

**Meramec Region Transportation Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 8, 2017**

**Members Present:** Rob Cummings (Crawford), Leo Sanders (Crawford), Gary Brown (Dent), Ray Walden (Dent), Darrell Skiles (Dent), Robert Parsons (Dent Alt.), Nathan Schauf (Gasconade), Jerry Larimore (Gasconade), Ray Schwartz (Maries), Deb Mehmert (Osage), David Dudenhoeffer (Osage), Larry Kliethermes (Osage), Darin Pryor (Phelps), Larry Stratman (Phelps), Jim White (Phelps), George Lauritson (Pulaski), Gene Newkirk (Pulaski), John Casey (Washington), and Marvin Wright (Washington)

**Members Absent:** Jared Boast (Crawford), Danny Brown (Crawford Alt.), John Kamler (Gasconade), Larry Miskel (Gasconade Alt.), Vicki Bade (Maries), Ron Rowden (Maries), Mark James (Maries), John Butz (Phelps Alt.), Gary Hicks (Phelps Alt.), Randy Verkamp (Phelps Alt.), Cyndra Lorey (Phelps Alt.), Bruce Harrill (Pulaski), Larry Helms (Pulaski Alt.), T. R. Dudley (Washington), Cody Brinley (Washington Alt.), and Mike Riddle (Washington Alt.)

**Guests Present:** Preston Kramer (MoDOT Area Engineer), Kelly Wilson (MoDOT), and Steve Engelbrecht (MoDOT)

**Staff Present:** Anne Freand, Caitlin Jones, and Bonnie Prigge

**Call to Order & Welcome:** Chairman, John Casey, called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

**Approval of April 13, 2017 TAC Minutes:** George Lauritson made a motion, seconded by Dave Dudenhoeffer to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**County and City Update on Construction Projects:** Members of the TAC were asked to speak about each of their counties and communities regarding current and upcoming transportation projects. George Lauritson provided an update on Pulaski County by noting the new city hall, community center, and several other projects throughout the area. The continue to work on removing trees in utility lines near rights-of-way and the Freedom Drive extension where they are running into issues with the Corps of Engineers. The County also continues work on Missouri Avenue including a traffic study at the intersection of Eastlawn and Missouri Ave. Other projects include work around Fort Leonard Wood, the demolition of the old middle school, new jail construction, Hwy 7, and an expansion of GW Lane.

Larry Stratman with Phelps County spoke about the north outer road expansion and connection and the collaboration between the City of Rolla, Phelps County, MoDOT and Federal Highways. A CDBG grant provided a large portion of the funds with additional in-kind match and construction to be completed in the summer of 2017. Jim White with St. James provided an update on the Wilson Drive extension completed with DRA funds which was coupled with the Cohen Architectural expansion. The City of St. James has provided \$93,000 in in-kind match towards the project. ADA work is also being completed by MoDOT along Jefferson Avenue in

town to bring the stretch of road and sidewalks into compliance. The City is also in talks about improvements to the intersection at the off-ramp for west-bound traffic at the I-44 exit.

John Casey with Washington County spoke about work in Potosi including a CDBG Grant Millstream. They also received a TAP grant to improve sidewalks and FLAP funds for a cut and fill road project with partnership between the Forest Service, MoDOT and the County.

**2018-2022 Draft STIP:** Preston Kramer discussed the STIP and noted that a draft map is online along with the associated list for each county. Preston read through the project list noting proposed draft improvements for each of the 8 counties.

**Selection of Nominating Committee:** Anne Freand noted that a committee of George Lauritson, Ray Schwartze, Marvin Wright, and Leo Sanders met following the April 13<sup>th</sup> TAC meeting and nominated Randy Verkamp as the new secretary with Larry Stratman as an alternate for the secretary position. Anne stated that since Commissioner Verkamp is an alternate on the TAC board he cannot serve in the position and the alternate would take the nomination as a regular member. Jim White made a motion to approve Larry Stratman as the new TAC Secretary and Gene Newkirk seconded. Motion carried.

**2017 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update:** Anne Freand provided an update to the Committee regarding Chapters 4 and 7 of the Regional Transportation Plan. Staff will be working to update each of these chapters which will then be distributed to all other RPCs in the state for use in each of their RTPs.

**2017 Construction Projects:** Preston Kramer spoke to the Committee and outlined the current construction projects taking place in the Central Region.

**MoDOT Updates and Staff Reports (As time allows):** Kelly Wilson with MoDOT updated the Committee that a call for projects will likely take place in the fall for TEAP funds to do engineering studies. MoDOT is discussing that funds may be changed to availability every other year instead of yearly. Kelly noted that people are welcome to provide MoDOT concerns regarding the proposed change.

**Member Reports (As time allows):** Members provided updates on the funds approved for the Rolla Terminal at the airport and funding for hospital improvements. Waynesville and St. Robert also noted the acceptance of a grant for airport work at the Fort which could include a new terminal or taxiways, etc. Steve Engelbrecht stated that MoDOT work is being done on areas affected by the May 2017 flood. John Casey spoke about a recent Channel 4 news segment regarding the Meramec Channel and asked Preston about the possibility of it being started again. Preston stated that no action will take place and the project is dead. Last, Bonnie Prigge updated the Committee on fatalities in the state and stated that they are down a little bit from the previous year. She also noted that approximately 3,000 people attended Safety Days at Fort Leonard Wood.

**Next TAC Meeting:** August 10, 2017.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Casey at 5:34 pm.

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John Casey, Chairman

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Date