

**MINUTES  
OF  
THE OZARK FOOTHILLS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**APRIL 8, 2021  
OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**OZARK FOOTHILLS RPC, POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI/WebEx CONFERENCE**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Brian Polk called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**II. Open for Public Discussion**

Attendance was taken as some TAC and MoDOT representatives were joining the meeting remotely via videoconference or teleconference.

**III. Adoption of January 14, 2021 Minutes**

The minutes of the January 14, 2021 TAC meeting were reviewed. The minutes were adopted on a motion by Ron Keeney, Carter County, and second by Dennis Cox, Ripley County.

**IV. Missouri Department of Transportation Reports**

Dave Wyman, MoDOT Southeast District, announced that MoDOT is currently seeking to fill maintenance positions in just about every MoDOT shed in the state. The agency is still coping with the effects of the severe winter weather from February and are still patching potholes and working on maintenance. Mr. Wyman highlighted an area where MoDOT could use assistance, and that is with trash cleanup along roadsides. Trash is prevalent throughout the state and incarcerated crews that often assist with litter control are not an option due to COVID regulations. The state is hoping volunteers and the Adopt-A-Highway program can help with clean up.

Chad Henson, Wayne County, asked if current Adopt-A-Highway volunteers are keeping up with their duties. Mr. Wyman stated that many are not, and MoDOT is currently trying to get into contact with those that have fallen behind. The preference is not to remove those volunteers from the program, but to get them to follow-up with their commitment.

Elquin Auala, MoDOT Southeast District, stated that in Reynolds County, the Route K bridge is currently closed and under construction.

Mike Brandon, MoDOT Southeast District, announced that the STIP development is on schedule and has been submitted to MoDOT Central Office. There is a lot of taking care of the system and maintenance style projects. Projects that were planned to go through last year, but delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic are moving forward this year. Several projects on

the Ozark Foothills TAC regional prioritization lists are moving forward. In Reynolds County on Route K, widening in curves and addressing the intersection with a county road and the guardrail on Highway 106. In Butler County, rumblestripes along Route T and addressing the Route M and County Road 459 intersection and rumblestripes will be programmed. In Ripley County, a narrow culvert west of Gatewood will be programmed. Within Carter County, the Route A bridge in Ellsinore is expected to be programmed for 2024.

Holly Hatfield, MoDOT Southeast District, announced that 17 Transportation Alternative Program applications were submitted. There were 3 awardees, including the City of Perryville, the City of Cape Girardeau and the City of Poplar Bluff. Many local agencies will need to re-certify their LPA training this year. Lastly, the LPA Risk Assessments will be completed this month and staff will be reaching out to cities and counties to address the community's score and what it means.

## **V. Transportation Planning Coordinator Report**

Ozark Foothills Transportation Planning Coordinator Andrew Murphy informed the TAC the City of Poplar Bluff received \$274,088 to create a connector trail along PP Highway that is 1.85 miles in length that will connect the Mark Twain National Forest Service's Wolf Creek Trail, which is 21 miles of walking/hiking/bicycling trails, with the Shelby Road trail system. The total project cost is estimated at \$500,000 and the City of Poplar Bluff, Poplar Bluff Park Department, and Poplar Bluff Chamber of Commerce are providing the match.

The Ozark Foothills RPC submitted an application on behalf of the Poplar Bluff Parks and Recreation Department to the Recreational Trails Program from Missouri DNR for \$250,000 to extend the trail on PP Highway from Lurlyn Road to the Highway 67 intersection.

Mr. Murphy informed the TAC the Ozark Foothills RPC submitted an application to the MoDOT Traffic and Highway Safety Grant Program to provide technical assistance and educational opportunities for our school districts, cities, and counties to assist with seat belt ordinances and presentations.

Mr. Murphy announced the 2020 Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) awards have not been announced yet. The OFRPC submitted seven paving applications to the general infrastructure category. The 2021 round has not opened yet, but is expected to open by June.

Joint TAC/County Commission meetings were held in March to allow an opportunity for members of the public to meet with their local TAC members and provide feedback regarding the prioritization process.

The LPA Advisory Committee meeting for the month of April was delayed until April 22nd. Mr. Murphy mentioned this was his last year on the committee, and encouraged TAC members to consider applying to serve on the committee. Applications usually open in September.

## **VI. Old Business**

Mr. Murphy asked the TAC to consider approving the updated version of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the draft of which was submitted for review in January and placed

on the OFRPC website. The 2021 RTP was adopted on a motion by Angela Smith, Wayne County, and second by Ron Keeney.

**VII. New Business**

After discussion, each county submitted the county-wide priorities for projects, maintenance, and multi-modal needs. See attached list below.

**VIII. General Discussion**

No general discussion ensued.

**IX. Adjournment**

Vince Lampe, Butler County, moved to adjourn. Chairman Polk adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

## TAC Project Priority List

### 2021 Identified Needs by County

#### Butler County

1. 4-lane Highway 67 from Highway 160 to the state line
2. Construct a round-a-about at the intersection of Highways 67/C/V
3. Move and straighten Twin Springs Hill on Route M and shoulders on W Highway from Poplar Bluff to Route KK

#### Carter County

1. Overlay and add shoulders to D Highway
2. Overlay and add shoulders on C Highway from Highway 60 to county line
3. Route N: Widen and eliminate one-lane bridge over Middle Brushy Creek

#### Reynolds County

1. Guardrails on Highway 21, from Highway H to Highway 60
2. Shoulder on Highway N from Highway 21 to Johnson Shut-Ins
3. Add paved shoulder for bike and pedestrian traffic through Reynolds County for Highway 76 Bike Route

#### Ripley County

1. Low water crossing on Highway K between County Road K-5 and K-6
2. Repair Highway 21 South at Briar Creek – Dip in Road from flooding
3. Highway 160 – Repair poor construction so people do not get sea sick

#### Wayne County

1. Safety Shoulders on Highway 49 from Highway 67 to Mill Spring and Piedmont to Iron County line and widen existing box culverts
2. Low Water Dip on C Highway approximately 1 mile northwest of C & E Junction
3. Repair small bridge on A Highway (1/2 mile west of Highway 67) with large box culvert

## TAC Maintenance Priority List

### 2021 Identified “Maintenance Needs” by County

#### Butler County

1. Resurface Route O
2. Repair/Resurface Butzen Drive
3. Resurface Route NN

#### Carter County

1. Redesign median crossover of Highway V & Highway A at Highway 60 in Ellsinore
2. Overlay Highway V & H in East Carter County
3. Add Shoulders and rumblestrips to Highway 103

#### Reynolds County

1. Overlay 72 Highway from 72/21 Junction to 72/32 Junction
2. Repair bridges over Black River on Highway 21 where bridges connect with Highway and also on Highway KK at West Fork Mine
3. Secondary Roads overlay and chip & seal Highway A (Highway 49 to County Line), Highway U from Highway 21 to end of State Maintenance, and Highway W from Highway K to end of Maintenance

#### Ripley County

1. Add Shoulders on Highway 160 W from Doniphan to C Highway
2. Overlay EE Highway
3. Overlay T Highway

#### Wayne County

1. Highway 49: Resurface from Williamsville to Iron County Line
2. Overlay Route 49 from Highway 67 to west junction of Route A
3. Overlay Route A from west junction of Highway 49 to US Highway 60 East

## TAC Multi-Modal Priority List

### 2021 Identified “Multi-Modal Needs” by County

#### Butler County

1. Extend the Poplar Bluff airport runway
2. Improve Amtrak Depot service facility
3. Pedestrian Overpass over UP Railroad along Highway 53

#### Carter County

1. Construct new helipads
2. Sidewalks in Ellsinore from East Carter Schools to US Highway 60
3. Sidewalks from College Ave to Commercial Drive in Van Buren

#### Reynolds County

1. Add bike lane for TransAmerica Bike Trail on Highway 76 Bike Route
2. Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Ellington
3. Sidewalk repair/construction in Bunker on main and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets

#### Ripley County

1. Add/repair sidewalks on Walnut Street, from Summit to Highway Street, and Highway Street, from Lafayette to Walnut Street, for safe pedestrian and wheelchair access to north end of shopping center
2. Sidewalks on Highway 142 E (Walnut Street) and west on Washington Street to Courthouse
3. Ellington to Van Buren to Grandin to Doniphan bike trail extension that ties in with TransAmerica Trail in Ellington

#### Wayne County

1. Repair the bridge leading to the Airport on Airport Road in Piedmont
2. Sidewalk construction on Cemetery Road in Williamsville
3. Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Greenville

**TAC ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

**April 8, 2021**

<b>Ms. Crystal Jones</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Andrew Murphy</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Vince Lampe</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Don Anderson</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Dennis LeGrand</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Jeff Darnell</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Bill Robison</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Ron Keeney</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Tom Wilder</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Joe Loyd</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Jesse Roy</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Dennis Cox</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Brian Polk</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Ms. Angela Smith</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Chad Henson</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Doug Wood</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Mike Brandon</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. David Wyman</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Ms. Elquin Auala</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Ms. Holly Hatfield</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Joe Killian</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Steve Foster</b>	<b>Guest/Wayne Co. Assoc. Comm</b>

**THOSE NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

<b>Mr. Jordan Collins</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Wayne Gibbs</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Eddie Williams</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Denise Smith</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Renee Horn</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Darrell Dement</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Gary Emmons</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Ms. Rickie Maples</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Ms. Tami Hale</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Bill Kirkpatrick</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>