



TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 1, 2020
Osage Centre, Cape Girardeau, MO

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) (via phone)
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning & Economic Development Commission (SEMO RPC)
Mr. Scott Perry, Bootheel Regional Planning Commission (Bootheel RPC)
Mr. Larry Payne, Cape Girardeau County (alternate for Mr. Charlie Herbst)
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. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via phone)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via phone)
Ms. Britni O'Connor, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via phone)

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

Chairman Christian 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 July 1, 2020 Technical Planning Committee Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Shrimplin and seconded by Mr. Bollinger.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 3, 2020 Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved as amended upon motion made by Mr. Bollinger and seconded by Mr. Payne

Communications from the Chairman

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

Public Comments

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

New/Unfinished Business

- **Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update – Discussion**

Mr. McElroy reported that the subcommittee reviewed the draft Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and he has since incorporated the comments. He intends to have the City of Cape Girardeau Attorney review before sending out next week or the week after. There will be a two-week window for the due date. Mr. Shrimplin suggested that if there will be a short window for responses, then an electronic submittal should be required. Mr. McElroy noted that he did include a requirement for a .pdf submittal. Mr. Christian asked whether SEMPO would be reaching out to individual firms or how it would be distributed. Mr. McElroy noted that he had a local distribution list that he would use. Also, he noted that he had reached out to Joplin Area Transportation Study Organization (JATSO) who had recently released a similar RFQ. They provided him their distribution list which includes firms from the Joplin and St. Louis areas. He will also advertise on the SEMPO website. He thanked the subcommittee for their help.

- **Pedestrian Transportation System ADA Assessment – Update**

Mr. McElroy noted that the field interns have been working since June 6. They worked as a team at first, with training from Lochmueller, and then worked independently in the field. Field work will be ongoing until the first of August and then they will go into the plan preparation phase with final deadline for deliverables of January 2021.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Shrimplin reported the City is preparing for the TTF6 projects but it is still very early in the stages and they have to wait for the funding to come through to move forward. Regarding the TTF5 projects, Mr. Shrimplin noted that there has been little change from last month. The City is still trying to work through property owner issues and impacts on the Independence Street project. Lochmueller is reviewing layouts and working to find solutions to some of the concerns that mostly have to do with parking.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger noted that because of the Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) project there has been increased traffic on Old Orchard Road between Exit 102 and Exit 99.

This has prompted the City to consider the installation of some flashing beacons at Fire Station #2. At this location, there are sight distance issues and traffic speeds have increased. They will be installing some type of flashing beacons where the firemen can initiate the flashing lights or signal. He noted they opened the roundabout at E. Main Street and S. Shawnee Blvd. to traffic yesterday. Mr. Bollinger stated that the project came in right at budget and completed a little early. It was anticipated to open in mid-July. He noted that it still needs some striping and other minor work. They have had good feedback on it. There will be a ribbon cutting at some point and he will let the members know when that is scheduled. He noted that the County has started work on the County Rd 330 asphalt overlay under the DRA grant. The City is excited about the widening and overlay in the south industrial park. Mr. Bollinger reported that under their annual improvement programs, the asphalt program opens bids tomorrow and their annual concrete program will go out for bid this month. Both of these will be under way this summer and will wrap up in the fall.

Mr. Bollinger asked for an update on the US 61 repairs and detour plan. He had heard of a possible mid-July overnight work and detour onto Farmington Rd.

Cape Girardeau County – Mr. Payne had nothing to report.

CTA – Ms. Watson reported that their current ridership is at 60-65% but they are fully operational. They recently received 1,000 face masks through MoDOT and FTA. Those are being distributed to drivers in addition to what they already had. Drivers are required to wear masks anytime in the vehicle. Any additional masks will be offered to the riders. Ms. Watson also reported that the Cares Act money finally came through. She noted that not all the money reported in the press will go to CTA as some will go to the University.

SEMO Port – Ms. Brink reported they are finishing up the two state grants and they just have a few punch list items that they have to finish. They are hoping to have the EDA engineer under contract in the next couple of weeks.

Cape Airport – Ms. Amos reported that their numbers are down 81% compared to last year and down 60% for the year. Their numbers are picking up but won't be possible to get to near normal until they go back to 2 flights on July 6. They are supplying masks to all the passengers and received 2500 masks from same program as CTA. They are moving forward with the terminal area master plan. She noted they are finalizing the airport forecast to see where they will be in the next 30 to 40 years, if they are to stay in the EAS (Essential Air Service) program, what type of aircraft they will need to go to, and other areas of concern. They are also looking at base aircraft projections. All that plays a role in what FAA will fund in terms of a terminal and future facility project. The pilot program recently announced by Southeast Missouri State University has also impacted their numbers in a positive way. Operations will probably double in the next 3 years. They will go from 28,000 to 29,000 operations per year to maybe 60,000 when that program is in full swing. This projection opens up additional funding with FAA. She reported they hope to have the terminal area masterplan completed within the next few months. All the details as far as what it looks like, where it is located, and other details will come later. The wildlife perimeter fence project was moved to 2021 as they had some archeological issues and needed to give the Osage Nation (tribe) time to review. Originally, they wanted to go out to bid in June but that would not give the Osage Nation time to look at the artifacts and determine if additional surveying needs to be done. The fence is on hold for now but the delay gives them time to complete other projects. Ms. Amos noted they are in the process of acquiring 60 acres in the northwest quadrant of the airport. She reported it is going well and they hope to have the purchase complete in the next few months. She noted that in reference to the Cares Act funds,

they have \$6.1 million on the July 20th City Council agenda. They will be using it for operations and will try to build some T-hangers to fill a gap. Ms. Amos noted that she has received inquiries from two different flight schools who are interested in the University's program so she has high hopes that will move forward.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian reported they tried to have their TAC meeting last week but did not have a quorum. Next meeting is September 10 at 1:00 p.m. and they will be prioritizing projects for the STIP. In the meantime, he will be reaching out to each of the counties and looking at their projects. Secondly, he reported that the RPC received CARES Act funds as well. They are encouraging their members and communities to discuss with them any planning activities such as comprehensive plans, transportation plans, and/or other master plans that they are contemplating. If the scope of work can be tied to COVID-19 they may be able to offset some of the costs with the Cares Act funds.

Mr. Bollinger asked about City and County projects that fall within SEMPO boundaries and whether they should come to SEMPO first for projects. Mr. Christian noted that those communities fall within the RPC boundaries as well. He encourages the TAC to support the SEMPO projects.

Bootheel RPC – Mr. Perry reported they had a guest speaker at their TAC meeting with about 20 people in attendance. Gidget Koestner with the Safety Circuit Rider Program addressed the group with information about the program. They work with townships, counties, and, to a limited amount, with cities to help with costs and engineering issues. Mr. Perry noted that they have hired a couple of new people and all is going smooth with the new director.

MoDOT – Mr. Killian had no updates. He stated that he would pass Mr. Bollinger's questions regarding US 61 to Mr. Okenfuss.

FHWA – Ms. Tracy had no updates.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy noted that he will be out of town for the next TPC meeting and Ms. Mills will handle the meeting instead. Also, he reported that Zoom will be requiring a password as of July 19. Mr. McElroy will highlight the change when he sends out the next agenda.

Other Business and Communications

Ms. Watson asked about the ADA assessment project inclusion in the UPWP for both FY 20 and 21 and wanted clarification as to whether that was a \$300,000 project or a \$150,000 project. It was clarified that the \$150,000 was carried over as it was not previously expended. Mr. McElroy noted he would send out the table of membership dues for this year.

Mr. Shrimplin complimented Mr. McElroy on the SEMPO e-mail newsletter.

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:26 a.m. upon motion made by Mr. Payne and seconded by Mr. Perry.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla Mills