

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

December 8, 2005

Maricopa Association of Governments Office
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Maricopa County: Mike Ellegood, Chairperson	*Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis
ADOT: Dan Lance	Mesa: Jeff Martin
Avondale: David Fitzhugh	*Paradise Valley: Robert M. Cicarelli
*Chandler: Patrice Kraus	*Peoria: David Moody
*El Mirage: B.J. Cornwall	Phoenix: Don Herp for Tom Callow
Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel	Queen Creek: Mark Young
*Gila Bend: Lynn Farmer	RPTA: Bryan Jungwirth
*Gilbert: Tami Ryall	Scottsdale: Mary O'Connor
Glendale: Terry Johnson	Surprise: Randy Overmyer
*Goodyear: Cato Esquivel	Tempe: Carlos De Leon
*Guadalupe: Jim Ricker	*Wickenburg: Shane Dille
	Valley Metro Rail: John Farry

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Regional Bicycle Task Force: Randi Alcott, RPTA	*Pedestrian Working Group: Eric Iwersen, City of Tempe
*Street Committee: Larry Shobe, City of Tempe	*Telecommunications Advisory Group:
*ITS Committee: Alan Sanderson	
* Members neither present nor represented by proxy.	+ - Attended by Videoconference

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Anderson, MAG	Ali Makarachi, City of Phoenix
Ken Hall, MAG	Dean Giles, MAG
Roger Herzog, MAG	Tom Remes, MAG
Eileen O'Connell, MAG	Andrea Grum, StrongGo LLC
Paul Ward, MAG	Lynn Timmons, City of Phoenix
Steve Tate, MAG	Stuart Boggs, Valley Metro/RPTA
Dave Meinhart, City of Scottsdale	Mark Schlappi, MAG
Peggy Carpenter, City of Scottsdale	Patrick Pittenger, City of Mesa
Mike Sabatini, MCDOT	Kwi-Kang Sung, ADOT
Bill Hahn, MCDOT	Jermaine R. Hannon, FHWA
Bob Hazlett, MAG	Ed Stillings, FHWA

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Mike Ellegood called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. Approval of October 27, 2005 Draft Minutes

Addressing the first order of business, Mr. Ellegood asked if there were any changes or amendments to the meeting minutes. Mr. Jeff Martin moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Dan Lance seconded, and the minutes were subsequently approved by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. Call to the Audience

Mr. Ellegood stated that he had not received any request to speak cards from the audience, and moved to the next item on the Agenda.

4. Transportation Director's Report

Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, to provide the Transportation Director's report. Mr. Anderson addressed the Committee, and informed those in attendance that the sales tax revenues for October were up by 15.8 percent in comparison with last year, and that revenues have been up by double-digit amounts during the last four months. Mr. Anderson said that revenues have been up by 17.6 percent since the beginning of the fiscal year, and that collections were approximately eight percent higher than what the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) had originally forecasted. Mr. Anderson then addressed future revenue collections for Proposition 400, which are scheduled to begin on January 1, 2006. He stated that the first revenues for the new tax would become available during March of 2006.

Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that ADOT was about to release new Regional Area Road Fund (RARF) forecasts, and that significant changes to the new forecasts were not anticipated. He said that the new forecast would be close to the old one, and that it would be hard for ADOT to determine a reasonable trend based upon four months of revenues under the new, Proposition 400 half-cent sales tax collections. Mr. Anderson said that if the early collection numbers from Proposition 400 were high, ADOT would more than likely prepare an interim forecast in the spring of 2006.

Mr. Anderson then addressed the Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway. He said the original budget of \$144.0 million, which was programmed for the Power Road to University Drive segment, had been increased to a total amount of \$215.0 million. Mr. Anderson said that the difference of \$71.0 million was due to increased costs for construction materials. He informed those in attendance that this issue of increasing construction costs would be further addressed at the upcoming MAG Transportation Policy Committee meeting, which is scheduled for January 18, 2006. He noted that changes may have to occur to the Freeway Life Cycle Program due to

increasing construction costs in relation to the general rate of inflation.

Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that he recently had a discussion with the Association of General Contractors of America regarding the issue of rising construction costs, and that MAG would be hosting a Construction Cost Forum on January 6, 2006, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Marriot Hotel on 44th Street, in the City of Phoenix. He noted that this event would include a breakfast and lunch for participants. Mr. Anderson stated that there would be a number of speakers at the event, including representatives from the Association of General Contractors of America, the Arizona Contractors Association, the Homebuilders Association, and several other speakers yet to be confirmed. Mr. Anderson also informed the Committee that Mr. David Martin, from the Arizona Contractor's Association, would be presenting a white paper to the MAG Transportation Policy Committee on January 18, 2006, regarding the issue of cost increases in construction. Mr. Anderson stressed the importance of being knowledgeable on issues regarding increasing costs, and invited Committee members to attend the Construction Cost Forum in January.

Mr. Anderson then informed the Committee that the MAG Transportation Division was in the process of developing the annual work program. He stated that identified projects for transportation would be included within the FY 2007 Unified Work Program and Annual Budget, which is approved annually by the MAG Regional Council. Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the types of projects that will be included in the divisional transportation work program, and stated that this subject would be included as an information item for the Committee's review at the January 2006 TRC meeting. He said that MAG plans to update the MAG Commuter Rail study that was completing in 2003, and also noted that there would be a number of projects associated with the regional travel demand model. Mr. Anderson then informed the Committee that on December 17, 2005, there would be a freeway opening on the Loop 202 Santan Freeway, from Arizona Avenue over to Gilbert Road. He then addressed the MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and stated that the deadline for submitting amendments would be at the end of December, 2005.

Mr. Anderson informed those in attendance that the MAG Transportation Division was presently in the process of hiring a Senior Performance Engineer, to develop and implement performance and accountability measures and reports related to the Regional Transportation Plan. There were no questions, and this concluded Mr. Anderson's report to the Committee.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood addressed Agenda item #6 (City of Phoenix Request to Advance the I-17/Dove Valley Road Interchange) and Agenda item #7 (ADOT Red Letter Process), and asked members in attendance if they would like to entertain a motion to approve the item as presented, or to remove the item for discussion. Mr. Dan Lance addressed the Committee, and stated that under Agenda item #6, ADOT currently does not have approval from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on change of access for the I-17/Dove Valley Road Interchange. Mr. Lance stated that FHWA was concerned about the number of interchanges, and also expressed concern over spacing issues. He cautioned the City of Phoenix on moving forward with this project until there was a change of access. After

discussion, Mr. Jeff Martin moved to recommend approval of the Consent Agenda. Mr. Bryan Jungwirth seconded, and the motion was approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee.

8. Projects Submitted for Consideration for MAG Federal Funds in FY 2011 of the FY 2007-2011 Draft MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Mr. Paul Ward, MAG Transportation Programming Manager, to provide an update on the projects submitted for consideration for MAG Federal Funds in FY 2011 of the FY 2007-2011 Draft MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Ward stated that MAG Federal Funds are utilized within the Arterial, Freeway, and Transit Life Cycle Programs, and that the remaining funds are programmed for Bicycle, Pedestrian, Air Quality (Transit Demand Management), and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) projects. Mr. Ward stated that the projects for recommendation as part of this agenda item do not represent freeway, arterial or transit projects.

Mr. Ward then called the Committee's attention to the table in Attachment Three, located at the back of the TRC Agenda Packet, and stated that bike and pedestrian projects for FY 2011 account for approximately \$8.0 million, ITS projects for \$5.8 million, and Air Quality (TDM) projects for about \$6.6 million. He informed the Committee that there was an early September deadline, and that a total of 55 project submittals were received, and that only 53 were considered. He noted that two project submittals were for transit-related projects, which were not being accepted. Mr. Ward explained to the Committee that the table in Attachment Three divided projects into "recommended" and "not recommended" categories. He stated that the MAG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) allocated specific dollar amounts to the bicycle, pedestrian, ITS and Air Quality (TDM) modes, but did not define the projects. Mr. Ward explained that the MAG modal committees went through a process of reviewing, approving, and making changes to the projects in the table, for the available funds provided.

Mr. Ward called the Committee's attention to page 6 of the Table, and informed them of the fact that the McDowell Road (Scottsdale Road to Granite Reef Road) project for \$600,000 and the Bell Road (US 60 to 114th Avenue) project for \$1,000,000 were displayed incorrectly. Mr. Ward said that the McDowell Road project should receive \$1,000,000, whereas the Bell Road project should only receive \$600,000. Mr. Ward then answered several questions from the Committee, and Mr. Jeff Martin recommended approval of the projects for inclusion into the MAG Federally Funded Program for FY's 2007 to 2011, with the noted correction that the McDowell Road project should receive \$1,000,000, whereas the Bell Road project should only receive \$600,000. Mr. Terry Johnson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee. There was no further discussion.

9. Changes to the Approved June 29, 2005, Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) Policies and Procedures

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood introduced Ms. Eileen O'Connell, MAG Transportation Planner, to provide an update on the proposed changes to the approved June 29, 2005, Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) Policies and Procedures. Ms. O'Connell addressed

the Committee and stated that the purpose of today's item was to clarify proposed changes to the ALCP policies and procedures, and was not intended to address project reimbursement request forms. Ms. O'Connell noted that once the Policies and Procedures were approved and in place, then the Committee's focus could be turned to the process of thoroughly addressing and developing the project reimbursement forms for the ALCP program at a later date. Ms. O'Connell also informed the Committee that the most recent amount of available federal funds, as well as the inflation rate, have been clarified and updated as part of the ALCP process.

Ms. O'Connell then called the Committee's attention to a handout that was distributed to each Committee member prior to the meeting. She stated that the purpose of the handout was to highlight the proposed changes that have occurred since the mailing of the TRC Agenda. Ms. O'Connell stated that on Page 14, Section 20.B.2 (Eligible Costs for Reimbursement), the following narrative should now read: *Prior to the year in which the funds for that ALCP project are programmed or would normally be received following the schedule in the TIP and RTP, unless there are surplus program funds, Section 120.E.* She stated that on Page 17, Section 340.D.4, the following changes were proposed: the word *Clearances* would be struck from Section 340.D.4.b; Preliminary Design under Section 340.D.4.c would be reduced from 60 percent to 30 percent; the word *Procurement* would be struck from Section 340.D.4.e; construction under Section 340.D.4.f would be increased from 10 percent to 25 percent; *Construction - 30 %* would be struck from Section 340.D.4.g; *Construction - 90%* would be struck from Section 340.D.4.i; that Section 340.D.4.j would now read, *Final Acceptance*, and the words *Construction - 100 %* would be struck; and that Section 340.D.4.k would read, *Project Closeout*. Ms. O'Connell also stated that on Page 17, Section 340.D, number 5, stating: *The final progress report will include the City Engineers signature and Seal*, would be eliminated; and that Section 340.D.6.c would now state the following: *These meetings will generally come after the Final Design milestone, the Construction - 60 % milestone, and the Final Acceptance milestone.*

Ms. O'Connell informed the Committee of the fact that these were the only suggested changes since the mailing of the TRC Agenda. Discussion followed, and Mr. Ellegood informed the Committee that the changes were essentially designed to streamline and "clean up" the ALCP Policies and Procedures, and then asked for a formal motion on the item. Mr. Jeff Martin moved to recommend approval of the proposed changes to the previously approved June 29, 2005, ALCP Policies and Procedures. Ms. Mary O'Connor seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee. There was no further discussion.

10. TRC Meeting Schedule for 2006

Mr. Ellegood briefly reviewed the 2006 TRC Meeting Schedule, and noted that all meetings would take place on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Saguaro Room. He noted that this item was for information only, and there was no discussion.

11. Member Agency Update

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Ellegood asked for updates and comments from members of the Committee. Ms. Mary O'Connor briefly addressed the Committee, and stated that there were two items of transportation interest in the City of Scottsdale. She stated that the city has initiated a Transportation Master Plan that conforms to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan, and the city was in the process of setting up meetings with adjacent communities. She also noted that they are working with ADOT to set up a Technical Advisory Committee during the 9-month demonstration project for photo radar along the Loop 101 Pima Freeway. Mr. Bryan Jungwirth then addressed the Committee, and informed those in attendance of an upcoming intergovernmental meeting on December 11, 2005. He also informed the Committee that there would be an upcoming meeting and luncheon on December 14, 2005, at the Arizona Club with a Washington D.C. lobbyist to talk about SAFETEA-LU and federal discretionary money for FY 2007. Mr. Jungwirth said that Valley Metro RPTA would be sending out notification of this meeting.

Mr. Terry Johnson informed the Committee that the City of Glendale is in the process of hiring three new positions in their Transportation Division, and Mr. Jeff Martin provided an overview of the May election in the City of Mesa, which would be utilized in part to assist the community in funding transportation improvements. Discussion followed, and Mr. Ellegood discussed working with West Valley communities and partners to accelerate projects along I-10, and also addressed his concerns over connectivity issues effecting the Southeast Valley between Queen Creek, Mesa and other areas. Mr. Ellegood said that school districts want to develop schools within primary corridors that are currently protected for transportation purposes. He said that this issue has the potential to nullify major transportation investments. He also addressed the issue of business associated with the Transportation Review Committee. Mr. Ellegood informed the Committee that he had met with Mr. Eric Anderson, and Mr. Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, concerning the original purpose of the TRC Committee, and also reviewed organizational charts and discussed a number of other MAG modal committees. He stated that it would make sense to meet with representatives of the other MAG modal committees to see what they are doing, and learn more about their functions before determining policies for the TRC. Mr. Ellegood informed those in attendance that he would have more information on this item at the next meeting. There was no further discussion.

12. Next Meeting Date

Mr. Ellegood informed members in attendance that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on January 26, 2006. There being no further business, Mr. Ellegood adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.