

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
February 20, 2018
MAG Offices, Ironwood Room
302 N. 1st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Mayor Jackie Meck, Buckeye, Chair	#Mayor Mark Mitchell, Tempe
#Mayor Gail Barney, Queen Creek, Vice Chair	#Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix, Past Chair
#Mayor Lana Mook, El Mirage, Treasurer	#Mayor Jerry Weiers, Glendale
#Mayor John Giles, Mesa	

* Not present

Participated by video or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee conference call meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Gail Barney at 12:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

3. Call to the Audience

No public comment cards were received.

4. Approval of Executive Committee Consent Agenda

Acting Chair Barney said agenda items 4A through 4D were on the consent agenda for approval. He stated that agenda items 4B through 4D were recommended for approval by the MAG Management Committee at its meeting last Wednesday. Mayor Gerry Weiers moved to approve consent items 4A through 4D. Mayor Lana Mook seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

4A. Approval of the January 22, 2018, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved of the January 22, 2018, Executive Committee meeting minutes.

4B. Amendment of the FY 2018 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Conduct the SR-30/Tres Rios Freeway, SR-85 to Loop 303 Scoping Study and Planning and Environmental Linkages Statement

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved to amend the FY 2018 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for \$300,000 to conduct the SR-30/Tres Rios Freeway, SR-85 to Loop 303 Scoping Study and Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Statement.

On September 27, 2017, the MAG Regional Council approved including Arizona State Route 30/Tres Rios Freeway in the MAG Regional Transportation Plan for the western segment between SR-85 and Loop 303. The future freeway corridor is located in the West Valley and is planned for construction within the cities of Buckeye and Goodyear, as well as unincorporated Maricopa County. The current 2040 Regional Transportation Plan recommends construction of this facility in the third group of freeway projects that will commence after FY2027. The purpose of this agenda item is to amend the FY 2018 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, with funding for this related work from the MAG Regional Freeway and Highway Program to conduct the scoping study for this segment of SR-30.

4C. Amendment to the FY2018 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Accept Funding for Two FY2018 Design Assistance Projects

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved of an amendment to the FY 2018 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to accept \$71,900 from the City of Phoenix toward the budget for two awarded FY 2018 Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Design Assistance Program On-Call projects.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget (UPWP) was approved in May 2017 by the MAG Regional Council. The FY 2018 UPWP includes \$500,000 in funds for the FY 2018 Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Design Assistance Program On-Call. The City of Phoenix will be contributing a total of \$71,900 toward two awarded FY 2018 Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Design Assistance Program On-Call projects. An amendment to the MAG FY 2018 UPWP is necessary to accept the contributed funds. An agreement will be executed between the City of Phoenix and MAG.

4D. Allocation of Consulting Funds for Project Management Implementation

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the allocation of existing consulting funds for Project Management Implementation for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

MAG needs to allocate up to \$25,000 in existing line-item-budget consulting money for the implementation of Project Online in coordination with Office 365. This implementation will allow greater collaboration between the System Analysis Program and its internal and external customers and consultants. It will also streamline project management tasks. There are a limited number of experts in this area of implementation available in our area and MAG will be issuing a Request for Quote to qualified vendors. To our knowledge, this list currently includes: Tangent, Advisicon, and Catapult Services. We anticipate selecting a consultant from these firms. This item falls under the informal portion of the MAG procurement policy.

5. Discussion of the Development of the FY 2019 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

MAG Fiscal Manager Veronica Martinez noted the MAG draft Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for FY 2019 is on the agenda for information and discussion. She stated that this month's budget presentation includes the updated draft of the proposed dues and assessments, the budget timeline, and the newly proposed projects for the FY 2019 budget.

Ms. Martinez indicated the committee has copies of four attachments that were included in the agenda materials including Attachment A, the proposed dues and assessments, which were presented as an estimate last month. She noted that dues and assessments have been updated, with the final average CPI-U for calendar year 2017 of 1.847 percent, which is a slight increase from last month's estimate of 1.7 percent. Ms. Martinez mentioned this final change increases the amount for each member's dues and assessments by a small amount. In addition, the 9-1-1 litigation amount that was approved by Regional Council has been added for each member agency. She stated that Attachment B is the budget timeline, which outlines the formal budget development process starting in January and ending in May. Attachment C is the budget Webinar invitation, open to the public and members, that will be held on Thursday, February 22nd at 1:00 p.m. in the Cottonwood Room at the MAG offices. Attachment D shows the newly proposed projects with cost estimates for FY 2019. Ms. Martinez noted that the list of proposed projects includes the ongoing project work that MAG does each year. Information on each of the projects is included in the project narrative in Attachment D.

Ms. Martinez told the committee that staff can also answer any questions they may have regarding specific projects. She stated if there is a project that is regional in nature, now is the time to add it to the proposed project list.

MAG Executive Director Dennis Smith said that the list of projects are the ones MAG has to date and that they do not become final until the budget is adopted in May. He stated that if there are additional projects members would like added, they still have time to get them to MAG staff to be considered.

There were no comments or questions from the committee.

6. Extension of Consultant Services for Capitol Strategies

MAG Government Relations Manager Nathan Pryor stated that this agenda item would extend the contract for Capitol Strategies for \$8,000 per month for an additional two months. Mr. Pryor stated that Capitol Strategies has been working on air quality legislation as well as legislation for the Border Crossing Card (BCC) Initiative, also known as the Tourism and Shopping Initiative. He commented that as MAG pursues the air quality and BCC legislation, Capitol Strategies has been trying to line it up with and add it on to the Continuing Resolution and/or spending bills. The current Continuing Resolution runs to March 23rd, which is MAG's target for these two legislative items. Mr. Pryor said that Capitol Strategies' current contract is scheduled to end February 28, 2018, and staff would like to extend the contract to April 30, 2018, or an additional two months. He asked if any members had any questions regarding this item. There were none.

Mayor Weiers made a motion to extend the contract for Capitol Strategies for \$8,000 per month for an additional two months. Mayor Giles seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

7. Legislative Update

Capitol Strategies consultant Steve Bloch gave the committee a report on the progress of the air quality and BCC legislation. Mr. Bloch said his team is working to get the legislation put on the Omnibus Spending Bill by March 23rd. He commented that committee members may know that Congress has passed a series of Continuing Resolutions, and said those are not the ideal vehicles for either of MAG's proposed legislation. He explained that the Omnibus Spending Bill is a much better target for the legislation and is hopeful the bill will be passed in March. Mr. Bloch noted that Congress recently passed a budget resolution for Fiscal Year 2018 and each of the 12 subcommittees now have spending caps, which will allow them to develop an Omnibus Appropriations Bill. Capitol Strategies sees that as the best bill to attach the MAG initiatives.

Mr. Bloch noted that with regard to the Border Crossing Card, the consultant team is working through committees of jurisdiction and Customs and Border Protection Agency, and said he believes they are about two-thirds the way through addressing any outstanding issues. He stated that with regard to air quality, that bill has been introduced by Congresswoman Martha McSally and Congressman David Schweikert is assisting. Mr. Bloch commented that Capitol Strategies is currently working to get support for the bill outside of the Arizona delegation, with other Ninth Circuit states, and most importantly California. He noted that essentially the entire State of California is in non-attainment, affecting every district, and the majority leader of the House of Representatives is from the San Joaquin area, which has some air quality issues. Mr. Bloch said he hopes to work through issues and get this on the Omnibus Spending Bill by March 23rd.

There were no questions from the committee for Mr. Bloch.

Mr. Pryor told the committee that two state legislative bills of note are Senate Bill (SB) 1147 and its companion bill, House Bill (HB) 2165, both county excise tax bills for transportation. HB2165 has been held on the House side of the Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee. He said that SB 1147 made it through the Committee of the Whole yesterday and is pending third read, and it would then get moved over to the House side. Mr. Pryor stated that the bill has three primary provisions, one is for rural Arizona that allows them to go to their respective voters in their counties up to one cent. He said there also are provisions for the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) in terms of their revenue needs. Mr. Pryor noted that there is a provision for MAG, allowing us to pursue renewal of the half-cent sales tax utilizing the County Board of Supervisors to approve the ballot for the vote. The current statute states that MAG must go through the State Legislature. He stated that although MAG had the simplest provision in this bill, it is turning into a real challenge. Mr. Pryor commented that once the bill moves over to the House, staff may be reaching out to MAG member agencies to help communicate with the House T&I Committee members. He stated he would keep the committee updated on the progress of this effort.

Mr. Pryor commented that House Bill 2166 addresses all fuel vehicles and highway safety fees to help pay for the Department of Public Safety (DPS). He stated the Bill passed the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and is awaiting the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Pryor said the Bill would raise up to \$130 million each year to fund DPS and get away from the HURF sweeps that we have seen in recent years. He noted he would keep the committee updated on the progress of the Bill.

There were no questions or comments from the committee.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

There were no requests from the committee.

9. Comments from the Committee

There were no comments from the committee.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Executive Committee adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Chair

Secretary