



Board of Directors MEETING NOTICE

Mid-America Regional Council • 600 Broadway, Suite 200 • Kansas City, Missouri 64105 • 816/474-4240

March 28, 2023

Board Member Meeting: 12:00 p.m.

In-person attendees in MARC's Board Room with a remote option via Zoom

- **Members of the public who wish to participate in this meeting: please email McKenzie Neds at mned@marc.org by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 for instructions to join the teleconference.**

AGENDA

1. Brief Self-Introductions
2. EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 - a. DISCUSSION: Update on Union Station as a Regional Asset
3. COMPETITIVE ECONOMY
 - a. DISCUSSION: Updated 2023 Economic Forecast
 - b. DISCUSSION: Regional broadband infrastructure analysis and Digital Equity Action Plan
4. BRIEF REPORTS
 - a. REPORT/VOTE: Update on Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative and VOTE: Authorize an application to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for regional Community Health Worker projects
 - b. REPORT/VOTE: Authorize Consultant Agreement for KCI Airport Public Transit Action Plan
 - c. VOTE: Approve comment letter to Environmental Protection Agency regarding the proposed revision to the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for particulate matter
 - d. REPORT: Regional Preventive Maintenance Program Update
 - e. REPORT: Update on Legislative matters:
 1. Potential changes to Missouri transportation funding process
 2. Early education initiatives in Kansas and Missouri
5. Executive Director's Report

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

6. VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda
 - a. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the February 28, 2023 Board Meeting
 - b. VOTE: Authorize contract with Evergy in the amount of \$100,000 to develop a pilot urban heat island reduction initiative
 - c. VOTE: Authorize 2023 Call for Projects for Carbon Reduction Program funds
 - d. VOTE: Proposed Amendment to Air Quality Forum Bylaws
 - e. VOTE: Approve contract with Agile Mile to provide web-based, ride-matching software tool for the Mid-America Regional Council's RideshareKC program



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- f. VOTE: Authorization to receive Kansas Department of Transportation Innovative Technology Program Funds for the Operation Green Light program to lead a regional Kansas metro area crowd sourcing project
- g. VOTE: Authorize agreement with Cambridge Systematics for delivery of on-call traffic modeling support services
- h. VOTE: Authorize consultant agreement for a Planning Sustainable Places project in Mission, Kansas
- i. VOTE: Approve the funding recommendations for the remaining 2023 Kansas Planning Sustainable Places funds and authorize execution of related agreements and receipts of funds
- j. VOTE: Approve an agreement with Motorola Solutions to purchase VESTA 911 Automatic Abandoned Callback call handling solution for use at the Kansas City Police Department Public Safety Answering Point
- k. VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency to support the Missouri Local Emergency Planning District
- l. VOTE: Authorize issuance of subaward agreements for the Fiscal Year 2022 Urban Area Security Initiative grant
- m. VOTE: Amendment to increase transportation agreement with Jewish Family Services
- n. VOTE: Head Start FY2022 Cost of Living Adjustment and Quality Improvement Application to the Administration for Children and Families
- o. VOTE: Approve actions taken at the March 21, 2023 Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting
- p. VOTE: Authorize an agreement with the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition in an amount not to exceed \$78,744 to support the transition of the Homelessness Management Information System Lead Agency role and database

7. Other Business

8. Adjournment

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 1

ISSUE:

Introductions and Board Sharing Time

BACKGROUND:

Time has been reserved on the agenda for introductions and items of interest to Board members. The Board Chair encourages board members to raise matters for discussion at future meetings or other issues of general concern or interest.

MARC Board of Directors - Members and Alternates

Name	Jurisdiction	Title
Allen, Perry**	MoDOT	Asst. District Engineer
Bacon, John	City of Olathe	Mayor
Baird, Bill	City of Lee's Summit	Mayor
Boehm, Mike	City of Lenexa	Mayor
Boley, Damien	City of Smithville	Mayor
Bunch, Eric	City of Kansas City	Councilmember
Burnett, Scott	Jackson County	Legislator
Culbertson, Jeff	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Dickey, David	City of Mission Hills	Mayor
Ellington, Brandon	City of Kansas City	Councilmember
Fast, Becky	Johnson County	Commissioner
Fields, Vernon	City of Basehor	Councilmember
Fricker, Scott	Platte County	Presiding Commissioner
Gaines, Billy	Ray County	Presiding Commissioner
Garner, Tyrone	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Mayor/CEO
Grummert, Holly	City of Overland Park	Councilmember
Hall, Heather	City of Kansas City	Councilmember
Hanzlick, Janee	Johnson County	Commissioner
Harrington, Jeff	City of Bonner Springs	Mayor
Heley, Logan	City of Overland Park	Councilmember
Hobart, Dan	City of Independence	Councilmember
Hurlbert, Victor	Clay County	Auditor
Huston, Bob	Cass County	Presiding Commissioner
Jarrold, Dick**	KCATA	Vice President
Johnson, Harold	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Johnson, Ryan	Cass County	Commissioner
Kane, Mike	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Kelly, Mike	Johnson County	Commission Chairman
Koehn, Leroy**	KDOT	District Engineer
Lopez, Beto	City of Lee's Summit	Mayor Pro Tern
Lucas, Quinton	City of Kansas City	Mayor
Makinen, Robbie**	KCATA	President/CEO
Markley, Angela	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
McCandless, Bridget	City of Independence	Councilmember
McDonough, Mike	City of Raytown	Mayor
McKiernan, Brian*	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Mikkelsen, Eric	City of Prairie Village	Mayor
Moriarty, Michael**	KDOT	Chief of Transportation Planning
Nolte, Jerry	Clay County	Presiding Commissioner
Pogue, Randy	City of Kearney	Mayor
Roberts, Rob	Miami County	Commission Chairman
Ross, Carson	City of Blue Springs	Mayor
Rowland, Rory	City of Independence	Mayor
Silvester, David**	MoDOT	District Engineer
Skoog, Curt	City of Overland Park	Mayor
Smith, Doug	Leavenworth County	Commission Chairman
Turnbow, Kristofer	City of Raymore	Mayor
Vaughan, Tyler	Miami County	Commissioner
Vogt, Marge	City of Olathe	Councilmember
Walker, Rick	City of De Soto	Mayor
White, Frank	Jackson County	County Executive
Wood, Dagmar	Platte County	Commissioner

*Public Transit Representatives (Voting)

**Public Transit Advisory Representatives (Non-Voting)

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 2a
Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

DISCUSSION: Update on Union Station as a Regional Asset

BACKGROUND:

The Metropolitan Culture District, commonly referred to as the Bi-State Commission, is a special district authorized in 1996 by a joint compact between the states of Kansas and Missouri. Voters in Platte, Clay and Jackson counties in Missouri, and Johnson County in Kansas, approved a retail sales tax to renovate Union Station and to construct Science City in Union Station.

Union Station, Kansas City, Inc. is the non-profit organization that owns, operates, and maintains Union Station as a cultural facility. The Bi-State Commission works to ensure that future development and/or use of Union Station and the immediate area are consistent with the Union Station Master Plan that was adopted when voters approved the sales tax. The plan guides efforts to protect the public's interest in Union Station. MARC has provided administrative support to the commission since its inception.

From April 1, 1997, to March 31, 2002, the commission collected \$121,393,565 in sales tax. The proposal to form the district specified that a retail sales tax of 1/8 of one cent would be collected from within the district until \$118 million had been received. The proceeds were limited to Union Station renovation costs and construction of Science City. The tax expired in the first quarter of 2002. The assets of the Bi-State Commission exceeded liabilities at the close of calendar year 2021 by \$49,660.

George Guastello, President and CEO of Union Station, Kansas City, Inc. will share an update with the board.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Carol Gonzales

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 3a
Competitive Economy

ISSUE:

DISCUSSION: Updated 2023 Economic Forecast

BACKGROUND:

Economic conditions continue to evolve. Job growth has been stronger than anticipated in the first part of the year, yet specific sectors are showing unexpected weakness, such as banking. Meanwhile, inflation signals have become decidedly mixed, at first seeming to be trending down but showing greater strength more recently. MARC staff continues to monitor these trends and policymaker responses and will present a new forecast that adjusts growth expectations for the rest of the year based on the latest available information.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT

Frank Lenk

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 3b
Competitive Economy

ISSUE:

DISCUSSION: Regional broadband infrastructure analysis and Digital Equity Action Plan

BACKGROUND:

Congress has authorized over \$40 billion to support addressing broadband infrastructure and digital equity needs. The states of Missouri and Kansas are preparing plans for use of the funds awarded to improve infrastructure and address digital equity needs. With the availability of the federal funds over the next few years, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), KC Rising and the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City launched an effort in mid-2022 to identify unserved and underserved portions of the metro area where infrastructure investments are needed, to look at investments to increase access to, and adoption by, households with barriers, including affordability, lack of devices, and need for training.

Work underway includes:

Gaps in Broadband Infrastructure - MARC contracted with Black & Veatch to analyze unserved and underserved neighborhoods and areas in the Kansas City region using private and public data. MARC acquired additional data to identify where internet access does not meet national standards for reliability and speed and which Internet Service Providers serve various parts of the metro area. While much of the Kansas City region is served by one or more provider, there are areas where service speeds are limited, reliability is poor, and costs are high. A report is being finalized that identifies areas considered “unserved” or “underserved.” In addition, MARC has prepared a mapping dashboard to help local governments and community organizations identify those areas based on the various data sets where investment in infrastructure is needed.

Digital Equity - MARC held virtual and in-person workshops in the fall of 2022, convened additional workshops in coordination with the Missouri Broadband Office, attended various meetings, conducted a survey in English and Spanish, and conducted interviews with representatives from local governments, libraries, schools and community organizations. Research was conducted to understand specific needs for various population groups, including older adults, veterans, families with children, low-income households, Black households, Hispanic households including those with limited English proficiency and the disabled. The information gathered and input received allowed MARC and partners to gain an understanding of barriers to access and adoption and outlined a series of recommendations to address access, adoption and training and technical support.

The two draft reports will be posted on the MARC website and feedback will be encouraged through mid-April. The reports will be shared with the two state broadband offices and with community stakeholders to support the community in outlining project investments for federal funds and to encourage steps to increase support for digital equity.

RECOMMENDATION

None, information only.

STAFF CONTACT

Marlene Nagel
Jay Heermann

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 4a

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative

VOTE: Authorize an application to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for regional Community Health Worker projects

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) regional health care access initiative supported a regional committee focused on developing Community Health Workers (CHWs) as a key part of the health care system. CHWs are individuals trained to work with patients to connect them to needed health care and community services to improve their health outcomes, including reducing re-admissions at hospitals. MARC has received funding over the past seven years to support the collaborative's work from foundations and state agencies. The work over the past year has focused on advocacy to encourage agencies to consider adding CHWs to their workforce; supervisory, CEU and other training and enrollment in a state credential for CHWs in both Missouri and Kansas to increase professionalism of those in the workforce; and preparation of a toolkit to help agencies understand how to use billing codes for reimbursement of CHWs services.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) has encouraged MARC to submit a funding proposal to support the further deployment of the Reimbursement Toolkit through training and technical assistance over the next year. MARC is assisting the MDHSS with training for CHW recently hired supervisors as the state works to expand the use of this workforce across the entire state. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has been supporting the CHW Collaborative's work through the MARC Government Training Institute (GTI) to offer a variety of trainings.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$150,000
Source	Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$50,000
Contractual (ES Advisors / Billing Consultant)	\$85,000
Other (travel, meeting, etc.)	\$15,000

MARC's work in building a strong Community Health Worker system across Missouri and Kansas has been largely funded by the Health Forward Foundation. Funding through both state health departments is allowing MARC to expand its reach statewide in both states.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the submission of a proposal, and if funded, accept funds from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services of \$150,000 to support deployment and technical assistance for use of a new Reimbursement Toolkit.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel
Hannayd Ruiz

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 4b

Effective Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

REPORT/VOTE: Authorize Consultant Agreement for KCI Airport Public Transit Action Plan

BACKGROUND:

The Kansas City Area Transportation Authority and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) have launched a process to complete a Kansas City International (KCI) Public Transit Services Action Plan. The new KCI terminal has recently opened, creating new possibilities to broaden service connections across the globe. Recent investments in a convention hotel and other visitor amenities coincide with rebounding growth in the region's hospitality industries. And the success of efforts to attract big events, such as the '23 NFL Draft and '26 World Cup games, have fueled increasing ambition for promoting Kansas City as a premier host city.

With all this progress throughout the region, the time is now for a reliable, accessible, and multi-modal public transit system that serves KCI and key destinations around the region. An improved system would serve daily workers, regular visitors, and conventioners in a timely manner that can be readily expanded for short periods to accommodate major events. This would include ways for inbound and outbound travelers to quickly get to and from KCI using key activity centers throughout the Kansas City region.

Key partners will include civic and business organizations, regional transit agencies, local and other key state government agencies, MARC stakeholders and the general public. Overall, this action plan will:

- seek to develop feasible, scalable, sustainable, and investable multi-modal strategies to improve transit connections for outbound traveler, visitor, and workforce transportation to KCI and other major destinations for regional travel, hospitality & leisure employment. These investments would support anticipated baseline growth in KCI travel and employment, scalable for large events as they occur.
- organize and lead public and private partners and broader community interests in a six-month process to assess market opportunities and design new services.
- include engagement and outreach efforts (surveys, focus groups, business roundtables and virtual public involvement) for adequate community buy-in and ownership.
- develop an action plan including priorities, timelines, responsible parties and potential funding alternatives.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued and posted online on MARC's website and through DemandStar. Three responses were received from the following teams:

- Kimley-Horn. Subconsultant support from Parsons & Assoc./ETC Institute
- Olsson (lead). Subconsultant support from Porchlight Insights
- WSP. Subconsultant support from Vireo/ETC Institute/Streetlight Data

Interviews with each of the three teams were held on Thursday March 23rd. Representatives from the Cities of Kansas City and Independence, MO; Unified Government of KCK/Wyandotte County; KC Aviation Department; Johnson County, KS; Greater KC Chamber of Commerce; KC Civic Council; MARC and KCATA were invited to participate in the selection panel.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

Upon review of these proposals and conclusion of the interviews, the selection panel recommended the following team ranking for negotiation of consultant services agreement.

1. **Kimley-Horn. Subconsultant support from Parsons & Assoc./ETC Institute (1st choice)**
2. WSP. Subconsultant support from Vireo/ETC Institute/Streetlight Data
3. Olsson. Subconsultant support from Burns & McDonnell/Porchlight Insights

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The project is budgeted at \$200,000. Funding sources include federal Consolidated Planning Grants (CPG) and local in-kind and cash match from regional partners.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This work was included in the MARC Board approved Transportation Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP was approved on November 22, 2022.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This work will be regional in nature and is anticipated to cover a majority of counties in the MARC MPO planning area and in the KCATA service area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with the preferred consultant team (Kimley-Horn) in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

STAFF CONTACT:

Martin Rivarola

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 4c
Healthy Environment

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve a comment letter to Environmental Protection Agency regarding the proposed revision to the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for particulate matter

BACKGROUND:

On January 5, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a proposed revision to the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). Particulate matter, one of the six criteria pollutants regulated under the Clean Air Act, are solid and liquid droplets that are directly emitted from sources like internal combustion engines, smokestacks, fires, and construction sites. These breathable particles are both generated locally and transported by wind from other areas. Exposure to these fine, breathable particles can cause short-term health impacts (e.g. irritation to eyes, nose, throat, shortness of breath, etc.), but also has serious long-term impacts including premature death in people with lung or heart disease, aggravated asthma, and decreased lung function. Children, older adults, and those with preexisting conditions are most vulnerable to the impacts of this pollution, and PM_{2.5} disproportionately impacts racial-ethnic minorities.

The PM_{2.5} NAAQS include an annual and a 24-hour standard. The proposed revisions primarily focus on making the primary annual standard more stringent, changing the current standard from 12 µg/m³ (micrograms/cubic meter) to within the range of 9-10 µg/m³. This proposed revision is in response to available scientific information that calls into question the adequacy of the public health protection afforded by the current primary annual PM_{2.5} standard and that it is appropriate to consider strengthening this standard. Recent studies suggest adverse health effects from exposure to PM_{2.5} are occurring at concentrations allowed by the current standards, with additional studies demonstrating improvements in public health, including reductions in mortality, following reductions in PM_{2.5} in areas with air quality below current standards.

It is expected that a change in the standard will impact the air quality attainment status of many areas throughout the country. Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) staff assessed annual PM_{2.5} data from the six PM_{2.5} monitors that serve our region. It was found that current (2020-2022) PM_{2.5} design values for two monitors in the Kansas City region have been trending upwards—one regional monitor (Kansas City, KS) exceeds 10 µg/m³ and an additional area monitor (Heritage Park) exceeds 8 µg/m³. It is currently unclear what is causing these trends to rise. If these trends persist, all or part of the Kansas City region could be at risk of air quality non-attainment.

While non-attainment of a more stringent PM_{2.5} standard is not desirable for our region, the Air Quality Forum supports a more stringent standard because the current one is not adequately protecting public health and could allow thousands of deaths per year. The Air Quality Forum does not advocate for a specific concentration but supports a standard within the range of 8-10 µg/m³, which was recommended by most of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee members.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

Additionally, the Air Quality Forum urges EPA to 1) provide state and local government funding and resources to support the process of developing new state implementation plans, 2) pursue a strong federal program which could help control emissions nationwide and 3) incorporate consideration to exempt exceptional natural events that may impact emissions in determining attainment and compliance with new NAAQS for PM2.5.

EPA comments are due by March 28, 2023.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Air Quality Forum approved the comment letter at its March meeting.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Particulate matter pollution impacts all MARC counties, However, increasing levels of PM2.5 have been observed in monitoring data from the Heartland Park monitor in Overland Park and the monitor near downtown Kansas City, Kansas

EXHIBITS:

Draft comment letter to EPA.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the submission of the comment letter to EPA.

STAFF CONTACT:

Karen Clawson

600 Broadway, Suite 200
Kansas City, Missouri 64105-1659

816-474-4240
816-421-7758 FAX
marcinfo@marc.org
www.marc.org



March 28, 2023

Environmental Protection Agency
EPA Docket Center, Air and Radiation Docket
Mail code: 28221T
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Docket ID No. EPA-HQ- OAR-2015-0072

To Whom It May Concern:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Air Quality Forum, created in accordance with Section 174 of the Clean Air Act to coordinate the development and implementation of air quality policy in the bi-state Kansas City region, offers the following comments on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed rule regarding the revision of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM2.5.

EPA has stated unequivocally that the current standard does not adequately protect public health and has estimated through a quantitative risk assessment that the current primary standard could allow thousands of PM2.5 related death each year. Consequently, the Air Quality Forum strongly supports EPA's proposal to establish a primary annual PM2.5 standard more stringent than the current limit of 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and within the range of 8-10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ recommended by a majority of Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee members. While the Air Quality Forum does not advocate adoption of a specific concentration, we urge EPA to continue considering the weight of scientific evidence regarding the health effects of fine particulate matter and to abide by the Clean Air Act requirement to set the primary standard at a level which will protect the health and lives of our most sensitive and overburdened populations.

EPA has noted that a more stringent standard may substantially increase the number of PM2.5 nonattainment areas. Advancing a more aggressive standard will involve many new communities in significant planning efforts and potential regulatory repercussions, and our metropolitan region may be impacted: current (2020-2022) PM2.5 design values in the Kansas City region have been trending upwards, one regional monitor exceeds 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and an additional area monitor exceeds 8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. It will be essential that EPA provide state and local governments with adequate funding and other resources to support the increased level of planning, education, public participation, implementation and enforcement that will be needed for new state implementation plans. While we understand that monitoring costs are intended to be cost neutral, when the new, more stringent, federal standard is implemented, additional program resources and support for communities striving to meet that standard will be critical.

Chair
Carson Ross
Mayor
Blue Springs,
Missouri

1st Vice Chair
Janeé Hanzlick
Commissioner
Johnson County,
Kansas

2nd Vice Chair
Beto Lopez
Mayor Pro Tem
Lee's Summit,
Missouri

Treasurer
Damien Boley
Mayor
Smithville,
Missouri

Secretary
Holly Grummert
Councilmember
Overland Park,
Kansas

Executive Director
David A. Warm

We urge EPA to develop a broad national strategy for bringing non-attainment areas into compliance with the new PM2.5 standard. While reducing emissions at the local level remains a high priority for our region, many metropolitan areas throughout the country routinely experience PM2.5 concentrations influenced by transported airborne pollution, large industry and agricultural emissions and transportation networks extending beyond their jurisdictions. For these reasons, we believe that a strong federal program which controls emissions nationwide may be the most appropriate and equitable approach to promote compliance with the new standard. We also urge EPA to incorporate considerations to exempt exceptional natural events that may impact emissions in determining attainment and compliance with new NAAQS for PM2.5.

The MARC Board of Directors, which consists of 33 local elected officials from the Kansas City region, has endorsed the Air Quality Forum's position on the proposed NAAQS revision. Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please contact Karen Clawson, MARC Air Quality Program Manager at 816-701-8255 or kclawson@marc.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Angela Markley, Unified Government Commission
Kansas Co-Chair, Air Quality Forum

Carson Ross, Mayor of Blue Springs, Missouri
Chairman, MARC Board of Directors

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

Month 2023

Item No. 4d

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

REPORT: Regional Preventive Maintenance Program Update

BACKGROUND:

Title IV of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), enacted on December 27, 2020, appropriated \$10,000,000,000 across the country to provide funding to address coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) impacts related to transportation programs. The region's final appropriation was \$8.3 million

A portion of the CRRSAA funds were suballocated to urbanized areas with a population over 200,000 in the same manner as the Surface Transportation Block Grant program funds. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has the responsibility of determining funding priorities.

MARC explored options under the Special Authority provisions of CRRSAA for preventive maintenance activities on local roadways to address deferred maintenance needs for area cities and counties. In February 2022 MARC's Board approved funding allocation and program design for a roadway preventive maintenance overlay program (Regional Preventive Maintenance Program (RPM) in FFY 2023.

The RPM allocated funding to counties and cities based on population with a "minimum-allocation" approach for cities with populations between 5,000 and 10,000. The program provided a minimum of \$50,000 to each community between 5-10k population with remaining funds distributed based on population.

The program anticipates soliciting bids in April 2023 to meet the spring 2023 construction period and finalizing any remaining routes in 2024. Bid letting will include four packages. One for each MO county (Cass, Clay, Jackson and Platte) with appropriate cities in that county.

Program criteria:

- Maximize federal funds at 100% participation to the extent possible, with provisions for local governments to cover the costs of any change orders or overruns.
- Use CRRSAA funds for program administration, preliminary and construction engineering.
- Focus on local roadways not on the Federal Aid Highway system providing maximum flexibility for program implementation.
- Focused on routes that connect neighboring jurisdictions, where practical.
- Avoid routes that will require costly retrofits under Americans With Disabilities Act requirements or complete required ADA upgrades with local funds prior to contracting for CRRSAA-funded preventive maintenance.
- Avoid routes that will require extensive base or pavement repair prior to any preventive maintenance work.
- Preventive maintenance options are mill & overlay or micro surfacing contracts (including striping) as needed.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

Major activities include:

Activity	Outcome
CRRSA allocation for engineering/construction	\$8.3 million
Design/construction engineering budget	\$1.4 million
Construction budget	\$6.8 million
Project administration	\$0.1 million
Construction schedule	Spring 2023 & 2024
Construction bids	March/April 2023
Number of jurisdictions	20 cities 4 counties
Overlay miles	

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Cass, Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties in Missouri.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT

Ron Achelpohl

Darryl Fields

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 4e1

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

REPORT: Potential changes to Missouri transportation funding process

BACKGROUND:

Article 30 of the Missouri State Constitution currently deposits all motor fuel revenues not distributed to cities, counties, and the Department of Revenue into the State Road Fund, which is controlled by the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission and “stands appropriated without further legislative action”.

A bill has recently passed the Missouri House ([HJR 37](#)) and is under consideration in the Senate to call a statewide election to amend this provision of the state constitution and make these funds subject to annual legislative appropriation.

Staff is monitoring this issue as it has the potential to result in significant changes in the distribution of state transportation funding policy and the current statewide planning framework with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) which engages both the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and local governments in developing priorities for state system projects in the Kansas City area.

Staff will report on the current status of this issue at the meeting.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

This proposal has the potential for significant changes in the distribution of state transportation funding policy and the current statewide planning framework with MoDOT which engages both MARC and local governments in developing priorities for state system projects in the Kansas City area.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Unknown.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all Missouri regions.

EXHIBITS:

Missouri House bill [HJR 37](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 4e2
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

REPORT: Early education initiatives in Kansas and Missouri

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) state policy agenda offers broad policy statements aligned with our program areas, including Quality Early Learning. This agenda provides a frame for legislation that is tracked. For this legislative session, MARC's Department of Early Learning is focused on increased access to home visitation programs; reducing barriers to childcare subsidy access; increasing the number of individuals in the early learning workforce pipeline; increased investment in early learning programs.

Kansas

Child Care Safety Standards - [SB 282](#)

This bill seeks to make several safety standard changes including shifting authority to inspect childcare programs from local public health authority to the state, putting statewide limits on childcare facility training and credential requirements, and increasing the number of children a staff member can care for (child-to-staff ratios). The bill also would allow 16-year-olds on staff to solely supervise children in care. Standards for care are being placed into law with this bill which creates a system that is difficult to change.

Tax Credit - [SB 164](#)

SB 164 seeks to provide a \$2,000 income tax credit to Kansans who work in licensed childcare facilities. This credit would be deducted from the taxpayer's income tax liability. While not the entire solution to increasing members of the childcare workforce, this bill incentivizes working in the field of early learning and care.

Missouri

Preschool Expansion - [SB 495/](#)[HB 833](#)

These bills seek to expand school district and charter school state aid to all four-year-olds that are eligible for free and reduced lunch to attend preschool. Currently, state aid is capped at 4% of the total number of K-12 children that qualify for free and reduced-price lunch. Services can be provided by the school districts and charters, or they are able to contract with eligible community-based providers. Passage of these bills could expand access to preschool within the Missouri counties in the MARC region.

Child Care Subsidy Rates - [HB 2](#)

This bill seeks to increase subsidy reimbursement rates to the 58th percentile of the market rate. This is getting the state closer to the recommended 75th percentile of the market rate, however, continued targeted increases are needed. The number of licensed providers accepting subsidy in Missouri has decreased by 40% over the past 10 years. This bill would be a step towards increasing the reimbursement that providers receive for providing early learning and care services to families that are working and/or receiving job training.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

Child Care Tax Credits - [SB 509](#)/[HB 870](#)

Three new state tax credit programs are being proposed:

- Contribution tax credit for corporations, charitable organizations, individuals, and partnerships for up to 75% of a verified contribution to a licensed childcare facility.
- Employer-provided childcare assistance tax credit for up to 30% of and employers' eligible childcare expenditures.
- Childcare providers tax credit for payroll tax withholdings and up to 30% of eligible capital improvements to childcare facility.
 - Caps of \$200,000 per taxpayer and \$20 million per calendar year.

The intent of these programs is to incentivize cost share participation and financial support from employers and mitigate ongoing costs for childcare providers.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

All cities and counties in the MARC region would be impacted by the legislation being proposed by their respective states.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Jovanna Rohs
Kyle Matchell

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 6a

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve minutes of the February 28, 2023 Board meeting

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the February 28, 2023 meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the February 28, 2023 meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

David Warm
McKenzie Neds



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SUMMARY
February 28, 2023
12:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Carson Ross, Blue Springs, MO - MARC Board Chair
Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, City of Lee's Summit, MO - MARC Board 2nd Vice Chair
Mayor Damien Boley, Smithville, MO - MARC Board Treasurer
Councilmember Holly Grummert, City of Overland Park, KS - MARC Board Secretary
Mayor Mike Boehm, Lenexa, KS
Councilmember Eric Bunch, Kansas City, MO
Councilmember Brandon Ellington, Kansas City, MO
Presiding Commissioner Scott Fricker, Platte County, MO
Presiding Commissioner Billy Gaines, Ray County, MO
Mayor/CEO Tyrone Garner, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
Councilmember Logan Heley, City of Overland Park, KS
Councilmember Dan Hobart, City of Independence, MO
Auditor Victor Hurlbert, Clay County, MO
Commissioner Angela Markley, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
Mayor Eric Mikkelsen, City of Prairie Village, KS
Presiding Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, MO
Mayor Randy Pogue, City of Kearney, MO
Commission Chairman, Rob Roberts, Miami County, KS
Commission Chairman, Doug Smith, Leavenworth County, KS
Mayor Rick Walker, City of De Soto, KS
County Executive Frank White Jr., Jackson County, MO
Commissioner Dagmar Wood, Platte County, MO

STAFF PRESENT

Executive Director David Warm and other MARC staff

OTHERS

INTRODUCTIONS AND BOARD SHARING TIME

Mayor Carson Ross called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. and welcomed attendees. Due to the meeting being held remotely, Mayor Ross provided instructions for participation. He reported that staff would present on all the agenda items, provide an opportunity for comments and questions after each item, and ask for approval of all agenda items, as well as the consent agenda, with one vote at the end of the meeting. Members will have an opportunity to abstain or object to any items necessary during the final vote.

Self-introductions were made, and members shared items of interest from their jurisdictions.

DISCUSSION: Connected KC 2050 process and objectives update

Martin Rivarola presented the Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan, branded as a Connected KC2050, is one of the most important planning products that we develop as an agency. The last update to the current plan was adopted by the Board of Directors in 2020, in this update will be due for completion by June of 2025.

This plan starts building on a vision and striving towards a region of vibrant, connected green places with strong communities to support our successful, engaged, and healthy people; this vision was adopted by the Board of Directors 2017. This long-range metropolitan transportation plan builds on that vision and sets a regional vision for our transportation system by developing policies, strategies, and ultimately identifying significant projects implemented over the 30-year planning horizon. Looking out at 2050, this is work that is required of all metro areas of our size.

The following needs have been identified for the plan update: transportation infrastructure that is well coordinated with local land uses in our activity centers; well maintained and reliable system that promotes economic development and connects people to their jobs and housing opportunities; residents generally need access to more walkable, complete streets with housing and transportation; infrastructure that reduces fatalities, serious injuries, and encourages active mode modes of transportation; system that protects air and water quality while reduces energy consumption; prepare for the arrival of emerging new transportation technologies; and the system needs sustainable funding in order to be able to support future investments.

The following items have been identified as policy goals for the Connected KC2050 plan: system that enables access to all activities; healthy communities and individuals with safe and secure places to live and with clean air to breathe; investments that reduce pollution and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; a range of transportation choices for ease of travel for public health and environmental benefit; system that supports the efficient movement of people and goods that promotes economic development.

The plan also identifies the recurring strategies of how to accomplish these needs / goals: focus our energy around on key activity centers and the quarters that connect them; ensure the system builds resilience and mitigates climate risks; identify new sources of private and public funding in order to advance our priorities; choose multi benefit investments that impact many outcome areas such as, complete streets and public transit; and finally manage and share reliable data to prepare for these new transportation technologies.

The plan identifies \$52 billion in revenues and expenditures and approximately 450 projects over the 30-year planning horizon to 2050. It forecasts a modest increase in transit services and small roadway capacity increases for our region, a steady population (23%) and job (21%) growth in our region, and a 9% decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, which is a positive step but does not match our climate related goals.

MARC staff have identified objectives and would like to engage in conversation about whether the Board shares those or if there were other things your jurisdictions would like to add. Procedural objectives include: inventory projects and strategies, advance new planning work that has been implemented, like the Climate Action Plan, develop a process to manage MTP amendments in a more streamlined manner, and refresh data, needs assessments, etc. Financial objectives include: account for federal and state legislation that have provided additional resources, account for increased costs due to inflation, and find ways that we can advance funding strategies for transit and multimodal infrastructure. Outreach and engagement objectives include: better and quality engagement with disadvantaged populations, rural groups with low income and minority populations; stronger buy in from stakeholders. Policy objectives include: identifying emerging workforce transportation needs and constraints and integrate housing considerations.

Since 2020, when the plan was adopted, a global pandemic had a significant impact on our travel and employment patterns in the form of telecommuting activity, additional funding from the federal and state level but that was met with a reduction in purchasing power due to inflation. As a region, we are growing more compactly than in the past. In the last decade, most of our growth was on the outskirts but in the last census, we saw 40% of our growth was concentrated in already developed areas.

This plan update will be a 2 ½ year process that kicked off earlier this year. And engagement will look differently depending on which stage we are in until the work is completed in 2025.

Presiding Commissioner Jerry Nolte commented that at the February TTPC meeting, he mentioned some of the communities on the outskirts, like the Northland, are less dense but are also high growth. And he believes communities like these should be considered when funding and project selection are being decided to make it more equitable when it comes to those outlying communities. He also mentioned that we should evaluate where the greatest need is but also where those projects can create the greatest impact and where we can get the most “bang for our buck”.

Mayor Eric Mikkelsen asked what assumptions and predictions the plan considers for car ownership in the future on a per capita basis? He is reading that younger generations are not as interested in owning vehicles for transportation.

Martin answered that during the scenario planning process, the models will be tested with different growth and land use assumptions to see the possible outcomes, but those assumptions are still in the process of being built.

Councilmember Dan Hobart asked if there had been any discussion about the expansion of the streetcar light rail?

Martin answered that there is a current planning work for other corridors that may be the next in line, but funding is a restraint for several of those projects. There are currently two expansion projects that are funded and moving forward, they are towards the river market and south towards UMKC.

Mayor Mike Boehm commented that in general as we plan for long range transportation, percentages speak but they don't tell the whole story and raw data is important. A 2% increase of 10 is 12. It impacted 2 digits whatever it is versus 2% of

500,000. So while it sounds like incomparable advancement, the true impacts are significantly different. I think we lose sight of that when percentages are thrown around.

Commissioner Dagmar Wood reiterated what Commissioner Nolte said and wanted to expand. That it looks like the Northland in Kansas City is receiving about 80% of the permits that are being issued. Which means in the Northland, the 1st and the third fastest growing counties in the state are in this region. And she believes that Nolte is right that we need to look at how we're scoring projects so that we're not docking development and infrastructure projects where you're trying to get ahead of development more cheaply.

Martin explained that the plan has those procedural adjustments that need to be considered as the plan moves forward and it will impact our investments both through the sub allocated processes and others.

Councilmember Logan Heley commented that as an Overland Park resident, he thinks that we need to get serious about our regional transit funding mechanism and I hope that that can be addressed in the next couple of years. And then also there is a lot of talk about electric vehicles, but I'm hearing more and more about the popularity of electric bicycles. So, I think that's something else to consider, especially as we think about the percentage of bike trip increase.

Councilmember Holly Grummert asked if the plan was thinking about education around the new stadium.

Martin clarified that she was discussing the potential stadium location downtown. And explained that work was not specifically being looked at, but the plan looks at different modes and percentage of trips that are made into the downtown and surrounding areas.

Commissioner Jerry Nolte commented that it might be a little early to assume that location and new stadium would be downtown because there are other options on the table.

DISCUSSION: Opioid Crisis in the Kansas City Region

Bridgette Schaffer, Health Director at Jackson County Public Health Department presented on the opioid crisis in the region. For context, we have had three waves of opioid overdose deaths, the first wave back in 1999 was really the overall rise in and prescription opioid overdose deaths. Then in 2010, we started to see a second wave related to heroin overdose deaths and then 2013, the rise in synthetic opioids overdose deaths. Synthetic overdose or opioids is really referring to fentanyl, oxycontin, hydrocodone, tramadol, etc. those prescription painkillers that are considered opioids. In Kansas, overdose deaths by those synthetic opioids increased 116% from 2020 to 2021. And in Missouri, overdose deaths by non-heroin opioids increased 21% between 2020 and 2021. Looking at the Kansas City region, there is a higher number of deaths in the counties in our Kansas City region but when you look at the rates of deaths compared to other smaller counties, the rates are smaller than some of those other more rural counties. Overall counts of deaths in both Jackson County and the Saint Louis side are higher but when you look at that from a

population perspective, those rates are a little bit lower than some of the rural communities. I know this doesn't encompass all communities here in the Kansas City region, but I did want to share that there was a civil lawsuit against the nation's leading pharmaceutical companies for their deceptive marketing strategies related to painkillers, and which led to the overdoses and deaths in our areas and our communities. Kansas is receiving \$45 million of opioid settlement funds, and Missouri \$458 million. 60% of that is staying at the state level with the department of mental health.

The County Executive, Frank White, asked the Health Department to put together some recommendations on how to allocate these opioid funds and what we should be doing in our communities. Really, the guiding principles is that we want to save lives. As an example, in Oak Grove, four students before the start of the school year had overdoses and one died. We also want to have a focus on equity because this impacts people differently, but we do see socioeconomic status plays a part into housing instability and despair, feelings of helplessness or depression and those all impact whether someone may or may not experience an overdose. We want our actions to be evidence based and we need to improve our systems and our collaboration among not only community stakeholders but also including people that have been affected by overdoses and improve our data systems and capacity.

The big four priority areas within the plan, are systems improvement, harm reduction and access, improving capacity for surveillance and regional campaigns and communication. Systems improvement includes participating with key community collaborations to respond effectively to the opioid crisis, actively engaging those with lived experience collaboration between public safety and public health in our work and really mapping out who has what resources, who is doing what, what are the gaps in our communities regarding opioid prevention and how can we move forward as a region in this prevention work. Harm reduction and access needs centralized naloxone distribution centers, increasing those throughout the community, and getting fentanyl test strips. We want to have a syringe exchange programs which is currently not allowable in our communities and that really does have an impact on harm reduction and access. And then finally improving capacity for surveillance. Unfortunately, during COVID surveillance became a dirty word but what we're really saying is we need better access to data, more real time data in our communities regarding overdose deaths and just overdoses in general. The latest data was from 2021 so it's hard to target interventions and what we're doing in our communities when we're using past data that isn't granular, doesn't look at those subpopulations that we're really wanting to understand, and see who's disproportionately impacted by opioid misuse and deaths.

And then lastly, why I'm here today is looking at regional communications and campaigns so we can work together. We don't want to have different messages going across the region and creating some disjointed communications work. We want to work together through MOHAKCA and MARC to put together information to reduce stigma, provide information on the resources that are available in our communities, and share different the harm reduction practices and strategies that are that are going available. There is a full report of what those recommendations are on our website.

VOTE/REPORT: Authorize an agreement with Luceo Images LLC to design a regional communication plan that addresses opioid use disorders and reduction of suicides
Marlene Nagel, Director of Community Development, presented that MARC staff have been working with the public health directors around the region and they have identified the need to work together to address the growing problem of opioid use disorder and overdoses. We have been working on a project to develop a regional outreach and awareness communications plan. Luceo Images, a consulting firm that was selected through a competitive process to assist us and our local health departments in developing a communications plan to guide information out to the public and to targeted audiences.

VOTE/REPORT: Authorize an application to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for the benefit of individuals experiencing homelessness in eastern Jackson County

Lauren Palmer, Director of Local Government Services presented a grant that is specifically for the benefit of people experiencing homelessness but it's through SAMHSA, so it's layered with that intent to help those experiencing homelessness access treatment for mental health disorders or substance abuse disorders. This request grew out of our work with the eastern Jackson County Shared Services initiative. You may remember that we reported to the board in October about work we were doing with that group around homelessness to develop what we called the Suburban Homelessness Action Plan for eastern Jackson County. There were a lot of recommendations and priorities identified in that plan, and one of the key priorities was identifying a need in this suburban area of eastern Jackson County for more homelessness outreach. When MARC saw this notice of funding opportunity from SAMHSA, it really aligned with those conversations that are happening in Eastern Jackson County.

MARC is working now with the two behavioral health organizations that serve catchment areas in that region covering the five cities of Blue Springs, Independence, Lee's Summit, Grandview, Raytown and a small portion of Kansas City, MO. The project narrative and budget details are not finalized yet but there is an aggressive deadline on the grant application, March 21st so the authorization needed to occur at this board meeting. Right now, the team is meeting weekly to firm up on what the plan will be for these funds. Generally, MARC is seeking funding for these agencies to add staff to do the boots on the ground outreach around homelessness and then working with the housing department, continuum of care to help connect people both to mental health services and to housing services.

Mayor Mike Boehm commented that there is always concern when we use grant money to hire new people because it ends and then what do you do? Lauren clarified that the new employees would be staff at the agency level, not MARC staff.

BRIEF REPORTS:

REPORT: Government Training Institute 2023 programs update

Shelly Bolling-Strickland provided updates about the changes within the GTI program. Based on feedback from some of our constituencies. For 2023, we are engaging in more of self-paced and blended open enrollment classes. Back in 2021, GTI started a Diversity Equity and Inclusion series that was a huge hit both for open enrollment and for custom work within jurisdictions. That module will be housed in our learning

management system, and we also took on another DEI class, Crossing the Bridge Together, to give DEI training for frontline staff which includes those that work in customer service, public works and etc. There is also a course library that's built into our learning management system that houses on-demand classes and just in time training, and individualized learning through LinkedIn learning and other resources. We do have self-paced courses that are already built into the LMS. For example, a coaching career development piece where those working in HR or looking to develop their career, they can take a class through the LMS. MARC also offers an active shooter response training class among others that are housed in the LMS, where they can take it on demand asynchronous at their own pace and at their own time. GTI recently launched a Data Academy for local governments or nonprofits looking to find guidance on storytelling and data visualization. The Administrative Professional Certificate Program has now been transformed into a local government professional certificate program where participants can build skills around Excel, managing conflict, customer service, and the like. And finally, we recently worked with Clay County to develop a supervisor training series, honing in on their fifty plus supervisors to work in and strengthen the areas of performance management, coaching and motivation, and managing conflict.

REPORT: 40th anniversary of the Regional 911 System

Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Communications Director, presenter that on February 14th of this year, we celebrated 40 years of 911 in the Kansas City region. This system this has grown tremendously, and the MARC Board of Directors have been a critical part of this, since the beginning. In 1967, the President's Commission on Law enforcement and Administration of Justice recommended that a 3 digit number be established for nationwide emergencies, and the number 911 was selected. In 1968, the first call was made in Alabama, but in our region, the first city to implement 911 was Blue Springs in 1970. And MARC became involved because apparently in 1973 there was a voluminous amount of phone bills sent to Blue Springs for 911 service, so they asked MARC to help keep track of all the phone bills. In 1981, a contract was signed with AT&T to establish 911 across the region, and in 1983 the MARC Board of directors agreed to cooperate on 911 installation in the region. The first call occurred in 1983 from within the region and in 1993 the equipment that was installed in 1983 had to be upgraded. It was then that MARC became the purchasing agent for all the 911 equipment in the region. In 1995, the first interlocal agreement between the MARC counties was signed which established the Public Safety Communications Board which now currently oversees the 911 system in the region.

When originally started, the system handled 800,000 calls a year and was based on landline telephone service across the region, so we knew where your phone was because you paid your phone bill and when you called 911, we knew where to go. But once everyone got cellphones, you can now call 911 and walk all over the place, which makes it very difficult to find you. This also made our call volume double, meaning the system now handles 1.5 million 911 calls a year, along with 4.3 million admin calls into the PSAPS across the region. Our regional system provides 911 service to 43 PSAPs across the nine MARC counties and we also provide service to Linn County and Atchison County in Kansas.

We are working to upgrade our system to get next Generation 911 compliant. We are installing IP routers to double the size of our network or the bandwidth for our

microwave network to handle all the future technologies that will be able to dial 911, like smartwatches. Congratulations to the MARC Board for all your efforts over the years on this great example of regional cooperation.

VOTE/REPORT: Authorize contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to advance nutrition initiatives under the Meal Production Capacity and Infrastructure Expansion Program

Melody Elston, Interim Aging and Adult Services Director, presented Aging services is embarking on an exciting new endeavor as we are in the very early stages of purchasing a building. This opportunity is through the Department of Health and Senior Services, which has awarded The Aging Department with \$2.9 million to either purchase, renovate, or upfit a facility for home delivered meals. We are also looking at purchasing freezer pods and installing new generator generators for our senior centers. The facility must be owned by MARC because this is one time funding from the state of Missouri which will not be responsible for any property upkeep. The state has also allowed us a lot of flexibility with purchasing options for location of the facility. The meal repack facility is going to help us provide fresh produce, fresh bread, and fresh milk while upgrading our current home delivered meals. We have contracted with a mass distribution company to provide frozen delivered meals, which means there is no fresh bread or fruit and we're looking at nutrition as a holistic view to serve our older adults. With the nutrition repack facility, we'd be able to provide locally harvested produce from Senior Age, which is the Area Agency on Aging in Springfield, MO. They produce and prepare locally harvested produce, cook the food, and then they flash freeze the food in Springfield, and then they ship to us. Once at the nutrition repack facility, we'd be able to sort those meals out based on delivery options and distribute them throughout our region.

Some of the criteria we're looking for in the building will be a central location in Jackson County hopefully in the urban core, ample parking for our delivery vehicles to come in and out, docks for loading, but as I mentioned earlier, it's a repack facility, so there will not be a kitchen because no cooking will be taking place. Our next steps are we are looking to locate a commercial realtor through the RFP process and then select a building that identifies the needs of our assembly line production.

REPORT: Carbon Reduction Program update

Tom Jacobs, Director of Environmental Programs presented the bipartisan infrastructure bill authorized the creation of a program called the Carbon Reduction Program. It provides for \$6 billion nationally with 65% of those funds flowing directly to metropolitan planning organizations. We are finding out ways to roll this money out so that it aligns with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Climate Action Plan. There is a variety of things that are eligible to be funded through this program that are specified either in the law or associated guidance. It ranges from EV charging, energy efficiency, street lights, alternative fuel vehicles, diesel retrofits, transportation demand management programs. However, in our discussion so far, there is an emphasis to support infrastructure associated with walking, biking and public transportation while doing so in a manner that that accommodates green infrastructure where possible. We convened a task force with membership from TTPC, AQF, SPPC, and the CEC. Our job is to figure out how we can make decisions on this, what might our priorities be, what might be our decision criteria? We worked through the end of last year and formulated the outlines of the proposal I'm sharing with you

today. In general terms, these funds are designed to pull carbon out of the transportation system, which means there are several eligible activities that can be funded through the grant, and it enables us to make progress on specified policies and strategies in our climate and transportation plan.

This call for projects that we hope to launch at the end of March would spend dollars from fiscal years 2022 - 2024 for a total of about \$14 million and these grants require 20% match. Our committee agreed that implementation projects will be favored, but planning is permissible only for transportation alternative projects. There was also conversation on what criteria might we use to evaluate projects and score them. Ultimately, the recommended criteria is a blend of sustainability and resilience criteria along with more traditional transportation metrics, including some of those that are included in our planning sustainable places program that will be reviewed by a joint committee from the other committees I mentioned earlier. Each of those committees might be able to review the slate of projects that project recommendations, and then final action would be taken by Total Transportation Policy Committee and the MARC Board of Directors. We are hoping to finalize this process by October of this year. The call for proposals will begin the end of March and due in mid-May.

REPORT: Parade of Hearts 2023 kickoff events

Lauren Palmer, Director of Local Government Services, presented the Parade of Hearts is coming back in 2023. It will be a smaller event this year, but they've already selected the artists that will contribute. MARC is not one of the beneficiaries for this year's program, but we're staying involved in a supporting role to provide technical assistance to help engage with cities and counties as needed while site selection is going on. Once we have a save the date for the kick-off event we will share it with you.

Lauren also shared a quick update on the regional resource sharing agreement that Jason White presented to the MARC Board in December. We are working to do outreach to communities to encourage them to adopt this document that is a recommendation of FEMA to help supplement our mutual aid agreements around the region. There are eight communities so far that have adopted the agreement and there are several others that are under review. This means they have indicated to us they are planning to schedule it for action by the governing body. If you don't know if your governing body is a part of this agreement, please reach out to Lauren so she can get you in touch with the correct emergency services staff.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Mr. Warm reminded the board that MARC's Regional Assembly is June 9th and we are currently accepting nominations for the Regional leadership Awards until February 28th so please get your nominations in.

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda

- a. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the January 24, 2023 Board Meeting
- b. VOTE: Authorize amendment to the contract with Beth Heslowitz to support continuing and new projects not to exceed \$83,000
- c. VOTE: Authorize grant application with Missouri Department of Natural Resources 604b water quality protection grant for \$50,000 and expend if awarded
- d. VOTE: Approve contract with Weather or Not, Inc. in the amount of \$77,571 to provide ozone forecasting for the 2023, 2024 and 2025 seasons
- e. VOTE: Approve 2023 traffic safety performance targets (PM 1)
- f. VOTE: Approve functional classification system updates for Missouri roadways
- g. VOTE: Authorization to receive Kansas Department of Transportation Innovative Technology Program funds and contract with Kansas State University to provide uncrewed aircraft system flight training
- h. VOTE: Authorize submission and acceptance of funds for the SFY 2024 Missouri Elderly & Handicapped Transportation Assistance Program Application
- i. VOTE: Authorize amendment to increase the City of Liberty Community Center agreement
- j. VOTE: Approve submission of the SFY 2024 area plan and budget to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
- k. VOTE: Approve 2023 air quality ozone season public outreach campaign media purchase estimates
- l. VOTE: Authorize a Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning grant application and acceptance in the amount of \$108,000 with the Kansas Department of Emergency Management for regional emergency services
- m. VOTE: Authorize contracts for a Government Training Institute custom training project with the Eastern Jackson County Shared Services Initiative for supervisory training
- n. VOTE: Authorize an agreement with Community Builders of Kansas City Eats for the Double Up Food Bucks - Heartland Program

MOTION: Eric Mikkelson moved for approval of all agenda items and the consent agenda, and Eric Bunch seconded. Mayor Ross asked if any member wanted to abstain or object to any of the agenda items. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6b

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize contract with Evergy in the amount of \$100,000 to develop a pilot urban heat island reduction initiative

BACKGROUND:

In 2018-2019, Evergy convened a series of meetings to explore the development of an urban heat island (UHI) reduction program. Discussions resumed last year, with many community stakeholders including local governments, nonprofits, and state agency representatives. Evergy plans to submit a fourth round of Missouri Energy Efficiency Investment Act programs to the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) in June 2023. Evergy intends to request support for a pilot heat island reduction project as part of this filing and requested that the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) lead a team to formulate the approach. If the PSC approves the filing, additional resources could become available in 2024 to support implementation.

MARC proposes to lead this initiative in partnership with Evergy, University of Missouri Kansas City, University of Kansas, and the full array of stakeholder involved in discussions to date. University partners will support scenario-based modeling to assess the effectiveness of different strategies, and develop an evaluation, monitoring and verification framework to support program activities.

Evergy's interest derives in part from a previous MARC [study](#) developed in partnership with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in 2019, as well as NOAA-funded research at The University of Missouri Kansas City (UMKC). [The Regional Climate Action Plan](#) also names UHI reduction as a key strategy.

What is an urban heat island?

An urban heat island is a metropolitan area that is significantly warmer than the rural areas surrounding it. In Kansas City, that difference may be up to seven degrees during the hot summer months. Increased heat, which will be exacerbated by climate change, poses significant challenges related to energy conservation, public health, public safety, air quality and more. Common mitigation strategies include tree planting, white and green roofs, alternatively colored pavement materials, and land use strategies to reduce parking areas and street widths.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$100,000
Source	Evergy contract
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$55,000
Contractual (UMKC and KU)	\$40,000
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	5,000

EXHIBITS:

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

[Evaluation of urban heat island mitigation strategies for the Kansas City region](#)

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This effort is expected to focus on one or more neighborhoods along the Independence Avenue corridor in Kansas City, Missouri to ensure a high level of environmental justice benefit while also creating an opportunity to leverage other significant federal transportation funds. As the project matures, opportunities to scale and/or replicate project strategies will be pursued.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an agreement with Evergy for an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to develop a pilot urban heat island reduction initiative

STAFF CONTACT:

Tom Jacobs

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6c

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize 2023 Call for Projects for Carbon Reduction Program funds

BACKGROUND:

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law establishes the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), which provides funds for projects designed to reduce transportation emissions, defined as carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from on-road highway sources. Congress funded this program at a \$6 billion dollar level, with 65% of resources allocated by formula to metropolitan planning organizations. The Kansas City region's share is \$23.5 million over five years.

CRP eligibility defined in the legislation includes about a dozen different [activities](#) that reduce carbon emissions from the transportation system, including such items as public transportation, transportation alternatives, travel demand management strategies and programs, or native landscaping on highway rights of way, among others.

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) convened a small task force that met three times during the fall of 2022 to define the process, priorities, and criteria that would guide the project selection process. Members of the committee included representatives from the Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC), Air Quality Forum (AQF), Sustainable Places Policy Committee (SPPC) and the Climate and Environment Council (CEC). The task force recommended that:

- A first call for projects be issued in early 2023 to allocate approximately \$14 million, including funds from FY22, FY23 and FY24. A second call in 2024 would take advantage of lessons learned from the first call and allocate the balance of funds from FY25-26.
- Up to half of the funds support projects in the priority area of collaborative, green, non-vehicular transportation alternatives. The balance of funds could meet this priority area or other eligible priorities identified by project sponsors.
- Project evaluation criteria blend sustainability/resilience factors with more traditional transportation project factors like those used in the Planning Sustainable Places program.
- A joint committee made up of representatives from TTPC (and relevant subcommittees), AQF, SPPC and CEC review projects for comment by AQF, SPPC and CEC, and then for approval by TTPC and the MARC Board of Directors.
- The project application and review process must be concluded before November 2023 to ensure that selected projects can be included in STIPs.

Program information was shared with TTPC and multiple other committees for review in February. No negative comments were received. Staff ask that TTPC, and then MARC Board, approve the proposed process for launch on March 30. Proposals would be due on May 19. Staff and committee reviews would occur during the summer, and be ready for public comment by September, followed by CEC review and TTPC/MARC Board approval in October. Staff currently is finalizing program guidance documents, review criteria, and application materials.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The process will guide the allocation of approximately \$23.5 million over five years. MARC will request its 1% project management fee from all selected projects.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

TTPC will consider action on this item on March 21, 2023.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the 2023 call for projects for Carbon Reduction Program funds.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tom Jacobs
Karen Clawson
Martin Rivarola

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 6d
Healthy Environment

ISSUE:

VOTE: Proposed Amendment to Air Quality Forum Bylaws

BACKGROUND:

The Air Quality Forum (AQF) operates under a set of bylaws that articulate the AQF's purpose, its membership and voting, and how it conducts business, among other items. The bylaws were last amended in 2014.

Last summer, Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) staff administered an evaluation survey to Air Quality Forum members to gauge the success of the committee, understand interest in air quality issues and ways staff can strengthen the committee to support a robust air quality agenda. The results of the survey indicated a need to review the membership of the committee and bylaws overall. Members suggested expanding community representation by adding additional public health representatives. In a full review of the bylaws, staff found that not all areas of the region were represented, and some municipalities were over-represented. In addition, to updating member representation, MARC staff has also included changes that reflect current practices among other committees which in turn allows for more flexibility in how the forum conducts its business. Below outlines the changes made to the membership structure. Additional changes to the bylaws can be found in the attached marked-up documents.

- Membership:
 - Members from Lee's Summit, Missouri and Miami County, Kansas were added.
 - Unified Government representation was reduced by one member and Kansas City, Missouri representation was reduced by two members.
 - Community group representation increased from five to seven members with the addition of two representatives from public health organizations, where the membership previously had one representative.
 - The total membership increased from 33 to 34 and the quorum increased from 10 to 11.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Air Quality Forum approved this bylaw revision at their February meeting.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

The Air Quality Forum serves the entire MARC region. Regions impacted by the amended membership structure include Lee's Summit, Missouri; Miami County, Kansas; Unified Government of Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, Kansas; and Kansas City, Missouri.

EXHIBITS:

[Air Quality Forum bylaws approved by the Air Quality Forum](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

Approved the proposed amendment to the Air Quality Forum bylaws.

STAFF CONTACT:

Karen Clawson

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6e

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve contract with Agile Mile to provide web-based, ride-matching software tool for the Mid-America Regional Council's RideshareKC program

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) RideshareKC program assists commuters with finding alternative transportation to driving alone. The program uses ride-matching software to assist registered commuters with finding carpools and travel buddies for riding the bus and biking, and logging commute trips to track various metrics including cost savings, health benefits, emissions saved, etc. The software also assists with management of MARC's annual Green Commute Challenge.

A request for proposals (RFP) was issued in January 2023 and MARC received three qualified proposals. Agile Mile, Inc. was selected based on qualifications and software features required by the RideshareKC program.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

An annual amount of \$40,800 has been negotiated with Agile Mile, Inc. Funding to support this expense is sourced from Missouri and Kansas Congestion Mitigation/ Air Quality funding, a program of the Federal Highway Administration.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$81,600
Source	Missouri and Kansas Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$81,600
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

EXHIBITS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a two-year contract with Agile Mile, Inc., with an option to extend the contract for one additional year, not to exceed \$81,600 (three-year total: \$122,400), to provide web-based ride-matching services for the RideshareKC program.

STAFF CONTACT:

Karen Clawson

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6f

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorization to receive Kansas Department of Transportation Innovative Technology Program Funds for the Operation Green Light program to lead a regional Kansas metro area crowd sourcing project

BACKGROUND

Operation Green Light (OGL) is an initiative that assists state and local governments that own and operate traffic signals on regional arterial roadways work together to coordinate traffic signal timing to improve traffic flow, reduce excessive fuel consumption and reduce emissions. Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) staff currently assists in the management and operation of traffic signal timing for over 755 intersections in 27 jurisdictions throughout the region.

MARC was awarded funding through the Kansas Department of Transportation's (KDOT) Innovative Technology Program to contract crowdsource data vendors for arterial performance measures. The objective of this project is to better manage the area arterials with available probe data that could come from a variety of sources.

Crowdsourcing is a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Everyday Counts Initiative to increase use of crowdsource technologies in operations. By leveraging crowdsourced data from mobile apps and social media in combination with traditional data sources, State and local agencies can improve traveler information, traffic incident and work zone management, weather response, and more.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

REVENUES	
Amount	\$230,000
Source	\$172,500 from KDOT's Innovative Technology Program and \$57,500 from OGL's 16 Kansas Partners agencies that include: Bonner Springs, Fairway, Kansas City, Lansing, Leavenworth, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Mission Woods, Olathe, Overland Park, Prairie Village, Roeland Park, Shawnee, Westwood
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$230,000

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation to receive Innovative Technology Program Funds to provide performance measures for the Operation Green Light (OGL) program.

STAFF CONTACT

Ron Achelpohl

Ray M. Webb

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6g

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize agreement with Cambridge Systematics for delivery of on-call traffic modeling support services

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) maintains the regional travel demand model for the bi-state, eight-county metropolitan planning area. Travel modeling is a key tool for developing a long-range metropolitan transportation plan (MTP). MARC performs most of the work for this program in-house. However, supplemental consultant support is needed from time to time. This support can consist of additional aid in model updates, assisting MARC in addressing regional modeling data requests, and conducting complex modeling associated with MTP plan updates.

Contracted services would include:

1. Support updates and refinements to travel demand and dynamic traffic assignment models
2. Troubleshoot travel model issues
3. Support modeling for updates to the MTP
4. Support environmental emissions model development
5. Provide advanced model recommendations, analysis, and improvements.

Using a qualifications-based, competitive selection process MARC advertised the project on DemandStar and MARC's website. Proposals were received from Warner Transportation Consulting, Inc. and Cambridge Systematics Inc. The selection committee, composed of the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and MARC staff, selected Cambridge Systematics as the preferred team. The maximum compensation paid by MARC for services is not to exceed \$50,000 for one year with two options to renew the agreement for one additional year.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

This project will use 2023 programmed Consolidated Planning Grant funds not to exceed \$50,000

REVENUES (Total = \$50,000)	
Amount	\$50,000
Source	Consolidated Planning Grant funds (CPG)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$50,000
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize a one-year agreement with Cambridge Systematics in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for delivery of On-Call Traffic Modeling Support Services.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eileen Yang

Martin Rivarola

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6h

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize consultant agreement for a Planning Sustainable Places project in Mission, Kansas

BACKGROUND:

For projects funded through Planning Sustainable Places (PSP), the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) will hold the contracts on individual projects, although the project leads and local match will be provided by the local sponsors. Details for the project located in Mission, Kansas are provided below. A qualifications-based competitive selection process was used in the selection of all consulting teams.

1: City of Mission, Kansas - Rock Creek Corridor Improvements: Downtown Center to East Gateway. This study seeks to develop, in partnership with local private and non-profit entities, improvements that are congruent with neighboring jurisdiction area improvements and build on the momentum created by other Planning Sustainable Places projects. Key components of the plan include:

- Study and develop a project plan for the Rock Creek corridor from Woodson Street in Mission's downtown commercial district to Roeland Drive at the city's East Gateway.
- Robust public and stakeholder engagement process.
- Evaluation of existing conditions within the study area for the Rock Creek channel: vacant and city-owned properties, connections impacting access and safety with pedestrian/bike and vehicular intersectionality, impervious/pervious surfaces, existing amenities and key points of interest, visual and functional attributes of the study area.
- Potential improvements that promote economic development, walkability/bike-ability, environmental sustainability, and address impacted vulnerable populations.
- Final conceptual designs and itemized budget to guide future implementation project(s) within the study area.

The team of Wilson & Company, Hoxie Collective, SWT Design, TJ Brown & Associates and Single Wing Creative, was selected for this project.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The projects will use Planning Sustainable Places (Federal STP) funding with a required local match as follows:

1. City of Mission, Kansas: Planning Sustainable Places (Federal STP) funding (\$80,000) with the required local match of \$20,000 provided by the City of Mission, Kansas.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Board authorized the award of the PSP funds to the two projects and the receipt of their local match on September 27, 2022.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

The consultant contracts involve the jurisdiction of Mission, Kansas

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the agreement with the team of Wilson & Company, Hoxie Collective, SWT Design, TJ Brown & Associates and Single Wing Creative, for the Rock Creek Corridor Improvements study for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

STAFF CONTACT:

Beth Dawson
Martin Rivarola
Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6i

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve the funding recommendations for the remaining 2023 Kansas Planning Sustainable Places funds and authorize execution of related agreements and receipts of funds

BACKGROUND:

The Kansas City region's vibrant, green and connected centers and corridors are central to the region's long-range transportation plan, *Connected KC 2050 (CKC 2050)*. The planning program, Planning Sustainable Places (PSP), is an initiative to provide communities with planning resources to advance sustainable projects in our region's centers and corridors since 2013. In 2023 the tenth anniversary of the PSP program will be celebrated.

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) issued a call for projects during the spring of 2022 but not all the 2023 Kansas funds were programmed. MARC issued a supplementary call for projects for the remaining Kansas funds that closed on January 27, 2023. MARC staff conducted an initial review and scoring of the 5 applications and worked with the Sustainable Places Policy Committee (SPPC) to develop a recommended list of awards on March 10, 2023. The recommended list is available on the SPPC [website](#) and in your board packet.

The recommendations before you include 4 planning projects from across the region:

- 3 Sustainable Places Plans
- 1 Implementation Activities

2023 Kansas Supplemental Funding Recommendation | Planning Sustainable Places

Project Number	Primary Applicant	Project Title	ProjectType	Project Score	Score Rank	Federal Amount Requested	Local	Recommended		Revised Total
								%	Funding	
15	City of Mission, KS	Mission City-Wide Bike/Ped & Trail Connections Study	Sustainable Places Plan	91	1	\$ 55,000	\$ 15,000		\$ 53,000	\$ 68,000
20	City of De Soto, KS	83rd Street and Lexington Ave Corridor Study	Sustainable Places Plan	70	3	\$ 150,000	\$ 40,000	min.	\$ 60,000	\$100,000
17	City of Basehor, KS	Basehor Downtown Corridor Improvement Plan	Sustainable Places Plan	63	4	\$ 36,000	\$ 9,000	min.	\$ 21,000	\$ 30,000
22	City of Osawatomie, KS	Corridor Planning for Flint Hills to Katy Trail Connection	Sustainable Places Plan	62	5	\$ 48,000	\$ 12,000		\$ -	\$ -
18	City of Overland Park, KS	College and Metcalf Overlay District	Implementation Activities	78	2	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,000	min.	\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000
Total									\$ 159,000	\$248,000
Available									\$ 159,000	
Difference									0	
Funded Projects									4	4

Complete street plans, corridor plans, and connectivity plans are just some of the projects included in the proposed list. These projects will be developed with a focus on the integration of transportation, land use and environment, and will include robust citizen engagement. The SPPC weighed several considerations when developing the list including project scores, scalability, local jurisdiction priorities, geography, replicability, and alignment with PSP program objectives. Local sponsors are responsible for local match requirements. The consultant contracts for the projects will be held by MARC, authorization for those individual contracts will be brought to the MARC Board after they have been negotiated.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
KS Surface Transportation Program (FFY 2023)	\$ 159,000
Local Match from Project Sponsors	\$ 89,000
Transportation Fee	\$ 1,590
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$ 1,590
Contractual	\$ 248,000

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Sustainable Places Policy Committee approved the presented funding recommendation on March 10, 2023. The Total Transportation Policy Committee will be considering the recommendation at their March 21, 2023 meeting.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

The recommended projects include the jurisdictions of: Basehor, Kansas; De Soto, Kansas; Mission, Kansas; and Overland Park, Kansas

EXHIBITS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve project funding for the Planning Sustainable Places Program as presented, authorize receipt of local match funds from project sponsors, receipt of \$159,000 from the Kansas Surface Transportation Program, and authorize the release of Request for Proposals (RFPs) for selected projects under MARC management.

STAFF CONTACT:

Beth Dawson
Martin Rivarola
Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6j

Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve an agreement with Motorola Solutions to purchase VESTA 911 Automatic Abandoned Callback call handling solution for use at the Kansas City Police Department Public Safety Answering Point

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Public Safety received a request to cost share the purchase of the Automatic Abandoned Callback (AAC) module implementation to assist with call handling for the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department Public safety Answering Point (PSAP).

The Kansas City, Missouri Police Department call-takers handled approximately 998,000 incoming calls and texts within a one-year period with an estimated 10%, 98,000 of those calls being abandoned prior to a call-taking answering. Currently, abandoned calls require a manual call back to determine if help was needed. With the implementation of the Automatic Abandoned Callback feature, this process will become seamless, eliminating time consuming manual callbacks, and increasing overall efficiency.

The Public Safety Communications Board declined to fund the cost share and declined to purchase the Automated Abandoned Callback solution for the entire region. The Public Safety Communications Board did approve the software purchase strictly for the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department because funding for this equipment and software maintenance was secured by KCPD through Jackson County and their 911 fund. Once purchased, the AAC equipment will become property of MARC.

Jackson County agreed to cover the initial equipment purchase and the first four years of software maintenance costs of \$120,644.68.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The Motorola proposal for the Automatic Abandoned Callback module and four years of maintenance is \$120,644.67, to be covered by Jackson County.

The Public Safety Communications Board will reevaluate software support in 2028.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$120,644.67
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Capital Projects) from Jackson County, Missouri
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$120,644.67
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This request was approved by the Public Safety Communications Board on January 25, 2023.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This request primarily supports the Kansas City Missouri Police Department PSAP.

EXHIBITS:

[Motorola Solutions VESTA 9-1-1 ACC Firm Proposal](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the agreement with Motorola Solutions to purchase Motorola Automatic Abandon Callback solution and four years of software maintenance for the Kansas City Missouri Police Department PSAP

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

Nikki Thomas



Stacey Graves
Chief of Police

Headquarters Building

1125 Locust
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
www.kcpd.org

Office (816) 234-5000

January 4, 2023

Eric Winebrenner
Public Safety Program Director
Mid-America Regional Council
600 Broadway,
Kansas City, MO 64105

Dear Mr. Winebrenner:

The Kansas City, Missouri Police Department is submitting a cost share request regarding the Automatic Abandoned Callback software module we are requesting be added to the KCMO Vesta 911 systems installed at KCPD Headquarters and South Patrol. In 2021, KCPD Call Takers handled 998,437 incoming calls and texts. Of those incoming calls, 98,742 were abandoned prior to a Call Taker answering requiring a manual call back to determine if help was needed.

Implementing the Automatic Abandoned Callback will help KCPD provide improved service to our citizens, help eliminate misdials without manual callbacks, and we hope it will reduce call waiting times. With many vacant positions, the reduced staffing has increased the work load per Call Taker and we hope to eliminate some of that heavy workload.

Jackson County has agreed to pay for the initial purchase and implementation and the first 4 years of maintenance. Total cost for purchase, implementation, and extended warranty is \$128,676.87. KCPD is asking for the annual maintenance fees after the 4 year warranty period to be cost shared. Annual cost for the warranty period in the attached quote is \$14,985.66. Costs starting in year five of maintenance coverage are undetermined, but Technical Manager Hassan Al Rubaie indicates an expected 10% increase which would be \$16,484.23. Attached is the quote from Motorola outlining the initial costs. Thank you for your assistance in considering this cost share request; should you have any questions, please contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Derek McCollum".

Deputy Chief Derek McCollum
Commander

Executive Services Bureau
Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
1125 Locust St
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
816-234-5021

Doug.Niemeier@kcpd.org

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 6k
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency to support the Missouri Local Emergency Planning District

BACKGROUND:

Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Emergency Services Department supports the Missouri Local Emergency Planning District (MO LEPD) with their hazardous materials preparedness activities. The MO LEPD includes Clay, Platte, Jackson, Ray, and Cass Counties in Missouri. The MO LEPD Region A has entered into a contract with MARC to provide administrative, planning, training, and exercise support. The MO LEPD collects and maintains information on the types and quantities of hazardous materials at facilities throughout the metropolitan area that are required to report; develops and updates a regional hazardous materials plan; conducts hazardous materials training courses and exercises; provides technical assistance to counties in developing their local operational plans; and works on state and federal public policy issues related to hazardous materials and emergency response.

Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) notified MARC on February 22, 2023, about the release of a new Local Emergency Planning Commission/Local Emergency Planning District Grant program. The area hazmat teams and LEPD leadership met to discuss the opportunity and prioritize needs. The application seeks funding to improve the current remote area monitoring capability of the four hazmat teams with an investment in 16 (four per team) Blacklinesafety G7 EXO Area Monitors. They are easier to set up and operate than the current equipment that is outdated and needs to be replaced. Additionally, the battery life is significantly longer than the current system.

The agencies receiving the devices would be:

- Central Jackson County Fire Protection District
- Independence Fire Department
- Kansas City, Missouri Fire Department
- Lee's Summit Fire Department

Staff received a quote from Archview Services which is the sole-source distributor for the MARC region. The vendor indicated it could meet the grant timeline to complete procurement, delivery, invoicing, processing and claim for grant reimbursement by May 15, 2023.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$100,000
Source	Local Emergency Planning Commission/Local Emergency Planning District
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$100,000

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION:

On March 9, 2023, the LEPD approved submitting an application for the application as described.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Four agencies will receive the devices, and all counties in the MARC region benefit from this grant. Although the application is submitted on behalf of Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties in Missouri, the equipment is deployable in the entire MARC region.

EXHIBITS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

The MARC executive director authorized administrative submission of the grant application prior to the deadline on March 17, 2023. Staff recommends retroactive approval of the application and, if awarded, authorization to accept and expend up to \$100,000 of Local Emergency Planning Commission/Local Emergency Planning District grant funds for hazmat equipment.

STAFF CONTACT:

Erin Lynch

John Davis

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6l

Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize issuance of subaward agreements for the Fiscal Year 2022 Urban Area Security Initiative grant

BACKGROUND:

The Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program originated following the attacks of September 11, 2001. The UASI program provides funding to enhance regional preparedness and capabilities in designated high-threat, high-density areas to build, sustain, and deliver the capabilities necessary to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism. Eligibility is determined yearly through an analysis of the relative risk of terrorism faced by the 100 most populous Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in the United States, in accordance with the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended.

The Kansas City Urban Area applied for and received \$1.5 million in FY 2022. This action was approved by the MARC Board of Directors on June 28, 2022. Subaward agreements are issued to each entity receiving funds/goods/services through the UASI FY22 grant. The subaward agreement identifies the funding amount and types of items being provided as well as requirements to be met as a condition to receiving the funds. It also serves as a mechanism to transfer ownership to the end user agency from the Mid-America Regional Council.

The following subawards are greater than \$50,000 and require board approval:

Board of Police Commissioners Kansas City Police Department - \$56,373.40. This project supports software licenses, subscriptions, professional memberships, training, and data services for the Regional Fusion Center.

Board of Police Commissioners Kansas City Police Department - \$201,399. This project will partially fund an armored rescue vehicle that can be pre-positioned where a known large gathering or high threat level exists, increasing the security of events as well as in response to an incident. The Kansas City Police Department Board of Police Commissioners has committed to funding the portion not funded by the grant to improve this critical regional capability. This vehicle is available to deploy with trained operators across the urban area. This will allow personnel to respond more quickly and safely, mitigating dangers to the public and safely evacuating injured or trapped community members to decrease the threat of injury or death.

Kansas City, Kansas Police Department and Lee's Summit, Missouri Police Department - \$65,433.50 for one systems in each department for \$130,867 total. This project will replace an x-ray system that can be pre-positioned where a known large gathering or high threat level exists thus increasing the security of events as well as in response to an incident. The portable x-ray system will be replaced which are used to assess, inspect, and handle suspicious packages quickly and safely. These systems have high-definition imagers, mil-grade controllers, advanced long-range wireless communications and wired communications, and a vision software package.

Kansas City, Missouri Fire Department - \$54,106.58. This project will support supplies and equipment for technical rescue teams that train together and are interoperable to provide adequate capability and address responder safety by replacing aging and worn equipment. Some of the replacement supplies and equipment include personal protective equipment (helmets, boots, gloves, suits for land and water operations) and shoring equipment rescue rack and carabiners, rope, harness, bags, saws, GPS, radios, and sonar equipment.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

This action item includes subawards that exceed \$50,000 and require approval from the MARC Board of Directors.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$442,745.98
Source	FY 2022 UASI Grant
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$442,745.98
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	

COMMITTEE ACTION:

On May 24, 2022, the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC) held a special meeting to determine investments for the UASI funding and authorize staff to finalize and submit the UASI application and execute the respective subaward agreements.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Four agencies are designated as subrecipients: Board of Police Commissioners Kansas City Police Department, Kansas City, Kansas Police Department, Lee's Summit, Missouri Police Department, and Kansas City, Missouri Fire Department. However, the equipment will be available for regional use through regional emergency management mutual aid agreements.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize issuance of subaward agreements for the Fiscal Year 2022 Urban Area Security Initiative grant as indicated above.

CONTACT

Erin Lynch
John Davis

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6m

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Amendment to increase transportation agreement with Jewish Family Services

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Department of Aging and Adult Services contracted with Jewish Family Services (JFS) to provide Demand Transportation, and other services for SFY23. Using previous years' service delivery, the amount of the agreement was forecasted. As of February, Jewish Family Services exceeded MARC's initial commitment. Aging recommends that the agreement be amended to ensure the provision of services continues for the conclusion of SFY23.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Jewish Family Services Agreement total value	\$120,000
Billed units to-date	\$109,452
Remaining amount on contract to-date	\$10,548
Total	\$120,000
	-
Added amount needed to cover contract period	\$127,612
New Total	\$247,612
NEW TOTAL AGREEMENT VALUE	\$247,612

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Commission on Aging reviewed this action and recommended that the MARC Board authorize the Executive Director to increase the total value of MARC's SFY 2023 Demand Transportation agreement with Jewish Family Services.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Cass, Clay, Platte, and Jackson counties in Missouri.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize amendment MARC's Demand Transportation agreement with Jewish Family Services by increasing it from \$120,000 to a total of \$247,612.

STAFF CONTACT

Melody Elston

Bob Hogan

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 6n
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: Head Start FY2022 Cost of Living Adjustment and Quality Improvement Application to the Administration for Children and Families

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) received a funding opportunity announcement from the Administration for Children and Families on March 7, 2023, for a FY 2022 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) increase of \$1,217,783 for Head Start, and \$323,961 for Early Head Start. This represents a 5.6% adjustment above FY2022 funding levels. The targeted use for these funds is to increase partner site staff pay and to off-set higher operating costs. COLA funds will be directly allocated to participating partnering agencies. These programs will receive an increase to their based contract in FY 23 which runs from November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023.

Included in the same funding announcement is the availability of Quality Improvement (QI) funds in the amount of \$507,456 for Head Start and \$199,445 for Early Head Start. Grantees are strongly encouraged to use the QI funds to invest in program efforts. The Grantee's have the flexibility to use the QI funds to meet the grantees' most pressing local needs, consistent with Section 640(a)(5) of the Head Start Act. MARC proposes utilizing the Quality Improvement funds to support increasing mental health and wellness needs of children enrolled in Head Start and Early Head and targeted partner site staff pay increases.

In coordination with its delegates and partners, MARC proposes to use the remaining funds from COLA FY23 to offset higher operating costs. HS/EHS programs will identify their agency priorities where support is most needed to enhance their operational and programmatic capacity. MARC will utilize the funds to offset costs that were not included in the FY 23 budget. These include technology upgrades and replacement, office modifications, and furniture. MARC proposes to use the QI funds to add additional staffing needs to meet the mental health and wellness needs.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

COLA and QI amounts are based upon the Head Start and Early Head Start core grant totals and enrollment. These funds are in addition to the current grant award and will be added to the base amount in future grant years.

REVENUES—Head Start and Early Head Start Core		
	Head Start	Early Head Start
Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)	\$1,217,783	\$323,961
Quality Improvement (QI)	\$507,456	\$199,445
Source	Administration for Children and Families	
PROJECTED EXPENSES		
(COLA) Contractual-Delegates & Partners	\$1,000,000	\$258,908
(COLA) MARC for increased operating costs and supports	\$217,783	\$65,053
QI-Targeted mental health funds	\$405,033	\$168,851
QI-MARC for increased MH supports salary, fringe, indirect, rent	\$102,423	\$30,594

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Head Start Policy Council and MARC Head Start Advisory Committee approved MARC Head Start submitting a COLA and QI application on March 13, 2023 and March 21, 2023 respectively.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

The MARC Head Start Network partners provide Head Start and Early Head Start programming in Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize submission and acceptance of funds for the Head Start Cost of Living Adjustment and Quality Improvement application in the amount of \$2,248,645.

STAFF CONTACT:

Jovanna Rohs
Kasey Lawson

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023
Item No. 60
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve actions taken at the March 21, 2023 Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting

BACKGROUND:

The Head Start Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the following program information at its March 21, 2023 meeting:

- Approval of November 2022 Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 2023 Selection Criteria
- Education Policy 4000 Curriculum
- Education Policy 4030 Coaching
- Mental Health Policy 2600 Devereaux Early Childhood Assessments
- Office of Head Start Approval of Cost of Living Adjustment and Quality Improvement

Detailed information about the financials and program information can be found [here](#).

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Head Start Advisory Committee considered this information at its March 21, 2023 meeting and recommended MARC Board approval.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Head Start facilities within Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties.

EXHIBITS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the actions taken at the March 21, 2023 Head Start Advisory Committee meeting

STAFF CONTACT:

Jovanna Rohs
Kasey Lawson

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2023

Item No. 6p

Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an agreement with the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition in an amount not to exceed \$78,744 to support the transition of the Homelessness Management Information System Lead Agency role and database

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is working with United Community Services (UCS) of Johnson County to plan for the transition of the Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) responsibilities from MARC to another organization, including use of a software system and training and technical assistance by a new "HMIS Lead Agency." MARC has served as the HMIS Lead Agency for Johnson County's Continuum of Care (KS-505) since 2015.

MARC initially served as the HMIS Lead Agency for two Continuum of Care (CoC) organizations serving three counties. In early 2020, the CoC serving Jackson and Wyandotte counties decided to utilize the Greater Kansas City Coalition to End Homelessness for their Lead Agency and separated the common database that MARC operated. MARC has continued to support Johnson County CoC.

MARC has been funded by a modest Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant and agency fees to cover a portion of the software system license fee and staff support that have not been adequate. In late 2022, MARC was awarded a two-year contract by Johnson County for ARPA funds to operate the HMIS system for Johnson County organizations supporting homeless and at-risk households until a transition to a more sustainable option is completed. Many of the programs and services provided by these Johnson County organizations using the HMIS system are to help people and families impacted by COVID-19.

The Kansas Balance of State CoC has been selected by Johnson County CoC to become the new HMIS Lead Agency. This CoC serves most of the state of Kansas, and the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition would provide the HMIS software system and training and technical support (now offered by MARC). A transition plan has been drafted, and work is underway to transfer the database from the current software vendor (Caseworthy Inc.) to a new one (Bitfocus) by September 30, 2023. MARC will support the transition, working with the Johnson County CoC and the Kansas Coalition, and with Johnson County's approval, provide the Kansas Coalition with a portion of the ARPA funds. Initial funds are needed to start the transition.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$78,744
Source	ARPA Funds via Johnson County
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$78,744

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Johnson County, KS.

RECOMMENDATION:

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

Authorize an agreement with the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition in an amount not to exceed \$78,744 to support the transition of the HMIS Lead Agency role and database from the current HMIS software vendor, Caseworthy, to the new vendor, Bitfocus.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel

Sherry Ellis