



TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 2, 2023

Osage Centre

1625 N. Kingshighway, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Technical Planning Committee (TPC) Voting Members Present:

Ms. Katrina Amos, Cape Girardeau Regional Airport (via Zoom)
Mr. Drew Christian, SEMO Regional Planning Commission (SEMO RPC)
Mr. Jay Knudtson, Cape Girardeau County
Mr. Mark Phillips, Cape Special Road District
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. Michael Brandon, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Tom Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Mr. Chris Crocker, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Mike Henderson, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Joe Killian, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Ms. Betsy Tracy, Federal Highway Administration – IL Division (FHWA) (via Zoom)

Others Present:

Mr. Trey Scott, Intern, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Mr. Jeff Long, Southeast Missourian

Staff Present:

Mr. Alex McElroy, City of Cape Girardeau

Program Administration/Support Consultant Present:

Ms. Kelly Green, KLG Engineering (via Zoom)

Call to Order

Chairwoman Watson opened the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Introductions

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

Adoption of Agenda

Upon a motion by Mr. Shrimplin and seconded by Mr. Christian, the agenda of the August 2, 2023, meeting was adopted.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 5, 2023, Technical Planning Committee Meeting were unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. Christian and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Communications from the Chairwoman

Ms. Watson stated that she will reserve her communications for Member Reports.

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. 2023-07, A Resolution Expressing Support of a Transportation Alternatives Program application by the City of Cape Girardeau for Cape LaCroix Trail Enhancements** – Mr. McElroy explained that City of Cape Girardeau is interested in applying for funding to make enhancements for the Cape LaCroix Trail. The City of Cape Girardeau used recommendations from the 2014 master plan for trail enhancements along with SEMPO's Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan which utilized public input. One of the enhancements would take the existing trail from Bloomfield Road overpass south to Shawnee Park Center at the trail head by the soccer fields. They would widen the trail from 8' to 12' and possible other enhancements depending on engineering estimates. The application will need approval by the City Council and one of the application components includes a letter of support from the SEMPO. There were three phases of widening for the trail and this is the third section to be completed. Upon a motion by Mr. Shrimplin and seconded by Mr. Phillips, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-07, A Resolution Expressing Support of a Transportation Alternatives Program application by the City of Cape Girardeau for Cape LaCroix Trail Enhancements was unanimously approved.
- **2024 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment No. 1** – Mr. McElroy explained that a large handout was sent out electronically prior to meeting. A print out is made available at the meeting. When the 2024-2027 TIP was adopted two months ago it was known that this amendment would be coming. Mr. Christian explained that most of the amendment includes changes to existing projects due to inflation. Only two or three that are listed are new projects. Mr. Brandon stated that a recommendation to approve the amendment is needed at this time in order to meet the schedule. Upon a motion by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shrimplin, 2024 - 2027 Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment No. 1 was unanimously approved.
- **Draft SS4A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan RFP** – Mr. McElroy stated that the subcommittee and FHWA reviewed the RFP. The RFP was sent out on July 6. The proposals are due on August 11. The RFP was emailed to local and regional consulting firms, posted on Association of Metropolitan Planning Organization's online RFP board, and posted on SEMPO's website.

- **SEMPO Region Trail Connection Study** – Mr. McElroy explained that he included all the workplan elements from the UPWP on agenda so that members can see the status of each element. He is not quite ready to start this study as the SS4A RFP was a priority due to federal grant timeline. The subcommittee will include Jackson City Engineer, Anna Bergmark, and Jackson Parks and Recreation Representative, Jason Lipe, Cape Girardeau City Planner, Ryan Shrimplin, and Cape Girardeau Parks Division Manager, Kaed Horrell. If any other members are interested in serving on this committee, please let Mr. McElroy know. Mr. McElroy will send the 2018 Regional Bike/Ped plan to the subcommittee to familiarize themselves with it. The first order of business will be defining a scope of what to accomplish with the study.
- **Intersection Studies** – Mr. McElroy noted that he received consensus from the TPC at the last meeting that County Road 621 and Perryville Road should be one of the intersections to be studied. City of Jackson staff Rodney Bollinger and Anna Bergmark recommended studies along Rte D between Broadridge Drive and Rosebud Drive and along Broadridge Drive between Lewis drive and Rte D. This is the area at Jackson Middle School. Mr. McElroy had been contacted by the Assistant Principal at this school to see what options were available to enhance safety of their students crossing this road considering it is a MoDOT owned route. Some voiced concerns include the speed of vehicles and the intersections are difficult for the students to navigate. This recommendation is more of a corridor as opposed to just one intersection analysis. Mr. Knudtson asked if the Jackson representatives thought this area is more of a priority than Capital Sand intersection that they had once discussed. Mr. Crocker stated that MoDOT Traffic Division had studied the school area once before and he agreed to share the information with Mr. McElroy.
- **GIS Audit** – Mr. McElroy stated that he is working with SEMO RPC to develop public facing interactive maps for SEMPO's website. Mr. Christian stated that a new employee has begun working on these maps. As the maps are developed, a section of the SEMPO website will be dedicated for these.
- **TIP Tool Selection** – Mr. McElroy will begin this item as workload capacity allows him to. This software was purchased in 2018 through an RFP. There was a five-year maintenance agreement which has expired and now SEMPO is paying month to month until there is another RFP.
- **Origin & Destination Analytical Tool** – McElroy reminded the group that instead of doing a full origin and destination study as originally discussed and with having two large projects going on this year, the Board discussed scaling this item down. Now he is intentionally waiting to start this one because as part of the SS4A project a consultant may already have a tool that they prefer. Mr. McElroy had been presented three different tool demos. The software is geared towards different entities and the type of information the entity wants to gather. Placer is used by many RPC's and municipal partners for economic development and retail purposes. Other programs are more transportation oriented. He will begin this after the SS4A consultant is selected.

Member Reports

City of Cape Girardeau – Mr. Shrimplin noted that the TTF6 and pavement repair projects are continuing to move forward.

City of Jackson – No one present to report.

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

Cape Special Road District – Mr. Phillips noted they are ready to begin on a bridge replacement project on County Rd 657. He said that other than that, they are doing routine maintenance.

CTA – Ms. Watson reported that Mr. Mogelnicki is retiring. The Board will conduct a search for a new Executive Director. Kathy Mangels, retired Vice President of Finance and Administration at Southeast State University, is new chairperson. Calvin Garner of Community Partnership of Southeast Missouri is the vicechair. One new board member, Becky Holloway and one vacant board position.

Cape Girardeau Regional Airport – Ms. Amos reported that the new terminal project is moving along with foundations and footings. The vertical construction should begin within the next couple of weeks. The project is on schedule. Next Tuesday demolition for the new t-hangars begins. Grading and sitework will start after.

SEMO RPC - Mr. Christian reported that the TAC meeting was held last week and they discussed regional priorities. Also, he is working on a few TAP applications.

MoDOT –

Mr. Crocker reported that MoDOT has made the BRO selections and announcements will be made on Friday. Call for TAP project applications is due tomorrow. The 61 and Hubble Creek Bridge project may have a modified schedule as there have been change requests for utilities. He will know more about this next Tuesday. He recently met with the City of Cape Girardeau regarding their TAP project at Kingshighway and Kiwanis Drive and the contractor will begin soon. He noted that plan review on the cost share project at Minnesota Ave/Hwy 74 is underway and MoDOT will send comments out soon. Then the project can be advertised for construction. He noted there are utility challenges and ROW issues at the Jackson Deerwood Drive roundabout project that they are currently working through.

Mr. Killian reported the public meeting for the Unfunded Needs List is at the Bootheel RPC in Dexter on Tuesday, August 15 from 4 to 6 p.m. The TEAP program is opening again and will close on September 8. He reported that MoDOT has received the draft urban boundaries from Census Bureau Central Office has reviewed these changes. MoDOT will meet with Cape Girardeau, Jackson, and Illinois to review the new boundaries. Comments are due back to FHWA in December.

FHWA MO Division - Mr. Henderson stated that there is a new requirement from FHWA to develop a carbon reduction strategy due in November. MoDOT has hired High Street Consulting to create this strategy and this effort is getting kicked off. SEMPO will hear more about this over the next couple of months.

IDOT – Mr. Caldwell reported that he has concerns about foliage blocking highway signage as this can be a safety issue. He mentioned that perhaps the MPO could fund a study of spot problem locations to present to operational staff. MoDOT reported that they complete an annual inspection of retro reflectivity, leaning signs, along with vegetative growth/foliage. Ms. Tracy mentioned that federal dollars do have limitations so be sure this type of study would be an eligible activity before proceeding.

FHWA IL Division – Ms. Tracy congratulated SEMPO for receiving the SS4A grant as this type of report can identify some good candidate projects.

Staff Report

Mr. McElroy had nothing additional to report.

Other Business and Communications

There was no other business or communications.

Adjournment Motion

Upon a motion by Mr. Christian and seconded by Mr. Phillips, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Green