



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Alumni Center – Hospitality Room, January 11, 2006

Attending: Scott Bachman, Ken Bacon, Steve Coller, George Cutbirth, Billy Dryer, Danny Garbee, Dawne Gardner, Joel Keller, Bill Marshall, Steve McIntosh, David Miller, Al Moon, Dan Rudge, Robert Walster, Stan Whitehurst

SMCOG Staff: Natasha Longpine

INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of November 9, 2005 Minutes postponed.

MODOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 7, SCOTT BACHMAN

The construction season is winding down. Work on I-44 will be done by the end of construction season. The Enhancement funding round will open in January.

At the MAC (Missouri Association of Counties) conference, Billy Dryer asked who depended upon their CART map. Ninety percent of them do, except for first and second class counties. Benton County in District 5 is getting their map done, but there is question as to who else is.

MODOT UPDATE – DISTRICT 8, DAWNE GARDNER

Enhancement projects will be solicited starting in January and will be due ~~around May 15~~ *May 19, 2006*. Awards will be made in September again. The letting for the 4-laning of West Bypass will happen November 18. Another SRI project on I-44 east of Lebanon will begin in the Spring.

OZARKS TRANSPORTATION ORGANIZATION, DAN RUDGE

Work is continuing on Safe Routes to School presentations. OTO is offering these anywhere in District 8. Natasha Longpine is working with OTO to do similar presentations in District 7. The second phase of the CMS has been completed. The results are surprising. The most accident prone areas are those without medians. The comprehensive Bike-Ped plan has also been completed. OTO is moving forward on their transition plan and will be working with SMCOG to develop a mission statement.

CONGRESSMAN BLUNT'S OFFICE, STEVE MCINTOSH

There is not much currently happening in Congress. The appropriations bills are coming out of conference. Congress hopes to be done before the Thanksgiving break.

FY2005 NEEDS STATUS UPDATE, NATASHA LONGPINE

The regional short term needs list from 2005 was submitted to be run through the prioritization program. Although several needs could be addressed as maintenance issues, and several others were completed before the year was done, the remaining competed fairly against other needs in the database. Greene County, MoDOT, and the Logan-Rogersville school district cost-shared to reconstruct the intersection of Hwys 60 and 125. Greene County also worked with the City of Battlefield to build sidewalks for the new Springfield R-XII school at FF and Weaver. In Stone County, community groups helped clear vegetation at corners with poor visibility along Route 413. Several were recommended to move forward for scoping, for example 160 through Forsyth, while others were able to receive Amendment 3 funding, like the four-laning of Hwy 65 through Dallas County.

FY2006 NEEDS SURVEY, NATASHA LONGPINE

SMCOG staff has developed a survey form by which area needs can be submitted. There is no constraint on the types of needs. The survey is available on the SMCOG website, as well as by paper, as provided at the meeting. Each TAC member was asked to submit as many needs as they were aware of, as well as distribute the survey among others with potential needs. These are due in the middle of November so MoDOT has an opportunity to process them into the database.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rumors that money from the highway bill may be used for Hurricane Katrina are false. Highway dollars are in a trust fund which was set up with a firewall in the previous bill. The House is working on a budget reconciliation bill to reduce spending, thus producing more funding for Katrina.

Dan Rudge explained more about the role of the MPO and that it serves nine jurisdictions currently. In further explanation on Safe Routes to School, Mr. Rudge explained that Safe Routes received \$161 million in the new highway bill. Annually, \$1 million will go to each state. A certain amount is set aside for projects and 20 percent is set aside for education.

Kevin Lowe has resigned from Greene County to join a private consulting business. This will be a great loss because he worked hard to get the right projects for the region, regardless of their presence in Greene County.

Richard Walter is retiring as District 7's District Engineer. Also, Andrew Seiler is now with District 8 rather than District 7.

ADJOURN

Minutes Approved with *changes* March 8, 2006. *Fisk/Coller*