



Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Library Station

Attending: Dennis Pyle (Barry), Cherry Warren (Barry), Todd Wiesehan (Christian), Randy Daniel (Dade), Roger Bradley (Dallas), Joel Keller (Greene), Max Springer (Lawrence), Mike Randall (Lawrence), Sydney Allen (Polk), Rick Davis (Polk), Collin Brannan (Stone), Dennis Wood (Stone), David Miller (Taney), Buddy Roberts (Taney)

Andy Thomason (OTO), Frank Miller (MoDOT), Beth Schaller (MoDOT), Jeremy Pruett (Rep. Long), Dan Wadlington (Sen. Blunt), Hollie Elliott (Dallas County), Brent Young (Christian County), Jason Ray (SMCOG), Megan Clark (SMCOG)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wood at 9:00 a.m.

- 1. Introductions** Self introductions were made.
- 2. Approval of minutes:** Motion to approve the January 18, 2017 meeting minutes made by Buddy Roberts, motion seconded by Todd Wiesehan. Motion carried
- 3. Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan Update –Megan Clark**
Megan Clark provided an overview of the Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan. This plan is required to be updated every five years and identifies the transportation needs of senior citizens, persons with disabilities and those with low incomes throughout the SMCOG region. Ten county meetings have been held with some information gathered, but additional assistance is needed in gathering input via survey. The online survey is open until April 21, 2017.
- 4. MoDOT Planning Partners meeting update- Megan Clark**
Megan Clark presented information provided at the MoDOT Planning Partners meeting on March 9 in Jefferson City. Topics covered included: MoDOT budget and budget forecast, MoDOT performance results, Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Updates, oversized loads information, and safety overview. MoDOT has asked citizens to help bring down the fatality numbers by taking the Buckle Up, Phone Down pledge.
- 5. MoDOT Update – Frank Miller, MoDOT SW District; Beth Schaller, MoDOT SW District**
Frank Miller reported that the Southwest District has been working on the STIP update using slightly higher funding projections. The STIP will be released in May. Additionally, the 2017 construction guide is now available and provides what construction is occurring by county this year. Also, check the SW District MoDOT website for other updates.

Beth Schaller reported that the 65 construction project through Springfield will be occurring in the summer of 2017 and the schedule will be out soon. Sections of 65 will be closed throughout the summer, so traffic will be rerouted through Springfield in most cases. The hope is by completely closing lanes, the process will go quicker and smoother than closing one or two lanes at a time.

Another major project is the Spring River Bridge on I-44 at Mt. Vernon. Traffic will be routed head-to-head for a brief period during construction.

Frank Miller announced that the SW District has reconfigured the area engineers and Beth Schaller is now the area engineer for the entire SMCOC region.

6. MPO Update – Andy Thomason, OTO

Andy Thomason reported that OTO is awaiting the STIP from MoDOT. OTO is also kicking off a regional bicycle and pedestrian study looking at connecting all communities in the OTO area. The study would be an engineering study looking at priorities, cost estimates, etc. Also, partnering with City of Springfield on a ride share program for carpooling, Ozarkscommute.com, which could be available for all of SMCOC region.

7. Other Member Updates & Guest Reports

Congressman Long's Office-Jeremy Pruett

Jeremy Pruett reported that the focus has been on healthcare in the House. Representative Long was in committee for many hours and committee passed the bill on party lines. The next priority is likely to be tax reform and then infrastructure after that.

Senator Blunt's Office-Dan Wadlington

Dan Wadlington reported that the Senate is still working on confirmations, with four to go. The Senate won't take up healthcare until the House passes a bill. In reference to infrastructure, there is no shortage of need, as that includes: roads, bridges, water, sewage treatment, cable and internet in rural areas, jails, etc. There will be no shortage of competition for federal dollars, so any project better be ready to go if plan to apply for federal funding. The question that has yet to be answered is where the money is coming from; that has yet to be answered.

Megan Clark added that there will be a meeting on March 31 at the Botanical Center in Springfield regarding the Volkswagon settlement dollars going towards diesel reduction. There may be some money available to replace diesel vehicles and this meeting will talk about that process.

OATS - Jeff Robinson

No report.

Senator McCaskill's Office

No report.

8. Adjourn by Chairman

Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 am by Chairman Dennis Wood.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 9 a.m. at Library Station in Springfield.