

Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2016

Members Present: Kenny Killeen (Crawford), Leo Sanders (Crawford), Darrell Skiles (Dent), Gary Brown (Dent), Ray Walden (Dent), Bob Parsons (Dent-alt), Nathan Schauf (Gasconade), John Kamler (Gasconade), Jerry Larimore (Gasconade), Dave Dudenhoeffer (Osage), Larry Kliethermes (Osage), Ray Schwartze (Maries), Jim White (Phelps), John Petersen (Phelps-alt), Larry Stratman (Phelps), Gene Newkirk (Pulaski), James Morgan (Pulaski-alt), John Casey (Washington), T. R. Dudley (Washington), Marvin Wright (Washington)

Members Absent: Paul Watson (Crawford), Larry Miskel (Gasconade Alt.), Vicki Bade (Maries), Mark James (Maries), Ron Rowden (Maries-alt), John Butz (Phelps), Cyndra Lorey (Phelps-alt), Gary Hicks (Phelps-alt), Randy Verkamp (Phelps-alt), Bruce Harrill (Pulaski), George Lauritson (Pulaski), Jeff Clark (Pulaski-alt), Darrell Duncan (Pulaski-alt), Deb Mehmert (Osage), Cody Brinley (Washington-alt), and Mike Riddle (Washington-alt).

Guests Present: Preston Kramer, MODOT Area Engineer, Kelly Wilson, MODOT, Oscar Powers, FLW, Angela Rolufs, MST

Staff Present: Lyle Thomas, Bonnie Prigge

Call to Order & Welcome: Chairman, Leo Sanders called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of June 9, 2016 TAC Minutes: John Petersen made a motion, seconded by John Casey to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Installation of new TAC officers: John Casey assumed duties as Chairman of TAC, Dave Dudenhoeffer as Vice-Chair and James Morgan as Secretary.

Transportation Innovations and Opportunities: Angela Rolufs, Director, Office of Sustainable Energy and Environmental Management at MST, gave a presentation on current projects at MST and Fort Leonard Wood focused on innovations in transportation. The EBus at MST is a fully electric bus, Ft. Wood is implementing a pilot project to look at autonomous electric buses, MO Division of Energy and MoDOT are working on an Alternative Fuel Corridor designation. Ms. Rolufs provided an overview of several funding programs available for transportation innovations.

Highway 21 Functional Class revision: Preston Kramer, MoDOT, gave an update on the recent change to the functional classification of Highway 21, which runs through Washington County. It has been moved from Minor Arterial to Principal Arterial from Highway 8 to the Jefferson County line.

Missouri Moves Cost Share Program: Lyle Thomas, MRPC, gave a summary on both of the Missouri Moves projects proposed from the Meramec Region. MRPC provided three letters of support, however, only two projects were submitted as Potosi decided to not submit a request. One project is submitted under the Road & Bridge category: Intersection improvements at State Route Y and St. Robert Blvd. by the city of St. Robert. One project is submitted under the Multi-Modal category: Universal crossover near Bonnots Mill by MoDOT in partnership with Union Pacific. Since there was only one project in each category, prioritization by the TAC was not needed.

Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP): Bonnie Prigge, MRPC, shared information on the FLAP, which is Federal Highways program, coordinated by Eastern Federal Lands (EFL). Local public agencies with transportation projects adjacent to or within federal lands are eligible to apply. The new cycle opens Sept. 15 and closes Dec. 16, 2016. MODOT provides project oversight, so the LPA requirements apply, for the most part. Projects are limited to \$500K, and there is a match requirement. Both Phelps County and Washington County have had projects selected for funding in past rounds. The state review committee is made up of Bonnie Prigge, representing local governments; Missy Wilbers of MODOT and a representative from EFL.

MoDOT Updates and Staff Reports: Preston Kramer updated the TAC on current and planned projects, including an update on construction and maintenance projects and winter operations. Jerry Lairmore was critical of traffic control on Highway 50 during repaving as traffic was backed up for 10 miles. TR Dudley inquired about Cedar Creek Bridge on Route 32 in Washington County. It is slated for construction next summer and road closure can be expected.

Kelly Wilson of MODOT reported on LPA program changes, specifically the STP program, which the highway commission has eliminated. The cities of Salem, St. Robert, Waynesville and Rolla will have three years to spend current balances. Kelly also reported that Transportation Alternative Projects (TAP) will be due Nov. 1 and are more focused on sidewalks. TEAP applications are due Sept. 9.

Preston discussed the solar roadways pilot project that has been reported by media. Solar panels will not be used on highways at this time, however, sidewalks at the Conway welcome center will be replaced with solar blocks to see how they perform in melting snow and ice during the winter.

It was announced that Lyle Thomas, transportation planner, would be leaving MRPC to become the public works director with the city of St. James. This was Lyle's last TAC meeting.

Next TAC Meeting: October 13, 2016.

Adjournment: Kenny Killeen made a motion, seconded by Larry Kliethermes, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.