



# Ozarks Transportation Organization

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**February 18, 2011  
News Release**

*For Immediate Release*

The Ozarks Transportation Organization Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Ms. Sara Edwards has accepted the position of Executive Director for the Ozarks Transportation Organization (OTO) effective February 17, 2011. This position has been vacant since the departure of Tim Conklin, who resigned in September 2010, to be closer to family.

Ms. Edwards has been a Principal Planner for the Ozarks Transportation Organization since 2009. From 2003 to 2009 she was a Senior Planner for the OTO, while it was housed within City of Springfield. She has also served as the Interim Executive Director on three occasions. In these positions, her primary responsibilities were to serve as a liaison to federal and state officials, local governments, boards, committees and organizations regarding transportation planning and programming; oversee the preparation of the Transportation Improvement Program; supervise the preparation, update and maintenance of the long range plan and other required documents; and coordinate with appropriate federal, state and local agencies to ensure regulatory compliance.

Prior to her work with the OTO, she was an Associate Planner for the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Community and Regional Planning from Southwest Missouri State University, now Missouri State University. She is also certified through the American Institute of Certified Planners.

The Ozarks Transportation Organization MPO is the federally designated regional transportation planning organization that serves as a forum for cooperative transportation decision-making by state and local governments, and regional transportation and planning agencies.

The OTO Board includes local elected and appointed officials from Christian and Greene Counties, and the cities of Battlefield, Nixa, Ozark, Republic, Springfield, Strafford and Willard. It also includes technical staffs from the Missouri Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

For more information, please contact Sara Edwards, Ozarks Transportation Organization, 117 Park Central Square, Suite 107, Springfield, MO, phone 836-5442.