



**TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
&
ONE DOT MPO LISTENING SESSION MINUTES**

May 2, 2018

Osage Centre – Cape Girardeau

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Voting Members Present:

Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic Development
Commission (SEMO RPC)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Bruce Loy, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport
Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau
Mr. Larry Payne, Cape Girardeau County (alternate for Mr. Charlie Herbst)
Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority (CTA)

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Non-Voting Members Present:

Ms. Elquin Auala, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Enos Han, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – MO Division
Mr. Curtis Jones, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Mr. Brian Okenfuss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Kirk Sandfort, Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO University)
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – IL Division
Ms. Eva Voss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Staff Present:

Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Kelly Green, KLG Engineering

Others Present:

Ms. Raegan Ball, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Ed Cordino, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Bob Fox, City of Cape Girardeau
Mr. Brad McMahon, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Mr. Jeremiah Schuler, Federal Transit Authority (FTA) (via teleconference)

Call to Order

Chairman Bollinger 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 agenda of the May 2, 2018 Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting was unanimously approved for adoption upon motion made by Mr. Payne and seconded by Mr. McElroy.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 4, 2018 Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion made by Ms. Watson and seconded by Mr. Payne.

Communications from the Chairman

There were no communications from the Chairman.

New/Unfinished Business

- **FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program – Motion to release for public comment**

Mr. Shrimplin presented the latest draft of the FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He reviewed the revisions that were made in response to comments received from MoDOT, IDOT, and ONE DOT. A motion was made by Ms. Watson and seconded by Mr. McElroy to release the FY 2019 UPWP for public comment, which passed unanimously.

- **FY 2016-2019 TIP Amendment No. 7 – Motion to release for public comment**

Mr. Christian presented a draft of FY 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment No. 7. He explained that the amendment adds new and amended projects proposed for the MoDOT 2019-2023 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). A motion was made by Mr. McElroy and seconded by Ms. Watson to release FY 2016-2019 TIP Amendment No. 7 for public comment, which passed unanimously.

- **Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan – Review of draft**

Mr. Christian presented a draft of the Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan. He explained that in the past, the Cape Girardeau-Jackson urbanized area was covered under the SEMO RPC's Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan. Now that the urbanized area has an MPO, a separate plan is required. The SEMPO plan mirrors the SEMO RPC's plan, including the process for obtaining input from the public and the transit providers. He stated that two public meetings were held late November/early December to obtain input regarding public transit needs. A meeting for transit

providers was held on January 18th at 2:00 p.m. at the SEMO RPC Office. There were no citizens in attendance at the public meetings; however, an online survey form was used, which yielded several responses. Ms. Watson stated that she will be sending some revisions to Mr. Christian to incorporate into the plan. Mr. Shrimplin stated that the plan will be released for public comment at the next TPC meeting. Mr. Schuler stated that coordination between MoDOT and SEMPO needs to be reflected in the plan, as well as local goals and strategies.

Member Reports

Mr. McElroy reported that the City of Cape Girardeau will issue a road closure notice on Monday for the Lexington Avenue project as crews resurface the road. A public meeting for the Independence Street traffic study is scheduled for May 21st. The bridge on Big Bend Road over Sloan Creek is closed while the bridge is being replaced and the slope is being stabilized.

Mr. Bollinger reported that the City of Jackson has issued a road closure notice for South Old Orchard Road, which begins today. The road will be closed for 30 days. The City has awarded the 2018 Concrete Street Repair Project to Lappe Cement Finishing. The new pedestrian bridge over Hubble Creek is now open; a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held soon.

Ms. Watson reported that \$3.6 million in Section 5339 grant funds have been released for the state. CTA intends to purchase five new vehicles from this funding.

Mr. Sandfort reported that SEMO University is in the process of modifying transit routes for the Fall Semester.

Mr. Loy reported that the recent airline boardings are at a 32%-33% afternoon load factor. In response to a question, he explained that to become a Primary Airport, a Commercial Service Airport must have more than 10,000 passenger boardings each year. Cape Girardeau Regional Airport has about 6,500-7,000 passenger boardings each year.

Mr. Okenfuss reported that the US 61 and Route K resurfacing project was let on April 20th and should be awarded today. He also discussed the federal BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) transportation discretionary grants program, which replaces the TIGER program. The BUILD program provides \$1.5 billion in funding. The program is multimodal and merit-based, with a greater share of the grants being awarded to projects in rural areas than in urban areas. The application deadline is June 4th. Mr. McMahon noted that the in-kind share amount will not be a factor in awarding grants.

Mr. Killian reported that the MO 74 resurfacing project will begin this week. The next deadline for MoDOT's Cost Share Program is June 29th. MHTC is postponing the release of the draft 2019-2023 STIP to its June meeting in order to align it with the Asset Management Plan.

Ms. Auala announced that the application period for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) opens on August 1st and closes on November 1st. She stated that MoDOT will not accept applications from entities having a current TAP project that has not been completed.

Ms. Voss announced that the public comment period for Missouri's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) closes on May 3rd.

Mr. Jones announced that IDOT has issued a call for projects for Statewide Planning and Research Funds. Applications are due May 16th. Awards will be announced on July 1st. An application workshop will be held.

Staff Report

Mr. Shrimplin reported that four proposals were received in response to the TIP Tool Software and Maintenance RFP. The Technology Subcommittee reviewed the proposals and selected three firms to interview. He stated that the Subcommittee would like to conduct all of the interviews on the same day, if feasible. The interviews will be held during a Subcommittee meeting, which will be open to the public and have an agenda posted in advance. No concerns were raised.

Mr. Shrimplin reported that the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan was adopted by the Board of Directors on April 18th and is now available on the SEMPO website. Lochmueller Group has agreed to provide a limited number of printed copies.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:40 a.m. upon motion made by Mr. Payne and seconded by Ms. Watson.

ONE DOT MPO Listening Session

Upon adjournment, ONE DOT (FHWA and FTA) held an MPO listening session with those in attendance. Mr. Han and Mr. Cordino introduced the FHWA team. Mr. Han gave a brief presentation on each team member's role. He then discussed the certification review process for MPO's and stated that SEMPO's review has not yet been scheduled, but will occur in the near future. He added that the review typically takes two to three days.

Mr. McMahon asked if becoming an MPO has been what those involved thought it would be. Mr. Payne expressed appreciation for the various parties who participate in SEMPO's meetings, but disappointment with the timing and level of input that MoDOT has allowed SEMPO in the decision-making process when it comes to major STIP projects.

Mr. Shrimplin asked what challenges FHWA is facing. Mr. Han stated that one of FHWA's challenges is the lack of consistency across states. Mr. McMahon stated that MAP-21 and FAST Act also pose challenges due to their complexity on the implementation side.

Ms. Green noted that the Illinois portion of the SEMPO Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) does not seem to benefit much from being a part of the MPO. Mr. Shrimplin stated that there has never any local participation in SEMPO meetings, nor have there been any projects on that side of the river. Ms. Tracy stated that she will look into this. Mr. Shrimplin also stated that having to administer grant agreements and invoicing with two states is very challenging, given that SEMPO is a small MPO with limited staff resources. Mr. McMahon suggested looking into having Missouri manage Illinois' grant funds for the MPO. Ms. Tracy stated that she will look into this as well.

Mr. McMahon asked if there are any concerns pertaining to the matching funds requirement. Mr. Shrimplin stated that no concerns have been raised by those entities paying the local match as of yet; this may change, however, as SEMPO grows and the budget increases.

The FHWA team discussed the many webinar opportunities.

Ms. Tracy discussed freight planning and the St. Louis Freight Council. There may be more dedicated funding available in the future. Mr. Shrimplin stated that SEMPO may include the preparation of a freight plan in a future UPWP.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Green, PE