

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

October 23, 2002
APS Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe, Chair	Mayor Boyd Dunn, Chandler
Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale, Vice Chair	*Rusty Gant, ADOT
* Senator Linda Aguirre, Arizona Senate	Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa
* Benito Almanza, Bank of America Arizona	Eneas Kane, DMB Associates
F. Rockne Arnett, Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee	Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear	Mayor Lon McDermott, Wickenburg
Mayor Steven Berman, Gilbert	*James Pulice, Jr., Pulice Construction
Dave Berry, Swift Transportation	Diane Scherer, Phoenix Association of Realtors
* Councilmember Peggy Bilsten, Phoenix	*Vice Mayor Daniel Schweiker, Paradise Valley
Representative Dean Cooley, Arizona House	Martin Shultz, Pinnacle West Capital Corp.
Councilmember Pat Dennis, Peoria	Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County
Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale	Mayor J. Woodfin Thomas, Litchfield Park

* Not present

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee was called to order by Chairman Neil Giuliano at 5:02 p.m.

Chairman Giuliano stated that transit tickets were available from RPTA for those who used transit to come to the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Giuliano noted that memoranda for agenda item #6, Request for Qualifications for the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program and agenda item #7, Request for Qualifications for a Transportation Plan Advisor, reflecting the consensus of the review team were at each place.

Chairman Giuliano thanked Marty Shultz, Vice President of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation and member of our Transportation Policy Committee, who graciously provided the facility for the meeting. He noted the attendance of representatives from the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council at the meeting, whom he would be introduce when their agenda item was considered.

Mr. Shultz stated that Mr. Bill Post, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, and Chair of the Leadership Council, was expected to address the Committee, but had been delayed at a Board meeting. Mr. Shultz provided a chart of the Business Coalition's structure and issue flow. Mr. Shultz explained that the Business Coalition was formed from nine business organizations that have the responsibility to identify policy issues. He stated that the coalition

went through a process to determine specific public policy issues. Mr. Shultz said that the coalition has stated their support for the development of the plan for the extension of the half cent sales tax for 20 years. He indicated that the coalition is sensitive to rural needs, as well as urban needs. Mr. Shultz stated that there needs to be thought by the TPC as to what the role might be to support rural needs. He indicated that working with the Legislature requires sensitivity. Mr. Shultz stated that it is recognized that the TPC is the group through which transportation issues need to be vetted. He mentioned that the Business Coalition will soon transmit its support letter in detail.

Chairman Giuliano thanked Mr. Shultz for his comments and for hosting the meeting. He introduced Representative Gary Pierce, who may join this Committee in January, depending on the elections. Chairman Giuliano noted that Representative Pierce participated in the TPC retreat.

3. Call to the Audience

This agenda item was taken out of order. Chairman Giuliano stated that an opportunity is available to members of the public to offer public comment. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. Chairman Giuliano stated that no public comment cards had been turned in.

2. Approval of September 21, 2002 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Arnett moved to approve September 21, 2002 meeting minutes. Mayor Arnold seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Arizona Rural Transportation Advocacy Council

Chairman Giuliano stated that transportation and air quality challenges are statewide in nature and other groups are also actively involved in addressing these challenges. He stated that an invitation was extended to the Arizona Rural Transportation Advocacy Council to attend the TPC meeting for the purpose of sharing information on the challenges facing their areas and ideas on how we can work together. Chairman Giuliano introduced members of the Rural Transportation Advisory Council: Mayor Joe Donaldson, Flagstaff, Vice Chair; Mayor Les Byram, Kingman; Mayor Jim Boles, Winslow; and Supervisor Joe Sanchez, Gila County. Chairman Giuliano introduced the COG Directors representing the Rural Transportation Advisory Council: Ken Sweet, Executive Director, Northern Arizona Council of Governments; Brian Babiars, Executive Director, Western Arizona Council of Governments; Joe Brannan, Executive Director, Southeastern Arizona Council of Governments and Ron Spinar, MPO Director, Flagstaff MPO; and Liaison for the Council, Joe Hughes.

Mayor Donaldson stated that the Rural Transportation Advisory Council was formed by 13 rural counties in the State, because of the need to come together to address transportation needs. He stated that Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix, had come to them about the transportation sales tax. Mayor Donaldson stated that the Council looks forward to working with the TPC. He stated that the Council has discussed creating enabling legislation at their meetings, but most important was being at the table and discussing what is good for Arizona. The needs in both metro and rural areas need to be addressed. Mayor Donaldson spoke about the traffic volume in Flagstaff from visitors, many from the Valley. The roads in Flagstaff were not made for this amount of traffic volume. Mayor Donaldson stated that sometimes cities need to take the bull by the horns and find solutions themselves. He stated that he looked forward to deciding what is the best for the State.

Mayor Boles invited all to visit the City of Winslow. He stated that he serves as the Chair of Northern Arizona Council of Governments. Mayor Boles spoke about his frequent visits to Phoenix, as mayor and as participant in the League. He stated that transportation is a problem statewide. Mayor Boles stated that the Vision 21 report showed that all will be short of funds for transportation projects. The question is who is going to pay? We all will be involved together. Mayor Boles stated that we all need to hang together or we will hang separately. He commented on the importance of deciding together what all parties can live with.

Mr. Babiars stated that he would defer his time for comments in favor of the elected officials present.

Supervisor Sanchez commented on the positive experience of his commute to Phoenix from Miami. He stated that he drove in on the Superstition Freeway and the improvements made the commute 100 percent easier. He complimented the planning that went into the improvements. Supervisor Sanchez noted the rubberized asphalt was excellent. He stated that Globe/Miami was held up as a model in transit/transportation. Supervisor Sanchez stated that it is important for Gila County, Globe, and Miami to stay involved and work together with the entities in the State to share concerns and offer input.

Mayor Byram expressed his appreciation for the invitation to attend the meeting. All transportation problems have the same root—lack of funds. Mayor Byram stated that he wanted the opportunity to discuss and work with the TPC. By working together, we may be able to solve transportation funding problems. Mayor Byram commented strong leadership will be needed, which may be an issue with the many new members in the legislature. He stated that the Council wants to work together, and does not want to be adversarial. Mayor Byram advised that a half cent sales tax increase is an area of concern, especially with those cities that face significant competition along borders, such as Yuma, Parker, Lake Havasu City, etc. Mayor Byram expressed his appreciation for the safety improvements along SR 93. He stated that he looked for assistance in developing the future Hoover Dam route. Mayor Byram stated that he hoped for future involvement in the TPC meetings.

Chairman Giuliano stated that all are in similar positions to get organized and identify needs and priorities. He commented that all need to be on the same page to develop a legislative strategy.

Mr. Berry asked if there was a feel for the rural voters approving the half cent sales tax. Supervisor Sanchez stated that Gila County already has a sales tax dedicated to transportation, and enabling legislation would continue that tax. He noted that the tax has been successful and he thought voters would probably vote to extend the tax. Supervisor Sanchez stated that in the last 1½ years, the County has gone to a consolidated public works program.

Chairman Giuliano asked about a county by county tax analysis. Dennis Smith clarified that the analysis was included in the TPC orientation manual.

Representative Cooley stated that Vision 21 was a statewide study and probably contained recommendations for counties. Mr. Shultz stated that was correct, and it also allowed for counties to make their own decisions. He noted that the report was a compilation of data received from the COGs.

Representative Cooley asked if the rural counties had the ability and right to effect a sales tax, and whether it was only the two urban counties that needed enabling legislation. Supervisor Stapley clarified that Pima County had the authority to request an election, not Maricopa County. Representative Cooley stated that legislatively, we have to soften that. Supervisor Stapley stated that a lot of counties have implemented sales tax for transportation.

Mayor Hawker asked if there was support for the proposed distribution of the tax to the rural communities. Mayor Donaldson stated that discussions are ongoing on that. He stated that they are in the process of forming legislation that can be presented to their communities. Mayor Donaldson stated that the approach is to give communities the opportunity to say if they support the plan or not, rather than going to communities with a tax raise. How will the legislation be formed to fit all and be accepted by all?

Mr. Berry stated that he has heard the proposed Phoenix tax plan mentioned many times and it could be helpful for members to get copies of the plan for review.

Mr. Shultz commented that individual drafts of legislation could be dangerous. He urged demonstrating how coordinated our efforts are in future actions, i.e., formulas that deal with federal transportation funds. Mr. Shultz commented on being sensitive to modifying HURF formulas. He stated that the half cent sales tax in other counties is not uniformly applied, and this needs re-examination to make the applications uniform. Mr. Shultz commented on identifying funding additional capacity on a multi-modal basis. He urged that bills not be unilaterally introduced, which will confuse and divide. Then we will have to repair the damage.

Mayor Thomas asked Mayor Boles about projects not viewed as transportation projects, such as fiber optics, being put on the table. Mayor Boles replied that it was understood that discussions would be about transportation in the typical sense of the word—those modes that get you from point A to point B—highways, streets, etc.

Chairman Giuliano stated that it would be helpful to have a mutual commitment by January. If something gels, communicate that with each other. When that time comes, a sub-group of each entity could work through issues. Chairman Giuliano stated that the commitment would be to not unilaterally go off without consulting each other. He stated that legislation could be overlaid on top of that.

Mayor Donaldson stated his agreement with Chairman Giuliano. He stated that there is power in numbers. If we come together in the process and work together as a State, we have power; if we split off, we lose.

Mayor Byram stated that timing is important with new legislation. Develop what we want to do, then work with the legislature.

Chairman Giuliano stated that he had sent a letter to entities requesting ideas on transportation projects. Mayor Boles stated that they have agreed that any move for the sales tax be supplemental, not supplantive. He stated that his best guess estimate is that transportation is billions of dollars in the hole. Any additional funds would be supplemental. Mayor Boles commented on working with legislative colleagues that we need what we already have and then some.

Representative Cooley commented on looking at existing legislation. As Supervisor Stapley mentioned, the authority to pass the extension is based on the County Supervisors' unanimous approval. He stated that this differs from county to county. It will be important to look at the specific aspects of each county regarding an extension. To gain the legislature's support, it is best to have the rural and metro interests aligned.

Councilmember Dennis stated that the involvement of the rurals needs to be determined. Will we report back to them, or will they attend the TPC meetings? Chairman Giuliano stated that would need to be determined. He suggested that sub-groups of each entity could work together to keep all informed. Councilmember Dennis noted that the timeline would be a consideration. Chairman Giuliano stated that we need to be coordinated when going to the legislature.

Supervisor Stapley suggested inviting the executive directors of County Supervisors Association and the League to meetings and ask them to disseminate the information. Mr. Shultz stated that the COG directors met with staff when Vision 21 was being drafted, and this worked well. They are really the clearinghouse for policy and technical issues. He stated that the COG directors could meet with the TPC to work out the fundamentals, but would not bind each in their own area. All know the ground rules and each develops their own plan.

Mr. Smith stated that the COG Directors meet regularly. If appropriate, the County Supervisor's Association and the League could be invited to attend those meetings. Mr. Smith noted the inclusion of PAG in the meetings is important. Mr. Smith stated that Vision 21 also discussed increasing the gas tax. He noted that implementing a one cent gas tax each year over five years could raise approximately \$7.8 billion if the tax was indexed. He stated that the timing of a gas tax increase is a concern if it would take place at the same time as the sales tax election. Mr. Smith noted the decline in gas tax revenue because of increased fuel and automobile efficiency. He referred to the project request letter that was mentioned earlier in the meeting by Chairman Giuliano. The responses received have included street projects, which demonstrates a decline in HURF revenue to cities and the county.

Mayor Thomas expressed concern that the gas tax issue may not be this group's responsibility. Representative Cooley stated that it may be a legislative issue, but the support of the citizens is needed. Mayor Thomas commented on building support from this group. Mr. Shultz stated that the TPC could express support and work with the rural entities. Mr. Shultz stated that an inadequate transportation system is unacceptable. When at the juncture, a half cent is not enough. Recommendations to get additional revenue are needed.

Mayor Thomas stated that Winslow and his city, Litchfield Park, are not far apart in their views. His city depends on the City of Phoenix—it is the hub. Mayor Thomas stated that many feel that Phoenix should not get anything special, but it does, because it is the hub and generates the economic health for all. Mayor Thomas commented on what our focus should be—the State or Maricopa County. If you look at the State, it comes back to Maricopa County. Chairman Giuliano commented that they are intertwined.

Chairman Giuliano thanked representatives from the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council for attending the meeting. He stated that sub-groups would meet, followed by a meeting of all groups later on. Chairman Giuliano stated that the timeline is critical and is subject to effects not under our control.

Mayor McDermott commented on the needs of rural Maricopa County. He stated that there is not a politician running for office who is saying they will raise taxes, which makes it more difficult.

5. Regional Transportation Plan - Phase II Consultant Selection

Eric Anderson stated that a request for qualifications (RFQ) was advertised for consultant assistance for the development of Phase II, and five consultant proposals were received in response. Mr. Anderson stated that the Phase II consultant will be key in the development of the Plan. He stated that a review

team consisting of representatives from MAG member agencies interviewed three of these consultant groups and reached a consensus that HDR Engineering, Inc. be selected to assist in the development of Phase II. The Management Committee recommended that HDR Engineering, Inc. be selected as the Phase II consultant at their October 16, 2002 meeting. Mr. Anderson provided a list of the HDR staff that included Mike Connors as Project Manager, and Mark Ford as Deputy Project Manager. Mr. Anderson reviewed the team's prior experience. Mr. Smith commented that William Loudon is a key staff member of the team for performance-based planning.

Mr. Connors gave a brief overview of the consultant team background. Mr. Berry asked about their experience in sales tax. Mr. Connors noted that Mr. Ford is an economist with experience in transportation and has done analyses for Oregon sales tax ballots. Mr. Anderson stated that the team would like to do a presentation on the Phase II study scope of work at the next TPC meeting.

Chairman Giuliano stated that this team will provide significant expertise into the framework for drafting the RTP. He asked if members had questions.

Mayor Hawker commented that none of the TPC, not the Chair, Vice Chair, nor member, participated on the review team. Mr. Anderson replied that was correct, because the RFQ process was launched prior to the TPC beginning their meetings. Mayor Hawker stated that if they are to be the key group, he would have liked more documentation on the responses submitted by the firms. He added that he did not have any information on the firms other than what staff had told him. Mr. Smith stated that if the TPC makes a recommendation tonight, a packet of information could be put together and transmitted to the Regional Council prior to their meeting on October 30th, when approval for the consultant is anticipated. Chairman Giuliano stated that the evaluations could be helpful.

Supervisor Stapley stated that getting the information packet to the Regional Council would be helpful.

Mr. Shultz stated that he understood the concerns expressed. However, the role of this consultant is to compile information and data on a performance-based plan. The TPC will still make the policy decisions. Mr. Shultz stated that the consultant's recommendations are subject to this group's decisions on what is best for the region. Mayor Hawker stated that because teams #4 and #5 were not interviewed, he just wanted to ensure that the best team had been selected. Chairman Giuliano stated that the consultant only provides the data. How they present the data is as critical as the data itself.

Mr. Kane stated that additional information would help him understand how the scopes work with each other. What is the scope of work? How will the consultants interact on the public outreach efforts? Mr. Smith described the public input elements included in Phase II. Mr. Anderson stated that the first meeting of the public involvement team is scheduled for November 7th. A description of the public involvement element would be presented at the next TPC meeting. Mr. Anderson stated that their concern, in addition to the outreach efforts, is to not duplicate efforts and to ensure one voice.

Representative Cooley stated that he liked the idea of performance-based planning. He asked for clarification that the TPC will be establishing a policy and the formula for evaluating projects. Mr. Anderson confirmed that the TPC will be making those decisions. Representative Cooley stated that he felt that performance-based planning takes out a lot of parochialism. It is key and should be monitored by the Committee. Once in place, it will be easier to establish priorities. Mr. Smith stated that the TPC will decide how the criteria is weighted.

Mr. Kane asked about individuals on the review team who did not attend the interviews. Mr. Anderson replied that two of those invited to participate on the review team did not attend.

Mayor Scruggs commented that providing the scoring sheets from the consultant interviews to the TPC might be helpful. She stated that this meeting is the only opportunity for the business representatives to vote on this selection, whereas the Regional Council representatives have an additional opportunity to vote at the Regional Council meeting.

Mayor Thomas asked for clarification that a super majority of the Regional Council would be needed to overrule the actions of the TPC. Mr. Smith stated that a simple majority, not a super majority of the Regional Council, was needed to overrule TPC actions.

Chairman Giuliano expressed concern for moving forward the recommendation to the Regional Council unless there is full support by the TPC. He stated that one possibility would be to take additional time for review, even if it meant another meeting of the TPC prior to the next scheduled meeting on November 13th. He stated that he would be willing to do that and preferred that option to having anyone feel uncomfortable with the decision.

Ms. Scherer stated that, as a new member, she preferred that option and would like to postpone action on the three consultant items.

Mr. Arnett asked the impact on the timeline if action tonight was postponed. Chairman Giuliano stated that he would not recommend a 30 day postponement, but closer to a one week postponement. He added that the items could be considered at the November TPC and Regional Council meetings. Mr. Anderson confirmed that the items could not be delayed 30 days, because of the Phase II study timeline that must be met for the air quality conformity analysis September 30, 2003. He explained that the scope of work needed to be to the body by the November meeting, so the consultant would have to be under contract before that.

Mr. Arnett asked for clarification if MAG was trying to prepare for the 2003 legislative session to get the authorization. Mr. Smith explained that the consultant would take the projects received from member agencies and the projects resulting from the study, apply the criteria and performance-based planning development options, seek public comment, return comments to the TPC for readjustment, then to the Regional Council in September. Mr. Smith stated that it would be preferential to get enabling legislation this session, but that might not happen because of new membership at the legislature. He advised that we can stay the course and, if necessary, consider asking the Governor for a special session.

Representative Cooley commented that Phase II will develop those projects that will be presented to the voters. He added that he understood that this element would not be needed to ask for enabling legislation from the legislature. Chairman Giuliano replied that was correct. He added that it might not be in the best interest to approach the legislature in January.

Mr. Shultz spoke about the how the process has changed since Representative Burton Barr developed the first sales tax legislation in 1985. He stated that the population has grown and things are more complex than in the first election. Mr. Shultz stated that a consultant is needed out there and it was timely to move ahead. He stated that if we wait until 30 to 40 freshman legislators can be educated, we are in trouble. Mr. Shultz stated that the plan needs to be developed and we can hope for additional revenue sources. If at all possible, getting enabling legislation would be the best option.

Mr. Kane stated that his previous comments were not specific to the agenda item, but simply the tougher issue of coordination and level of efficiency on the part of the consultants. He stated that he did not advocate delay in taking action. Mr. Kane stated that it would be helpful to the Committee to have job descriptions of the consultants accompanied by a timeline and how the consultant would resource them.

Mayor Scruggs suggested that the item could be held for further review until the November 13th meeting, followed by the Executive Committee approval, and ratification by the Regional Council on December 11th.

Chairman Giuliano stated that he was comfortable moving forward as Mayor Scruggs suggested. Mayor Thomas stated that members could meet telephonically Tuesday or Wednesday after the information is received on Thursday, October 24th.

Ms. Scherer stated that she would like to receive copies of the scoring sheets.

Mayor Dunn expressed concern that the consultants could have other commitments, more than they anticipated. Mr. Anderson explained the rankings and how the review team reached a consensus to select HDR. He stated that the strength of the team, especially the project director, was important. He added that the firm has had experience with many member agencies and MAG, and the impression of those who have worked with them is that they do very high level work. Mr. Anderson stated that experience is performance-based planning was another consideration. He stated that two of the firms had very good experience, and one did not. Mr. Anderson stated that as to the overall capacity to fulfill the tasks, HDR has an advantage because they are a large international firm. Mr. Loudon brings professional expertise in putting together performance-based plans. Mr. Anderson added that Mr. Loudon has taught urban and regional economics. Mr. Anderson stated that he could provide the original statement of qualifications received from the firms, but evaluations during the interview process can change rankings and impressions. He stated that HDR could attend a meeting and provide a more formal presentation.

Mayor Dunn stated that any consultant can be impressive on paper, but it is in the interview process when you can tell a lot about capabilities. He stated that HDR is a successful firm that realizes the importance of meeting deadlines. Chairman Giuliano stated that a consensus was needed, and he wanted to ensure that all were comfortable with the selection.

Representative Cooley stated that he had the opportunity to discuss the selection with a member of the review team, whom he respects. Representative Cooley stated that the member conveyed that he felt good about the selection of HDR.

Mayor McDermott stated that the TPC was formed to show a unified front, and he had concerns about proceeding without all on board.

Mr. Arnett stated that he spoke to a review team member, as well. The member indicated to Mr. Arnett that the teams were evaluated appropriately, and HDR was evaluated above the others. Mr. Arnett stated that if the Committee gets bogged down in minutiae, we will never get anywhere. He stated that we need to have confidence in our staff and intergovernmental representatives.

Mr. Arnett moved to recommend authorizing 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. Mayor Drake seconded.

Mr. Berry commented on utilizing ADOT or County planning departments to work on the elements of the project, in light of the budget crisis. Mr. Anderson stated that most departments do not possess the level of expertise needed for this project. He added that the amount of work and commitment for the project is tremendous.

Mayor Berman asked for clarification of the cost. Chairman Giuliano stated that \$500,000 is the estimated level of cost. Mr. Anderson added that we have up to \$750,000 included in the Work Program for Phase II, dependent upon the fully developed scope of work.

Ms. Scherer stated that she would support the motion, however, a member of the TPC needed to be included on review teams in the future.

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

6. Request for Qualifications for the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program
7. Request for Qualifications for a Transportation Plan Advisor

Chairman Giuliano stated that agenda items #6 and #7 would be discussed next.

Mr. Smith provided an overview of the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program Request for Qualifications. He stated that at the September 21, 2002 TPC Retreat, staff was directed to issue an RFQ for a TPC Information Program. The RFQ was issued and three Statements of Qualifications were received. Mr. Smith stated that the firms that submitted responses were interviewed on October 22, 2002. He stated that the review team consisted of representatives from member agencies and MAG staff, and included Jim Huling, Mesa; Shannon Wilhelmsen, Tempe; Dana Tranberg, Glendale; Lynn Timmons, Phoenix; and Kelly Taft and himself, MAG staff. Mr. Smith stated that the review team reached a consensus that BJ Communications be selected. Mr. Smith stated that the contract amount was not discussed in the RFQ, just qualifications. Action tonight would authorize the Interim Executive to negotiate and execute a contract with the selected firm. Mr. Smith stated that the cost for both the Plan Development Advisor and the Information Program contracts are anticipated to be less than \$100,000.

Ms. Taft gave the committee an overview of the staff and the experience of BJ Communications. Key staff included Suzanne Pfister and Bill Andres. She stated that the review team was impressed with the firm's approach to the project. Ms. Taft reviewed the firm's suggestions strategies. She indicated that there may be some fine tuning needed, but there was plenty of work for all.

Mayor Scruggs stated that she had read the proposals submitted by the three firms that submitted responses, and had not ranked BJ Communications as first. However, her staff who participated on the review team, had indicated that a key element of the team was Suzanne Pfister. Mayor Scruggs asked what would be the percentage of Ms. Pfister's time on the project. Mr. Smith responded that the question was asked of Ms. Pfister during the interview, and she had indicated that she will be heavily involved in the project and it would get the majority of her time. Ms. Taft stated that Ms. Pfister's level of involvement would be included in contract negotiations.

Supervisor Stapley asked about ongoing work with City of Phoenix transit. Ms. Taft replied that BJ Communications had recently been selected to work on the City's Bus Rapid Transit Services. She added that their ADOT contract will be wrapping up in the next 30 days. Supervisor Stapley asked how issues would be resolved if the City of Phoenix and MAG had different agendas. Ms. Taft stated that

the RFQ asked for potential conflicts of interest. The firm noted this contract, but felt that it would not be enough to cause a problem.

Mr. Arnett asked if SR Beard would have a conflict because of their ongoing transit contracts. Chairman Giuliano stated that a conflict is the level of which they are engaged. Ms. Taft stated that the “appearance of a conflict ” was one of the reasons BJ Communications was placed above SR Beard.

Mr. Shultz commented that a provision could be included in the contract that if conditions change, that they be disclosed and MAG would have a right to terminate the contract. Mr. Smith stated those provisions are standard language in the MAG contract boilerplate. Chairman Giuliano stated that we could be in a bad position if they decided to accept another job.

Mr. Smith provided an overview of the Transportation Plan Advisor RFQ. He stated that an RFQ was issued and two firms submitted responses. Both firms were interviewed by the same review team mentioned earlier, on October 22, 2002. Mr. Smith stated that the consensus reached by the review team was to select Cantelme, Kaasa & Associates, LLC to implement a transportation plan advisor.

Mr. Smith stated that the cost for the two consultant projects would be less than \$100,000. He explained that unexpended funds left over from other projects are available. He stated that these CMAQ funds will be converted to Surface Transportation Program funds to be used for the projects.

Supervisor Stapley asked about a conflict with Cantelme, Kaasa and Associates and its work with the cities. Ms. Taft replied that they provided assistance to Phoenix, Glendale, and Mesa staff for their tax initiatives. She added that they have impressive experience in tax extensions and bond campaigns. They felt it was important to bring in the business community.

Chairman Giuliano stated that he was comfortable with the review team’s selection. He mentioned that there were complexities involved with the selection of the consultant for the information program, and would require additional time. He suggested moving forward on the selection of the Plan Advisor.

Mr. Shultz moved to recommend authorizing the MAG Interim Executive Director to negotiate a contract with Cantelme, Kaasa and Associates to serve as the Transportation Plan Advisor for an amount to be recommended by the TPC. Mayor Arnold seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Giuliano stated that on the Information Program consultant, all three firms would be brought in for another presentation. He asked that members of the TPC interested in serving on the review panel to please contact him. Mayor Dunn asked when the selection would be back to the TPC. Chairman Giuliano responded that the item would be on the November agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary