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MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

AIR QUALITY FORUM

October 11, 2022
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Members and Alternate in Attendance:

Richard Rocha, Bayer
Krystal Voth, City of Leavenworth
Janee Hanzlick, Johnson County
Kelly Gilbert, MEC
Cameron Weeks, MDNR

Carol Adams, KCMO EMC
Allison Smith, KDOT
Gayle Bergman, UG Public Health

Other Attendees:

Jim Starcev, KC Digital Drive
Tiffany Le, BPU
Rumela Bhadra, EPA Region 7

Britni O'Connor, MODOT

MARC Staff:

Karen Clawson, MARC
Kate Ludwig, MARC
Ron Achelpohl, MARC
Rachel Krause, MARC

Doug Norsby, MARC
Bridget Koan, MARC

1. Introduction

Introductions were made. Quorum was met.

2. Approval of September Meeting Summary

Quorum was not met. Approval deferred to next meeting.

3. CMAQ Overview of Projects

- a. MARC in the middle of programming sub allocated dollars
- b. Karen provided an overview of the projects
- c. 2025/2026 CMAQ project funds
 - i. CMAQ categories includes: Alt. Fuel, Outreach & Other, Transit, Bicycle/Pedestrian, and Traffic Flow.
 - ii. Funds to Program: \$4.073 mil Kansas projects, \$10.224 mil Missouri projects.
 - iii. Current requests: \$5.12 mil Kansa, and \$3.9 mil Missouri. 574% oversubscribed.
 - iv. 2025 Electric Street Sweeper Project – Roeland Park
 1. To replace the 2010 street sweeper with an electric. Not scalable because they are only asking for one thing. Asking for \$480,000. There is a question of if the project is asking for funds that are the incremental cost of the diesel to electric street sweeper. Comments: 5 supportive, 1 non-supportive
 - v. ICE Vehicle Conversion to Alt-Fuel – Overland Park
 1. To replace 43 SUVs (OPPD patrol vehicles, incremental costs) at \$8,000 each and to replace 2 motorist assist vehicles at \$42,000 each (full price, not incremental). 75% HEV/25% BEV. Is scalable and could decrease the number of vehicles. Asking for \$420,000. No comments .
 - vi. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations – Overland Park
 1. 5 charging locations at city facilities. Is scalable because the project can be phased or charging locations reduced. Asking for \$320,000. 1 supportive comment and 1 neutral comment/question about how vendors and contractors would be selected.
 - vii. Regional EV and EV Infrastructure Expansion – MARC
 1. 16 charging stations and 6 small EVs for local government use or public use for carsharing. Is scalable because the project can be phased, or the quantity can be reduced. Asking for \$600,000 (\$300,000 CMAQ/\$300,000 STBG). No comments.
 - viii. Small and Flex Vehicles/Charging/Training – KCATA
 1. To replace diesel/gas buses and vans with 12 electric buses and vans with a 15-year useful life which is beyond what is required by FTA. Is a regional project and is scalable because fewer buses can be purchased. Asking for \$3.5 million. No comments

2. Question- Janee Hanzlick – do they have any report back/strengths/challenges from their experiences?
 - a. No feedback yet, there is hesitation to fully commit due to concerns with EVs. Karen Clawson to reach out for feedback.
- ix. Transit Vehicles/Charging/Training – KCATA
 1. To replace diesel/gas buses and vans with 10 electric buses and vans with a 15-year useful life. Is a regional project and is scalable because fewer buses can be purchased. Asking for \$4 million. 3 supportive comments.
 2. Question: Are these also being considered transit projects for CMAQ or specific to the alt. fuel category? Have different scores to consider as well as priority, need to look at both categories. Between now and the November meeting will have more information hopefully.
- d. How Projects Scored
 - i. Regional EV and EV Infrastructure Expansion – MARC – 78
 - ii. EV Charging Stations – Overland Park – 71
 1. EV charging stations get slightly higher scores because that particular criteria is related to land use and projects get points if we are creating publicly accessible infrastructure.
 - iii. Small and Flex Vehicles – KCATA – 70
 - iv. Transit Vehicles – KCATA – 63
 - v. ICE Fleet Conversion – Overland Park – 42
 - vi. Electric Street Sweeper – Roeland Park – 21
 1. Because it is just one vehicle traveling 3,000 miles per year and does not have the emissions reduction as some of the other projects.
 - vii. Note: looking at different funding criteria. Emissions reduction is the most important for funding. Hopefully can come up with funding recommendations to help make recommendations.
 - viii. Questions:
 1. Rumela Bhadra (EPA): Can share a webinar for calculators and scoring resource for EVs.
 2. Kelly Gilbert: Arrange local fleet presentations with running EV buses. Question on the process, will there be another evaluation period to score the projects? The committee does not score the projects, Karen Clawson can share more information on scoring. Electric street sweep running at a low speed is the most inefficient way to run a diesel engine, would like to see the eclectic street sweeper to be more highly considered than what it was scored.
 3. Josh Wood: On the OP police car replacement, were the idle hours were calculated and taken into consideration? It is not, calculations based on milage, but Karen Clawson will look into

that more. Josh Wood: there is a standard and you can pull the idle hours. Rumela Bhadra: can you share the idle standard? 26 miles per idle hour but will look more into idle hours.

4. Electric Lawn Equipment Rebate Program

- a. Pilot program to help reduce emissions from lawn equipment by giving rebates or vouchers for electric lawn equipment to launch in Spring 2023. \$11,000 in federal 105 funds to serve 5 counties (Johnson, Wyandotte, Clay, Jackson, and Platte)
- b. Program considerations for feedback. Rebates vs vouchers. Eligible equipment. Where to purchase new mowers? What to do with old mowers? Any time constraints? Data collection. Ensuing equity
 - i. Research done looking at similar programs in other cities and states. Potentially partnering with business for purchasing and recycling mowers. Many factors to consider. No decisions have been made at this time. Looking for suggestions and comments. If the program is successful, can continue or expand.
 - ii. Questions/comments:
 1. Richard Rocha: Personally have electric weed whacker and leaf blower and likes them. Might be cheaper to start people with the less expensive/hand help equipment. May be able to reach more people given the budget.
 2. Rumela Bhadra: Also has electric lawn equipment. No one suggested the electric to her, but she went with it anyway. Enjoys the benefits and positives from the electric equipment (noiseless and lightweight).
 3. The potential to demo an electric mower they may not have purchased a gas mower. Is there an opportunity to have a demo in with the rebate to help sell the electric mowers. Can you see demos in your own neighborhood? Interviews/videos and do "demos" that way. What about branching into commercial? Can we get volunteers to use mowers/equipment for demos. What about different lawn types or different scenarios?
 4. Ron Achelpohl: has an electric mower but had to have it repaired and it took 6 months. Can there something to help with repairs or providing a mower while it is being repaired.
 5. Jim Starcev: Can battery replacement be a part of the program?

5. Transportation or Partner Updates

- a. Gayle Bergman (UGPHD Wyandotte county): Open burn regulation changes. Had a recent standing committee. Main changes are another season for burning mostly due to weather. Also, other definition of yard waste brought on by extreme weather events. Getting rid of prima facie where you assume that the property owner is at fault of an illegal burn, would be harder to find fault with

the property owner if this is gone. The state uses this, the county should also, but it looks like it will get pulled.

- b. Rumela Bhadra (EPA Region 7): A lot of comments on how to launch EJ frameworks. Do not have a lot for the framework but there is an EJ conversation being had. There is also some funding given to Region 7 and have received more applications than expected.
 - c. Kelly Gilbert: Brant H. is moving and leaving. Training new clean cities coordinators. Jeff S. is assisting and moving in the coordinator role. Federal funding is reduced and planning to do more aggregation of projects.
 - d. Janee Hanzlick: Johnson County Board of Commissioners, “don’t mention the word climate change or sustainability, and don’t mention LEED because it won’t go over well with the members”. Proud to say that is no longer the case because they have now achieved the gold level for LEED for Cities and Communities, and new courthouse is almost finished with process for LEED certification. Proud to see progress in Johnson County over four years.
 - e. Jim Starcev: Question: Have we heard anything on EPA community grant? He has been on hold and if that does not go through, needs to look at plan B for funding. Karen Clawson thinks that they are still in progress. Rumela Bhadra is also unaware of status but will see if she can find information.
 - f. Karen Clawson: Transportation Update on Green Commute Challenge. Had stations where they thanked people for green commuting with coupons for Betty Rae’s ice cream and with the Midtown Cone Guy.
 - g.
- 6. State Rule in Progress**
- a. Cameron: Nothing going on at the central office right now. Next MACC meeting Oct. 27 at 9am in Springfield, MO at regional office.
- 7. Other Business: None**
- 8. Next Meeting:** November 8 at 10am. Most likely be online meeting. Month to focus on programming and vote for approvals.

9. Adjourn