

**OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16, 2024**

The Technical Planning Committee of the Ozarks Transportation Organization met at its scheduled time in person. A quorum was declared present. Chair Parsons began the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Eric Claussen, City of Springfield
King Coltrin (a), City of Springfield
Matt Crawford, City Utilities
Karen Haynes, City of Republic
Adam Humphrey, Greene County
Joel Keller (a), Greene County
Frank Miller, MoDOT

John Montgomery (a), Ozarks Greenway
Jeremy Parsons, City of Ozark (Chair)
Jeff Roussell, City of Nixa
Tim Schowe, City of Strafford
Mark Webb, Greene County
Daniel Weitkamp (non-voting), FHWA

(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
Steve Childers, City of Springfield
Tristan Losh, City of Battlefield
John Matthews, Missouri State University
Mike Ruesch, City of Willard
Beth Schaller, MoDOT
Mark Schenkelberg, FAA

David Schaumburg, Springfield-Branson National Airport
Aishwarya Shrestha (non-voting), SMCOG
Ben Vickers (non-voting), Springfield Chamber
Jeremy Wegner, BNSF
Todd Wiesehan, Christian County
Vacant, FTA

Others present were: Jered Taylor, Congressman Eric Burlison's Office; Scott Bachman, City of Springfield; Derrick Estell, Toth & Associates; Kirsty Ketchum, Greene County; Cliff Spangler, Ozark; Nicole Boyd, Dave Faucett, Sara Fields, David Knaut, Natasha Longpine, Debbie Parks, and Jen Thomas, Ozarks Transportation Organization.

I. Administration

A. Introductions

Chair Parsons welcomed everyone.

B. Approval of the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

Adam Humphrey made a motion to approve the Technical Planning Committee Meeting Agenda for October 16, 2024. Karen Haynes seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. Approval of August 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Jeff Roussell made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2024 Technical Planning Committee meeting. John Montgomery seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. Public Comment Period for All Agenda Items

Chair Parsons advised there were public comments included in the packet. Chair Parsons asked for comments or questions.

E. Executive Director's Report

Sara Fields thanked those who were able to attend the Legislative Breakfast. The Legislative Priorities for the 2025 Legislative session were presented. The priorities included \$6 million for MM in Republic, additional funding for I-44, additional funding for the Governor's Cost Share program, and additional funding for multimodal priorities.

The travel demand model is almost complete with 2050 updates. The finalized files should be available in approximately a month.

F. Legislative Report

Jered Taylor with Congressman Eric Burlison's office stated the House is currently out of session due to the election. The Congressman has been touring the district on the Annual Ag tour in the western half of the district. The Congressman has also been visiting manufacturers in the area. Matthew Smith, the legislative transportation contact, with Congressman Burlison's office will be leaving the end of the year. Hannah Balash will be assuming those responsibilities. All the DC staff was in town last week to tour the district. After the election, the budget will be one of the top priorities.

G. MoDOT Report

Frank Miller shared that Stacy Reese presented a MoDOT update at the OTO Legislative Breakfast. The first wave of bids for I-44 are planned for December. The second wave includes the big design build that will cover Springfield to Joplin.

H. Committee Reports and Grant Opportunities

David Knaut stated that there has been one meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. While there was not an LCBT meeting, the OTO Board approved the Program Management Plan for the 5310 Program. At the BPAC meeting there was a presentation on the activities in the Statewide Active Transportation Plan to enhance conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians statewide. There were discussions regarding the Destination Safe Streets plan and the policies and educational programs for local jurisdictions. The Committee reviewed a few critical sidewalk gaps outside of the MoDOT system and possibly prioritizing those local needs and gaps in preparation for a future call for projects. OTO jurisdictions are encouraged to send critical gaps to the staff.

Debbie Parks shared OTO is hosting a Grant Writing Workshop on October 24th. Grants that are currently open include: MoDOT Regional Bridge Program, MoDOT's Cost Share Program, Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program, EPA's Clean School Bus Rebate Program, and RAISE. There is more information about these grants on the Grant page of the OTO website.

I. Federal Fund Status Update

Jen Thomas reported the OTO MPO area was able to reach 130% of the annual obligation for 2024. Staff are waiting to find out what MoDOT's 2025 goal will be for the OTO MPO area. Staff continue to

monitor the critical projects as well as what is pending for FY 2025. Jurisdictions are encouraged to review the list and contact staff with any questions. There will be a meeting in December for all the Project Managers to review their respective projects.

II. New Business

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

Natasha Longpine stated the Safety Action Plan process was divided into several parts, with an Equity Engagement Consultant, Safety Engineering Consultant, and OTO staff each contributing. The work of the Safety Engineering Consultant has concluded with several technical memos outlining the findings of their work. The complete draft plan will be presented to the Technical Planning Committee in December. Representatives from Lochmueller presented the Technical Memos.

John Montgomery made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors accept the safety engineering technical memos. Jeff Roussell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. **FY 2025-2028 TIP Amendment Two**

Natasha Longpine shared the items included as part of Amendment Number Two to the FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program.

- ***New* Nicholas and Tracker (CC2504)**
Christian County is requesting to add engineering, ROW, and construction of intersection improvements at Nicholas and Tracker for a total programmed amount of \$1,305,000.
- ***New* MoDOT Permit Review (MO2523)**
MoDOT is requesting to add review of permit projects at various locations for a total programmed cost of \$75,000.

Adam Humphrey made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve FY 2025-2028 TIP Amendment Two. Eric Claussen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. **TAP Project Schedule Extension**

Jen Thomas presented the revised schedules for the Cheyenne Road Multi-Use Trail and the Finley River Extension Project.

Jeff Roussell made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the revised reasonable progress schedule for the Cheyenne Road multi-use trail and the Finley River extension project. Adam Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

D. **September 30, 2024 Federal Funds Balance Report**

Natasha Longpine highlighted the Federal Funds Balance Report. Members were asked to review the report and advise staff of any discrepancies.

No action was requested - - Informational only

E. **FY 2026-2030 STIP Priorities**

Sara Fields reviewed the recommended priorities for inclusion in the FY 2026-2030 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

John Montgomery made a motion to recommend the Board of Directors approve the STIP Priorities. Karen Haynes seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Other Business

A. Technical Planning Committee Member Announcements

Matt Crawford reported the fare decrease was approved and implemented. The new routes and technology are working well.

Jeremy Parsons stated the combined three phases of the pedestrian overpass in Ozark will receive bids on November 14th.

Sara Fields shared MoDOT, in partnership with the City of Springfield and City Utilities, in some cases, have been putting sidewalks on some of the major roads. This effort has made a huge difference in our area.

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

IV. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.



Jeremy Parsons
Technical Planning Committee Chairman-Elect