



Ozarks Transportation Organization

Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2025

1:00 pm

2208 W. Chesterfield Boulevard, Suite 101, Springfield, MO 65807

Attendees: Scott Godbey, Scott Hayes, David Hutchison, David Knaut, Jason Knight, Natasha Longpine, Tristan Losh, John Matthews, John Montgomery, Grady Porter, Mike Ruesch, Martha Smartt, Tim Smith, Chris Tabor, Andy Thomason, and Jacob Wimsatt

- I. **Welcome** – The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.
- II. **Meeting Notes from January 14, 2025, BPAC Meeting** – Chris Tabor, seconded by Grady Porter made a motion to approve the January 14, 2025, meeting notes. The motion passed.
- III. **CY 2024 Implementation Report** – OTO staff reviewed the draft of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Implementation report for calendar year (CY) 2024 and highlighted continued growth of the trail system and other pedestrian related construction. Staff mentioned that they will add the multi-use trail along Division St to the final report if the commission approves. Other highlights in the report included increased planning activity by local jurisdictions such as ADA transition plans and master transportation plans and the continued success of the SGF yields program proven by data and awards. John Montgomery, seconded by Mike Ruesch made a motion to approve the CY 2024 Bicycle and Pedestrian Implementation report. The motion passed and the finalized report will be posted on the OTO website.
- IV. **Regional Trail Planning Updates** – John Montgomery from Ozark Greenways (OG) introduced Tim Smith who will be a new advisor to OG, and they expect the announcement of a new executive director soon. Furthermore, he gave an update on the trail design projects which OG is working on: 1. Fassnacht Creek trail from Skate Park to Fort Ave; 2. Ward Branch trail from west of Fremont Ave and 3. South Creek Greenway connection to Wilson's Creek Greenway Trail. He also stated that the construction of the Chadwick Flyer trailhead on Crenshaw Ave is moving along well and that construction of the Chadwick Flyer trail in Ozark, including a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over US 65 started on Monday. OG's engineering consultant is continuing its work on the design of the Chadwick Flyer from Kissick Ave to Sunshine St and an open house is planned for April at the Lake Springfield boat house.
- V. **Regional Trail Map Amendment** OTO staff presented a proposed update to OTO's official regional trail map. The proposed update included a trail along Highway FF in Battlefield, trails along N Cheyenne Rd, N Main St, Nicholas Rd, Tracker Rd, Truman Blvd and a trail from Nicholas Rd to the James River in Nixa, as well as trails along State Highway CC and

State Highway 14 between Nixa and Ozark. In Ozark, the proposed update included the Blue Stem trail, the Chadwick Flyer Spur to the Ozark High School, the Kali Springs trail, the South Ozark trail and a connection of the Finley River trail to 22nd St. It also included the addition of a trail along the new State Highway MM in Republic and a trail along Glenstone Ave from Battlefield to Nature Center Way, a trail connection between this trail and the Ward Branch Greenway, trails along Grand St from Kansas Expressway to National Ave, and along Kansas Expressway between Norton Rd and Republic Rd in Springfield.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed update, and it was suggested to add a trail along N Grant Ave from College St to the Pea Ridge Creek Greenway in Springfield due to public comments received by the City of Springfield and OTO. David Hutchinson made a motion to recommend approval of the updated regional trail map with the addition of the trail along N Grant Ave. Chris Tabor seconded, and the motion passed.

- VI. Trail Maintenance** – OTO staff provided an overview of the status of trail surfaces based on the material and time of construction, as well of general maintenance information from studies and other organizations like the Rails to Trail conservancy. Discussion was held on urgent needs for specific trails based on their surface conditions and potential funding sources. Furthermore, Ozark Greenways shared information on their experiences on maintenance of different regional trails and their involvement with volunteer and “adopt-a-trail” programs. It was agreed that maintenance and potential resurfacing of certain trails is critical to keep the regional trail system functioning.
- VII. Long Range Transportation Plan Update** – OTO staff informed the committee that OTO will begin work on the long-range transportation plan (LRTP) soon. The plan will be called Next Stop 2050 and will include an update of the regional bicycle and pedestrian facilities map.
- VIII. Project Updates** – OTO staff reminded agencies that the sidewalk and trail call for projects will be posted on March 31st, 2025. City of Republic reported that the construction of the Shuyler Creek will pick up again with the warmer weather.
- IX. Bicycle and Pedestrian related Public Comments** – OTO staff gave a summary of public comments that the OTO received between December 27th and March 4th related to bicycle and pedestrian transportation.
- X. Next Meeting –April 15, 2025**
- XI. Adjourn** –The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Approved on 05/13/2025

Attested By: 

Andy Thomason, BPAC Chair