



TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

October 5, 2022

Osage Centre

1625 N. Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Voting Members Present:

Mr. Drew Christian, SEMO Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)

Ms. Jackie Prater, Southeast Missouri Regional Port Authority (SEMO Port) (alternate for Ms. Mandi Brink)

Mr. Kirk Sandfort, Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) (via Zoom)

Mr. Ryan Shrimplin, City of Cape Girardeau

Ms. Kelley Watson, Cape Girardeau County Transit (CTA)

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

Mr. Mike Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)

Mr. Tom Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) (via Zoom)

Mr. Chris Crocker, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

Ms. Britni O'Connor, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) (via Zoom)

Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration – Ill Division (FHWA) (via Zoom)

Others Present:

None

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Marla Mills, KLG Engineering

Call to Order

Chairwoman Watson called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. with lack of quorum.

Introductions

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

Adoption of Agenda

Without quorum the agenda of the October 5, 2022, Technical Planning Committee Meeting was not approved.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 7, 2022, Technical Planning Committee Meeting were not approved due to lack of quorum.

Communications from the Chairwoman

Chairwoman Watson noted that she will be unavailable for the November TPC meeting date. Mr. Christian said he had a conflict also on that day but could be available if necessary. The Committee agreed to move next meeting date to Wednesday, November 9 at 11 a.m. Mr. McElroy noted he would check on a location and notify the Committee.

Public Comments

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

New/Unfinished Business

- **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-17, A Resolution Adopting the Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan** Mr. McElroy noted there is no rush on this plan so the adoption can wait until the November meeting. All comments received to date have been incorporated except for a summary at the end. Consultants Olssen are completing, and it would include a brief description of the initiative and objectives. It would also provide a candid assessment of where we are as far as EV adoption and how we should prioritize the recommendations in the short term and long term 10-year window. They will also provide a summary of their candid conversations with car dealerships which might provide some area sentiment on this topic. Our latest draft is on the SEMPO website and Mr. McElroy will follow up when the summary is complete and included. He noted he will put the plan on the November agenda including the additional information provided by the consultants and the Committee can approve at that time.
- **MoDOT and IDOT Performance Targets** Mr. McElroy noted this is for discussion only. The state has not approved their targets yet. They have established targets for safety, pavement and bridge, and system performance. They have not finalized Transit Asset Management. Mr. McElroy noted that the intent is to approve all of them at the same time and that is why these are presented for discussion only. Mr. McElroy said the due date is February 27, 2023, so there is time to answer questions and collect information. Mr. McElroy noted that traditionally SEMPO has adopted the state targets in lieu of creating our own. He said the state targets are continuing the same trajectory as in the past with safety focused on zero by 2030 fatality reduction and zero by 2040 for serious injury reduction. Mr. McElroy said their bridge and pavement was consistent too. He noted he is working on the assumption the group will support the state targets, so he is providing this information for discussion. He did note that he thought we might want to look at the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan before determining whether we follow the state targets or establish some with insight from that.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Shrimplin noted Sprigg St. is in the final stage and almost complete. Main Street had to be reworked and they are finishing plans. Independence St. is still in acquisition, working on appraisals.

CTA – Ms. Watson reported they have been working with several local partners including United Way and the Community Partnership in gathering information from the public about their needs in relation to transit. She noted that on October 20 there will be a town hall type meeting referred to as Transportation Conversations. This will be at the Shawnee Park center from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There are additional surveys in the works, and it ties into the work SEMPO is doing regarding the Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan. At Project HOPE this Friday there will be surveys taken. CTA will have a booth to gather and distribute information. They will have a large map of the bus system and ask for input on where they would like to see bus stop locations. Ms. Watson noted that she and Mr. Tom Mogelnicki recently attended the Missouri Public Transit Association state conference. She noted there were good discussions with FTA and MoDOT. She went on to say they continue to face driver and vehicle shortages. Ms. Watson said one of the things that came out of the conference was the realization they may not be able to get new vehicles through the state contract until 2024. This is due to supply chain issues and unsure pricing. She said without additional vehicles they can't hire additional drivers, creating more wait time.

SEMO – Mr. Sandfort reported they too are having a difficult time hiring drivers.

SEMO Port – Ms. Prater reported that BUILD is still on track and nothing new since last month.

SEMO RPC – Mr. Christian reported they are working on the TIP update and annual listing of projects.

MoDOT – Mr. Crocker reported that on the Rt 177, raising the road project, the contractor hopes to place asphalt next week and, depending on weather, they could have the project finished and opened to traffic by the end of the month. He said that on Rt. AB they will be doing diamond grinding next week and hope to have the project complete by end of month. On RT M in Scott City, they are doing signal and sidewalk work. He said there will be millfill work at end of month and will be taking out the signal loops at that time. He noted this will cause delays. Mr. Crocker said they will be opening Chester River Bridge up to two full lanes of traffic to help farmers with equipment movement across bridge. He went on to say they are reviewing the first set of PS&E documents. They hope to have the review complete and back to consultant Bacon Farmer by end of week. Mr. Crocker said they have awarded 18 TAP projects and 14 BRO projects in the district. He said notable for SEMPO is an award to Cape Girardeau County for \$700,000 for the Cape Girardeau County Walk Trail Phase I. The City of Cape Girardeau received about \$1 mill in funding for the Cape Rock Drive projects, Phase I & II. He went on to say that Jackson received \$550,000 for the East Main Street Trail Connection. He said that Cape County received a large BRO project for the replacement of Apple Creek bridge on County Rd. 501. He added that they are currently reviewing the Governor's cost share projects including one for Jackson. He said the selection for those will be early to late December.

Mr. Killian reported that the US 61 work from I 55 to 25 in Jackson, the Shawnee Dr Intersection, and the Donna Drive intersection have all been sent to a consultant. They expect a report back in September of next year so this will be an in-depth review. He went on to say that the Donna Drive project is in our current STIP as a FY 2026 project, so this will give enough time to make sure there is a good solution for that project.

Mr. Brandon said that the draft unfunded needs list was just sent to the planning partners for review. They are trying to complete it early to have time for a public meeting that is scheduled in Poplar Bluff on November 14 from 4-6 at Three Rivers Community College. He asked everyone to forward the information about the meeting on to their contacts.

IDOT - Mr. Caldwell had nothing to report.

FHWA - Ms. Tracy noted that the MPO's have been monitoring the discretionary programs. She said they are starting to see these coming out. In the next few years, projects will be funded through these discretionary programs. She noted it is a different process and new to everyone but feels SEMPO is in good place with our relationships.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy noted that as part of the workplan for this year, we are updating the Public Transit - Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan (HSTCP). He said that, as Ms. Watson mentioned, the United Way has formed a Transportation Coalition comprised of transit service providers, social service agencies, juvenile district court, the university, and Cape City (Mayor). At the first meeting, the group brainstormed about how to go about gathering information on transit services needs. He said that SEMPO is piggybacking off those public engagement efforts. He said we will be attending the October 20 open house and will be participating in a social service project called Project Hope this Friday where volunteers will be asking participants specific questions regarding transportation. The information and answers provided will be compiled. It was noted that there will be a written survey to follow this for the public. Mr. McElroy noted that this joint effort will strengthen the plan moving forward. Mr. McElroy went on to say there will be a public meeting on November 3rd for the draft TIP plan that SEMO RPC is working on. The location is yet undetermined. He said there is nothing new on the carbon reduction program or the Safe Streets and Roads for All application.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Mills