

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
STREET COMMITTEE
January 11, 2005
MAG Offices, Saguaro Conference Room
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Don Herp, Phoenix, Chairman	* Horatio Skeet, Litchfield Park
Andrew Smith, ADOT	Chris Plumb, Maricopa County
Mike Smith for Carnell Thurman, Avondale	Mitch Foy for Kevin Wallace, Mesa
* Carroll Reynolds, Buckeye	Andrew Cooper, Paradise Valley
* Dan Cook, Chandler	Burton Charron, Peoria
* Lynn Farmer, Gila Bend	Elaine Cabrera, Salt River Pima-Maricopa I.C.
Michael Vinson, Gila River Indian Community	Dave Meinhart for Robert Brown, Scottsdale
* Bruce Ward, Gilbert	* Brian Pirooz, Surprise
Dan Sherwood, Glendale	Larry Shobe, Tempe
Ronald Sievwright for Don French, Goodyear	Richard Rawnsley for Jason Earp, Tolleson
Jim Ricker, Guadalupe	* Jesse Mendez, Youngtown

*Members neither present nor represented by Proxy

OTHERS PRESENT

Randy Allenstein	Stephen Tate, MAG
Mark Young, Queen Creek	Paul Ward, MAG

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Larry Shobe at 1:30 pm.

2. Approval of the December 14, 2004, Meeting Minutes

Stephen Tate noted that the minutes incorrectly indicated that City of Litchfield Park was not represented at the December meeting. Litchfield Park was represented by Mike Cartsonis.

The minutes were unanimously approved with the correction noted by Mr. Tate.

3. Call to the Audience and Stakeholders

Mitch Foy noted that the City of Mesa was currently developing cost estimates for half-cent funded projects and that it would be desirable to have a standard model or method for estimating costs that could be used by all MAG member agencies.

Dan Sherwood asked if the method would cover all project types and costs. Mr. Foy indicated that it would be desirable for it to cover all costs.

Paul Ward indicated that the topic could be explored more fully under agenda item #8 as the item partly concerned potential studies to be included in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Michael Vincent also asked to speak. He noted that in recent conversations with the City of Chandler, he had become aware that many MAG member agencies may be unaware of grant funds available through the Native American communities in Maricopa County. He indicated that tribal compacts with the State of Arizona had identified a funding source called "12-Percent" funds that were available to public agencies in Maricopa County and that if 12-Percent funds were not used they would revert to the State.

4. Transportation Programming Manager's Report

Paul Ward briefed the Committee on a number of programming related topics. He indicated that he was preparing TIP amendment #6, that this amendment concerned some ADOT freeway projects and a Peoria enhancement project.

Another amendment, TIP amendment #7, is also under development and concerns requests from the Town of Apache Junction and the City of Glendale and was expected to be approved by the Regional Council at their January meeting, but to air quality conformity delays is not expected to be approved by the Regional Council until February.

Mr. Ward then discussed the re-authorization of the federal surface transportation act. He noted that re-authorization was long overdue, but that it was anticipated that it would be re-authorized by May.

Following this discussion, Mr. Ward noted that the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation had become a full member of MAG.

Mr. Ward concluded his presentation by noting that Chairman Don Herp would be stepping down as the chairman of the MAG Street Committee on January 12, 2005 and that Larry Shobe would be replacing him as the MAG Street Committee Chairman. Mr. Ward and the Committee thanked Chairman Herp for his service and congratulated Mr. Shobe on his appointment.

5. MAG Federally Funded Locally Sponsored Projects Development Status

Stephen Tate distributed the most recent project status report and requested that members review them for errors. Mr. Tate then proceeded to identify key deadlines for obligating FY 2005 MAG federally funded projects. These deadlines are as follows:

- **March 1, 2005** is the deadline for MAG member agencies to request to defer 2005 federally funded projects
- **July 27, 2005** is, effectively, the last opportunity for the MAG Regional Council to make major programming changes to FY 2005 projects.
- **August 1, 2005**, member agencies should have substantially completed and have approved by ADOT all requirements to obligate a project. These include: a design concept report, 95-percent design and clearances for right-of-way, utilities and environmental issues.
- **Mid-September, 2005** is the last day ADOT can obligate a project as the Federal Highway Administration requires at least two weeks to closeout the federal fiscal year.

Mr. Ward then distributed a list of 2005 MAG federally funded projects that are unlikely to obligate by the end of the year. He noted that a number of the projects on the list had not advanced enough through the ADOT local governments review and design process to meet necessary deadlines, that the MAG member agency sponsors of the two projects had indicated that they would defer or abandon their projects and that one project would probably need additional time to address right-of-way issues.

He concluded his presentation by noting that if the projects on the list were to be deferred, that it would make available approximately \$11 million in MAG federal funding for use by other projects in the closeout of the federal fiscal year 2005 MAG federally funded program.

6. Update of Member Agency Project Submissions for the FY 2006-2010 MAG TIP

Mr. Tate briefly discussed the agenda item. He reminded members that updated data for locally sponsored, locally funded projects to be included in the FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) are due on Friday, January 14, 2005. These updates will not include projects newly submitted for MAG federal funding in the new TIP or unprogrammed arterial street projects identified in the MAG Regional Transportation Plan for future regional half-cent and MAG federal funding.

He then discussed procedures for submitting the updated data to MAG. He noted that MAG had developed a data entry system with pre-loaded member agency TIP data and indicated that if members were unable to use the software, MAG would provide them with forms that they complete by hand. He then asked if members were having difficulty using the MAG software.

Chris Plumb indicated that he had experienced problems in navigating through the database when he adding new projects. Dan Sherwood indicated that he had experienced problems with federally funded projects. Mr. Tate agreed to resolve these concerns on an individual basis.

7. Federal Functional Classification Update Process and Schedule

Mr. Tate introduced the topic. He noted that MAG had initiated the update at the request of the FHWA and ADOT, that the last major update of federal functional classification had occurred in 1993 and that at the last Street Committee meeting, the Committee had recommended revisions to federal functional classifications.

He then indicated that at the December Transportation Committee (TRC) meeting, that three members agencies had requested additional time to review and revise the proposed changes. Mr. Tate then went on to note that he had met with staff from the three agencies and had prepared maps showing revisions suggested by them. These maps were displayed at the meeting and the changes were identified.

When going over the maps, Mr. Tate indicated that some of the suggested changes were in Avondale and Glendale, and he asked members from these two agencies if these changes were acceptable to them. Mr. Sherwood indicated that the changes were acceptable. Mike Smith indicated that he had difficulty identifying the location of the affected facility, but indicated that the changes were acceptable.

Andrew Smith moved that the Committee approve forwarding the revised functional classification map to the Transportation Review Committee. Mr. Sherwood seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

8. Development of the MAG Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Mr. Ward introduced the agenda item. He noted that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was the MAG operating budget, that it was prepared every year and included ongoing and new MAG studies and that he anticipated that approximately \$1.5 million would be available for new studies. He then asked members for input.

Mr. Foy reintroduced the issue of developing a uniform cost estimation model. A general discussion ensued. Andrew Cooper suggested that MAG could survey public agencies. Mr. Plumb and Randy Allenstein indicated that their agencies had developed large cost databases and semi-automated process for developing uniform cost estimates. Mr. Sherwood and Chairman Herp question the feasibility of developing a uniform cost estimating model due to the variability of costs, difficulties in comparing different projects and the impact of economies of scale.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m..