

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

December 7, 1999

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

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Gary Brown, Tempe, Chairman	Maricopa County: Chris Plumb for Tom Buick
Wickenburg: Fred Carpenter, Vice-Chair	
* Avondale: William Bates	Mesa: Jeff Martin
* Chandler: Bryan Patterson	Paradise Valley: Tom Martinsen
Buckeye: Joe Blanton	Peoria: David Moody
Gilbert: Tami Ryall	Phoenix: Tom Callow
Glendale: Jim Book	RPTA: Matt Ortega for Ken Driggs
* Goodyear: Jerene Watson	Scottsdale: Steve Hogan
	* Surprise: Ellis Perl
Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis	

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

* Regional Bicycle Task Force: Patrick McDermott, Chandler	* Pedestrian Advisory Group: Mike Branham, Surprise
* Street Committee: Gary Thomas, Gilbert	* Telecommunications Advisory Group: Debbie Kohn, Avondale
ITS Committee: Steve Hogan	

* Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Chuck Eaton, ADOT	Roger Roy, MAG
Dan Lance, ADOT	Stephen Tate, MAG
Floyd Roehrich, ADOT	Chris Voigt, MAG
Paul Stears, Apache Junction	Rita Walton, MAG
Bill Vachon, FHWA	Paul Ward, MAG
Cari Anderson, MAG	Al Brown, Maricopa County Environmental Services
Eric Anderson, MAG	Bob Antila, RPTA
Cathy Arthur, MAG	Glenn Kephart, Tempe
Lindy Bauer, MAG	Ed Baker, Tribune
Terry Johnson, MAG	

1. Call to Order

Gary Brown, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

2. Approval of the November 23, 1999 Meeting Minutes

Steve Hogan moved and Dave Moody seconded approval of the minutes with the change to one motion as noted in the December 2, 1999 memo to the Committee. The minutes were

approved unanimously with the noted change.

3. Call to the Audience

No comments were received.

4. Transportation Manager's Report

Terry Johnson reviewed agenda items for the next meeting of the Management Committee.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Fred Carpenter moved and Jeff Martin seconded approval of the consent agenda, which passed unanimously.

6. Short Range Transit Plan (Consent Agenda Item)

Action: Recommendation to approve the Short Range Transit Plan contingent upon a finding of conformity for the MAG 2001-2005 Transportation Improvement Program.

7. Selection of Paving Projects for CMAQ Funding

Cari Anderson answered questions concerning the selection of paving projects for CMAQ funding.

Jim Book asked if the same benefits were expected as estimated for the original list of projects. Ms. Anderson confirmed that in general, noting that different results were obtained for projects for which funding or traffic volume estimates had changed.

Jeff Martin asked how the projects were selected. Ms. Anderson indicated that the Regional Council Executive Committee had reviewed the issue in their meeting on December 6, 1999. The result was the highest ranked projects by jurisdiction for unpaved roads were selected, as were the top three highest ranked projects for unpaved shoulders. Jeff Martin said it sounded ok as local efforts were considered.

Chris Plumb asked if construction costs were the only costs considered in the selections, or were right of way and design costs also considered. Ms. Anderson indicated that only construction costs were considered. Mr. Plumb indicated his agreement with that approach.

Gary Brown asked if MAG or the federal government would be monitoring the implementation of these projects, to make sure that the funds were expended only on construction and not on design or right of way. Mr. Plumb said it was something that the federal government has not had to try to do before. He indicated that a meeting could be held to set standards for construction, and that the meeting could be held at MAG if needed.

Bryan Patterson asked of the total funding was \$5.4 million. Ms. Anderson confirmed that total. Mr. Plumb asked if curb gutters and sidewalks were not included in that total. Ms. Anderson stated that they were not included.

Steve Hogan motioned to recommend the proposed paving projects for CMAQ funds for inclusion in the tentative FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for public comment. The motion was seconded by Tom Callow and Tom Martinsen, and was approved unanimously.

8. Tentative FY 2001-2005 Program for MAG Federal Funds

Paul Ward provided an overview of the Program. Chris Plumb asked what happened to the human resources project that the County submitted. Mr. Ward indicated that those projects were programmed in 2001 and 2002.

Bryan Patterson advised that, due to adverse public reaction to construction on Alma School Road, an exchange of construction projects was needed. He requested that the recommended Chandler project at Dobson Road at Elliot Road be exchanged for the currently programmed Chandler project, CHN00-722, at Alma School Road at Warner Road, in FY 2001. Discussion ensued regarding the cost difference between the two projects and the general consensus was that the exchange was in order but that only the funds currently programmed in FY 2001 would be allowed and that the additional funds would have to be supplied by Chandler or a request for any uncommitted or redistributed OA would be considered in competition with any other such requests during the closeout of the fiscal year in question. Mr. Patterson indicated that Chandler may need to reduce the scope of the project to match the funds available. Mr. Ward reported that advance construction of the project using Chandler funds, with repayment of the funds in 2004, the year for which the project is currently recommended, may also be an option.

Jim Book also requested to exchange some projects and indicated that he had submitted a letter to Mr. Ward prior to the meeting specifying the details. Mr. Book explained that the request was revenue neutral and would involve the deferral of the GLN00-703 project at 59th Avenue, Olive Avenue to Brown Street from FY 2000 to 2005. Glendale currently has two ITS projects programmed for 2000 and 2001 and a third ITS project recommended for FY 2005. Mr. Book suggested that all three projects could be constructed in 2000 and 2001.

Tami Ryall requested to exchange two bike projects, substituting the Eastern Canal project for the listed project on the Consolidated Canal, with the funds remaining the same.

Steve Hogan motioned to recommend the proposed tentative FY 2001-2005 Program of MAG federal funds for public comment, with project exchanges involving equivalent funding for Chandler, Glendale and Gilbert. Jim Book seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. Report on the MAG Freeway Program

Eric Anderson briefed the Committee on the MAG Freeway program. He noted additional cost items were approved at the November 23, 1999 meeting. The ADOT tentative Life Cycle program was noted as being prepared for January completion. Sales tax revenue is tentatively projected to increase by \$100 million, while Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) revenues are expected to increase only slightly. Construction costs are up approximately 5%. Right of way costs are still being reviewed, and are expected to increase significantly over last year. No questions were asked. No action was taken.

10. Status Report on the Design Concept Report to Widen the Superstition Freeway

Floyd Roehrich and Chuck Eaton, both of ADOT, provided an overview of the Design Concept Report (DCR). The DCR was noted as being in final draft form currently, and ADOT was noted as waiting for the final selection of the preferred alternative in order to include the project in the MAG TIP and LRTP for a conformity analysis. The project will then be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration to approve the construction.

Jeff Martin noted that scaling back the HOV lanes from Power to Val Vista defers \$46 million in costs. Fred Carpenter asked for the funding source. Chuck Eaton indicated that it was federal funds primarily, with possibly some HURF funds. He added that Grant Anticipation Notes were likely to be employed.

Jeff Martin commented that it made sense to do design/build projects on existing freeways such as the Superstition and I-17. He also recommended it for Grand Avenue, adding that he wanted to discuss that at future meetings if not recommend doing Grand Avenue as a design / build project.

Dan Lance commented that the traffic interchange projects planned for Grand Avenue were too complex to make good candidates for the design/build process. He noted I-17 and the Superstition were much better candidates for that process.

Tom Callow asked how the proposal fit within MAG priorities. Terry Johnson confirmed that it did in general, although the MAG Regional Council would have to approve the costs for accelerating the single occupant vehicle lanes in Mesa as they were in the LRTP beyond 2007.

Mike Cartsonis asked how increasing the capacity of the freeways to outlying areas affected congestion, and what was being done to address the congestion. Dan Lance responded that congestion for HOVs in the vicinity of the connection to I-10 would be improved, as the current weaving at or near the traffic interchange would be eliminated for these vehicles. It would however add to congestion near the Broadway curve, due to pent up demand. A DCR has been started for the I-10 CD road system from approximately the Baseline Road interchange to 16th Street to address this congestion.

11. Status of ADOT Lump Sum Categories and Scoping Projects

Chuck Eaton provided an update on the status of ADOT Lump Sum categories and scoping projects.

Dave Moody asked if the voting would be for Maricopa County projects only, if the list of projects presented included projects all across the state. Terry Johnson indicated that there would be no vote on this item. Lump sum projects would be included in the tentative program to be reviewed by the Committee in January. Mr. Eaton added that the program would contain project-specific items in early years and lump sum line items in later years. Fred Carpenter asked about the list of Phoenix District minor projects. Mr. Eaton responded that both the Phoenix Maintenance and Constructions Districts received about \$2 million per

year to address critical small projects. Mr. Johnson asked in which District was Wickenburg included. Mr. Carpenter replied that it was in the Prescott District. Mr. Eaton added that four other Districts contain some area within the MAG region, and the question of how to coordinate projects among these Districts should be addressed.

No vote was held on the possible action to recommend to include lump sum program projects in the draft tentative ADOT Highway Construction Program for public comment, and to recommend projects for scoping.

12. Status Report on the ADOT Tentative 2001-2005 Highway Construction Program

Chuck Eaton provided an overview of the ADOT tentative 2001-2005 Highway Construction Program. He noted the program included a project-specific schedule for Grand Avenue, and design features previously deleted in the Governor's 1995 Plan. Revenue forecasts and costs have also been updated. For the State Highway System Program, he noted that District, Council of Governments, and Metropolitan Planning Organizations' priorities were being integrated into a proposed program. For the Regional Freeway System, he indicated that ADOT was reviewing revenue and cost data, and was beginning cash flow analyses. ADOT is also considering the addition of design features previously deleted.

Mr. Eaton provided a schedule for the FY 2001-2005 Program as follows:

- 12/17/1999 - Board Meeting in Nogales. Briefing on program development status.
- 1/6/2000 - Board Study Session. Review of tentative Program.
- 1/2000 - MAG review and approval of the tentative Program.
- 2/2000- PPAC and Board approval of the tentative Program.
- Late Feb. to early March 2000 -
Joint MAG/ADOT/RPTA/CTOC Public Hearing

Gary Brown asked that copies of the slides be provided to everyone.

13. Tentative FY 2001-2005 Program Regional Transit Program

Bob Antila, RPTA, provided an overview of the tentative FY 2001-2005 program regional transit program, referring to the attachment included with the agenda. He noted that CMAQ projects were included under a previous item on the agenda.

Steve Hogan moved to recommend the proposed tentative FY 2001-2005 Regional Transit Program for public comment. Also, to recommend amending the FY 2000-2004 MAG TIP to include proposed transit projects for STP flex funds in FY 2000. The motion was seconded by Dave Moody and passed unanimously.

14. Red Letter Notification on the South Mountain Parkway

Steve Tate provided an overview of the South Mountain Parkway agenda item. Tom Callow moved to recommend to authorize formation of a South Mountain Agency Stakeholders Group to review the approved alignment and develop an implementation plan for the South Mountain alignment between 19th Avenue and the Papago Freeway, in order that an

environmental assessment can be completed in time to start final design on central portions of this corridor no later than February 2002. Dave Moody seconded the motion, which was approved with RPTA abstaining and no votes opposing.

15. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held in January 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in the Saguaro Room, 2nd floor, MAG offices.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.