



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Alumni Center – Hospitality Room, March 8, 2006

Attending: Kenneth Bacon, Terry Campbell, Steve Coller, George Cutbirth, J. Howard Fisk, Danny Garbee, Dawne Gardner, Joel Keller, Eric Kellstadt, Bill Marshall, David Miller, Bill Monday, Al Moon, Eric Seifried, Andrew Seiler, Jack Swearingen, Stan Whitehurst

SMCOG Staff: Natasha Longpine, Diane May

INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of November 9, 2005 and January 11, 2006 Minutes approved with one correction in January. The MoDOT Enhancement Program deadline is May 19, 2006 for application submissions. *Fisk/Coller*

MoDOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 7, SCOTT BACHMAN

The Enhancement applications are due May 19, 2006. The District had a Planning and Programming meeting on February 1 and discussed four projects, including the 39/44 interchange in Mount Vernon, Route 32 and Bear Creek in Cedar County, Zora and Main in Joplin, and the widening of 171 and airport drive in Joplin. These may not be on the July STIP as several safety projects are still being finalized.

MoDOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 8, DAWNE GARDNER

The Route T Bridge replacement will start in March. A left turn lane will be installed at 65 and 38 in Dallas County. In Polk County, the bridge at KK and P will be replaced. Another bridge will be replaced in Greene County at Routes M and 160 over the Sac River. The letting for the I-44 and 65 interchange will happen in April. The 1st phase will include design of the first flyover and some retaining walls. Interstate 44 will see a lot of work this year with delays although alternate route signs will be posted. There will be 10 or so work zones between Springfield and Rolla with 10 to 11 miles of construction around Rolla. Work will include reconstruction, overlay, and guard cable as well as a variety of other work.

SENATOR TALENT'S OFFICE, TERRY CAMPBELL

Congress is back in session. The tax reconciliation bill still has not been passed. Congress did pass the Patriot Act, of which Talent's meth initiative was a part. The meth portion is the toughest law dealing with pseudoephedrine. Immigration is about to be a big issue. The chances of passing the budget resolution depend upon the President's proposals. The budget bill will give next year's appropriations committee chair guidance next year. The asbestos bill was defeated by two votes, but could come back. Lobbying reform is moving forward in both

houses, especially relating to disclosure. For example, earmarks would be part of the appropriations bill instead of midnight conference reports.

In relation to port management, the administration is conducting a 45 day review on security issues. Senator Schumer from New York is keeping Congress updated. A bill may also be proposed requiring all ports be run by American companies. Currently 92 ports are run by foreign companies. In this situation, the Dubai port company is a better deal because of the number of products coming from Dubai.

The website for the sale of Missouri's forest lands should be working. In Missouri 21,000 acres are for sale, the majority of which will be 40 and 60 acre tracts not contiguous with the main forest. Concerns lie with where the money will go. The forest service has a lot of needs and have not been funded over the last few years. Most would like to keep the money in this state for schools, roads, and the forest service, especially in this time of drought. Twelve counties west of Greene are in a phase 3 drought. Those to the east are in a phase 2, except Texas and Howell which are in phase 1. Newton and McDonald counties are eligible for assistance because of their ties to Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Independent of Congress, states are reviewing global warming. On the federal level, it is temporarily dealt with through the energy bill by clean coal technology, alternative fuels, and 3rd generation nuclear power plants. Some pilot projects will be getting funding. Thirty million dollars will go to raise a biofuel plant near Nevada. There are also efforts to tap into domestic natural gas.

MoDOT DISTRICT 8 PLANNING WORKSHOP, DAWNE GARDNER

The STIP Development and Planning workshop was held February 15, 2006. The District met with area planning partners. This year's process was conducted different from last year's. Instead it was more similar to the major projects process. The group was broke into tables by area engineer. The rankings on the needs list were examined first. Each group had common projects. The STIP is still in development, but for inclusion from Major Projects and Emerging Needs are safety improvements on 160 and HH. Additional funding will be provided fro Route 13 to cover what was not included in the earmark. The timeframe for this project is not available. Additional funding will also be provided for Hwy 65 between Springfield and Buffalo. In 2008, the STIP will show dollars going to Taney County for reimbursement for signals on the Highroad interchange. There may also be a small amount of funding going for ITS, Intelligent Transportation Systems, in the District. One project will be started in Branson and another may possibly be in Lebanon.

The scoping list will include a center turn lane in Billings, Route 60 in Christian County, and adding efficiency in signal interconnect in Lebanon. FY07/08 will also see funding for contract level course on those roads which are not principal arterials. No projects eligible for safety have been scoped.

On March 28, 2006, MoDOT will be meeting with the planning partners to discuss major projects.

TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT UPDATE, ERIC KELLSTADT/ANDREW SEILER

District 7 required a letter of intent which was due March 1. Twenty-five were received, 4 of which were in the SMCOG area. MoDOT staff will be reviewing each project to address any potential issues. The planning partners will be on the scoring committee, on which MoDOT no longer has a vote.

District 8 did not have a letter of intent. Staff held a workshop at the end of February for potential applicants. Those who are submitting a project within MoDOT right of way are being asked to submit a letter requesting concurrence. Applications are due May 19, 2006. A local selection committee will review the applications, the scores of which will be reviewed in Jefferson City, then they will move on to the MHTC. The District has the potential to fund 8 or 9 projects. Copies of the application were sent to City and County officials.

OTHER BUSINESS

On the eminent domain issue, the definition of blight is being tightened and other forms of compensation are also being examined.

MoDOT has a new Safe Routes to School Coordinator. A statewide advisory group is being assembled and will develop guidelines. Missouri has \$1 million for funding. Seventy percent must go to capital improvements and infrastructure. Ten to 30 percent must go to bike/ped safety education, including signage. Other programs are also being examined. The applications will be competitive and a round should be open in the fall.

ADJOURN