

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE**

October 4, 2006
MAG Cholla Room, 2nd Floor
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Debbie Burdette, City of Glendale
Alan Sanderson, City of Mesa
Mike Mah, City of Chandler
Ken-Ichi Maruyama, Town of Gilbert
Nicolaas Swart, Maricopa County
*Ron Doubek, City of Phoenix
*Bob Ciotti, RPTA
Mike Lockhart, DPS
Nicholas Mascia, City of Surprise
Thomas Chlebanowski, Town of Buckeye
Don French, City of Goodyear

Bruce Dressel, City of Scottsdale
Jim Decker, City of Tempe
Tim Wolfe, ADOT
Ron Amaya, City of Peoria
Mary Kihl, ASU
Alan Hansen, FHWA
*Dennis Murphy, Phoenix Aviation
Kelly LaRosa, City of Avondale
*BJ Cornwall, City of El Mirage
Michael Pacelli, Town of Queen Creek
Arkady Bernshteyn, Valley Metro Rail

OTHERS PRESENT

Christine Warren, City of Tempe
Bill Birdwell, Town of Queen Creek
Janeen K. Gaskins, City of Avondale
Jan Siedler, City of Mesa
Avery Rhodes, City of Glendale
Faisal Saleem, Maricopa County
Dean Giles, MAG
Kiran Guntupalli, MAG

Douglas McCants, PBS&J
Bill Meador, Compel
Nolan Hess, TransCore
Tom Buick, Morrison-Maierle
Luke Albert, Kirkham Michael
Lisa Burgess, Kimley-Horn
Sarath Joshua, MAG
Leo Luo, MAG

*Not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order
Chairman Alan Sanderson called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.
2. Approval of September 6, 2006 Meeting Minutes and Introductions
A few corrections were identified on attendees. Mary Kihl moved to approve minutes, Tim Wolfe seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2006 ITS Committee meeting.
3. Call to Audience
Chairman Alan Sanderson made a call to the audience providing an opportunity to members of the public to address the ITS Committee. No comments were received from the public.

4. Program Managers Report

Sarath Joshua addressed the following items in his report:

- ITS On-Call Contract Status

An error by MAG staff has resulted in a request for amending the list of approved on-call consultants. This change is expected to be approved by Regional Council in October. All the contracts are expected to be finalized by the end of October.

- TSOP program and call for volunteers

The traffic signal optimization program will be issuing a call for projects soon. The TSOP committee will meet to select the projects after the ITS TIP applications are finished.

- ADOT local government workshop

The ADOT local government workshop will be held in MAG Cholla Room at 10:00 am on October 24th. ADOT local government Manager John Dickson and MAG Transportation Programming Manager Paul Ward will explain the local government and MAG process.

5. Presentation on Arterial ITS Projects applying for FY2008-FY2012 TIP funding

Alan Sanderson pointed out that the total of all requests at \$15.37M is very close to the available funding of \$12.3M for FY2008-2012. He had proposed reducing the funding requests from Mesa, Maricopa County, MAG and Tempe before the committee meeting. The four agencies agreed to accept the reduction if this suggestion would lead to a balance between request and available funding. He also stated that all agencies were deserving projects and if all the projects could be included in the committee recommendation for the TIP, it might not be necessary to have project presentations during the committee meeting.

Based on suggestions made by member agencies, MAG had developed three scenarios that could possibly balance the project requests to available funding. The committee agreed to proceed with the discussion of the three scenarios before deciding if presentations are necessary. Sarath Joshua explained the first adjustment strategy based on Alan Sanderson's suggestion. Four agencies received reduction on their request funding so that the total amount request funding matches with the available funding. When this is not sufficient to keep the request funding within each program year limit, some projects are recommended to move to other program years. Alan Sanderson also mentioned that even if some projects were moved to later program years, they would have the opportunity to get close-out funding to accelerate the projects. Michael Pacelli asked if the member agencies could fund their projects first and get reimbursement in the later program year. Alan Sanderson commented that this should be a feasible alternative. All the agencies affected by changing the project program year agreed to accept the possible changes. Nicolaas Swart asked if funding were reduced for those agencies, could priority be given to the projects with regional impacts. Alan Sanderson commented that Mesa would need to decide if all its projects should receive equally reduction or should priority given to some of its projects and have some others reduced more or eventually drop out. Nicolaas Swart expressed the same idea because some of the county projects will have regional impact. Sarath Joshua suggested that MAG staff would work with the member agencies to produce a detailed list of projects based on committee agreement on a specific funding strategy. This will be brought back for approval at the next committee meeting.

Leo Luo explained the adjustment strategy based on graduated scales suggested by Jim Decker. This was based on the idea that the largest requests will be subjected to the largest reduction and the smallest projects receive no reduction. Don French commented that this strategy maybe less favorable than the first strategy. Sarath Joshua continued to explain the third strategy, which did not involve moving any projects to different fiscal year, but reduced

all the projects by the percentage that is required to meet each fiscal year budget limit. Alan Sanderson commented that the need for smaller projects and smaller agencies should be taken into account.

Sarath Joshua also distributed and explained the air quality evaluation results that were conducted by MAG environmental division. **Mike Mah moved, Debbie Burdette seconded, to adopt Strategy #1 in the handout to produce a final list of projects and allow agencies impacted by reduced requests to determine if they would like to scale projects back or drop any projects in order to meet the adjusted funds to agency by program year. The motion was amended by Jim Decker to allow agencies to voluntarily reduce their requests in favor of committee priority for future TIP close-out funds. Chairman Sanderson called for a vote on the motion and it was carried unanimously.**

Sarath Joshua recommended that the affected agencies could adjust their funding request distribution within the suggested total amount for the individual agency to avoid major changes on strategy #1. Alan Sanderson from Mesa and Nicolaas Swart from Maricopa County agreed to work together and come up with a detailed allocation of the funding between them. Alan Sanderson emphasized that the obligation of federal funds be consistent with the project schedule and reminded committee members to check their project schedules. Because the adjustment strategy #1 is adopted and all the projects will be recommended to the TIP, it was unanimously carried to approve that the project presentations are not necessary. No project presentations were made in the meeting.

6. Arterial ITS Plan

Sarath Joshua mentioned that the project review and selection criteria developed by the arterial ITS working group does not adequately address the problem. He requested the arterial ITS working group to come up with a more practical review and selection process for future arterial ITS projects. Jim Decker commented that it would be important to allocate the funding fairly and equally. Sarath Joshua mentioned that the ICM project submitted by MAG region for federal aid demonstration was not accepted. It could be a potential project that need arterial ITS funding in the future. Alan Sanderson pointed out that different agencies are at different positions in conducting ITS projects. Arkady Bernshteyn mentioned that need for communications between Transit and other agencies as well as the need for traveler information and CCTV camera images sharing. Sarath Joshua commented that the RCN phase 1 would physically connect the transit and light rail control centers with the existing network. As long as agreements are made, the agencies could share their CCTV camera images. Sarath also mentioned that the system engineering analysis for the RCN project is current under review and will be brought to the next committee meeting for discussion.

7. Status Reports by Committee Members of ITS Activities

Don French mentioned that City of Goodyear submitted 95% plan for Litchfield road fiber optical project. Nicolaas Swart updated the committee the ITS project on Bell road. It is expected that the speed limit would be increased once the project is completed. Faisal Saleem reminded the committee that the ITS Arizona annual meeting will be held on Nov. 8; a wireless communications training will be held on Nov. 7 and a small demonstration of VII is under discussion on Nov. 9 and the vehicle demonstration may be held in next April. He also announced that a traffic management division was established in Maricopa County. Nicolaas Swart will be the division manager. Jim Decker updated the committee the Tempe TMC project. Ron Amaya briefed the committee on the FMS phase 10-11 project with

ADOT and Peoria traffic signal system project. Thomas Chlebanowski mentioned the Buckeye ITS plan. Arkady Bernshteyn from Valley Metro Rail mentioned that the design of the communications system is at the final stage. Tim Wolfe from ADOT mentioned superstition freeway project, FMS phase 10-11 with Peoria and phase 9 with Chandler as well as an electronic contract regarding DMS signs. Kelly LaRosa mentioned the vender problems in Avondale wireless communications project. Nicholas Mascia updated the committee the projects in Surprise including the Bell road phase 1 project. Bruce Dressel from Scottsdale mentioned the IP communications conversion project.

8. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting date was announced as 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 1, 2006.

9. Adjournment

Chairman Alan Sanderson adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM