Missouri and Illinois Joint Transportation Planning Committee
Meeting Notes
August 2019

The Missouri and Illinois Joint Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting was held in the East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG) offices on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 2:00 pm.

Members in Attendance
Steve Ables, Municipal League of Metro St Louis
Rich Bradley, City of St Louis
Norm Etling, St. Clair County
Jessica Gershman, Bi-State Development (BSD)
Randall Glaser, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) – for Wesley Stephen
Mark Gvillo, Madison County
John Hicks, St Louis County
Jerry Kane, Madison County Transit (MCT)
Karen Karabell, Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) representative
Aaron Metzger, Monroe County
Dan Naunheim, Jefferson County
Richard Sauget, Jr., Village of Sauget
Jon Schaller, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) – for Keith Roberts
Chris Smith, City of Columbia – for Kevin Hutchinson
Ron Williams, Franklin County

Members Absent
Allen Adomite, City of Troy
Amanda Brauer, St Charles County Transit Authority representative
Tony Erwin, St. Clair County Transit District (SCCTD)
Maurice Falls, City of St Louis
Mike Henderson, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT)
Chris Poehler, Bi-State Development (BSD)
Greg Smith, St Louis Regional Chamber
Craig Tajkowski, St Charles County

Others in Attendance
Tom Caldwell, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Melissa Cowin, Fybr
Lisa Douglas, Kowelman Engineering
Karen Geldert, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Randy Georgen, St. Clair County
Kevin Jemison, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
John Kohler, City of St. Louis
Scott Ogilvie, City of St. Louis
Steve Schultz, Bartlett & West

Joe Silkwood, Madison County
Dan Sommer, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
Don Wichern, Bartlett & West

EWG Staff
Jerry Blair, Brenden Giblin, Paul Hubbman, Peter Koeppel, Jason Lange, Rachael Pawlak, Josh Schwenk, Lubna Shoaib, Melissa Theiss

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order by Norm Etling, Chair.

ITEMS
Functional Classification – Brenden Giblin (EWG) reviewed the functional classifications of roadways for TPC members. All roadways are classified as interstate, expressway, principal arterial, minor arterial, major collector, minor collector, or local road, as well as either urban or rural. He noted that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) does not set concrete standards for each classification, but allows some leeway to take context into account. In order to qualify for federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Suballocated (STP-S) funds a roadway must be classified at a minimum as an urban minor collector or rural major collector. EWG conducts semiannual application periods for functional classification changes. Recommendations for project applications received in May 2019 are being finalized now. These changes will be recommended to the Board of Directors at their September 25, 2019 meeting. EWG also conducts a system-wide review every five years. This review will begin early spring 2020 and will focus on minor collectors.

Norm Etling (St. Clair County) asked who made the final change to the classification. Giblin responded that after Board approval, the decision would be submitted to MoDOT and IDOT Central Offices who then forward it to FHWA. IDOT and MoDOT could change the classification at that point if they did not concur with EWG's decision.

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

Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan – Melissa Theiss (EWG) presented an overview of the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. EWG is currently beginning the next update of this four year plan, focused on the mobility of seniors and people with disabilities. The plan consists of an inventory of existing transportation services, a needs assessment of the target population, identifying gaps between existing services and needs, and identifying strategies to fill those gaps. EWG currently has two surveys open, one for transportation providers and one for users. There will also be focus groups and stakeholder meetings, which will be posted on the EWG website.

Theiss also informed the TPC that a call for projects for approximately $1.9 million in Section 5310 funds would open August 29, 2019. Section 5310 is a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) program to improve mobility for seniors and people with disabilities. An informational workshop for sponsors will be held at EWG's offices on September 9, 2019 with applications due October 11, 2019 and recommendations made to the Board in January 2020.

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

Great Streets Update – Paul Hubbman (EWG) presented on two recent Great Streets Initiative projects: Bevo and Collinsville. The Bevo project included the Gravois Ave corridor from Chippewa St to Christy Blvd. The project included potential land use changes/strategies for economic rejuvenation, street design focusing on improved bike/pedestrian infrastructure, as well as natural landscaping strategies. The Collinsville project included the Collinsville Ave corridor from Uptown Collinsville to Cahokia Mounds. The project includes flood mitigation, connections to the Madison County Trails network, a 10' shared-use path along the length of the corridor, as well as market evaluations for retail and residential land uses. The Great Streets Initiative will begin working on a project in Alton in October, and a project in Frenchtown St. Charles in November. Additionally, the Initiative will be opening a call for projects for projects in Illinois in the near future.

Karen Karabell (BPAC) asked about sound mitigation from the interstate as part of the Collinsville project. Hubbman responded that sound mitigation was not part of this project Additional staff capacity and potential funds may become available to Cahokia Mounds as it seeks national park status, though its primary focus is protection of other area mounds. Randall Glaser (MoDOT) noted that FHWA design guidelines for principal arterials focus on balancing moving traffic and bike/pedestrian expectation. Hubbman replied that the design was based on the existing posted speed limit on the corridor.

Additional information on the Great Streets Initiative, including these specific projects, is available at: https://www.ewgateway.org/transportation-planning/great-streets-initiative/

Review of STP-S Scoring Criteria for Local Program Applications – ACTION ITEM – Jason Lange (EWG) reviewed the revised scoring criteria for Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Suballocated (STP-S) projects. When the revised criteria was approved in January 2018, the TPC requested that it be revisited after two funding cycles. After each funding cycle, staff conducted a survey of sponsors to gauge their opinions and concerns of various aspects of the application process. Staff responded to concerns raised in the surveys by making minor adjustments between the cycles. Staff also conducted a review to consider the impacts of the revised criteria on several key measures of which TPC members had expressed concern. No major impacts were observed. Staff recommended the endorsement of the TPC to continue evaluating projects under the revised criteria.

John Kohler (City of St. Louis) asked for clarification regarding the new bridge rating system to be used in the future. Lange responded that the main change in the criteria is a revision of language to match the new language (good, fair, poor) utilized by FHWA. Glaser (MoDOT) noted that the state's bridge ratings may not be updated for another year. Lange noted that the primary change is just in the wording and that staff would be happy to meet with the City to discuss specific scenarios.

John Hicks (St. Louis County) moved that the item be tabled to provide additional time for TPC members to consider the results of staff's review. This motion did not receive a second.

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

Additional information on the updated criteria and staff's two-year review is available in the attached memo.

Other Business –
Jason Lange (EWG) informed the TPC that EWG is accepting nominations for Outstanding Local Government Achievement Awards (OLGAs) through Monday, September 9, 2019. Additional information, as well as the nomination form, is available at: https://www.ewgateway.org/olga-nomination-form-2019/.

The next Missouri TPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 2:00pm.

The next Illinois TPC meeting is tentatively scheduled for mid-September 2019 at IDOT – District 8 to discuss funding construction engineering.

MEETING ADJOURNED