



EAST-WEST GATEWAY
Council of Governments

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

MEMORANDUM

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TO: Transportation Planning Committee - Missouri Members
FROM: East-West Gateway Staff
DATE: February 29, 2016
SUBJECT: Wednesday, March 2, 2016 meeting

The next meeting of the Missouri subcommittee of the Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at East-West Gateway Council of Governments offices.** (Reminder parking is available at Stadium-East Garage)

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed materials or the upcoming meeting please contact EWGCOG. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Functional classification – Systemwide review – Rodney Halbert
3. Section 5310 project applications and Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan – Rachael Pawlak
4. Reasonable Progress – Melissa Theiss
5. Other Business
 - Next Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2016, 2 PM

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation Planning Committee - Missouri Members
FROM: East-West Gateway Staff
DATE: February 29, 2016
SUBJECT: System-Wide Functional Classification Review

Functional classification is the process by which roadways are categorized according to the type of service they provide. East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG), in collaboration with MoDOT and IDOT staff, updates functional classifications semi-annually and performs a system-wide review every 5-10 years.

EWG is now conducting a system-wide review of roadways in our planning area. Staff will be contacting the municipalities within the planning area to request their review of the existing functional classification for the roadways under their jurisdiction. Notification letters will be sent to Missouri counties and municipalities in April soliciting local input to the review process.

The Board approved maps are available at:

<http://www.ewgateway.org/trans/funcclass/funcclass.htm>.

If you have any further questions or concerns please feel free to contact Rodney Halbert at Rodney.Halbert@ewgateway.org.

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Missouri Transportation Planning Committee Meeting Notes –

March 2016

The Missouri Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting was held in the Council offices on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance

Ted Medler, St. Louis County

Wesley Stephen, MoDOT (via phone)

Tracy Beidleman, BSDA/Metro

Mike Henderson, MoDOT

Ron Williams, Franklin County

Jason Jonas, Jefferson County

Rich Bradley, City of St. Louis

Steve Ables, St. Louis County Municipal League

Members Absent

Jessica Medford-Miller, Metro

Hart Nelson, St. Louis Regional Chamber

Craig Tajkowski, St. Charles County

John Greifzu, Director of Transportation, St. Charles County

Maurice Falls, St. Louis

Others in Attendance:

John Kohler – City of St. Louis

EWGCOG Staff:

Jason Lange, Larry Grither, Melissa Theiss, Rachael Pawlak, Rodney Halbert

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Jason Jonas, Chair.

ITEMS

Functional classification – Systemwide review – Rodney Halbert presented an update on the functional classification systemwide review that is being performed by East-West Gateway (EWG), MODOT, and IDOT. The review of Illinois will be wrapping up in the next couple months. The review of Missouri will be continuing on for much of the year. Notification letters will go out in April to county and local municipalities so if they know of roads in their area that may need to be changed, they can access information and forms online.

Q: John Kohler – Change requests are accepted every other year, so what does a systemwide 5-10 year review entail?

A: Rodney – The 5-10 year systemwide review includes a number of factors and further analysis. Also integrates new guidelines and new urbanized areas defined by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Semi-annual still in place, but includes smaller updates.

Q: Jason Lange – How does it work in Illinois?

A: Rodney – We work alongside IDOT, and the review process is staggered by county, so it is not as much of a major change as doing it all at once.

Q: Jason Lange – When do you think the Missouri review will be done?

A: Rodney – The schedule I have shows notifications going out in late April and the review process will go through end of July, making final recommendations and notifying locals/counties in September. If we stagger it by county, I will let you know.

Q: Is it the same methodology as the bi-annual review?

A: Rodney – Yes, it is based on traffic, lane width, land use, trips, other roads of similar class, etc. We use different techniques, such as on-site inspections and aerial street

views. But also looks at how it fits into the larger network, if there are new businesses or different traffic patterns, we take that into consideration.

Q: Where do you get the data? Wanted to know since counts are not available for every road.

A: Rodney – Most of our data, traffic counts come from MODOT since it is the most reliable data. Also use counts/data from consultants that work alongside municipalities that put in requests and look at their methodology. But unfortunately we don't always have that data for every road, so we have to look at other factors since the data is imperfect. Applications are being accepted now. Also, the May round of change requests for Missouri may be rolled into the systemwide review

Section 5310 project applications and Coordinated Human Services

Transportation Plan – Rachael Pawlak presented an update on the 5310 applications and Coordinated Plan update. EWG is now accepting applications for Section 5310. There are 2 types of applications – traditional projects for acquisition of paratransit vehicles and operating capital projects, that go above and beyond ADA, improve access to fixed route service, or provide alternatives to public transit. There is \$1.7 million available for this funding round. Eligible sponsors include non-profits, local government authorities, and public transit providers. The workbook and application are now online, and are due April 5. There will be a recommended project list at the May TPC meeting.

Q: John Kohler – Is the funding level the same as in prior years?

A: Rachael – Yes and no. Prior to MAP-21, the 5310 program was separate from the New Freedom program. The traditional 5310 program has a little extra this year, it typically has \$650-700,000 for Missouri each year, but then MAP-21 consolidated the programs. So this year we have \$730,000, but now we aren't seeing as much with the New Freedom program.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires that the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan be updated every 4 years. The plan includes an inventory

of existing transportation providers in the region, assessment of transportation needs for elderly and disabled individuals, strategies to address gaps in service, and prioritization of implementation of those strategies. FTA requires projects selected through the 5310 program to be included in Coordinated Plan. EWG now updates the plan every 4 years to retain its eligibility to receive funds through the 5310 program. EWG convened a stakeholder committee to help develop the plan. There have been two meetings so far – the first meeting touched on needs in the region, and the second meeting on Feb 25 identified strategies to address gaps. A draft plan will be available in April, public comment will be in April-May, and a final draft plan will go to the Board of Directors for a vote in at their June meeting.

Reasonable Progress – Melissa Theiss presented an update on FY16 Reasonable Progress. Since the February update 7 new Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects have been added, totaling a little over \$300,000 in federal funds. All of these have been added to the preliminary engineering phase, and they have until December 31, 2016 to obligate funds, instead of the usual September 30 deadline for the fiscal year, since they were just recently approved and added to the TIP.

Including those projects, there are now 170 projects programmed for FY16 at a total of about \$88.5 million. There is not quite as much funding obligated right now as there was for the same time last year, but there were more funds programmed last year, about \$110 million.

There are many projects right now that are behind schedule, especially in the PE phase, as you can see from all the red on your Update. But we are keeping in touch with sponsors and working with sponsors and MODOT to keep these projects moving forward. I know of several that are very close to being obligated, like the Metro bus replacement projects listed on page 5. That said, more projects obligated in February than previous months, so things are beginning to pick up speed and I think we'll be seeing these projects catching up soon.

Other Business – Jason Lange reminded about the STP/CMAQ application deadline tomorrow, March 3. There is also a MODOT federal-aid workshop for projects in the construction phase, scheduled for March 22. It will go over what a sponsor has to do to build to federal standards. It will be held at the Maryland Heights community center and registration is now available online.

Q: Will action on the recommended TIP be in April or May?

A: Jason Lange - Recommendations will be in May.

Meeting Adjourned.