Missouri Transportation Planning Committee
Meeting Notes
March 2020

The Missouri Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting was held in the East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG) offices on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 2:00 pm.

Members in Attendance
Steve Ables, Municipal League of Metro St Louis
Rich Bradley, City of St Louis
Amanda Brauer, St Charles County Transit Authority representative
Jessica Gershman, Bi-State Development (BSD)
Mike Henderson, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
John Hicks, St Louis County
Jason Jonas,
Shaun Tooley, Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) representative
Ron Williams, Franklin County

Members Absent
Maurice Falls, City of St Louis
Dan Naunheim, Jefferson County
Chris Poehler, Bi-State Development (BSD)
Greg Smith, St Louis Regional Chamber
Wesley Stephen, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Craig Tajkowski, St Charles County
Ron Williams, Franklin County

Others in Attendance
Don Wichern, Bartlett & West

EWG Staff
Ben Fleschert, Brenden Giblin, Jason Lange, Anna Musial, Rachael Pawlak, Jenny Reiman, Josh Schwenk, Melissa Theiss, Jennifer Vuitel

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

ITEMS
Draft Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan – Melissa Theiss (EWG) updated the TPC on the development of the next Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP). The purpose of the CHSTP is to develop strategies to address the mobility needs of seniors and people with disabilities as well as promote coordination between agencies to reduce duplication of services. CHSTP is a requirement for funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The CHSTP covers the entire eight-county EWG region, although FTA Section 5310 funding is allocated to the urbanized area within the region. The plan consists of an inventory of existing services in the region, an assessment of the transportation needs of

seniors and people with disabilities, strategies to address the identified gaps, and prioritization of strategies for implementation. EWG utilized a variety of data, including surveys and a stakeholder committee, to identify gaps. Next steps include a public comment period from March 30-April 30 and a series of open houses in April. The CHSTP will be presented to EWG's Board of Directors for approval at their May 27, 2020 meeting.

Shaun Tooley (BPAC) asked how walkability played into the Environmental & Social gap identified in the plan. Theiss responded that the strategies to address the Environmental & Social gap include promoting walkable communities through supporting land uses, higher accessibility standards, improved pedestrian access to public transit, educating local governments and developers on public transportation needs, and providing first/last mile connections to transit. She noted that the strategies are applicable to agencies throughout the region, not just to Section 5310-funded transportation providers. Jessica Gershman (BSD) noted that Metro utilizes the CHSTP in their work and asked about additional resources related to the plan that EWG may be developing. Rachael Pawlak (EWG) noted that stakeholder committee members found value in their conversations and EWG is looking at possibly continuing coordination meetings.

Additional information, including the draft plan, is available at:
https://www.ewgateway.org/transportation-planning/coordinated-human-services/

Ecological Initiative – Jenny Reiman (EWG) presented on EWG's Ecological Initiative data collection process. The idea behind this 10-year process was to collect geospatial data that could be used to inform transportation projects early in the planning process. EWG contracted with the Missouri Resource Assessment Partnership at the University of Missouri-Columbia to assist in data development. EWG has developed land cover data at a 6 meter by 6 meter resolution, far higher resolution than national 30 meter by 30 meter data. Within the urban core, EWG has developed 1 square meter resolution land cover data to provide very detailed information for the denser urban area. The land cover data informs an ecological significance data layer which is used as part of EWG's long-range plan development to score proposed projects on their environmental impacts. This data has also been used by MoDOT's I-70 Planning & Environmental Linkages Study and EWG's Great Streets Initiative.

Additional information, including the data inventory, is available at:
https://www.ewgateway.org/eco

FY 2021-2024 TIP – STP-S & CMAQ Summary of Submitted Applications – Jason Lange (EWG) reviewed the applications received in the recent Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Suballocated (STP-S) and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) Calls for Projects. In Missouri, EWG received 73 STP-S applications requesting approximately $104.6 million. This is fewer project applications, but roughly the same amount of funding requested, as last year. EWG received 24 CMAQ applications requesting approximately $32.8 million. This is similar to what was received last year. EWG will be accepting public comments on these projects until March 26, 2020. EWG will bring project scores to the TPC at their May 5, 2020 meeting.

Roadway Functional Class Revision – November 2019 Applications – ACTION ITEM – Brenden Giblin (EWG) presented on the recent update to the functional classification system. 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 MoDOT as well as local agencies and recommends four changes to the functional classification of roadways in Missouri.

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

Additional information is available at: https://www.ewgateway.org/transportation-planning/roadway-functional-classification/

Reasonable Progress – Josh Schwenk (EWG) notified the TPC that seven projects have obligated roughly $3.2 million in federal funds since their last meeting.

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 the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) has released a notice of funding opportunity for their Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) program. A link to the program is available on here: https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants. Subsequent discussion involved potential applications from the region.

The next Missouri TPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 2:00pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED