

October 20,2009

TO: Members of the MAG Transportation Safety Committee
FROM: Kerry Wilcoxon, Chair, MAG Transportation Safety Committee
SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Tuesday, October 27, 2009- 10:00 a.m.
MAG Office Building, 2nd Floor, Cholla Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

The next 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 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 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

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| 1. <u>Call To Order</u> | | |
| 2. <u>Approval of July 28, 2009 Meeting Minutes</u> | | 2. Review and approve minutes of the meeting held on July 28, 2009. |
| 3. <u>Call to Audience</u> | | 3. For information. |

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

The following items will be addressed:

- ADOT Call for Safe Routes To School Project Applications - due at 12:00 Noon on December 31, 2009
- MAG application for an SRTS grant
- ADOT plan for utilization of HSIP funds for improving road safety in Arizona

5. Network Screening Methodology to Identify Potential Intersection Sites for Safety Improvement

Improving safety at intersections is identified as a regional priority in the 2005 MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. Recent crash statistics for the region show that sixty percent of all of traffic related injuries and forty percent of all fatalities that occur on arterial and local streets are due to crashes at intersections. A network screening process is necessary to identify high risk intersections that could be targeted for safety improvements. At the January 2009 Transportation Research Board (TRB) annual meeting, a methodology was presented by the Wisconsin DOT for such a screening process for intersections. To illustrate this methodology, it has been applied

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information, discussion and possible action to recommend adoption of the proposed network screening methodology to identify potential sites for intersection safety improvement.

to all intersection crash data, from the MAG region, for the period 2006-2008(See Attachment One). The committee will review this proposed methodology in for possible adoption as the region's network screening method to identify potential intersections for safety improvement projects.

6. Programming of HSIP Allocation to MAG Region

On July 22, 2009, the Arizona DOT informed MAG that \$1 million of Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for FY 2010 has been allocated to be used for safety improvement projects in the MAG region. Projects using these funds will be funded at the federal reimbursement rate of 94.3 percent, with the remaining 5.7 percent as the local match. At a follow-up meeting with MPOs and COGs, held on Sept 25, 2009, ADOT provided further clarification and indicated that MPOs should begin programming FY2010 and future year projects in the TIP assuming that \$1million per year will continue. The process for programing the projects is described in Attachment Two

The committee will discuss: (1) an immediate and practical strategy for identifying and programming safety improvement projects for FY 2010 that could be obligated by Sept 15, 2010. (2) a strategy for identifying and programming safety improvement projects for FY 2010 and beyond. Both these efforts will be guided by regional priorities identified in the 2005 Strategic Transportation Safety Plan.

7. Regional Safety Information Management System (RTSIMS) Phase II - Software Demo

A Task Order was initiated with Kimley Horn and Associates, an on-call consultant to MAG, for the development of the RTSIMS database software that will be used at MAG, and eventually by member agencies, for performing various safety analyses using ALISS crash data. The consultant will demonstrate the software and its capabilities to the committee for review and comments.

6. For information, discussion and possible action to recommend a strategy for programming safety projects in the TIP for FY 2010, and in future years.

7. For information and discussion.

8. Elderly Mobility Sign Project

A team of researchers from the Arizona State University (ASU), was hired by MAG, through the on-call services contract, to perform an evaluation of the safety impacts of the Elder Mobility Sign Project. A brief report on the status of this project will be provided by the Principal Investigator.

9. Effectiveness of Non Engineering Strategies for Improving Safety

It is generally accepted that the true effectiveness of transportation safety improvements are linked to how well they address underlying human factors. Many road safety countermeasures involve modification of the physical road environment or traffic operations, such as changes to the road geometry, new road signs, etc. The primary goal of all these changes is to render the road environment easy to understand and navigate, and reduce potential traffic conflicts between vehicles, and also between vehicles and non-motorized humans. Recent experience in places where significant advances in road safety improvements have been made, such as the province of Victoria in Australia, indicate that non-engineering safety countermeasures can be far more effective than engineering countermeasures in well developed road systems. However, very little is known on how non-engineering countermeasures, such as Education, Enforcement and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) impact overall road safety performance. A study has been included in the MAG Work Program to gain a better understanding of the very significant role and effectiveness of non-engineering road safety strategies in safety improvement. The proposed scope of work is attached as Attachment Three. This study will be carried out through the MAG on-call consultant contract.

10. Meeting Schedule for 2010

8. For information and discussion.

9. For information and discussion.

10. For information, discussion and possible action

At present the committee meetings are held each quarter, on the fourth Tuesday of the first month in each quarter. It is anticipated that the level of safety planning activities at MAG will increase with the recent opening up of HSIP funds for safety improvement projects in the region. In consideration of this change, the committee will determine whether meetings in 2010 should be held more frequently. In prior years the committee met bi-monthly on the first Tuesdays of the odd months. The proposed schedule for bi-monthly meetings is listed in Attachment Four

11. Reports by Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities

Members will be requested to report agency activities or current issues that are related to transportation safety.

12. Request for Future Agenda Items

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

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday January 26, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

14. Adjournment

to change the meeting schedule from quarterly to bi-monthly meetings.

11. For information and discussion.

12. For information and discussion.

13. For information.

