

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
November 18, 2019
MAG Offices, Ironwood Room
302 N. 1st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

#Mayor Mark Mitchell, Tempe: Chair #Mayor Jerry Weiers, Glendale, Vice Chair #Mayor Kate Gallego, Phoenix #Mayor John Giles, Mesa: Treasurer	#Mayor Anna Tovar, Tolleson #Mayor Kenneth Weise #Mayor Gail Barney, Queen Creek: Past Chair
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* Not Present

Participated by telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

Chair Mark Mitchell called a teleconference meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 12:00 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 the Consent Agenda

Chair Mitchell stated that agenda items 4A through 4D were on the consent agenda for approval. He informed the committee that items 4B and 4C were recommended for approval at the MAG Management Committee meeting last Wednesday.

Chair Mitchell asked if any member of the committee would like to remove an item for discussion or would like a presentation on the consent items. No requests were made.

Mayor Barney moved to approve consent items 4A through 4D. Mayor Weiers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Barney, Mayor Gallego, Mayor Giles, Mayor Mitchell, Mayor Tovar, Mayor Weiers, and Mayor Weise voted in favor of the motion via teleconference.

4A. Approval of the September 16, 2019, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the September 16, 2019, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.

4B. Consultant Selection for the MAG On-Call Consulting Services for FY 2020-2021 Air Quality Technical Assistance Request for Qualifications

The MAG Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved of the selected list of consultants for the On-call Consulting Services for FY 2020-2021 Air Quality Technical Assistance, for an amount not to exceed \$200,000, for the following areas of expertise: Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Exceptional Events, Traffic Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Dirt Road Inventories and Tracking Progress Made to Pave Roads, Statistical Analysis of Data, Analysis of Control Measures, Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies and Transportation Conformity.

The FY 2020-2021 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2019, includes potential consultant assistance for air quality planning and modeling activities. Consultant services may be needed to assist MAG with supplemental analyses for the Five Percent Plan for PM-10, development of a PM-10 Maintenance Plan, Conformity Analysis, Evaluation of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Projects, Eight-Hour Ozone Plans, Exceptional Events, and development of Emissions Inventories. A request for qualifications was advertised on August 19, 2019, for technical assistance in Air Quality Modeling, Air Quality Monitoring and Meteorology, Exceptional Events, Traffic Surveys and Emissions Inventories, Dirt Road Inventories and Tracking Progress Made to Pave Roads, Statistical Analysis of Data, Analysis of Control Measures, Plan Preparation, CMAQ Evaluation Methodologies and Transportation Conformity. Eight proposals were received by the September 19, 2019, deadline. On October 29, 2019, a multi-agency evaluation team recommended to MAG the firms to be qualified in selected areas of expertise.

4C. On-Call Consulting Services Selection for FY 2020 MAG Regional Transportation Planning On-call

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved of the list of qualified consultants for the FY 2020 MAG Regional Transportation Planning On-call.

The FY 2020-2021 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2019, includes \$1,500,000 for On-call Consulting Services for the FY 2020 MAG Regional Transportation Planning On-Call. On November 5, 2019, a MAG evaluation team met and recommended MAG approve the list of qualified consultants found in the information summary for this item. Unless otherwise terminated, contracts may run through FY 2023.

4D. Update to the MAG Committee Operating Policies and Procedures

The MAG Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved of the updated MAG Committee Operating Policies and Procedures.

On September 25, 2019, the MAG Regional Council updated the MAG Committee Policies and Procedures. An update to the MAG Transportation Policy Committee (TPC), Section 4.02 – Composition, was inadvertently not changed. In September 2017, MAG updated its Committee Operating Policies and Procedures and By-Laws to reflect removing the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee (CTOC) seat and adding an At-Large seat to the TPC composition under Five-Cities/Towns elected officials. The Executive Committee is requested to approve the update to the MAG Committee Operating Policies and Procedures. It is anticipated that the Regional Council will approve this recommendation at its December 4, 2019, meeting.

5. Appointment to the MAG Economic Development Committee Business Member Education Seat

MAG Regional Economic Development Program Manager Denise McClafferty told the committee that in October, Dr. Mark Benedetto from Arizona Christian University announced his retirement, leaving a vacant business member education seat on the Economic Development Committee (EDC). She stated that on October 23, 2019, a letter was sent to the MAG Regional Council requesting letters of interest for the vacant seat. Two letters were received – one from the Arizona Christian University recommending James Griffiths, Vice President of University Engagement, and another from Surprise Mayor Skip Hall recommending Dr. Dennis Tyner, Campus President of Surprise Ottawa University.

Ms. McClafferty indicated the Executive Committee is being asked to recommend an appointment to the business member education seat. She added it is anticipated that the Regional Council will approve this recommendation at its December 4, 2019, meeting.

Mayor Weiers moved to recommend approval of the appointment of James Griffith with Arizona Christian University to the business member education seat on the MAG Economic Development Committee. Mayor Anna Tovar seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously with Chair Mitchell, Mayor Giles, Mayor Gallego, Mayor Tovar, Mayor Weiers, Mayor Weise, and Mayor Barney voting in favor of the motion.

6. Update on the Tourism and Shopping Initiative

Mr. Nathan Pryor, MAG Policy and Government Relations Director, reminded the committee that MAG has been working on getting federal approval for a shopping and tourism initiative or statewide expansion of the Border Crossing Card for several years. MAG consultant Capitol Strategies has been working on legislation that would expand the current travel zone for visitors from Mexico with a Border Crossing Card from 75 miles from the border to statewide. He noted that a University of Arizona study showed that the expansion would provide an additional \$181 million dollars in economic gain for our region.

Mr. Pryor indicated that the effort began as an administrative one and said that over the past year, MAG has been working to get the initiative passed legislatively. He stated that administrations have changed during this effort and MAG is now seeing an opportunity to once again advance this issue in Congress.

Mr. Pryor introduced Mr. Steve Bloch with Capitol Strategies to give an update on activities associated with the initiative. Mr. Bloch stated that although a previous effort to get the initiative passed in Congress had bipartisan support, circumstances did not allow for the passage of the bill. He noted that currently, the effort has bipartisan support and officials have identified the spending bill as a vehicle to get the initiative through Congress. Mr. Bloch indicated Congress is expected to pass a continuing resolution through December 20. He added that Capitol Strategies will work over the next month to get drafted language included in the spending bill. The primary sponsor of the initiative in the Senate is Senator Martha McSally. Mr. Bloch noted that Capitol Strategies is working on a primary sponsor of the initiative in the House and will be in talks with Representative Greg Stanton's office.

Mr. Pryor added in addition to discussions with the Congressional offices, there has been discussion with Governor Doug Ducey's office and there is interest in getting the initiative passed.

Mr. Bloch stated he would characterize Capitol Strategies' discussions with the Governor's Office as very positive and said he believes Governor Ducey's involvement in this issue is critical to its success.

Mayor Weise stated that he recently met with Mexico's Consul General who expressed that getting this initiative passed was one of his top priorities. He added that he is supportive of this effort.

7. Request for Future Agenda Items

Chair Mitchell asked if there were any requests for future agenda items.

There were none.

8. Comments from the Committee

Chair Mitchell asked if there were any comments from the committee.

There were no comments.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Mitchell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Chair

Secretary