



Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting

Library Station, May 13, 2015

Attending: Andrew Seiler, Todd Wiesehan, Sydney Allen, Rick Davis, David Stokes, Nancy Edson, Natasha Longpine, Mike Randall, Steve McIntosh, Buddy Roberts, Dennis Wood
SMCOG Staff: Dave Faucett, Jason Ray, Diane May

Introductions and Approval of February 25, 2015 Minutes: Self introductions were made. A quorum of TAC members was not present. Approval of the February 25 meeting minutes was deferred to the July 15, 2015 TAC meeting.

Andrew Seiler, MoDOT

Andrew Seiler reported on Senate Bill 540 which is a proposal to increase the fuel tax 1.5 cents and the diesel fuel tax by 3.5 cents for transportation improvements funding. The proposed legislation does not appear likely to be passed by the Friday deadline, however, letters of support from chambers of commerce and economic development organizations seem to have had some influence. MoDOT encourages local governments and community organizations to submit letters of support for this proposal and alternative funding suggestions for future legislative initiatives for transportation funding. Seiler suggested to the TAC that they visit the MoDOT website to access the state highway commission's View from the Chair for information and the viewpoint of Chairman Steven Miller regarding alternatives for funding.

Natasha Longpine, OTO:

Natasha Longpine informed the TAC of staff changes at the Ozarks Transportation Organization and that in the future OTO would be represented by either herself or Sarah Fields at TAC meetings. OTO is seeking input through a web survey at giveyourinput.org for updates to the long range transportation plan.

Jeff Robinson, OATS:

Not present.

David Stokely, Senator McCaskill's Office:

The Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement appears unlikely to be approved by the senate. Senator McCaskill is concerned about the verifiability of trade issues in the agreement. The Highway Trust Fund expires at the end of May but there will most likely be a short term extension of approximately 90 days to ensure that states will not lose matching funds.

Steve McIntosh, Senator Blunt's Office:

Senator Blunt is committed to get back to doing the people's business regarding appropriations and authorizations. There is bi-partisan support in congress to pass a long-term highway bill. There has been discussion on how to name a long-term transportation appropriation legislation.

Matt Hough, Congressman Long's Office:

Not present.

OCAA Presentation—Natasha Longpine:

Natasha Longpine, Chair of the Ozarks Clean Air Alliance, presented information about the alliance and efforts to improve air quality in the region. The OCAA's objective is to provide education about voluntary actions to improve air quality in the region to reduce potential regulatory consequences in the event of potential lowering of the level of particulate matter to maintain standards for EPA compliance.

FY16 Work Program – Dave Faucett

Dave Faucett provided a draft budget and task summary for the upcoming transportation work program at SMCOG.

Transportation Needs – Dave Faucett

Although there is uncertainty about future funding for adding projects to the STIP, the regional transportation needs identification process will continue in the coming fiscal year.

Adjourn: