### MEETING SUMMARY

### AIR QUALITY FORUM

#### December 13, 2022

#### 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

**Members and Alternate in Attendance:**

Krystal Voth, City of Leavenworth Allison Smith, KDOT

Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County Gayle Bergman, UG Public Health

Kelly Gilbert, MEC Carol Adams, KCMO EMC

Cameron Weeks, MDNR Richard Rocha, Bayer

John Neuberger, Sierra Club Rollin Sachs, Johnson County

Julie Peterson, USGBC

**Other Attendees:**

Britni O’Connor, MODOT Cameron Weeks, MoDNR

Tiffany Le, BPU Sullivan Brown, Weather or Not

Rumela Bhadra, EPA Region 7 Allison Crowther, KSU

**MARC Staff:**

Karen Clawson, MARC Doug Norsby, MARC

Kate Ludwig, MARC Bridget Koan, MARC

Ron Achelpohl, MARC

Rachel Krause, MARC

1. **Introductions and Determination of Quorum**
2. **November Meeting Summary Approval\***

Angela Markley called for a motion for the meeting summary approval. Janeé Hanzlick motioned to approve meeting summary. Josh Wood seconded. The meeting summary was APPROVED.

1. **CMAQ Projects**

Karen Clawson introduced CMAQ projects for all categories which will need to approved by the Forum before it goes to Total Transportation Policy Committee for approval. Categories include alternative fuel, bike and pedestrian, traffic flow, and transit. There were some funds from both Kansas and Missouri left on the table, so a workgroup was assembled to allocate those remaining funds. In Kansas, all funds were used with the exception of bike/pedestrian which was undersubscribed. In Missouri, there was money left on the table from traffic flow and transit, so those funds were assigned to other categories.

In the alternative fuel category, the recommendation was for Kansas was to put funds towards the Overland Park EV Charging Stations and the Regional Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure Expansion projects. In Missouri, funds were allocated to transit vehicles and the Regional Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure Expansion projects.

In the bicycle and pedestrian category, the bike share expansion in Wyandotte County, the Towne Centre Connector, the Kansas Safe Routes to School Program, and the Greenline Multimodal Corridor South Leg were all fully funded. There are also funds programed for the Grand Cycle Track and the Vivion Road Trail which was given additional funds through the workgroup.

In the transit category, the New Jobs Access Services on the Kansas and Missouri side and the Expanded Flex Services in Kansas and Missouri was halfway funded.

In the traffic flow category, there are five projects with recommended funded which are the 95th and Loiret Intersection Improvements, the State Line Road Signal Improvements, Linwood Fiber Installation and Intersection Improvements, US-24 and Ash Ave Realignment, and the Arterial Traffic Signal Performance Measures System.

Karen Clawson added that the majority of the high scoring projects were funded with the exception of some specialty projects. She then asks for questions or comments over the CMAQ funded projects. A question was asked by Allison Smith if there was funding left on the Kansas side that can be distributed to other categories. The excess from the bike/pedestrian funds went to transit projects which was decided based on a workgroup meeting. A question from Janeé Hanzlick about the alternative fuels. She wanted to clarify that the funding for the electric street sweeper is not recommended. Karen Clawson confirms. She hopes that some of the projects that did not get funded could be funded through the Carbon Reduction Program next year.

Karen Clawson asks for approval. Janee Hanzlick approves. Kelly Gilbert seconds. Angela Markley asks for any opposition. None opposed.

1. **Bylaws – Karen Clawson**

Karen Clawson introduces reshaping and restructuring the bylaws of the Air Quality Forum. She presented some background on the need to update the bylaw, including the need to sharpen the role of the forum, increasing interest among and relevancy to elected official members, interest in more community representation, last review of bylaws was in 2014, and the last membership update was 2017. An evaluation survey was sent out to help with the changes in the bylaws. Karen Clawson states if anyone is interested in more details over the bylaws.

The proposed amendments are:

* Local government representation
	+ Added Lee’s Summit and Miami County
	+ Adjusted UG and KCMO representation
	+ Increased community public health representation
* Appointments would no longer require the MARC B&P or consultation with MARC board
* Consideration of majority, gender, and ethnicity applies to all categories of membership
* Quorum increase from 10 to 11
* Added flexibility to meeting schedule

Karen Clawson asks for questions or concerns to the proposed amendments. Janeé Hanzlick says she appreciates the amendments but need some time to review before she feels she can makes comments. Karen states that this is the first round before approval. Anyone is welcome to send comments later in email to voice option. Kelly Gilbert states that Karen Clawson did well with the amendments considering the survey that was sent and results.

Janeé Hanzlick asks if there are chairpersons for the air quality forum group. Karen Clawson moves to the next slide to answer the question. She states that currently, there are chairpersons, two, who are elected officials from the Kansas and Missouri sides. The question Karen Clawson asks the forum is what the forum wants to see from the elected officials who chairpersons are. They do not need to be elected officials in the bylaws which means this can also be amended if needed. Angela Markley states that someone with more expertise would be better served in the chairperson role. Karen Clawson suggests having one elected official as a co-chair and one who is not. Janeé Hanzlick agrees with Angela Markley that this is not her area of expertise and it would be helpful to have elected officials at least as a part of the air quality forum to justify and secure in decisions made. Karen Clawson asks for any more comments. The forum will return to this in January or reach out to Karen Clawson.

1. **RideshareKC Visioning Process – Rachel Krause**

Rachel Krause reminds the forum about the survey last month that everyone should have received and filled out. She plans to share some context about the survey and results so far.

Services RideshareKC currently offers is rideshare matching tool, employer outreach services, guaranteed ride home, green commute challenge, rideshare phone lines and community outreach. Rachel Krause notes the changing needs of the region as it pertains to RideshareKC. They want to be strategic when it comes to meeting those needs which include:

* Changing communing behaviors
* In-office, remote, hybrid
* Infrastructure investments
* Transit, bicycle/pedestrian, Vision Zero
* Cultural Mindsets
* Increased attention on sustainability, climate, equity, livability
* Shifting Media Landscape
* Digital and social media, how people engage and receive content

She then shifts to the visioning process to learning more about their audiences and determining how their work and brand should evolve to meet then needs of the Kansas City Region. This process consists of internal discussion, audience research in the form of surveys, interviews, and focus groups, and team strategy sessions to create the workplan.

Rachel Krause does have a survey for the forum to take. She asks if Karen Clawson has anything to add. She suggests looking at the live results of the poll so the forum members can see the results. Live poll results are shown. Karen Clawson encourages everyone to continue to fill out the survey.

Rachel Krause begins to go over the survey results from the previous surveys. The survey was sent out to active RideshareKC users and Guaranteed Ride Home users. It was sent to 2,865 people and there were 114 responses. 46% of respondents work in-person full-time. 45% work remote half-time, and 9% work remote full-time. 57% of respondents dive alone to work. 61.4% participated in the Green Commute Challenge, 31% in GRH, and 25% follow RideshareKC on social media. 23% of respondents confuse RideshareKC/are a program of the KCATA of thought we provided bus/vanpool service.

She continues with the survey results looking at motivations for sustainable commuting, which the highest motivation was to save money on gas, next to protect the environment, followed by saving wear and tear on cars. The most valuable programs ranked were Guaranteed Ride Home, ride matching tool for commuters, and then interactive maps featuring park ‘n ride lots, bike routes, etc. Other comments made were that having KC in the name means it’s not for urban/suburban residents and that they had trouble using the current ride matching tool on the website/app.

The other survey sent was to members of transportation and environmental committees at MARC, including local governmental staff, elected officials, non-profit leaders, consultants, chamber of commerce and transportation service providers. It was sent to 1,469 people and 53 responded. 93% of respondents said RideshareKC’s work is very or somewhat relevant, 69% said they were somewhat confident in understanding of what RideshareKC does, and 70.4% said RideshareKC was either very or somewhat ineffective.

The continuation of the results ranks the most valuable services. The top three were the ride matching tool for commuters, the ride matching tool for single trips, and consulting services for employers. The top transportation challenges facing the region were also ranked. The top seven were transit, connectivity, sprawl, cultural shifts, infrastructure/accessibility, safety, and cost.

Rachel Krause asks for questions. Karen Clawson adds that the name RideshareKC has been around for a while and states that if the name is confusing for the public on what it does and what information would be provided, so changing the name is a big consideration. Janee Hanzlick has a question and states that RideshareKC is not alone in having challenges with communication or being clear of what services or tools are provided. She asks how can the forum help to get the word out about the program and what resources are available. Her second question is who oversees the vanpool program. Rachel Krause says that Commute with Enterprise does the vanpool service. Rachel Krause also says that they will be working with the Chamber of Commerce for help with the communication aspects. Karen Clawson adds that they are working with a group called MobilityKC that is a partnership between many entities whose mission is outreach with employers for more information on rideshare options for them. Janee Hanzlick states that if there is anything she can do to help, to let her know. Johnson County is also having issues with alternative modes of transportation and elements that go beyond transportation.

1. **State Rules in Progress- Karen Clawson**

Karen Clawson asks if there is anything in progress, member updates, or if anyone wants to share anything. Janee Hanzlick asks John Neuberger from the Sierra Club any updates on the oil spill. He states that there are no updates but will bring it up at the next meeting. Kelly Gilbert shares that the Metropolitan Energy Center is releasing an RFP for community development and community organizations in disadvantaged communities to do outreach and conduct listening sessions for their constituents to participate in electric vehicle charging station applications within six months to a year. There is also a procurement webpage with all the information. Doug Norsby adds that the proposal for PM2.5 is coming out soon. It looks like the standards will be changing early in the new year.

Karen Clawson reminds that the next meeting is January 10th were the bylaws will be looked over again and to share more information on bylaws before the next meeting.

Angela Markley reminds to finish the RideshareKC survey and to send bylaws questions to Karen Clawson.

1. **Other Business**

No other business.

1. **Meeting adjourned.**