

**MINUTES  
OF  
THE OZARK FOOTHILLS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
  
JULY 10, 2025  
OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
  
OZARK FOOTHILLS RPC, POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Brian Polk called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

**II. Open for Public Discussion**

No public discussion ensued.

**III. Adoption of April 10, 2025 Minutes**

The minutes of the April 10, 2025 TAC meeting were reviewed. The minutes were adopted on a motion by Vince Lampe, Butler County, and second by Michael Williams, Ripley County.

**IV. Missouri Department of Transportation Reports**

Mike Brandon, MoDOT Southeast District, stated the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission approved the 2026-2030 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) program on July 9, 2025. There are over 1,200 projects worth more than \$13.3 billion using both state and federal funds.

Katy Bower, MoDOT Southeast District, stated they are hoping to get Route KK in Wayne County out to bid next week. This will be a temporary low water crossing to get the road open and to try and get the project into a future STIP to put in a bridge and widen to 2 lanes.

Brain Polk asked if that project should be prioritized by the TAC at a future meeting. Mike Brandon said they are looking into getting funding to make the improvements, but the TAC could prioritize the project.

Melissa Rose, MoDOT Southeast District, announced the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) call for projects ends July 11, 2025. There are no projects submitted at this time from the OFRPC region.

**V. Transportation Planning Coordinator Report**

Ozark Foothills Transportation Planning Coordinator Andrew Murphy stated the RPC is still waiting on award notifications regarding the 42 CDBG MIT/MID applications that were submitted in January 2025. The CDBG MIT/MID funding is tied to the 2017 flood event.

For the regular FY25 CDBG grant application cycle, the RPC is working on 10 applications including paving projects for the Cities of Neelyville, Qulin, Ellington, Williamsville, and Wayne County. Applications are due July 28, 2025.

There have been no updates on the Delta Regional Authority's (DRA) funding. DRA's Critical Infrastructure Fund (CIF) applications are open. The CIF looks to make investments that support projects that address flood control, basic public infrastructure, and transportation infrastructure improvements. The applications are accepted on a rolling basis and projects are competitive in the entire DRA region. Projects can request up to \$2 million.

The Delta Regional Authority SEDAP Application Cycle usually opens in March with a late June due date, but has yet to open. DRA's focus is on Transportation Infrastructure, Basic Public Infrastructure, Healthcare, Workforce Development, and Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

TAP applications are due July 11, 2025. As Ms. Rose stated earlier, no projects were submitted from the OFRPC region.

The Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) applications are open. The program goal is to "Improve transportation facilities that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within federal lands." This is the first Call for Projects since September 2021. We've written several for Carter County over the years that have been awarded, and submitted one for Carter and one for Butler County in January 2022. The Carter County project was County Road 201 and for Butler County it was County Roads 434 and 436 leading to Beaver Lake Recreation Area.

The round opened July 1<sup>st</sup> and due dates are October 1, 2025. The State of Missouri has a total of \$4.4 million available. Projects once again can be 100% funded and require no match. This call for projects is programming funding for FY27-FY29.

Proposed projects or studies must be associated with a public highway, road, bridge, trail or transit system that is located on, is adjacent to, or provides access to Federal lands for which the transportation facility's title or maintenance responsibility is vested with a State, county, city, township, tribal, municipal, or other local government entity.

Robert Augsdorfer, OFRPC Community Planning Specialist, stated he is working with each of the five counties to put together a county-wide task force to provide feedback and help in development of the Ozark Foothills Region Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. He has met with all five counties and 16 cities in the region to explain the development of the plan. A couple of the counties are close in having their Task Force complete. The OFRPC is looking for about 10 members to serve for each county. Each group will meet 4 times over the next year and half and all meetings will be open to the public and held in locations in their county.

Mr. Augsdorfer provided a Safe Streets for All transportation survey to the TAC for them to complete at the meeting. Questions include forms of transportation an individual most frequently uses, average commute times, locations of concerns, etc. He also asked if any additional questions come to mind, to please let him know as a general public survey for each county is forthcoming.

## **VI. Old Business**

Mr. Murphy reported the updated Ozark Foothills Regional Transportation Plan was approved by the OFRPC Board of Directors at the June Board meeting and has been submitted to MoDOT.

Amber Hornbeck, OFRPC Project Officer, has made great progress on Qulin's Active Transportation Plan. She received 32 surveys from the community, about 7% of Qulin's population, and conducted a Walk Audit for the community in late May that saw Mr. Murphy and Mr. Augsdorfer also attend. Joining them were Qulin City Officials, Qulin PD, Butler County Health Department, Gary Pride from our TAC and the Poplar Bluff Airport, The Bootheel Regional Planning Commission, local citizens and representatives from Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and Missourians for Responsible Transportation. She held a final public meeting on July 9th, and the plan will be wrapped up in September.

## **VII. New Business**

MoDOT will be hosting a public meeting to give the public the opportunity to comment on the High Priority Unfunded Needs List on August 28<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 p.m. at the OFRPC office.

Our next regularly schedule TAC meeting is October 9, 2025. Mr. Murphy announced he is having a child due October 15, 2025 she's running big and suspects she'll arrive earlier than the due date. There are quite a few conferences and meetings occurring in September, so there wasn't a lot of options to move the meeting to, so after consultation with TAC Chairman Brian Polk and OFRPC Executive Director Alan Lutes, the next TAC meeting is being scheduled for Thursday September 25, 2025.

Finally, 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**

Steve Chitwood, Reynolds County, moved to adjourn. Chairman Polk adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

## OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC PROJECT PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/Description	AADT	Commercial Volume	Number of Crashes	Injuries	Fatalities	
55	<b>Butler:</b> 4-lane Highway 67 from Highway 160 to the state line	7,085	1,740	232	95	3	
	<b>Butler:</b> Move and straighten Twin Springs Hill on Route M	1,388	488	6	3	0	
	<b>Butler:</b> Add shoulders on PP Highway from Roundabout to Highway 60	4,240	1,833	94	21	0	
13	<b>Carter:</b> Turning Lane, west bound Highway 60 at both Business 60 and James Street in Van Buren	1,551 3,504	64 394	0 0	0 0	0 0	
4	<b>Carter:</b> Overlay and add shoulders on C Highway from Highway 60 to county line	356	160	21	10	1	
	<b>Carter:</b> Straighten hill on Highway E in Hunter	279	8	1	1	0	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Rumblestrips on Highway 21/Highway72/Highway V	755 771 72	421 365 28	60	17	1	
20	<b>Reynolds:</b> Guardrails on Highway 106 west of Ellington	818	232	72	25	2	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Widen shoulder on Highway 106	818	232	72	25	2	
12	<b>Ripley:</b> Turning lane on Highway 21 turning east onto Highway 160	3,324	2,052	48	15	1	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Highway 21 South at Briar Creek – Bridge Replacement	1,734	471	9	4	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Low water crossing on Highway K between CR K-5 and K-6	644	270	1	0	0	
16	<b>Wayne:</b> Highway 34 East of CR236 approx. 300 yards, small bridge replacement over Gizzard Creek	611	27	35	14	1	
5	<b>Wayne:</b> Safety Shoulders from Piedmont to Iron Co. Line on Hwy 49	775	299	62	25	1	
	<b>Wayne:</b> Safety Shoulders on D Highway	979	297	100	33	3	

*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.*

# OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/Description	AADT	Commercial Volume	Number of Crashes	Injuries	Fatalities	
12	<b>Butler:</b> Resurface Route O	252	42	24	7	0	
4	<b>Butler:</b> Widen Township Line	5,218	3,068	188	60	5	
	<b>Butler:</b> Resurface Route NN	758	16	21	13	0	
16	<b>Carter:</b> 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	
	<b>Carter:</b> Overlay Highway V & H in East Carter County	390 232	96 35	13 14	9 7	1 1	
	<b>Carter:</b> Add Shoulders and rumblestrips to Highway 103	1609 275	242 10	15	10	1	
20	<b>Reynolds:</b> Highway 72 overlay from 72/21 Junction to 72/32 Junction	670	246	177	90	5	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> 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	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> 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	
52	<b>Ripley:</b> Add Shoulders on Highway 160 W from Doniphan to C Highway	1,080	295	146	93	1	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Overlay JJ Highway	210	85	11	4	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Overlay O Highway	265	27	1	1	0	
21	<b>Wayne:</b> HWY 49 Resurface from Piedmont to Iron County Line	775	299	62	25	1	
	<b>Wayne:</b> Overlay Highway P from Highway E to County Line	273	15	1	1	1	
	<b>Wayne:</b> Overlay Highway EE from Highway 67 to gravel	172	20	0	0	0	

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# OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MULTI-MODAL PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/Description	AADT				
	<b>Butler:</b> Extend the Poplar Bluff airport runway					
50	<b>Butler:</b> Improve Regional Airport terminal capacity					
	<b>Butler:</b> Pedestrian Overpass over UP Railroad along Highway 53					
	<b>Carter:</b> Sidewalks in Ellsinore from intersection of Highway A & V (Post Office) to East Carter Schools to US Highway 60					
16	<b>Carter:</b> Sidewalks from College Ave to Commercial Drive in Van Buren					
	<b>Carter:</b> Construct new helipads					
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Add bike lane for TransAmerica Bike Trail on Highway 76 Bike Route					
22	<b>Reynolds:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Ellington					
3	<b>Reynolds:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in Bunker on Main and 4 <sup>th</sup> Streets					
11	<b>Ripley:</b> Sidewalks on Highway 142 E (Walnut Street) and west on Washington Street to Courthouse					
1	<b>Ripley:</b> Sidewalks from the Courthouse to Highway 160 on Jefferson Street					
1	<b>Ripley:</b> Ellington to Van Buren to Grandin to Doniphan bike trail extension that ties in with TransAmerica Trail in Ellington					
21	<b>Wayne:</b> Sidewalk construction from French to Winn Street to accommodate a crosswalk on Highway 34 in Piedmont					
	<b>Wayne:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Greenville					
	<b>Wayne:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction along AA Highway in Williamsville					

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## **TAC ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

**July 10, 2025**

<b>Mr. Alan Lutes</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Andrew Murphy</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Robert Augsdorfer</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Vince Lampe</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Larry Wells</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Ralph Stucker</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. Gary Pride</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. Erik McSpadden</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Ms. Ashley Newson</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Steve Chitwood</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Eddie Williams</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Larry Pogue</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Gloria Dement</b>	<b>Reynolds County (alternate)</b>
<b>Mr. Darrell Dement</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. Freddie Leroux</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Jarret Ficke</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Matthew Rodgers</b>	<b>Ripley County (alternate)</b>
<b>Mr. Michael Williams</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Brian Polk</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Chad Henson</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Ms. Barb Potter</b>	<b>Wayne County (alternate)</b>
<b>Mr. Steve Foster</b>	<b>Wayne County (alternate)</b>
<b>Mr. Mike Brandon</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Trey Scott</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Ms. Katy Bower</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Ms. Melissa Rose</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Randy Potter</b>	<b>Guest</b>
<b>Mr. Lori Dunlap</b>	<b>Missouri DED</b>

## **THOSE NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

<b>Mr. Randal Jenkins</b>	<b>Carter County</b>	<b>Mr. Doug Wood</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Jordan Collins</b>	<b>Carter County</b>	<b>Mr. Lee Hillis</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Craig Foster</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>	<b>Mr. Bill Kirkpatrick</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Ms. Alicia Baker</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>	<b>Mr. Tylar Pinkley</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Gary Emmons</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>		