

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE

September 4, 2002
MAG Cholla Room, 2nd Floor
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Jim Book, Glendale	Bruce Dressel, Scottsdale
Alan Sanderson, Mesa	Jim Decker, Tempe
Mike Mah, Chandler	Tim Wolfe, ADOT
Mike Sutton for Bruce Ward, Gilbert	Scott Nodes, Peoria
Dale Thompson, Maricopa County	Chuck Hydeman, Goodyear
*Bob Steele, Phoenix	*Mary Kihl, ASU
*Bob Ciotti, RPTA	James Colyar for Alan Hansen, FHWA
*Terry Conner, DPS	*Michael Smith, Avondale
Bob Maki, Surprise	

OTHERS PRESENT

Matt Burt, Battelle Inc.	Chris Jordan, Kimley-Horn & Assoc.
Xiao Qin, MAG	Anne McCracken, Valley Metro/RPTA
Sarath Joshua, MAG	Faisal Saleem, Maricopa County

* Not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jim Book called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

2. Approval of August 15, 2002 Meeting Minutes

A number of minor errors and omissions in minutes were noted. Alan Sanderson moved to approve minutes with the noted corrections and Chuck Hydeman seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve minutes of the August 15, 2002 ITS Committee meeting.

3. Call to Audience

Chairman Jim Book made a call to the audience providing an opportunity to members of the public to address the ITS Committee. There was no comment from the audience.

4. Program Managers Report

- The new ITS/Safety staff person at MAG, Xiao Qin was introduced to the committee. Mr. Qin stated that he looks forward to working with the ITS Committee.
- Concept of Operations Project Meetings: The schedule of all project meetings over

the next 12 months was provided. The RCTO meetings will follow ITS Committee meetings. On Feb 10th and in March two workshops are shown on the schedule.

- INFOstructure workshop: At the national level, there is a lot of discussion on INFOstructure requirements. A workshop was held in Irvine, CA to discuss the issues and help formulate the national agenda. Some of the ideas discussed were in 3 white papers presented at the workshop. Three models are being looked at. 1) Public sector model: Data gathering, data archiving and public sector role for data gathering. 2) National Infostructure Layer: A second model is for a nationally launched infrastructure. 3) A private-public partnership to implement the infrastructure. An audience member, Matt Burt had attended the workshop and was asked to brief the committee on his observations. He stated that nearly 125 people attended. After two and a half days there was little agreement on what the focus of infostructure really was. Data collection was included but how much of traveler information was included was not clear.

5. ITS Safety and Security Proposal

Dale Thompson provided an update on the status of the proposal that Maricopa County is preparing for Arizona DOT. A hand out showing a matrix of potential projects was distributed. The proposal is due at FHWA in Washington D.C. on September 13th. Sarah Joshua asked if a draft version of the proposal was available for review. There was some discussion on the constraints on a lengthy review placed by the deadline. Chris Jordan agreed to make the final version of the proposal available to Sarah Joshua for review and for any other committee member. Chairman Jim Book commented that the emphasis seemed to be on security. Alan Sanderson moved that the MAG ITS Committee express support for the proposal by approving the ITS Safety and Security proposal to USDOT. Bruce Dressel seconded and it was carried unanimously.

6. Review of ITS Projects for Earmarking

ADOT is preparing a list of potential projects that may be used in a request to USDOT for earmarking. The ITS Committee was asked by ADOT at the August 2002 meeting for one recommended project from the region. A list of projects drawn directly from the MAG ITS Strategic Plan was sent out as an attachment to help this discussion. Tim Wolfe stated that the project must be of the type of integration. ADOT also provided a summary of all MAG ITS projects in the current TIP. In response to a question from Chairman Jim Book on what types of projects ADOT is looking for, Tim Wolfe indicated that any project in the MAG ITS Strategic Plan would qualify as a feasible project. The committee reviewed the list of projects from the Strategic Plan. A potential project involving integration of railroad crossings to traffic management was suggested by Sarah Joshua. Tim Wolfe indicated that an ADOT research project is about to be launched on a related project and may be worthwhile waiting for its results. James Colyar stated that FHWA favors the vital few – traffic management; traffic safety and environmental streamlining. He further commented that a railroad project might meet some of those criteria. Dale Thompson suggested a telecommunications project to connect agencies. Bob Maki stated the need for more communication infrastructure. Jim Decker also supported a project that would provide a regional communications backbone. The earmarking under discussion was for

FY 2004 funds. James Colyar indicated that for purposes of earmarking the project does not need to be very specific. Chairman Jim Book suggested a possible from Table 10.2 that would integrate traffic and dispatch. After some discussion the committee agreed that would be a good project. Alan Sanderson moved that the project be endorsed by the committee, seconded by Jim Decker and was carried unanimously. Tim Wolfe indicated that he would proceed with including that project as the potential earmarking project from the MAG region. The package will be finalized in October/November with ADOT lobbyists. There was an extended discussion on how ADOT responds to incidents on the state highway system. Tim Wolfe informed the group that the new statewide RWIS contract will also incorporate, VMS, still frame cameras in both directions and traffic counting.

7. Status Reports by Committee Members

Tim Wolfe reported that crashes during the labor day weekend resulted in 15 fatalities and 17 injuries. Jim Decker reported that Pitu Mirchandani and Larry Head have successfully implemented RHODES in Seattle in a corridor that had 180 sec cycles and reduced them down to about 95 seconds. Ten signals reduced by 40-50 percent. Dale Thompson reported REACT team spent 21 hours on calls. A telecommunication study is being carried out by Kimley-Horn to determine needs in the region. Chairman Jim Book stated that Glendale fire department had asked for preemption in their ambulances to protect their employees going to emergencies. He is considering hand held preemption devices. Both Tempe and Scottsdale said that they permit ambulances to preempt when going to the hospital with EMTs in the vehicle. Nicolaas Swart will be Dale Thompson's replacement on the ITS committee.

8. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting date was announced as 9:00 AM on Wednesday October 2, 2002. The Concept of Operations project meeting was announced as 10:30 AM on the same day.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jim Book at 11:20 AM.