

TRANSPORTATION CONNECTIONS

A publication of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission
Transportation Advisory Committee



Representing Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries, Osage, Phelps, Pulaski and Washington Counties



Spring 2018

TAC/MRPC approve Public Transit — Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan

ST. JAMES—Meramec Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) at the recommendation of its Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), approved the update to the Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan at its meeting Feb. 15.

A public transit-human services transportation coordination plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults and people with low incomes, provides strategies for meeting those local needs and prioritizes those needs for funding consideration and implementation. In 2007, MoDOT contracted with regional planning commissions and councils of governments to develop public transit-human services plans. In 2012 and 2017, MoDOT once again contracted with the regional planning organizations to complete five-year updates to the previous plan.

The plan prioritized the following as high importance needs:



Fatima students earn grant

Meramec Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Bonnie Prigge and MoDOT Central District Safety Engineer Trent Brooks traveled to Fatima High School in Westphalia to present a grant for \$500 for continued safety education. The high school completed a number of projects during the It Only Takes One campaign that earned them this grant from the Central District Coalition for Roadway Safety.

Pictured in the group photo (left to right): Back - Bonnie Prigge, Superintendent Chuck Woody, Principal Jeff Buthod, and Trent Brooks; Front - Baylee Schenewerk,

Jordan Herzing, Alex Jacobs, Payton Stuckenschneider, Isabell Laughlin, Hannah Kloepfel, School Nurse Wanda Rehagen, Maria Kloepfel, and Cassidy Schenewerk



Take the Pledge: #BUPD

The challenge is simple: when you get into any vehicle, buckle up your safety belt. If you are a driver, put the cellphone down. Turn it off if you have to.

www.modot.org/BuckleUpPhoneDown/

Transportation Priorities in the Meramec Region

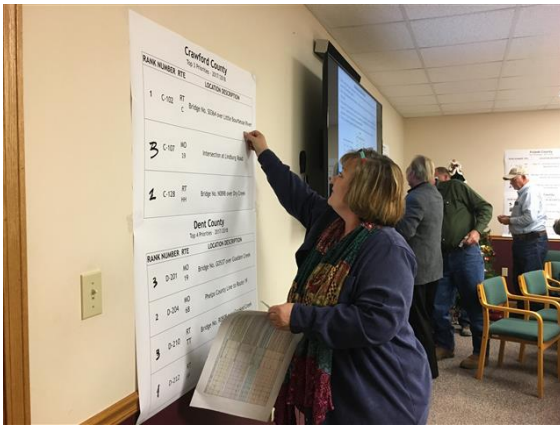
- Increase in funding for public transit;
- Coordination effort between services and communities;
- Preparation for increase in baby boomer population producing more need for services;
- Lack of emergent transit opportunities that allow for expanded hours of operation and more flexible scheduling;
- Expansion of public transit services to include life enhancement, such as recreational activities, educational and lifelong learning needs, visits to nursing homes and shopping as well as increased weekend and evening hours;
- Funding that allows for job-related transportation services;
- Removal of barriers to services;
- More service for medical calls/rides for people with intellectual and physical disabilities;
- More private partnerships to support transit services with employers and retailers;
- Resolve insurance/liability issues to allow for sharing of vehicles between agencies; and
- More options to assist with van purchases and to assist local agencies with 20 percent match for vehicles.

The previous plan allowed for the creation of the Mo Rides initiative, which works to pair individuals needing transportation with current transportation providers.

For more information or to see the full plan, visit www.meramecregion.org/publications.

In other business, the TAC:

- Heard an update on the MoDOT Cost-Share Program from Area Engineer Preston Kramer. At this time, the



In December 2017, the TAC prioritized transportation needs in the Meramec Region. Items topping the TAC's priority list as high or medium priority, in order of priority, are:

- Expand highways 63 & 50 into four-lane corridors
- Address safety concerns at the Gasconade County R-2 school entrances and Owensville industrial park entrance from the Highway 28 junction to north city limits on MO 19 in Owensville;
- Replace one-lane bridge over Little Bourbeuse River on Route C in Crawford County;
- Replace bridge over Big River on Route C in Washington County;
- Improve safety at the intersection of Route CC and County Road 801 at the State Technical College in Osage County;
- Improve traffic flow on Highway 63 in Rolla from University Drive to the Interstate 44 overpass;
- Add two left turn lanes from Missouri Avenue to Eastlawn Drive in Pulaski County;
- Replace bridge over Gladden Creek on MO 19 in Dent County;
- Replace bridge over Norman Creek on Route FF in Dent County;
- Address alignment concerns and adding shoulders to MO 68 from

program is expected to be a long-term program with funding reaching \$45 million by the year 2024;

- Discussed areas of interest for Road Safety Audits with two sections of Interstate 44 being considered; and
- Reviewed the MRPC Title VI Plan, which is required to be updated every three years.

Persons needing more information on MRPC's Transportation Advisory Committee may contact MRPC at (573) 265-2993. John Casey of Washington County chairs the TAC.

[Click Here for a Copy of the Full Draft Plan \(Click Here\)](#)



Chamois school receives bicycle safety grant

Meramec Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Bonnie Prigge and MoDOT Central District Safety Engineer Trent Brooks with Central District Coalition for Roadway Safety presented Osage R-1 (Chamois) school district a \$650 grant to promote bicycle safety, as a high number of students ride their bikes around town and to school. The grant was made possible through the

Phelps County Line to Route 19 in Dent County;

- Improve safety to the intersection of Route E and MO 63 in Osage County;
- Improve safety to MO 42 east in Maries County;
- Improve the intersections at Route V outer road and Hwy 63 in Phelps County;
- Add a left turn lane onto Lindburg Road from MO 19 in Crawford County; and
- Address width concerns of Bridge over Dry Fork Creek on MO 28 near Belle in Maries County.

Central District Coalition for Roadway Safety.

Photo (left to right): Back - Trent Brooks, Elementary Principal Dee Luker, and Bonnie Prigge
Front - Kade Babor, Ryan Evans, Patience Adkirson, Christopher Slusser, and Parker Adkirson

Public Comment Period Open on MoDOT's Long Range Transportation Plan

To help make strategic decisions, meet Missouri's future transportation needs and be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, the Missouri Department of Transportation is updating the state's Long Range Transportation Plan. To read the plan or provide public comment, click the link below.



MoDOT Long Range Transportation Plan Available for Comment (Click Here)