

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

**JULY 13, 2023
OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

OZARK FOOTHILLS RPC, POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI

I. Call to Order

Chairman Brian Polk called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. Open for Public Discussion

Jordan Collins, Carter County, mentioned he just came from a group Electric Coop meeting in Kansas City, MO. Coops are facing a lot of challenges right now, financially, like a lot of entities. As a board member of a coop, Mr. Collins would be happy to speak with anyone about those challenges and other concerns. Coops are trying to work with local governments whenever possible.

III. Adoption of April 14, 2022 Minutes

The minutes of the April 13, 2023 TAC meeting were reviewed. The minutes were adopted on a motion by Jesse Roy, Ripley County, and second by Ron Keeney, Carter County.

IV. Missouri Department of Transportation Reports

Matt Wilkerson, MoDOT Southeast District, reviewed lettings and the MoDOT Cost Share Program information from a handout provided to the TAC. Highway 142 in Ripley County was let for a bridge replacement over Mill Creek near Gatewood. Route N, Route KK and Route TT in Reynolds County will all see pavement resurfacing.

Elquin Auala, MoDOT Southeast District, Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) applications are due August 24th. The program constructs sidewalks and is an 80/20 program. If the project will involve MoDOT right of way, the application needs to be submitted to the Area Engineer a couple weeks earlier. Entities must have on staff a current employee or elected official that has completed the Person of Responsible Charge training.

Mr. Wilkerson covered the BRO applications and funding. Seven projects have tentatively been awarded funding from the 27 applications submitted. The Regional Bridge Committee met yesterday to select projects. One of the biggest comments to come from the meeting was to review applications before they are submitted. Many of the applications were completed by the same engineering company and used nearly identical wording on multiple projects.

Chairman Polk added that the majority of the applications read the exact same way. All of the

bridges eligible are bad bridges or they wouldn't be on the eligibility list. Cities and counties should add your own words and knowledge to the project and make sure good pictures are used.

Joe Killian, MoDOT Southeast District, informed the TAC the STIP was approved at the July meeting of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission. The STIP includes roughly \$14 billion worth of projects statewide and all five years of the plan are funded. There will be a High Priority Unfunded Needs meeting on August 15th at the Bootheel RPC in Dexter. Mr. Killian encouraged all planning partners to attend the meeting.

Chad Henson, Wayne County, asked if there was any movement on I-57 or if they've hit a wall. Matt Wilkerson stated a wall has been hit. Additional funding for right of way was vetoed, so development of plans is moving forward, but cannot purchase ROW right now.

V. Transportation Planning Coordinator Report

Ozark Foothills Transportation Planning Coordinator Andrew Murphy reported that paving applications submitted to the 2022 CDBG general infrastructure category were denied funding for Butler County Broseley Paving Phase II and Carter County South Van Buren Paving. Mr. Murphy encouraged both applications to be resubmitted. The Broseley application will require a new door-to-door survey to be completed.

2023 CDBG Applications are expected to open in fall 2023. This could be a very busy fall, as CDBG MIT-MID applications are expected to open on a similar timeline.

Mr. Murphy mentioned the TAP Applications were already covered, but lots of conversations are being held with communities in the region.

No updates for the MoDOT Recovery Committee as no meetings have occurred in 2023.

Chairman Polk, who has served as the TAC representative and scorer of BRO projects for the region the past two years asked for a volunteer scoring committee to assist in scoring and creating an average of scores to be taken to the Regional Bridge Committee. This committee selects which bridge projects occur in a 25-county region. Dennis Cox (Ripley County), Jordan Collins (Carter County), Denise Smith (Reynolds County), Butch Anderson (Butler County), and Brian Polk (Wayne County) all agreed to score applications for next year's round of BRO applications.

VI. Old Business

Mr. Murphy announced that both the Ozark Foothills Regional Transportation Plan and Ozark Foothills Public Transit Human Services Transportation Coordination Plans were approved by the OFRPC Board of Directors in June and submitted to MoDOT prior to June 30, 2023. Both plans are on the OFRPC website and can be found under the transportation planning section.

VII. New Business

The committee divided into five groupings separated by county. Ballots for projects,

maintenance, and multi-modal needs were presented for use in the prioritization process and the voting procedure was explained. Each individual could cast five votes; a minimum of one had to be used for a project in a county outside of the voter's county of representation. Each TAC member could then cast the remaining four votes to any project or projects he or she desired. The ballot sheets with the total number of votes for each project are attached.

VIII. General Discussion

No general discussion ensued.

IX. Adjournment

Ron Keeney moved to adjourn. Chairman Polk adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC PROJECT PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/ Description	AADT	Commercial Volume	Number of Crashes	Injuries	Fatalities	
37	Butler: 4-lane Highway 67 from Highway 160 to the state line	7,085	1,740	232	95	3	
	Butler: Add shoulders on W Highway from PB to Route KK	1,333	449	177	49	4	
	Butler: Move and straighten Twin Springs Hill on Route M	1,388	488	6	3	0	
	Carter: Overlay and add shoulders to D Highway	698	134	18	6	0	
3	Carter: Overlay and add shoulders on C Highway from Highway 60 to county line	356	160	21	10	1	
	Carter: RT N Widen and eliminate one-lane bridge over Middle Brushy Creek	335	87	8	4	0	
4	Reynolds: Highway F bridge/low water crossing flooding issues	190	16	96	27	3	
	Reynolds: Guardrails on Highway 106 west of Ellington	818	232	72	25	2	
1	Reynolds: Widen shoulder on Highway 106	818	232	72	25	2	
44	Ripley: Highway 21 South at Briar Creek – Bridge Replacement	1,734	471	9	4	0	
	Ripley: Low water crossing on Highway K between CR K-5 and K-6	644	270	1	0	0	
4	Ripley: Highway 160 – Repair poor construction so people do not get sea sick	6,224	1,278	601	256	15	
6	Wayne: Safety Shoulders on Highway 49 from Highway 67 to Mill Spring and Piedmont to Iron County line and widen existing box culverts	318	104	454	140	4	
	Wayne: Low water Dip on C Highway approximately 1 mile northwest of C & E Junction	170 392	33 42	0 4	0 2	0 1	
16	Wayne: Highway 34 East of CR236 approx. 300 yards, small bridge replacement over Gizzard Creek	611	27	35	14	1	

OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/Description	AADT	Commercial Volume	Number of Crashes	Injuries	Fatalities	
17	Butler: Resurface Route O	252	42	24	7	0	
	Butler: Resurface Route O	252	42	24	7	0	
	Butler: Repair/Resurface Butzen Drive			0	0	0	
25	Butler: Resurface Route NN	758	16	21	13	0	
20	Carter: Redesign median crossover of Highway V & Highway A at Highway 60 in Ellsinore	1,644 1,196	322 260	17 18	13 21	0 3	
	Carter: Overlay Highway V & H in East Carter County	390 232	96 35	13 14	9 7	1 1	
	Carter: Add Shoulders and rumblestrips to Highway 103	1609 275	242 10	15	10	1	
40	Reynolds: Highway 72 overlay from 72/21 Junction to 72/32 Junction	670	246	177	90	5	
5	Reynolds: Repair bridges over Black River on Hwy 21 where bridges connect with Highway and also on Hwy KK at West Fork Mine	1,434 792	69 276	0	0	0	
	Reynolds: Secondary Roads overlay and chip & seal Hwy A (Hwy 49 to County Line), Hwy U from Hwy 21 to end of State Maintenance, and Highway W from Highway K to end of Maintenance	94 929 68	18 269 12	0 10 0	0 5 0	0 0 0	
5	Ripley: Add Shoulders on Highway 160 W from Doniphan to C Highway	1,080	295	146	93	1	
	Ripley: Overlay EE Highway	200	41	2	2	0	
	Ripley: Overlay T Highway	432	88	19	8	1	
20	Wayne: HWY 49 Resurface from Williamsville to Iron County Line	1,628	126	395	123	4	
	Wayne: Overlay Route 49 from Highway 67 to west Junction of Route A	340	34	72	30	1	
	Wayne: Overlay Route A from west junction of Highway 49 to US Highway 60 East	782	78	50	15	1	

OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MULTI-MODAL PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/Description	AADT				
23	Butler: Extend the Poplar Bluff airport runway					
	Butler: Improve Amtrak Depot service facility					
	Butler: Pedestrian Overpass over Railroad along Highway 53					
	Carter: Construct new helipads					
11	Carter: Sidewalks in Ellsinore from East Carter Schools to US Hwy 60					
6	Carter: Sidewalks from College Ave to Commercial Drive in Van Buren					
25	Reynolds: Add bike lane for TransAmerica Bike Trail on Highway 76 Bike Route					
21	Reynolds: Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Ellington					
4	Reynolds: Sidewalk repair/construction in Bunker on Main and 4 th Streets					
2	Ripley: 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					
1	Ripley: Sidewalks on Highway 142 E (Walnut Street) and west on Washington Street to Courthouse					
	Ripley: Ellington to Van Buren to Grandin to Doniphan bike trail extension that ties in with TransAmerica Trail in Ellington					
12	Wayne: Sidewalk construction on Cemetery Road in Williamsville					
10	Wayne: Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Greenville					
	Wayne: Sidewalk repair/construction along AA Highway in Williamsville					

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

July 13, 2023

Mr. Alan Lutes	Ozark Foothills RPC
Mr. Andrew Murphy	Ozark Foothills RPC
Mr. Vince Lampe	Butler County
Mr. Don Anderson	Butler County
Mr. Dennis LeGrand	Butler County
Mr. Jeff Darnell	Butler County
Mr. Bill Robison	Butler County
Mr. Ron Keeney	Carter County
Mr. Tom Wilder	Carter County
Mr. Jordan Collins	Carter County
Mr. Steve Chitwood	Reynolds County
Mr. Eddie Williams	Reynolds County
Mr. Larry Pogue	Reynolds County
Ms. Denise Smith	Reynolds County
Mr. Darrell Dement	Reynolds County
Mr. Jesse Roy	Ripley County
Mr. Gary Emmons	Ripley County
Mr. Dennis Cox	Ripley County
Mr. Freddie Leroux	Ripley County
Mr. Jarret Ficke	Ripley County
Mr. Brian Polk	Wayne County
Mr. Doug Wood	Wayne County
Ms. Angela Smith	Wayne County
Mr. Chad Henson	Wayne County
Mr. Steve Foster	Wayne County (alternate)
Ms. Elquin Auala	MoDOT Southeast District
Mr. Joe Killian	MoDOT Southeast District
Mr. Matt Wilkerson	MoDOT Southeast District
Ms. Gloria Dement	Guest

THOSE NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Wayne Gibbs	Carter County
Mr. Randal Jenkins	Carter County
Mr. Bill Kirkpatrick	Wayne County