



# Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

**Attending:** Chris Weiner (Barry), Todd Wiesehan (Christian), Kim Kinder (Dade), John Crawford (Dallas), Bill Monday (Dallas), Joel Keller (Greene), Mark Webb (Greene), Howard Fisk (Greene), Jon Holmes (Lawrence), Tim Selvey (Lawrence), Joe Kelley (Lawrence), Rick Davis (Polk), Kyle Lee (Polk), Randy Reed (Stone), Chris Daugherty (Stone), Matt Briand (Taney), Sheila Wyatt (Taney), Sam Rost (Webster)

Beth Schaller (MoDOT), Brad Kelley (MoDOT), Jason Ray (SMCOG), Aishwarya Shrestha (SMCOG), Courtney Pinkham (SMCOG), Pratika Banjara (SMCOG), Erin Engelmeyer (Senator Hawley), Jered Taylor (Senator Burlison), Tucker Jobes (Senator Schmidt), David Knaut (OTO)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Todd Wiesehan.

## 1. Introductions and Pledge

Self-introductions were made.

## 2. Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Randy Reed, motion seconded by Tim Selvey. All ayes. Motion carried.

## 3. Approval of minutes

Motion to approve November 8, 2023, meeting minutes made by Randy Reed, motion seconded by Bill Monday. All ayes. Motion carried.

## 4. SMCOG Staff Update

Aishwarya Shrestha announced that SMCOG was selected by USDOT to develop a regional Safety Action Plan as well as conduct Demonstration or Other Supplemental Planning activities through the Safe Streets and Roads for All program. Total project costs are anticipated to be \$250,000. A total of \$200,000 was awarded in grant funds and SMCOG is required to provide a 20% (\$50,000) cash or in-kind match toward the project.

Aishwarya noted that USDOT has published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for \$1.5 billion in grant funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program. The deadline for application is February 28. She also mentioned that SMCOG will be submitting a RAISE grant application to develop a Statewide Rural EV Strategy in partnership with all the Regional Planning Commissions. SMCOG will be the lead applicant for this application.

Aishwarya mentioned that the May 8 TAC meeting is cancelled as it falls on Truman Day. She highlighted MoDOT's virtual public meeting from Jan 8-22 for curve realignment at Rt. 160 in Dade County.

## 5. MoDOT Update

Beth Schaller stated that the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission has appointed 2 new members. MoDOT's budget was submitted to the legislation for approval. She mentioned that since inflation seems to stabilize, they were able to lower the inflation rate to 4% from 7%. MoDOT is finalizing its 2024 construction guide and will send a copy to Aishwarya when completed. There will be road closures as MoDOT works on pipe replacements.

Brad Kelley announced that call for TAP applications will open on March 1 and will close on April 26.

**6. MPO Update**

David Knaut mentioned that OTO is starting their public meetings for the Safe Streets and Roads for All project. Online surveys will also be made available. OTO has opened their call for projects for 5310 funds.

**7. Legislative Reports**

Erin Englemeyer recapped Senator Hawley’s 2023 achievements.

Tucker Jobes mentioned that Senator Schmidt has been working to get the budget approved, this is his biggest concern. Jason Ray stated that EDA is tied up in trying to get their budget approved and would appreciate any help from Senator Schmidt to get this finalized. Jason also mentioned that SMOG supports any funding for Missouri for disaster funds.

Jered Taylor echoed Tucker’s update that Senator Burlison’s biggest concern is the status of the budget and avoiding a partial government shutdown. Senator Burlison is working on the Water Research Development Act - they have sent the bill for technical drafting assistance and will meet further with the Army Corp of Engineers, this act will affect the Table Rock Lake. Hank Smythe asked who was in control over the Corp of Engineers. Jered responded that it is run internally. Sheila Wyatt stated that Taney County has had difficulty working with the Corp of Engineers, stating the Corp of Engineers is removing access points to Table Rock Lake.

**8. Other Member Updates & Guest Reports**

None.

**9. Adjourn by Chair**

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Todd Wiesehan.

The next meeting will be on March 13, 2024.

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