



## **TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

June 2, 2021  
Osage Centre

1625 N Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, MO

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

Mr. Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson  
Mr. Drew Christian, Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)  
Mr. John Mehner, MAGNET  
Mr. Scott Perry, Bootheel Regional Planning Commission (Bootheel RPC) (via Zoom)  
Mr. Kirk Sandfort, Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO University) (via Zoom)  
Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau  
Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority (CTA) (via Zoom)

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

Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)  
Mr. Thomas Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) (via Zoom)  
Ms. Britni O'Connor  
Mr. Brian Okenfuss, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)  
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) (via Zoom)

### Staff Present:

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 11:03 a.m.

### Introductions

Each person introduced themselves and their organization and Mr. McElroy identified those participating by zoom.

### Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the June 2, 2021 Technical Planning Committee Meeting was unanimously approved upon motion made by Mr. Shrimplin and seconded by Mr. Mehner.

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 5, 2021, Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved as amended upon motion by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Mr. Bollinger.

### 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

- **Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2022** – Upon a motion made by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Mr. Shrimplin, the committee approved the nomination of Mr. Bollinger as Chair and Mr. Christian as Vice Chair for the 2022 Fiscal Year.
- **Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan Request for Qualifications Draft** – Mr. McElroy noted that he had e-mailed a draft of the Request for Qualifications for the Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan. He asked that input and any edits be sent to him. He further suggested the same process be used for this as the MTP Update with a steering group formed to help with the process. He noted that once the solicitation is issued, a review of the proposals will determine the need for interviews. He requested comments within the next few weeks so the process can start as soon as the fiscal year begins. Mr. Sandfort asked if he or someone else from the University could be included in the committee. Ms. Watson and Mr. Shrimplin also requested to be part of the group as well.
- **Website Design** – Mr. McElroy noted that he had e-mailed a link to the new website which is not live yet. The new imagery has been incorporated. Mr. McElroy showed the group the draft, noting there is a restriction on the photos to use by SEMPO only and not by individual agencies. He clarified this with the photographer. The agencies would have to negotiate directly with the photographer for additional usage. There was a suggestion to put a disclaimer on the website itself noting the restriction. Comments were very positive regarding the look of the new site.
- **Member Reports**

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Shrimplin reported that under TTF5, the Fountain Street project is cancelled, and council will redistribute the funds. He went on to report that the city is in the acquisition phase on the Independence Street project. Mr. Shrimplin noted that the city is still in acquisition on the Main Street project and is working on finalizing the design. On the Sprigg Street project, staff has met with property owners to finalize the details and consultants are creating the acquisition exhibits. On the West End Boulevard project, the consultants are revising the plans to address sewer issues and staff will release the bid as soon as they are complete. On the 2021 concrete repair program the city is doing in house design and has advertised the project for bid. On TTF 6, the city is working on finalizing the general services agreements with consultants before it is started. Finally, Mr. Shrimplin reported the city is doing an in-house survey on Sprigg St.

City of Jackson – Mr. Bollinger provided an update on the two low water crossing bridge replacements in the city park. He noted they are close to bidding out the Hubble Ford bridge in the center of the park. This is the first to be replaced with an elevated bridge structure and

scheduled for construction this year. He went on to say that the West Mary St. low water replacement will occur next year. He noted that this year the city is working on defective and non-ADA compliant sidewalks on Mary Street between the park and Hwy 61 so these will be complete when the bridge is done in 2022. The city is out to bid on the annual asphalt improvement program. He noted that the city is acquiring easements for significant electric, water, and sewer projects.

CTA – Ms. Watson – Nothing new to report currently.

SEMO University – Mr. Sandfort noted the University is still trying to hire drivers.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian reported that at the next month's TPC meeting an Amendment will be presented on the TIP for the new and revised MoDOT projects. RPC has moved their TAC meetings to sync with their RPC meetings. These will still be held quarterly with the next meeting at 2:30 on Tuesday, July 27. He noted they will be doing prioritization of projects at this meeting and encouraged attendance.

Bootheel RPC – Mr. Perry reported their next TAC meeting is July 15.

MAGNET – Mr. Mehner noted that the legislature passed a gas tax, the first since 1993. There is talk of an initiative petition to try to send it to a vote of the people.

MoDOT – Mr. Okenfuss further explained the tax, noting it would be 12.5 cents over 5 years with a 2.5 cent raise each year. He said it was modeled after legislation in South Carolina that has a provision for a rebate of the tax for Missouri residents if they keep their receipts. There is opposition and the governor hasn't signed it yet.

Mr. Okenfuss went on to provide an update on Center junction, noting there will be one more traffic switch to come. Overall, the project is on schedule with just minor delays due to weather. He reported there is some work on I55 north of the SEMPO boundaries. Mr. Bollinger asked about a ribbon cutting for center junction and Mr. Okenfuss noted that MoDOT leaves that to the local entities.

Mr. Brandon gave additional information on the new tax which would begin October 1 if there is not a challenge. He reported that it might raise as much as \$500 million per year when fully implemented. This figure is not considering refunds so in reality it would be less. MoDOT gets 70% and cities and counties get 30%. He went on to note that the public comment period on the STIP ends June 4. He said they will work through the comments and then the STIP will be taken to the Commission on July 1 for approval. He said that they had the last letting of the fiscal year a few weeks ago. If the commission approves it, MoDOT will have awarded approximately \$76 million total in work in this district this year, which is about 8.5 % under budget. The next letting is next month for repairs to the Chester bridge. Mr. Brandon asked Mr. Christian to send the amendment back to MoDOT for a final review to make sure nothing was missed. Mr. Christian said they would have it before the TPC reviews.

I-DOT – Mr. Caldwell noted that the multi-year program was announced last week and is available on the website.

FHWA – Ms. Tracy had no report.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy noted he will be out of town next week and the next TPC meeting is at the Jackson Civic Center on July 7. He also noted the next two board meetings will be at the Jackson Civic Center.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:27 a.m. upon motion made by Mr. Mehner and seconded by Mr. Shrimplin.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Mills