

Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83311598476?pwd=WS96dHNaRTJLNzRqNXA3Zjk1dXJYdz09>

Meeting ID: 833 1159 8476

Passcode: 866674

One tap mobile: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Rob Cummings, Jared Boast, Leo Sanders, Danny Brown, Gary Brown (Zoom), Ray Walden (Zoom), Darrell Skiles, Robert Parsons (Zoom), Jerry Lairmore (Zoom), Patricia Heaney (Zoom), Randy Blaske (Zoom), Vic Stratman, Steve Vogt, Darryl Griffin (Zoom), Larry Kliethermes (Zoom), Darin Pryor, Dale Martin, Anita Ivey, John Casey

GUESTS: Greg Parker – Salem Mayor, Kim Tipton (Zoom), Steve Engelbrecht (Zoom) and Preston Kramer

STAFF: Anne Freand, Bonnie Prigge, Madelyn Brown, Scott Hayes, Caitlin Jones, Samantha Sherman

MINUTES

Call to Order & Welcome: Darin Pryor, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Approval of March 10, 2022 TAC Minutes: Vic Stratman motioned to approve the March 10, 2022 minutes as submitted; John Casey seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Review of Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): MoDOT reviewed the recent transition to using a Unique Entity Identified (UEI) for all grants and federal monies. MoDOT noted that the transition allows the government to streamline the entity identification and validation process to handle business at a state and federal level. Kim Tipton noted that the requirement started April 1, 2022 for federal funds.

Active Transportation Plan Update: Anne Freand, MRPC, provided an update on the recently approved \$15,000 grant from the MO Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). The funds will be used to complete an Active Transportation Plan for a rural community in the Meramec Region. Staff provided a handout which outlined cities in the region and reviewed statistics related to negative health outcomes. Anne noted that communities with adopted Livable/Complete Streets policies would take priority in the selection. Additionally, a handout with the sixth month required timeline was highlighted due to the quick turnaround of the project. The city of Salem expressed their interest in participating in the planning process and Ms. Freand noted that Salem did have an adopted policy. A final decision would be made in the next month.

Public Transit Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan (PTHSTCP) Update: Anne Freand and Bonnie Prigge provided upcoming details and timeline for updates to the

Public Transit Plan due in early 2023. The last plan update was completed in 2018 and should be due to MoDOT in February. Staff indicated this planning process is required to support transit in the region and their funding applications.

MO Rock Island Trail Update: Bonnie Prigge, MRPC, reviewed recent activities and requests related to the Rock Island Trail in the Meramec Region. She noted that the funding made it out of the Missouri State House and it is currently being debated in the Senate. Darrell Skiles voiced concern about the funding and noted Missouri State Parks are suffering. Bonnie Prigge stated that there is approximately \$50 million set aside for the Department of Natural Resources to upgrade existing facilities.

Arrive Alive Update: Caitlin Jones, MRPC, provided an update on regional crash statistics and activities and stated they had a recent Coalition for Roadway Safety meeting the Tuesday prior. As of the date of the meeting, the region has 11 facilities which is three more than 2021 with 60% unbuckled. It is also work zone awareness week. In 2021, there were 17 fatalities and 27 in 2020. Caitlin also reminded the committee that Buckle Up Phone Down signs are available through MRPC and that Senate Bill 713 passed out of committees for Hands-Free legislation. Lastly, October 21, 2022 is Buckle Up Phone Down Day and the upcoming Traction Conference needs to find participation from regional schools.

MoDOT Updates and Staff Reports (As time allows): Kim Tipton noted that the Central Office will be sending out a TAP poll for alternate transportation projects and that LPA training is forthcoming. Preston Kramer notified the group that he will be speaking at the April 13, 2022 Rolla Regional Economic Committee meeting. Preston also gave a list of updates regarding the current construction season throughout the eight-county region. One of the projects to impact the region the most includes the updates to I-44 from Sugar Tree Road to the Crawford County line. MoDOT will be improving and widening the shoulders of the west bound lanes and any closures would likely take place at night this year. The work on the east bound lanes will take place in the next construction season.

Darrell Skiles asked MoDOT about how they are handling staffing issues, as well as where the gas tax repeal is at the legislative level. Preston Kramer noted that MoDOT is working to try and improve worker pay due to high turnover rates, etc. He also stated that there were no new updates regarding the repeal. Commissioners also asked about BRO funding and Steve Engelbrecht stated that MoDOT is working on it and details should be shared in June.

Member Reports (As time allows): Time allowed for local transportation issues to be brought to the attention of the TAC.

Next TAC Meeting: The next meeting is the regularly scheduled June 9, 2022 TAC meeting.

Adjournment: Vic Stratman motioned to adjourn the meeting; Steve Vogt seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.