

MINUTES OF THE
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
April 11, 2007
MAG Office Building - Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Brent Stoddard for Ed Beasley, Glendale, Chair	Mark Johnson, Guadalupe
Jan Dolan, Scottsdale, Vice Chair	Darryl Crossman, Litchfield Park
# George Hoffman, Apache Junction	Christopher Brady, Mesa
Charlie McClendon, Avondale	Tom Martinsen, Paradise Valley
Dave Wilcox, Buckeye	Carl Swenson for Terry Ellis, Peoria
* Jon Pearson, Carefree	Frank Fairbanks, Phoenix
Wayne Anderson for Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek	John Kross, Queen Creek
Pat McDermott for Mark Pentz, Chandler	* Bryan Meyers, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
* B.J. Cornwall, El Mirage	Jim Rumpeltes, Surprise
Alfonso Rodriguez for Orlando Moreno, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation	Will Manley, Tempe
# Tim Pickering, Fountain Hills	* Reyes Medrano, Tolleson
# Lynn Farmer, Gila Bend	* Shane Dille, Wickenburg
* Joseph Manuel, Gila River Indian Community	* Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
George Pettit, Gilbert	Bill Hayden for Victor Mendez, ADOT
Stephen Cleveland, Goodyear	Kenny Harris for David Smith, Maricopa County
	Bryan Jungwirth for David Boggs, Valley Metro/RPTA

- * Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
- # Participated by telephone conference call.
- + Participated by videoconference call.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Jan Dolan at 12:10 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Vice Chair Dolan stated that George Hoffman, Tim Pickering and Lynn Farmer were participating by telephone.

Vice Chair Dolan noted that MAG staff was available to assist members of the public in turning in their public comment cards. Vice Chair Dolan stated that transit tickets were available from Valley Metro/RPTA for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

Vice Chair Dolan noted materials at each place: for agenda item #3, a statement submitted for the record by a citizen; for agenda item #4C, revised material to reflect two additional deferred projects; for agenda item #4E, Project Change Sheet #4; and for agenda item #7, a bill summary chart.

3. Call to the Audience

Vice Chair Dolan stated that Call to the Audience provides an opportunity to the public to address the Management Committee on items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Vice Chair Dolan noted that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard. Public comments have a three minute time limit and there is a timer to help the public with their presentations.

Vice Chair Dolan recognized public comment from Dianne Barker, who expressed her thanks for the transit tickets. Ms. Barker referenced the newspaper article she had turned in for the record. The article was about the impact of an accident on US-60. She said that this is a critical connection for moving traffic from the East Valley to Phoenix. Ms. Barker stated that she received a telephone call in regard to a transportation investigation where she was asked about the consulting firm Parsons. Ms. Barker said that she replied that they could build better trains. She said that making them elevated instead of at-grade would improve them. Ms. Barker stated that she hoped there would be privatization in transit because the costs to cities are exorbitant. Vice Chair Dolan thanked Ms. Barker for her comments.

5. FY 2007 MAG Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity

This agenda item was taken out of order. Jason Stephens, MAG Public Involvement Planner, provided a presentation on the FY 2007 MAG Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity. Mr. Stephens stated that MAG has a four-phase public input process--Early Phase, Mid Phase, Final Phase, Continuous Involvement. He said that the process was adopted in 1994 and enhanced in 1998 and 2006 to ensure Valley residents were provided with multiple opportunities for input into the development of the region's transportation plans and programs.

Mr. Stephens stated that opportunities for input during the Mid-Phase included the Northwest Black History Festival, the Arizona Disability Expo, and the Joint Transportation Open House and Public Hearing. He noted that MAG typically coordinates input efforts with ADOT, Valley Metro and METRO to ensure that residents have an opportunity to speak with all regional transportation entities at the same time. Mr. Stephens stated that representatives from these agencies, along with the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee and City of Phoenix Public Transit Department, were in attendance at the Joint Transportation Public Hearing. Mr.

Stephens provided a summary of questions and comments received: DPS and ADOT need to come up with a photo enforcement plan for the HOV lanes; The South Mountain Freeway should not be allowed to go through the South Mountain Park Reserve; Is there ever going to be rail service to Tucson? You should be looking at Grand Avenue to find corridors for light rail; We need public transportation in Sun City; MAG and ADOT need to explore options for accelerating the Regional Transportation Plan; The Sun Valley Parkway needs to be developed more, not just along the Loop 303; The ramps on the buses are too narrow for some wheelchairs; Input provided by people with disabilities in regard to the bus system isn't being taken into account. Vice Chair Dolan thanked Mr. Stephens for his report. No questions from the Committee were noted.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

Vice Chair Dolan stated that agenda items #4A, #4B, #4C, #4D, #4E, #4F, #4G, #4H, #4I, #4J, and #4K were on the consent agenda. She reviewed the public comment guidelines. Vice Chair Dolan noted that after hearing public comments, any member of the Committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. She noted that no public comment cards had been turned in. Vice Chair Dolan asked if any member of the Committee had questions or a request to have a presentation on any agenda item. None were noted.

Mr. Pettit moved to recommend approval of consent agenda items #4A, #4B, #4C, #4D, #4E, #4F, #4G, #4H, #4I, #4J, and #4K. Mr. McClendon seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4A. Approval of March 14, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The Management Committee, by consent, approved the March 14, 2007 meeting minutes.

4B. ADOT Red Letter Process

In June 1996, the MAG Regional Council approved the ADOT Red Letter process, which requires MAG member agencies to notify ADOT of potential development activities in freeway alignments. Development activities include actions on plans, zoning and permits. ADOT has forwarded a list of notifications from July 1, 2006, to December 31, 2006. ADOT received 391 Red Letter notifications in the period from July 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006. In addition to the 137 separate examples attached to the agenda packet, ADOT has requested a complete set of plans for the developments and a plan review on an additional 144 notifications. The 144 additional notices included zoning changes and/or general plan amendments that would put future developments adjacent or very close to ADOT right-of-way that would cause concerns. The ADOT Red Letter coordinator also received 94 telephone, mail, and/or email notifications of possible impact to the State Highway System. The 94 telephone, mail, and/or email notifications consisted of ten notifications on the Red Mountain; eight on the 303 Loop; forty on the South Mountain; four on the Santan; five on SR-87; four on US-60 (Grand Avenue); two on SR-153, four on the I-17 widening; five on the I-10 widening; two on SR-85; and ten on the I-10 Reliever. Upon request any of the notices can be removed from the consent agenda and

returned for action at a future meeting. This item was on the agenda for information and discussion.

4C. Interim Closeout of the Federal Fiscal Year 2007 MAG Federally Funded Program

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of a list of projects to be carried forward from federal fiscal year (FFY) 2007 to FFY 2008 or later and to discuss possible priorities for utilizing MAG federal funds that become available through the FFY 2007 Closeout Process. A revised initial closeout established that member agencies submitted requests to defer approximately \$39.2 million in projects from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2007 to FFY 2008 or later. As a result, the amount of funds available during the interim closeout is approximately \$2.3 million. The amount available for the FFY 2007 closeout may change due to the final MAG region federal fund appropriations. Any changes will be provided to the Committee. The deadline for member agencies to submit requests for projects that can utilize these funds by the end of the federal fiscal year was April 26, 2007. The Transportation Review Committee recommended approval.

4D. Amendment and Administrative Modification to the FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of an Amendment and an Administrative Modification to the FY 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program, as listed on the attached tables. The FY 2007-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved by Regional Council on July 26, 2006. Since that time, one project has been identified that needs to be added to the TIP, and two projects need modifications. An amendment is required to add a Maricopa County bridge rehabilitation project on old U.S. 80 at the Gila River. An Administrative Modification is needed to change a City of Chandler Intelligent Transportation System project to upgrade emergency vehicle preemption systems and change the lead agency, and to revise the project limits for a City of Scottsdale bicycle project. The Transportation Review Committee (TRC) recommended approval of the above three projects. Since the Transportation Review Committee recommended approval for the three projects noted above, eight projects have been identified that need to be administratively modified in the 2007-2011 TIP and three that need to be amended into the FY 2007-2011 TIP for FY 2007. These projects are noted in Table C and Table D in the attachment. The acquisition of right of way on I-17: L101 (Pima Fwy) to SR-74 (Carefree Hwy) is to be deleted and replaced with three projects: acquire right-of-way on I-17: Dixileta Drive to SR-74 (Carefree Highway); acquire right-of-way on I-17: Loop 101 (Pima Freeway) to Happy Valley Road; and acquire right-of-way on I-17: Happy Valley Road to Dixileta Drive. The construction project on I-17: L101 (Pima Fwy) to SR-74 (Carefree Hwy) is to be deleted and replaced with two projects: construct HOV and general purpose lane, I-17: Loop 101 (Pima Freeway) to Jomax Road, and widen freeway, I-17: Jomax to SR-74 (Carefree Hwy). The three design projects that need to be added are: design traffic interchanges, Loop 303 (Estrella Freeway) at Cactus and Waddell Roads; design traffic interchange, Loop 303 (Estrella Freeway) at Bell Road, and design general purpose lanes, I-17: SR-74 (Carefree Hwy) to Anthem Way. These projects were included in the ADOT Program changes that were approved by the MAG Regional Council on December 13, 2006. The Loop 101 Pima Freeway: Princess Drive to Loop 202 construction project needs to be

modified to reflect new project costs of \$70.7 million. Air quality conformity consultation is considered under a separate agenda item.

4E. Approval of the Draft FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the Draft FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for an air quality conformity analysis. The 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments require that the MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) be in conformance with the applicable air quality plans. All MAG member agencies have been consulted regarding projects and these changes have been incorporated in the draft document, including some new locally and privately funded projects. The draft TIP contains more than 1,700 transportation projects, totals almost \$7.2 billion and identifies federally funded projects, ADOT projects, transit projects (including light rail), and all regionally significant projects within the region. The Transportation Review Committee recommended approval of the Draft FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP for an air quality conformity analysis.

4F. Approval of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update for an Air Quality Conformity Analysis

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) 2007 Update for an air quality conformity analysis. The 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments require that regional transportation plans and programs be in conformance with applicable air quality plans. To comply with this requirement, approval is being requested to conduct an air quality analysis of the Draft MAG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) 2007 Update, prior to its consideration for final approval. The Draft RTP 2007 Update has been structured so that it fully complies with the regional transportation planning requirements of the Federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act - A legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). These requirements must be met for plans adopted or amended after July 1, 2007. The Draft RTP 2007 Update addresses several new topics to respond to SAFETEA-LU, including consultation on environmental mitigation and resource conservation, transportation security, and an updated public participation process. In addition, it includes revised revenue estimates, and updated life cycle programs for freeways/highways, arterial streets, and transit. The Transportation Review Committee recommended approval.

4G. Homeless Street Count Results

The MAG Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness coordinated a countywide homeless street count that took place on January 30, 2007. The information gathered from the count is required to complete the annual U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development application for McKinney-Vento homeless assistance funding. The information is also used for year-round homeless planning efforts and as a tool to demonstrate a need for housing and services for homeless people in the County. The overall street count for the region increased by 38 percent from last year to this year. This item was on the agenda for information and discussion.

4H. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment to the FY 2007-2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The proposed amendment includes the addition of a Maricopa County bridge rehabilitation project on old U.S. 80 at the Gila River in FY 2010 and three Arizona Department of Transportation projects on Interstate-17 and Loop 303 in FY 2007. In addition, minor project revisions have been requested for a City of Chandler Intelligent Transportation System project to upgrade emergency vehicle preemption systems, a City of Scottsdale bicycle project, and eight ADOT freeway projects. Comments on the conformity assessment were requested by April 20, 2007. This item was on the agenda for consultation.

4I. MAG Socioeconomic Projections

In accordance with Executive Order 95-2, MAG is in the process of preparing a new set of socioeconomic projections that will replace the 2003 Interim Projections accepted by the MAG Regional Council in June 2003. Projections are used as input into the MAG transportation and air quality models, MAG transportation plans and programs, and a variety of other regional planning activities. The projections are consistent with the 2005 Census Survey, the Arizona Department of Economic Security Maricopa County control totals approved by the MAG Regional Council in December 2006, and 2007 Municipal Planning Area (MPA) boundaries. The 2010, 2020 and 2030 projections are currently being reviewed by members of the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee. The projections will be brought to the MAG Management Committee and Regional Council for action in May. This item was on the agenda for information and discussion.

4J. Discussion and Update on the Draft FY 2008 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed incrementally in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies and approved by the Regional Council in May. This presentation and review of the draft FY 2008 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget represents the budget document development to-date. There have been some changes to the new project requests. These include an upward revision to the Household Survey project by \$250,000 to \$750,000; a downward revision to the Traffic Count project by \$100,000 to \$150,000; and the deletion of the I-17 and US-93/New River Roadway Framework Study. The elements of the budget document are about 80 percent complete. This item was on the agenda for input.

4K. Amendment to the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Provide Matching Funds for the ADOT High Speed Rail Study Update

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approval of an amendment to the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to provide \$20,000 for ADOT to use as matching funds for the High Speed Rail Study Update. The Arizona Department of

Transportation has requested MAG to participate in the high speed rail study update that the Department is conducting for a possible commuter rail system connecting metropolitan Phoenix and metropolitan Tucson. ADOT has requested financial support from MAG for \$20,000 to use as matching funds for the ADOT study. MAG currently has a commuter rail project underway to develop a detailed strategy for to implement commuter rail in the MAG region. The connection between commuter rail within the metropolitan Phoenix area and commuter rail service with Tucson is important. Funding for the MAG participation in the ADOT study would be provided from Proposition 400 planning study funds. An amendment to the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is needed.

6. South Mountain Freeway Update

Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, stated that the planned South Mountain Freeway is a key component of the regional freeway system that will provide a critical linkage between the East Valley and the West Valley and an alternative to I-10. He said that the South Mountain Freeway was included in Proposition 300, Proposition 400, and in each approved Long Range Transportation Plan since 1985. Mr. Anderson first reviewed the project timeline. He stated that in 1988, ADOT conducted a design concept and state level environmental assessment to identify the corridor. In 1995, Governor Fife Symington removed the South Mountain Freeway and proposed it as a toll facility.

Mr. Anderson stated that in 1996, MAG set aside \$85 million for an interim connection. In 1999, the MAG Regional Council approved the City of Phoenix request to accelerate construction of the I-10 traffic interchange at Pecos Road, which provided better access to I-10 for Ahwatukee. Mr. Anderson stated that the South Mountain Agency Stakeholders Group was formed in January 2000. In July 2000, the MAG Regional Council approved funding for an Environmental Impact Statement. Mr. Anderson noted that there was extensive discussion about the type of environmental assessment that would be conducted. He said they were advised that a full environmental impact statement would be likely, due to the proximity of the Gila River Indian Community, South Mountain Park and crossing the river with the facility.

Mr. Anderson stated that when the Environmental Impact Statement process began in mid-2001, the estimated completion date was 2004, which was probably an overly optimistic date. He said that the schedule now calls for public review and comment of the Environmental Impact Statement in January 2008. Mr. Anderson noted that MAG staff has reviewed and provided comments on the draft.

Mr. Anderson stated that the record of decision is scheduled toward the end of 2008. He commented that it is highly probable that this will occur at a later date because there are a number of issues that need to be resolved. Mr. Anderson advised that once the FHWA signs off on the record of decision, there is a high probability of litigation by the neighborhood along Pecos Road.

Mr. Anderson stated that last summer, ADOT selected the north/south alignment which connects to I-10 at 55th Avenue, but the east-west preferred alternative has not yet been selected. Mr. Anderson stated that there are two options: 1) No build. 2) Build along Pecos Road. He advised

that the Gila River Indian Community has passed a tribal resolution opposing the freeway on community lands and has not allowed any study of alternatives on its lands. Mr. Anderson commented that if the Gila River Indian Community changes its position and allows study, it is likely the Environmental Impact Statement would be delayed another two to three years to study alternatives on the Gila River Indian Community.

Mr. Anderson commented that the South Mountain Freeway is more critical to the region now than it was in 1985. He said that this is due not only to the rapid population and job growth, but also because the I-10 Reliever is designed to connect to the South Mountain to provide further east-west travel access. Mr. Anderson stated that if the South Mountain is not built at all, or if it is not built in a timely manner, the I-10 Reliever connection might become problematic. He commented that there are not many alternatives to replace this facility and not having it would result in a tremendous burden to I-10 which is already over capacity. Vice Chair Dolan thanked Mr. Anderson for his report. No questions from the Committee were noted.

7. Legislative Update

Matthew Clark, MAG Senior Policy Planner, provided an update on legislative issues of interest. He reported that Senate Bill (SB) 1049, which appropriates \$450 million from the State's Rainy Day Fund to transportation, and SB 1172, which increases the maximum maturity date for state highway bonds from 20 to 30 years, have stalled, but may be considered as part of the budget process.

Mr. Clark stated that SB 1591 adds language that states if the light rail system is not completed on or before January 1, 2009, a separate performance audit will be conducted within 12 months after the minimum operating segment has opened. He reported that this bill passed the Senate and the House Transportation Committee and is in Rules.

Mr. Clark stated that a strike everything amendment to House Bill (HB) 2228 passed Rules on April 9th and is awaiting full Senate action.

Mr. Clark stated that a strike everything amendment HB 2486 was passed in the House Ways and Means Committee that would permit county residents to establish a road improvement and maintenance district with the purpose of building a community road to less-than-county standards. He commented that this could be a concern if the road falls within an area that is subsequently annexed by a city or town.

Mr. Clark stated that a strike everything amendment to HB 2570 passed in the Senate Transportation Committee. He said the amendment changes the bill from setting aside funds for the purchase of rail right-of-way to requiring evidence of legally authorized presence in the United States in order to obtain a vehicle title or registration.

Mr. Clark stated that HB 2682, which would establish a Blue Ribbon Transportation Committee, has moved from the House to the Senate.

Mr. Clark reported on an air quality bill, SB 1552, which deals with the adoption of local ordinances in regard to air pollution, has passed the Senate and moved to the House. Mr. Clark noted that this bill is a vehicle for final provisions for air quality.

Mr. Clark stated that HCR 2039 is a strike everything amendment that proposes amendments to the State Constitution relating to disposition of state trust land. He said that it is awaiting action in Senate Rules.

Mr. Clark reported that SB 1265 would allow Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) to be subject to the excise tax for 911. He said that a strike everything amendment to the bill was passed in the House Appropriations Committee that would require individuals who are not citizens to reimburse the court system for any costs incurred by using the court system.

Vice Chair Dolan thanked Mr. Clark for his report. No questions from the Committee were noted.

8. Comments from the Committee

An opportunity will be provided for Management Committee members to present a brief summary of current events. The Management Committee is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

No comments from the Committee were noted.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman