



TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 2, 2013

Osage Centre - Cape Girardeau

Technical Planning Committee Members Present:

Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic Development Commission
Mr. Steve Duke, Bootheel Regional Planning Commission
Mr. Ron Eskew, City of Scott City
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation
Mr. Jay Lancaster, Missouri Department of Transportation
Mr. Mike Latuszek, Federal Highway Administration
Mr. Brian Okenfuss, Missouri Department of Transportation
Mr. Larry Payne, Cape Girardeau Area Chamber of Commerce (Transportation Committee)
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special Road District
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau
Mrs. Eva Voss, Missouri Department of Transportation

Call to Order

Chairman Payne called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Introductions

The group went around the room, with each person giving a brief introduction.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adoption of Agenda

The October 2, 2013 Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda was unanimously approved for adoption upon motion made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Bollinger.

Minutes

The minutes of the September 4, 2013 Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Duke and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Payne explained the strategy that will be taken in presenting the Needs and Priorities List to the MoDOT Southeast District at the Planning Framework Meeting on November 12th. Emphasis will be placed on improving two major corridors: 1) I-55 between Fruitland and Scott City (called the I-55 Corridor), and 2) US-61 and MO-25 between the I-55/Fruitland interchange and MO-74 (called the Jackson Corridor). Each corridor consists of projects that can be completed separately as funding becomes available. Both Cape Girardeau and Jackson have indicated that they have provided or can provide funding for certain projects in order to gain support from MoDOT. The Committee discussed the need to establish a separate list of needs and priorities for each mode of transportation.

New/Unfinished Business

The Committee discussed Surface Transportation Program (STP) Small Urban Funds. Mr. Lancaster explained that the funds are made available to small cities with populations between 5,000 and 200,000. The cities of Cape Girardeau and Jackson are considered an urban cluster and together receive 80/20 reimbursable funding that is based on population (Cape Girardeau comprises 75% of the population and Jackson comprises the other 25%). The funds must be used on major thoroughfares (Major Collector or above per the MoDOT Functional Classification System). Bridge and sidewalk projects are eligible, but maintenance projects are not. Mr. Eskew and Mr. Duke indicated that they were under the impression that if their organizations became members of SEMPO, they would lose control over their STP funds. That perception was a major reason both organizations decided against becoming a member of SEMPO. Mr. Lancaster clarified that MPO funds are for planning activities, whereas STP funds are for projects.

The Committee reviewed the Needs and Priorities List for the Planning Framework Meeting. Mr. Bollinger indicated that the City of Jackson has already been approved for a 50/50 cost share agreement with MoDOT for improving US-61 at Courthouse Square. A second agreement has been approved for a center turn lane improvement on US-61 at the Jackson North Industrial Park. Chairman Payne indicated that he has spoken with the City of Cape Girardeau Mayor Harry Rediger as well as City staff regarding the replacement of the Bloomfield Road bridge over I-55. The City has expressed support for the project, and will look into securing funding for a possible cost share agreement with MoDOT. Mr. Christian asked if the 66 Corridor project should be added to the list. Chairman Payne replied that it should not be included in this list, but it should be included in the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Other Communications

Mr. Shrimplin reported that on August 21, 2013, the Board of Directors passed motions adopting the FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Program and the FY 2014-2017 Interim Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Latuszek reminded the Committee that these documents are still considered drafts because they have not yet been approved by ONE DOT. He also stated that SEMPO needs to prepare and adopt a Public Participation Plan as soon as possible.

Mr. Christian reported that the SEMO RPC currently does not have traffic demand modeling and forecasting capability, but is looking into purchasing software that will allow the RPC to provide such services.

Adjournment

Upon motion made by Mr. Duke and seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 12:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Shrimplin
Acting Executive Director