

**Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 13, 2017**

**Members Present:** Leo Sanders (Crawford), Danny Brown (Crawford Alt.), Rob Cummings (Crawford), Gary Brown (Dent), Ray Walden (Dent), Darrell Skiles (Dent), Ray Schwartz (Maries), David Dudenhoeffer (Osage), Larry Kliethermes (Osage), Larry Stratman (Phelps), Jim White (Phelps), George Lauritson (Pulaski), Larry Helms (Pulaski Alt.), John Casey (Washington), T. R. Dudley (Washington) and Marvin Wright (Washington)

**Members Absent:** Robert Parsons (Dent Alt.), John Kamler (Gasconade), Nathan Schauf (Gasconade), Jerry Larimore (Gasconade), Larry Miskel (Gasconade Alt.), Vicki Bade (Maries), Ron Rowden (Maries), Mark James (Maries), Deb Mehmert (Osage), John Butz (Phelps), John Petersen (Phelps Alt.), Gary Hicks (Phelps Alt.), Randy Verkamp (Phelps Alt.), Cyndra Lorey (Phelps Alt.), Bruce Harrill (Pulaski), Gene Newkirk (Pulaski), Cody Brinley (Washington Alt.), and Mike Riddle (Washington Alt.)

**Guests Present:** Preston Kramer (MoDOT Area Engineer), Kelly Wilson (MoDOT), and Steve Engelbrecht (MoDOT)

**Staff Present:** Anne Freand, Kelly Sink-Blair, Caitlin Jones, and Bonnie Prigge

**Call to Order & Welcome:** Vice-Chairman, David Dudenhoeffer, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**Approval of February 16, 2017 TAC Minutes:** Ray Walden made a motion, seconded by Ray Schwartze to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**MoDOT Cost-Share Program:** Preston Kramer gave a presentation and hand-out on the revamped Cost-Share Program through MoDOT. He noted that it will not be funded at the same levels of previous years, but if anyone is interested they should get in contact with him and he can help them through the application. Project requests cannot exceed 50% of the cost and they will require a letter of support of the region's engineer and MRPC. Major differences from the previous cost-share program include the reduction of funding, economic development projects could possibly be funded up to a 100% but it is dependent on the discretion of the director and has to be tied to the creation of new jobs not in the retail field. Also, MoDOT cannot absorb any risk and any overruns have to be absorbed by the local entity. Preston discussed possible projects with the Committee members and noted that the first round deadline is at the end of June.

**2017 Construction Projects:** Preston Kramer reviewed a hand-out from MoDOT with a list of 2017 constructions projects in the Central Region. He went through each County to review any bridge closures with bypasses/detours, surface improvements, etc. He also highlighted other projects to begin in 2017 that were not listed on the sheet.

**Selection of Nominating Committee:** John Casey requested that four members volunteer to serve on the Nominating Committee for the upcoming officer elections. Ray Schwartze, George Lauritson, Marvin Wright and Leo Sanders agreed to serve on the Committee. It was noted that current officers and members of the Committee could not be nominated. Staff also reminded TAC members that the current Chairman and Vice-Chairman could be re-nominated to serve for a second term and that they would need to nominate a new secretary since James Morgan retired. The Committee agreed to meet following the adjournment of TAC.

**Review of the 2017 - 2018 Transportation Planning Work Plan:** Anne Freand reviewed the Transportation Work Plan for the upcoming fiscal year that will be presented to MoDOT in May and early June. She noted that the financials were not included in the draft as final numbers have to be calculated by the Fiscal Department prior to submittal. A vote and recommendation is required of the TAC Committee prior to approval by the MRPC Board. Darrell Skiles made a motion to approve the Work Plan as presented, T.R. Dudley seconded. Motion was approved.

**Update on Legislative Activities:** Bonnie Prigge provided an update on legislative activities and noted that of the bills that have been presented, several have passed the House but are waiting on review or hearing at the Senate level. There is currently no sponsor for the primary seatbelt law and the helmet repeal bill will go to the House around April 10<sup>th</sup>. House Bill 4 has a provision to prohibit tolling but it unusual as it is lumped into a budget bill. It has currently passed the House and is waiting at the Senate. House Bill 170 has also passed to the Senate. It was also noted that the gas tax did not move forward.

**Road Safety Audits:** Anne Freand updated TAC members on the two Road Safety Audits to be completed this year for the stretch of road along Highway 63/ Highway 28 and the intersection at Highway 68 and County Road 1050. A handout was provided from the Federal Highway Administration which reviewed what a Road Safety Audit is and is not and also provided general steps of the process. Anne noted that they will be meeting with Trent Brooks next week to review the process and discuss who should be on the audit team for each location. TAC members questioned the choice of the Highway 63 stretch as it is perceived as a safe section of road; however, Bonnie Prigge noted that several accidents and fatalities had occurred in the area and the road was chosen based on high severity numbers which includes total deaths and disabling injuries.

**MRPC Staff Reports:** Bonnie Prigge reported on the new MoDOT rules section of the website that allows anyone to view the various rules on anything from signs to administration and then comment on them. She also showed the Committee the link to the Buckle Up/Phone Down Initiative for encouraging safety in vehicles. Bonnie presented information relative to the mini-grants for Project Graduation and Docu-Dramas which will go to Linn, Belle, Fatima, Hermann, St. James and Cuba. The Committee also discussed the 1<sup>st</sup> Impact driving program which teaches teens and their parents about how the requirements work for new drivers.

**MoDOT Updates and Staff Reports (As time allows):** Steve Engelbrecht with MoDOT provided an update that the draft STIP will be provided May 3<sup>rd</sup> for review. He also noted that the Central District should be fairly happy with the list of projects as several bridges

and repairs will likely be listed.

**Member Reports (As time allows):** No other members provided reports at this time.

**Next TAC Meeting:** June 8, 2017.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Casey at 5:28 pm.

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John Casey, Chairman

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Date