

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
POPULATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 24, 2006
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

George Pettit, Gilbert, Chairman	*Sonny Culbreth, Litchfield Park
Bryant Powell, Apache Junction	Shawn Murray for Wahid Alam, Mesa
*Scott Wilken, Avondale	John Verdugo for Matt Holm, Maricopa County
Brian Rose, Buckeye	Molly Hood, Paradise Valley
Gary Neiss, Carefree	Chad Daines, Peoria
*Ian Cordwell, Cave Creek	Tim Tilton, Phoenix
David de la Torre, Chandler	Shawny Ekadis, Queen Creek
Mark Smith, El Mirage	*Stacey Gubser, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Richard Turner for Ken Valverde, Fountain Hills	Indian Community
*Bev Turner, Gila Bend	Harry Higgins, Scottsdale
*Terry Yergan, Gila River Indian Community	Janice See, Surprise
Thomas Ritz, Glendale	Sherri Lesser, Tempe
Katie Wilken, Goodyear	*Miles Johnson, Wickenburg
**Gail Acosta, Guadalupe	Ann McCracken, Valley Metro

* Not in attendance
** Participated via audioconference
*** Participated via videoconference

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Anubhav Bagley, MAG	Susan Lavin, Census Bureau
Steve Gross, MAG	Vicki McIntire, Census Bureau
Jeff Romine, MAG	Mark Hellfritz, Census Bureau
Harry Wolfe, MAG	Jerry O'Donnell, Census Bureau

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair George Pettit.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no requests to address the audience.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2006

No comments were provided on the minutes. It was moved by Tim Tilton and seconded by David de la Torre to approve the meeting minutes of September 26, 2006. The motion passed unanimously.

4. July 1, 2006 Maricopa County Resident Population Estimates

Harry Wolfe explained that the Arizona Department of Economic Security is working on the development of July 1, 2006 resident population estimates. Mr. Wolfe noted that the estimates are prepared using an average of two methods: Composite and Housing Unit Method (HUM) with more weight placed on the HUM.

Harry Wolfe reported that DES officials did not know when they would be able to get control totals developed and distributed. He mentioned that the data collected by MAG from member agencies – annexations, population in group quarters – has been used by DES in the Housing Unit Method.

Mr. Wolfe said he would inform MAG POPTAC members as soon as something became available

5. Methodology for Preparation of Employment Projections for Maricopa County

Jeff Romine reported that MAG had developed a methodology for preparing employment projections at the County level. These employment projections are consistent with the recently revised population projections produced by the Arizona Department of Economic Security, which incorporate the results of the 2005 Special Census Survey for the region.

Thomas Ritz asked for an explanation on how group quarters were taken into account in the projections. Jeff Romine indicated that both prison/jail and military employment were projected using long range forecasts information. These employment categories are generally affected by decisions and development patterns outside the regional market. As an example, military staffing levels are determined on a national level in Washington. Within these projections, the current bases are assumed to remain open, and the level of assigned staff is derived from national forecast services.

Mr. Ritz asked which of the assumptions in the methodology covers group quarters. Jeff Romine responded that they are taken into account in item c, “Total jobs, Non-Farm Employment and Other Employment Activities”.

Harry Higgins reported that members of the MAG POPTAC Ad Hoc Subcommittee reviewed the methodology for developing the employment projections and unanimously recommended that they be approved by the MAG POPTAC.

It was moved by Harry Higgins and seconded by David de la Torre to approve the methodology and assumptions with an additional note on military and prison/jail employment. The motion was passed by POPTAC.

6. MAG Socioeconomic Projections

Anubhav Bagley explained that the Arizona Department of Economic Security prepared a set of draft resident population projections for Maricopa County consistent with the 2005 Census Survey. He also noted that MAG has also developed draft employment projections which are consistent with the DES population projections.

Mr. Bagley reported that the MAG POPTAC Ad Hoc Subcommittee had unanimously recommended to the MAG POPTAC approval of the projections.

It was moved by Harry Higgins, seconded by Tim Tilton and unanimously recommended to approve the projections.

7. Schedule for Preparing the Subregional Projections

Anubhav Bagley said that the population and employment projections for Maricopa County from 2010 to 2035 will be used as control totals for the preparation of subregional projections by MAG at the Municipal Planning Area (MPA), Regional Analysis Zone (RAZ) and Socioeconomic Analysis Zone (SAZ) level of geography. He indicated that the approval of the subregional projections would take place in 2007; and that once approved they would replace those approved in July 2003 and would be used for regional planning purposes.

8.. Census 2010 Workshop

Harry Wolfe noted that reference was made to the 2010 Census Bureau workshop in the agenda to make interested parties aware of it.

9. Arizona Development of Estimates and Projections Task Force

Jeff Romine provided a written summary of the current activities and considerations of the ADEPT work. He pointed out the "Customer Survey" will be undertaken in the next month or so. George Pettit expressed appreciation for the monthly update of these activities.

10. Economic Update

Jeff Romine provided an economic update summary for reference by member agency staff, which was posted on the MAG web site also. In his brief review, he focused attention on the indicators showing a slight slowing in the economy. He reviewed recently released data on employment growth. He noted the rising of core inflation, change in consumer prices without energy and housing, especially compared to wage level changes. Romine concluded by expressing the general concern among analysis for the increased likelihood of a national economic slowdown in 2007 , but that the chances of a recession are still quite low. The nation is now a full five years past the last recession.

11. Next Meeting of the MAG POPTAC

George Pettit noted that beginning next year (2007) POPTAC meetings would be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.