OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 17, 2017

The Technical Planning Committee of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time of 1:30 p.m. in the OTO Conference Room.

The following members were present:

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| Mr. Rick Artman, Greene County  Mr. David Brock, City of Republic  Mr. Eric Claussen, City of Springfield (a)  Mr. King Coltrin, City of Strafford  Mr. Adam Humphrey, Greene County  Mr. Kirk Juranas, City of Springfield (Co-Chair)  Mr. Joel Keller, Greene County (a)  Mr. Frank Miller, MoDOT | Mr. David O’Connor, City of Willard (a)  Mr. Jeff Roussell, City of Nixa  Mr. Andrew Seiler, MoDOT  Mr. Terry Whaley, Ozark Greenways  Mr. Todd Wiesehan, Christian County |

1. *Denotes alternate given voting privileges as a substitute when voting member not present*

The following members were not present:

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| Mr. Mokhtee Ahmad, FTA Representative  Ms. Kristy Bork, Springfield/Branson Airport (a)  Mr. Justin Coyan, Springfield Chamber of Commerce  Mr. Rick Emling, R-12 School District (a)  Ms. Dawn Gardner, City of Springfield (a)  Ms. Rachael Garrett, City of Republic (a)  Mr. Martin Gugel, City of Springfield (Co-Chair)  Mr. Nicholas Konen, BNSF  Mr. Bradley McMahon, FHWA  Mr. Kent Morris, Greene County Planning | Mr. Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark (a)  Mr. Jason Ray, SMCOG  Mr. David Schaumburg, Springfield/Branson Airport  Mr. Mark Schenkelberg, FAA Representative  Mr. Frank Schoneboom, City of Battlefield  Mr. Jeremiah Shuler, FTA Representative (a)  Ms. Mary Lilly Smith, City of Springfield  Mr. Kelly Turner, City Utilities Transit  Ms. Eva Voss, MoDOT  Ms. Janette Vomund, MoDOT |

Others present were: Mr. Travis Cossey, City of Nixa; Mr. Dan Waddlington, Senator Roy Blunt’s Office; Mr. Jeremy Pruett, Congressman Billy Long’s Office; Mr. Keith Ray Mackie, Senator Bob Dixon’s Office; Mr. Garrett Tyson, City of Republic; Ms. Brenda Cirtin, Mr. Dave Faucett, Ms. Sara Fields, and Ms. Natasha Longpine, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

Mr. King Coltrin, Technical Planning Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at approximately 1:33 pm.

* 1. **Administration**

1. **Introductions**
2. **Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda**

Mr. Humphrey moved approval of the May 17, 2017 Technical Planning Committee agenda. Mr. Juranas seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

1. **Approval of the March 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Brock moved approval of the minutes of the March 15, 2017 Technical Committee Meeting. Mr. Artman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

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

Sara Fields stated there were no public comments received since the last meeting. There were no speakers present to address the Committee.

1. **Staff Report**

Sara Fields reminded the Committee that the trail study is underway and the website to make comments or see what others are saying is [www.ototrailstudy.com](http://www.ototrailstudy.com). She said it is anticipated to be completed in August with a prioritized list, which is what the vendor is currently working on.

Ms. Fields said the MoDOT prioritization for projects has been moved up this year, so staff will begin working on that in July. The first step is approving the updated priority projects of regional significance, which is on the agenda, and would be discussed later. Ms. Fields added that staff anticipates having the list for the September TPC and the October Board meetings. She added that staff is working to find a better way to determine capacities specific to the roadway. She stated that requests for price quotes from the MoDOT on-call list for any consultants interested in determining capacities for specific roads, had been sent. She said she hopes this can be done by the time the meetings to set priorities begin in mid to late July.

Ms. Fields announced the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration are coming to Springfield for a planning certification review. She added this is done every four years and they will be here June 13 – 15, 2017. She said they would be attending the Board of Directors meeting on the 15th to provide their report. In the past, the OTO has done very well in these reviews and she does not anticipate that will change.

Ms. Fields stated the new budget for the remainder of 2017 funds transportation at the FAST Act level. This is the first time this has occurred and is an encouraging indication for the future.

Ms. Fields announced that Andy Thomason will be out of the office for the next two weeks due to the birth of his new baby girl.

Ms. Fields announced that staff has worked on the Community Focus Report, which can be found on the Greene County Library’s website, and is a call to action for our community on several issues. She said the OTO had focused on transportation issues for all segments of our community.

Ms. Fields stated the Missouri Public Transit Association (MPTA) Conference will be in Springfield August 6 – 8, 2017. She indicated there will be a one-half day workshop around the Springfield Transit Center on how to better develop uses that are conducive to transit centers. She indicated there is a special link for one-half day registration and she will send the link to the Committee in the event anyone is interested in attending.

1. **MoDOT Update**

Frank Miller stated MoDOT has been compiling the information regarding the storm damage from a few weeks ago. He said if the jurisdictions have any information, MoDOT would be very interested in receiving that. He said any damage that is on the Federal Aid System would go through the Federal Highway Emergency Relief program. He added if it is not on the Federal Aid program it will go through the State Emergency Management. He said MoDOT would be performing some outreach to obtain this information and pull it all together.

Mr. Miller said in the Southwest District, eighteen of the twenty-one counties had damage reports. This resulted in approximately $668,000 in damage from erosion and road damage. He indicated that the Southeast District lost entire bridges and sustained more damage than our District.

Mr. Miller reminded the Committee that the cost-share program has opened once again. He noted if they are applying to participate in the program, a rough draft of the application must be ready by June 1. He noted that once all the applications are received, each District would be allowed to submit two to the cost-share committee.

1. **Legislative Reports**

Dan Waddlington stated Senator Blunt’s office is concerned that Missouri has not received a federal disaster designation. He indicated this appears to be taking longer than it has in the past, but Senator Blunt’s office is continuing to work on getting that declaration.

Jeremy Pruitt stated that while Representative Long is a huge proponent of infrastructure, it appears the next big issue that will be dealt with is tax reform. He indicated that Representative Long believes tax reform will be a much larger undertaking than health care and is not sure when infrastructure will be considered.

1. **New Business**
   1. Draft FY 2018-2022 STIP

Sara Fields stated the draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) has been released for public comment, and the Highway Commission will be voting on this document at their June 29, 2017, meeting. She added the OTO is very excited about this draft, as it includes several of the recommendations that staff submitted. Ms. Fields reviewed the projects that had been included in this draft and stated staff recommends that the draft STIP be endorsed as it included many of the recommendations that were made by the OTO.

Mr. O’Connor moved the Technical Committee endorse the Draft FY 2018-2022 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Mr. Juranas seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. Updated Priority Projects of Regional Significance

Sara Fields stated the OTO has maintained the Projects of Regional Significance List/Map for several years and have concentrated on the corridors, until last year when other projects were added. Ms. Fields stated she had met with the members to ascertain what the priorities should be for this year. She noted that in addition to the projects added last year, there have been additional projects added, which fall into two categories – capacity and operational. Ms. Fields reviewed the projects to be added to the Map.

Mr. Wiesehan moved to approve the Priority Projects of Regional Significance List/Map as presented. Mr. Humphrey’s seconded the motion. Mr. Miller stated he would like the Committee to add East Sunshine to the list. Ms. Fields said Mr. Miller had mentioned this to her prior to the meeting, however, East Sunshine did not come up on the Congestion Management process, which is why it was not included. She added that there is nothing to prohibit the Committee from adding this project, if they wish.

Mr. Miller stated that MoDOT has been discussing this internally, but at this time, have no plans for this area. They just believe it should be added to this list. Mr. Miller clarified that the portion that MoDOT has been discussing is East Sunshine from Glenstone to Hwy 65. Mr. Wiesehan withdrew his motion and Mr. Humphrey’s withdrew his second. Mr. Juranas moved to amend the Priority Projects of Regional Significance by adding East Sunshine, from Glenstone to Hwy 65. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Juranas moved to recommend approval of the Priority Projects of Regional Significance List/Map, as amended, to the Board of Directors. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. Amendment Number Five to *Transportation Plan 2040*

Natasha Longpine stated that this year’s STIP contains revised funding projections from MoDOT. She added the projections add a significant amount of funding that staff believe warrants revising the Long Range Transportation Plan. She noted that adding the additional funding to the plan, will allow for more projects being added to the constrained project list. She said the amount added through 2040 is about $215 million.

Mr. Juranas moved the Technical Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Directors approval of Amendment Number Five to the Transportation Plan 2040. Mr. Humphreys seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. Amendment Number Six to *Transportation Plan 2040*

Natasha Longpine stated with the extra money that had been included in Amendment Number 5, MoDOT is requesting that the expansion of I-44 and the other projects on the unconstrained list be moved to the constrained list. Ms. Longpine reviewed the various projects that had been moved and discussed where they were to be placed on the list.

Frank Miller noted that MoDOT does not believe that I-44 will be part of a statewide project for St. Louis or Springfield. He stated if there is a statewide effort to improve I-44, Springfield and St. Louis would be expected to finance their portion of the project. He added that there is nothing on the horizon at this time.

Mr. Miller provided additional information regarding traffic counts as an explanation as to why MoDOT was requesting this addition. Following some additional discussion, Mr. Juranas asked Ms. Fields to explain the constrained and unconstrained project lists for the Committee. Ms. Fields stated the law requires there be a constrained list, and only the projects on the constrained list can be part of the TIP. She stated that only as many projects as there is money for can be placed on the constrained list. The OTO has also had a secondary list, entitled “unconstrained,” to list every project that cannot be funded. This assists in identifying the unfunded needs in the OTO area. I-44 was on the unconstrained list, along with several other needs, some of which are being proposed to move to the constrained list, due to the receipt of additional funding projections. Ms. Fields stated there are a lot of needs, and the I-44 project will most likely consume over $200 million.

Mr. Juranas moved to recommend to the Board of Directors approval of Amendment Number six to the *Transportation Plan 2040*. Mr. Artman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. Amendment Number Seven to *Transportation Plan 2040*

Natasha Longpine stated the City of Springfield had requested to change the Major Thoroughfare Plan by changing Grant Avenue from Grand to Norton to a secondary arterial.

Mr. Claussen added that this is being requested for economic development issues. The lots along Grant are being developed, but with the required setback from the centerline, it makes some of the lots unbuildable, especially in the older sections of the City. This change will require less right-of-way and will assist in new development. Mr. Claussen stated that Grant currently functions more as a secondary arterial.

Mr. Whaley moved to recommend to the Board of Directors approval of Amendment Number Seven to the *Transportation Plan 2040*. Mr. O’Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. Amendment Number Six to the FY 2017-2020 TIP

Natasha Longpine stated Greene County had requested this amendment, which the OTO believes fits two needs. The first is that MoDOT wants the Regionally Significant Projects included in the TIP, even if they don’t use federal funding. The second is Greene County is finalizing the environmental work on this section and MoDOT is wanting to ensure that future activity is planned for this east/west corridor. Ms. Longpine referenced the revised handout that had been distributed to the Committee at the meeting. She stated this handout shows the remaining amount of consultant funds for the environmental work for 2017 and adding additional monies for right-of-way funding, should the opportunity arise to acquire additional right-of-way along the corridor.

Mr. Humphrey added that Greene County was attempting to complete the environmental assessment for the portion of the future corridor so that the County could determine that the proposed alignment was feasible. He stated that while submitting this to MoDOT and attempting to obtain the approval from the Federal Highway Administration, they did not want to review the environmental assessment if there was no evidence of a financial commitment to continuing the project. He stated the reason for this amendment is to demonstrate that the County is committing local funding for continuing the project. He said the next step for Greene County would be to obtain right-of-way to protect the corridor alignment.

Mr. Juranas moved to recommend to the Board of Directors approval of Amendment Number six to the FY 2017-2020 TIP. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. Administrative Modification Number Two to the FY 2017-2020 TIP

Natasha Longpine stated the modifications listed in this document have been administratively approved by staff. Ms. Longpine reviewed for the Committee the five modifications that had been approved. She added there is no action requested for this item; it is for informational purposes only.

* 1. Federal Funds Balance Report

Natasha Longpine stated this report is similar to the report that staff has been providing the Committee semi-annually. Ms. Longpine said the OTO is getting close to the limit MoDOT imposes on three-year accrual. She added that if a balance greater than three years accrues, funds will lapse. Ms. Longpine stated no action was required on this item, however, she requested each jurisdiction review the report that had been distributed to the Committee and let staff know of any questions or concerns.

* 1. OTO 2017 Public Participation Plan

David Faucett reviewed the Draft 2017 Public Participation Plan that was distributed in the meeting packet. He stated that MPOs are required to maintain a public participation plan so that citizens may comment on proposed plans and other related transportation issues. The original plan was created in 2009, and has been updated on more than one occasion. He briefly outlined some of the changes to the plan and noted these were in the Summary of Updates that was distributed to the Committee.

Following a brief review of the proposed, Mr. Whaley moved to recommend approval of the Draft 2017 Public Participation Plan to the Board of Directors. Mr. Artman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. FY 2018 DBE Program Goal

Sara Fields stated the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), had a program designed to assist small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, including minorities and women. This program is the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program, and also assists small non-minority owned businesses in participating in contracting opportunities.

The OTO reviews the DBE goals annually to ensure compliance with federal regulations. Based on the relative availability of DBEs in our area, the proposed goal is zero. Ms. Fields clarified this goal is only for OTO operations and does not impact the goals for MoDOT, or the other member entities.

Mr. Juranas moved the Technical Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Directors approval of the proposed annual DBE Goal. Mr. Artman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

* 1. Administrative Modification Number 1 to the FY 2017 UPWP

Sara Fields stated the OTO is currently in the 2017 budget, which will end on June 30, 2017. She noted staff had estimated the work that MoDOT would perform that could be billed to the federal grant was $89,500. She added the direct cost that MoDOT staff has incurred for our area is $115,000. She said that the contract for the trail plan was decreased from $150,000 to $124,499 as it will not be completed by June 30, 2017. These changes will allow for the budget to balance. She reiterated this does not change the contract for the trail study, it simply reduces the amount that will be paid out of this fiscal year.

Ms. Fields stated this was for informational purposes only and no action was required by the Committee.

* 1. Administrative Modification Number 1 to the FY 2018 UPWP

Sara Fields stated the OTO is required to prepare a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which includes plans and programs the MPO will undertake for the fiscal year. At the request of the Federal Highway Administration, the OTO is proposing Administrative Modification Number One to the FY 2018 UPWP. This fiscal year begins July 1, 2017 and runs through June 30, 2018.

This change more accurately reflects the percentages of federal and local funds after in-kind expenses (member meeting attendance) and MoDOT direct costs (local staff time) are accounted for.

The funding tables for many of the tasks were modified from an 80% federal and 20% local, to an 88.6% federal and 11.4% local

Ms. Fields stated this was for informational purposes only and no action was required by the Committee.

1. **Other Business**
   1. **Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements**

David Brock stated Garrett Tyson, Community Development Director, would be taking over the primary responsibility for representation on the Technical Planning Committee.

Terry Whaley stated that on June 2, 2016, Ozarks Greenways announced a capital campaign with a goal of $850,000. He stated that goal had been surpassed and the Greenways is building the projects stipulated in the campaign. He stated he wanted to highlight the Trail of Honor project, which will cross the Missouri Veteran’s Cemetery located by Lake Springfield. He stated the dedication for this Trail will be October 12, 2017. He added that he believes this is the first time a public trail has crossed a national veteran’s cemetery anywhere in the United States.

Mr. Keith Ray Mackie, Senator Bob Dixon’s office, stated it was a rough legislative year. He noted the Senate focused on issues they believed would promote economic development. He noted several items that had been accomplished, including the bill that allowed Uber to operate statewide.

* 1. **Transportation Issues for Technical Planning Committee Member Review**

Frank Miller stated MoDOT has been scoping Route 60 East of Springfield for quite a while. He stated that following the recent flooding, they had received several calls regarding raising the road, and they will now be reviewing numerous options.

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

Chair Coltrin stated articles had been provided in the packet for the Committee’s review and encouraged them to read them when they had an opportunity.

**Adjournment**

With no additional business to come before the Committee, Mr. Whaley moved the meeting be adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m. Mr. Humphrey seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.