



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING **Alumni Center – Hospitality Room, January 12, 2005**

Attending: Ken Bacon, Stacy Burks, Steve Coller, Billy Dryer, Sara Edwards, J. Howard Fisk, Adriana Giraldo, Stuart Hosiner, Phil Hutchens, Ray Jones, Joel Keller, David Miller, Frank Miller, Andrew Seiler, Jack Swearingen, Robert Walster

SMCOG Staff: Vickie Burkett, Natasha Longpine

INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the October 13, 2004 and November 10, 2004 Meetings were approved.

MODOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 7, ANDREW SEILER

Upcoming projects will be discussed later in the meeting.

MODOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 8, FRANK MILLER

Upcoming projects will be discussed later in the meeting.

OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION – SARA EDWARDS

OTO is asking MoDOT to complete the Route 60 study so a preferred corridor around Republic can be determined. This may take a year to finish, after which costs can be assessed for moving forward. This project has previously been suspended before an alignment had been chosen and right-of-way has not yet been purchased. A draft of the Major Thoroughfare Plan has also been approved.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Senator Bond's Office, Stacy Burks

The Senate has aligned their committees, though the House may still be debating. Chairman Young is not yet a definite. Senator Bond is still chair and has started on proposals for Highway Reauthorization. The committee, however, has seen substantial changes. For example, Daschle is gone and some financial conservatives who also sit on the budget committee have been added. Congress will go into session on January 21, 2005 following inauguration.

TAC NEEDS DATABASE FOR FRAMEWORK PRIORITIZATION – NATASHA LONGPINE

The questionnaires for Districts 7 and 8 are being collected. If a TAC member has not yet returned their response, this needs to be done.

MISSOURI BLUE PRINT FOR SAFER ROADWAYS – NATASHA LONGPINE

The Blueprint for Safety is a statewide effort to reduce fatalities on Missouri's roadways. Each MoDOT District has been asked to develop a plan to accomplish this goal. Natasha Longpine is on the committee for District 7 and is also on the education subcommittee for the plan. The group has thus far decided to write the plan in-house rather than use a consultant. This allows \$5,000 which had been budgeted for the consultant to be used for funding strategies.

SMOOTH ROAD INITIATIVE – FRANK MILLER, ANDREW SEILER

The Smooth Road Initiative is the first phase of bonding to come from the Amendment 3 funds. In District 8, a number of projects will commence over the next few years, producing smoother roads. Routes which will be seeing treatments include 13 from Springfield to Bolivar, Highway 60 through Billings as well as Rogersville, Highway 65 to Branson, and a number of roads in the MPO area. Treatments may include diamond grinding or resurfacing. The goal of the Smooth Road Initiative is to target the 20 percent of roads in the State where 80 percent of the traffic is. A map of SRI projects can be found on the MoDOT website.

District 7 will be one of the first to let SRI projects. In the SMOG area, routes to be addressed include Route 60 from Aurora to the Christian County line and I-44 in Lawrence County.

MAJOR PROJECT PRIORITIZATION – FRANK MILLER, ANDREW SEILER

This is the third phase of the Amendment 3 bond money. This phase will require prioritization of projects statewide to distribute the dollars appropriately. District 8 has provided a handout which the TAC needs to rank in order of preference. Discussion ensued on whether to include MPO projects in the TAC prioritization process. Sara Edwards indicated OTO is endorsing the list and selecting their top 3 projects. It was decided the TAC would rank the entire list. The group has also requested that MoDOT provide additional information such as traffic counts, road type, and road condition. This will be distributed to the TAC before the end of the week.

District 7 has four projects within the SMOG area to rank. These are also included in the agenda packet.

PROJECT ACCELERATION – FRANK MILLER

This is the second phase of the Amendment 3 funding. Five projects in District 8 will be accelerated. Two relate to Smooth Roads, one in Billings and one in Hollister, while the other three include the Taneycomo Bridge, the Branson West Highway 13 relocation, and the first phase of the I-44/65 interchange reconstruction. To be included in the acceleration list, engineering had to be done on such projects.

ENHANCEMENTS – NATASHA LONGPINE

The Rural Transportation Enhancement program has changed from previous years. The money can only be spent on projects such as trails, lighting, and landscaping. Districts 7 and 8 will each be receiving about one-half million dollars each year. Currently, District 8 is ready to establish its selection committee. This committee will be responsible for both setting the application guidelines for the District, as well as selecting projects for funding. Natasha Longpine will sit on the committee, but one more member is needed. Phil Hutchens volunteered but will likely sit on

the District 7 committee when that is ready. J. Howard Fisk also volunteered if no one else decides to participate. Staff will meet with District 8 to determine what geographical representation may be required for the committee and will decide final membership.

OTHER BUSINESS

Natasha Longpine would like the group to welcome new members. Stuart Hosiner from Polk County was present at the meeting. Phil Hutchens indicated that there will be a new member from Barry County as well. Also, SMCOG has a new intern, Vickie Burkett, who will be helping on some transportation work.

ADJOURN

MINUTES APPROVED MARCH 9, 2005

MOTION/SECOND: Jack Swearingen/Kenneth Bacon