

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

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2020  
OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**WebEx VIRTUAL/CALL-IN**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Brian Polk called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**II. Open for Public Discussion**

Wayne Gibbs, Carter County, asked about the D Highway project in Carter County and if the project needed to be on the priority list. MoDOT officials in attendance explained that with no new update to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in 2020 that the project has not been scheduled for completion and if the project is still a priority for the TAC, it should still be identified.

**III. Adoption of July 23, 2020 Minutes**

The minutes of the July 23, 2020 TAC meeting were reviewed. The minutes were adopted on a motion by Ron Keeney, Carter County, and second by Wayne Gibbs.

**IV. Missouri Department of Transportation Reports**

Dave Wyman, MoDOT Southeast District, informed the TAC the National Freight Strategic Plan is currently taking comments. With Missouri at the center of the country, and a transportation hub for various modes of transportation, he encouraged the TAC to take part in the update for the plan.

Mr. Wyman stated that safety is an important issue. For the year, the traffic count is down, but fatalities are up. MoDOT has seen a 100% increase in Truck Mounted Attenuator hits. The biggest cause for this increase appears to be distracted driving.

Mark Croakin, MoDOT Southeast District, is the new District Engineer for the Southeast District. Mr. Croakin introduced himself and announced that he was excited to move back to area. Mr. Croakin is from Doniphan, and first started his career at MoDOT in Van Buren. He announced that MoDOT's Shared Work Program saved the state approximately \$14 million. At the national level, Congress appears ready to pass a yearlong continuing resolution of the FAST Act which moves funding from General Revenue to shore up the Highway Trust Fund. Mr. Croakin expressed optimism at producing a STIP update next year.

Mike Brandon, MoDOT Southeast District, provided a handout with work zone updates for

the region. Mr. Brandon also encouraged the TAC to spread the message of Buckle Up, Phone Down, as there is an 11% increase in traffic fatalities year to date, with nearly 70% of those unbuckled. MoDOT will also be releasing the update to the statewide safety plan, the Blueprint to Save Mo Lives. The Traffic and Highway Safety conference will take place virtually this year on September 29-October 1, 2020.

Chris Crocker, MoDOT Southeast District, announced there is no update currently to the proposed changes to the BRO Program. A plan for the proposed changes is still being created and will still need to be reviewed by MoDOT leadership. Mr. Crocker also stated that MoDOT is getting ready to perform bridge inspections. Those inspections will be a bit different this year, as all involved will need to travel separately due to COVID-19 guidelines.

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

Ozark Foothills Transportation Planning Coordinator Andrew Murphy informed the TAC that the Ozark Foothills RPC did not receive funding from 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.

Calls for Transportation Alternatives Program applications are postponed and were expected to be canceled for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and funding concerns. However, during the Statewide Partnership Update Conference Call from MoDOT Director Patrick McKenna on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, if Congress does pass a one-year continuing resolution to the FAST Act, the TAP funding for this cycle is unknown.

The City of Piedmont has been invited to participate in a virtual grant administrative workshop on October 7<sup>th</sup> for their MoDNR Recreational Trails Program application. The total project cost is \$127,666 with the grant request being \$89,466 and a 30% match with the city putting in \$37,200 and \$1,000 from Washington University.

Mr. Murphy announced the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), which usually opens in January, have not opened yet, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications were expected to open during August, but the rumor is now mid-October.

The Ozark Foothills Regional Transportation Plan is due for an update in June 2021. With our planned meeting schedule, a draft update will be presented at the January TAC meeting, with feedback and plan acceptance at the April meeting. The plan will also be presented to the OFRPC Board in March, with approval in June 2021. The current plan passed in June 2019 was a large update, and the update after this, scheduled for June 2023 will also be a large update, as most of the 2020 Census data will be released throughout 2022. Thus, this year's update will be fairly minor.

The LPA Advisory Committee meeting will next meet October 15, 2020 via WebEx.

## **VI. Old Business**

No old business

## **VII. New Business**

Mr. Murphy presented the proposed 2021 meeting schedule. The schedule will continue to see meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of January, April, July, and October. We will also try to get back on track with our prioritization schedule in 2021. In April we will have the counties prioritize projects, and our full vote will take place in July.

Mr. Murphy presented the voting results from the TAC's first electronic voting prioritized needs list. Mr. Murphy mentioned that this year's process seemed to lead to a stronger and larger list, as the majority of projects received votes. In the multi-modal category, all 15 projects received votes, while 11 out of 15 projects received votes in the other categories. This is helpful, as even though the TAC's focus is often on producing the top five projects for the region, there are times when MoDOT may need to move further down the TAC's priority list for a variety of reasons such as funding, environmental holdups, right of way holdups, etc. The need for a more thorough listing of projects is helpful in the current funding climate. See attached ballots with complete voting below.

## **VIII. General Discussion**

Chairman Polk mentioned the TAC may want to consider the electronic voting method moving forward. Mr. Murphy asked if anyone preferred, or disliked, the electronic format. Ron Keeney, and Angela Smith, Wayne County, both stated they liked this voting methodology.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Ron Keeney moved to adjourn. Chairman Polk adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

## OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC PROJECT PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/ Description	AADT	Commercial Volume	Average Crashes per year	Injuries 3 year avgs	Fatalities 3 year avgs	< 3-year avgs2016-2018
29	<b>Butler:</b> 4-lane Highway 67 from Highway 160 to the state line	5,738	1,584	15.67	4.67	0.33	
1	<b>Butler:</b> Route T – 2 foot asphalt shoulders from Butler County line to Highway 60	4,147	394	19.67	9.67	0.67	
	<b>Butler:</b> Route M: Add shoulders and level hill or reroute County Road 459/M Highway junction and straighten Twin Springs Hill	3,380	124	12	3	0.67	
7	<b>Carter:</b> Overlay and add shoulders to D Highway	819	88	0.67	0.33	0	
2	<b>Carter:</b> RT A Eliminate narrow bridge in Ellsinore	1,343	78	0.33	0.33	0	
3	<b>Carter:</b> RT N Widen and eliminate one-lane bridge over Middle Brushy Creek	343	10	0	0	0	
26	<b>Reynolds:</b> HWY K Add shoulders from Ellington to Annapolis	320	34	3.67	1.67	0.33	
2	<b>Reynolds:</b> Add bike lane for TransAmerica Bike Trail on Highway 76 Bike Route	694	109	12	4	1.33	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Guardrails on Highway 106 at landslide area	604	88	0	0	0	
25	<b>Ripley:</b> Highway 142 West at Gatewood, replace narrow bridge	410	106	0.67	0	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Repair Highway 21 South at Briar Creek – Dip in road from flooding	1,806	154	2.66	0.33	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Highway 160 – Repair poor construction so people do not get sea sick	3,947	1,371	17.67	2	0.6	
4	<b>Wayne:</b> Low water Dip on C Highway approximately 1 mile northwest of C & E Junction	222	24	1.33	0.67	0	
12	<b>Wayne:</b> Safety Shoulders on Highway 49 from Highway 67 to Mill Spring and Piedmont to Iron County line and widen existing box culverts	340 1,730	34 106	4 6.66	1.33 0	0 0	
9	<b>Wayne:</b> Repair small bridge on A Highway (1/2 mile west of Hwy 67) with large box culvert	808	73	2	0.67	0	

## OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/ Description	AADT	Commer cial Volume	Number of Crashes 3 year avgs	Injuries 3 year avgs	Fatalities 3 year avgs	< 3-year avgs2016- 2018
13	<b>Butler:</b> Resurface Route O	262	16	2	0.33	0.33	
4	<b>Butler:</b> Repair/Resurface Butzen Drive			0	0	0	
4	<b>Butler:</b> Resurface Route NN	746	4	4.66	0	0	
14	<b>Carter:</b> Redesign median crossover of Highway V & Highway A at Highway 60 in Ellsinore	1,734 1,734	184 178	0.67 1.33	0.67 0.33	0 0.33	
1	<b>Carter:</b> Overlay Highway V & H in East Carter County	300 256	30 16	3.33 1.67	1 0	0.33 0	
2	<b>Carter:</b> Add Shoulders and rumblestrips to Highway 103	162	12	1.66	0	0	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Overlay O Highway	270	30	0	0	0	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Repair 3 bridges over Black River on Highway 21 where bridges connect with Highway	1,434	69	0	0	0	
27	<b>Reynolds:</b> Highway 72 overlay from 72/21 Junction to 72/32 Junction	730	134	5.67	1	0	
28	<b>Ripley:</b> Add Shoulders on Highway 160 W from Doniphan to C Highway	1,129	158	15	6.33	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Overlay EE Highway	199	26	0	0	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Overlay T Highway	450	24	2.67	3	0.33	
15	<b>Wayne:</b> HWY 49 Resurface from Williamsville to Iron County Line	1,628	126	22	7	1	
5	<b>Wayne:</b> Overlay Route 49 from Highway 67 to west of Junction of Route A	340	34	4.33	1.33	0.33	
7	<b>Wayne:</b> Overlay Route A from west of junction of Highway 49 to US Highway 60 East	614	50	4.67	0.33	0.33	

# OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MULTI-MODAL PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/ Description	AADT				
18	<b>Butler:</b> Extend the Poplar Bluff airport runway					
5	<b>Butler:</b> Improve Amtrak Depot service facility					
4	<b>Butler:</b> Pedestrian Overpass over Railroad along Highway 53					
9	<b>Carter:</b> Construct new helipads					
2	<b>Carter:</b> Improve road to the Van Buren Airport					
1	<b>Carter:</b> Ramps for various sidewalks in Van Buren					
27	<b>Reynolds:</b> Add bike lane for TransAmerica Bike Trail on Highway 76 Bike Route					
1	<b>Reynolds:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in Ellington					
2	<b>Reynolds:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in Bunker on Main and 4 <sup>th</sup> Streets					
12	<b>Ripley:</b> 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					
13	<b>Ripley:</b> Sidewalks on Highway 142 E (Walnut Street) and west on Washington Street to Courthouse					
1	<b>Ripley:</b> Ellington to Van Buren to Grandin to Doniphan bike trail extension that ties in with TransAmerica Trail in Ellington					
5	<b>Wayne:</b> Extend pedestrian trail to tie Handy Park to existing trail system in Piedmont					
12	<b>Wayne:</b> Sidewalk construction on Cemetery Road in Williamsville					
8	<b>Wayne:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in Greenville					

*This Report contains information that is protected from disclosure by federal law, 23 USC Section 409 and the MO Open Records Law (Sunshine Act), Section 610.021 RSMo. Please review MoDOT's policy and procedure manual on the Sunshine Act before releasing any of the information contained herein.*

**TAC ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

**September 24, 2020**

<b>Ms. Crystal Jones</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Andrew Murphy</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Bill Robison</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Ron Keeney</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Wayne Gibbs</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Joe Loyd</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Denise Smith</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Renee Horn</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Eddie Williams</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Jesse Roy</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Gary Emmons</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Dennis Cox</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Ms. Rickie Maples</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. Mark Croarkin</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Mike Brandon</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. David Wyman</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Chris Crocker</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Ms. Elquin Auala</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>

**THOSE NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

<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. Jordan Collins</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Tom Wilder</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Darrell Dement</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Tami Hale</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Bill Kirkpatrick</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Chad Henson</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Doug Wood</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>