



## TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 6, 2019

Osage Centre – Cape Girardeau, MO

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

Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson  
Ms. Mandi Brink, Southeast Missouri Regional Port Authority (SEMO Port)  
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic Development Commission (SEMO RPC)  
Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau  
Mr. John Mehner, Cape Girardeau Area MAGNET (MAGNET)  
Mr. Scott Perry, Bootheel Regional Planning & Economic Development Commission (Bootheel RPC)  
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special Road District  
Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority (CTA)

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

Mr. Tom Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)  
Mr. Chris Crocker, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)  
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)  
Mr. Andy Meyer, 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.

### Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the March 6, 2019 Technical Planning Committee Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Ms. Brink.

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 6, 2019 Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. McElroy.

### Communications from the Chairman

There were no communications from the Chairman.

### Public Comments

There were no public comments.

### **New/Unfinished Business**

- **FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program – Discussion**

Mr. Shrimplin presented a draft of the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He explained that the draft has already been reviewed by MoDOT, IDOT, FHWA, and FTA. The FHWA Missouri Division issued several pages of comments, most of which pertain to the financial tables. He stated that one item of concern is the comment that fringe benefits are an indirect cost and therefore require an indirect cost allocation plan approved by FHWA. He explained that benefits have always been included in SEMPO's budget as shown in the UPWP and invoices to MoDOT and IDOT. Ms. Voss stated that she consulted with MoDOT's auditors on this issue, and they indicated that fringe benefits are not an indirect cost. Mr. Shrimplin stated that another item of concern is the comment that the proposed ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan is ineligible for Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG) funds. The comment noted that the activity must be limited to the development or update of the transportation element of an ADA Transition Plan. Mr. Brad McMahon, who issued the comments, suggested changing the scope of work to an ADA assessment of sidewalks and trails as well as related ramps and crossings, with copies of the assessment report given to the City of Cape Girardeau, the City of Jackson, and Cape Girardeau County for their use in preparing their own ADA Transition Plans in the future. The report would also be used to prepare an update to SEMPO's Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan in the future. Mr. Shrimplin stated that staff will schedule a teleconference with MoDOT, IDOT, FHWA, and FTA to review the comments and discuss how they should be properly addressed.

### Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. McElroy reported that Casey Brunke recently left her position as City Engineer to become the new Assistant Public Works Director. After attempts to hire a

replacement were unsuccessful, the City issued an RFQ for a consultant to serve as the City Engineer for a 6-month period. The contract was awarded to KLG Engineering.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger reported that crews are continuing relocation of the electric and water lines at the site of the Center Junction Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) project. Construction of the East Main Street/Oak Hill Road traffic signal is underway. Cochran Engineering is in the process of designing the East Main Street/Shawnee Boulevard roundabout. The City is holding a groundbreaking ceremony for the new police station tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. at 202 West Jackson Boulevard.

Cape Special Road District – Mr. Phillips stated that there is nothing new to report.

CTA – Ms. Watson stated that there is nothing new to report.

SEMO Port – Ms. Brink reported that the Port received official notice of the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant award in the amount of \$19.8 million. The Port is now working to secure a federal loan to pay half of the 40% match. The other half will be paid by the Port. Federal officials will be coming to the Port soon for a kickoff meeting. She thanked the Port's partners for help with obtaining the grant. The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) grant project, which involves earth work for the new Harbor Lead Track #2, is on hold due to inclement weather. The Port had to return about \$2 million to MoDOT because of the delay with the DRA project, but will receive it again next year.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian reported that he will receive administrator training on the new Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) website later this week. DTS is still in the process of entering project information. In the meantime, Mr. Christian will complete the narrative portion of the FY 2020-2023 TIP and submit it to MoDOT, IDOT, FHWA, and FTA for review.

MAGNET – Mr. Mehner reported that the balance of the \$5 million that was allocated for the 66 Corridor Study has been reallocated to other studies in Illinois. The study concluded that there is a need for the highway, so the loss of funding is troubling. Local leaders will be reaching out to their Congressional members for help.

MoDOT – Mr. Okenfuss reported that the Southeast District will be hosting a meeting with its planning partners on March 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss three scenarios. The first scenario involves the expiration of the FAST Act next year and a subsequent reduction in federal funding for state DOTs. Southeast District staff will explain how MoDOT will account for this in the STIP. The second scenario involves Missouri Governor Mike Parson's proposed Focus on Bridges funding package which, if approved, will free up \$345 million to be distributed among the MoDOT districts. The third scenario involves an additional \$1.65 billion in statewide transportation funding using Amendment 3 bonding capacity. For the second and third scenarios, the planning partners will be asked how the Southeast District's share of each amount should be used to meet unfunded needs. Mr. Okenfuss also reported that he will be scheduling a meeting with local businesses to discuss the I-55 Exit 93 interchange. He also reported that the plans for the Center Junction DDI are now being reviewed by the Central District Office. 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 next spring. In response to a question, Mr. Okenfuss reported that the contractor will resume work on the US61 overlay as soon as the weather breaks. The work will include smoothing the edges of pavement and adding fresh paint to the new striping. Once the contractor is finished with US61, work will begin on Route K.

MoDOT – Mr. Crocker reported that he will be taking over the Local Public Agency (LPA) program as Ms. Elquin Auala has been named the new Area Engineer for the Southeast District's west counties.

MoDOT – Mr. Killian reported that the low bidder on the US61 resurfacing project from 0.3 miles south of I-55 to MO34/25 was Apex Paving Company. The project will be let later this month. Emergency repair work on the Missouri side of the Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge will begin later this spring after the Notice to Proceed is issued. There was significant lead time on fabrication of some of the materials. He gave a reminder that the next application deadline for the Cost Share Program is April 26, 2019.

MoDOT – Mr. Meyer reported that the box culvert extension on Route W is now finished.

IDOT – Mr. Caldwell reported that IDOT has a new Secretary of Transportation.

FHWA, IL – Ms. Tracy reported that Ms. Arlene Kocher has been named the new Administrator for the FHWA Illinois Division.

#### Staff Report

Mr. Shrimplin reported that the FY 2020-2023 TIP is behind schedule due to slow progress in development of the TIP website. He noted that the time frame for review of the TIP and addressing comments is tight. Ms. Voss emphasized the need to submit the financial portion of the TIP to MoDOT, IDOT, FHWA, and FTA very soon to avoid missing the deadline for adoption.

#### Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:43 a.m. upon motion made by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Mr. McElroy.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Green, PE