

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

October 30, 2002
MAG Office, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek, Chair	Supervisor Max W. Wilson for Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County
Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise, Vice Chair	Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa
* Mayor Douglas Coleman, Apache Junction	Mayor Edward Lowry, Paradise Valley
* Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale	Mayor John Keegan, Peoria
* Mayor Dusty Hull, Buckeye	*Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix
* Mayor Edward Morgan, Carefree	*President Ivan Makil, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
* Vice Mayor Ralph Mozilo, Cave Creek	Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
Mayor Boyd Dunn, Chandler	Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe
Mayor Roy Delgado, El Mirage	*Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
Mayor Jon Beydler, Fountain Hills	Mayor Lon McDermott, Wickenburg
* Mayor Chuck Turner, Gila Bend	*Mayor Daphne Green, Youngtown
* Governor Donald Antone, Gila River Indian Community	Rusty Gant, ADOT
Mayor Steven Berman, Gilbert	Joe Lane, ADOT
Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale	*F. Rockne Arnett, Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear	
* Mayor Margarita Cota, Guadalupe	
* Mayor J. Woodfin Thomas, Litchfield Park	

* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
Attended by videoconference or by telephone conference call.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Regional Council was called to order by Chairman Wendy Feldman-Kerr at 5:10 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr welcomed Supervisor Max W. Wilson as proxy for Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that the RPTA has agreed to provide transit tickets for those who used transit to come to the meeting.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that due to the room's acoustics, audience conversations carry over to the Council table, making it difficult to hear presentations. She requested that the audience keep conversations to a minimum during the meeting.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that MAG staff, who are seated at each end of the entryways to the Regional Council table on both sides of the room, are available to assist members of the public in turning in their public comment cards.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that for agenda item #7, Regional Transportation Plan - Phase II Consultant Selection, a memorandum reflecting the recommendation made by the Transportation Policy Committee at their October 23rd meeting was at each place.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that agenda item #10, Request for Qualifications for the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program: Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Contract, and Amendment of the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program, was removed from the agenda to allow time for further consideration, as requested by the Transportation Policy Committee.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that for agenda item #11, Request for Qualifications for a Transportation Plan Advisor; Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Contract, and Amendment of the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program a memorandum on the recommendation of the Transportation Policy Committee, and faxed to members last week, was at each place.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that for agenda item #17, Request for Public Hearing on Proposed EPA Storm Water Discharge Permit for Small Municipal Systems, a copy of the letter sent to the EPA requesting a public hearing on the Proposed Storm Water General Discharge Permit was at each place.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr announced that this was the last Regional Council meeting for Mayor Roy Delgado. She read the Resolution of Appreciation prepared in honor of Mayor Delgado's service to the Maricopa Association of Governments, and presented the framed Resolution to him.

Mayor Delgado thanked the Regional Council for the Resolution. He stated that the Regional Council is the most dynamic group he has been associated with, including his years in the military and the private sector. Mayor Delgado stated that MAG has great ideas, and those ideas will come to fruition. Mayor Delgado stated that he may be back to serve his city, his county, his state, and his country.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr announced that Mayor Thomas had an accident in the Mayors Challenge go-cart race at P.I.R. She added that he is doing well, and that Mayor Rimsza had visited him at St. Joseph's Hospital.

3. Call to the Audience

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that according to MAG's public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the cards which are available on the tables adjacent to the doorways inside the meeting room. She noted that there is a three minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for non-agenda items.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from Rachel Gomez, who stated that she was at the meeting representing the El Mirage Merchants Revitalization Alliance. Ms. Gomez stated that the Alliance is involved in efforts to revitalize Grand Avenue in El Mirage, and hope to make it a dynamic place, with restaurants and entertainment, such as mariachis. Mayor Delgado stated that architects have been working pro-bono on plans for the area. They want to revitalize the area into a place where people will want to come for dining and entertainment. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Ms. Gomez for her comments.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from DD Barker, who stated her support for agenda items #9 and #13. Ms. Barker commented on the High Capacity Transit Plan, as mentioned in last month's minutes. She stated that the study is looking at commuter rail, light rail, and bus rapid transit. Ms. Barker stated that the minutes reflect Mayor Rimsza's question if light rail will go to Desert Sky, then on to a north/south line to the vicinity of the Coyotes and Cardinals stadiums, to which the consultant answered that options on light rail transit and bus rapid transit were open. Ms. Barker suggested that flexible modes should be tried out first before doing fixed. She stated that the proposed stadium should be the activity point and run buses as P.I.R. does. Ms. Barker noted that 60 buses were used for this purpose last year. She stated that this option was privatized and is successful. Ms. Barker stated that fixed modes should be considered after it is determined that using transit along these routes would be successful. Ms. Barker stated that there is a Supreme Court order out on review of Transit 2000. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Ms. Barker for her comments. She requested that citizens follow the speaking rules. Comment during Call to the Audience should be on non-agenda items, and opportunities are available for citizens to comment on agenda items. Ms. Barker stated that it has been the practice to allow comment at the beginning of the meeting because some citizens cannot stay for the entire meeting. Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that she appreciated the public input, but the speaking rules would be followed.

4. Interim Executive Director's Report

Dennis Smith stated that Congress has not passed a transportation appropriations bill for 2003. Continuing Resolutions have been enacted to continue funding at the FY 2002 level at \$31.8 billion for highways. Mr. Smith stated that OMB has only agreed to support a \$27.7 billion appropriation for highways, which is an approximate \$10 million cut to this region. He advised that this is important because it would set a lower base for TEA III appropriations. Mr. Smith stated that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is demanding that the funding be restored.

Mr. Smith stated that a meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2002 with MAG, ADOT and RPTA to compile information on TEA III coordination.

Mr. Smith stated that Transportation Enhancement Funds Preliminary Recommendations have been forwarded to the State Transportation Board. He advised that five projects were recommended for funding from this region, totaling \$1.8 million, out of \$13 million available statewide. Mr. Smith noted that the recommended project list was at each place.

Mr. Smith stated that Chairman Feldman-Kerr has encouraged participation in the ACT Workshop, which will provide techniques in community dialogue, and provide resources for people who are looking to move beyond traditional public meetings to solicit input and build consensus. He noted that MAG is a co-sponsor of the event to be held on November 19, 2002, at the Phoenix Airport Marriott.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG was awarded a \$45,000 STOP Violence Against Women Grant from the Governor's office, which will help fund Domestic Violence efforts.

Mr. Smith stated that the Winter Pollution Season and Rideshare campaign was kicked off on October 7, 2002. Chairman Feldman-Kerr represented MAG at the official kickoff, along with Mayor Mary Manross, Chair of the RPTA, and Supervisor Don Stapley, representing the Maricopa County Trip Reduction Program. Mr. Smith noted that MAG provides funding to Regional Rideshare, Capitol Rideshare and the Maricopa County Trip Reduction Program.

Mr. Smith stated that on October 22, 2002, Mayor Joan Shafer presented the MAG Liveable Communities Award to the City of Tempe for its work on the College Avenue Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge, the Spence Avenue Multi-Use Path and the Kyrene Canal Multi-use Path. He added that this award is part of the Clean Air Campaign.

Mr. Smith introduced Lavanya Vallabhaneni, who fills a vacant Transportation Modeler position. Ms. Vallabhaneni recently graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a Master of Science degree in transportation engineering. She has experience in using the MAG modeling software, EMME/2.

Mr. Smith stated that Mayor Giuliano would provide a report on the Nominating Committee that met immediately prior to the Regional Council meeting. Mayor Giuliano stated that the Nominating Committee had recommended that Mayor John Keegan fill the vacancy on the Executive Committee. He added that the recommendation will be considered at the December 11, 2002 Regional Council meeting.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that public comment is provided for consent items. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the consent agenda. After hearing public comments, any member of the committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that agenda items #6, #7, #8, #9, #11, #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, and #17 were on the consent agenda. She noted that no public comment cards had been turned in.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr asked if there were requests to remove an item from the consent agenda. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor Bill Arnold moved, Mayor Lon McDermott seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of September 25, 2002 Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the September 25, 2002 meeting minutes.

7. Regional Transportation Plan - Phase II Consultant Selection

The Regional Council, by consent, authorized the MAG Interim Executive Director to negotiate a contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. as the consultant to assist in the development of the MAG Regional Transportation Plan - Phase II for an amount not to exceed \$500,000. On October 22, 2002, the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC), considered the consultants that submitted responses to the

Request for Qualifications for Regional Transportation Plan Phase II. The TPC recommended that the MAG Interim Executive Director negotiate a contract with HDR Engineering, Inc. for Phase II.

The MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget includes a total of \$750,000 for consultant services for Phase II. The Request for Qualifications included an estimated level of funding of \$500,000. The primary purpose of Phase II is to prepare a Regional Transportation Plan document for adoption by the Regional Council. Five proposals were received in response to the Request for Qualifications. A multi-agency team reviewed the proposals and reached a consensus that HDR Engineering Inc. be selected, due to the experience of the project manager with regional planning issues, the quality of the public involvement element, and the knowledge, experience and concept for performance-based planning.

8. Amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Regional Council, by consent, approved an amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG TIP to add an advance construction project, Maricopa County: Gilbert Road, McDowell Road to Beeline Highway; and McDowell Road, Gilbert Road to Mesa Drive, widen roadway and construct low water crossing of the Salt River to FY 2003 for a total of \$15,655,000 Local funds. Also, to change the existing FY 2007 project to a repayment phase of the same project in the amount of \$1,600,000 in MAG STP. Maricopa County is requesting an amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to advance a federally funded project on Gilbert Road, just north of Mesa. On August 27, 2002, the Transportation Review Committee (TRC) recommended approval of this advancement. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendation of the TRC.

9. FY 2003 MAG Early Phase Public Input Opportunity

During the early phase public input opportunity, MAG co-sponsored several events from August through October 2002, in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Valley Metro/Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA), and Valley Metro Rail. Opportunities included a transportation stakeholders meeting, two Transportation Fairs, and a "MAG at the Mall" event. Additional opportunities during the early phase will include the Arizona State Fair and Tour de Tempe. The stakeholder meeting was held on Tuesday, August 6, 2002 at the MAG offices. The Transportation Fairs were held at the Central Station Transit Center on Thursday, September 12 and Thursday, September 19, 2002. The "MAG at the Mall" event was held on Saturday, October 5, 2002 in Mesa. MAG will staff a booth at the Arizona State Fair on Saturday, October 26, 2002 in Phoenix and at the Tour de Tempe event on Sunday, October 27, 2002 in Tempe.

10. Request for Qualifications for the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program: Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Contract, and Amendment of the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program

This item was removed from the agenda.

At the September 21, 2002 TPC Retreat, staff was directed to issue a Request for Qualifications for a TPC Information Program. The purpose of the program is to work with targeted publics in providing information about the development of a major regional transportation plan by the Committee. Responsibilities will cover a wide range of activities, such as ensuring the development of a regional transportation plan that is understood by - and which encourages input from - the business community,

transportation stakeholders, and the public. Tasks will include identifying community concerns, establishing and maintaining relationships between the Committee and the broader business community, developing informational materials, facilitating meetings, and working with the media. At their October 23, 2002 meeting, the TPC requested additional time for review.

11. Request for Qualifications for a Transportation Plan Advisor; Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Contract, and Amendment of the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program

The Regional Council, by consent, approved authorizing the MAG Interim Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with a firm recommended by the TPC to serve as the Transportation Plan Advisor for an amount not to exceed \$40,000 and approval to amend the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program to reprogram unexpended MAG federal funds from prior year UPWPs for this purpose. During the Transportation Policy Committee Retreat September 21, 2002, the Committee directed MAG staff to issue a Request for Qualifications for a Plan Development Advisor to assist the Committee in developing, identifying and addressing policy issues surrounding the Regional Transportation Plan. A multi-agency review team reached a unanimous consensus that Cantelme, Kaasa and Associates, LLC be recommended as the consultant for this program.

Responsibilities of the advisor will include identifying community needs that should be addressed in the development of the plan, establishing and maintaining relationships between MAG and its transportation stakeholders, including the business community, public agencies and the public.

On October 4, 2002, a Request for Qualifications was issued for a Plan Development Advisor. Statements of Qualifications were due to MAG by October 18, 2002. MAG received Statements of Qualifications from two respondents for the Plan Development Advisor contract. The respondents included Cantelme, Kaasa & Associates, LLC, and Hudgins Consulting, P.C. Both consultants were invited for follow-up interviews to present their qualifications before a review team composed of representatives from MAG member agencies. Consultants were interviewed by the review team on October 22, 2002. Based on the evaluation of the statements of qualifications and interviews, the review team reached a unanimous consensus that Cantelme, Kaasa and Associates, LLC be recommended as the Plan Development Advisor.

MAG staff provided a report on the process for selecting a consultant to the MAG Transportation Policy Committee at their meeting on October 23, 2002. The Transportation Policy Committee discussed the review team's findings and recommended authorizing the MAG Interim Executive Director to negotiate a contract with Cantelme, Kaasa and Associates, LLC as the Plan Development Advisor. At the Transportation Policy Committee meeting, members were informed that the cost for both the Plan Development Advisor and the Information Program contracts are anticipated to be less than \$100,000.

12. Conformity Consultation

MAG is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The amendment includes a request from Maricopa County to advance a regionally significant federal-aid project on Gilbert Road from FY 2007 to FY 2003. A regional emissions analysis was required for the amendment. The results of the regional emissions analysis indicate that the inclusion of the new project in the TIP and LRTP meet the conformity requirements.

13. Transfer of the Clean Cities Program

The Regional Council, by consent, approved transferring the Maricopa Clean Cities Program to ENRG. In October 1997, the U.S. Department of Energy designated the Maricopa region a Clean Cities Community to support the use of alternative fuel vehicles. Since that time, interest in the Program waned due to a reduction in federal funds and the negative impact from the State Alternative Fuels program. Recently, ENRG, a fuel company, approached MAG about assuming responsibility for the program and creating a committee of public and private sector members. MAG staff is recommending that the Clean Cities Program be transferred to ENRG. The Management Committee recommended approval.

14. Recommendation of Prioritized List of Proposed PM-10 Certified Street Sweeper Projects for FY 2003 CMAQ Funding

The Regional Council, by consent, approved a prioritized list of proposed PM-10 certified street sweeper projects for FY 2003 CMAQ funding and to retain the prioritized list for any additional FY 2003 CMAQ funds that may become available due to year-end closeout, including any redistributed obligation authority, or additional funding received by this region from the Revenue Aligned Budget Authority provisions. And for any additional closeout funds, priority would be given to those cities with projects having the greatest air quality impact until the funds are expended. The FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program contains \$1,460,000 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding to purchase PM-10 certified street sweepers in FY 2003. Twenty-one projects requesting approximately \$3 million in federal funds were received. On October 3, 2002, the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee recommended a prioritized list of proposed PM-10 certified street sweeper projects submitted for FY 2003 CMAQ funding. The Management Committee reviewed and modified the recommendation of the Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee.

15. Approval of the Draft July 1, 2002 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the Draft July 1, 2002 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates. On September 17, 2002, the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee (POPTAC) recommended approval of the July 1, 2002 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates. The Updates are used to allocate \$23 million in lottery funds to local jurisdictions, and to set expenditure limitations where appropriate. The State Population Technical Advisory Committee will consider these updates on November 22, 2002. The Management Committee recommended approval of the Updates.

16. Development of Interim Socioeconomic Projections

In June 1997, MAG adopted official socio-economic projections. Since there is a need to have updated socioeconomic projections for the development of the Regional Transportation Plan, MAG is developing an interim set of projections until DES approves an official Maricopa County control total. It is anticipated that an official set of projections based on those control totals will be presented to the MAG Management Committee and Regional Council for consideration in the spring of 2003.

17. Request for Public Hearing on Proposed EPA Storm Water Discharge Permit for Small Municipal Systems

At the request of the MAG Storm Water Management Discussion Group, a letter is being sent to the EPA requesting a public hearing on the Proposed Storm Water General Discharge Permit for Small MS4s. Since the October 30, 2002 deadline to submit the request to EPA coincides with the Regional Council meeting, it was not possible to bring this matter to the Council prior to the EPA deadline. However, members of the Regional Council will be copied on the recent letter to EPA. The Proposed Phase II General Permit would impact many smaller MAG jurisdictions that were not previously required to obtain a storm water permit under Phase I of the federal program.

18. MAG Transportation Policy Committee Update

Mayor Giuliano stated that on October 23, 2002, the Transportation Policy Committee met with the Rural Transportation Advisory Council. It was agreed that the TPC and the Council will work together and find a common ground to go ahead with a statewide election. Mayor Giuliano stated that attendees from the Council included Mayor Joe Donaldson, Flagstaff, Vice Chair, Rural Transportation Advisory Council; Mayor Les Byram, Kingman; Mayor Jim Boles, Winslow; Supervisor Joe Sanchez, Gila County; Ken Sweet, Northern Arizona Council of Governments; Brian Babiars, Western Arizona Council of Governments; Joe Brannan, Southeastern Arizona Council of Governments; Ron Spinar, Flagstaff MPO; and Joe Hughes, Rural Transportation Liaison. Mayor Giuliano stated that the meeting was very productive.

Mayor Giuliano stated that item #7 and item #11 on tonight's agenda were considered by the TPC at their meeting. He stated that the TPC had recommended that HDR Engineering, Inc. be selected for Phase II of the RTP, and that Cantelme, Kaasa and Associates, LLC be selected as the Plan Development Advisor. Mayor Giuliano stated that the TPC requested further review of the TPC Information Program consultant selection, and interviews of the firms will take place on Thursday, October 31st.

19. Air Quality Update

Lindy Bauer reported that a lawsuit has been filed by the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest challenging the EPA approval of the Revised MAG 1999 Particulate Plan for PM-10. Ms. Bauer stated that issues include CARB diesel and more stringent agricultural measures. Ms. Bauer stated that new federal engine and clean diesel fuel standards may work in EPA's favor. Ms. Bauer stated that if the Center wins and the court vacates the approval, major industries would be hit immediately. She stated that in next five months, three things would happen if the situation is not remedied: the loss of \$1.3 billion in federal funds, stoppage of \$4.5 billion in major transportation projects, and imposition of EPA's own plan.

Ms. Bauer displayed the timeline of the lawsuit. She noted that the Center's brief was due October 21, 2002 and EPA's brief is due November 19, 2002. Ms. Bauer noted the possible court decision could take place in July 2003, and the lawsuit will coincide with the new Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. Bauer stated that state action may need to be taken on CARB diesel and more stringent agricultural measures. She advised that congressional relief may be needed, as well. Ms. Bauer stated that the Transportation Policy Committee discussed issues with the lawsuit at their retreat in September and reached a consensus to have a unified strategy and mount an aggressive defense against the lawsuit. She stated that Dave Berry, TPC member, briefed Congressman John Shadegg on this issue. Ms. Bauer

added that Mr. Berry also called together a meeting of private sector attorneys to stand ready to assist the EPA with the case. Ms. Bauer stated that there may come a time when MAG will need to submit a letter of support.

Mayor Giuliano stated that the TPC felt it was important to mount a defense in a coordinated way. He encouraged support for the unified strategy approach.

Vice Chairman Shafer moved to approve that a unified strategy be developed for effective representation for the region. Mayor Dunn seconded.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Bauer for clarification if the \$1.3 billion in federal funds was a one year or five year program. Ms. Bauer replied that the funds are for projects currently in the TIP, so it would be a five year program.

Mayor Hawker asked for further clarification of the unified strategy. Ms. Bauer replied that the strategy is yet undefined. Initial efforts are being made to gather the attorneys together to work on the strategy.

Mayor Keegan expressed that he was very supportive of the plan. He commented that MAG could hire counsel to submit a friend of the court brief. Mayor Keegan asked for confirmation that the case would be heard in the ninth circuit court. Ms. Bauer replied that was correct. He suggested pledging resources to retain appropriate counsel.

A vote was taken on the motion, which passed unanimously.

20. Domestic Violence Update

Mary Thomson expressed the regrets of Councilmember Peggy Bilsten, Phoenix, and Chair of the Domestic Violence Council, who was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Thomson stated that a copy of the recently updated Domestic Violence Plan was at each place. She mentioned that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Ms. Thomson provided an overview on domestic violence statistics. She stated that she would provide an overview on the progress of some of the initiatives since the report that was presented to the Council one and one-half years ago. She spoke about the efforts of the Domestic Violence Council that includes members from law enforcement, crisis workers, health care professionals, the attorney general's office, and member agency staff. Ms. Thomson stated that the Governor's office recently awarded MAG with the STOP Grant funding to continue support for the Domestic Violence Specialist for the next two years.

Ms. Thomson stated that the local coordinating council initiative has been a great success. The councils meet and discuss how to collaborate on the issue of domestic violence within their own jurisdictions.

Ms. Thomson stated that the updated Domestic Violence Plan addresses the progress made on the 41 recommendations of the original plan and changes that have occurred. She noted that the plan is also posted on the MAG website for comment before it is published in November 2002.

Ms. Thomson stated that MAG has been working with Maricopa Integrated Health Systems to address how health care can aid domestic violence victims. She noted that Maricopa Integrated Health Systems recently received \$50,000 from St. Luke's Initiative to assist health care organizations.

Ms. Thomson stated that Employers Against Domestic Violence (EADV) is a collaboration of public and private entities that helps train employers on the issue of domestic violence in the workplace. Ms. Thomson stated that EADV is co-chaired by The Arizona Republic and Phelps Dodge. She added that many member agencies are members of EADV, and encouraged all to become members.

Mayor Dunn offered clarification in regard to Chandler's Family Advocacy Center. He stated that on page 20, the document indicates that the effort was unsuccessful. Mayor Dunn clarified the Chandler City Council is still examining the Center while they discuss budget issues. Ms. Thomson advised that the correction would be made to the document.

Mr. Smith commended member agencies for their special assessments that keep the Human Services Division operating. He stated that MAG receives a lot of good will from Human Services programs.

21. Discussion of Regional Development Scope of Work

Mr. Smith stated that in May, funding for three staff members to report on regionally significant projects was placed in contingency and discussion would be held by the Regional Council regarding the scope of work for the regional development project. Since then, the regional economic model, REMI, was approved. Mr. Smith stated that the Regional Council would provide input on the scope, which will be adjusted per those comments, and back to the Regional Council in December for action. He stated that the approach is to have a scope that is agreeable to all. Mr. Smith noted that the idea is to work with communities to help them grow.

Jack Tomasik stated that the overall goals of the draft scope of work are information and analysis of the region to assist member agencies in decision-making and to help communities prosper. Mr. Tomasik explained that MAG has a wealth of knowledge, including existing MAG datasets, that can be applied to economic development and can be supplied to member agencies for their own use. He stated that new economic datasets have been developed and will be improved. Mr. Tomasik stated that staff could assist in economic development strategic planning, if invited to do so by cities.

Mr. Tomasik stated that the REMI regional model, recently approved for purchase by the Regional Council, will be used for projections and impact analyses, will provide alternative growth scenarios and new dataset projections, and can be used to evaluate revenue projections, impacts of quality of life measures, and economic/demographic impacts of significant development projects. Mr. Tomasik also explained that MAG staff could provide expertise and technical assistance in economic and community development, from a regional context, to member agency staff, if invited. Mr. Tomasik noted that staff has already provided assistance to member agencies in addressing a number of planning issues: for example, the Goodyear General Plan Citizens Advisory Task Force; the Estrella Mountain Ranch regional transportation impact for general plan cost of development element; Queen Creek fiscal balance and options; and the Goodyear City Council economic development issues. He added that a request had been received from the City of Mesa to assist on Williams Gateway. Mr. Tomasik noted that staff would provide technical assistance if invited.

Mr. Tomasik stated that an annual report would be prepared after the close of each calendar year, when data becomes available. The report would have two dimensions – first, comparing the region to competitor regions and second, reporting on geographic growth changes. The former would be prepared by coordinating with the Greater Phoenix Economic Council to avoid duplication of effort. The latter would show geographic changes through maps and tables by sub-region.

Regarding the impact of regionally significant development projects, Mr. Tomasik stated that an information sharing role for MAG may be most appropriate and useful. Staff would prepare information on regional costs and benefits of regionally significant development projects. After that, a private meeting would be held with the member agency. A written report would be drafted, if desired by the member agency. Mr. Tomasik stated that the Planners Stakeholders Group would provide guidance in the technical approach as to what defines a regionally significant development, for discussion and approval by the Management Committee and Regional Council. He stated that an 18 month evaluation has been suggested for this approach.

Mr. Tomasik stated that funds have been held in contingency that could be used to enhance this program. He explained that there is \$269,500 in the current budget for alternative staffing positions and four options were available: Option 1: Additional Full-Time Staff. This option is to follow the work program and hire the Senior Planner, Planner I and GIS Analyst at \$134,750 for remaining six months of FY 2003. Option 2: Consultants/associates to perform the tasks described above. By using consultants/associates, the effort can be evaluated to determine if full-time staff will be hired. (estimated \$180,000). Option 3: This option is the same as Option 2, but more intensive work tasks would be taken out, thus reducing the consultant/associate budget to \$130,000. Option 4: Hire a GIS Analyst only and to complete the remainder of the work scope with consultants or associates (estimated \$171,000).

Mr. Tomasik stated that concern was expressed at the Executive Committee meeting that MAG member agencies would be paying twice because of duplication of effort. He stated that he and Dennis Smith met with GPEC last week on this issue. Mr. Tomasik introduced Paul Ringer, senior vice-president of GPEC. Mr. Ringer stated that MAG and GPEC could collaborate and examine ways to establish a linkage. He added that MAG has been working on a joint project with SRP for a number of months now. Mr. Ringer stated that the regional and geographic distribution information provided by MAG, such as employment centers and mapping from a regional viewpoint, has helped GPEC and the Business Leadership Coalition, and has clearly influenced the regional economic development strategy being developed. Mr. Ringer stated that duplication of effort is something they monitor very closely. He noted that from their perspective, both GPEC and MAG have been careful and feel it is not an issue nor a concern. Mr. Ringer stated that GPEC could provide the capability to develop geographic distribution information, but they had neither the time nor resources to do it. Thus, MAG is filling a key gap. He stated that, as an example, new information provided this week by MAG that was very helpful in seeing economic development patterns across the region. Mr. Ringer expressed that GPEC is very pleased with the relationship with MAG and it has been successful. He assured members that there is no duplication of effort, and that the two organizations are working very closely together.

Mr. Smith stated that when the presentation was given to the Executive Committee, it was undecided whether the annual report would be looked at by sub-regions or by city. He stated that this is the type of policy issue that needs guidance by the Regional Council as to what level of detail.

Mayor Hawker stated that he thought that MAG could be a leader in tying Growing Smarter and land use to transportation corridors. He stated that the TIP amendment considered under agenda item #8 may have had regional impact. Mayor Hawker commented that it may have been helpful to the Regional Council to know if there might be impacts that could be mitigated before they approved the amendment. He stated that the Executive Committee discussed concerns whether the annual report would be sub-regional. Mayor Hawker stated that he understood that in 18 months, the Regional Council can change their minds about the changes to the Regional Development Division. He stated

that the review of regionally significant development projects entails a change in philosophy. It is similar to a district system in a council, where a member is elected by district. When those members come to the council, they represent the entire city. This is the same with the Regional Council—they need regional information in order to vote on the item as a regional project. Mayor Hawker urged giving members all of the information so they can vote intelligently. He stated that he wants regional information, because he is a regional player. He stated that he does not agree with the approach that one member must agree with approving a project in another member's city, because the next time the project will be in your city and you will need the other city to approve your project. Mayor Hawker encouraged acting regionally, not parochially.

Mr. Smith stated that after 18 months, trust might be established, and we might have a track record that shows that the project was a help to cities.

Mayor Manross asked if the staffing decision would be made in December. Mr. Smith replied that was correct. Mayor Manross stated that a GIS analyst is needed. She suggested hiring a consultant until direction and commitment are known. Mayor Manross added that with resources so tight, city staff could possibly be utilized. Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that if there is a level of discomfort with city staff performing tasks, it might be preferential to hire consultants. Mayor Manross stated that it could make more sense to hire consultants while testing the waters. Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that it could be done on a case-by-case basis, and provides a starting point.

22. Update on Executive Director Recruitment

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that a brochure was sent out by Shannon Executive Search on the recruitment of the MAG Executive Director. She stated that the position closes November 1, 2002.

23. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council 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.

Mayor Scruggs announced the groundbreaking for Glendale's new public safety center on the northeast corner of 83rd Avenue and Bethany. This center will serve the growing population in that area.

Mayor Beydler announced that the Fountain Hills Arts and Crafts show will be held the following weekend. He stated that the show is one of the largest in the United States, and they are hoping for attendance of 120,000. Mayor Beydler stated that Fountain Hills is facing a 50 percent budget deficit and he hoped that the show could provide some revenue.

Vice Chairman Shafer announced that the grand opening of the new complex in the City of Surprise is scheduled for December 6th and 7th. The complex includes a library, pool, park and stadium. She mentioned that the first game in the stadium will be held February 28, 2003. Vice Chairman Shafer announced the dedication of the World War II Army Air Corps monument. The event will be mostly free of charge.

There being no further business, Mayor McDermott moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Delgado seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary