OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION

TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2012

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:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mr. David Brock, City of Republic | Mr. Bill Robinett, MoDOT |
| Mr. Don Clark, Missouri State University | Mr. Ralph Rognstad, City of Springfield |
| Mr. King Coltrin, City of Strafford | Ms. Shelia Schmitt, City Utilities |
| Mr. Jonathan Gano, City of Springfield | Mr. Shawn Schroeder, SGF |
| Mr. Nick Heatherly, City of Willard | Mr. Andrew Seiler, MoDOT |
| Mr. Rick Hess, City of Battlefield | Mr. Dan Smith, Greene County Highway Dept. |
| Mr. Larry Martin, City of Ozark | Ms. Eva Voss, MoDOT |
| Mr. Frank Miller, MoDOT | Mr. Dan Watts, SMCOG |
| Mr. Duffy Mooney, Greene County Hwy. | Mr. Todd Wiesehan, Christian County (Chair) |

1. *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. Joel Keller, Greene County Hwy Dept. (a) |
| Mr. Rick Artman, Greene County Hwy (a) | Mr. Kevin Lambeth, City of Battlefield (a) |
| Mr. David Bishop, R-12 School District | Mr. Brad McMahon, FHWA |
| Mr. Randall Brown, City of Willard (a) | Mr. Ryan Mooney, Springfield Chamber |
| Mr. Travis Cossey, City of Nixa | Mr. Kent Morris, Greene County Planning Dept. |
| Ms. Hollie Elliott, Springfield Chamber | Mr. Troy Pinkerton, MoDOT (a) |
| Mr. Rick Emling, R-12 School District (a) | Mr. Mark Roy, Springfield-Branson Airport (a) |
| Ms. Diane Gallion, City Utilities (a) | Ms. Beth Schaller, MoDOT (a) |
| Ms. Dawne Gardner, City of Springfield (a) | Mr. Mark Schenkelberg, FAA Representative |
| Mr. Martin Gugel, City of Springfield (a) | Ms. Cheryl Townlian, BNSF |
| Mr. Jason Haynes, City of Springfield (a) | Mr. Garrett Tyson, City of Republic (a) |
| Mr. Jay Huff, Missouri State University (a) | Mr. Terry Whaley, Ozark Greenways |
| Mr. Kirk Juranas, City of Springfield | Mr. Bob Wilslef, City of Ozark (a) |

Others present were: Ms. Sara Edwards, Ms. Natasha Longpine, and Mr. Curtis Owens, Ozarks Transportation Organization; Ms. Stacy Burks, Senator Roy Blunt’s Office; Mr. David Rauch, Senator Claire McCaskill’s Office; Mr. Matt Morris, Missouri State University

Mr. Wiesehan called the September 19, 2012 Technical Planning Committee meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

## Administration

# Introductions

Introductions were made of those in attendance.

# Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

No changes needed to be made to the agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Heatherly and seconded by Mr. Hess. The motion passed unanimously.

# Approval of the July 18, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Rognstad made the motion to approve the July 18, 2012 meeting minutes. Mr. Martin seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

# Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items

# None.

# Executive Director’s Report

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission held its September meeting at the Springfield-Branson National Airport. Greg Burris gave a presentation thanking them for projects in the region. He informed them of local partnerships to get more projects done. He was able to share a statistic that was newly calculated, that 79 percent of STP-Urban funds in the OTO had been spent on MoDOT roadways.

Ms. Fields highlighted the MoDOT Citizen Report Card, a summary of which was handed out to attendees. The overall satisfaction rate is 85 percent, which ties a previous record, set in 2009.

OTO has hired CJW to conduct travel time runs in October for OTO roadways to incorporate into the congestion management process. Staff will use this information to analyze improvements in travel times in conjunction with roadway projects and other strategies as outlined in the CMP.

Staff continues to work on the travel demand model. The Census has delayed the release of the Census Transportation Planning Package from December to spring or early summer. OTO is still working on the RFP, however, and will work to be ready for the release of that data.

OTO will have a new staff member soon, replacing the GIS Specialist with a Multimedia Coordinator. This position will help OTO work with the public, as well as maintain the website and social media feeds.

Staff continues to monitor MAP-21, as more information continues to be released. The Board of Directors approved the transfer of the rideshare program to Springfield Environmental Services. The Board also approved the Transportation Improvement Program and once that is through the Governor’s office, it will go on to FHWA for approval. Work continues on the e-TIP and staff should have projects entered with the site ready to use before the end of the year.

There are several upcoming web conferences, one on VMT and another on Housing and Transportation for Baby Boomers. Ms. Longpine will send out that information to the TPC.

Ms. Fields then reminded everyone of Carol Cruise’s retirement reception on October 11, the details for which have been e-mailed out.

# Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Report

Ms. Longpine provided an update on activities since the last update was provided to the TPC. The Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee most recently met on September 4th. BPAC has an ongoing project of trail review, seeing what phases are most appropriate and analyzing the costs and challenges associated with each phase. So far, the committee has reviewed Jordan Valley, the Republic Trail System, and the Route 66 Trail in Strafford and connecting to Springfield.

At the September meeting, BPAC also met with City of Springfield staff to discuss the Campbell and James River Freeway corridor and any necessary bicycle accommodations through that corridor. The Bike/Ped plan recommends that parallel routes be used through that corridor. There was additional discussion that will be presented in an input letter for this project.

Ms. Longpine also handed out the FY2012 Bike/Ped Implementation Report. This report highlights the recommendations and priorities included in the Long Range Transportation Plan, as well as presents accomplishments over the past year from throughout the region, categorized by the 5 Es – Engineering, Enforcement, Evaluation, Education, and Encouragement. These included a lot of sidewalk projects, significant work on the Link, a law enforcement training class, and many activities for education and encouragement.

# New Business

1. Amendment Number One to the FY 2013-2016 TIP

Ms. Longpine reviewed Amendment Number One to the TIP. Four projects were included with this amendment, several incorporating cost shares. The Battlefield/65 and Chestnut Railroad Overpass projects were updated to incorporate construction, whereas before they just accounted for engineering. The bridge on US 65 over I-44 was updated to reflect an earmark and the 160 and Hunt Road project in Willard was updated to show that local cost share. Mr. Rognstad made a motion to recommend Amendment Number One to the Board of Directors. Mr. Martin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

1. **Enhancement Subcommittee**

Ms. Longpine provided information on the enhancements program and requested volunteers for the enhancement subcommittee. Information has finally been released for enhancements in FY12 and 13. The process will be more complicated this time as FY12 funding follows SAFETEA-LU and FY13 funding is derived from MAP-21. Staff is recommending that a single solicitation for projects is done and projects be reviewed for which funding category is most appropriate.

The agenda included information on who should be on the Enhancement Subcommittee. Ms. Fields went through the list and volunteers were selected for each member, including: Rick Hess, Todd Wiesehan, Shelia Schmitt, Joel Keller, Don Clark, Frank Miller, Travis Cossey, Larry Martin, Terry Whaley, David Brock, Dawne Gardner, King Coltrin, and Nick Heatherly. This discussion should also serve as a reminder that OTO will be soliciting applications soon. The timeline is to have projects selected by January. This committee will also be reviewing the Safe Routes to School applications and making recommendations.

At the first meeting of the subcommittee, the current application and scoring system will be reviewed. A draft with some changes was made after the last enhancement round. The new draft will include these changes as well as updates for MAP-21. For both years, $1.386 million are available. Ms. Fields pointed out that MoDOT decided to allocate 75 percent of this funding back to the local communities, where MAP-21 allowed them to keep all of it for their own use. The MHTC was thanked for this at their September meeting. Mr. Mooney made a motion to appoint the Enhancement Subcommittee as selected. Mr. Martin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

1. On-System Bridge Subcommittee

The OTO currently has a balance of $801,953 for on-system bridge funding. OTO will be soliciting annual applications for this funding and needs to develop an application and scoring process. There is no requirement as to who can sit on this committee, but it should be an odd number of people. The list of eligible bridges that was included in the agenda is not complete. Once a more complete list is available, staff will e-mail that out. Mr. Miller explained that eligible bridges must be a collector or higher. This program is the counter to off-system bridge funding. A map of the functional classification system is included in the agenda. Volunteers include Duffy Mooney, Kirk Juranas, King Coltrin, Larry Martin, and Todd Wiesehan. Mr. Hess moved to appoint the On-System Bridge Subcommittee. Mr. Heatherly seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

1. Federal Functional Classification Change Application

OTO has taken responsibility for changes through MoDOT and FHWA to the Federal Functional Classification System and is making a formal call for any changes jurisdictions may want to make. This affects bridge funding and how other funding can be used on roadways. The application is included in the agenda and will be posted on website. Staff would like requested changes by October 31. These collective changes will then go through MoDOT and FHWA for approval. Mr. Martin asked if smaller communities had much input. Ms. Fields replied that though they don’t have many roads on the Federal Functional Classification System, they, too, can make changes.

1. STP-Urban Report

Ms. Longpine indicated that included in the agenda is latest report. The current balance is just over $20 million. After accounting for the cost shares, the balance is just over $2 million. MoDOT has a policy whereby only three years of funding may be accrued. The federal government, however, can rescind money at any time. The OTO region is compliant with the MoDOT policy, but the total $20 million balance is available to be rescinded at the federal level. The jurisdictions are asked to review the report for any necessary changes. A page is included for each jurisdiction, as well as bridges and cost shares. Staff is aware that Strafford’s balance does not completely reflect all activity.

## Other Business

# Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements

David Rauch spoke to the sequestration issue. There is a continuing resolution in place for the next 6 months, though this doesn’t account for the funding levels shown in MAP-21. There is no clear information on how sequestration will affect transportation funding. Ms. Longpine explained sequestration. Initially it was thought that it wouldn’t affect transportation funding because of the trust fund, but MAP-21 utilizes general fund transfers to provide additional funding and these could be affected.

###### Transportation Issues for Technical Planning Committee Member Review

None.

1. Articles For Technical Planning Committee Information

Ms. Fields reviewed the articles included in the agenda for member review. There is a Safe Routes to School news release about applications due November 5. Mr. Miller recommended applying for both SRTS and Enhancements. The SRTS funding in FF2012 is still 100 percent, but FY2013 funding is incorporated into the new transportation alternatives program and will likely require match.

There is an article on the new fuel efficiency standards, that by 2025 they will be up to 54.5 mpg.

There is also an article about bankruptcy of the highway trust fund in 2014 and 2015.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

