# Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee

The Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee will meet at **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2024** at the Meramec Regional Planning Commission, 4 Industrial Drive, St. James, MO. Please plan to attend this meeting.

**Zoom Meeting Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83463112976?pwd=L0NzOTFUakU5YmdjUS94Y3hoYWJyZz09>

By Phone: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 834 6311 2976

Passcode: 469273

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Rob Cummings, Jared Boast, Danny Brown, Gary Larson, Sally Burbridge, Randy Blaske (Zoom), Jerry Lairmore (Zoom), Vic Stratman (Zoom), Steve Vogt, Darryl Griffin, Mike Gorrell, Larry Kliethermes, Darin Pryor, Joey Auxier, Sherry Stites, Tom Coots, Charles Bassett, Sean Wilson, John Casey, T.R. Dudley

**GUESTS:** Isiah Wills, Jeff Banderet, Steve Paine, James Abrahamson, Preston Kramer, Joanie Prenger, AJ Seam, Jollyn Tyryfter

**STAFF:** Anne Freand, Bonnie Prigge

# MEETING MINUTES

**Call to Order & Welcome:** Steve Vogt, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**Approval of February 8, 2024 TAC Minutes:** Charles Bassett motioned to approve minutes as submitted; Darin Pryor seconded. Minutes were approved.

**Active Transportation Planning Grant Opportunity:** Jollyn Tyryfter with the Missouri Extension office presented a HOP (High Obesity Program) Grant opportunity available for the counties of Crawford and Washington counties in the Meramec region. This grant would allow MRPC to work with local communities on Active Transportation Plans and provide $15,000 per community to MRPC to complete the plans by September 30, 2024. Additional funds may be available to communities who complete planning work for non-permanent improvements. Anne Freand discussed that the work with MO Extension would be similar to the work completed with the Department of Health and Senior Services and noted that MRPC will likely be working with Caledonia and Bourbon to start. MRPC staff will work with the communities and MO Extension to finish the planning over the course of the summer.

**Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Update:** Staff reviewed the final grant agreement and timeline for upcoming activities over the next two years. A schedule of activities for planning was provided to the committee and noted that MRPC intends to visit county fairs over the summer to disseminate a public survey. Invitations for county-level meetings would be sent to a variety of safety stakeholders to attend meetings in September and October 2024. Staff also noted that they have begun attending bi-weekly meetings with Federal Highways officials and planning for the next two years.

**Road Safety Audit (RSA):** Anne Freand presented locations in Crawford and Washington counties to the TAC to identify locations for the upcoming Road Safety Audit to be completed before the end of June 2024. Based on discussions of the committee and a recommendation by Preston Kramer (MoDOT), the committee selected the area near Diamond Road along Hwy 47/21 in Washington County. Darryl Griffin also expressed concerns regarding speed along Highway 50 near the Highway 100 intersection. The group discussed possible traffic calming measures, such as narrower lanes, along the corridor.

**Show Me Zero/Arrive Alive Fatality Update:** Bonnie Prigge presented updated crash statistics for the Meramec Region and Central District. Unfortunately, crashes show an increase in the number of unbuckled fatalities at 75%, an increase of 14% points since this time last year. Sherry Stites asked staff if they would be able to pull numbers for young drivers (under 21) that were not wearing seatbelts. Anne Freand noted she would look into it. The committee also recommended social media messaging targeted to younger drivers to encourage seatbelt usage. Sherry Stites gave kudos to Preston Kramer for getting information out on the Facebook page. Bonnie Prigge encouraged TAC members to share and follow safety information on social media by liking and following MoDOT’s posts.

**MoDOT Updates and Staff Reports (As time allows):** Joanie Prenger reminded the committee of TAP grant due dates (April 26th) and noted that decisions would be made by June 12th. She stated that no TAP round would be open again until 2027 due to the expiration of the current funding bill. Preston Kramer provided updates on a variety of construction projects, including the I-44 rebuild at 70% completion, Route A bridge at 40% complete and the I-44 portion in Crawford County just beginning. He noted that lots of paving projects will be taking place in Osage and Gasconade counties and people can sign up for text and email alerts through MoDOT.

**Member Reports (As time allows):** T.R. Dudley noted that the proposed location for the Road Safety Audit is near the Kingston School Campus and he would assist with getting people set up for the audit. Bonnie Prigge updated the group on the Rock Island Trail ground breaking in Owensville.

**Next TAC Meeting:** June 13, 2024

**Adjournment:** Larry Kliethermes motioned to adjourn the meeting; Darryl Griffin seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.