

JANUARY 2026

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ozarks Transportation Organization's Monthly Update

Jefferson Avenue Footbridge Replacement - Springfield, MO

Local Project Update

- OTO is working to schedule a Right of Way (ROW) Negotiator training for agency staff in spring of 2026. More info to come!
- Ozark recently awarded the construction contract to extend the Finley River trail through Finley Farms. This is a very exciting trail extension that is scheduled to be open in spring of 2026.
- Construction of the Le Compte trail in Springfield will be wrapping up soon.



Jefferson Avenue Footbridge Replacement

Upcoming Meetings

All meetings at OTO Offices
2208 W CHESTERFIELD BLVD SUITE 101
SPRINGFIELD, MO

OTO Executive Committee
Meeting

FEBRUARY 11, 2026
12:00 PM

OTO Local Coordinating Board
for Transit (LCBT) Meeting

FEBRUARY 12, 2026
3:00 PM

OTO Technical Planning
Committee Meeting

FEBRUARY 18, 2026
1:30 PM

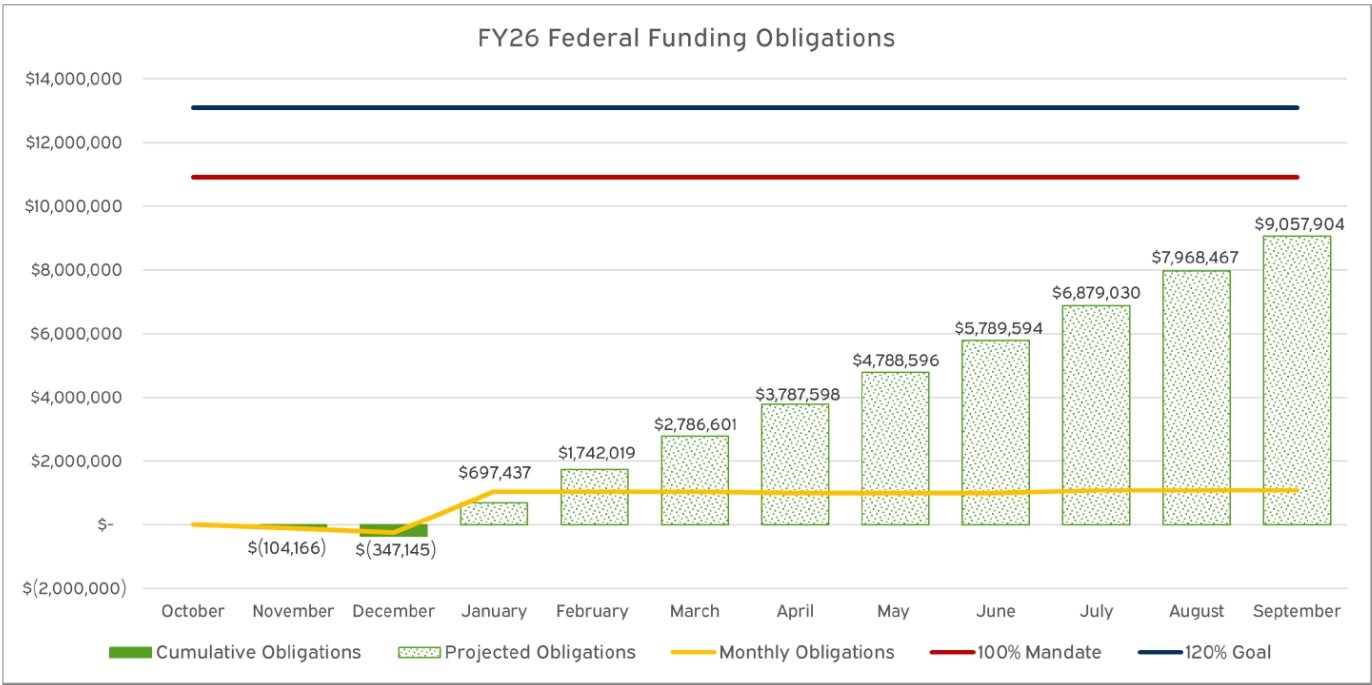




Chadwick Flyer Trail Crossing

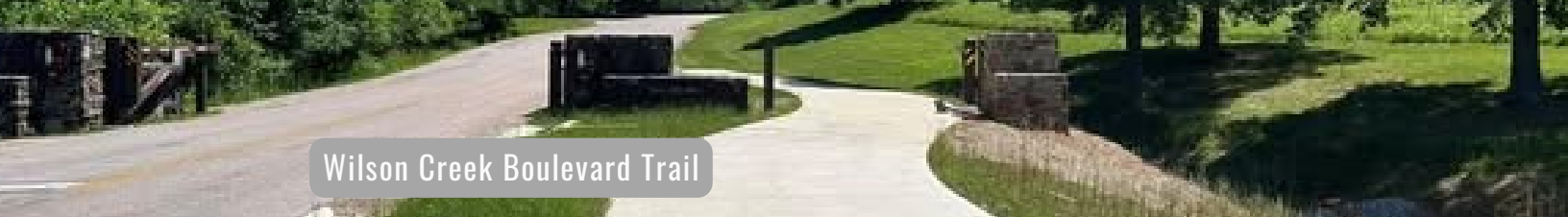
Federal Funds Balance

THE OTO AREA MUST OBLIGATE \$11.3 MILLION BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 OR MODOT WILL TAKE FUNDING TO USE ON MODOT ROADS. In the past, MoDOT has limited OTO to no more than three years of accumulated funding as a balance. To limit the accumulation of funds and to maximize August redistribution, MoDOT has now established a statewide goal that 120 percent of allocated funds are obligated each year, with 100 percent as the minimum amount to be obligated. As OTO received \$10.9 million for FY 2025, the minimum amount to be obligated is \$10.9 million, with a goal of \$13 million.



AS OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2025, OTO HAS HAD A NET DEOBLIGATION OF \$347,145 OR ABOUT -3.2% OF OTO’S ANNUAL ALLOCATION.

FY 26 Beginning Balance	\$13,329,147
120% Target (tentative)	\$13,087,408
100% Mandate/Annual Allocation	\$10,906,173
YTD Obligations	-\$347,144.93
Amount Needed to 100% Mandate	\$11,253,318
Remaining Critical Obligations	\$9,057,904
Amount Likely to Lapse	\$2,195,414



Wilson Creek Boulevard Trail

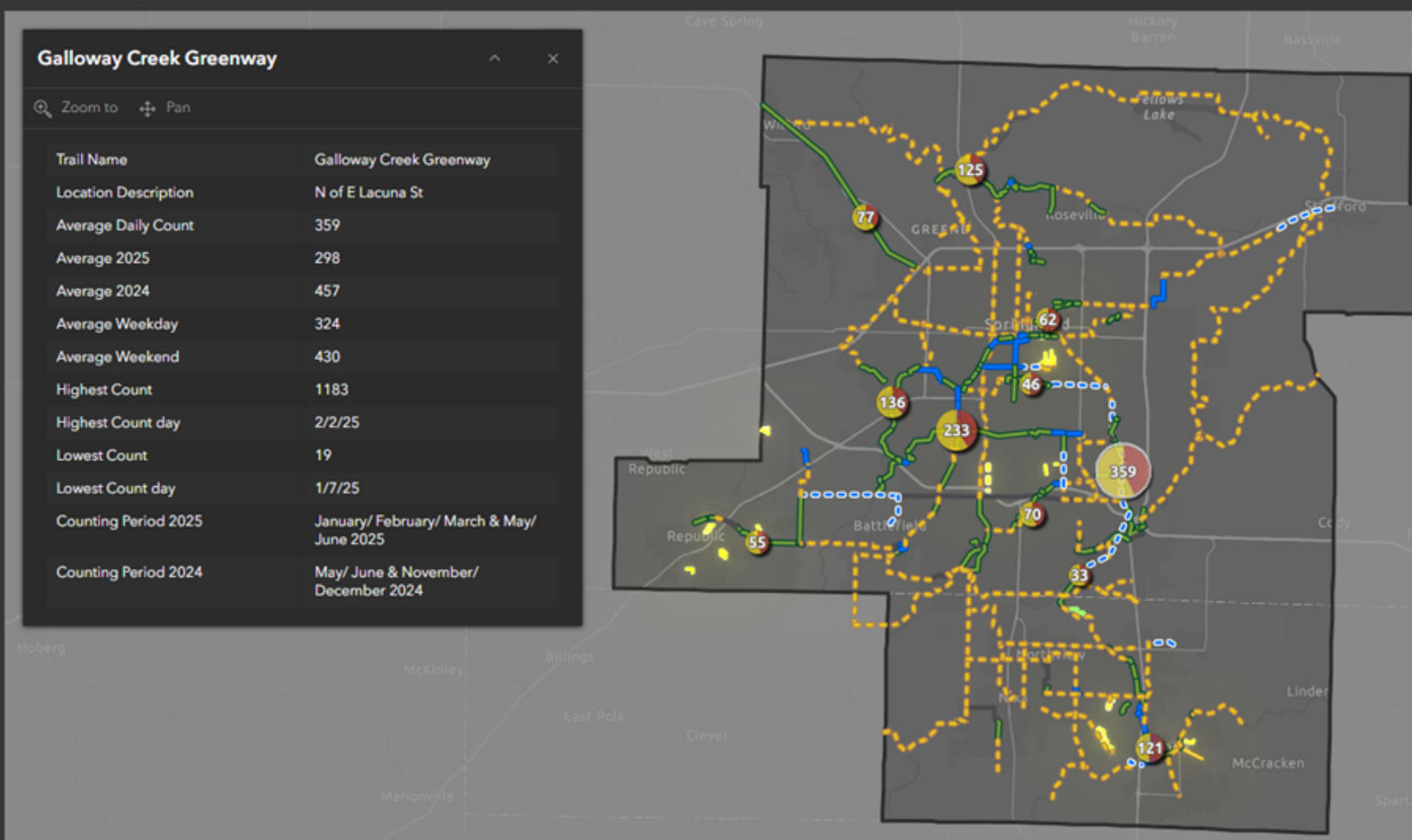
Trail Counts

OTO's trail dashboard now includes trail counts! OTO started collecting trail usage data in late 2023. The counts show total number of users going both ways on a trail, including bicyclists. The dashboard displays the average daily count (bi-directional) of all counting periods and the colored background shows the proportion between weekday and weekend counts, meaning that for the Galloway trail the average weekend count is higher than the average weekday count. You can click on each counting location to get more details, like location of counter, counting periods in different years and averages by year.

OTO staff is moving counters around every month of the year to different locations. Please feel free to reach out if you want to count a certain area or would like to use the counters for other sidewalk counts. The link to the dashboard is here:

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/da2a3ec279744f8b829e5699ef8f98d0>

Towards A Regional Trail Plan Dashboard





Grant Notices of Funding Opportunities

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) BUILD program provides grants for surface transportation infrastructure projects with significant local or regional impact.

Eligible Applicants for BUILD grants are:

- States and the District of Columbia;
 - any territory or possession of the United States;
 - a unit of local government;
 - a public agency or publicly chartered authority established by 1 or more States;
 - a special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority;
 - a Federally recognized Indian Tribe or a consortium of such Indian Tribes;
 - a transit agency; and
 - a multi-State or multijurisdictional group of entities that are separately eligible.
- Multiple States or jurisdictions may submit a joint application and must identify a lead applicant as the primary point of contact and identify the primary recipient of the award. Joint applications must include a description of the roles and responsibilities of each applicant.

Capital projects including but not limited to:

- highway, bridge, or other road projects eligible under title 23, United States Code;
- public transportation projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code;
- passenger and freight rail transportation projects; ILD grants

- port infrastructure investments (including inland port infrastructure and land ports of entry);
- the surface transportation components of an airport project eligible for assistance under part B of subtitle VII
- intermodal projects;
- projects to replace or rehabilitate a culvert or prevent stormwater runoff for the purpose of improving habitat for aquatic species while advancing the goals of the BUILD program;
- projects investing in surface transportation facilities that are located on Tribal land and for which title or maintenance responsibility is vested in the Federal Government; and
- any other surface transportation infrastructure project that the Secretary considers to be necessary to advance the goals of the program.

Minimum Grant Award: \$1 million Rural, \$5 million Urban

Maximum Grant Award: \$25 million

NOFO can be found here:

<https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants>

Application Deadline: February 24, 2026



Grant Notices of Funding Opportunities

Recreational Trail Program Grants

In Missouri, RTP grants are available to local and state governments, school districts and nonprofit organizations.

Missouri receives between \$1 million and \$1.5 million per fiscal year.

Projects must be open to the public.

RTP application packets must be postmarked on or before Feb. 20, 2026.

Eligible Projects include:

- Restoration of existing recreational trails.
- Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages for recreational trails.
- Construction of new recreational trails (with restrictions for new trails on Federal lands).
- Acquisition of easements and property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors.
- Assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and maintenance.

There was a workshop on January 6th, which will be posted on their website after January 20, 2026.

Maximum Grant Award: \$250,000 with 20% local match

NOFO can be found here: <https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants>

Application Deadline: February 20, 2026



Job Openings

City of Springfield - Associate City Planner

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/springfieldmo/jobs/5151091/associate-city-planner>

City of Springfield - Superintendent of Streets - Public Works

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/springfieldmo/jobs/5100693/superintendent-of-streets-public-works>

City of Springfield - Professional Engineer - Public Works - Traffic/Transportation

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/springfieldmo/jobs/5042895/professional-engineer-public-works-traffic-transportation>

City of Nixa - Director of Nixa Utilities and Public Works

<https://www.nixa.com/job/director-of-nixa-utilities-and-public-works/>

City of Republic - Senior Planner (with Associate Planner Underfill Option)

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/republicmo/jobs/5102630/senior-planner-with-associate-planner-underfill-option>

SMCOG - Graphic Design/Communications Internship

https://www.smcog.org/files/ugd/40e61a_1ebe9fd041f44200881ffff3c6a442c5.pdf

SMCOG - Part-time Planning Internship

https://www.smcog.org/files/ugd/40e61a_02d30bf976da40e7afb5e6efd27e237d.pdf

SMCOG - Part-time GIS Internship

https://www.smcog.org/files/ugd/40e61a_9be2f30b13f34d8cb78fe4a84c4b2b65.pdf