Missouri Transportation Planning Committee
Meeting Notes
October 2019

The Missouri Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting was held in the East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG) offices on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 2:00 pm.

Members in Attendance
Steve Ables, Municipal League of Metro St Louis
Rich Bradley, City of St Louis
Mike Henderson, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
John Hicks, St Louis County
Karen Karabell, Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) representative
Dan Naunheim, Jefferson County
Ron Williams, Franklin County

Members Absent
Amanda Brauer, St Charles County Transit Authority representative
Maurice Falls, City of St Louis
Jessica Gershman, Bi-State Development (BSD)
Chris Poehler, Bi-State Development (BSD)
Greg Smith, St Louis Regional Chamber
Wesley Stephen, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Craig Tajkowski, St Charles County

Others in Attendance
Jackie Covington, Bi-State Development (BSD)
Jesse Jonas, American Concrete Pavement Association
John Kohler, City of St. Louis
Kevin Neill, Alta Planning & Design
Scott Ogilvie, City of St. Louis

EWG Staff
Brenden Giblin, Larry Grither, Paul Hubbman, Jason Lange, Zakari Mumuni, Anna Musial, Josh Schwenk, Melissa Theiss

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by John Hicks, Chair.

ITEMS
St. Louis County Action Plan for Walking and Biking – John Hicks (St. Louis County) introduced St. Louis County's Action Plan for Walking and Biking. This plan is partially an outgrowth of the Gateway Bike Plan, Imagining Tomorrow comprehensive plan, and the Age-Friendly Community Action Plan as an attempt to better define the needs of cyclists and pedestrians in the County.

Kevin Neill (Alta Planning & Design) reviewed the status of the Action Plan for Walking and Biking with the members of the TPC. The plan is meant to be a long-range planning document for the arterial and collector road network maintained by the County. The idea is that priorities identified in the plan will be incorporated into the County's capital improvement projects. The goal is to develop a priority list of actionable projects that could be moved forward relatively quickly following plan completion. A needs assessment as well as a demographic and health indicator analysis was conducted to identify areas with the highest levels of demand for walking and biking. This was followed by an existing condition analysis to determine gaps in the existing sidewalk network as well as a pedestrian level of service (PLOS) survey to determine where improvements are needed. Similarly, an inventory of existing bicycle facilities was conducted along with a bicycle level of traffic stress (LTS) analysis to determine existing conditions.

Currently, the plan is in the community engagement stage. A Technical Advisory Committee and a Community Advisory Committee are helping to guide the plan development. A survey is currently open and a series of public meetings are planned to gather public feedback. Next steps involve developing network recommendations and priorities.

Ron Williams (Franklin County) asked whether the plan would focus on improving existing facilities or expanding the network. Hicks responded that it will be a hybrid based on the specific needs in different areas of the County as well as funding. John Kohler (City of St. Louis) asked whether the County had considered a unified branding strategy for the bike network with its neighboring jurisdictions. Hicks replied that branding was not something addressed at this time but that collaboration with adjoining jurisdictions was important during the plan development process.

Additional information, as well as the survey and schedule of public meetings, is available at: https://stlcountywalkbike.com/

2018 Annual Congestion Report – Zakari Mumuni (EWG) presented an overview of the congestion situation in the region. Currently, approximately 8% of the monitored locations on the freeway network is classified as congested. Some trends identified is that evening peak hours and east/west travel are where the greatest proportion of congestion takes place.

Additional information, including the new report, is available at: https://www.ewgateway.org/transportation-planning/transportation-systems-management-operations/congestion-management-process/

Functional Classification – ACTION ITEM – Brenden Giblin (EWG) presented on the recent update to the functional classification update. In order to qualify for Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Suballocated (STP-S) funding, a roadway project must be located on a facility classified as a minor collector or higher in an urban area or a major collector or higher in a rural area. Staff coordinated with the state departments of transportation as well as local agencies and recommends 14 changes to the functional classification of roadways in the region.

Motion to Approve: Move – Mike Henderson, Second – Steve Ables
-Motion carries – All in attendance voting in favor

Additional information on functional classification is available at:
https://www.ewgateway.org/FuncClass/

Reasonable Progress – Josh Schwenk (EWG) notified the TPC that a new federal fiscal year began October 1, 2019. As such, a new reasonable progress document is available. Approximately $11 million more is programmed this year than was programmed last year. However, the same number of projects are currently programmed.

John Kohler (City of St. Louis) asked if any projects had their funding revoked last year. Schwenk responded that none have, although some official obligation notices have yet to be sent out.

The most recent Reasonable Progress Update, as well as previous updates, is available at https://www.ewgateway.org/tip under Reasonable Progress.

Other Business –
Jason Lange (EWG) informed the TPC that EWG's Annual Meeting will be held November 13, 2019 at Union Station.

Lange also informed the TPC that STP-S and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) applications will be available beginning November 8, 2019 and will be due February 13, 2020. Project Development Workshops will be held in November.

Lange also mentioned that the MoDOT St. Louis District will be holding its State of the System meeting the morning of November 26, 2019. After that meeting, MoDOT will host its Project Implementation Workshop.

In response to a question from John Kohler (City of St. Louis), Lange noted that Transportation Alternatives (TAP) funding is contingent upon the transportation bill currently being considered in Congress.

The next Missouri TPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 2:00pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Move – Karen Karabell, Second – Mike Henderson