



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Alumni Center – Hospitality Room, May 11, 2005

Attending: Ken Bacon, Terry Campbell, Steve Coller, George Cutbirth, Billy Dryer, Danny Garbee, Dawne Gardner, Phil Hutchens, Kayte Johnson, Joel Keller, Bill Marshall, David Miller, Bill Monday, Al Moon, Eric Seifried, Andrew Seiler, Jack Swearingen, Jay Waggoner, Robert Walster, Stan Whitehurst

SMCOG Staff: Natasha Longpine

INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the March 9, 2005 Meeting were approved. *Moon/Cutbirth*

MODOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 7, ANDREW SEILER

Construction on 37 continues in Barry County, plus there will be some lane closures as well as night work. The resurfacing of I-44 in Lawrence County is on a scheduled delay while the contractor completes another project in Kansas. This will be an 8-inch concrete overlay. Work will start in July and should be done before December 1, 2005 though once paving has begun, the contractor has 100 days to complete. This will be in conjunction with the diamond grinding and asphalt overlay on I-44 which is an SRI project.

MODOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 8, DAWNE GARDNER

There are several upcoming projects in District 8 including the Route O Bridge in Greene County and a signal at James River and FF. The District will be letting work on West Bypass, epoxy seal jobs on bridges in Polk and Greene Counties, as well as an overlay on Dallas County NN. In June, the resurfacing of I-44 in Greene and Webster Counties will be let.

The Highway Bill is getting close. An amendment has been offered to raise the amount from \$284 billion up \$10 to \$13 billion. It will go to conference where the House and the Administration are at \$284. The goal is to get this done before the judicial nominations come forth.

TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

District 7, Andrew Seiler

The applications are due June 1, 2005. There is a funding cap of half the \$450,000 available this round - \$225,000. District staff are available for help in completing the applications. There have only been a few applications thus far as well as a few other interested agencies. The earlier the applications are submitted, the more District 7 can ensure a quality product. The committee review date has not yet been set, but selected projects will go to the Commission in September.

District 8, Dawne Gardner

District 8 has not yet received any applications which are also due June 1, 2005, but many phone calls have been received. The maximum funding level is \$200,000 per agency. A workshop was held in April with interested agencies where the application and guidelines. The selection team will meet on June 15th to score the applications. In September, a mandatory workshop will be held for any agency receiving an award.

STATEWIDE MAJOR PROJECT PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

Jay Waggoner

Several of the selected statewide major projects were in southwest Missouri. These still have yet to be approved by the Commission, but include the 4-laning of Highway 65 in Taney County to the Arkansas state line, the 4-laning of Highway 65 from I-44 to EE just north of Fair Grove, plus in the MPO, work towards the I-44/65 as well as the 60/65 interchanges will receive funding. In District 7, the recommended projects were not within the SMCOG area. As for the 60/37 study, it could not be included in this process, but the MPO has proposed completing the District 8 portion of the study while District 7 has yet to receive an answer on being able to pursue a consultant again.

In the February meeting, each District had a vote and two people in Central Office had a vote. The initial project ranking was done by High, Medium, and Low. The second meeting ranked based on funding. Overall, there were \$1.4 billion in projects proposed. Highway 67 in Madison County is a cost share project, with \$50 million being contributed locally. Those projects which were ranked high, but did not receive funding will be next on the list if funding becomes available. With those approved, the list is \$30 million over available funding, but each district has been asked to cut the projects down where possible, plus District 8 had committed to using District funds to help pay for projects.

The same funding distribution which SMCOG and the other RPCs and planning partners in the state helped MoDOT develop, was used to distribute the Amendment 3 funding. Springfield received \$50 million, while St. Louis and Kansas City received a set amount, and the rest was available statewide.

As an aside, Steve Coller mentioned an update on Highways 125 and 60. A developer has proposed the idea of an interchange at the intersection. Rogersville may annex depending upon working with Greene County.

Andrew Seiler

Both the Bella Vista and Range Line Bypasses were selected for funding through the Major Projects process. The Bella Vista bypass will relieve traffic going to Arkansas. Of all the projects selected, the one requirement was that they could be constructed within the current STIP cycle.

Relating to questions about the Highway 60 realignment, when Proposition B failed, the Commission did not think it was fair to put a line on the map, when there was not funding to construct the roadway. A preliminary EIS was completed just short of picking the alignment. Now the MPO will complete the study and pick a location, even though the MPO may need to

commit funds to buying right-of-way. When it comes to MoDOT holding right-of-way, something must start within 5 years of completing the environmental impact, otherwise the study must be reviewed. Class 1 counties may control right-of way, but Christian County is not yet a Class 1.

DRAFT 2006-2010 STIP

District 7, Andrew Seiler

The Commission is currently reviewing the STIP. Preliminary Engineering only includes bridge replacement projects addressing Class 3 bridges. Construction in Barry County on 37 is filling the gap from Monett to Cassville. In Dade County, Class 3 bridges will be replaced, while in Lawrence, several will be epoxy sealing bridges. A cost share on 39 with the City of Aurora will assist trucks with turning movements at a new development.

District 8, Jay Waggoner

A few more projects have been added to the STIP since the last meeting. These include the 4-laning of 65 from I-44 to EE just north of Fair Grove, as well as from Hollister to the Arkansas state line. MoDOT has gone to “practical design,” which is meant to save money on projects, thus using the saved dollars to fund additional projects. These savings will epoxy seal 18 bridges, as well as replace a few bridge decks and completing some scrub seals and overlays. Scrub seals prevent water from getting into cracks, while the epoxy seal will create a rough surface, providing better traction.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR FY2006

George Cutbirth is nominated for Chair. *Dryer/Collier*

No other nominations.

Close nominations. *Dryer/Moon*

Unanimous vote to elect George Cutbirth as TAC Chair.

Bill Marshall is nominated for Vice-Chair. *Dryer/Miller*

No other nominations.

Close nominations. *Moon/Cutbirth*

Unanimous vote to elect Bill Marshall as TAC Vice-Chair.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jay Waggoner is retiring and will be going to work for a consulting firm in Springfield. EFK Moen is opening an office in Springfield and has asked Jay to head it up. Jay will be doing design work. EFK Moen has projects with MoDOT, Branson, Springfield, Lebanon, and in District 7. The firm was looking for an office closer than Kansas City. Jay’s retirement will be effective as of May 31, 2005.

ADJOURN

Moon/Collier