

## **SUSTAINABLE PLACES POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **January 13, 2023 Meeting Summary**

#### **Committee Members**

Council Member Logan Heley, City of Overland Park, Kansas Co-chair  
Mayor Dean Katerndahl, City of Parkville, Missouri Co-chair  
Brian Alferman, Johnson County, KS  
Bob Case, City of Gardner  
Gloria Fisher, Westside Housing  
Michael Frisch, UMKC, Planning + Design, School of Science & Engineering  
Mark O-Hara, Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects  
Erin Ollig, City of Overland Park  
Michael Park, City of Lee's Summit  
Josh Powers, Johnson County Transit  
Melissa Schmitz, MoDOT  
Allison Smith, KDOT  
Maddie Waldeck, City of Basehor

#### **Guests**

Krystal Jolly, MoDOT

#### **MARC Staff Present**

Ron Achelpohl, Megan Broll, Taylor Cunningham, Beth Dawson, Jonathan Feverston, Marlene Nagel, Martin Rivarola, Tom Jacobs, Lauren Winter

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Mayor Dean Katerndahl called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked those present to give introductions. Mayor Katerndahl asked those attending virtually to provide their name and organization.

#### **Approval of September 9, 2022 Meeting Summary\***

There were no edits to the meeting summary. Michael Frisch moved that the meeting summary be approved. Gloria Fisher-Ortiz seconded the motion. The meeting summary was approved.

#### **Comprehensive Plan Phase I Findings**

Lauren Winter and Jonathan Feverston, MARC interns, presented a report on Phase I of the MARC Comprehensive Plan Review. This review included three phases of work. Phase I reviewed existing and adopted local comprehensive plans and compared them to MARC's regional planning documents. Phase II interviewed organizations that are currently updating their comprehensive plans. Phase III examined supplementary planning documents and compared them to MARC's regional planning documents.

Comprehensive plan updates are actively occurring in the region. Supplementary planning documents tend to align more with MARC's adopted planning documents than local comprehensive plans. Since the 2016 Comprehensive Plan Review, local comprehensive plans are including more of the planning priorities that have been identified by MARC. The average age of plans was over eight years, but once the plans that are currently being updated are complete the average age will be just over two years.

Committee members discussed enabling language in Missouri and Kansas. Kansas has broader language for comprehensive planning topics. Kansas state statutes call for an annual review of comprehensive plans, but many communities do not update them regularly. Overland Park is updating their comprehensive plan for the first time since 1980.

Ron Achelpohl cautioned against using the term "alignment" when comparing local comprehensive plans to MARC's regional plans. MARC should be learning from local planning but not prescribing specific topics.

### **RAISE Presentation and Discussion**

Mayor Katerndahl introduced RAISE as a federally funded grant awarded to MARC. Ron Achelpohl presented on the topic, thanking Representative Cleaver and Representative Davids for their interest in bringing this concept forward. He reviewed the project area, key considerations, funding, components, and timeline.

Beth Dawson asked that as engagement is being designed, are there any methods or priorities that should be incorporated? Mr. Achelpohl noted that a transportation goal of the corridor project is to provide better east-west connection, but also to connect transit services to (typically underserved) neighborhoods along the corridor itself.

Co-Chair Councilmember Logan Heley asked Mr. Achelpohl if he could speak to strategies to work on implementation and secure funding while the planning is actually being done. Mr. Achelpohl replied that one strategy was breaking the project into three phases. In Phase 1 MARC wants to develop detail around concepts and implementation activities that may dovetail federal funding programs. Ideally, MARC will be in a position with partners to pursue other funding this year while they are doing some of this planning work. Funding through BIL extends through 2026, and MARC will be watching how congress may evaluate spending.

Councilmember Heley also asked about how to make improvements to communities without displacing people from their homes. Mr. Achelpohl replied that benefiting the people currently in the community is a central priority and will require creativity in working with stakeholders. Councilmember Heley recommended working with KCK Community Land Trust and Marlborough Community Land Trust in KCMO, as they can help in the effort to stabilize housing.

### **PSP 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Activities**

Beth Dawson reviewed the Planning Sustainable Places (PSP) Program history. 2023 is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the PSP program, and to celebrate, project sponsors should share their stories. MARC will host a series of project tours this year that will highlight the success of the PSP program, lessons learned through implementation, and how outcomes can differ from expectations. Additionally, there will be targeted workshops for outlying communities.

### **Presentation and Approval of 2023 Committee Work Plan**

Beth Dawson reviewed the proposed 2023 SPPC Committee work plan, noting the schedule change in November due to the holiday. Mayor Katerndahl asked if the Comprehensive Plan study could be brought back for the May meeting to reevaluate. Mayor Katerndahl also asked about increasing connectivity. Ron Achelpohl encouraged ATA to share some of their work. Tom Jacobs discussed connections to the climate plan.

### **Other Business**

Mayor Katerndahl called for committee members to share any projects they were working on, or any RAISE grants to which they were applying. No comments were provided.

Mayor Katerndahl reminded members that MARC is currently accepting applications for the remaining 2023 Kansas Planning Sustainable Places funds. The committee will be programming those funds at the March meeting. Applications for the funding are due by 4 pm on Friday, January 27.

Mayor Katerndahl noted the collection of local ADU ordinances that have been posted to the MARC website and will eventually be integrated into the Sustainable Land Use Resource page. Further updates about additional resources that will be added to the Sustainable Land Use Resource page will be presented to the committee later this year.

The next SPPC meeting is March 10, 2023. Mayor Katerndahl reviewed upcoming agenda items and encouraged committee members to attend in person. Upcoming agenda items included:

- Programming of Round 2 2023 Kansas PSP funding
- Forecast presentation and discussion
- Academy for Sustainable Communities brainstorm
- Broadband infrastructure report and digital equity strategy

Mayor Katerndahl adjourned the meeting at 10:18 am.