

**Missouri Transportation Planning Committee**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**October 4, 2023**

The Missouri Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) Meeting was held in the Board Room  
on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

Members in Attendance

Steve Ables  
Rich Bradley  
Jessica Gershman  
Angelica Gutierrez  
John Lyons  
Dan Naunheim  
John Shrewsbury

Members Absent

Amanda Brauer  
Jim Grutsch  
Michael Henderson  
Christine Ingrassia  
Chris Poehler  
Cindy Simmons  
Greg Smith

Others in Attendance

Vicki White  
James Gillam  
Matt Seggerman  
John Kohler

EWG Staff

Rachael Pawlak  
Anna Chott  
Anna Musial  
Alex Hartig  
Melissa Theiss  
Marcie Meystrik

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dan Naunheim.

## ITEMS

**Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Update** – Anna Chott, sustainability planner at EWG. Climate pollution grant is an update to ONESTL provided an update on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. This planning grant was awarded to EWG from USEPA. EPA will have implementation grants available, but projects must be identified in the plan to be eligible for implementation grants. It's focused on carbon emission reduction. It will cover the entire St. Louis MSA. Part of the planning phase is to develop a baseline greenhouse gas inventory. Biggest sources of emissions are stationary and transportation. Plan must be completed by August 2025. Some ideas to reduce carbon emissions include increasing tree canopies and building efficiencies.

**2024 Local Project Applications Schedule** – Alex Hartig presented. EWG will soon be accepting project applications through the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program-Suballocated, Off-System Bridge Program, Carbon Reduction Program, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program. Applications are scheduled to go online November 3. There will be three application workshops in November and project review meetings in January. Applications are due February 8, 2024. Staff will present ranked projects for TPC recommendations at its May meeting. Final approval by the EWG Board is scheduled for August 2024.

**MoDOT Local Public Agency Policy** – Rachael Pawlak presented an update on MoDOT's LPA policy. Current policy allows EWG to carryover a balance of three year of funding allocation. MoDOT wants to change based on large balances. EWG has not heard from MoDOT about future of LPA policy. Balances accrued due to influx of Highway Infrastructure funds, COVID funding, and COVID related issues. We are estimating that we will be able to decrease our balances compared to last year. Tentatively estimated to be around \$66 million at year end. Even in the worst years, we never came close to our three year balances. We had issues with the review process and have been working with MoDOT to improve. EWG is trying to reduce schedule extensions. We received \$50 million in extension requests in FY 23 compared to \$38 million in FY 22. EWG is working with other sponsors to advance projects. EWG also transferred funding to FTA for bus projects which obligated funds. EWG is working with MoDOT to educate sponsors on federal-aid project delivery. MoDOT said they'd increase staffing to help at end of fiscal year reviews.

**Section 5310 – 2023 funding round project recommendations** – Melissa Theiss presented. The Section 5310 program provides funding to help improve the mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the available transportation options. Section 5310 applications were due June 21. Staff has finished evaluation. Sponsors submitted 9 applications requesting 16 vehicles requesting \$1.1 million and 6 New Freedom applications requesting \$1.4 million. Staff recommendations are in Table A of the memo. Staff recommends funding \$1.1 million to fund 16 vehicles and \$1.4 million for New

Freedom projects. There will be a public comment period from October 27-November 16. Recommended projects will be presented to Board for approval at its January 31, 2024 meeting.

Motion – Rich Bradley, St. Louis – Second Angelica Gutierrez, BPAC member. Motion passes

**Transportation Alternatives – 2023 funding round project recommendations** – Alex Hartig presented. TAP funds can be used for projects such as sidewalks or bike paths. Applications were due July 21. A total of 27 eligible applications were submitted requesting approximately \$29 million in federal funds. Approximately \$25 million in TAP funds are available to program through FY 2027. Attachment A shows the project scores as well as East-West Gateway’s Staff recommendations. Information on applications was posted to EWG website and 164 comments were received. Staff recommends approval of projects listed in Attachment A. There will be a public comment period from October 27-November 16. Recommended projects will be presented to Board for approval at its January 31, 2024 meeting.

Motion – Rich Bradley, St. Louis – Second Jessica Gershman, Bi-State. Motion passes

**Reasonable Progress** – Rachael Pawlak presented on Reasonable Progress updates. FY 23 has come to a close. FY 2024 Reasonable Progress is under way. There are 162 projects with almost \$121 million in federal funds. Almost \$108 million is for construction phase. Staff is reaching out to sponsors to try to alleviate future delays so sponsors can start design as soon as possible. As of now, approx. 36% of projects have started the Request for Qualifications for design services process.

**Other Business –**

The next Missouri TPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 2:00pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED