

Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee

The Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee met at **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 10, 2021** at the Meramec Regional Planning Commission, 4 Industrial Drive, St. James, MO.

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81479077823?pwd=bkxGNjR6dFRQRytickY1bnlWNDE0UT09>

Meeting ID: 814 7907 7823

Passcode: 207372

One tap mobile

+13126266799 US (Chicago)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Rob Cummings, Jared Boast, Leo Sanders, Danny Brown, Gary Brown, Ray Walden, Darrell Skiles, Robert Parsons, Vic Stratman, Steve Vogt, Ron Kempker, Darryl Griffin, Larry Kliethermes, Darin Pryor, Joey Auxier, Tom Coots, Charles Bassett, John Casey (Zoom), T.R. Dudley (Zoom)

GUESTS PRESENT: Preston Kramer (Zoom), Kim Tipton (Zoom), Steve Engelbrecht (Zoom)

STAFF PRESENT: Anne Freand, Bonnie Prigge, Caitlin Jones

MINUTES

Call to Order & Welcome: Darin Pryor, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Approval of April 8, 2021 TAC Minutes: Steve Vogt motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Vic Stratman seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Selection of Nominating Committee: As a part of upcoming elections, the following TAC members volunteered to be members of the nominating committee consistent with the requirements of the bylaws. Darrell Skiles (Dent), Leo Sanders (Crawford), John Casey (Washington) and Charles Bassett (Pulaski) will meet prior to the regularly scheduled TAC meeting in August to identify existing eligible TAC members to serve as Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. Each of the current officers are eligible for a second term; however, Bonnie Prigge noted that Mayor Lauritson has requested not to continue a second term.

Current officers are:

George Lauritson (Pulaski)	1 st term as Chairman
Darin Pryor (Phelps)	1 st term as Vice-Chairman
Steve Vogt (Maries)	1 st term Secretary

SMTS Deviated Fixed-Route Study: Anne Freand, MRPC, presented information on the Deviated Fixed-Route Study that MRPC is working on for SMTS in Phelps and Dent counties. Anne also reviewed the public and college surveys being distributed in the area, which will help focus decisions on where local stops should occur along the route. At the time of presentation, MRPC had over 130 public responses and just under 100 student surveys. Initially, staff wanted to have all surveys complete by May, but has elected to leave the surveys open through June to gather as much input as possible. Committee members inquired about possible routes and Anne noted that no final route decisions had been made. The purpose

of the surveys is to determine where people were most interested in traveling. Staff hopes to wrap up the report in the fall.

Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): Steve Engelbrecht, MoDOT, provided an update on the draft STIP for FY2022-26. He noted that the final document should be approved on the 1st of July and the Feds should approve it by mid-July. Anne Freand showed the committee the MoDOT website where the STIP is located and highlighted the map and project listing pages to show county members where they can view proposed projects.

2021 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update: Anne Freand, MRPC, provided an overview of the RTP revisions for FY21. Updates include Chapters 5 and 6, as well as Appendices A, C, H, and I. All updates will be complete by the end of June per the workplan and will be updated on the MRPC transportation website. An overview of the updates will be provided at the August meeting.

Road Safety Audit (RSA): Anne Freand reviewed information regarding the upcoming Road Safety Audit for the intersection of Robart Road and Highway E in Washington County. The RSA will be held on Monday, June 28th and staff will reach out to area stakeholders once a location is determined. The intersection was suggested by Preston Kramer at MoDOT based on its placement on Washington County's unfunded needs list and the lack of low-cost options for improvement. Anne reminded the committee that RSA's are not engineering studies but are instead meant for groups of stakeholders to come together to identify low-cost options for possible safety improvements to be done by local county or MoDOT crews. Improvements could include striping, signage, etc. A final report will be given at the August TAC meeting.

FY 2022 MoDOT Workplan Review: Anne Freand reviewed the FY 2022 Workplan submitted to MoDOT. The MRPC Board approved the plan at the May 13, 2021 meeting. Anne noted that the workplan follows many of the activities identified in the previous year's workplan and acts as a roadmap for how MRPC addresses transportation planning in the region for the upcoming fiscal year.

Show-Me Zero Update: Bonnie Prigge provided an update to the TAC on crash statistics for 2021 within the region. She noted that the state is running ahead of the previous year, but the region is doing better overall. Additionally, the unbuckled rate sits at 72%. Bonnie also updated the TAC on the new contract with the Central District Coalition for Roadway Safety and reviewed annual projects handled through the program such as docudramas, grants and educational activities. A handout with crash statistics was also provided for TAC members to review.

MoDOT Updates and Staff Reports (As time allows): Kim Tipton noted that the Salem TAP project is moving along with contracts and that Joni with MoDOT is working on FLAP projects in the region. Steve Engelbrecht discussed an upcoming Tier 3 prioritization process for additional unfunded needs in the region which will include multimodal. Bonnie Prigge noted that there will be some additional outreach related to this effort. Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects were reviewed by the TAC earlier in 2021. Kim stated that the TAC should be open-minded in its multimodal project planning and think about where the true needs lie in the region.

Preston Kramer gave an update on work zones in the region and construction projects currently underway. He highlighted projects in each of the counties and reminded all TAC members that MoDOT crews would be out in their counties handling maintenance needs such as mowing and pavement patching. Steve Vogt inquired about a utility light at the intersection of Highway 28 and Highway 63. Preston Kramer noted that MoDOT typically does not provide dusk to dawn lighting unless it is along an expressway, but he would look into the possibility.

Member Reports (As time allows): Darryl Griffin brought up a sign on the ground at the roundabout at 50 and 63 near Walmart Road. Preston acknowledged the location and stated he would work with local crews to address it. Committee members inquired when MoDOT officials would start attending meetings in person again. Preston Kramer indicated that at least one person would be sent in the near future, and he intended to be at the meeting in August.

Bonnie Prigge provided an updated on the Highway 63 Alliance and noted that she is working to get survey responses on continuing the effort. She is not sure that the group will continue since it needs to be led by local officials and not the RPCs in the area. So far, she has not received much response from the larger counties and cities that would potentially be involved.

Next TAC Meeting: August 12, 2021

Adjournment: Vic Stratman motioned to adjourn; Larry Kliethermes seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.