

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

Tuesday, October 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	Steve Hancock, Glendale
*Bruce Meyers, ADOA Gen. Services	*Farhad Tavassoli, Goodyear
Michael Sanders, ADOT	*Michael Cartsonis, Litchfield Park
*Brian Fellows, ADOT	*Peggy Rubach, Maricopa County
*Michael Eagan, ASLA, Arizona Chapter	Brandon Forrey, Peoria
Margaret Boone-Pixley, Avondale	Katherine Coles, Phoenix
*Michael Normand, Chandler	Chris Turner-Noteware, Phoenix
*Rich Rumer for Bill Lazenby, Coalition for Arizona Bicyclists	Troy White, Queen Creek
Mark Smith, El Mirage	Randi Alcott, RPTA
	Reed Kempton, Scottsdale
	Robert Yabes for Eric Iwersen, Tempe
	Lance Ferrell, Surprise

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Roche, Town of Queen Creek
Briiana Leon, Phoenix
Lynn Timmons, Phoenix
Mike James, Mesa
Dave Hedlund, W.C. Scoutten, Litchfield Park

1. Call to Order

Tami Ryall called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

2. Approval of the September 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes of the Pedestrian Working Group and the Regional Bicycle Task Force

Catherine Coles moved to approve and Steve Hancock seconded the move to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle Task Force and Pedestrian Working Group for September 18, 2007. 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 were present.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Maureen DeCindis reported that MAG will go out again to the cities for requests for the remainder of the funding for the Design Assistance Program in December/January. Within the Design Assistance Program, if projects are designed up to 60%, and the final design and construction are funded with local funds, the local jurisdiction according to Federal Highways does not have to go through the NEPA process with the Arizona Department of Transportation.

Randi Alcott announced that the Valley Bike Month committee met to discuss the event in 2008. The dates are being negotiated.

Brandon Forrey announced Trail of Two Cities event on November 17, 2007 in conjunction with Glendale.

Robert Yabes announced Tour De Tempe event on October 28, 2007 in Tempe.

5. Update on MAG Federally Funded Projects

Maureen DeCindis provided an update on the federally funded projects. This update included an overview of the MAG Fed-TIP website, and the current status of active and inactive projects. Members were asked to review the handout. Tami Ryall noted that this update is very much appreciated and that MAG staff did a good job.

6. Review and Prioritizing of the FY 2009-2013 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

On September 7, 2007, jurisdictions submitted bicycle and pedestrian projects for the FY2009-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). There is \$8,743,000 million dollars available for bicycle and pedestrian projects in this region.

Mark Smith reported that there is additional information on their application. Reed Kempton noted that the boundaries of the El Mirage project were not clear from looking at the description and the map in the application. He also asked El Mirage about the scope of the project because the city was requesting

\$3,360,000 which represents about 40% of the amount of funding available for the whole region. Mark Smith noted that the details for the project were in the handouts that he brought and responded that the city of El Mirage is just now able to fund trail projects and is therefore requesting funding to do all the trails at the same time to catch up to the other cities and towns. In last five years, El Mirage went from 7,600 residents to 30,000 residents. The path system would pave the drainage canals and create an interconnected network. It would take at least 10 years to build out the system unless the city was awarded the all the funding. Reed Kempton replied that the City of Scottsdale breaks their projects into mile segments because it is easier to obtain the funding. Tami Ryall suggested a phased project approach.

Tami Ryall asked the committee whether they should accept an application that was incomplete with insufficient information on the due date before discussing the projects and allocation of funding. Should an application that is not complete be rejected? In the past, the committee has rejected incomplete applications. Steve Hancock made a motion that the committee vote to accept the El Mirage application. There were four members who voted to accept the El Mirage Trail application and there were eight votes to reject the application. The El Mirage: El Mirage Multi-Use Trail (\$3,360,000) application was not accepted. Tami Ryall noted that there are a lot of meritorious projects in the Valley and that this committee strongly supports multi-use projects in the smaller cities and encouraged El Mirage to phase in their project.

Tami Ryall asked if committee members would prefer to work on the funding allotment for each of the projects and forego listening to presentations. She asked if any members had any questions about the content of the proposals after reading them.

Reed Kempton asked about the City of Phoenix 32nd Street project. One of the major goals under the MAG Regional Bikeway Master Plan is the Complete Streets Policy which incorporates building bike lanes when a street is being reconstructed. The 32nd Street project application requesting construction funding does not include bike lanes. Chris Turner-Noteware responded that the issue of bike lanes will be addressed during actual design. Mark Smith asked why they don't build a multi-use path instead of a sidewalk. Chris Turner-Noteware explained that there was not sufficient right of way.

Margaret Boone Pixley asked how the funding reductions were calculated. Tami Ryall responded that there is no formal calculation.

Chris Turner-Noteware recommend that cities in the future submit projects in two phases with the design and right of way in one phase and construction in phase two. Reed Kempton asked if the TIP application process could make just one bike and ped application. MAG staff will research this option.

The following projects were submitted for review and ranking. The recommended funding levels are shown in bold:

1. El Mirage: El Mirage Multi-Use Trail (\$3,360,000) -- 5.5 miles along within the town. Application was incomplete and therefore the project was not recommended for funding. It was recommended that the project be broken down into phases. The project was not recommended for funding this year.

2. Gilbert: Gilbert Bicycle Crossing Improvement and Safety Phase II (\$595,000) – This project would improve six path crossings with appropriate bicycle facilities such as signals, refuge islands, marked crossings, in-pavement lighting and ADA compliant ramps. **(\$583,000)**
3. Glendale: Bike/Ped Improvements for New River between Northern Avenue and Bethany Home Outfall Channel (\$1,000,000) – The 1.2 mile project is located on the east bank of New River. A 2.2 proposed multi-use path is planned and funded for this location. The improvements are two underpasses at Glendale Avenue and Northern Avenue, a bridge over the Loop 101 freeway drainage, a new pathway parking area, a ramada at Northern Ave and a trailhead at Bethany Home. **(\$1,000,000)**
4. Litchfield Park: Pedestrian/Bicycle Underpass at Litchfield Road and Wigwam Blvd Phase II (\$1,100,000) – The project includes design engineering, right of way acquisition, utility relocations and construction of the approaches to the underpass along Wigwam Boulevard. The underpass will enhance connectivity between planned commercial developments, neighborhoods, parks, schools and civic buildings. **(\$800,000)**
5. Mesa: Consolidated Canal Multi-Use Path, 8th Street to Lindsay Road (\$1,099,000) — Phase II is a 2.5 mile multi-use pathway project that will be 10' wide and include a 10' wide raised median, a pedestrian bridge over the canal, continuous overhead low level lighting, a bicycle rest area and signing. **(\$1,099,000)**
6. Peoria: Multi-use path Northern to Olive along the west bank of the New River (\$701,400) – The goal of this project is to complete a 6.5 mile multi-use trail which has been designed to 95% that would link retail to the Glendale Sports Complex and to the City's urban bike route. **(\$700,000)**
7. Phoenix: Design and Construct Nevitt Park Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge (\$522,000) – This bridge will link existing multi-modal facilities to public education and recreational facilities. **(\$522,000)**
8. Scottsdale: Arizona Canal Shared-Use Path Project (\$1,419,990) – This project includes design and construction of a one mile, 10' - 12' paved path along the south/east bank of the Arizona Canal from Macdonald Drive to the Indian Bend Wash near Indian Bend Road, a bridge on the Lincoln Drive alignment, connections to a new path going north, and connections to the existing path on the north bank of the Arizona Canal. The project also includes landscaping, site furnishings and locally funded artist elements plus connections into neighborhoods. **(\$1,100,000)**
9. Tempe: Alameda Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge over I10 (\$2,599,380) – The project would include design, acquisition of ramp easements, bridge construction, artwork, landscaping and street furniture. The bridge would provide access for east-west bicycle and pedestrian travel between the East Valley cities and the South Phoenix area. **(\$1,200,000)**
10. Buckeye: Alarcon Blvd and Kino Place Pedestrian Corridor Project (\$407,336) – This is a 10.5 mile sidewalk project on Alarcon Blvd and Kino Place. Neither roads have sidewalks. The project would provide pedestrian connectivity in old Town Buckeye to Bales Elementary School and onto Miller Road and Alarcon. **(\$400,000)**

11. Gilbert: Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming Project (\$190,000) – The 4 mile project will install 6' wide sidewalks, ADA ramps, shade trees, benches, signage, wireless pedestrian crossings and some traffic calming techniques. The project will connect residential area, offices, stores, churches, schools, parks, and cultural/recreational centers. **Not awarded.**
12. Paradise Valley: Lincoln Drive Sidewalk Improvement, Invergordon Road to Eastern Town Limits (\$441,000) – This .65 mile project will construct a 6' wide colored concrete sidewalk, replace substandard driveway entrances and intersection access ramps, plus plant landscaping. This facility would provide a linkage to retail centers, churches, the Town of Paradise Valley Town Hall Complex, resorts, schools, trailheads, bicycle routes and residential neighborhoods. **(\$441,000)**
13. Phoenix: 32nd Street Pedestrian Facility from Washington Street to McDowell Road (\$373,000) This 1.2 mile project would design a 9' sidewalk that would connect bus stops, schools, shopping areas and access to an SRP trail system.**(\$373,000)**
14. Queen Creek: Queen Creek Wash and North Bank Decomposed Granite Pedestrian Path (\$525,000) – This 1 mile project will provide a direct link to the Town's municipal campus, town center park, Youth center, commercial retail and restaurants. Work to be performed will include design and construction. **(\$525,000)**
15. Gilbert: Multi-Use Pathway Development Project - Galveston Off-Road System (\$350,000) – A 12 foot wide, .25 long, paved multi-use pathway on the Galveston off-road system which is currently an unimproved SRP utility easement that links to the Eastern canal and several schools. The project will improve a quarter mile pathway with pavement, drainage piping, ADA ramps and lighting. **Not awarded.**
16. Phoenix: 32nd Street Pedestrian Facility from Washington Street to McDowell Road (\$3,951,000) This 1.2 mile project would construct a 9' sidewalk that would connect bus stops, schools, shopping areas and access to an SRP trail system. **Not awarded.**
17. Mesa: North/South Pedestrian Pathway (\$377,018) – This project would repair a sidewalk that does not have adequate shade during the day nor light at night. **Not awarded.**

Randi Alcott moved to approve the allocated funding for the bicycle and pedestrian projects. Catherine Coles seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mark Smith voting against the motion.

7. Discussion of Ideas for the MAG Regional Bikeways Map

MAG staff presented a new horizontal layout for the committee to review. Peter Burnett explained that the pdf that was originally promised was too hard to read. He presented a print out of the new map on one side of the page with space to incorporate insets.

Randi Alcott liked the map on one side. Reed Kempton suggested ordering wider paper size. Catherine Coles suggested dividing the bike map into tiles so that each segment can be printed separately. Brandon Forrey noted that the labels were difficult to read and they should be larger font.

Maureen DeCindis reported that MAG staff is continuing to work on getting the bike map on the internet. The Google rep is currently on paternity leave.

The committee agreed to leave the bike map itself on one side of the page. At the next meeting, members will decide what elements should be on the back of the map.

8. Next Meetings

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

November 20, 2007

December 18, 2007 NOON

January 15, 2008

February 19, 2008

March 18, 2008

April 15, 2008

May 20, 2008

June 17, 2008

July 15, 2008

August 19, 2008

September 16, 2008

October 21, 2008

November 18, 2008

December 16, 2008 NOON