

MINUTES OF THE
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

June 11, 1997
MAG Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Stephen S. Cleveland, Chairman, Goodyear	Peter Van Haren, Paradise Valley
Ruben Duran for Carlos Palma, Avondale	Grady Miller for Meredith Flinn, Peoria
*Delbert Self, Buckeye	Frank Fairbanks, Phoenix
*Jon Pearson, Carefree	Cynthia Seelhammer, Queen Creek
*Larry Paine, Cave Creek	*David Easchief, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Lloyd Harrell, Chandler	Dick Bowers, Scottsdale
Rosalinda Herrera, El Mirage	Mike Branham for Dick McComb, Surprise
Paul Nordin, Fountain Hills	Gary Brown, Tempe
David Howard, Gila Bend	*Ralph Velez, Tolleson
*Urban Giff, Gila River Indian Community	David Siegel, Wickenburg
Kent Cooper, Gilbert	*Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
Martin Vanacour, Glendale	Tom Buick for David Smith, Maricopa County
*Enrique Serna, Guadalupe	Victor Mendez for Larry Bonine, ADOT
Robert Musselwhite, Litchfield Park	Ken Driggs, RPTA
Mike Hutchinson for Charles Luster, Mesa	

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Lee Albertson, ADOT	Carol Kratz, MAG
Dianne Barker	Jeff Kulaga, Scottsdale
Lindy Bauer, MAG	Matthew Lore, Tempe
James M. Bourey, MAG	Norris Nordvold, Phoenix
Michael Bruder, ADOT	George Pettit, Gilbert
Peggy Carpenter, Scottsdale	Chris Plumb, MCDOT
Blue Crowley	Leonard Rivera, El Mirage
John Farry, MAG	Dennis Smith, MAG
Angela Gee, MAG	Lisa Takata, Phoenix
Stuart Goodman, Glendale	Paul Walker, Luke Air Force Base
Terry Johnson, MAG	Don Worley, MAG
Debbie Kohn, Avondale	

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steven Cleveland, Goodyear, at 12:05 p.m. Chairman Cleveland introduced the following new members to the Management Committee: Rosalinda Herrera for the City of El Mirage and Peter Van Haren for the Town of Paradise Valley. Chairman Cleveland also introduced proxies Grady Miller for the City of Peoria and Tom Buick for Maricopa County. Chairman Cleveland also announced the presence of Assistant Manager, George Pettit from the Town of Gilbert. Chairman Cleveland stated that Mr. Pettit was the Chairman of the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee. He stated that several population items were on the agenda and Mr. Pettit provided a valuable link between the technical experts and the managers.

Prior to the election of officers, Chairman Cleveland announced the retirement of Lee Albertson from Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). Chairman Cleveland stated that Mr. Albertson has coordinated the construction of the region's freeway system for several years.

2. Approval of May 14, 1997 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Cleveland requested that the May 14, 1997 minutes reflect the following corrections to Agenda Item 12, Paragraph 3. Ken Driggs requested that the minutes indicate that RPTA has not used federal funds for federal lobbying purposes. Mr. Driggs also requested his comment regarding Ms. Dianne Barker's comment be corrected. Mr. Ruben Duran requested that the minutes indicate that the finance director, for the City of Avondale, had reviewed the MAG audit and that he was comfortable with the findings.

Mr. Duran moved, and Mr. Driggs seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 14, 1997 Management Committee meeting.

3. Call to the Audience

Dianne Barker stated that she had an opportunity to speak with Mr. Driggs. Ms. Barker stated that she had received Mr. Driggs' letters dated March 17, 1997 and June 5, 1997. Ms. Barker read aloud the contents of these letters. Ms. Barker stated that she and Mr. Driggs always had polite conversations and indicated her appreciation for his immediate responses to her inquiries. Mr. Barker stated her disagreement, however, with the statement that RPTA has never used federal funds for legislative counsel to assist in securing federal funding for federal lobbying purposes.

Blue Crowley stated his appreciation of Mike Branham, Assistant City Manager from the City of Surprise, for the conversation they shared at the previous Management Committee meeting. Mr. Crowley stated that a security guard had stopped him at the May Regional Council meeting and that he was told to leave the premises. Mr. Crowley stated his opinion that he was unfairly denied access to the museum. Mr. Crowley stated that he was acting as a private citizen, in a non-threatening manner, when he was denied access to MAG decision makers. Mr. Crowley stated that he participated in the State Legislature's Move-It Study Committee. Mr. Crowley stated that he met the transit director from the Arizona Department of Transportation and believed that citizens should participate in transportation studies at all levels.

4. Executive Director's Report

James M. Bourey informed the Management Committee that he had just returned to Arizona after traveling in the eastern part of the nation. Mr. Bourey stated that the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) plan to move was still on schedule due to the efforts of Dennis Smith. Mr. Bourey also stated that the transition of all employees to become MAG employees was progressing well.

Mr. Bourey stated that during the last three to four months, the cities of Glendale and Phoenix have been assisting MAG with a compensation and classification study. Mr. Bourey stated the compensation and classification plan included a listing of titles and salary ranges which will be reasonably competitive on local and national levels. Mr. Bourey thanked both Martin Vanacour and Frank Fairbanks for allowing their personnel experts to participate in MAG's compensation and classification plan. Mr. Bourey stated that he would present the results of the study to staff.

Mr. Bourey stated that the past few days he had attended three conferences and had interviewed persons for staff positions. Mr. Bourey stated that he had attended the Chautauqua Conference on Regional Governance in New York State where major policy analysts participated in discussions on regional governance. Mr. Bourey also reported on his attendance at the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, where the ISTEA reauthorization was the main discussion topic, and at the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC). Mr. Bourey stated during these conferences, he learned that there would be significant implications resulting from the new air quality standards for PM-2.5 and ozone.

Mr. Bourey stated that he had recently hired three persons which would begin next month in the positions of fiscal services manager and two entry level planners. Mr. Bourey also stated that an administrative secretary was hired for Dennis Smith.

Ken Driggs asked the names of the new staff persons.

Mr. Bourey replied that Drenan Dudley and Dawn Coomer were the new planners and Arthur Rullo was the new fiscal services manager. Mr. Bourey also stated that Denise McClafferty was the administrative secretary and Audrey Evans was the new support staff supervisor.

Chairman Cleveland thanked Mr. Bourey for the report of his recent activities.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Prior to the approval of the consent agenda, Chairman Cleveland asked if any members of the Management Committee wished to have any of the items removed from the consent agenda.

Blue Crowley commented on the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA) water savings and how municipalities should revert to 1920 and 1930 uses of irrigation and savings. Mr. Crowley requested that MAG legislate benchmarks and methodology to require action versus speech on consent agenda items.

Dick Bowers moved to conclude the vote on the consent agenda, Mike Branham seconded. Mr. Branham moved, Ruben Duran seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve items 6 and 7 on the consent agenda.

6. Draft July 1, 1996 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates

The Management Committee approved, by consent, the July 1, 1996 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates which were prepared by MAG on behalf of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). The Updates have been prepared using a method that is consistent with the method used to prepare the July 1, 1996 Municipality Resident Population Updates that were adopted by MAG. These Updates will be used by ADWR in assessing municipal compliance with per capita water use targets and have been recommended for approval by the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee.

7. Approval of Draft 2000-2050 MAG Socioeconomic Projects by Municipal Planning Area, and Regional Analysis Zone; and 2000-2020 Projections by Traffic Analysis Zone

The Management Committee approved, by consent, the MAG 2000-2050 socioeconomic projections by Municipal Planning Area, Regional Analysis Zone and Traffic 2000-2020 by Analysis Zone. In accordance with Executive Order 95-2, MAG prepares resident population projections at the subregional level that are consistent with county control totals developed by the Arizona Department of Security (DES). These official projections are prepared every five years for federal planning purposes. MAG also prepares projections of households and employment.

8. Consultant Recommendation for Desert Spaces Plan Implementation Task Force Community Survey on Funding Open Space Acquisition and Management

Blue Crowley stated that he did not see any consideration of a green belt towards open space management. Mr. Crowley stated that open spaces should be accessible. Mr. Crowley stated that on 7th Street and Osborn there is no access to the sidewalk and that oleanders are part of the problem. Mr. Crowley stated his opinion that the metropolitan area was one of the ten of the largest regions with a growth potential of a 50 mile radius. Mr. Crowley stated that there should be green and desert belting to stop urban sprawl.

Tom Buick moved, Dick Bowers seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the Mellman Group to conduct a community survey on financing open space acquisition and maintenance for an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

Ken Driggs and Victor Mendez were non-voting.

9. Proposed FY 1998 MAG Budget

Dianne Barker stated that she reviewed the Proposed FY 1998 MAG Budget. Ms. Barker stated she did not understand why reoccurring studies were being conducted. Ms. Barker stated that MAG had 15 air quality modelers and did not understand why half a million dollars were being spent for consultants. Ms. Barker stated that the consultants were not successful in the past and that the Management Committee should support what MAG has done and should train its air quality modelers to conduct these studies. Ms. Barker stated that she spoke with Dennis Mittelstedt of the Federal Highway Administration who she stated told her that no funding is available for these mandated studies. Ms. Barker suggested completing the modelling as soon as possible so that the public could support MAG and the state of Arizona.

Blue Crowley commented on the proposed expenditures and asked why employees were receiving increases and why MAG was leasing vehicles. Mr. Crowley also commented on increased expenditures for travel, staff education and training, advertising, phones, and insurance.

Frank Fairbanks motioned, Mike Hutchinson seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the Proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget.

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Region 2025 Vision Process Update

James M. Bourey provided the Management Committee with an update on the activities of the Region 2025 Vision Process. Mr. Bourey stated that the Region 2025 Vision has created a lot of discussion. Mr. Bourey stated that in the future, he hopes to schedule a briefing on the vision process one hour prior to Management Committee meetings.

Mr. Bourey stated that he met with the MAG Executive Committee to adopt a procedure for appointing members to the Region 2025 Committee. Mr. Bourey indicated that the Region 2025 Committee would include members from diverse areas such as law enforcement, chambers of commerce, and the public and private sectors. Mr. Bourey stated that although the selection process for committee members was detailed, it was important to include persons from all walks of life. Mr. Bourey stated that the Chair of the Regional Council will send letters to each Regional Council member requesting nominations. The final process would involve Executive Committee review and appointment by the Regional Council Chair. Local jurisdictions would appoint the local collaboratives.

Mr. Bourey requested that each MAG member agency list at least one individual per category. He stated that there would be approximately 50 categories and each locality should try to list at least one individual for each category.

Mr. Harrell stated that member agencies should participate in brainstorming activities to include all possibilities for committee candidates.

Dick Bowers stated that each person named on a list should engage in some committee activity if they are not appointed to the Region 2025 Vision Committee. Mr. Bowers added that out of these 1,000 individuals, there should be plenty of steering and subcommittees on which they could participate.

Chairman Cleveland asked the Management Committee members if they had any additional comments.

Mike Branham asked when this letter would be sent out.

Mr. Bourey replied in approximately the next two weeks.

Leslie Dornfeld stated that the committee selection process could be similar to the Blue Ribbon committee selection process which asked the member agencies to list their choices. MAG staff would contact those selected by the Regional Council Executive Committee.

Chairman Cleveland added that this was a good idea. Chairman Cleveland then asked if anyone in the audience had any comments to share.

Chairman Cleveland stated that the City of Goodyear asked their city council to list individuals which may aspire to be part of the Region 2025 Vision groups. He stated that an advertisement should be drafted so that those interested in participating could understand the rules of the engagement process. Chairman Cleveland further emphasized that there were different levels of participation, ranging from the local level to the regional body level.

Blue Crowley stated that the committee selection process seemed elitist and asked where citizen involvement would be included. Mr. Crowley stated that the process was a one step bottom up approach where citizens may be included in a work committee, however, there was little citizen involvement. Mr. Crowley stated that if a process similar to that which the City of Goodyear adopted were used, then the mass of citizenry asked to extend a hand in the vision process would merely be an ebb and flow in the process. Mr. Crowley suggested a bottom up approach which included a lot of communication rather than a 'who we will pick from the bottom' approach. Mr. Crowley stated that diversity was important and that he was a liberal Democrat, which is different to Steven Clark's political philosophy of Libertarian. Mr. Crowley stated that political viewpoints varied as much as the demographics of the cities varied.

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Reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

Prior to discussion on this agenda item, Dick Bowers left the meeting and Jeff Kulaga sat as proxy for the City of Scottsdale.

Mr. Bourey provided the Management Committee with an update on Congress' current efforts concerning reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). Mr. Bourey stated that at the National Association of Regional Councils meeting, many policy experts discussed issues regarding ISTEA, as the existing legislation sunsets on September 30, 1997. Mr. Bourey stated that ISTEA provides approximately \$40 million per year for the MAG region for transportation and air quality related projects. Mr. Bourey stated that these funds may be used to support highways, transit, as well bicycle routes and other types of transportation and planning projects.

Mr. Bourey reported on how the funds from the gas tax are used. Mr. Bourey stated that some of these funds are used towards the national deficit. Mr. Bourey stated that in the last several weeks, the balanced budget agreement between the White House and Congress has targeted all levels of funding; which is of great significance to the ISTEA program. Mr. Bourey stated that Congress has lowered levels of transportation funding within the federal budget over the next five years from the increased levels that were expected.

Mr. Bourey indicated that due to budgetary constraints, increased funding for a 5-year reauthorization of ISTEA is in doubt. He stated that there are currently three scenarios being discussed to address the expiration of the current legislation. One option is a "no bill" situation which would mean no reauthorization of the legislation and providing a continuing resolution to extend existing funding levels for one year. Another option is to reauthorize the legislation for one year which would allow for policy issues to be addressed. Finally, Congress might reauthorize the legislation for the 5-year period, but at reduced levels.

Victor Mendez stated that the Arizona Department of Transportation supported equitable distribution of transportation funding to the states. Arizona currently receives approximately 80 cents for every dollar contributed.

Mr. Driggs stated that public interest groups supporting existing provision in ISTEA include organizations such as the National Association of Counties, International City/County Management Association (ICMA), National Association of Regional Councils, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Mr. Driggs also stated that the vote was a significant loss to transportation funding.

Gary Brown inquired if the funding issue was only addressed by members of the House.

Mr. Bourey responded that the Senate was also involved.

Mr. Bourey stated that if the Step 21 proposal is enacted, the states will have more authority built into the ISTEA program so that states can distribute the funds. Mr. Bourey stated that the Congressional Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) program may be eliminated, thus granting more decision making to the Departments of Transportation at a statewide level. Mr. Bourey stated that this was of concern to MAG because there may be less decision making by Metropolitan Planning Organizations such as MAG.

Mr. Bourey described some key provisions of the NEXTEA One, the ISTEA reauthorization proposal offered by the Administration. He stated that NEXTEA continues many of the provisions contained in ISTEA and also includes additional policy innovations. Mr. Bourey went on to describe provisions contained in some of the competing legislation. He noted that the major issue on reauthorization is related to the funding formula which determines the amount of money which flows to the states. Legislation being considered include: 1) ISTEA Works, a straight reauthorization of ISTEA; 2) Step 21, which attempts to simplify and provide more equity in the funding formula; and 3) the Transportation Empowerment Act, which basically is a devolution of the federal transportation program to the states. Mr. Bourey also mentioned the Stars 2000 legislation which incorporates recommendations from the rural western states.

Ken Driggs stated that a one year reauthorization might be beneficial to the region as it would allow funding of requests to Congress for transit projects in this region. He stated that there might be insufficient funding to allow the approval of these projects in multi-year reauthorization.

Gary Brown inquired about the possibility of a “no bill” situation and whether funding would continue. Mr. Bourey responded that a continuing resolution would provide authorization for continued funding. Dick Bowers stated that a one year reauthorization would differ from a continuing resolution in that policy changes could occur in reauthorization.

Information packets were distributed to members of the Management Committee and the audience. The documents included information on the reauthorization of ISTEA that Mr. Bourey had received from his meetings at the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations and the National Association of Regional Councils. The packet included information on the proposed allocation process of MPO dollars, a summary of key transportation legislation, a summary of NEXTEA provisions, listings of Senate and House Committees, and an ISTEA reauthorization scorecard.

Chairman Cleveland asked the Management Committee if they had any further questions, upon which none were received.

Blue Crowley made several comments regarding ISTEA and its multi modal program, the MAG Life Cycle Program, Grand Avenue, and the City of Phoenix’ proposed bike plan.

Mr. Duran asked when the Management Committee would have a meeting at MAG’s new location. Mr. Bourey stated that the next meeting would take place at the new building.

Ken Driggs moved, Martin Vanacour seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the reelection of Steven Cleveland and Frank Fairbanks, respectively as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Management Committee. (This item was taken out of order.)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary