

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 15, 2022

This meeting was conducted in person with a virtual option via Zoom.  
The link to a video recording of the meeting [can be found on Mag's YouTube Channel](#).

<u>MEMBERS ATTENDING IN PERSON</u> Buckeye: Mayor Eric Orsborn Mesa: Mayor John Giles, Past Chair Phoenix: Mayor Kate Gallego, Vice Chair	<u>MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY</u> Avondale: Mayor Kenneth Weise, Chair El Mirage: Mayor Alexis Hermosillo  <u>MEMBERS NOT PRESENT</u> Carefree: Mayor Les Peterson, Treasurer Chandler: Mayor Kevin Hartke
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1. Call to Order  
Chair Weise called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 12:08 p.m.
  
  2. Pledge of Allegiance  
The Chair noted the Pledge of Allegiance was already recited by the current committee members at the MAG Regional Community Partners Board of Directors meeting immediately preceding this meeting. It need not be recited again.
  
  3. Call to the Audience  
Chair Weise asked MAG staff if any public comments were received. No public comments were received for the meeting.
  
  4. Approval of Consent Agenda  
Chair Weise stated that items \*4A through \*4H were on the consent agenda and asked if any member had a question or would like a presentation on any of the consent items.  
  
None were noted.  
  
Mayor Orsborn moved approval of the consent agenda. Mayor Giles seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously with Mayor Gallego, Mayor Giles, Mayor Hermosillo, Mayor Orsborn, and Chair Weise voting in favor of the motion.
- \*4A. Approval of the June 13, 2022, July 8, 2022, and August 3, 2022, Meeting Minutes  
  
The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, approved the June 13, 2022, July 8, 2022, and August 3, 2022, meeting minutes.

\*4B. Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 MAG Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Project Funding

The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, approved an amendment to the FY 2022-2023 Biennial UPWP to increase the FY 2023 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project funding by \$196,504 and to reallocate \$243,954 of PL funding totaling \$400,098 of Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds.

On May 26, 2021, the MAG Regional Council approved the fiscal year (FY) 2022-2023 Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget (UPWP), in which \$243,954 of Metropolitan Planning (PL) funding is allocated to FY 2023 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Studies. MAG receives federal Transportation Alternatives (TA) funds via a Surface Transportation Block Grant. These funds can be used to fund non-infrastructure Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects and activities; the funding amount included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to support this effort in FY 2023 is \$400,098. This agenda item represents a request to amend the FY 2022-2023 Biennial UPWP to increase the FY 2023 Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project funding by \$196,504 (to the full amount indicated in the TIP - \$400,098) and to allocate a portion (\$243,954) to the FY 2023 SRTS studies. MAG will reallocate \$243,954 of approved PL funding to other eligible projects.

\*4C. Consultant Selection for the FY 23 Superstition Vistas Multimodal Transportation Planning Study

The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, approved the selection of Michael Baker International, Inc. to conduct the FY 23 Superstition Vistas Multimodal Transportation Planning Study for an amount not to exceed \$370,000. If negotiations with Michael Baker International, Inc. are not successful, that MAG pursue negotiations with its second choice, Burgess & Niple, Inc.

The fiscal year 2022-2023 MAG Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council on May 26, 2021, includes \$370,000 for the FY 23 Superstition Vistas Multimodal Transportation Planning Study. The goal of the project is to provide a coordinated, consensus vision of a multimodal transportation network across jurisdictions in reflection of future development plans and projected growth. MAG received proposals from four consultants prior to the July 13, 2022, submission deadline. On July 28, 2022, the evaluation team met and recommended the selection of Michael Baker International, Inc. In addition, the evaluation team recommended that if negotiations with Michael Baker International, Inc. are not successful, MAG pursue negotiations with its second highest scoring consultant, Burgess & Niple, Inc. This item is on the August 10, 2022, Management Committee agenda for recommended approval. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*4D. Southwest Valley-Camelback Road Truck Study Consultant Selection

The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, approved Burgess & Niple to complete the Southwest Valley-Camelback Road Truck Study for an amount not to exceed \$350,000.

On June 13, 2022, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee approved an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 MAG Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget for the Southwest Valley-Camelback Road Truck Study. The goal of the study is to document the impacts of through-truck travel to identify reasonable mitigation strategies and how they will affect Litchfield Park and the surrounding jurisdictions. The results will provide a technical foundation for affected parties to reach consensus on appropriate remedies to be undertaken. MAG received proposals from three consultants prior to the July 21, 2022, deadline, including IBI Group, Burgess & Niple, and Jacobs. On August 4, 2022, an evaluation team comprised of staff from MAG and member agencies met, reviewed proposals, and recommended the selection of Burgess & Niple to conduct the Southwest Valley-Camelback Road Truck Study for an amount not to exceed \$350,000. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*4E. Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 MAG Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget for the Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call

The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, approved an amendment to the FY 2022-2023 Biennial UPWP to add \$255,000 to the Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call.

On May 26, 2021, the MAG Regional Council approved the fiscal year (FY) 2022-2023 Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget (UPWP) which contained \$350,000 for the FY 2022-2023 Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call. Since that time, additional funding is needed to support efforts related to the development of an air quality plan that will demonstrate attainment of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone in the MAG region. This agenda item represents a request to amend the FY 2022-2023 Biennial UPWP to add \$255,000 to the existing Air Quality Technical Assistance On-Call. Funding is available from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*4F. Amendment to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 MAG Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget to Add West Phoenix High-Capacity Transit American Rescue Plan Route Planning Restoration Grant Award

The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, approved an amendment to the FY 2022-2023 MAG Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget to include the West Phoenix High-Capacity Transit American Rescue Plan Route Planning Restoration Grant award of \$514,045.

On June 2, 2022, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced the award of \$514,045 to prepare an Alternatives Analysis and Locally Preferred Alternative for new high-capacity transit service in West Phoenix, and plan interim improvements to restore transit service lost from COVID-19. The Route Planning Restoration Program was established through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and is intended to support planning for the restoration of transit service, particularly for underserved populations, with a focus on improving equity. Valley Metro will match the award with \$473,000 in Public Transportation Funds (Proposition 400 sales tax revenues). Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*4G. Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget to Accept Funding to Support the Age Friendly Arizona Conference

The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, approved the amendment to Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget to include funding in the amount of \$4,541 from Arizona Department of Veterans' Services through the Veterans Grant Fund and \$5,000 from the SCAN Desert Health Plan to support the Age Friendly Arizona conference.

The Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget was approved on May 26, 2021. This included continuing efforts to support Age Friendly Arizona, a statewide network of communities connecting older adults with people of all ages. Age Friendly Arizona is in part supported by a \$300,000 grant from the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation was awarded to Regional Community Partners (RCP) to develop a Rural Transportation Incubator through Age Friendly Arizona. This project included cash match from AARP AZ and Vitalyst Health Foundation to support a statewide conference.

Planning is underway with multi-disciplinary partners for Age of Connections, the Age Friendly Arizona conference on September 20, 2022. On June 29, 2022, MAG was notified by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services of a \$4,541 grant award to Regional Community Partners through the Veterans Grant Fund to support the Age Friendly Arizona conference. On July 19, 2022, MAG was notified by the SCAN Desert Health Plan of a \$5,000 sponsorship to Regional Community Partners for the Age Friendly Arizona conference. Regional Community Partners was requested to accept the funding to support the conference and recommend approval of an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Biennial Unified Planning Work Program and Budget to increase the budget accordingly.

\*4H. Appointment of MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team Vice Chair

The MAG Executive Committee, by consent, recommended to appoint Robert Bokinsky, Director of the Operations Support Bureau, City of Scottsdale Police Department, as the MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team Vice Chair.

On May 17, 2021, the MAG Executive Committee approved two-year officer appointments for technical and other policy committees whose chairs and vice chairs expired June 30, 2021. In June 2022, the Vice Chair position of the MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team became vacant. According to the MAG Committee Operating Policies and Procedures, the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee will appoint a new Vice Chair. On July 5, 2022, MAG staff sent a notice to the MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team, MAG Regional Council, MAG Management Committee, and MAG Intergovernmental Representatives to solicit letters of interest for the Vice Chair position of the MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team. One letter was received from the City of Scottsdale requesting consideration of Robert Bokinsky for the Vice Chair position. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5. Desert Peaks Awards Update

MAG Communication Director Kelly Taft stated that The Desert Peaks Awards program was initiated in 1998 to honor member agencies, partners, and individuals who demonstrated a commitment to regionalism. She specified that before the Covid-19 Pandemic, this event was held every other year, with the last being held in 2018 due to a cancellation of the ceremony in fall 2020. She detailed that the purpose of this agenda item was to determine interest from the committee in continuing the program and, if there was interest, the potential timing of the event.

She mentioned that in February of 2020, the Executive Committee approved several changes to the awards program, including separating the awards from the annual meeting, revising the award categories to more closely reflect MAG's core activities, and transitioning from an evening event to a lunchtime event. In 2020, cost estimates for a lunchtime event ranged from \$11,000 to \$18,000, while estimates for an evening event ranged from \$23,000 to \$30,000. Ms. Taft noted that market conditions have changed, so those costs may be significantly higher at this time. She continued that if there is interest in continuing the event, next steps could include updating and reporting cost estimates back to the committee and looking to dates in the spring or fall of 2023.

Chair Weise asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mayor Giles stated that honoring people can be a great motivator to help groups accomplish their goals and that if individuals felt that the event was serving that purpose, he would be in favor of continuing it, but if people felt that it was not, he would be

comfortable forgoing the ceremony. He asked who the awards are being given to and if the awards help advance MAG's mission.

Mayor Orsborn discussed Buckeye receiving an award at Desert Peaks and that the ceremony is a good opportunity to honor the groups receiving awards. He asked if MAG is getting a benefit out of giving the awards and for a perspective from the MAG staff. He also mentioned that it would not hurt to find out the current costs for the event.

Ms. Taft explained that the categories used to be public partnership, public-private partnership, professional service, and regional partnership. In February of 2020, the Executive Committee said that they would be in favor of changing those to safe and smart travel, economy and growth, quality of life, protecting the environment, and a lifetime achievement award, given only if there's an individual who warrants it. She stated that the awards recognize MAG member agencies and private partnerships, recognizing the work that's being done collaboratively and regionwide. She continued that the purpose of today's meeting is to start a conversation about celebrating the successes of our member agencies and partners and whether an in-person awards program such as Desert Peaks is still the best means of doing that. She noted that she does get a lot of questions from people asking when the next ceremony is being held in order to celebrate their projects, but MAG can certainly revisit other ways of celebrating those successes.

MAG Executive Director Eric Anderson stated that given the different make-up of the committee, the cost of the ceremony would need to be updated and that it might be best to put together a summary document explaining the awards ceremony. He discussed putting those items together for the committee to review to build the knowledge base of the event back up.

Chair Weise stated that this would make sense and that it might be best to give the committee more background information and a cost estimate to move forward.

Mayor Gallego stated that she would like to bring back the awards and that they are important and recognize success and partnerships, especially in recognizing the necessity of partnerships in the work to end homelessness. She also mentioned that she would be interested in adjusting one of the awards to better fit the fight to end homelessness and that the ceremony would be a great chance to publicize the work MAG does. Lastly, she stated that she would have a slight preference for lunch over an evening event.

Chair Weise agreed with this point, emphasizing that the partnerships that are built outside the organization are key to success and recognizing those as an organization would be good, especially on homelessness and economic development.

Mayor Hermosillo stated that recognizing people goes a long way in building relationships, so bringing back the awards would be beneficial. Chair Weise discussed his

preference for an evening event, but understands a preference for lunch events, asking MAG for more information on the event.

Mr. Anderson stated that it would take about two months to gather that information.

Chair Weise stated that it would not be necessary to vote on the topic.

6. Updates on Efforts to Enable the Extension of Proposition 400

Chair Weise stated that it would be best to move into an executive session.

Mayor Giles moved for an executive session. Mayor Orsborn seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously with Mayor Gallego, Mayor Giles, Mayor Hermosillo, Mayor Orsborn, and Chair Weise voting in favor of the motion.

7. Possible Action on Efforts to Enable the Extension of Proposition 400

No action was taken.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

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

Mr. Coffman indicated that there was no quorum to continue. With loss of quorum, the meeting was ended.

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Chair

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Secretary