

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
JULY 21, 2022**

The Board of Directors of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time of 12:00 p.m. in person.

The following members were present:

Mr. Chuck Branch, Citizen-at-Large	Mr. James O'Neal, Citizen-at-Large
Mr. Steve Childers, City of Ozark (a)	Ms. Stacy Reese, MoDOT (a)
Mr. Jerry Compton, Citizen-at-Large	Mr. John Russell, Greene County (Chair)
Mr. Travis Cossey, City of Nixa (a)	Mr. Mike Schilling, City of Springfield
Mr. Skip Jansen, City Utilities Transit	Ms. Martha Smartt, City of Strafford (a)
Mr. Rusty MacLachlan, Greene County	Mr. Dan Smith, City of Springfield (a)
Mr. Lynn Morris, Christian County	

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

The following members were not present:

Mr. Mokhtee Ahmad, FTA	Mr. Bradley McMahon, FHWA
Mr. David Cameron, City of Republic (a)	Mr. Mark Schenkelberg, FAA
Mr. Brad Gray, City of Willard (a)	Mr. Richard Walker, Springfield Citizen-at-Large
Ms. Debra Hickey, City of Battlefield	Mr. Brian Weiler, Springfield-Branson Airport (a)
Mr. Andrew Lear, City of Springfield	

Others Present: Mr. Dan Wadlington, Senator Roy Blunt's Office; Mr. Jeremy Pruett, Representative Billy Long's Office; Mr. Tommy VanHorn, City of Battlefield; Mr. Ralph Phillips, Christian County; Mr. Dave Faucett, Ms. Sara Fields, Ms. Natasha Longpine, Ms. Debbie Parks, Ms. Libby Robinson, Mr. JD Stevenson, Ms. Nicole Stokes, and Mr. Andy Thomason, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

Chairman Russell called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

I. Administration

A. Welcome and Roll Call

Member	Vote	Member	Vote
Mr. Chuck Branch	Present	Mr. Rusty MacLachlan	Present
Mr. David Cameron	Absent	Mr. Lynn Morris	Present
Mr. Steve Childers	Present	Mr. James O'Neal	Present
Mr. Jerry Compton	Present	Mr. John Russell	Present
Mr. Travis Cossey	Present	Mr. Mike Schilling	Present
Mr. Brad Gray	Absent	Ms. Martha Smartt	Present
Ms. Debra Hickey	Absent	Mr. Dan Smith	Present
Mr. Skip Jansen	Present	Mr. Richard Walker	Absent
Mr. Andrew Lear	Absent	Mr. Brian Weiler	Absent

A quorum was present.

B. Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Ms. Smartt moved to approve the July 21, 2022 agenda. Mr. Childers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Approval of May 19, 2022 Minutes

Mr. Cossey moved to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2022 meeting. Mr. Childers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items

Chairman Russell advised there were public comments included in the packet. Chairman Russell asked for comments or questions.

E. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Fields stated OTO's fiscal year ended June 30th. There are prioritization meetings set-up for August and September. This is a subcommittee of the Technical Planning Committee. Board of Directors' members may attend, as well. Staff have been working on identifying projects for federal grant opportunities. As of now, there has not been any news on the RAISE or INFRA Grants that were applied for. Staff is watching for any new federal requirements that are part of the new infrastructure bill. Ms. Fields is the chair of the AMPO Policy Committee, and they have spent time discussing administrative role-making. The OTO staff is reviewing the new air-quality rule for tailpipe emissions which was just released. Staff is working on a plan on how to spend additional funding available for transportation alternatives (non-road projects). Mr. Thomason has developed a Request for Expression of Interest that is being reviewed internally before sending it out. CMT was hired to design the Chadwick Flyer Phase III project with a beginning construction goal of 2023. Ozark's first phase of the Chadwick Flyer is under construction. The North 13 Study is in final committee review and will be released to the public soon. There will be a public meeting August 2nd for the FF Corridor Study in Battlefield before their National Night Out event. Some of the studies the OTO staff are looking at for next year are the Route 66 Trail between Springfield and Strafford, the FF extension into Christian County west of Nixa needs to be reviewed, and an additional pedestrian underpass under Highway 160 near the schools in Willard. A crosswalk on west Chestnut Expressway has been added to OTO's project prioritization list and MoDOT has added it to improvements that are going to be made to that corridor. There is additional right of way needed due to the signals that are needed for the crosswalk. Since right of way is needed it takes longer and is planned for 2024.

F. MoDOT Update

Ms. Reese reported the STIP was approved at the July meeting. The next phase of the James River Freeway project will be starting soon. MoDOT will be receiving additional safety money which will allow them to contract out approximately 10% of paving and striping projects. For the SW District they are looking at using this for I-44 through Springfield and Highway 49. The Highway Commission will be coming to Springfield for their meeting in September.

G. Legislative Reports

Mr. Wadlington with Senator Blunt's Office stated the Senator is disappointed the money appropriated for roads, highways, and infrastructure is being impacted by inflation.

Mr. Pruett with US Representative Long's Office reported there is not a lot of transportation work going on right now. The fuel tax holiday talk has subsided for now but will likely come back up again.

III. **New Business**

A. Destination 2045 Amendment Number 2

Ms. Longpine stated the City of Springfield requested a change to the Major Thoroughfare Plan.

- Remove proposed collector in the 1800 block of N. West Bypass, between Eldon and West Bypass

The request was approved by the Springfield City Council at their regular meeting on May 2, 2022.

Mr. Jansen made a motion to approve *Destination 2045* Amendment Two. Mr. Branch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. 2023-2027 STIP

Ms. Fields shared that each year, the Missouri Department of Transportation adopts a Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is a listing of projects that will be completed over the next five years. The FY 2023-2027 STIP was adopted at the July 6, 2022 Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission meeting. Included for member information was the 2023-2027 Scoping and Design Projects and the 2023-2027 Highway and Bridge Construction Schedule.

The OTO Technical Planning Committee and Board of Directors worked to prioritize projects for recommendation to be placed in the STIP. Ms. Fields reviewed the document titled OTO Recommended STIP Project List.

The projects listed in the STIP for the OTO area (SW Urban) will be incorporated into the Draft OTO 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program.

This was informational only. No action required.

C. Draft FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program

Ms. Longpine reported that OTO annually develops a four-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document that provides details on proposed transportation improvements, including anticipated costs, fund sources, and expected project phasing over each of the four years of the TIP. The TIP includes a status report for each project contained in the previous year's TIP, a financial constraint analysis, and description of the public involvement process. The MoDOT Statewide Transportation Improvement Program has been incorporated into the Draft TIP. Also included are FTA 5310 Projects (vehicles for human service agencies serving the disabled and elderly), FTA 5339 projects (transit capital), and transit operations. City Utilities Transit is currently the only eligible recipient for FTA 5307 (Transit Operating Assistance and Preventative Maintenance). The draft TIP was made available for public comment beginning on June 19, 2022. The draft document has been reviewed by USDOT and MoDOT and there were no comments. TIP projects can be viewed on a new online portal at <https://oto.ecointeractive.com/>.

Mr. Compton made a motion to approve the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Jansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. 2024-2028 Draft STIP Prioritization Criteria

Ms. Fields shared that STIP Prioritization Criteria is used to score projects as the starting point for

project recommendations for the STIP. The Draft Prioritization Glossary will define the criteria to be used for the next round of prioritization. The 2024-2028 STIP deadline for the scoring and final prioritizations to be completed is the October Technical Planning Committee meeting and the November Board of Directors meeting. Ms. Fields reviewed the criteria for the Board of Directors.

This was informational only. No action required.

E. Planning Process and Financial Capacity Certifications

Ms. Longpine stated that Metropolitan Planning Organizations must certify annually to FHWA and FTA their compliance with federal, state, environmental, and civil rights regulations and that the transportation planning process is addressing the major transportation management issues facing the metropolitan planning area. Ms. Longpine shared the requirements for compliance. MPOs must also certify financial capacity. This certifies that applicants for FTA Section 5307, 5309, and 5339 funding have the financial capacity to undertake their programmed projects. In this case, City Utilities is the only recipient of this funding.

Mr. O'Neal made a motion to certify the Ozarks Transportation Organization's compliance with the metropolitan transportation planning process and to certify the financial capacity of City Utilities. Mr. Childers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Safe Streets and Roads for All

Ms. Longpine reported the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) established the new Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over the 5 years. In fiscal year 2022 (FY22), up to \$1 billion is available. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Ms. Longpine reviewed the eligible applicants and eligible activities for the two types of grants, Action Plan Grants and Implementation Grants.

OTO is proposing applying to develop a comprehensive safety action plan for the region, so that members can apply for implementation grants based on the plan in future funding rounds. If successful, OTO would need financial participation from OTO members to fund the 20% match.

Mr. Childers made a motion to authorize the OTO to apply for a SS4A Action Plan Grant and certify OTO will provide matching funds. Mr. Branch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Other Business

A. Board of Directors Member Announcements

There were no member announcements for the Board of Directors.

B. Transportation Issues for Board of Directors Member Review

There were no transportation issues for the Board of Directors member review.

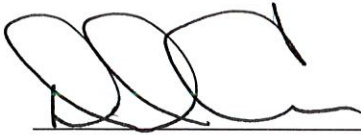
C. Articles for Board of Directors Member Information

Chairman Russell noted there were articles of interest included in the packet for the members to review as time allows.

IV. Adjourn meeting

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Branch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Schilling seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Cameron', written over a horizontal line.

David Cameron
OTO Secretary