

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
STREET COMMITTEE

November 14, 2006
MAG Offices, Saguaro Conference Room
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Darryl Crossman, Litchfield Park, Chairman	Mitch Foy, Mesa
Dianne Kresich, ADOT	Andrew Cooper, Jr., Paradise Valley
* Carnell Thurman, Avondale	* Chris Kmetty, Peoria
* Thomas Chelbanowski, Buckeye	Christina Turner-Noteware, Phoenix
* Dan Cook, Chandler	* Don Noble, Queen Creek
* Lynn Farmer, Gila Bend	* Elaine Cabrera, Salt River Pima-Maricopa I.C.
Tony Rodriguez, Gila River Indian Community	Dave Meinhart, Scottsdale
Rick Allred, Gilbert	Brain Pirooz, Surprise
Dan Sherwood, Glendale	* Shelly Seyler, Tempe
Don French, Goodyear	* Jason Earp, Tolleson
Jim Ricker, Guadalupe	* Jesse Mendez, Youngtown
* Chris Plumb, Maricopa County	

* Members neither present nor represented by Proxy

OTHERS PRESENT

Paul Ward, MAG

Stephen Tate, MAG

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Crossman at 1:02 p.m.

2. Approval of the September 12, 2006 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the September 12, 2006 Street Committee were approved unanimously.

3. Call to the Audience

There were no members of the public at the meeting who expressed a desire to address the committee.

4. Transportation Programming Manager's Report

Paul Ward, MAG Transportation Programming Manager, briefed the Committee on recent developments. Mr. Ward began by noting that the FY 2007 - FY 2011 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was awaiting the approval of the Governor's designee. He noted that

this approval may be tied to the approval of the State Transportation Improvement Program by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. Dianne Kresich offered to investigate the issue.

Mr. Ward went on to note that MAG was preparing a second TIP amendment. It is anticipated that this amendment will be considered by the Transportation Review Committee in December and then proceed to the Management Committee and the Regional Council in January for their consideration.

Mr. Ward concluded by noting that no new information was available about federal highway appropriations.

5. MAG Federally Funded Locally Sponsored Projects Development Status

Stephen Tate began his presentation by distributing a status report on MAG federally funded projects. He asked that members review the report and provide him with corrections after the meeting.

Mr. Tate then went on to briefly layout key deadlines and milestones that project sponsors must meet to obligate a MAG federally funded construction project for FY 2007. Key milestones include ADOT approved environmental, right-of-way and utilities clearances and for construction projects from non self-certified agencies, a complete set of ADOT approved plans, specifications and estimates.

As of the date of the meeting, member agencies should have begun the process to obligate FY 2007 federally funded projects. By March 1, member agencies are expected to provide written notice to MAG of all MAG federally funded projects they plan to defer to a later year. By that same date, they should have obtained or be very close to obtaining environmental clearances for their FY 2007 projects as projects that have not largely completed the environmental process by March 1 are unlikely to be obligate in FY 2007. By August 1, 2007, all paper work necessary to obtain necessary clearances and design approvals should be submitted to ADOT in final or near final form. In mid September 2007, the FHWA stops accepting applications for obligation and hence the federal fiscal year is effectively closed.

6. Federal Fiscal Year 2006 Closeout

Mr. Ward briefed the Committee on the close out of Federal Fiscal Year 2006. He then discussed the closeout process and noted that MAG used the services of ADOT as a safety valve for unused, year end obligation authority. In this process MAG loans the unused obligation authority to ADOT at the end of the fiscal year and ADOT returns the obligation authority to MAG at the beginning of the new fiscal year.

He went on to note that the adoption of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the subsequent voter approval of a half-cent sales tax to fund RTP projects had substantially changed the MAG policy environment. As a result, he suggested that the MAG closeout process may need to be re-examined and means to reduce the number of projects that are repeatedly deferred from year to year be considered.

7. FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP Locally Funded Program Development

Stephen Tate briefly demonstrated a computer application to collect data for the TIP. Mr. Tate noted that the application was substantially the same as used the previous year, except that the facility for exporting the data to a Microsoft Excel file had been eliminated as it had lead to a number of inadvertent data errors.

Also, he indicated that the application would be placed on the MAG website and that he would e-mail MAG members with a password and a download link for the application. The due date for submitting locally funded, locally sponsored projects to MAG is **January 5, 2007**.

8. Report on Federal Project Workshop

Mr. Ward briefed the Committee on a recent workshop that MAG had hosted on the ADOT administered, federal design and clearance approval process. He noted that the workshop was very well attended and that it included representatives from ADOT and the Federal Highway Administration. He indicated that there was ample opportunity for participants to comment on the process and that a number of them had expressed concern about the complexity and time consuming nature of the process.

He went on to have Mr. Tate demonstrate a web application for showing the status of projects proceeding through the federal process. The application includes a title page where users may locate projects, and then proceed to a detail page that shows the current status of a project. The application also includes links to the ADOT Local Governments Section and other sites where users can locate information to help them navigate through the process.

9. MAG Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Ward indicated that MAG is in the process of developing an operating budget for FY 2008 – the MAG Unified Planning Work Program – and identified several potential projects that the Committee had previously suggested. He went on to indicate that it is anticipated that the design assistance program will be extended to include bicycle projects. He noted that this program provides seed money for agencies to initiate new pedestrian projects using MAG contracts.

10. Tentative FY 2007 MAG Street Committee Meeting Schedule

A tentative FY 2007 MAG Street Committee Schedule was distributed to the members.

11. Member Agency Update

Dave Meinhardt noted that Scottsdale had recently ended its experiment with radar cameras on the Pima Freeway. He noted that preliminary data indicated that the number of incidents of speeding on the monitored sections had decreased substantially during the experiment and that since the end of the experiment, the number of incidents of speeding had increased.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.