

Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee

The Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee met at **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 13, 2024** at the Meramec Regional Planning Commission, 4 Industrial Drive, St. James, MO.

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81021620173?pwd=N3NcSVSIREcmgksx1VRTUSzxDnbi9I.1>

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

Meeting ID: 810 2162 0173

Passcode: 874972

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Rob Cummings, Jared Boast, Danny Brown, Gary Larson, AJ Seay, Jerry Lairmore, Randy Blaske, Patricia Heaney, John Kamler, Vic Stratman, Ray Schwartz, Mike Gorrell, Darryl Griffin, Larry Kliethermes, Darin Pryor, Sherry Stites, Joey Auxier, Tom Coots, Charles Bassett, Anita Ivey, Sean Wilson, John Casey

GUESTS: April Williams (St. James Schools), Preston Kramer, Steve Engelbrecht

STAFF: Anne Freand, Bonnie Prigge, Caitlin Jones

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order & Welcome: Darryl Griffin called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of April 11, 2024, TAC Minutes: Charles Bassett motioned to approve the minutes as submitted; Larry Kliethermes seconded. Minutes were approved.

TAP Application Ranking: TAC members were asked to rank the projects in priority order after presentations by applicants. MRPC Director Bonnie Prigge and Anne Freand will meet with MoDOT Central District staff and other planning partners on June 18, 2024, to select TAP projects. Anne Freand presented for the city of Belle, Sean Wilson presented for the city of Waynesville's applications, Darin Pryor presented for the city of Rolla, Randy Blaske presented Owensville's request, Shannon Grus presented for the city of Rosebud and April Williams for the St. James School District. Following presentations, TAC members ranked applications. The results of the ranking are attached to the minutes.

FY 2025 MoDOT Workplan Review: Anne Freand reviewed the FY 2024 Workplan submitted to MoDOT. The MRPC Board will be asked to approve the plan at the June 13, 2024 meeting later that evening. Bonnie Prigge presented the additional Multimodal activities that were added to the Work Plan for next fiscal year and noted that a separate committee will be created to address the needs of all modes of transportation. Joey Auxier motioned to recommend approval of the FY 25 Work Plan to the full MRPC Board as submitted; Ray Schwartz seconded. The Work Plan was approved.

Selection of Nominating Committee: The committee discussed the upcoming nominations for the new fiscal year. Darin Pryor, Joey Auxier, Ray Schwartze and Sean Wilson volunteered to sit on the committee. Anne Freand noted that the group will meet prior to the August TAC meeting to discuss nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

Title VI Plan Review: Bonnie Prigge, MRPC, shared MRPC's revised Title VI Plan, which is reviewed and updated every three years. The Title VI Plan prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. As a part of its community engagement plan, MRPC wants to make our volunteers, clients and board aware of the policy. Bonnie noted that the plan will be forwarded to MoDOT upon completion of the public comment period and can be found on the website.

2024 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update: Anne Freand, MRPC, overviewed the RTP revisions, including Chapter 5 and 6 and Appendices, which are listed on the MRPC website. MRPC's intern, Finn Meggitt, has been assisting with updates in May and June.

High Priority Unfunded Needs (HPUN) Update: Anne Freand reviewed the final list of updated roads/bridges and multimodal needs placed on the HPUN list for the Central District. Staff noted that there was not much movement across tiers this year due to inflation. The final list will be posted by MoDOT later in the fiscal year.

Active Transportation Plan Updates: Staff provided updates to the Committee on the timeline for two active transportation plans, as well as future planning opportunities beginning in October 2024. Planning staff is currently working with the MU Extension office on a contract for work in the cities of Bourbon and Caledonia. Staff will also be visiting Caledonia in June to work on surveys for the communities and has updated the sidewalk survey information.

Show Me Zero/Arrive Alive Fatality Update: Caitlin Jones provided a handout and updates regarding fatality numbers in the region. Bonnie Prigge and Caitlin also provided information on new banners and digital billboards for the region and the most recent banner can be viewed in the MRPC lobby. Interested parties can reach out to staff to get a copy of the banner.

MoDOT Updates and Staff Reports (As time allows): Steve Engelbrecht, MoDOT, discussed information needed from counties on map books. Preston Kramer noted a key milestone in the I-44 construction. The pouring of the concrete should be completed. He also noted the Forward 44 group will be hosting five public meetings along the corridor, one of which will be in Rolla in August. Others will be held in Lebanon, St. Clair, Joplin and Springfield. Preston also gave a quick update on construction projects in the region.

Member Reports (As time allows): Mayor Wilson gave an update on a new traffic study on Highway T for a new elementary school. Preston Kramer also noted the Governor's list of potential projects along I-44 if the budget item is approved. It could include improvements for additional lanes and intersections.

Next TAC Meeting: August 8, 2024

Adjournment: Ray Schwartze motioned to adjourn; Sean Wilson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.