

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 18, 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 1:31 p.m.

The following members were present:

King Coltrin (a), City of Springfield	Frank Miller, MoDOT
Matt Crawford, City Utilities	John Montgomery (a), Ozark Greenways
Angel Falig (a), City of Republic	Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark
Martin Gugel, City of Springfield	Jeff Roussell, City of Nixa (Chair)
Kirk Juranas, City of Springfield	Beth Schaller, MoDOT
Tristan Losh, City of Battlefield	Aishwarya Shrestha (non-voting), SMCOG
Joel Keller (a), Greene County	Todd Wiesehan, Christian County
John Matthews, Missouri State University	

(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	Mark Schenkelberg, FAA
Scott Hayes, City of Willard	Tim Schowe, City of Strafford
Adam Humphrey, Greene County	Mark Webb, Greene County
Ahmad Mokhtee, FTA	Jeremy Wegner, BNSF
David Schaumburg, Springfield-Branson Airport	Daniel Weitkamp, FHWA

Others present were: Kimberly Ader and Marc Lewis, MoDOT; Eric Claussen, City of Springfield; Angela Nelson, Greene County; Dave Faucett, Sara Fields, David Knaut, Natasha Longpine, Debbie Parks, Nicole Stokes, and Jen Thomas, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

I. Administration

A. Introductions

Chair Roussell welcomed everyone.

B. Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

Todd Wiesehan made a motion to approve the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda for October 18, 2023. Beth Schaller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. Approval of August 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Jeff Roussell made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2023 Technical Planning Committee Meeting. Kirk Juranas 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 reported that OTO is fully staffed. Jen Thomas is the new OTO Transportation Engineer, taking over the project management role.

The Legislative Breakfast will be November 9th at 7:30 a.m. at Drury University's Judy Thompson Executive Center. Invitations have been sent out.

Staff have been working on the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant. Consultants have been selected and contracts are being finalized. This is a federal grant to conduct safety planning for the region. This will provide the opportunity for implementation grants in the future.

The current Travel Demand Model the OTO utilizes needs updating with the new census data. Staff will be working on this update at the beginning of next year.

The OTO awarded 3 trail projects which were approximately 3.75 miles in total with COVID Relief funds. The Chadwick Flyer Trail Phase III was the first project to be awarded. That project started within 2 years of the Board of Directors awarding that project. It is close to being completed and will be open soon. The second COVID Relief project was the Chadwick Flyer Trail Phase II which is planned to go to construction in March. The third project is the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield trail. This trail runs from Wilson's Creek National Battlefield to M Highway. It is currently under construction with a completion date of November 2024.

There have been several staffing changes within member jurisdictions. If there is a change to the voting seat and/or alternate, the member jurisdiction needs to send in a letter designating those positions to allow them to vote.

F. Legislative Report

Jered Taylor, with Congressman Burlison's Office, shared that there was another vote held for the Speaker of the House with no one getting enough votes. There will be another vote held in the next few days. There is a potential government shutdown in approximately 30 days when the Continuing Resolution expires.

G. MoDOT Report

Frank Miller stated MoDOT has started the STIP updating process with new estimate updates. There have not been very many OTO project estimates come in yet. MoDOT has completed its Draft Asset Management Plan.

Beth Schaller shared the bridge at the J and NN interchange is closed due to being hit. MoDOT is working on a plan and timeline for the repair. MoDOT hosted two Legislative forums, one in Joplin and one in Springfield.

H. Committee Reports and Grant Opportunities

David Knaut stated there is a Traffic Incident Management Subcommittee scheduled for November 6, 2023 at 1:00 pm. The next Local Coordinating Board for Transit meeting will be November 9, 2023 at

3:00 pm. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee met and discussed the Pedestrian Safety Analysis. The Committee also finalized the Bicycle/Pedestrian Implementation Plan. The OTO Trail Dashboard has been updated.

Debbie Parks shared that the Federal Highway Administration issued the first ever rolling Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Large Bridge Program, bridges over \$100 million. The first deadline is November 27th, with August 1, 2024, and August 1, 2025 being the next two deadlines using the same NOFO.

MoDOT has their Off-System Bridge Program that will be coming out in the late spring of 2024. In January, MoDOT will have some safety grants that will be opening back up. The safety grants can be found on the MoDOT website.

The Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability Accessibility Accelerator Program, which is for temporarily unavailable EV Chargers, is currently open. The deadline is November 13th.

Announcements for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant, Consolidated Rail Infrastructure Safety and Improvements (CRRSAA Grant), and the RAISE Grant should all be coming out this fall. Jurisdictions are encouraged to reach out to OTO staff for assistance with RAISE grants.

II. New Business

A. **SafeAcross Pedestrian Campaign**

Mandy Buettgen-Quinn presented an overview of the Springfield SafeAcross pedestrian safety program. SafeAcross is a pedestrian safety campaign that provides a toolkit to help communities initiate cultural change toward becoming more pedestrian friendly.

This was informational only. No action was required.

B. **FY 2024-2027 TIP Administrative Modification One**

Natasha Longpine reviewed the ADA improvements at various locations which are included as part of Administrative Modification 1 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

This was informational only. No action was required.

C. **FY 2025-2029 STIP Priorities**

Sara Fields shared the STIP Priorities, as recommended by the Technical Planning Subcommittee, for inclusion in the FY 2025-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

Tristan Losh made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the STIP Priorities, as presented. Beth Schaller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Member		Member	
Coltrin, King (a)	Yes	Matthews, John	Abstain
Crawford, Matt	Abstain	Miller, Frank	Abstain
Falig, Angel	Abstain	Montgomery, John	No
Gugel, Martin	----*	Parsons, Jeremy	No

Juranas, Kirk	No	Roussell, Jeff	No
Losh, Tristan	Yes	Schaller, Beth	Yes
Keller, Joel	Yes	Wiesehan, Todd	No

*--- indicates no vote was submitted

The motion did not pass.

Jeremy Parsons made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the STIP Priorities, as presented with the removal of Number 3, Route FF/Weaver, and review the prioritization scoring criteria. Jeff Roussell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Member		Member	
Coltrin, King (a)	No	Matthews, John	Abstain
Crawford, Matt	Abstain	Miller, Frank	Yes
Falig, Angel	Yes	Montgonery, John	Yes
Gugel, Martin	----*	Parsons, Jeremy	Yes
Juranas, Kirk	Yes	Roussell, Jeff	Yes
Losh, Tristan	No	Schaller, Beth	No
Keller, Joel	No	Wiesehan, Todd	Yes

*--- indicates no vote was submitted

The motion did not pass.

D. National Performance Targets

Natasha Longpine presented the proposed performance targets.

Jeremy Parsons made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the proposed performance targets. Jeff Roussell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. Urban Area Smoothing

Natasha Longpine shared the OTO's recommendation for adjustments to the urban areas in the MPO boundary.

Todd Wiesehan made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the proposed urban areas. Beth Schaller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

F. Safe Streets and Roads for All Update

Natasha Longpine reported staff are developing a contract with an equity engagement firm and a safety transportation engineer. OTO will remain the lead on the planning project. Staff are also working on a Safety Analysis to draft a high-injury network, looking at crashes from 2018-2022. Member jurisdictions will be able to use this information to apply for implementation grants once the planning grant is completed.

This was informational only. No action was required.

III. Other Business

A. Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements

Kirk Juranas shared that Eric Claussen will be filling his position with the City of Springfield once he retires.

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

Jeff Roussell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Frank Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:02 p.m.

DocuSigned by:



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Angela Nelson

Technical Planning Committee Chair