

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION  
TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 21, 2023**

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

The following members were present:

Garrett Brickner (a), City of Republic	Frank Miller, MoDOT
Paula Brookshire (a), City of Springfield	John Montgomery (a), Ozark Greenways
Valerie Carr (a), City of Ozark	Andy Novinger (a), City of Battlefield
Matt Crawford, City Utilities	Jeff Roussell, City of Nixa (Chair)
Adam Humphrey, Greene County	Beth Schaller, MoDOT
Kirk Juranas, City of Springfield	Tim Schowe, City of Strafford
John Matthews, Missouri State University	Todd Wiesehan, Christian County

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

The following members were not present:

Scott Hayes, City of Willard	Aishwarya Shrestha, SMOG
Joel Keller (a), Greene County	Mark Webb, Greene County
Ahmad Mokhtee, FTA	Jeremy Wegner, BNSF
David Schaumburg, Springfield-Branson Airport	Daniel Weitkamp, FHWA
Mark Schenkelberg, FAA	Randall Whitman (a), City of Springfield
Jonathan Shelden, Springfield Public Schools	

Others present were: Kimberly Ader, MoDOT; Tom Dancey, City of Springfield; Jered Taylor, Congressman Eric Burlison's Office; Dave Faucett, Sara Fields, David Knaut, Natasha Longpine, Debbie Parks, Libby Robinson, and Nicole Stokes, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

**I. Administration**

**A. Introductions**

Chair Roussell 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 June 21, 2023. Kirk Juranas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**C. Approval of April 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Todd Wiesehan made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2023 Technical Planning Committee Meeting. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**D. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items**

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

**E. Executive Director’s Report**

Sara Fields stated that \$28 million for I-44 was included in the State of Missouri general revenue budget. It is awaiting the Governor’s signature. This would provide six lanes from US 65 to Highway 13 and a complete pavement rebuild. This would also include a trail underpass connecting Doling Park to Norton Road.

Included in the agenda are proposed Transportation Alternative Projects in the amount of \$5.7 million and approximately \$500,000 in Electric Vehicle Charging awards. Staff are working on improving the project delivery timeline, getting funds obligated, and innovative ways to get projects done faster.

OTO has an open position, Reasonable Progress Manager. The job description is on the OTO website.

The Chadwick Flyer Trail Phase III has been bid and the notice to proceed has been sent with work beginning on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

The City of Ozark received funding for the Chadwick Flyer US 65 overpass from the DED. This project is close to being fully funded. This project is on track to be delivered in calendar year 2024. Phase II near Tracker Marine will be under construction in 2024, as well.

The FF Extension Study is underway with a public meeting scheduled for July 18<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm at Nixa City Hall.

Staff are beginning to work on the State and Federal Legislative Priorities.

OTO is presenting a Grant Workshop on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. Registration is still open.

**F. Legislative Report**

Jered Taylor with Congressman Burlison’s Office shared the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee passed the FAA Reauthorization Act. The Congressman added an amendment for a study on how Uber, Lyft, and other companies are charged at the airport. It passed unanimously out of Committee. The Congressman introduced new legislation prioritizing freight around rail yards and ports to help with the issues of getting freight around the country since Amtrak has priority. The Congressman also introduced legislation to get rid of the rule that requires farmers to have a vet present when they administer antibiotics.

**G. MoDOT Report**

Frank Miller reported there have been some minor changes to the Unfunded Needs list. The OTO staff worked with the BPAC to create the Multimodal Unfunded Needs list.

Beth Schaller stated the main construction project in the area is the James River Freeway project. A major permit underway is for the new Bucc-ees on the north side which should be completed soon. The design build project is in its second of three years on the interstate and next year will be off the interstate.

**H. Committee Reports and Grant Opportunities**

Natasha Longpine shared that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) worked on the Multimodal Unfunded Needs list. The Committee also worked on a Master Trail Map.

Debbie Parks stated the Local Coordinating Board for Transit awarded 5310 Funds to the Ozark Community Center.

## **II. New Business**

### **A. FY 2023-2026 TIP Administrative Modifications Four, Five, and Six**

Natasha Longpine stated there were 2 items included as part of Administrative Modification Four, 1 item as part of Administrative Modification Five, and 1 item as part of Administrative Modification Six to the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program. These changes do not affect Fiscal Constraint as the funding sources and funding years remain the same.

#### **Administrative Modification Four**

1. N. Main Street (NX2101-23AM4)  
Programming congressionally designated funding of \$206,000 in place of STBG-U funding already programmed. The total programmed amount of \$2,341,432 does not change.
2. Garrison Springs Trail (OK2303-23AM4)  
Changing federal funding source to TAP from CRP to correspond to the Programming Agreement. The total programmed amount of \$550,000 does not change.

#### **Administrative Modification Five**

1. 5310 Traditional Projects Reserve 2021-2023 (MO1729-23AM5)  
The Ozark Senior Center was recommended by the Local Coordinating Board for Transit and the OTO Board of Directors to receive \$56,193.76 in FTA Section 5310 funding to purchase one conversion van. This vehicle will support their client-based transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities in Ozark and Christian County. Match is provided by the Ozark Senior Center in the amount of \$14,048.44.

#### **Administrative Modification Six**

1. Chadwick Flyer US65 Crossing (OK2304-AM6)  
Funding category changes were made based on the MO-ARPA award from DED and to reflect the correct amount of STBG-U provided by Christian County. Funding between phases has been adjusted, as well.

This was informational only. No action required.

### **B. 2023 Public Participation Plan Update**

Dave Faucett shared the OTO Public Participation Plan (PPP) is intended to provide direction for adequate public notice to review and comment on plans and policies at key decision points in the regional transportation planning process. Included with this plan is an evaluation of current and previous strategies that the OTO employs to elicit feedback and involvement from all interested parties. The OTO updates its PPP every three years, ensuring the latest techniques and use of the most up-to-date resources, keeping the public involved with and informed of OTO's planning activities. Several revisions have been made to the PPP that was approved by the OTO Board of Directors on August 20, 2020. Dave Faucett presented the Public Participation Plan Update.

Kirk Juranas made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the proposed Public Participation Plan. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**C. Destination 2045 Amendment Three**

Natasha Longpine reported that three sets of changes are proposed for OTO's long range transportation plan, *Destination 2045*:

- Main Avenue Bridge over Jordan Creek – estimated project cost of \$7,500,000
- Green Bridge in Christian County – estimated project cost of \$3,560,000
- EV Charger Program - \$973,500 program for about 60 chargers

The fiscal constraint section of *Destination 2045* does not include the Carbon Reduction Program suballocated funding. This has been added in the funding description and alongside the STBG-U Set-Aside in the funding tables. The annual TAP funding allocation has also been updated to reflect new funding levels.

A revised trail map has been developed in consultation with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and as a result of the *Towards a Regional Trail System* planning document. This has been incorporated as the Official OTO Trail Map into Chapter 8: Implementation Plan.

Kirk Juranas made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve Amendment Three to *Destination 2045*. Garrett Brickner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**D. OTO Discretionary Funding Approval**

Natasha Longpine stated that OTO has recently solicited several types of projects for funding:

- OTO/MoDOT Sidewalk Cost Share (Open Application Process)
- Electric Vehicle Chargers (Deadline June 1, 2023)
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure (Deadline June 1, 2023)

**OTO/MoDOT Sidewalk Cost Share**

At its meeting on June 13, 2023, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee recommended the Technical Planning Committee, and the Board of Directors approve a sidewalk cost share between MoDOT and the City of Strafford. This would provide sidewalks along Route OO from Washington to Route 125 as part of MoDOT's intersection improvements in that same location. Total project cost \$600,800, with OTO's (TAP) Share being \$240,320.

**Electric Vehicle Chargers**

OTO made \$750,000 in Carbon Reduction Program funding available to its members for electric vehicle chargers and associated improvements. In total, 5 agencies applied, requesting \$514,721 in federal funds to provide 42 ports throughout the region.

**Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure**

Fifteen applications were received and fell within the amount of available funding. Five applications received a full award, five were awarded PE with construction contingent upon reasonable progress compliance, and five others were awarded with various conditions. All projects have been incorporated into the draft FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program, with conditional awards outlined as relevant.

Natasha Longpine provided an overview of the awards.

Adam Humphrey made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the OTO discretionary funding applications as presented. Todd Wiesehan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**E. Draft FY 2024-2028 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program**

Frank Miller shared that each year, MoDOT 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 2024-2028 STIP will be adopted at the July 12, 2023 Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission meeting. The OTO Technical Planning Committee and Board of Directors worked to prioritize projects for recommendation to be placed in the STIP. The projects listed in the STIP for the OTO area (SW Urban) will be incorporated into the draft OTO 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. Natasha Longpine highlighted the 2024-2028 Scoping and Design Projects and the 2024-2028 Highway and Bridge Construction Schedule.

Kirk Juranas made a motion to endorse the FY 2024-2028 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**F. Draft FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program**

Natasha 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 will be made available for public comment beginning on June 18, 2023. Any comments will be provided to the Board of Directors for consideration. The draft document is currently under review by MoDOT and USDOT.

Frank Miller made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program with any necessary changes of federal funds to maximize obligations before August Redistribution and the end of the fiscal year. Garrett Brickner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**G. 2025-2029 Draft STIP Prioritization Criteria**

Sara Fields stated the STIP Prioritization Criteria is used to score projects as the starting point for project recommendations for the STIP. The Draft Prioritization Glossary defines the criteria to be used for the next round of prioritization. The 2025-2029 STIP deadline for the scoring and final prioritization to be completed is the October Technical Planning Committee and the November Board of Directors.

Several updates were made to the criteria in prior years and the staff is not recommending any specific changes this year. The Committee was encouraged to make any recommendations for changes to allow staff time to incorporate the changes into the scoring prior to the committee meetings this summer.

Sara Fields reviewed the STIP Prioritization Criteria with the Committee.

Beth Schaller made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the STIP Project Prioritization Criteria as presented. Valerie Carr seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**H. FY 2025-2029 Draft STIP Prioritization Project List**

Sara Fields shared OTO maintains a list of projects to be prioritized for the MoDOT Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This list is developed through input by member jurisdictions as well as requests received through public input to the OTO. During June and July, OTO staff will score the proposed list of projects for prioritization consideration by the Prioritization Subcommittee in July and August. Project scores for all projects are revised each year.

Members were asked to review the FY 2025-2029 Draft STIP Prioritization List.

**III. Other Business**

**A. Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements**

Jeff Roussell stated that MoDOT will be hosting a public meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Nixa City Hall about the CC and Main Street intersection. The City of Nixa will be doing the final inspection of Truman Boulevard with the opening being the first part of July.

Natasha Longpine shared the summer ozone levels are the highest they have been in years and shared ideas of how to help.

**B. Transportation Issues for Technical Planning Committee Review**

There were no transportation issues for Committee review.

**C. Articles for Technical Planning Committee Member Information**

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

**IV. Adjournment**

Kirk Juranas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beth Schaller seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:37 p.m.

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Jeff Roussell

Technical Planning Committee Chair