

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
May 15, 2019**

The Technical Planning Committee of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time in the OTO Conference Room. A quorum was declared present and the meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. by Chair David O'Connor.

The following members were present:

Ms. Kristy Bork, Springfield/Branson Airport (a)	Mr. Kirk Juranas, City of Springfield
Ms. Paula Brookshire, City of Springfield (a)	Mr. Joel Keller, Greene County (a)
Mr. Eric Claussen, City of Springfield (a)	Mr. John McCart, City of Ozark (a)
Ms. Megan Clark, SMOG	Mr. Frank Miller, MoDOT
Mr. King Coltrin, City of Strafford	Mr. David O'Connor, City of Willard (a), Chair
Ms. Dawne Gardner, City of Springfield (a)	Mr. Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark
Mr. Martin Gugel, City of Springfield	Mr. Cole Pruitt, Missouri State University
Mr. Zeke Hall, MoDOT	Mr. Jeff Roussell, City of Nixa
Mr. Adam Humphrey, Greene County	Mr. Todd Wiesehan, Christian County

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

The following members were not present:

Mr. Mokhtee Ahmad, FTA Representative	Mr. Andrew Nelson, City of Republic (a)
Mr. Rick Artman, Greene County	Mr. Jason Ray, SMOG (a)
Mr. Joshua Bird, Christian County (a)	Mr. David Schaumburg, Springfield/Branson Airport
Mr. Randall Brown, City of Willard (Vice Chair)	Mr. Mark Schenkelberg, FAA Representative
Mr. John Caufield, BNSF	Mr. Jeremiah Shuler, FTA Representative (a)
Mr. Doug Colvin, City of Nixa (a)	Ms. Mary Lilly Smith, City of Springfield
Mr. Matt Crawford, City Utilities Transit	Mr. Frank Schoneboom, City of Battlefield
Ms. Brandie Fisher, City Utilities Transit	Mr. Garrett Tyson, City of Republic
Ms. Mary Kromrey, Ozark Greenways	Ms. Janette Vomund, MoDOT
Mr. Kevin Lambeth, City of Battlefield (a)	Ms. Eva Voss, MoDOT
Mr. Bradley McMahon, FHWA	Mr. Chad Zickefoose, MoDOT (a)
Mr. Kent Morris, Greene County Planning	

Others present were: Mr. Carl Carlson, Olsson; Mr. Garrett Brickner, City of Republic; Mr. Tom Dancey, City of Springfield; Mr. Marc Lewis, MoDOT; Ms. Amber Ryan, Ozark Greenways; Mr. Jeremy Pruett, Congressman Billy Long's Office; Mr. Dan Waddlington, Senator Blunt's Office; Ms. Kimberly Cooper, Mr. David Faucett, Ms. Sara Fields, Ms. Natasha Longpine, Mr. Andy Thomason, and Mr. Brad Williams, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

I. Administration

A. Introductions

Those in attendance made self-introductions stating their name and the organization they represent.

B. Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

Mr. Weisehan moved approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda for May 15, 2019. Mr. Pruitt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. Approval of the March 20, 2019 Meeting and the April 4, 2019 E-Meeting Minutes

Frank Miller with MoDOT stated the minutes from March 20, needed to be corrected. He noted that the minutes indicate he referenced a “Decker Pierce” project, when in fact he referenced the “deck repair” project. Mr. Juranas moved for approval of the minutes from the March 20, 2019 Technical Planning Committee Meeting as corrected, and the April 4, 2019 E-Meeting. Mr. Gugel seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

D. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items

There were no speakers present to address the Committee.

E. Staff Report

Sara Fields noted the Legislature is still moving slowly on the Governor’s Bridge bill. She stated she is watching it closely as there are only three more days in this Legislative session. Ms. Fields stated she and Ms. Longpine have been meeting with each community to learn their priorities. She stated if there are changes, or if the communities wish to add something, to please let her know.

Ms. Fields noted the dates she would be out of town and stated if anyone needed anything, the staff would be able to assist them.

F. Legislative Reports

Dan Waddlington from Senator Blunt’s office stated the markup of the Appropriations bill will begin in June. He noted there had been a bill introduced earlier in the month that dealt with Infrastructure, but again the issue is where the funding will come from. Mr. Waddlington noted there had been some different proposals regarding funding, but nothing had been decided.

Jeremy Pruett from Congressman Billy Long’s Office noted that Congressman Long is very interested in the President’s Infrastructure bill. He added if there are any communities that need letters of support for the Build Grant, to please let him know. They will be happy to provide those.

Mr. Waddling added that there is some discussion of bringing earmarks back next year. He stated if anyone has an item they would like to have added to the list, to please let the Senator’s office know.

II. New Business:

A. TMC Technology Presentation

Mr. Tom Dancy with the City of Springfield stated he and Marc Lewis with MoDOT work together to keep the Traffic Management Center working properly. He stated Mr. Thomason

has requested he provide a brief history of the Center, the technology currently being used, and the plans to update that technology, plans for expansion, etc., to keep the Center current. He noted this presentation discussed just the essential functions of the Center. Mr. Lewis also discussed the software the Center uses to monitor the traffic in Springfield and the plans to expand in the future. The presentation can be viewed on the OTO's website.

This item was provided for informational purposes only, no action of the Technical Planning Committee was required.

B. Amendment Number Six to the FY 2019-2022 TIP

Natasha Longpine stated the proposed amendment is requested by Missouri State University. They are requesting to repurpose the remaining funds from two prior earmarks to make pedestrian and transit improvements on the MSU Campus. She noted she believed there are some proposed ADA improvements and maintenance and added these would be fully funded by federal funds.

Mr. Pruitt moved the Technical Planning Committee recommend approval of FY 2019-2022 TIP Amendment Number Six to the Board of Directors. Mr. Juranas seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. Federal Funds Balance Report

Natasha Longpine noted this report had been emailed earlier and a copy laid at their places. She briefly reviewed the report, noting that all the funds from the Small Urban and On-System Bridge programs have been allocated. She also noted these programs have been discontinued by MoDOT and no additional monies will be allocated through them. Ms. Longpine noted that starting in 2019, the funds for the Ride Share program and the operations of the OTO, will be taken out of the STBG-Urban funds prior to the allocation distribution to the jurisdictions. Ms. Longpine briefly reviewed the report for the Committee noting that in 2020 the fund balance shows a zero balance, which indicates the jurisdictions have done an excellent job obligating their allocations.

This item was provided for informational purposes only, no action of the Technical Planning Committee was required.

D. Federal Functional Classification Map Change Request

Andy Thomason stated that MoDOT had contacted him noting while updating their records, they had noticed several classifications that needed to be updated or changed. He added the City of Springfield supports these changes, noting many of these were around the Ozarks Technical College, and more accurately reflects what is occurring at this time. The proposed change will show Central Street as a local street and Pythian Street as a major collector.

Mr. Juranas moved the Technical Planning Committee recommend approval of the proposed Federal Functional Classification Change to the Board of Directors. Mr. Pruitt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

E. FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program

Sara Fields stated this document outlines the work that will be completed by the Ozarks Transportation Organization staff during the next fiscal year, July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. She briefly outlined the changes included in this Program. She noted that MoDOT's direct cost that

had been billed to the grant have decreased significantly, prompting the Board of Directors' to increase the dues the jurisdictions pay.

Mr. Miller moved to recommend approval of the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program to the Board of Directors, including any proposed changes by the Department of Transportation. Mr. Martin seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

F. Public Participation Plan Annual Evaluation

David Faucett stated that federal law requires all Metropolitan Planning Organizations to conduct an annual evaluation of their public participation. The OTO Board of Directors adopted a plan in 2017 that indicated it would be evaluated annually. This report is for the year 2018. He reviewed the performance measures that the OTO had adopted and outlined the changes for 2019. The full report may be viewed on the OTO's website.

This information was provided for informational purposes only; no action of the Committee was required.

G. Transportation Impact Study Guidelines

Andy Thomason briefly drew the Committee's attention to the information provided in the agenda packet. He stated he would review the work of the Subcommittee in the developing the proposed guidelines. He briefly outlined the history of this project and noted it began with questions of how to interpret the traffic impact studies. He added there was a determination that the OTO needed a framework that all the communities could support and use in developing traffic impact studies that could be used by consultants and developers.

Mr. Thomason noted that Spack Consulting from Minnesota was hired to work with the OTO to develop this study. He noted the Subcommittee reviewed the proposal submitted by Spack and began to review and refine it. Then the Subcommittee asked for feedback from Traffic Engineers in the area.

Mr. Thomason stated based on this input, there were additional changes made and what was distributed to the Technical Planning Committee is the final proposed version of that policy. Mr. Thomason reviewed the four tiers of the proposed policy and the intent of each. He said this final version is somewhat expanded and is a transportation impact study as opposed to a traffic impact study. He stated the proposed would be adopted by the guidelines, and the communities would be free to adopt as policy or make any changes they deemed appropriate.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Miller moved the Technical Committee recommend approval of the Transportation Impact Study Guidelines with the provision of staff addressing the issue of exactly 50 housing units, to the Board of Directors. Mr. Pruitt seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

H. Additional Federal Funding

Sara Fields stated that an additional \$1.6 million has been made available to the OTO area for FY 2019. Ms. Fields briefly reviewed the amount received the last fiscal year and the determination of where to invest that money.

Ms. Fields said staff is proposing to use this money specifically to invest in trails in the OTO area. She noted that this is something that citizens continually indicate a desire to see more of and is

something that the Chamber indicates those considering moving to the area desire to have as an amenity.

Ms. Fields outlined other options that the funding could be used toward. Ms. Fields noted that with the local match, the total would be \$2 million.

Ms. Kromery noted that she would suggest the monies be used toward the OTO Regional Trail Plan. She added that she believed it was time to stop spending monies for plans that “sit on shelves because there is no dedicated funding.” She noted she is concerned that the communities in this area are going to be behind in providing amenities the citizens want if we don’t begin funding quality of life amenities. She said she believes this money needs to be used strategically so it will have the most impact. Ms. Fields and Ms. Kromery shared some information regarding the trail system in Northwest Arkansas and the economic impact these trails have had on the region.

Following a brief discussion on the minimum and maximum amounts that should be awarded for the projects, Mr. Juranas moved this issue be postponed to the next meeting of the Technical Planning Committee. Mr. Coltrin seconded the motion and it was approved with Ms. Kromery abstaining.

I. BUILD Grant TIP Certifications

Ms. Fields stated the BUILD Grants are due July 15, 2019. She added that as the OTO is a part of the Springfield urbanized area, the minimum award size is \$5 million, except the City of Willard, which has a minimum award of \$1 million. The maximum amount of the award is \$25 million, with \$90 million being the maximum per State. The maximum amount from the federal funds will be 80% of the project, with a 20% local match required. Ms. Fields noted the monies must be obligated by October 2021.

Ms. Fields stated that she had requested letters from communities that would be applying for these grants and received one from Ozark and one from Republic. Ms. Fields stated that Republic is desiring to build a pedestrian overpass on Highway 60 in the vicinity of Hines Street. It is believed this project will assist in the safety of children on their way to school and yet not create additional congestion and safety issues on Highway 60.

Mr. Parsons outlined the proposal that the City of Ozark is considering, which is an additional interchange at Longview and Highway 65. He added this project will add multi-modal access from Highway NN, which is in eastern Ozark, to Main Street in Nixa. Mr. Parsons said the intent is to apply for the BUILD grant next year.

Mr. Pruitt moved to recommend approval of the BUILD grant certifications for Republic and Ozark to the Board of Directors. Mr. Juranas seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

J. MoDOT STIP Development Update

Frank Miller provided an update on the status of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). He briefly highlighted some of the projects that have been included, but noted that this is not final and is subject to change.

This information was provided for informational purposes only; no action of the Committee was required.

III. Other Business:

A. Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements

Andy Thomason announced that he had attended a meeting on May 15 and the dates for the final buildout of Highway 65 will be August 13, 2019 to September 19, 2019. He noted it should be back open for the Labor Day holiday.

Mr. Miller announced that MoDOT plans to replace Mr. Koestner hopefully by July. He added they will be opening the process nationwide. Until the replacement is found, Scott Bachman will be serving as the Southwest District Engineer.

Mr. Miller announced that MoDOT had just announced some additional monies to be used for Cost Share projects. It is anticipated there may be a call for projects in June.

Ms. Kromery announced the Ozarks Greenways would be hosting a Regional Trail luncheon on May 23, 2019. She added if anyone had not responded but wished to attend, please let her know today.

B. Transportation Issues for Technical Planning Committee Member Review

There were no issues raised.

C. Articles for Technical Planning Committee Member Information

Chair O'Connor noted there had been several articles distributed in the agenda packet and encouraged the members of the Committee to review them as they had time.

IV. Adjournment

With no additional business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:02 p.m.