

**AGENDA**  
**EAST-WEST GATEWAY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**EXECUTIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2017 –2:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2017**

**3. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. OneSTL Report to the Region - - Aaron Young

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

A. St. Louis Regional Education Commitment - - Jim Wild

B. Modification of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP), the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, *Connected2045*, and the Related Air Quality Conformity Determination - Requested by Missouri and Illinois Project Sponsors - - Melissa Theiss

C. Regional Security Expenditures - - Nick Gragnani

**5. OTHER BUSINESS**

**6. ADJOURNMENT**



**EAST-WEST GATEWAY**  
**Council of Governments**

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

**Memo to:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Staff  
**Subject:** Project Notifications  
**Date:** February 22, 2017

Attached is the Project Notification list for January 2017. The compiled list is a result of the weekly list of projects from the Missouri State Clearinghouse for comments. The listing contains a summary table which includes grant applications, announcements, and public notices. If you have any questions regarding this attachment, please contact Aaron Young in the Community Planning department.

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**Executive Director**

James M. Wild

Gateway Tower  
One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600  
St. Louis, MO 63102-2451

314-421-4220  
618-274-2750  
Fax 314-231-6120

webmaster@ewgateway.org  
www.ewgateway.org

**Project Reviews for East-West Gateway Council of Governments  
February 2017**

<b>JURISDICTION</b>	<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FEDERAL AGENCY</b>	<b>FEDERAL GRANT/LOAN</b>	<b>FUNDING: STATE LOCAL/OTHER</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
St. Louis, MO	Young Women's Christian Association #1707005	Head Start and Early Head Start	HHS	\$17,832,717	Applicant: \$4,458,180	\$22,290,897
St. Louis, MO	St. Louis County Police Department #1707020	Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program Compliance and Accountability Program	DOJ	\$691,897		\$691,897
St. Louis, MO	Washington University #1707026	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Projects of Regional and National Significance Capacity Building Initiative for Substance Abuse (SA) and HIV Prevention Services for At-Risk Racial/Ethnic Minority Youth and Young Adults	HHS	\$283,875		\$283,875

## MINUTES

### EAST-WEST GATEWAY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE JANUARY 17, 2017

#### Members Present

Tracy Beidleman, Metro  
Ronald Davis, City of East St. Louis, IL  
Gary Elmestad, St. Charles County, MO  
John Greifzu, St. Charles County, MO  
Joe Hagerty, Madison County, IL  
Barb Hohlt, St. Clair County, IL  
Douglas Hulme, Madison County, IL  
Curtis Jones, IDOT  
Kevin Jemison, IDOT  
Pat Kelly, St. Louis County Municipal League  
Bill Schnell, MoDOT  
Stephanie Leon Streeter, St. Louis County, MO  
Todd Waelterman, City of St. Louis, MO  
Jonathan Zimmerman, Franklin County

#### Others in Attendance

Mary Lamie, St. Louis Regional Freightway  
Jackie Covington, Bi-State Development Agency

#### *EWGCOG Staff:*

Jim Wild, Staci Alvarez, Royce Bauer, Jerry Blair, Dale Chambers Joyce Collins-Catling, Ben Fleschert, Ross Friedman, Nick Gragnani, Larry Grither, Rodney Halbert, Ryan Hatch, Paul Hubbman, Dan Hutti, Frank Johnson, Peter Koepfel, Karen Kunkel, Jason Lange, Carol Lawrence, Mary Grace Lewandowski, Marcie Meystrik, Anna Musial, Rachael Pawlak, John Posey, Mary Rocchio, Lubna Schoaib, Himmer Soberanis, Melissa Theiss, DJ Wilson, David Wilson

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Advisory Committee was called to order by Stephanie Leon Streeter, Acting Chair.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 18, 2016 MEETING

Motion was made by Mr. Elmestad, seconded by Mr. Davis, to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting. Motion carried, all voting aye.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

Jim Wild, EWGCOG, acknowledged and introduced new members John Griefzu, St. Charles County, and Doug Hulme, Madison County.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### **FY 2018-2021 Transportation Improvement Program Development**

Jason Lange, EWGCOG, provided a brief summary of completed and upcoming activities and deadlines associated with development of the FY 2018-2021 program.

### **New Year Snapshot of Regional Indicators**

John Posey, EWGCOG, provided a brief snapshot of the region as it compares to 49 other regions in the nation in the areas of population, employment and unemployment, income, crime rate, and racial disparity.

### **St. Louis Regional Freightway Update**

Mary Lamie, St. Louis Regional Freightway, provided an update which included summaries of the accomplishments of the St. Louis Regional Freightway and its associated committees in 2016; the projects and priorities slated for 2017; new features of the Freightway's website; analysis and efforts to promote container on barge transportation; and the promotion of manufacturing, logistics and truck driver workforce initiatives.

Additional conversation followed regarding the consideration and inclusion of the I-70 study in Freightway's list of priorities.

### **2017 Certification Review**

Jim Wild, EWGCOG, advised that the USDOT would soon be reviewing EWGCOG's planning process to ensure conformity with federal rules and regulations. The review is conducted every four years. He identified the other partners involved in the review, including the US Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Dept. of Transportation, Missouri Dept. of Transportation, Bi-State Development, St. Clair Transit and Madison County Transit. He advised that the USDOT would be presenting additional information about the review to the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

## ACTION ITEMS

### **Amendment to the 2017 Unified Planning Work Program to Modify Element 2.10 to include TEAP projects for the Cities of Des Peres, Ballwin, and University City**

Royce Bauer, EWGCOG, summarized staff's recommendation to amend the UPWP to include modified element 2.10: MoDOT Traffic Engineering Assistance Program, for a total of \$30,000.

Motion approving the recommendation was made by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion carried, all voting aye.

### **Funding agreement for the Forest Park Great Streets project**

Paul Hubbman, EWGCOG, summarized staff's recommendation to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a funding agreement with Forest Park Forever to accept \$100,000 in project match funding.

Motion approving the recommendation was made by Mr. Waeltermann, seconded by Mr. Davis. Motion carried, all voting aye.

**Authorization to Enter into an Agreement with Bi-State Development for funding of the St. Louis Regional Freightway**

Jim Wild, EWGCOG, summarized staff’s recommendation to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a funding agreement with Bi-State Development to support the St. Louis Regional Freightway in the amount not to exceed \$150,000.

Motion approving the recommendation was made by Mr. Hagerty, seconded by Mr. Waeltermann. Motion carried, all voting aye.

**Modification of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP), the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, *Connected2045*, and the Related Air Quality Conformity Determination - Requested by Missouri and Illinois Project Sponsors**

Melissa Theiss, EWGCOG, summarized staff’s recommendation to amend the FY 2017-2020 TIP, *Connected2045* and the Related Air Quality Conformity Determination to add the following projects:

Illinois:

TIP #	Sponsor	Action	Description
6792-17	Columbia, IL	Add	Monroe County – Pedestrian improvements - Whiteside Street to Oak Street – Columbia, IL
6650C-17	IDOT	Add	St. Clair County – ADA improvements – North Belt West – Frank Scott Parkway to 17 <sup>th</sup> Street, Belleville, IL
6686E-17	IDOT	Add	St. Clair County – Shoulder reconstruction – I-255, IL 3 to IL 15
6686F-17	IDOT	Add	Multi-County – Guardrail end section replacement – Various locations
6686G-17	IDOT	Add	St. Clair County – Traffic signal modernization at 50 various intersections

Missouri:

TIP #	Sponsor	Action	Description
6793-17	Jefferson County	Add	Jefferson County – Intersection improvements / realignment at Cedar Hill Road
6794-17	MoDOT	Add	St. Charles County – Pavement improvements on MO J, Common Field Street to MO 94; and MO, Flatwood Road to MO 79
6795-17	MoDOT	Add	Franklin County – Pavement improvements and slide repair – Mo B, Trail Drive to Etlah Road
4414H-12	MoDOT	Scoping	St. Louis County – Bridge improvements – I-270 to St. Louis City limits
6788G-17	MoDOT	Scoping	St. Louis County – Pavement and ADA improvements – MO D to I-170 to St. Louis City limits
6545A-17	De Soto	Modify	Jefferson County – Shared use path – Woodland Path, De Soto High School to Vineland Elementary School
5171B-17	Metro	Modify	Multi-State – MetroLink slope stability, drainage, culvert improvements
6651E-16	MoDOT	Modify	St. Louis County – Pavement improvements – I-270, I-170 to Chain of Rocks Bridge
6651EE-18	MoDOT	Modify	St. Louis County – Barrier wall improvements – I-270, I-170 to Chain of Rocks Bridge

Motion approving the recommendation was made by Mr. Hagerty, seconded by Ms. Hohlt. Motion carried, all voting aye.

**Regional Security Expenditures**

Nick Gragnani, STARRS, summarized staff’s recommendation of the following expenditures, totaling \$416,277. The expenditures will be funded from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Urban Area Security Initiative (“UASI”) and ASPR Hospital Preparedness grant programs.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchase	Meridian Medical Technologies – 89 Cyanokits	\$61,000
Purchase	Verde, Inc. – two 24 foot trailers	\$27,990
Contract	Mitigation Dynamics – Healthcare Civil Unrest/Violent Incident training course	\$10,000
Sub-Award	Richmond Heights, MO – Automated License Plate Reader and Mugshot Recognition Technology System Project Manager	\$54,980
Purchase	Boundtree Medical – Phillips Defibrillator	\$21,585
Purchase	Motorola Solutions – Seven 800mhz/VHF dual band radios	\$49,331
Purchase	Express Scale – sandbag machine	\$90,912
Contract	Tetra Tech, Inc. – develop a healthcare focused regional Hazard Vulnerability Analysis and Risk Assessment	\$89,993
Purchase	Tactical Medical Solutions – 16 tactical EMS medical assault backpacks	\$10,486

Motion approving the recommendation was made by Ms. Hohlt, seconded by Mr. Waeltermann. Motion passed unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

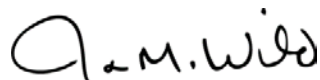
Nick Gragnani, STARRS, reported that STARRS will be sponsoring free training courses on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) during the first half of 2017 for elected officials and department heads who have not received NIMS training in the last five years. He advised that the training sessions fill to capacity quickly, and noted that additional information and registration are available on EWGCOG’s website.

Mr. Elmestad advised of a Missouri Transportation Committee vacancy for the region, and briefly mentioned the lack of Governor support for the current transportation budget package.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned without motion.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Wild  
Secretary, Board of Directors



**EAST-WEST GATEWAY**  
**Council of Governments**

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Staff  
**Subject:** St. Louis Regional Education Commitment  
**Date:** February 9, 2017

At the October meeting of the Board of Directors the St. Louis Regional Chamber presented an effort being undertaken by the Regional Chamber, institutions of higher education, and business leaders who have joined together to increase the number of Bachelor and Associate's degrees in the St. Louis region to Top 10 status nationally by 2025. The discussion addressed five strategies for attaining the Top 10 goal, including: creating an equitable, inclusive, affordable system; creating a shared community agenda; operating with an abundance mentality; leveraging assets and partnerships; and maintaining accountability through common metrics.

The effort is described as a "People-First Plan" to increase educational attainment through the implementation of strategies that support students by successfully enrolling in college and completing degrees. The strategies specifically address current students, recent college graduates, working adults, veterans, and unemployed or underemployed individuals. For the St. Louis region to be recognized as one of the top 10 most educated metropolitan regions in the United States 40% of adults in St. Louis would need to possess a Bachelor's degree or higher (an increase of 75,000 additional degrees) and 10% of adults in St. Louis would need to possess an Associate's degree (an increase of 18,000 additional Associate's degrees).

Ultimately the St. Louis Regional Education Commitment will become the charter for an organization that will execute key initiatives, track progress and benchmark success, and coordinate resources to sustain progress in achieving our goal. The organization will be led by a roundtable of leaders that reflects the cross-sector commitment to our goal to see St. Louis become one of the top ten most educated regions by 2025.

Staff is presenting the St. Louis Regional Education Commitment for East-West Gateway Board endorsement. We believe the plan is solid, carefully and thoughtfully prepared, and supported by significant cross-sector input from around the region. The St. Louis Regional Education Commitment is yet another significant tool to strategically

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**Executive Director**

James M. Wild

Gateway Tower  
One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600  
St. Louis, MO 63102-2451

314-421-4220  
618-274-2750  
Fax 314-231-6120

webmaster@ewgateway.org  
www.ewgateway.org



Board of Directors  
February 9, 2017  
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align our region's assets, build consensus, and develop a coordinated regional strategy. The St. Louis Regional Education Commitment has already been endorsed by:

- **The Regional Higher Education Council** - 18 institutions of higher education in Missouri and Illinois;
- **Business Leaders for Education** – a group of senior business executives connected to the Chamber's education work;
- **St. Louis Graduates** - a collaborative network of youth-serving college access provider organizations, K-12 education, higher education, philanthropic funders and business dedicated to increasing the proportion of low-income, first generation and African American students in the St. Louis region who earn a postsecondary degree;
- **Full Circle** - Full Circle is a nonprofit startup focused on connecting young talent to St. Louis to build a more economically vibrant and inclusive city.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Board of Directors endorse St. Louis Regional Education Commitment as a regional strategy for increasing college attainment in the region.

# The St. Louis Regional Education Commitment

A Shared Community Agenda to See St. Louis Become a Top Region for  
Education Attainment by 2025

## Preamble

The future prosperity of St. Louis—indeed the prosperity of individuals living and working in the St. Louis region—depends on a fundamental commitment to education as a top community priority. To ensure that St. Louis remains globally competitive, the region requires a strong and well-educated workforce as its core. A highly educated population is capable of adapting to the shifting demands of a global economy, withstanding the shocks of economic downturn, and identifying new solutions to improve the human condition. We also know that education bridges gaps. It reduces socio-economic disparities and expands opportunity for all. Moreover, it enables people to realize their full potential as individuals and contribute to the welfare of the community.

It is our firm belief that no accomplishment will be more critical to our future as a region than the education of our citizens.

## Our Destination

Our goal is to ensure that the St. Louis region is recognized as one of the top 10 most educated metropolitan regions in the United States by 2025. We can reach this goal if we commit to educating, attracting and retaining 93,000 more people.

The following outcomes reflect two primary metrics or benchmarks for realizing this larger goal:

- 40% of adults in St. Louis possess a Bachelor's degree or higher by 2025, an increase of 75,000 additional degrees beyond the current trend line. This would place St. Louis in the Top Ten of the largest metro areas in the percentage of adults who have a Bachelor's degree or higher by 2025.
- 10% of adults in St. Louis possess an Associate's degree by 2025, an increase of around 18,000 additional degrees beyond the current trend line. This would place St. Louis in the Top Five of the largest metro areas in the percentage of adults who have an Associate's degree or higher by 2025.

## Guiding Principles For Positive Change

These principles provide a framework for defining our commitment. They reflect our values and aspirations. They also serve as key drivers for our effort to mobilize the St. Louis region to achieve our goal and will guide our thinking around public policy solutions that will create a system that supports our objectives.

- **Operate with an abundance mentality:** partners in this work recognize the value of collaboration in pursuit of our common goal and the importance of doing more to identify collective solutions that lifts all boats rather than assign blame or foster a competition for resources.
- **Utilizing and leveraging existing educational assets is key:** capitalize on the extensive array of community resources in St. Louis that connect people to learning opportunities.
- **A shared community agenda is essential:** a collective commitment to the larger goal will ensure greater collaboration, coordination, and alignment of objectives and activities in pursuit of this goal.
- **Establishing common metrics to measure success is critical:** identifying indicators to measure progress toward our goal is essential to fostering collective accountability for reaching the Top Ten.
- **Policy change is critical to creating a more inclusive, equitable and affordable system of higher education:** policy solutions will drive the kind of institutional changes that will remove barriers and provide support to people pursuing education in the St. Louis region.
- **Ongoing evaluation and adjustment based on new learning will ensure success:** new strategies, collaborative partners, and research will enable us to effectively design solutions that help us to reach the Top Ten.
- **Intentionally apply the racial equity lens when we design and execute strategy to get to our Top Ten goal:** developing and implementing strategies to increase educational attainment levels must focus on closing achievement gaps (racial and economic) and removing barriers that prevent all people from receiving a high quality education.
- **The business community plays a significant role in pursuing our collective goal:** the voice, will, and credibility of the business community can move our goal from a parochial education agenda to a community priority.
- **Our efforts should focus on improving our educational system:** while we support existing programs and initiatives, we know that improving educational outcomes requires efforts that will change the system through which we deliver education.
- **Education should focus on cultivating people as thinkers:** society moves in a positive trajectory when it is made up of individuals who can solve problems, think critically, and communicate effectively. The true purpose of education is to develop people.

## A People-First Plan to Increase Educational Attainment

Our strategy for becoming one of the Top Ten regions in the U.S. requires us to more effectively support five populations of students in their pursuit of greater levels of educational attainment. In crafting our regional commitment, leaders from across the St. Louis region identified the following strategies to increase the likelihood that students on each pathway will successfully enroll in college and complete a degree.

These pathways include:

- Current Students
- Recent College Graduates
- Working Adults
- Veterans
- Unemployed or Underemployed individuals

The specific strategies identified to support each pathway student population are included in the subsequent sections. These strategies reflect the best current thinking in our region on the most viable and targeted approaches for supporting the student populations based on their distinct needs. Leaders from various organizations came together in the summer of 2016 to identify and confirm the right plans for each pathway group.

Trusting the wisdom of leaders who know the student populations best, we are confident that the solutions identified are strong road maps for continued success in increasing the educational attainment of each student pathway group.

**Current Students:** students transitioning from high school to college and working towards the completion of a college degree. We will focus on strategies that make a college education accessible to all and that support students in persisting through the completion of a college degree. A number of the strategies focus on how to strengthen college and career readiness in earlier years, recognizing that preparation for postsecondary education does not begin in high school.

- Significantly increase investment in quality early childhood education, recognizing that college preparation starts in the earliest years of a child's life. Investment in the earliest years will lead to significant returns in our region's college completion and workforce agenda in a way that sustains the movement beyond 2025 by ensuring increasingly more students are prepared for postsecondary education.
- Ensure that all students have access to high quality education prior to college that prepares them for success in a post-secondary education without the need for remediation.

- For those who require extra support, eliminate remedial education in favor of co-requisite models and similar proven models.
- Collaborate with organizations that promote youth well-being prior to postsecondary education.
  - Leveraging and strengthening mentoring programs, jobs programs, and addressing out of school time should be part of a holistic strategy to support youth along their journey through education.
- Support and resource high quality training and ongoing professional development for educators to ensure that they are equipped to prepare all students for high levels of success, in the classroom, in their future career, and in their personal lives.
- Provide college counseling to all high school students to support students and families in exploring postsecondary opportunities and evaluating the best fit institutions that align to their career interests.
- Expand opportunities for students to earn credits that can be applied toward a college degree, such as AP courses and standardized (dual credit/dual enrollment) credit transfer, while they are in high school.
- Increase support for students transitioning from high school to college by investing in essential resources that mitigate and ultimately eliminate summer melt.
- Develop and expand the use of early drop-out warning systems at the postsecondary level with use of data and intense advising, intervention and support to ensure that more students persist in their pursuit of a college degree.
- Improve career readiness by expanding access to work-based learning experiences, such as internships and apprenticeships, for students attending high school and college.
  - Ensure that this strategy is inclusive of career and technical education and promotes awareness among students and families that postsecondary technical colleges are strong pathways to economic opportunity.
- Support regional alignment of St. Louis area collective impact efforts or initiatives that focus on improving outcomes for youth along the cradle to career spectrum. These include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - St. Louis Graduates
  - Forward Through Ferguson
  - Ready by 21
  - East Side Aligned

**Recent College Graduates:** graduates of our region's institutions who have the opportunity to live anywhere and work anywhere. We will focus on efforts to attract and retain talent in the St. Louis region.

- Foster more earnest and innovative collaboration between regional employers and colleges with the goal of increasing the likelihood that college graduates find in-demand job opportunities.
  - Expand experiential learning opportunities and internships for students.
  - Create awareness among current students as to which industries/companies are hiring college graduates and which degrees bring the most job opportunities.
  - Create a single platform for the region that centralizes job opportunities in the region and gives employers the opportunity to identify potential talent.
- Expand opportunities for students and recent graduates to make cultural /community connections beyond campus.
  - Create, support, or raise awareness about opportunities for students to connect to artistic venues that allow them to see St. Louis as a place where artists can thrive.
  - Foster greater mentoring relationships with cultural leaders and college students looking for opportunities to connect.
- Increase connectivity between neighborhoods and communities within St. Louis to make the region more appealing to young talent looking for walkable and livable communities.
  - Make it a business priority to support extension of Mass Transit, and other alternatives like bike lanes, so that St. Louis reduces car dependency.
- Strengthen connectivity between higher education institutions and business in creating support mechanisms for international students so that they face fewer barriers in trying to transition from college to a career in the St. Louis region.
- Execute the regional marketing strategy that promotes St. Louis as a city where recent graduates will want to work and live.
  - Market the region as a place where people can make a difference, a message that resonates with recent college graduates.
    - Align to positioning statement: "For purposeful people, seeking places where opportunities are abundant, St. Louis is a place where you can make a difference" as the core message

**Working Adults:** adult learners (ages 25-60) who are employed by our region's companies. We will focus on how to ensure that working adults have the resources, time, and flexibility to develop more skills through greater educational attainment.

- Employers must play a leading role in increasing the educational attainment of working adults:
  - Make college degrees relevant to career advancement. Be specific and intentional.
  - Provide tuition assistance by helping employees see the return on investment.
  - Create more flexible work environments to accommodate the needs of learners.
  - Provide employees the resources they need to complete to pursue higher education.
  - Expand childcare resources to enable parents and guardians to reduce challenges for working adults pursuing degrees.
- Higher Education institutions should continue to increase and improve programs that are tailored to the needs of working adults.
  - Improve orientation programs that focus on helping students understand how to use online tools for learning.
  - Expand or improve, in collaboration with employers, existing flexible learning options (Evening and part-time classes, online classes, blended courses) offered by 2 and 4 year colleges.
  - Utilize prior learning assessments to award students college credit for work experience.
- Increase resources and support for navigational coaching services geared toward the working adult population.
  - Develop and promote informational materials for working adults who are considering returning to school so that they can be more knowledgeable about St. Louis' occupational opportunities and make informed educational choices.
  - Create a "One Stop Shop" for employees to get the information they need about higher education options in the region.
- Launch a coordinated initiative partnership between universities, employers, and nonprofits to create seamless pathways between the classroom and the workplace.
  - Scale and fully fund a Chamber-led initiative to foster such collaboration with the common goal of increasing the educational attainment of the working adult population in the region.



**Veterans:** working-age people who have served in the military. We will focus on unique opportunities and resources that could increase attainment levels for veterans.

- Improve the transition from military to civilian life with emphasis on supporting veterans in navigating the process for identifying career opportunities and educational pathways to support their goals.
  - Expand and strengthen programs that assist veterans with the transition from military life to student life such as the Missouri Returning Heroes Act. Ensure that services offered align with the needs of veterans.
  - Increase funding and availability of navigational coaching resources to provide the kind of college and career advising that veterans need.
  - Improve TAP programs at regional bases and foster more engagement by higher education institutions and business in these programs.
- Collaborate with the Department of Defense (DOD) and university veteran's affairs offices to educate returning veterans on how to take advantage of their benefits. This process must start *before* veterans return home.
  - Offer "workforce readiness classes" with support from career placement organizations to help potential students think about career options and the types of skills they might need to be successful in the workplace.
- Create a task force of higher education leaders who can work towards creating a standardized process for enabling Veterans to obtain credit for military experience and build a library of courses that makes it easier for institutions to recognize course credits for Veterans in collaboration with relevant certifying boards or agencies.
- Standardize processes so that it is easier for veterans to access benefits and take advantage of services. Create a "one stop shop" for information about educational benefits for veterans.
- Expand and improve partnerships between universities, DOD institutions, and VA offices with the goal of accelerating attainment rates for the veteran population.

**Unemployed or Underemployed Individuals:** people who are currently not employed in our region and need additional education and training to obtain meaningful employment. We will focus on approaches that reduce barriers for unemployed people to develop the skills that will ensure participation in the workforce.

- Foster stronger partnerships with job training agencies and higher education institutions in the region in a way that supplements job training programs with higher education courses that would lead to the accumulation of college credit.

- Increase access to shorter talent development programs, like apprenticeships, to quickly enable individuals to develop high quality skills that prepare them for meaningful employment opportunities.
- Ensure alignment of efforts with the work of regional Workforce Investment Boards to improve collaborations with job training and placement agencies, higher education institutions, and business in pursuit of the goal of further developing the talents of the unemployed or underemployed population.

## **Accelerators of Success**

The following strategies in this section have been identified as overarching solutions to accelerate the success of students on all five student groups in their pursuit of a higher education degree. They cut across the five pathways and address system-level barriers to increased educational attainment rates. Along with a strong public policy agenda, implementing these strategies will create an environment that supports and sustains of the five student pathway populations.

### Key Overarching Solutions:

- Ensure greater collaboration between employers and higher education institutions
- Create an accessible and affordable system that supports college access and degree completion
- Ensure a system of seamless credit transfer
- Utilize uniform metrics to maintain accountability for results
- Promote a culture of life-long learning in the St. Louis region

These strategies were developed by the St. Louis Regional Higher Education Council and partners over the course of several months. Strategies were shaped and prioritized based by higher education representatives in partnership with business leaders and other thought leaders focused on how to remove barriers to degree attainment.

The following are forward-thinking solutions that will accelerate degree attainment opportunities for all people working towards the completion of a college degree.

**Educators and employers will collaborate to ensure that all individuals are prepared for rewarding work that enhances the St. Louis region.**

- Economic development and business advocacy organizations will partner with educators in K-12, colleges and universities, workforce investment boards, and job training providers to better align our region's workforce system in a way that promotes economic inclusion and sustains a strong talent development infrastructure in the region beyond the 2025 goal.
- Increase opportunities for partnerships between faculty at higher education institutions and employers to improve curriculum offerings and provide more applied learning experiences for students.
- Expand and enhance work-based learning opportunities for students (ages 16-24) to promote career readiness.
- Create a mechanism for ongoing communication between business leaders and higher education to ensure that students are prepared to find meaningful employment in the St. Louis region.
- Support public policy that makes the region more competitive in recruiting and retaining top talent and that provides a means for higher education institutions to respond more effectively to the ever-changing needs of employers in the regions they serve.

**Create an accessible system that increases educational attainment and closes achievement gaps.**

- The region's community colleges will play a critical role in accelerating attainment levels and closing achievement gaps by focusing on pathways and stackable credential opportunities for employment and/or further higher education, and in expanding diversity and inclusion opportunities within the higher education sector.
- Increase funding that addresses a student's ability to pay, as defined by "expected family contribution" (EFC), and in the short-term, fully fund state-based programs, like Missouri's A + program and Access Missouri, that intend to make college more affordable.
- Expand or strengthen programs at the P-12 and postsecondary levels that improve academic readiness and success.
- Align community resources to support academic preparation and college readiness.
- Expand financial literacy programs to support students and families in making smart consumer decisions.
- Improve policies at the institutional level that reduce the net cost of a college education for students.
- Increase or establish college counseling, navigational coaching, and student support services focused on making college more accessible.

**Credits will transfer seamlessly between all accredited institutions so that students can start anywhere and finish anywhere without duplicating coursework, increasing debt, or delaying degree completion.**

- Collaborate with the Missouri Department of Higher Education and the Illinois Board of Higher Education to convene institutions to improve the credit transfer process at regional institutions (both as receiver and sender).
- Expand articulation agreements among colleges within the region.
- Create a regional credit transfer policy that avoids duplication of coursework and that creates efficiencies in the system.
- Advocate for and support the development of a multi-institutional, regional database that would provide common access to current course equivalencies and articulation agreements.

**Uniform metrics will be established to allow the St. Louis region to measure and benchmark progress in the Top Ten strategy.**

- Collaborate with partners and stakeholders to identify indicators that measure outcomes along the P-16 educational spectrum, elevating existing metrics for measuring success in pursuing and completing college degrees.
- Create a regional dashboard—to be updated regularly—that tracks progress along the determined indicators.
- Publish an annual report that highlights progress in achieving our Top Ten goal.
- Host an annual education summit to communicate progress, foster dialogue among leaders, and inspire action around regional initiatives and strategies that will “move the needle” in reaching the Top Ten.
- Create opportunities for institutions to share data that allow for tracking progress of students pursuing and completing college degrees.
- Utilize National Student Clearinghouse data to determine the movement and progress of students from one institution to another.

**Promote a regional culture of life-long learning that recognizes the value of education at all stages of life.**

- Advocate for policies that ensure easy and equitable access to continued learning opportunities.
- Launch ongoing regional marketing campaigns that promote educational attainment and talent development as a key to career advancement, professional growth and personal fulfillment.
- Celebrate and elevate examples of educational achievement at local and regional community events.
- Partner with key stakeholders to promote educational attainment and connect individuals to regional assets (e.g. libraries, museums, online education courses,

continuing education programs at local universities) that promote continued learning.

## **Our Commitment**

Our ability to become a Top Ten region for educational attainment depends on the skill and determination of our leaders to maintain a collective vision and drive the necessary changes to ensure that more people are able to access and complete college degrees. This commitment represents an agreement by leaders in different sectors across the St. Louis region to provide resources that accelerate success for people pursuing higher education.

The St. Louis Regional Education Commitment will become the charter for an organization that will execute key initiatives, track progress and benchmark success, and coordinate resources to sustain progress in achieving our goal. The organization will be led by a roundtable of leaders that reflects the cross-sector commitment to our goal to see St. Louis become one of the top ten most educated regions by 2025.

We, the undersigned, agree to support our regional goal, collaborate to pursue the key objectives to reach our goal, implement strategies to achieve our objectives, and lead with the principles that guide our efforts.



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**Executive Director**

James M. Wild

**To:** Board of Directors

**From:** Staff

**Subject:** Modification of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), *Connected2045*, and the Related Air Quality Conformity Determination - Requested by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)

**Date:** February 7, 2016

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) has requested modifications to the FY 2017-2020 TIP, *Connected2045*, and related Air Quality Conformity Determination. In all, they are requesting to add three new projects, add four scoping projects, and modify one project.

**New Projects**

MODOT is requesting to add three new projects. Two projects were previously programmed in the TIP for scoping only, and are now funded for construction. MODOT intends to use advance construction<sup>1</sup> for one of these projects, meaning that the project initially will be funded with 100 percent state funds from MODOT's operations budget until federal funds become available. The anticipated amount of federal funds to be converted is \$1,041,000 and the anticipated federal funding will come from the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP).

The new projects are summarized below:

<b>New Projects - Missouri</b>					
<b>Sponsor/ TIP #</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Description of Work</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Federal Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
MODOT / 6426-17	MO V – Near Hardin Road	Drainage Improvements	Jefferson	\$1,678,400	\$2,098,000
MODOT / 6788L-17	I-64 – W/O Spoede Rd to E/O Tamm Ave	Bridge Improvements	Multi- County- MO	\$1,443,000	\$1,803,000
MODOT /	MO B – MO C to	Pavement &	St. Charles	\$0	\$1,301,000

<sup>1</sup> Advance construction is a mechanism that enables a sponsor to start construction using non-federal funds, with the understanding that it may later convert the project to federal-aid funding and receive federal reimbursement. To be eligible for conversion, the project must qualify for federal funds.

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One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600  
St. Louis, MO 63102-2451

314-421-4220  
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<b>New Projects - Missouri</b>					
<b>Sponsor/ TIP #</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Description of Work</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Federal Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
6788C-17	0.1 mile W/O Kampsville Drive	Culvert Improvements			
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$3,121,400</b>	<b>\$5,202,000</b>

**Scoping Projects**

MODOT is requesting to add four new scoping projects. MODOT’s scoping policy is intended to ensure that projects have defined scopes and construction cost estimates before they are committed to the TIP. At this time, there is no construction funding committed to these projects and the projects entail preliminary engineering only (30% engineering).

The new scoping projects are summarized below:

<b>Scoping Project Index</b>					
<b>Sponsor/ TIP #/ Sponsor#</b>	<b>Route - Limits</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Description of Work</b>	<b>Fed/Total Cost for Design</b>	<b>Est. Cost Range for Construction</b>
MODOT / 6788H-17/ 6S3223	MO ZZ – MO Y to Boeuf Creek	Franklin	Pavement Improvements	\$80,000/ \$100,000	\$750,000 to \$1.25 million
MODOT / 6788I-17	MO ZZ – Over Boeuf Creek	Franklin	Bridge Improvements	\$80,000/ \$100,000	\$1 million to \$1.5 million
MODOT / 6788J-17	MO E – At Joachim Creek	Jefferson	Erosion Control	\$80,000/ \$100,000	TBA
MODOT / 6788K-17	I-70 – EB Blanchette Bridge over Missouri River	St. Charles	Bridge Improvements	\$80,000/ \$100,000	\$25 million to \$30 million

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**Modified Projects**

MODOT is also requesting to modify one project currently programmed in the TIP.

The modified project is summarized below:

<b>Modified Projects</b>				
<b>Sponsor/ TIP #/ County</b>	<b>Route – Limits</b>	<b>Description of Work</b>	<b>Current Cost/ Revised Cost</b>	<b>Reason for Change</b>
MODOT/ 6705E-17/ St. Louis	I-44 – Murdoch Ave to MO 141	Pavement Improvements	\$18,571,000/ \$18,086,000	Project advanced from FY18 to FY17

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the FY 2017-2020 TIP, *Connected2045*, and related Air Quality Conformity Determination be revised to add three new projects, add four scoping projects, and modify one project as summarized above and detailed in the attachment. These projects are exempt with respect to air quality in accordance with federal regulations (40 CFR 93.126, 93.127)



February 7, 2017

**Amendment #** 0217-023  
**TIP #** 6426-17

**PROJECT SPONSOR:** MODOT

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Revise FY 2017, 2018, and 2019 of the FY 2017-2020 TIP to add a project

**TITLE:** MO V

**LIMITS:** Near Hardin Road

**DESCRIPTION:** Drainage Improvements

**COUNTY:** Jefferson

**FUNDING SOURCE:** Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)

	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>PE</b>	\$163,200	\$40,800	\$204,000
<b>ROW</b>	\$180,000	\$45,000	\$225,000
<b>Implementation</b>	\$1,335,200	\$333,800	\$1,669,000
<b>Total</b>	\$1,678,400	\$419,600	\$2,098,000

**AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:** Exempt – Projects that correct, improve, or eliminate a hazardous location or feature (§ 93.126)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Approval

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February 7, 2017

**Amendment #**      **0217-024**  
**TIP #**                **6788L-17**

**PROJECT SPONSOR:**      **MODOT**

**ACTION REQUESTED:**      Revise FY 2017 of the FY 2017-2020 TIP to add a project

**TITLE:**                    **I-64**

**LIMITS:**                W/O Spoede Rd to E/O Tamm Ave

**DESCRIPTION:**      Bridge Improvements

**COUNTY:**              Multi-County-MO

**FUNDING SOURCE:**      National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)

	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>PE</b>	\$153,000	\$38,000	\$191,000
<b>ROW</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Implementation</b>	\$1,290,000	\$322,000	\$1,612,000
<b>Total</b>	\$1,443,000	\$360,000	\$1,803,000

**AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:**      Exempt – Widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional lanes) (§ 93.126)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**      Approval

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February 7, 2017

**Amendment #** 0217-025  
**TIP #** 6788C-17

**PROJECT SPONSOR:** MODOT

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Revise FY 2017 and FY 2018 of the FY 2017-2020 TIP to add a project

**TITLE:** MO B

**LIMITS:** MO C to 0.1 mile W/O Kampsville Drive

**DESCRIPTION:** Pavement & Culvert Improvements

**COUNTY:** St. Charles

**FUNDING SOURCE:** State Advance Construction – (STAC\*)

	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>PE</b>	\$0	\$223,000	\$0
<b>ROW</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Implementation</b>	\$0	\$1,078,000	\$0
<b>Total</b>	\$0	\$1,301,000	\$0

\*\$1,041,000 to be converted to National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) at a later date.

**AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:** Exempt – Pavement resurfacing and/or rehabilitation (§ 93.126)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Approval



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Bi-State Development

**Executive Director**

James M. Wild

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Staff  
**Subject:** Regional Security Expenditures  
**Date:** February 7, 2017

Staff is requesting authorization to expend funds in support of regional security that will improve the region's disaster preparedness and response capabilities. Funding will come from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant program. Attachment A summarizes this purchases totaling **\$472,175**. Also attached is a summary description of all budgeted expenditures from the UASI grants (Attachment B).

- 1. St. Louis Regional Digital Microwave Network Connection to the Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network** – The goal of the St. Louis Regional Digital Microwave Network was to create a regional communications backbone that would support all forms of communications while supporting local emergency response initiatives as well as statewide responses in Missouri and Illinois. The microwave network was completed in 2015 and now supports local land mobile communications in the City of St. Louis, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, St. Clair, St. Charles and St. Louis Counties. The next phase of the network's design is to create a link with both the Illinois Starcom 21 and the Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network (MOSWIN), thus improving interoperable communications capabilities across the region by supporting connectivity between the regional land mobile radio systems and statewide radio networks.

Therefore, we are requesting approval to enter into a sub-award agreement with St. Charles County, Missouri to add an additional microwave link to the St. Louis Regional Digital Microwave Network that will link the existing St. Charles County tower site located on Highway 94 south of I-64 to the existing State of Missouri tower site in Weldon Springs, Missouri; thus linking the St. Louis Regional network with MOSWIN. Total cost will not exceed **\$200,000**. No additional link is needed to connect to the Illinois network, as the existing link is part of the microwave networks in Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Counties.

- 2. Law Enforcement Tactical Robots** – We are requesting approval to purchase five (5) Mini-Caliber Tactical Robots for the Jefferson and Franklin County Sheriff's

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Departments, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Charles and St. Louis County Police Departments. These small size remote operated robots were developed for law enforcement tactical missions. They contain a rotating manipulator arm with a 10x zoom camera and can fit down the aisles of buses, trains and airplanes, climb stairs and rough terrain. Total cost will not exceed **\$272,175**.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the Board approve the expenditure of funds as follows:

- allow the Executive Director to enter into a sub-award agreement with St. Charles County, Missouri to establish a microwave link between the St. Louis regional microwave network and the State of Missouri's MOSWIN network in Weldon Springs, Missouri for an amount not to exceed **\$200,000**; and,
- for the purchase of five Mini-Caliber SWAT Robots from ICOR Technologies, Incorporated in an amount not to exceed **\$272,175**,

for a total amount not to exceed **\$472,175** from the UASI grant program.

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Expenditures for Equipment and Services**  
**February 7, 2017**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Jurisdiction/Agency</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
<b>Emergency Response Equipment &amp; Planning (UASI)</b>				
St. Charles County, MO	Subaward - Digital Microwave Connection	St. Charles Co.	1	\$200,000
ICOR Technology, Inc. (Ottawa, Ontario)	Tactical robots	Franklin Co., Jefferson Co., St. Charles Co., St. Louis Co., St. Louis City	5	\$272,175
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>\$472,175</b>

Total UASI Expenditures: \$472,175

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**Cumulative Budgeted Expenditures for Major Projects under Urban Areas Security Initiative through Fiscal Year 2016**

	<b>Total Budgeted</b>	<b>Prior amount approved by EWG Board</b>	<b>This request</b>	<b>Remaining to be approved</b>
<b>Critical Response Teams</b>				
A key goal under the UASI Strategy is to strengthen our critical response teams. We have largely accomplished this goal with hazardous materials and heavy rescue equipment and training. These teams are capable of responding to terrorist attacks, industrial accidents or natural disasters like earthquakes and tornadoes. Another element of critical response includes medical supplies for mass casualty incidents. The MCI trailers represent the first stage of meeting this need for the EMS community. Also included is equipment for Incident Management Teams that will consist of emergency responders from all disciplines. These mobile teams are activated to support emergency responders managing an event where the event continues over many hours or days.	\$18,524,651	\$18,296,886	\$0	\$227,765
	1,172,980	1,091,753	0	81,227
	2,355,312	2,211,194	0	144,118
<b>Law Enforcement Tactical Team Equipment</b>				
There are 7 law enforcement tactical response units in the region which need communications, tactical lights and personal protective equipment. Three of the teams will receive tactical vehicles and Metro Air Support will receive a helicopter and other equipment to support response to a variety of terrorist incidents.	8,783,351	8,374,086	272,175	137,090
	4,514,819	4,514,819	0	0
<b>Interoperable Communications</b>				
A variety of projects come within the description of Interoperable Communications. Radio caches, satellite phones and video conferencing and the Land Mobile Radio Communications Plan are included, as well as a microwave tower backbone system.	8,618,026	8,579,774	0	38,252
	9,338,047	8,988,047	200,000	150,000
	694,300	674,300	0	\$20,000
	5,278,534	5,278,534	0	0
<b>The Virtual EOC</b>				
The virtual EOC strengthens regional collaboration on a day to day basis through a web based interactive network that links the region's eight EOC's and numerous other users for planning, preparing for and responding to an incident. In future years we hope to add a robust Geographic Information System capability.				

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**Cumulative Budgeted Expenditures for Major Projects under Urban Areas Security Initiative through Fiscal Year 2016**

	<b>Total Budgeted</b>	<b>Prior amount approved by EWG Board</b>	<b>This request</b>	<b>Remaining to be approved</b>
<b>Emergency Patient Tracking</b>	\$2,422,320	\$2,422,320	\$0	\$0
<p>Patient Tracking allows emergency medical services and hospitals to rapidly enter data about a patient into a secure wireless web-based tracking system. The data includes identification, triage condition and transport information and allows the hospitals to balance patient loads and provide information to families.</p>				
<b>Universal ID Project</b>	557,812	557,812	0	0
<p>This system provides a uniform identification card for fire, law enforcement and volunteers with credential information embedded in the card.</p>				
<b>Expand Public Health Capabilities</b>	2,846,739	2,697,454	0	149,285
<p>Local public health agencies are working to prepare the region and protect citizens and first responders in the event of bioterrorism and natural diseases. Work is underway to establish an automated syndromic surveillance system for the early detection of naturally occurring or man made disease outbreaks.</p>				
<b>Mass Casualty Equipment, Medical Supplies and Software for Hospitals</b>	2,249,599	2,177,244	0	72,355
<p>Hospitals are preparing the region for a response to a medical surge or mass casualty incident (MCI) by staging emergency response trailers that are equipped with medical supplies, cots and bedding at selected hospitals for deployment anywhere in the St. Louis region. In addition, the hospitals will dispense medicine to employees, their families and patients in the event of a large-scale bioterrorist or naturally occurring illness. The hospitals have software that will help with the dispensing of this medicine and the management of an MCI when it occurs.</p>				
<b>Disaster Incident Management System for Hospitals and Tactical Response</b>	\$2,446,808	\$2,270,308	\$0	\$176,500
<p>The disaster incident management software system provides a tactical incident management capability for hospitals and response teams that includes federally required forms and plans. For the hospital systems it also includes a regional bed tracking capability.</p>				



**ATTACHMENT B**  
**Cumulative Budgeted Expenditures for Major Projects under Urban Areas Security Initiative through Fiscal Year 2016**

	<b>Total Budgeted</b>	<b>Prior amount approved by EWG Board</b>	<b>This request</b>	<b>Remaining to be approved</b>
<b>Terrorism Early Warning Center</b>				
The TEW is operated by the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Louis County Police Department and serves as a central clearinghouse for information and intelligence to help detect and prevent acts of terrorism.	\$ 3,528,332	\$3,024,221	\$0	\$504,111
<b>Citizen Preparedness</b>				
This program includes Citizen Emergency Response Teams and other similar teams designed to educate the public about disaster preparedness and train them to assist their neighbors. Expenditures include equipment and training to help citizens learn to respond to hazards as part of a team in their neighborhood or workplace, and public information. The program also includes the sheltering project which brings generators and shelters into the region to protect citizens who need shelter.	2,662,666	2,632,666	0	30,000
<b>Regional Coordination Planning</b>				
Includes regional emergency coordination planning, mutual aid improvements, public information and enhancements to critical infrastructure protection.	1,024,051	1,024,051	0	0
<b>Exercises</b>				
A regional Full Scale Exercise (FSE) will be held during the second quarter of 2016. The FSE scenario will be terrorist based involving a mass casualty incident and will involve regional hospitals, public health, fire and law enforcement agencies.	386,500	371,500	0	15,000
<b>Training</b>				
Most disciplines have received and will continue to attend training activities to enhance their skills. Included are heavy rescue, hazmat, incident management teams, law enforcement, public health and hospitals.	3,875,608	3,867,918	0	7,690
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$81,280,455</b>	<b>\$79,054,887</b>	<b>\$472,175</b>	<b>\$1,753,393</b>

<sup>1</sup> This total represents the sum of UASI funds awarded for equipment and contractual obligations for fiscal years 2003 - 2016. The schedule represents the cumulative amount spent, from both open and closed grants, on major projects since the inception of the Homeland Security Grant Program.