OPEN MEETING NOTICE

KANSAS STP PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
February 9, 2017
9:30 AM
Broadway Room, 1st Floor MARC Offices
600 Broadway, Suite 200, Kansas City, Missouri 64105

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approve the November 10, 2016 and December 13, 2016 Meeting Summaries*

3. Status of the Current Program – KDOT*
   
   Discussion of program balances
   
   Consideration of request by Roeland Park to increase funding for its Roe Boulevard Livability Improvements project. Please reference the attached letter from the city.

4. MARC Programming & Project Evaluation Process
   
   Discussion of issues identified during the review of the recent programming round. Topics for discussion include:
   
   • Application Funding Caps & Minimums
   • Definition of Regional Significance
   • Project Categories
   • Proposed schedule for future discussions regarding these and other issues

5. Other Business

6. Adjournment

* Action Items

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: May 11, 2017

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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 MARC 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). MARC programs are non-discriminatory as stated by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, call 816-474-4240 or visit our webpage.
January 24, 2017

Marc Hansen, AICP
Principal Planner
Mid-America Regional Council
600 Broadway Blvd, Ste. 200
Kansas City, MO 64105

RE: CONSIDERATION OF FURTHER FUNDING ROELAND PARK PROJECT

Dear Marc:

At our Kansas STP Priorities Committee meeting on November 10, 2016 it was made known Leavenworth County has decided to return $975,000 in STP funds allocated toward the Eisenhower Road Project. In the same meeting the committee agreed to begin discussing alternative strategies to provide more assistance to smaller communities for the next funding cycle. In light of these related items Roeland Park respectfully requests the KS STP Committee give consideration to allocating the STP funds being returned to the Roeland Park Livability Improvements Project TIP #352002.

Thank you for your time on this matter and as always please contact me with any questions or concerns at (913) 722-5435.

Sincerely,

Jose M. Leon Jr.
Director of Public Works
City of Roeland Park, Kansas

cc: Keith Moody, City Administrator
Kansas STP Priorities Committee
February 9, 2017
Meeting Summary

Members Present

Joe Johnson, Leawood, Chair
Tim Green, Lenexa
Michael McDonald, Leavenworth
Vernon Fields, Basehor
Burt Morey, Overland Park (alt.)
Jose Leon, Roeland Park
Tim McEldowney, Gardner
J.R. McMahon, Miami County
Doug Wesselschmidt, Shawnee
Allison Smith, KDOT
Chris Bruntz, FHWA (alt.)

MARC Staff Present

Marc Hansen
Terry Anderson
Ron Achelpohl

Alternates and Other Attendees:

Jose Leon, Roeland Park
Tim McEldowney, Gardner
J.R. McMahon, Miami County
Doug Wesselschmidt, Shawnee
Allison Smith, KDOT
Chris Bruntz, FHWA (alt.)

1. Welcome and Introductions
Joe Johnson welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting with introductions.

2. Approval of Meeting Summaries
MOTION: Jose Leon moved and J.R. McMahon seconded to approve the November 10, 2016 meeting summary as printed; the motion carried.
MOTION: Allison Smith moved and Tim Green seconded to approve the December 13, 2016 meeting summary as printed; the motion carried.

3. Status of the Current Program
Marc Hansen provided an updated tracking spreadsheet that reflects projects programmed for FFY 2016 – 2020. The following FFY 2017 projects had obligated to date:
- Olathe’s $1.75M 143rd Street – Pflumm Rd to Quivira
- MARC’s Planning Sustainable Places Program $1.2M
- Merriam’s $143,106 Shawnee Mission Pkwy Bridge over BNSF Railroad Rehab.
- An additional Merriam project was obligated (project was not named)
- MARC’s Operation Green Light $450,000 Kansas Operations Support and Enhancements

Allison Smith shared the remaining three projects pending obligation:
- Wyandotte County’s $908,800 Route 107 Bus stop station improvements is an FTA transfer project.
- Wyandotte County’s $6.96M K5/Leavenworth Road project from 63rd to 38th is on track for a September obligation.
- KCATA’s $2,191,700 Regional Clean Vehicle Conversion transfer to FTA will be processed soon.

Programmed CMAQ Traffic Flow projects:
The top three projects from previous years will be removed from the list. The two 2017 projects are currently on track. Allison Smith shared that KC Scout’s I-35 Ramp Metering $120,000 project only needed about $65,000 so the unused funds might be available.

Program balances: Marc reviewed that 2017 through 2019 are over programmed: around $1.2M this year and up to $2.2M in 2019. To make each year end with a zero balance it is likely that projects ready to obligate late in the FFY would need to shift to the following year; therefore when the committee programs FFY 2021-2022, a portion of 2021 will already be programmed due to the shifted projects and there would be less funds available to program. Since the committee tends to over program each round by approximately 10 percent, this situation should not be a surprise. Any adjustments will require some flexibility of the project sponsors. Allison Smith added that KDOT provides MARC with monthly updates.
Consideration of request by Roeland Park to increase funding for its FFY 2019 Roe Boulevard Livability Improvements project. The city of Roeland Park submitted a letter to MARC staff (provided with the agenda) as follows:

At our Kansas STP Priorities Committee meeting on November 10, 2016 it was made known Leavenworth County has decided to return $975,000 in STP funds allocated toward the Eisenhower Road Project. In the same meeting the committee agreed to begin discussing alternative strategies to provide more assistance to smaller communities for the next funding cycle. In light of these related items, Roeland Park respectfully requests the KS STP Committee give consideration to allocating the STP funds being returned to the Roeland Park Livability Improvements Project TIP #352002.

Marc Hansen reviewed that the FFY 2019/20 round is over programmed; however, the decision regarding the funds is up to the committee.

Discussion: An attendee asked if jurisdictions could compete for those funds. Staff indicated that the committee could make the decision to reprogram those dollars. The chair recommended waiting until 2018 to make a decision.

MOTION: Doug Wesselschmidt moved and Tim Green seconded for the committee to wait and continue monitoring the over programming of funds and reevaluate any decisions in January 2018 regarding the $975,000; therefore denying Roeland Park’s request for $975,000 at this time.

Discussion:
- Jose Leon reviewed that the project scored well, expected close to 80% funding and the city has no future unique projects planned to bring to the committee.
- Burt Morey agreed with setting the funds aside until 2018 as mentioned but believed the Overland Park project (that gave up a portion of its funds to Roeland Park) should receive some of the $975,000 if the committee should decide to reprogram the funds.
- KDOT allowed us to spend available TAP funds to balance the 2016 program that was $639,000 short.
- The committee may consider changing their current process of over programming funding rounds by 10 percent.

The motion carried with two opposed.

4. MARC Programming & Project Evaluation Process

During debrief of the recent programming round, several portions of the evaluation process were identified as needing to be fleshed out or modified. Marc Hansen reviewed a proposed schedule titled Project Planner which would allow members to think on the specific three issues prior to each quarterly meeting. Discussions and changes will be completed prior to the January Call for Projects for FFY 2021-2022. The following three issues were discussed:

a. Application funding caps and minimums. A handout (attached) was provided that reflected totals for each of the past four Kansas STP Committee funding rounds starting with FFY 2013-2014 of all project applications and those that were programmed. Shown here are the averages of the four rounds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Funding Requested</th>
<th>Total Programmed</th>
<th>Percent of Request Met</th>
<th>Number of Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$91,104,389</td>
<td>$28,017,700</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>31.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Request</td>
<td>Average Award</td>
<td>Median Request</td>
<td>Median Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,871,307</td>
<td>$2,324,536</td>
<td>$1,521,250</td>
<td>$1,641,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Request</td>
<td>High Award</td>
<td>Low Request</td>
<td>Low Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$12,650,000</td>
<td>$5,937,000</td>
<td>$126,750</td>
<td>$253,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments/suggestions:
- Setting a cap, i.e. of $10M, would allow more requests to be funded; we must continue including small cities or they will stop coming. Also need a minimum amount so each jurisdiction could determine if their request is worth the effort.
- Establish a decision and tell everyone the funding would be, i.e., a minimum of 50% of the 80% up to a certain dollar amount.
- Applications should indicate the amount they really need for the project.
- Perhaps provide bonus points for projects with reasonably low funding request when local available funds are more than 20%.
- If bids come in low, would the balance of funds return to the pot; KDOT or MARC may not want to track. Allison shared that KDOT would set a max in the agreement, based on the amount approved by TTPC, but if it is less expensive, the funds would return to the pot.
• Create a formula that is known up front.
• Recommend weighting the scores heavier but it would hurt the small cities. Will need to include equity in decisions.
• Until you know the total amount of funds requested, it seems impossible to set percentages up front. Noted that the small cities will always request 80 percent.
• Goal is to help cities know the amount, create better guidelines.
• Look for additional funding sources in addition to STP, i.e., CMAQ, CARS, TDDs, CIDs, Local funds.
• Will want funds available for bridge projects if any applications are submitted.
• Noted that rounds 2013/14 and 2019/20 had high funding requests but funded at $5M or $6M or below and with three of the four funding rounds the project scores seemed to have been taken as a high consideration.

Action items:
• MARC staff will do additional analysis of the past two programming cycles to help the committee to determine an appropriate cap.
• Sponsors were asked to look at their past projects and determine the minimum funds needed.

b. Definition of Regional Significance. During the recent debrief, interest was expressed in creating a better definition of regional significance and apply it to the scoring process. The Transportation Outlook 2040 definition was provided, however, Marc explained portions of it is probably not the best definition for the committee’s use since we were not looking at activity centers back in 2010 when the policy was adopted. The Federal definition mainly relates to areas in a non-attainment for air quality purposes, looking at emissions impact and our area is not in that situation. The criteria is for projects on principal arterials and interstate highways which are not the type of projects requesting KS STP funds. Staff checked with some peer MPOs and found they only use the definition required for conformity purposes. Discussion: Allison Smith shared that Lawrence uses a simple definition, “facilities classified as minor arterial” without a distance definition as shown in the TO 2040 definition for roadway projects. Should we look at ADT? Following a brief discussion, Marc shared that this topic was raised by the MO STP Committee so staff will share what they decide at the next meeting.

c. Project Categories. There are more varieties of project types eligible for STP funds than in the past; however, there are only four application types as follows:
• Road & Bridge: roadway capacity, roadway operations (to improve signalization, adding turn lanes), traffic flow, bridge replacement/rehab, ITS Capital improvements. (These are also eligible for CMAQ funds.)
• Non-Motorized Transportation: Facilities & SRTS Infrastructure, recreation trails, SRTS Non-infrastructure
• Public Transportation: Transit capital (Transit operations is eligible for CMAQ funds)
• Other: Electric/natural gas charging, environmental mitigation, intermodal interchange within a port, livable communities, transportation safety infrastructure, congestion pricing, truck parking, historic preservation/archaeological, environmental mitigation & vegetation management, transportation aesthetics & scenic values.

Discussion: A couple jurisdictions go through an easier process to fund rural bridges. Planning is also eligible for STP. Expect to see several completed Planning Sustainable Program projects apply for FY 2021-22 funding. The program works well and those projects tend to score well.

Send additional comments on the three issues discussed today to Marc Hansen.
Someone suggested and Marc agreed to shift the discussion of jurisdictional issues along with the discussion of percentages.

5. Other Business
MARC recently issued a call for nominations for the 2017 regional leadership awards to be presented at MARC’s Regional Assembly in June. Submit nominations online at www.marc.org/nominations.htm by March 16.

6. Adjournment
With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Next Meeting: May 11, 2017