



TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2020
Via Conference Call

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Voting Members Present:

Ms. Katrina Amos, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport (Cape Airport)
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. John Mehner, Cape Girardeau Area MAGNET
Mr. Scott Perry, Bootheel Regional Planning Commission (Bootheel RPC)
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special Road District
Mr. Kirk Sandfort, Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO University)
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau
Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority (CTA)

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

Mr. Thomas Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Ms. Brittany O'Connor, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Brian Okenfuss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) - Illinois Division

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

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

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the May 6, 2020 Technical Planning Committee Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 1, 2020 Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Mr. Christian.

Communications from the Chairman

Chairman Shrimplin stated that he will reserve his communications for Member Reports.

Public Comments

Chairman Shrimplin asked if there are any comments from the public regarding items not on the agenda. There were none.

New/Unfinished Business

- **FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program – Motion to recommend adoption**

Mr. McElroy noted that the TPC released the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for public comment on April 1 and there have been no comments. A public hearing is set for May 20 at the Osage Center, with room for social distancing. The notice was advertised in the Southeast Missourian newspaper on May 3. The plan includes two major projects, the ADA assessments and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Mehner to recommend adoption of the FY 2021 UPWP to the Board of Directors, which passed unanimously.

- **Functional Classification changes in the SEMPO Boundary – Motion to recommend approval**

Mr. Killian noted that these classifications are used by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to determine the roads eligible for federal funding. There were proposed changes in 2008 that included roads to be built. Some of those have not been completed and some have. Once on the list, they need to be built within 5 years to stay on list. There is a request from FHWA to review our list, change the status if needed, and remove any roads that have not been built.

Specifically, Veterans Memorial Drive, north of US 61, status was changed to local and then the section by the Sportsplex was added back but classified as a major collector to make it eligible for Federal funding. Veterans Memorial Drive, south of US 61, will be converted to a major collector and considered for Federal aid. The proposed Armstrong Drive was not built and will be removed from the list completely.

Mr. Killian noted that he did not show the entire boundary on the map, just the proposed changes. There were no proposed changes for roads in the City of Jackson so none were shown on the map.

Mr. Shrimplin asked if #8 on the list conflicts with #7. Mr. Killian explained that they had to rule on the designation for #7 as previously requested. It was designated as local. However, because of the Sportsplex and future development in that area, that section was

added independently as #8 and designated a major collector making it eligible for Federal aid.

Mr. Killian noted that FHWA has already approved the reclassifications but wanted SEMPO's approval.

A motion was made by Mr. John Mehner and seconded by Ms. Brink to recommend approval of the Functional Classification changes in the SEMPO boundary to the Board, which passed unanimously.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Shrimplin anticipates receiving the geotechnical report for Fountain St. within the next week. The City has not done much yet with property owners on the Independence project due to current situation. The public meeting for the Main Street project was postponed but staff is working with the consultant on plans. Next step for Sprigg Street is for staff to meet with Ameren for utility coordination. Non TTF related, City has just received the Kiwanis Drive TEAP report but it has not been reviewed yet. TTF 6 will be on the ballot on June 2.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger had nothing to report.

Cape Special Road District – Mr. Phillips noted they started the annual asphalt overlay project. A majority of the work is on County Road 635 and 206. They are still working on South Sprigg St. and doing some additional drainage work.

CTA – Ms. Watson noted that ridership is still down about 50%.

SEMO – Mr. Sandfort had nothing to report.

SEMO Port – Ms. Brink – noted they are still working on their MoDOT projects, both of which are under contract and expected to be completed by the end of June. The DRA project is expected to be completed by the end of June as well. They have submitted for approval to hire an engineer for the EDA project and are currently waiting for a response. They are also still working on their BUILD project application.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian noted that MoDOT no longer plans to move forward with a new STIP update and asked if MPOs and RPCs should move forward with their schedule of prioritization of projects for the next few months that would be for next year's STIP or should they put that on hold. Joe Killian responded and said the situation is still fluid and expect changes.

Bootheel RPC – Scott Perry stated that they have a new executive director, Kelly Mitchell.

MAGNET – Mr. Mehner noted that though they are busy, he has no transportation related report at this time.

MoDOT – Mr. Okenfuss gave a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) update, noting that there will be a closure of US 61 this Thursday into early Friday to install a pipe under US61. East

bound US 61 out of Jackson will be able to turn south on to I-55 and there will be additional signage to direct around the closure. This closure will only be one night. There is continued progress on the project. The south bound I-55 bridge has been removed. The foundation on the new bridge will be started later this week or early next week. They closed south bound I-55 lane last week for a day or two to get some of the work done. Traffic has been picking up since the state stay at home order has expired and they anticipated this.

Mr. Okenfuss reported that the MoDOT Director had a conference call with the RPCs and MPOs. On the call, the Director said that they would be moving forward without a new STIP. Usually the new STIP is adopted in June with Commission adopting in July. Due to the circumstances this year, they have decided to work off last year's STIP. Many of the projects usually roll over anyway. The department will be delaying some projects until they see how revenues will be impacted. The Director anticipates a 30% reduction in revenue over the next 18 months. However, this is just a projection for planning purposes. Mr. Okenfuss noted that they still have \$1.2 billion in work right now. They are not stopping that and not shutting any of that down. They will keep monitoring and adjust as needed.

Mr. Okenfuss stated that they do not plan on changing anything now but will create a new STIP next year. It is reasonable to continue with what we have. All the work the RPCs did is not wasted and still shows what work needs to be done next.

Ms. O'Connor noted that she will be working with Mike Henderson to get things going on the CPG agreement to move forward with the project.

IDDOT – Mr. Caldwell reported the East Cape project was awarded on April 24 and they will be moving forward with that project.

FHA – Ms. Tracy noted that the BUILD applications are due May 18 and as far as she knows that deadline will not be extended.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy reported that he has received an update from Lochmueller on the ADA Assessments. The equipment has been ordered, they have hired all interns needed, and a training packet is near completion. Survey is coming along. Once the FY 2021 UPWP is adopted a RFP for the update to the 2016-2040 MTP will be drafted for review and we may want to form a subcommittee to review the RFP as well as any applications that we receive.

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. Mehner and seconded by Ms. Brink.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Mills