

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

The Technical Planning Committee of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time in person. A quorum was declared present. Chair Foster began the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Kimberly Ader, MoDOT (a)	Kirsty Ketchum, Greene County (a)
Scott Bachman, City of Springfield (a)	Frank Miller, MoDOT
Trey Davis, City of Battlefield	Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark
Angel Falig, City of Republic (a)	Jeff Roussell, City of Nixa
Brett Foster, City of Springfield (Chair)	Andy Thomason, City Utilities (a)
Adam Humphrey, Greene County	Mark Webb, Greene County

(a) Denotes alternate given voting privileges as a substitute when voting member not present

The following members were not present:

Keith Adams, Springfield Public Schools	Aishwarya Shrestha (non-voting), SMCOG
Sydney Allen, Greene County	Ben Tegeler, Ozark Greenways
Gerri Doyle, FTA	Tommy VanHorn, City of Strafford
John Matthews, Missouri State University	Ben Vickers (non-voting), Springfield Chamber
Mike Ruesch, City of Willard	Jeremy Wegner, BNSF
David Schaumburg, Springfield-Branson Nat'l Airport	Todd Wiesehan, Christian County
Mark Schenkelberg, FAA	

Others present were: Nathan Adams, TREKK Design; Derrick Estell, TOTH/OSRD; Kyle Estes, Cassidy Station; Michael Martinez, Wilson & Company; Cliff Spangler, City of Ozark; Jered Taylor, Congressman Burlison's Office; Mike Ussery, Senator Schmitt's Office; Dave Faucett, Sara Fields, David Knaut, Natasha Longpine, Debbie Parks, and Jen Thomas, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

I. Administration

A. Introductions

Chair Foster welcomed everyone.

B. Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

Adam Humphrey made a motion to approve the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda for February 18, 2026. Frank Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. Approval of December 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Adam Humphrey made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2025 meeting. Jeremy Parsons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items

Chair Foster advised there were public comments included in the packet and asked for comments or questions.

E. Executive Director's Report

Sara Fields provided an update of upcoming legislative activity, projects, and ongoing work at the OTO.

F. Legislative Report

Jered Taylor with Congressman Burlison's Office and Mike Ussery with Senator Schmitt's Office provided the Legislative updates.

G. MoDOT Report

Frank Miller shared the MoDOT report.

H. Committee Reports and Grant Opportunities

David Knaut provided the Local Coordinating Board for Transit and Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee updates.

Debbie Parks shared grant informational news.

I. Federal Funds Status Update

Jen Thomas provided the Federal Funds Status Update.

II. New Business

A. Major Thoroughfare Plan Variance Requests

Natasha Longpine presented the two separate variances requested for the Major Thoroughfare Plan.

- Variance Request One: A request of the Ozark Special Road District for a variance to the driveway spacing design standards of the OTO Major Thoroughfare Plan. **Request** – To accommodate a safe sight distance, the property owner is requesting a driveway that would be placed 265 feet from the Fremont Hills entrance to the south, with spacing to the north beyond what is required.

Variance Request One:

Adam Humphrey made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors grant authority to vary from OTO design standards related to the Fremont Road request and apply best engineering practices. Jeremy Parsons seconded the motion. The motion passed. Abstentions: Scott Bachman, Brett Foster, and Frank Miller.

- Variance Request Two: A request from OWN on behalf of a proposed Waffle House in Ozark for a right-in/right-out driveway along Route NN, complementing a cross access easement in place with an adjacent parcel. **Request** – Due to characteristics of available access, the application would like a right-in/right-out driveway that aligns with Tractor Supply across NN.

Variance Request Two:

Brett Foster made a motion to table this request until MoDOT makes a decision for allowable access. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. FY2026 UPWP Amendment One

Debbie Parks reviewed the proposed Amendment One to the FY2026 Unified Planning Work Program.

Andy Thomason made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the FY2026 Amendment One. Jeremy Parsons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. FY 2026-2029 TIP Amendment Four

Natasha Longpine shared the proposed Amendment Four to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Plan.

1. ***New* Route D Bridge Improvement (GR2602)**
MoDOT has requested to add a scoping project for bridge improvements on Route D over Pearson Creek for a total programmed cost of \$40,000.
2. ***New* I-44 and US 65 Interchange Improvements (SP2615)**
MoDOT has requested to add a scoping project for interchange improvements at I-44 and US 65 for a total programmed amount of \$500,000.

Andy Thomason made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve Revised Amendment 4 to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program. Scott Bachman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. FY 2026-2029 Administrative Modification 3

Natasha Longpine presented the changes made to the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program.

1. **Finley River Trail Western Expansion Phase I (EN2067)**
Moved funding from Construction to Engineering with no changes to the overall programmed amount.
2. **I-44 Safety Project (MO2521)**
Reduced Construction by \$18,000 to correct for funding already in ROW, for a new total programmed amount of \$470,915,000.
3. **N. Old Orchard Road Improvement (ST2202)**
Added \$35,000 federal and corresponding local due to increased award amount, for a total programmed amount of \$645,453.

This was informational only. No action was requested.

E. UPWP Subcommittee

Debbie Parks requested the Committee appoint a subcommittee to prepare the FY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program.

Brett Foster made a motion to appoint Amanda Barch (MoDOT), Cecelie Cochran (FHWA), Scott Bachman (Springfield), and Andy Thomason (City Utilities) to the FY 2027 Unified Planning Work Program Subcommittee. Mark Webb seconded the motion. The motion passed.

F. TIP Subcommittee

Natasha Longpine asked the Committee to appoint a subcommittee to prepare the FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.

Jeremy Parsons made a motion to appoint Kirsty Ketchum (Greene County), Kim Ader (MoDOT), and Angel Falig (Republic) to the FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Subcommittee. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Other Business

A. Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements

There were no Committee member announcements.

B. Transportation Issues for Technical Planning Committee Review

There were no transportation issues for the Committee review.

C. Articles for Technical Planning Committee Member Information

Chair Foster noted there were articles of interest included in the Agenda Packet.

IV. Adjournment

Scott Bachman made a motion to adjourn. Andy Thomason seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:44 pm.


Brett Foster
Technical Planning Committee Chairman