

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
PEDESTRIAN WORKING GROUP AND THE  
REGIONAL BICYCLE TASK FORCE

Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.  
MAG Office Building, Cholla Room  
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Tami Ryall, Gilbert, Chair, Regional Bicycle Task Force and Acting Chair of the Pedestrian Working Group	Farhad Tavassoli, Goodyear Michael Cartsonis, Litchfield Park Peggy Rubach, Maricopa County
*Bruce Meyers, ADOA Gen. Services Michael Sanders, ADOT Brian Fellows, ADOT	*Mitch Foy, Mesa Brandon Forrey, Peoria Katherine Coles, Phoenix
*Michael Eagan, ASLA, Arizona Chapter Janeen Gaskins, Avondale	*Srinivas Goundla, Phoenix Randi Alcott, RPTA Dawn Coomer, Scottsdale
*Thomas Chlebanowski, Buckeye	Reed Kempton, Scottsdale
*Michael Normand, Chandler Bill Lazenby, Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists Mark Smith, El Mirage	Eric Iwersen, Tempe Bart Wingard, Surprise
*Steve Hancock, Glendale	

\*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Jim Coffman, Coffman Studio  
^Peyton McCloud, Sprinkle Consulting  
^Bruce Landis, Sprinkle Consulting  
Theo Petritsch, Sprinkle Consulting  
Sarath Joshua, MAG

1. Call to Order

Eric Iwersen called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Approval of the December 19, 2006 Meeting Minutes of the Pedestrian Working Group and the Regional Bicycle Task Force

Janeen Gaskins moved to approve and Peggy Rubach seconded the move to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle Task Force and Pedestrian Working Group for December 19, 2006. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group 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 were requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes was provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items were given an opportunity at the time the item was heard.

There were no members of the public present.

### 4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Brian Fellows reported that the Safe Routes to School program is expecting 50 project applications to be submitted statewide. Projects will be selected strictly on merit not on geographic distribution. Eric Iwersen asked about the schedule. Brian Fellows responded that the 14 member advisory committee will be reviewing the applications in February 2007 and then will meet the second week of March with the approval from the State Transportation board at their April meeting. Successful projects will be notified in May. Randi Alcott asked for the available amount. Brian Fellows responded that \$400,000 is available for this year. The maximum that projects can submit for \$45,000. In the MAG region, the MAG Safety Committee will review and rank local projects at a January 30, 2007 meeting. Members were asked to send 25 copies of each application to MAG.

Bill Lazenby reported that the Coalition is working with Representative Meza from Phoenix and Representative Farley from Tucson for a House Bill to increase financial penalties for aggressive drivers. Currently the fine is only \$1,000 for a fatality.

Bill Lazenby also reported that the Coalition is doing the Complete Streets Program. Bill Lazenby distributed a sample brochure and is anticipating working with Governor's Office of Highway Safety on this issue.

Randi Alcott reported that Valley Metro held the first meeting for the Bike Week events. More cities than ever have applied for example the city of Avondale. For any event, mentors are available to assist new cities with their event planning. There will be another Bike Challenge amongst cities. The city of Scottsdale will hold Cycle the Arts on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Most events, however, will be in the first week in April.

Reed Kempton reported that the Scottsdale Pima path is now complete along Pima access road McDowell Road to Shea Boulevard..

Srinivas Goundla reported that the city of Phoenix will host Bike To Work Day with the Mayor on April 18, 2007.

## 5. Combine City of Tempe College Avenue Projects

Eric Iwerson explained that the city of Tempe currently has two College Avenue pedestrian projects funded with CMAQ funds in FFY 2007 (TMP07-303) and FFY 2008 (TMP08-602). The city of Tempe wishes to combine both projects and do them both as FFY 2008 projects. This will involve deferring the 2007 project to 2008 and combining them into one project. The city of Tempe requested both a deferral and combining both projects contingent on successful deferral of the 2007 project.

Mark Smith made a motion to approve both a deferral and combining the College Avenue projects and Peggy Rubach seconded the move. The motion passed unanimously.

## 6. Presentation on the MAG Regional Bikeway Master Plan

Sprinkle Consulting presented:

- Outcome of the MAG Safety Committee meeting that morning and any relevant changes to the mid-block crossing guidelines – Task 6;
- Final results of survey/gap identification report Task 5; and
- Presentation of two or three draft sample vignettes – Task 4.5

Theo Petritsch reported on the Mid Block Crossing report from the Safety and ITS committee meeting held earlier that morning. There were a series of technical comments from traffic engineers that were addressed and incorporated into the original document. The consultant was asked to leave in very specific treatments. These are guidelines not a protocol and do not supercede any nationally adopted treatments. One request was to remove those experimental treatments such as the Hawk that are not covered in MUTCD. Theo Petritsch explained that the reason that the experimental treatments were included for consideration is that the current standard treatments do not guarantee that the cars will stop for pedestrians and bicyclists unless a traffic light is installed.

Sarath Joshua from MAG gave an overview of the results of the meeting as well. A few committee members are concerned about the language in the draft. For example, there are a number of “should” and the committee requested that the consultant add the word “consider” so that the decision for implementation would be according to the discretion of the engineers. Some of the treatments specified are not currently approved by the feds. The engineers seemed to agree to have the consultant put a disclaimer on the page where the treatments are discussed. The item was not on the agenda for action by the Safety Committee.

Peggy Rubach noted that the city of Phoenix, city of Avondale and Maricopa County engineers did not feel comfortable with the current format and felt that TRC would reject the plan as it is. Peggy Rubach requested that the words “new developments” need to be added to the document.

Tami Ryall asked if everyone received the list of comments. Ms Ryall asked if each of the representatives could personally discuss these issues with each of their city engineers. Janeen Gaskins reported that the engineers in Avondale have concerns that the recommendations are not nationally universally accepted. Theo Petritsch will make the notation clear in a box indicating the experimental nature and the need to

request permission from the feds before installing an experimental crossing treatment.

Jim Coffman reported on nine visual vignettes. These are nine types of situations with photo manipulation to illustrate the ideal bicycle situations. These images will be inserted between chapters in the document so that readers can see what can be achieved in the valley.

The nine visual vignettes include:

- stadium/event
- trail head
- arterial street
- canal
- multi modal
- complete street
- neighborhood collector/business
- mid-block crossing
- Hawk crossing

Studio Ma used this stylized but realistic technique similar to the one used from a National Endowment for the Arts grant for Papago Park.

Randi Alcott commented that the path near the stadium looks too confusing. Jim Coffman will reassess.

Tami Ryall pointed out that some of the riders are still reflected without helmets.

Michael Cartsonis asked if these images preclude the recommendation that new communities create environments where bicycling should be. Jim Coffman explained that these images reinforce the concept that all neighborhoods should be bicycle friendly.

Peggy Rubach noted that model language for integration of facilities into neighborhoods such as city of Tempe have language in their general plan and that a couple of examples of such model language should be in the appendices of the MAG plan so more cities could adopt such language. Anything in code or in a general plan in each city should be forwarded to MAG staff to be included in the Bikeway Masterplan.

Mike Cartsonis suggested that these guidelines should persuade School Location Boards with school citing guidance. There are a number of engineers in the valley that are supporting this idea. The Appendix for should include links for school citing policies.

## 7. Mid Block Crossings Guidelines

Tami Ryall suggested that this discussion should be deferred.

Brandon Forrey suggested getting these Guidelines to the City Councils to get engineers to work on considering the recommendations. The intent of the document is to help the engineers. A common methodology for the whole region is preferable to individual cities addressing the mid-block crossings on their own. Bruce Landis noted that staff has done a lot of cutting edge research. The reason that the HAWK

is included in this document is that this appears to be the most logical solution to the problem.

Janeen Gaskins commended the work that has been done noting that the small cities are concerned with the liability and legal reality. Avondale also does not want any applications for federal funds to be dependent upon following the Mid-Block guidelines.

Sarath Joshua noted that this issue about mid-block crossings is a national issue related to transit as well and needs to be discussed thoroughly at the National Transportation Review Board.

#### 8. Meetings for 2007

All meetings will be on Tuesday in the Cholla Room at 1:30 p.m.

February 20, 2007

March 20, 2007

April 17, 2007

May 8, 2007 (Note: change of date)

June 19, 2007

July 17, 2007

August 21, 2007

September 18, 2007

October 16, 2007

October 23, 2007 (optional)

November 20, 2007

December 18, 2007 NOON