OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2016

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 HighwayMr. David Brock, City of RepublicMr. Randall Brown, City of Willard Mr. King Coltrin, City of Strafford (Vice-Chair)Mr. Travis Cossey, City of NixaMs. Dawne Gardner, City of Springfield (a)Mr. Martin Gugel, City of SpringfieldMr. Adam Humphrey, Greene County Mr. Kirk Juranas, City of SpringfieldMr. Joel Keller, Greene County Hwy Dept. (a) | Mr. Brad McMahon, FHWAMr. Frank Miller, MoDOTMr. Jason Ray, SMCOGMr. Shawn Schroeder, Springfield-Branson National AirportMr. Andrew Seiler, MoDOTMr. Kelly Turner, City Utilities TransitMs. Eva Voss, MoDOTMr. 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 RepresentativeMr. David Bishop, R-12 School DistrictMr. Justin Coyan, Springfield Chamber of CommerceMr. Tom Johnson, Missouri State UniversityMr. Nicholas Konen, BNSFMr. Larry Martin, City of Ozark (Chair) | Mr. Kent Morris, Greene County PlanningMr. Mark Schenkelberg, FAA RepresentativeMr. Jeremiah Shuler, FTA RepresentativeMs. Mary Lilly Smith, City of SpringfieldMs. Janette Vomund, MoDOT Mr. Terry Whaley, Ozark Greenways |

Others present were: Ms. Joelle Cannon and Mr. Charles Smythe, Senator Roy Blunt’s Office; Mr. David O’Connor, City of Willard; Ms. Karen Miller and Mr. Andy Mueller, MoDOT; Mr. Carl Carlson, Olsson Associates; Mr. Joshua Boley, Ms. Sara Fields, Ms. Natasha Longpine, Ms. Debbie Parks, and Mr. Mark Scott, Ozarks Transportation Organization; Mr. Brandon Jenson, SMCOG.

Mr. King Coltrin, Technical Planning Committee Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm.

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

Mr. Cossey made the motion to approve the Technical Planning Committee meeting agenda. Mr. Brown seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

1. **Approval of the May 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Juranas made the motion to approve the May 18, 2016 meeting minutes. Mr. Cossey seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

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

None.

1. **Staff Report**

Ms. Fields stated that the Missouri Highway Commission would be in town August 3. There is no confirmed time yet, but it will be emailed out when it is known. Matt Morrow, President of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, will be presenting this year. He will highlight the Cost Share Program and how the region would like to see it restored, as well as how freight movement and economic development have been enhanced by the partnerships through the Cost Share Program. He will focus on some of the big freight projects at the presentation.

The OTO has some new staff members. Mark Scott is a student at Missouri State University and is with us for the summer. Andy Thomason is the new OTO planner and started in June. He is handling the Local Coordinating Board for Transit and Traffic Incident Management. He will also be handling the Transportation Alternative Program Committee and applications as well as the Congestion Management Committee.

Ms. Fields let the Technical Planning Committee know she would be out on vacation from July 25 through July 29. Ms. Longpine will be available for technical questions and Ms. Parks for administrative questions.

Staff continues to work on the Performance Measures. In addition, staff is working on the Congestion Management Process, extracting data from the travel time Wi-Fi units that are in place. Hopefully, there will be more information in the upcoming months on what congestions looks like in 2015 and 2016.

1. **MoDOT Update**

Ms. Karen Miller introduced herself. She stated her background is Performance Management, so helping MoDOT, as well as the MPO’s, to implement the new requirements for the performance based planning and programming required by MAP-21/FAST Act. She stated that OTO is very well positioned to meet the new requirements, now that the rules are out in terms of what is going to be a requirement. MoDOT has safety and planning done so far. MoDOT is developing an implementation plan of what is required of the state DOT and also what is required of the MPO: how will it impact the MTP, the TIP, and the due dates. That is what MoDOT is currently working on and will be sharing that with the MPO staff.

1. **Legislative Reports**

Ms. Cannon stated that Congress is on vacation until the beginning of September. Senator Blunt is traveling around the state right now. There is not much on the legislative front.

1. **New Business**
2. **Transportation Plan 2040 Final Draft**

Ms. Longpine stated that there should have been a copy of *Transportation Plan 2040* with the agenda. She thanked everyone who has been involved in the process. Hopefully nothing is new or a surprise. This started back in 2013, when the OTO updated the Travel Demand Model. There were meetings to look at the results of the Travel Demand Model and then the Major Thoroughfare Plan was updated. There were committee meetings and staff met with each jurisdiction. Each jurisdiction has gone out to their communities as well. There was a major public input process last March on the draft preparation. There was another big public input process this March. All of this has been compiled into the draft plan for recommendation to the Board of Directors in August. She presented the *Transportation Plan 2040* summary.

Mr. McMahon inquired about the Southwest Advisory Committee taking a look at freight to maybe establish a freight corridor as well as analysis of local goods and movement in year three. He asked if this would become the Freight Study for the Springfield Metropolitan Planning Area. Ms. Longpine stated the committee would look at that and see what information was available. The problem with freight data is that the OTO gets lumped into the rest of Missouri. Staff will have to wait and see what kind of detail can be obtained for a freight study. Mr. McMahon stated that maybe it could lead to it.

Ms. Longpine stated that FTA and FHWA reviewed an earlier version of the draft. The comments have been incorporated into this draft. Mr. McMahon stated the point was well made that ONEDOT had looked at it and had an opportunity to review it and comment along with MoDOT and FTA. A lot of the comments are questions and suggestions, and OTO has the ability to say yes or no to the suggestions. He said Ms. Longpine is referring to that process. When ONEDOT makes comments it does not necessarily mean that it will get implemented, and it does not have to in most cases. Ms. Longpine stated that unlike the other documents that go up for approval of the Governor and ONEDOT, the Board of Directors is the final approval for the Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. McMahon stated that is a good point, that ONEDOT does not approve the plan.

Mr. Juranas asked since there was a discussion on freight, was there any more information on BNSF moving the hub of operations out of Springfield, MO to Kansas. Ms. Longpine stated that staff had not heard anything more on the topic. Mr. Juranas stated that BNSF was reorganizing.

Mr. Brock made the motion to recommend approval of *Transportation Plan 2040* to the Board of Directors. Mr. Gugel seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

1. **Draft FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program**

Ms. Longpine presented the Draft FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program, outlining the development process and highlighting funding for projects.

Ms. Longpine stated that there is Beyond ADA funding for the City Utilities portion of the Elderly and Disable funding for Human Services Vehicles. There are also some new buses. Mr. Turner stated that there were two paratransit buses and one fixed route bus.

Mr. Miller stated that the MPO Planning Process Certification is included in the TIP. He inquired if the Board of Directors will approve it with the TIP or separate it out? Ms. Longpine stated that the Board of Directors approves it as a separate item. Mr. McMahon stated it is just housed here in the document. When the ONEDOT approval comes it is called out as a separate approval item.

Mr. Brock questioned the Intersection Cost Share projects. Looking at the spring and summer, the projects are shown as a single project and would be examined in more detail and programmed specifically for location as time goes on. Ms. Longpine replied that there are two projects in there. One is identified as 2018 and the second is 2020 for the intersection improvements. As scoping is finished, and the cost estimates are finalized for each project and year, TIP amendments will be brought later this fall or winter. The OTO only programmed $7 million available for STP-Urban. OTO will be partnering with MoDOT once some of the projects are finalized and that STP-Urban will be used. Mr. McMahon replied the projects will just be added.

Ms. Longpine stated that there are comments from FHWA and the OTO has not received comments from FTA at this time. If additional comments are received, those will be incorporated and shared with the Board of Directors as well.

Mr. Juranas made the motion to recommend approval of the FY 2017-2020 TIP to the Board of Directors. Mr. Artman seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

1. **Reasonable Progress Extension**

Ms. Longpine stated that the latest round of Transportation Alternative Program funding had a reasonable progress monitoring policy implemented. At this point there has been one extension for the Willard Schools Sidewalk project. Willard Schools has already obligated the funding, so it is ahead of the proposed schedule.

There are two additional requests to extend funding. Staff has been assured that the other TAP projects are on schedule to be obligated by the September 30 deadline before moving into the new TIP. The first extension request is from the City of Republic. The City’s time line is about five months behind schedule. Mr. Brock stated that the schedule is currently two months off to secure right-of-way and if there are any complications. The City has an acquisition from the school district and there is a formal process to declare the property surplus and then transfer it. The City is only running two months behind schedule, but there is only one request that can be sent in, so it is padded in case there are any other problems before acquisition and construction. Ms. Longpine stated that the second request is from the City of Springfield. This request puts the City eleven months behind schedule and it was from right-of-way issues as well. Mr. Juranas inquired if it was Mt. Vernon since it does not say which project. Ms. Longpine stated it was Grant and College Street.

Mr. Gugel made the motion to recommend approval of the Reasonable Progress Extension. Mr. Turner seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

1. **Discussion of Intersection Cost Share Projects**

Ms. Fields stated that MoDOT agreed to put in two rounds of intersection cost shares in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. There has been a little bit of shifting as far as the projects being 2018 or 2020. Everyone should be aware of those changes.

The City of Springfield’s projects went to 2020, due to some additional information. One of the City of Ozark projects also moved. It is part of a five-lane project scheduled for Business Route 65 in 2019 and will be done in conjunction with that project. Included in the agenda is a list of projects with the proposed years, after MoDOT took time looking at the schedule. The cost estimates have not been updated from what were originally given. There should be updated cost estimates in the next couple of weeks before the applications are sent out. The plan is that applications will be available August 1 and due August 29. Revised estimates will be sent out. The application will ask for name, contact information, if federal or local funds will be used, and also if work has been done in the past that will be credited. The jurisdiction will have to agree to the federal terms and that there has not been any federal law violated in acquiring right-of-way. The jurisdiction will agree to the environmental processes and understand that it is going to look like the standard cost share agreement.

The Cost Share Applications have said that if there are any overages it will not be split fifty/fifty; it will be the jurisdiction’s responsibility. Staff is trying to get good estimates going into this. The plan is that the applications will be due August 29, 2016 and then MoDOT is going to work on the program agreements for this fall. Those have to be in place before a TIP Amendment will go in the November/December Technical Planning Committee and Board of Directors cycle. The Governor will approve it in December or January and everyone can proceed.

Mr. McMahon asked who will ultimately be the project sponsor. Ms. Fields stated that MoDOT is the sponsor. That should be true on ninety percent of the projects. The details have not been worked out yet. Mr. Miller stated that the LPA might be leading in design, but MoDOT would be letting all the projects. Mr. McMahon asked if the total of the fifty percent column was the total that MoDOT is going to make available in the cost share. Mr. Miller stated that it was. Mr. McMahon inquired if everyone came with an application and the application was accepted then these projects would become reality on the cost share. Ms. Fields stated that staff is not expecting to have to make choices, and that all of the projects should be funded.

1. **Missouri Moves Cost Share Applications**

Ms. Fields stated that hopefully everyone was aware that the general assembly authorized $20 million for a Cost Share program for FY 2017. MoDOT released an application for that $20 million and it is due July 29. The application is heavily weighed for safety, toward being on the state system and for having up to 70 percent match. There are more points for non-federal match and the more ready the project, the more points.

The expectation is that there will be about six or seven projects from the OTO area. The applications that are expected are for buses for City Utilities Transit, one from the Airport for a Transient Hangar (a temporary parking lot inside for aircrafts that do not have a hangar onsite, for protection from the weather). There are sidewalks proposed from the City of Nixa, to go along with the widening project of Highway 14 from U.S. 160 west to Nicholas, or Highway M. There are sidewalks proposed by the City of Ozark for Business Route 65 for the widening project to go along with that. The City of Springfield is proposing funding for the Jefferson Avenue Foot Bridge on Commercial Street over the railroad. There is also a trail connection on Grand Street. Staff is waiting to hear from Missouri State University, if there will be an application on that project.

Exclusive of MSU’s application, that puts the total requested at $2.5 million. The limit for the Southwest District as a whole is $5 million. The limit is $7 million in multi-modal for the state as a whole. The deadline is July 29 for the application to be submitted, however, staff is requesting the applications by tomorrow to prepare the letter of support. The OTO staff is coordinating for everyone with MoDOT to get the support letters.

Everything in the region is multimodal. This is the first time multimodal has been an option. Mr. McMahon asked if the statewide multimodal $7 million has been allocated down to the Southwest. Ms. Fields said it was not allocated down.

Ms. Fields stated that she was asking for feedback from the Technical Planning Committee since there was not time for this to go to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Juranas made the motion to endorse the Missouri Moves Applications from the OTO area. Mr. Cossey seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Ray announced that Diane May, the SMCOG Executive Director, would be retiring on August 1. There will be a dessert reception at Civil and Tap on Wednesday, July 27. Ms. Fields stated that she would send it out to everyone.

Mr. Turner stated that the Missouri Public Transit Association made the decision to have the 2017 Annual Meeting in Springfield. The dates are August 6-8, 2017. Mr. Coltrin asked how many people would be coming. Mr. Turner stated around two hundred.

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

None.

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

Mr. Gugel made the motion to adjourn at 2:30 p.m. Mr. Juranas seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.