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Memo to: Board of Directors

From: Staff

Subject: Amendment to the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program

Date: September 15, 2021

In April, the Board of Directors approved EWG's FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) which describes all of the planning work that EWG and other local agencies will undertake during the fiscal year. Periodically, the UPWP may be amended to include new funding sources and projects or revise current projects described in the UPWP. Subsequent to April approval of the UPWP, EWG staff determined that it needed to purchase computer equipment to enable staff to complete the travel demand and air quality modeling tasks described in work element 1.01 Regional Travel Demand Modeling and Systems Evaluation. The Missouri Department of Transportation requires that these types of purchases be specifically described in our UPWP and requested that we revise work element 1.01 to include this computer equipment purchase. We are requesting that the Board approve the addition of activity #14 to work element 1.01 for this computer purchase. The revised work element is attached to this memo. This amendment will not change the budget for work element 1.01.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the FY 2022 UPWP be amended to include activity #14 in work element 1.01.

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REGIONAL TRAVEL DEMAND MODELING AND SYSTEM EVALUATION
1.01

Summary

An important technical component of the regional planning process is the travel demand model. Demand modeling enables the agency to forecast future travel and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the transportation system and proposed improvements. The agency will continue to maintain and enhance existing model sets and ensure that the highway and transit modeling meets all criteria established by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Work will also continue to develop analytical methods that better evaluate the performance of the transportation system and individual projects relative to mobility, accessibility, land use, economic growth, and the natural environment. The travel demand model will also support annual conformity determinations related to both short and long-range transportation plans. Traffic forecast will continue to be provided to state and local agencies for use in their own studies as requested.

Activities

1. Maintain and update technical documentation of TransEval, which is EWG's regional travel demand model, and its applications.

2. Build internal capacity and skills for operating the updated regional travel demand model and its procedures.

3. Enhance professional development by working collaboratively with local planning partners and research entities on various research activities and projects, participating in professional conferences, and enhancing modeling skills.

4. Provide support and prepare travel demand forecasts for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

5. Conduct the Regional Emission Analysis for air quality conformity determination for the RTP and TIP.

6. Develop and enhance internal capacity for using the latest U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved air quality emissions model MOVES 2014a.

7. Initiate training and testing the latest EPA approved air quality emissions model MOVES3.

8. Refine Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) project evaluation tool using outputs from the currently used MOVES 2014a air quality model to include the latest needs.

9. Provide modeling support for local and regional planning efforts.

10. Research, develop, and test model-based transportation performance evaluation tools and techniques for use in corridor-level and long-range planning.

11. Update the functional classification network and maps.

12. Prepare for household travel survey by studying national trends in similar surveys.

13. Track census data including demographics, socioeconomic characteristics and travel pattern stability, and analyze changes in travel characteristics.

14. Purchase computer equipment necessary to perform the modeling activities described in this work element.

Products/Outcomes

A. Travel demand forecasts and analyses to support the RTP, TIP, and planning studies *(ongoing)*

B. Regional Emissions Analysis for conformity determination using the MOVES 2014a model *(ongoing)*

C. Compilation of system performance evaluation methods *(ongoing)*

D. Updates to functional classification networks *(ongoing)*

E. Compilation of travel and demographic data sets for use in model development *(December 2021)*

Estimated Costs & Funding

State & Local	
EWG	$58,069
IDOT	$30,917
Subtotal State & Local	**$88,986**
Federal (CPG)	
IDOT	$123,667
MoDOT	$353,856
Subtotal Federal	**$477,523**
Total	
EWG	$58,069
IDOT	$154,584
MoDOT	$353,856
Total Funding	**$566,509**

Work element revised 09/29/2021 – FY 2022 UPWP Amendment #2