to advance FY2016 and FY2017 funding to FY2015 or increase funding of FY2015 projects 2) other projects that could meet the obligation deadline. Kristin explained that a future call for projects to program FY2016 and FY2017 projects could be issued in early 2015. Ms. Myers provided the working group's recommendation to simplify the application to streamline and combine fields for more meaningful project evaluation and provide better guidance for establishing partnerships. This revision would be in effect for the call for projects to be issued in January of 2015. Ms. Myers then outlined the working groups recommendation to promote and emphasize Safe Routes to School Studies as a comprehensive tool that would include an engineering evaluation of school traffic safety to identify issues unique to each school site, recommend infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects and provide a framework to be used by schools and local agencies in partnership with the community. The studies main deliverable would be a final framework study and new or revised walking/biking route maps. Ms. Myers pointed out the success of a similar study done for the City of Maricopa and the coordination between MAG staff and ADOT to ensure that the scope of work, qualified consultants available on the ADOT on-call contract that would be utilized to administer this type of project would be consistent with the priorities and goals of the committee should they adopt this type of project as a priority. Margaret Boone added that in coordination with ADOT there was a suggestion that was met favorably by ADOT that MAG and the local agency would be included in the consultant selection process for projects using the ADOT on-call consultant list. Ms. Boone noted that the call for projects would be issued that week, applications would be due June 19th, evaluation by the committee members would be in early July and possible recommendation of the FY2015 projects would be on the July 22nd committee meeting agenda. Kiran Guntupalli asked when the applications would be due for FY2015. Sarath Joshua stated that they would be due on June 19th. Margaret Boone noted that the tight schedule is necessary in order to complete the MAG approval process and IGA process in order to meet the FY2015 obligation deadline. Kiran Guntupalli expressed that June 19th is too short a deadline to coordinate projects. Sarath Joshua reiterated that because of the short timeframe the types of projects that would be encouraged based on the working group recommendation are the SRTS studies and the advancement of funds or amended applications from the three existing projects due to be approved by Regional Council on May 28th and suggested that the application due date be pushed to the end of June. Julian Dresang stated that there has been a struggle to program these projects and asked what happens to the amount of the non-infrastructure SRTS funding allocated to the MAG region is left un-programmed and if the funding level of \$400,000 is too high. Sarath Joshua noted that this is the first time this programming has come through MAG and the \$400,000 was decided on with earlier discussions when formulating the TA process as a

whole and that the MAG TIP manager, Terri Kennedy, would have more insight into what happens to the un-programmed SRTS funds. Kristin Myers offered that the funding would go back MAG but that it would be up to Ms. Kennedy as TIP manager to find a funding opportunity. Sarath Joshua also mentioned that if the amount of funding is reduced it would be very difficult to come back in the future and ask for more funding and that the first task is to fully program FY2015 and that with the January call for projects would provide some time for the local agencies to coordinate with schools and school districts we could see more projects than we have funding for. Kristen Myers noted that the state of Ohio has a robust program that requires a study be done to identify safety issues at each school before they apply for funding so that the local agency and schools understand what the issues are going forward and sees this as the type of process that would benefit the MAG region. Sarath Joshua summarized the action to be taken includes 1) issuing a second call for projects with a project cap of \$135,000 and 2) recommendation encouraging SRTS studies, though not limited to the studies but this type of project would be promoted by the committee. **Kiran Guntupalli moved to adopt the guidelines for the second MAG call for TA projects. Kohinoor Kar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

6. HSIP Projects in FY2018 -2020

Sarath Joshua stated that this item is on the agenda for information and discussion. Mr. Joshua noted that the MAG region is allocated \$1.9M/year and that the projects for FY2014-2017 are fully programmed. Mr. Joshua noted that going forward we would be looking at projects consistent with those identified in the STSP for improving road safety would be addressed in the next call for HSIP projects, which would likely involve fiscal years 2018 through 2020. Sarath also noted that a list of strategies established through the development of the STSP is available for review in the attachment provided. Mr. Joshua stated that due to the uncertainty of transportation funds it is recommended that the committee discuss the output from the STSP and start identifying projects for the region keeping in mind that the allocation of \$1.9M could change with the reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Bill. Mr. Joshua described an example from the list of strategies that included non-infrastructure projects. Kohinoor Kar stated that the federal rule under the existing Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) is that all other sources of funding must be expended on non-infrastructure projects before HSIP can be used for non-infrastructure projects. ADOT is going to provide comments on the NPRM that there should be flexibility provided to the states for funding in this area as provided earlier on in MAP-21 legislation. Mr. Kar also stated that the final ruling is anticipated after the comment period which has recently been extended. Sarath Joshua added that with the information from ADOT that we could still look at engineering strategies included on the list to translate into projects with oversight by the committee. Margaret Boone noted that in reference to the engineering strategies developed in the STSP, a possible project could be providing bicycle detection at signalized intersections which addresses the STSP Action Area of Eliminating Death and Serious Injury to Pedestrians, Bicyclists and Persons with Disabilities. Ms. Boone also noted that this agenda item was requested by the committee and that Larry Tally was available at the meeting to address any questions by the committee. Sarath Joshua stated that the next step would be to determine which of these strategies would meet HSIP eligibility. Renate Ehm stated that one of the strategies on the attachment is to implement systemic improvements which in the past were easy to implement such as the pedestrian signals and that she will be interested to see what will

come out of the STSP and feels that providing bicycle detection could be a worthwhile systemic improvement. Sarath Joshua stated that it is important that the local agencies review the list of strategies to come up with a list of project and initiate a dialogue with FHWA and ADOT regarding which projects would be eligible and move forward with those project in the future HSIP programming cycle.

7. Corridor Safety Management Plan – Pilot Project

Chair Renate Ehm stated that the Corridor Safety Management Plan is programmed in the 2015 MAG work program. Sarath Joshua stated that this was a recommendation from the committee as a new project that would be like an RSA conducted for a longer segment including several intersections and look at all facets of transportation including transit, bicyclist and pedestrian safety. The budget for this is \$200,000 as an on-call consultant project to develop a Corridor Safety Management Plan for a high risk corridor in the region that would identify countermeasures to address safety issues. The project would be kicked-off some time in August and the recommendations would be able to compete for a PA or HSIP funding in the future. A corridor has not been identified yet and MAG is seeking input from the committee on selecting a corridor for the pilot project and refine a scope. Mr. Joshua further stated that the extent of the scope will be dependent on the length of corridor and suggested that a working group be formed to identify a corridor and develop a scope of work within the available budget for the project and that the recommendations from the working group would be brought back for possible committee approval at the July 22nd meeting. Mr. Joshua stated that Kerry Wilcoxon had recommended either 35th Avenue or Indian School Road in Phoenix based on the Top 100 high crash risk intersections as a possible corridor. Kohinoor Kar wanted clarification on if the pilot project would develop a regional plan noting that every corridor may differ in traffic and operations and that more data analysis would need to be done for a regional plan than what is normally done for an RSA. Sarath Joshua noted in agreement that there would be more data analysis done with the pilot project which would be to develop a plan for the chosen corridor and not a regional plan. Renate Ehm stated that she feels a Phoenix corridor would be appropriate based on the data that has been available to the committee and endorses their suggestion for moving forward. Eric Guderian stated that the Denver region does a lot of corridor studies that look at access management and turning conflicts that don't typically occur at the intersection and that in looking at a corridor would require looking at data for non-intersection crashes. Sarath noted that if the data indicates issues along a specific corridor show high risk this could be a starting point for a more in depth look at what is going on in the corridor and that there will be several factors that need to be looked at. Julian Dresang stated that it would be interesting to look at a corridor that is multi-jurisdictional so that each agency could benefit from what the other agency are doing. Mannar Tamirisa mentioned the Bell Road corridor.

8. Reports by Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities

Chair Renate Ehm asked for reports on safety activities from committee members. Kohinoor Kar updated the committee on the status of the State SHSP; the executive committee is in the middle of a three month review of the draft SHSP, comments are being compiled for the final plan to be released in July with implementation anticipated to begin in the summer with the help of a management consultant. Kiran Guntupalli noted the activation of a flashing yellow arrow at 59th Avenue and Olive Avenue which currently ranks #2 on the Top 100 listing which has over 200 pedestrian crossings and to

accommodate that aspect, the flashing yellow arrow is on a time of day plan.

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, July 22nd, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Ironwood Room.

11. Adjournment

Chair Renate Ehm adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.