

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION  
TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 17, 2024**

The Technical Planning Committee of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time in person. A quorum was declared present. Chair Nelson began the meeting at approximately 1:32 p.m.

The following members were present:

Paula Brookshire (a), City of Springfield	John Matthews, Missouri State University
Steve Childers, City of Springfield	Frank Miller, MoDOT
Matt Crawford, City Utilities	Angela Nelson (a), Greene County (Chair)
Angel Falig (a), City of Republic	Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark
Martin Gugel, City of Springfield	Jeff Roussell, City of Nixa
Tristan Losh, City of Battlefield	Beth Schaller, MoDOT
Joel Keller (a), Greene County	Ben Vickers (non-voting), Springfield Chamber
Mary Kromrey, Ozark Greenways	Mark Webb, Greene County

*(a) Denotes alternate given voting privileges as a substitute when voting member not present*

The following members were not present:

Keith Adams, Springfield Public Schools	Aishwarya Shrestha (non-voting), SMCOG
Mike Ruesch, City of Willard	Jeremy Wegner, BNSF
David Schaumburg, Springfield-Branson Airport	Vacant, FTA
Mark Schenkelberg, FAA	Daniel Weitkamp, FHWA
Tim Schowe, City of Strafford	Todd Wiesehan, Christian County

Others present were: Corey Becker, City of Nixa; King Coltrin, City of Springfield; Kimberly Ader, MoDOT; Cliff Spangler, City of Ozark; Neil Brady, Bartlett & West; Garrett Brickner, Wilson & Company; Andrew Novinger, City of Battlefield; Nicole Boyd, Dave Faucett, Sara Fields, David Knaut, Natasha Longpine, and Debbie Parks, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

**I. Administration**

**A. Introductions**

Chair Nelson welcomed everyone.

**B. Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda**

Jeff Roussell made a motion to approve the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda for April 17, 2024. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**C. Approval of February 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Mary Kromrey made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2024 Technical Planning Committee Meetings. Martin Gugel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**D. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items**

Chair Nelson advised there were public comments included in the packet and that there was an additional packet of comments for review that were received after the agenda was sent out at each seat. Chair Nelson asked for comments or questions.

**E. Executive Director's Report**

Sara Fields shared staff have been working with jurisdictions to get projects moving. OTO has also been working with MoDOT to provide training. The first training was on Right-of-Way. There will be a follow-up appraisal training, virtually, on May 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 – 11:30. There will also be an Environmental Review training May 30<sup>th</sup>.

There are two outstanding grants that have been applied for. One is a RAISE grant for the MM Corridor in Republic. The award should be announced in June. The second one is a RAISE grant for the City of Springfield's "Ungap the Trail Map." MM will be cycled into the next grant cycle for MEGA INFRA Rural. Staff continue to look for grant opportunities and sending out a monthly grant newsletter.

The OTO's Travel Demand Model is being updated. The update is anticipated to be complete by June. Once this has been completed the FF study will be revisited.

The Board of Directors approved the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan priorities list. Projects selected for the STIP won't be known until released for comment at the MHTC meeting in May.

Governor Parson appointed Ann Marie Baker, a representative from Southwest Missouri to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.

Missouri's House funding proposal of \$727.5 million for I-44 projects in Springfield, Rolla, and Joplin will go forward to the Senate for approval.

If the projects on the agenda are recommended for approval by the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors approves them, it would leave approximately \$3.5 million for Transportation Alternative Program projects (TAP) that will be available in the July/August call for projects.

**F. Legislative Report**

There were no Legislative Reports.

**G. MoDOT Report**

Frank Miller reported staff have been working on the Unfunded Needs List. A draft STIP should be out in May.

Beth Schaller shared MoDOT will have a public meeting on the widening of US 65 in Ozark. The meeting will be May 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm at the OTC campus in Ozark.

MoDOT staff will be working on a value engineering study on the I-44 Corridor.

SMCOG is starting to schedule their Needs meetings in May and June.



## **H. Committee Reports and Grant Opportunities**

David Knaut stated there was one Local Coordinating Board for Transit meeting where they reviewed, scored, and made recommendations to the Board of Directors for FTA 5310 funding for 6 vehicles. The Board of Directors approved the funding. They are included in a TIP Administrative Modification in the agenda today.

There were two meetings of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. There was a call for projects in March, which is included in this agenda, for MoDOT/OTO Sidewalk Cost Share Program and trail and sidewalk engineering.

Debbie Parks shared the grants update. A newsletter will be sent out the first week of every month. This will include local project administration updates, open planning positions within the jurisdictions and partner agencies, and any upcoming events or training. The grants website is kept up to date with grant opportunities. The revised NOFO for the Safe Streets and Road for All was just released. The CRISI Grant applications are due May 28<sup>th</sup>.

If any jurisdictions or agencies are applying for a grant and would like a support letter from OTO, please reach out to a staff member. The discretionary grant applications usually require a certification for inclusion into the TIP.

## **II. New Business**

### **A. FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program**

Debbie Parks reviewed the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program which included plans and programs the MPO will undertake during the fiscal year.

Frank Miller made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **B. MoDOT/OTO Sidewalk Cost Share Program Recommendation**

Dave Knaut shared the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee recommended the City of Springfield Sunshine Project receive \$626,000 in TAP/CRP funds.

Steve Childers made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve TAP/CRP funding for Springfield in the amount of \$626,000 for a cost share with MoDOT along Sunshine. Martin Gugel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **C. Trail and Sidewalk Engineering Funding Recommendation**

David Knaut reviewed the 10 applications that were submitted and recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for trail and sidewalk engineering using TAP/CRP funding. The ten applications were:

1. Jordan Creek Greenway Trail – Mt. Vernon Street to College Street
2. South Creek Greenway Trail – Posenke Gap
3. Ward Branch Greenway Trail – National Avenue to Fremont Avenue
4. Wilson's Creek Greenway Trail – Ewing Park West to Rutledge-Wilson Park
5. Fassnight Creek Greenway Trail – Skate Park to Fort

6. Jackson Street Connection/Chadwick Flyer Phase I
7. Kali Springs Trail Connector
8. Blue Stem – Phase I of North Ozark Greenway Trail
9. Finley River Trail – Western Expansion
10. Fassnight Creek Greenway – Glenstone to Enterprise

Jeremy Parsons made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve TAP/CRP funding for the ten submitted sidewalk and trail engineering projects. Jeff Roussell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**D. FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment Four**

Natasha Longpine stated there were multiple items included as part of Amendment Number Four to the FY 2024-2027 TIP Amendment.

1. \*New\* Jordan Creek Trail – Mount Vernon to College (EN2414)
2. \*New\* South Creek Greenway – Posenke (EN2415)
3. \*New\* Ward Branch Greenway – National to Fremont (EN2416)
4. \*New\* Wilson’s Creek Trail – Ewing to Rutledge-Wilson (EN2417)
5. \*New\* Fassnight Trail from Skate Park to Fort (EN2418)
6. \*New\* Chadwick Jackson Street Connector (EN2419)
7. \*New\* Kali Springs Trail Connector (EN2420)
8. \*New\* Blue Stem Phase I North Ozark Greenway (EN2421)
9. \*New\* Finley River Trail Western Extension (EN2422)
10. \*New\* Fassnight Greenway – Glenstone to Enterprise (EN2423)
11. \*Revised\* Downtown N. Main Street – City of Nixa (NX2301)
12. \*Revised\* Project Development for Route CC Capital Improvements (OK2301)
13. \*New\* Grant Avenue Viaduct (SP2502)
14. \*New\* Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge (Benton Avenue) (SP2503)

Matt Crawford made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve Amendment 4 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. Mary Kromrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**E. FY 2024-2027 TIP Administrative Modification 5**

Natasha Longpine highlighted the changes included as part of Administrative Modification 5 to the FY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program. These changes do not affect Fiscal Constraint.

1. Shuyler Creek Trail (EN2010)
2. Mount Vernon and Miller Sidewalks (EN2412)
3. MO 14 Roadway Improvements 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue (OK2201)
4. RT MM Road Relocation, Railroad Grade Separation, and Corridor Scoping (RP1704)
5. MO 125 Intersection Improvements in Strafford (ST2201)
6. 5310 Traditional Projects Reserve 2021-2023 (MO1729)

This was informational only. No action was required.



**F. Unfunded Needs List**

Sara Fields reviewed the additions to the MoDOT Unfunded Needs List, including Multimodal Unfunded Needs, recommended by the STIP Subcommittee, a subcommittee of the Technical Planning Committee.

Mary Kromrey made a motion to recommend the presented list of unfunded needs to the Board of Directors for consideration by MoDOT. Jeremy Parsons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**G. March 31, 2024 Federal Funds Balance Report and Status Update**

Natasha Longpine gave a status update regarding the Federal Funds Balance Report. The OTO area must obligate \$12.3 million by September 30, 2024 or MoDOT will take funding to use on MoDOT roads.

This was informational only. No action was required. Staff are asking jurisdictions to review the report for any inaccuracies or changes in project status.

**H. Safe Streets and Roads for All Update**

Natasha Longpine shared staff are working with an engineering consultant to finalize the at-risk roadway features. The consultants are using Strava Metro, a community based version of Strava. The consultant is looking at where there is a lot of pedestrian and bicycle activity in relation to crashes. OTO staff have requested from each jurisdiction policies related to safety. Staff will be working on a high-injury network map and how that looks for each community. The next step will be the project development list.

This was informational only. No action was required.

**I. Public Participation Plan Annual Evaluation**

David Knaut presented the annual Public Participation Plan Evaluation.

This was informational only. No action was required.

**J. Title VI/ADA Program Update/Limited English Proficiency Plan**

David Knaut presented the Title VI/ADA Program update and reviewed the Limited English Proficiency Plan to the Committee.

Matt Crawford made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the Title VI/ADA Program Update, as well as the LEP Plan. Mary Kromrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**III. Other Business**

**A. Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements**

Mary Kromrey shared the Ozark Greenways will be hosting Bike, Walk, and Wheel Week May 13-19. More information is available on their website.

Matt Crawford stated City Utilities Transit will be hosting an Open House/Public Meeting for potential route and fare changes that will go into effect on October 1<sup>st</sup>. It will be May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Transit Center from 7:00 am – 6:00 pm.

**B. Transportation Issues for Technical Planning Committee Review**

There were no transportation issues for Committee review.

**C. Articles for Technical Planning Committee Member Information**

Chair Nelson noted there were articles of interest included in the Agenda Packet.

**IV. Adjournment**

Mary Kromrey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Roussell seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:40 p.m.



Angela Nelson

Technical Planning Committee Chair