

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Summary
July 25, 2023**

The quarterly meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee did have a quorum present. The meeting took place on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at the SEMO Regional Planning Commission in Perryville, Missouri.

ATTENDEES

Board Members:

Chairman: Paul Koeper, Cape County – present
Vice- Chairman: Brent Buerck – present
Secretary: Randy Ruzicka, Ste. Genevieve County - present

Voting Members:

Leo Arnzen, Bollinger County - present	Travis Parker, City of Fredericktown - absent
Chad Hulvey, Bollinger County – absent	Mike Sauer, Perry County - present
Trey Wiginton, City of Marble Hill- present	Jay Wengert, Perry County – present
Clint Tracy, Cape Girardeau County - absent	Larry Riney, City of Perryville - absent
Stacy Kinder, City of Cape Girardeau – absent	Harold Gallaher, St. Francois County – present
Dwain Hahs, City of Jackson- absent	David Kater- St. Francois County- absent
Jim Scaggs, Iron County – absent	Larry Forsythe, City of Farmington - absent
Johnny Setzer, City of Viburnum – absent	Paul Hassler, City of Ste. Genevieve - absent
Scott Oatman, City of Annapolis - absent	Paul Monia, City of Bloomsdale - absent
Jason Green, Madison County - absent	Pete Pasternak City of Desloge- present
Larry Kemp, Madison County – absent	

Alternative Voting Members:

Tim Shelby, Bollinger County - absent	Keith Hoehn, Perry County - absent
Kevin Cooper, Bollinger County - absent	Jared Kutz, Perry County – absent
Charles Fischer, City of Marble Hill – absent	Kary Buckley, St. Francois County- absent
Alex McElroy, MPO- present	Shawn Kay, City of Bonne Terre – absent
Rodney Bollinger, City of Jackson - present	Greg Beavers, City of Farmington - absent
Ben Young, Iron County - present	Karen Stuppy, Ste. Genevieve County - present
Don Firebaugh, Madison County – absent	Happy Welch, City of Ste. Genevieve - present
Tom Stevens, Madison County - absent	Rick Drury, City of Bloomsdale - absent
James Settle, City of Fredericktown - absent	-

At Large Members:

Mandi Brink, SEMO Port –
Crystal Jones, Perry County EDA - present
Ronnie Inman, New Bourbon Port -
Denny Ward, SMTS –

MoDOT Representative in Attendance:

Chris Crocker
Joe Killian
Brian Okenfuss
Trey Scott

Staff and other individuals in Attendance

Drew Christian, RPC
Kara Johnston, RPC
Daniel Winnigham, RPC
Sandra Cabot, MoDED

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Koeper at 2:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said followed by introductions.

Chairman Koeper requested a motion to approve the agenda. Mayor Wiginton moved to approve the agenda, Commissioner Ruzicka seconded, motion carried.

Chairman Koeper requested a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Ruzicka moved to approve the minutes, Mayor Wiginton seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Christian spoke on the status of the Cape Girardeau/Jackson MPO. The 5 year TIP update is complete. The 1st amendment to this TIP is being worked on currently. Mr. Christian met with Mr. McElroy about some GIS product creation. Mr. McElroy reported the MPO is currently doing a trail connection study. They are also working on research for analytical traffic tools.

Mr. Christian went over handouts for Blueprint for Safer roads. The data included in the packet is from January- two days ago. St. Francois County fatalities reduced by a lot from 16 last year to 5 this year. The Southeast District is down 8.5%.

Mr. Christian discussed the open TAP grant call. There is \$6.4 million in the pot. If you have a project on or adjacent to MoDOT right of way you must have it to Chris Crocker at MoDOT no later than Aug 3rd for review. August 24th the complete application is due. You can submit multiple projects there is just a \$500,000 per project max. It is an 80/20 cash match. Things are a bit different from previous years there is no “bonus points” for extra match. This helps small communities get awarded who wouldn’t have the extra match to give.

Mr. Christian presented the Regional Needs Ballot Results to the group. He explained the ranking was all the top priorities via votes then all the 2 and 3 priority by votes. Commissioner Gallaher voted to accept the results as is, Mr. Bureck seconded; motion carried.

Report From MoDOT Representatives:

Chris Crocker: There were 27 BRO applications. Projects have been sent to central office for approval. Once Central Office approves letters will be sent out. If the bill is reauthorized there will likely be another BRO call next year. Mr. Crocker also informed the group the “Hands Free Law” was passed in Missouri. This is a secondary law requiring the use of hands-free devices if you plan to talk on your phone while driving.

Brian Okenfuss: Mr. Okenfuss spoke about the Chester Bridge Project. They are close to starting site prep. It will be a 3-tower cable style bridge similar to the one in Cape Girardeau. Mr. Okenfuss stated that this is a challenging site because of soil types. They are expecting the new bridge to be open for traffic on July 1, 2026 with the project completion date of December 1, 2026.

Joe Killian: MTFC has loan opportunities and cost shares. Cost shares are good for projects on state systems. This is a 50/50 match to start. There will be meetings with Bonne Terre, Cape Girardeau, Farmington, and Perryville about updated census data. Mr. Killian introduced Trey Scott, an intern from the Sikeston area. He has been spending time with many different areas at MoDOT.

Reports on Issues or Concerns

No issues or concerns at this time.

Other Business:

The next TAC meeting was set for October 24, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Ruzicka moved to adjourn meeting; Commissioner Wengert seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.