



## TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2019

Osage Centre – Cape Girardeau, MO

### Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Voting Members Present:

Ms. Hannah Barnett, Bootheel Regional Planning & Economic Development  
Commission (Bootheel RPC)  
Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson  
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic Development  
Commission (SEMO RPC)  
Mr. Cary Harbison, Southeast Missouri Regional Port Authority (SEMO Port) (alternate  
for Ms. Mandi Brink)  
Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau  
Mr. Larry Payne, Cape Girardeau County (alternate for Mr. Charlie Herbst)  
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special Road District  
Mr. Kirk Sandfort, Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO University)  
Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority (CTA)

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

Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)  
Mr. Brian Okenfuss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)  
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – IL Division (via  
teleconference)  
Ms. Eva Voss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via teleconference)

### Staff Present:

Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau

### Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Kelly Green, KLG Engineering

### 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 February 6, 2019 Technical Planning Committee Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. McElroy and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 2, 2019 Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion made by Ms. Barnett and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

### Communications from the Chairman

There were no communications from the Chairman.

### New/Unfinished Business

- **Public Participation Plan Amendment No. 3 – Motion to release for public comment**

Mr. Shrimplin presented the third amendment to the Public Participation Plan (PPP). He explained that since the last TPC meeting, the amendment has been revised to add language clarifying that changes in a TIP project's total programmed amount resulting in a decrease by any amount qualifies as an administrative modification. A motion was made by Mr. Payne and seconded by Mr. Phillips to release Public Participation Plan Amendment No. 3 for public comment, which passed unanimously.

- **MoDOT Presentation**

Mr. Shrimplin stated that the MoDOT presentation scheduled for today's meeting has been cancelled by the presenter due to illness.

### Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. McElroy reported that the conceptual design for the Independence Street improvements from Gordonville Road/East Rodney Drive to Caruthers Avenue is nearing completion. The City has hired BFA, Inc. for the design of the Sprigg Street improvements from William Street to Broadway.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger reported that construction of the East Main Street/Oak Hill Road traffic signal is underway. Cochran Engineering recently presented a preliminary design for the East Main Street/Shawnee Boulevard roundabout to the Board of Aldermen. Acquisition will begin soon. Crews are relocating electric and water lines at the site of the Center Junction Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) project.

Cape Special Road District – Mr. Phillips reported that a bid opening for the annual asphalt overlay work is scheduled for next Tuesday.

CTA – Ms. Watson reported that CTA is preparing applications for the next rounds of grants.

SEMO University – Mr. Sandfort stated that there is nothing new to report.

SEMO Port – Mr. Harbison reported that construction work at the Port has been delayed due to inclement weather.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian reported that development of the TIP website is nearing completion. He will begin loading the project data soon.

Bootheel RPC – Ms. Barnett reported that the Hazard Mitigation Plans are complete. A MoDOT Cost Share application will be submitted for an intersection improvement project at Route 25 and Route Y in Stoddard County. She discussed the state of uncertainty due to the federal government shutdown.

MoDOT – Mr. Killian reported that the low bidder on the bridge rehabilitation project on Route 34 over the Mississippi River (Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge) was Phillips Hardy, Inc. The contract award will go before the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission (MHTC) today. Work on the Route W culvert extension will begin in February; the contractor has 21 days to complete it.

MoDOT – Mr. Okenfuss reported that the plans for the Center Junction DDI are being finalized. Construction is scheduled to begin in August. MoDOT will not reduce any lanes on I-55 until June of 2020. The northbound bridge will be demolished first; the northbound lanes will be moved head-to-head with the southbound lanes.

FHWA, IL – Ms. Tracy reported that the application deadline for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program is March 4<sup>th</sup>.

MoDOT – Ms. Voss reported that MoDOT's Annual Statewide Planning Partners Meeting is February 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Staff Report

Ms. Green gave a recap of a meeting held on January 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the I-55 interchange at Exit 93. Those in attendance included Ms. Green, Mr. Okenfuss, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Shrimplin, Mr. John Mehner with Cape Girardeau Area MAGNET, Ms. Casey Brunke with the City of Cape Girardeau Public Works Department, and Mr. Earl Norman with Benton Hill Investments. The following items were noted in the meeting:

1. Flooding
  - a. MO74 west of the interchange floods.
  - b. South Sprigg Street east of the interchange floods in some locations.
2. Access
  - a. One of the northbound exit ramps from I-55, Exit 93A, is confusing and inconvenient.

- b. The southbound flyover ramp splits, with one lane leading to the interstate and the other lane leading to MO74. This causes confusion for drivers who are unfamiliar with the interchange.
3. The bridges have height restrictions.
4. There are currently two northbound exits from I-55 (Exits 93A and 93B). These could be combined into one with a proper redesign of the interchange. Having a single exit would be beneficial from a maintenance and cost standpoint.
5. Exit 93B and the southbound transition from US61 (South Kingshighway) to the flyover ramp have two separate bridges. These could be combined into one with a proper redesign of the interchange. Having a single bridge would be beneficial from a maintenance and cost standpoint.
6. A redesigned interchange would alleviate some of the traffic on Bloomfield Road.
7. There is still a large amount of undeveloped/underdeveloped land near the interchange. The current interchange design is stifling additional development.
8. When redesigning the interchange, it will be important to consider the various types of traffic, including the trucks serving the heavy industries in the area.

Mr. Okenfuss will share this information with the MoDOT project team and update SEMPO as the project progresses.

Mr. Shrimplin reported that the FHWA Missouri Division recently issued comments on the draft FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Most of the comments pertained to the financial tables, especially the federal funding allocations, so coordination with Ms. Voss will be necessary. One of the comments indicated that the federal funds cannot be used for an ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan as proposed in the UPWP, but they can be used for an assessment of public pedestrian systems. Staff will contact Mr. Brad McMahon with FHWA Missouri and Ms. Voss for guidance.

Mr. Shrimplin also reported that a conference call to continue work on the TIP website has been scheduled for next Monday.

#### Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:30 a.m. upon motion made by Mr. McElroy and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Green, PE