



Linking Conservation and Transportation Planning Advisory Group

Monday, April 21st, 2 – 4 p.m.
MARC Board Room
Rivergate Center, 600 Broadway, Kansas City, MO

AGENDA

1. Review draft Action Plan to Link Conservation and Transportation Planning.
2. Review Action Plan comments received prior to the meeting and solicit additional feedback on the Action Plan.
3. Discuss ways to engage additional key stakeholders.
4. Discuss next steps and possible future meetings.

Parking: Free parking is available when visiting MARC. Visitors and guests should park on the upper level of the garage. To enter this level from Broadway, turn west into the Rivergate Center parking lot. Please use any of the available spaces on the upper level at the top of the ramp.

Special Accommodations: Please notify the Mid-America Regional Council at (816) 474-4240 at least 48 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend this meeting (i.e., qualified interpreter, large print, reader, hearing assistance). We will make every effort to meet reasonable requests.

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SUMMARY

Linking Conservation and Transportation Planning Action Plan Advisory Group

04/21/08

1. **Welcome and introductions.**

Tom Gerend welcomed the group, provided an overview of the meeting background and purpose. Individuals introduced themselves.
2. **Review draft Action Plan to Link Conservation and Transportation Planning and solicit feedback on action items and priorities.**
 - Lisa Pool walked participants through the action plan, section by section, and solicited feedback on action items.
 - Ron McLinden commented about the definition of conservation and whether climate change could be considered in the plan.
 - It was mentioned that perhaps climate change could be addressed within the context of mobility options, as more of a soft pedal approach, so as not to discredit the plan with those who don't believe in climate change. Staff stated that revised language related to climate change will be included.
 - The state funding program and federal transportation bill were mentioned as important elements that should be included in the plan. While the state LRTP and TIP are important, conversations with the legislature are just as, if not more, important.
 - Dale Crawford mentioned the Vulcan Project, which quantifies North American CO2 emissions from fossil fuels.
 - It was noted that quality of life and cost of transportation should be added as considerations.
 - Ron M. stated that the action plan should include a preamble. He also stated that access to opportunities should be included within the document, as it relates to the proximity of goods and services to individuals
 - Tom Jacobs stated that funding, processes, and decision-making will be considered when evaluating the structure of MARC's committee.
 - It was noted that the visioning section didn't include enough information regarding the process and articulation of the vision.
 - Dale said that it will be important to engage and sell the importance of linking conservation and transportation planning.
 - A group member asked at what level Kansas Citizens participate in public participation events, as compared to other parts of the country. Metro Outlook may have statistics related to this question.
 - Steve Petrehn noted that the low participation levels might be related to how spread out we are as a region. It may also be cultural. It was noted that it will be important to carefully identify stakeholder groups when engaging.
 - It was also noted that participants need to see outcomes of the process.
 - GIS is a great tool to engage folks – The framework for utilizing this tool needs to be distributed to communities.

- Bonnie Johnson stated that it is important to know who is participating so you know that social justice issues are being addressed.
- KDOT staff stated that commitment from political leadership and mayors is needed to get staff to the table.
- Mayor Petrehn stated that it is important to celebrate successes. He noted the Sunset Building in Olathe, as well as the efforts in Greensburg and New Orleans, as examples.
- Dominique Davison stated that USGBC has the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system for building and neighborhoods, and wondered if something like this could be utilized for transportation projects.
- Tom G. noted that MARC has undertaken an effort to look at indicators and performance measures, and that these efforts will tie into the action plan.
- Ron Achelpohl noted that, at a recent APWA conference, a carbon cap and trade system was reviewed. The action plan may intersect with other federal legislation besides the federal transportation bill, such as the energy bill.

3. **Next Steps with the Action Plan.**

- The action plan will be revised based on today's comments. Staff may distribute an on-line survey prior to the next meeting to solicit feedback regarding priority items.

4. **Resource and Transportation Agency Updates.**

- Sabrina Largen with the KC, MO Aviation Department stated that the airline industry has been involved in environmental linkages for a long time. She will check with Mark Van Loh r.e. finding someone with triple AE and ACI to link with the group (possibly Ian Redhead). She said that there is a system within the airline industry to undergo sustainable projects. The airport looks at alternative fuels, all projects are LEED certified (can be challenging with renovations), and she would like to know how to get better coordination between aviation and transportation/transit. She also doesn't see ground-level ozone mentioned in the document.
- Doyle Brown with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) noted that he views the action plan as a way to further the mission of MDC. He provided staff with a disc of GIS info. and distributed information to the group regarding MDC opportunity areas.
- Mark Frazier with the Corps of Engineers discussed watershed planning and the new mitigation rule. He said that the action plan effort can help with directing mitigation dollars.
- Bonnie Johnson with the KU graduate urban planning program stated that she and Stacey White have teamed up to conduct research on policy efforts that link environmental and transportation planning. Results of the study should be available within the next month or so. They are looking to team up to continue the efforts, if anyone is interested.

5. **Next Meeting. June 4th at 3 p.m.**