



Board of Directors MEETING NOTICE

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

April 25, 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 mnedes@marc.org by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, for instructions to join the teleconference.**

AGENDA

1. Brief Self-Introductions
2. EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 - a. REPORT: Regional Housing Partnership business plan for expanding community land trust capacity
3. COMPETITIVE ECONOMY
 - a. DISCUSSION: Regional broadband infrastructure analysis and Digital Equity Action Plan
4. BRIEF REPORTS
 - a. REPORT: Regional Preventive Maintenance Program update
 - b. REPORT/VOTE: Approve Highway Pavement and Bridge Condition and System Performance targets
 - c. REPORT/VOTE: Authorize contract with Burns and McDonnell to support the update to regional stormwater engineering standards and the MARC/APWA Manual of Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality.
 - d. REPORT/VOTE: Authorize submittal of a letter of interest to receive a planning grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Program totaling \$1 million
 - e. REPORT: Update on MARC's 2023 Regional Assembly and Leadership Awards
5. Executive Director's Report

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

6. VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda
 - a. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the March 28, 2023, Board Meeting
 - b. VOTE: Approve 2023 2nd Quarter Amendment to the 2022-26 Transportation Improvement Program
 - c. VOTE: Authorize consultant agreements for four Planning Sustainable Places projects in the listed jurisdictions
 - d. VOTE: Approve amendment to increase the current Community Center Services agreement with the City of Blue Springs
 - e. VOTE: Approve amendment to increase the current Community Center Services agreement with the Don Bosco Community Center



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- f. VOTE: Authorize the Mid-America Regional Council to contract with All Ways Caring and Dynamic Unity for In-home Respite
- g. VOTE: Authorize an application to the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance for the FY2023 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program
- h. VOTE: Authorize an application and acceptance of funds from the Health Forward Foundation for \$250,000 to support the KC Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative
- i. VOTE: Approve changes to employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2023

7. Other Business

8. Adjournment

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
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
Markley, Angela	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
McCandless, Bridget	City of Independence	Councilmember
McDonough, Mike	City of Raytown	Mayor
McGee, DaRon	Jackson County	Legislator
McKiernan, Brian*	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Mikkelson, 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
Redline, Chris**	MoDOT	District Engineer
Roberts, Rob	Miami County	Commission Chairman
Ross, Carson	City of Blue Springs	Mayor
Rowland, Rory	City of Independence	Mayor
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 II, Frank	Jackson County	County Executive
White III, Frank**	KCATA	President/CEO
Wood, Dagmar	Platte County	Commissioner

*Public Transit Representatives (Voting) **Public Transit Advisory Representatives (Non-Voting)

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 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.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023
Item No. 2a
Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

REPORT: Presentation on Regional Housing Partnership business plan for expanding community land trust capacity

BACKGROUND:

The Regional Housing Partnership (RHP), coordinated and convened by the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and LISC Greater Kansas City, issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) in May of 2022 to develop a business plan for a regional community land trust (CLT) framework or similar model. A project team made up of Marlborough Community Land Trust (MCLT), the Hoxie Collective and Screendoor Consulting was selected to complete a two-phase process. Phase 1 explored models and Phase 2 focused on developing the business plan for the selected model.

The CLT model was selected by a stakeholder group that reviewed documents and provided feedback to the MCLT team. The CLT model was selected because of the long history of the model, the interest currently in the region for the tool, and the flexibility the model offers in coordinating with other affordability tools and models. Once the model was selected, the MCLT team embarked on an extensive community engagement strategy to identify communities and organizations exploring the model. Once identified, the project team requested each group submit surveys to learn how far into CLT discussions they were. MCLT then applied criteria developed by stakeholders to select communities of focus for extensive community engagement sessions. Those communities of focus included:

- The City of Excelsior Springs, MO
- Englewood Arts District (in partnership with Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity) located in Independence, MO
- Habitat for Humanity of Kansas City (in partnership with United Community Services of Johnson County; Olathe, KS; and Johnson County, KS) for a development located in Olathe, KS
- Jerusalem Farm in coordination with Historic Northeast communities in Kansas City, MO
- Existing CLTs in the region, such as Community Housing of Wyandotte County (CHWC) and Manheim Community Land Trust

Additionally, three one-hour webinars covering the basics of CLTs were offered to jurisdictions, community members and community organizations in the MARC nine-county region. A survey went out to those who registered for one of the three webinars to further gauge the region's interest in this tool. A list of frequently asked questions, recording and slides were provided after the webinars (a link to these materials is provided below in "exhibits").

Meghan Freeman, Executive Director of MCLT, and Becca McQuillen, Director of Development of MCLT, will present on this work. The final plan is expected by the end of April 2023.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item effects all counties in the MARC region.

EXHIBITS:

[CLT webinar materials](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Katie Killen

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023
Item No. 3a
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 is working on 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 equity report has been posted on the MARC website for several weeks, and feedback has been encouraged. Staff expects the infrastructure report to be available by the end of May. 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.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1) The availability of broadband infrastructure and access for all residents is an important economic development objective. What aspect of these investments do you think are most important to your jurisdiction to achieve economic prosperity for residents and attract and retain businesses?

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

- 2) There are many possible ways that cities and counties could support steps to improve broadband infrastructure. What steps do you think are most appropriate for our local officials to consider?
- 3) There are many possible ways to support households who have no internet access or no devices or who may need digital skills training. What steps might be appropriate for your community to take, working with community partners?

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT

Marlene Nagel
Jay Heermann

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 4a

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 Dec. 27, 2020, appropriated \$10 billion across the country to provide funding to address COVID-19 impacts related to transportation programs. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) 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. 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, the MARC 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 5,000 - 10,000 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 Missouri 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.
- Focus 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 and overlay or micro surfacing contracts (including striping) as needed.

Major activities include:

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MARC Board of Directors

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	80 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

April 2023

Item No. 4b

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve Highway Pavement and Bridge Condition and System Performance targets

BACKGROUND:

The current and previous federal transportation bills, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, and Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), respectively, included a series of requirements for Transportation Performance Management (TPM). Since the passage of MAP-21, the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) has worked through the federal rulemaking process to establish a series of performance measures and corresponding target setting requirements. Generally, the performance measures relate to national goals of safety, infrastructure condition, air quality, and transportation system performance.

State DOTs were required to establish performance targets for infrastructure condition (including pavement condition and bridge condition) as well as system performance by Dec. 16, 2022. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) have the option of supporting the statewide targets or establishing their own regional targets within 180 days of the establishment of state targets. State DOTs will have the opportunity to update targets every 2 years, and with each update MPOs will have the option to: (a) support the state targets, or (b) establish regional targets within 180 days.

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has elected to establish regional targets to harmonize different statewide targets between Kansas and Missouri. To develop the targets, MARC staff has historically considered historical trends, statewide targets, regional plans, and programmed projects. The methodology to develop targets was developed in 2018 in coordination with state DOT and local partners, as well as subject matter experts.

It is important to emphasize the recommended targets pertain specifically to the National Highway System (NHS), which represents a proportion of streets and highways in the MARC region. While some NHS routes are locally owned and operated, the overwhelming majority are operated by state DOTs. Recommended targets are closely linked to statewide targets adopted by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and the Missouri Department of Transportation (MODOT), which are both informed by extensive data analysis and engineering judgement.

While many of the adopted statewide and recommended regional targets show a decline relative to the 2021 baseline, it is important to recognize that these are short-term targets that do not yet reflect recent increases in funding for infrastructure. The states and region may not see the results of those improvements for another 5 to 10 years. It will be important to monitor the trends closely and consider revising our proposed 4-year targets in line with the opportunity states and MPOs must update these infrastructure and system performance targets every 2 years.

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MARC Board of Directors

Recommended Highway Pavement and Bridge Condition (PM 2) and System Performance (PM 3) targets for the MARC metropolitan planning area include the following:

Infrastructure Condition Performance Measures	2021 Baseline	2023 Target	2025 Target
% of interstate pavement in good condition	72.6%	69.3%	69.6%
% of interstate pavement in poor condition	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
% of non-interstate NHS pavement in good condition	56.0%	48.4%	48.4%
% of non-interstate NHS pavement in poor condition	1.0%	3.4%	3.4%
% of NHS bridges in good condition (by deck area)	37.2%	36.4%	33.7%
% of NHS bridges in poor condition (by deck area)	5.9%	6.9%	7.0%
System Reliability Performance Measures	2021 Baseline	2023 Target	2025 Target
% of person-miles on interstate highways that are reliable	97.3%	89.8%	89.1%
% of person-miles on non-interstate NHS highways that are reliable	94.6%	90.4%	90.2%
Statewide Truck Travel Time Reliability Index	1.3	1.4	1.4

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

TTPC approved action on this item on April 18, 2023.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Highway Pavement and Bridge Condition (PM 2) and System Performance (PM 3) targets for the MARC metropolitan planning area.

STAFF CONTACT

Selina Zapata Bur
Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023
Item No. 4c
Healthy Environment

ISSUE:

VOTE/REPORT: Authorize contract with Burns and McDonnell to support the update to regional stormwater engineering standards and the MARC/APWA Manual of Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality

BACKGROUND:

In September 2022, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board authorized receipt of approximately \$740,000 in funds from 22 local governments to support the update of the regional stormwater engineering standards (American Public Works Association, APWA, 5600) and the MARC/APWA Manual of Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality. This action was preceded by approval from the Executive Committee of the APWA - Kansas City Chapter for MARC to facilitate and manage this initiative.

A technical advisory committee composed of representatives from all of the communities providing support for this effort was formed in September 2022. Since that time, this group refined its project approach, and drafted a request for qualifications/proposals to solicit consulting support for project implementation.

The request for proposals/qualifications was issued on Feb. 2, 2023. Two firms responded to the request by the deadline of March 17, 2023. A subcommittee of the technical advisory committee representing four of the 22 communities along with a representative of the APWA Executive Committee selected firms to be interviewed. Interviews were conducted on April 6, 2023. Unanimous subcommittee recommendations were shared with the full technical advisory committee on April 11, 2023. The full committee unanimously endorsed the recommendation to hire a team led by Burns and McDonnell, including Black and Veatch, Vireo and the Center for Watershed Protection.

The exact scope of work will depend on available funding and will be developed by MARC with the technical and steering committees. It is anticipated that the scope will, at a minimum:

- Create a set of stormwater standards that are more adaptable
- Combine water quantity and quality design standards
- Include development and redevelopment standards
- Address resiliency and sustainability by promoting more holistic system evaluations
- Update rainfall standards and other appropriate hydrology methods
- Increase the level of hydrology and hydraulic evaluation requirements
- Reduce the existing subjectivity in technical assumptions
- Provide more natural system design criteria
- Improve the evaluation of stormwater detention requirements for increased value.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$735,400
Source	Grant funds
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$59,000
Contractual	\$676,400
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This effort is expected to benefit all area cities and counties. On the Kansas side, jurisdictions expected to provide funding support for the initiative include Bonner Springs, Gardner, Johnson County, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Miami County, Mission, Prairie Village, Unified Government, Westwood and Westwood Hills. Contributing partners on the Missouri side include Blue Springs, Excelsior Springs, Gladstone, Grandview, Independence, Kansas City, Liberty, North Kansas City, Parkville and Riverside. The APWA will also contribute funds toward the effort.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize Executive Director to execute agreement with Burns and McDonnell in the amount not to exceed \$676,400 to support the update to regional stormwater engineering standards (APWA 5600) and the MARC/APWA Manual of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to Protect Water Quality.

STAFF CONTACT:

Tom Jacobs

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023
Item No. 4d
Healthy Environment

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize submittal of a letter of interest to receive a planning grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Program totaling \$1 million

BACKGROUND:

In March 2021, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board of Directors adopted the Regional Climate Action Plan. New grant resources will enable MARC to refine this plan, and help the region prepare for additional federal funding and plan implementation.

Through the Inflation Reduction Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established a new Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program. At a national level, this two-staged grant program provides \$250 million of funding for noncompetitive planning grants, and \$4.6 billion for competitive implementation grants. Initial planning grants will award \$1 million to large metro areas like Kansas City to establish or refine existing climate plans. In late 2023 or early 2024, EPA will request proposals for significant implementation grants.

Planning grants allow for only one organization in each metro to apply for funds. Consultation with over two dozen local governments, the Climate and Environment Council, Air Quality Forum and Climate Action KC have clarified local support for MARC to serve in this role. EPA requires that MARC submit a formal letter of interest for this program by April 28, 2023, and then submit a scope of work, schedule, and budget by May 31, 2023. Funds are expected to become available in July 2023.

MARC will develop a scope of work through a multi-step consultation process with multiple MARC committees and stakeholder groups to ensure that future work addresses meaningful local and regional needs. Grant funds will enable MARC to work with community partners to transform the Climate Action Plan into a prioritized implementation plan, so that the region is prepared to compete for competitive implementation funds in 2024. The grant will help MARC address additional needs including a focus on benchmarking and metrics, community engagement focused on environmental justice and social equity, outreach and communications, and updated greenhouse gas inventory. Future contracts supported through this grant will be brought to the board for approval.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$1,000,000
Source	US Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Program
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$600,000
Contractual (estimated)	\$325,000
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$75,000

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Air Quality Forum and the Climate and Environment Council recommend MARC serve as the local applicant of funding for the Kansas City metro region.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Mid-America Regional Council to submit a letter of interest, and if awarded, receive funds to execute a planning grant agreement from the US Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Program totaling \$1 million

STAFF CONTACT:

Tom Jacobs

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023
Item No. 4e
Exemplary Core Capacities

ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on MARC's 2023 Regional Assembly and Leadership Awards

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) 2023 Regional Assembly will be held on Friday, June 9, at the Westin Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the program beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The event will feature keynote speaker Valerie Lemmie, director of exploratory research at the Kettering Foundation. Lemmie launched her career in the Kansas City region and went on to serve as city manager for the cities of Petersburg, Virginia, and Dayton and Cincinnati, Ohio, in addition to roles in higher education and as acting chief of staff for Ohio's 10th district. She is a nationally and internationally noted speaker on civic engagement.

At the assembly, MARC will present the 2023 Regional Leadership Awards. These awards honor people, organizations and initiatives that advocate regional concepts, approaches and programs; address regional challenges; apply innovative solutions to regional problems; and advance a regional vision of excellence and opportunity.

The 2023 Regional Leadership Awards will be presented to:

- Dr. Kimberly Beatty, Chancellor, Metropolitan Community Colleges
- Bryan Dehner, Former Fire Chief, Overland Park
- George Guastello, President and CEO, Union Station
- Parade of Hearts

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

EXHIBITS:

Please visit marc.org for more information.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Kristin Johnson-Waggoner
Lauren Palmer

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023
Item No. 6a

ISSUE:

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

BACKGROUND:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the March 28, 2023, meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

David Warm
McKenzie Neds



MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SUMMARY

March 28, 2023

12:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS - MARC Board 1st Vice Chair
Mayor Damien Boley, Smithville, MO - MARC Board Treasurer
County Legislator Jalen Anderson, Jackson County, MO
Councilmember Eric Bunch, Kansas City, MO
Commissioner Jeff Culbertson, Leavenworth County, KS
Commissioner Becky Fast, Johnson County, KS
Presiding Commissioner Scott Fricker, Platte County, MO
Councilmember Logan Heley, City of Overland Park, KS
Councilmember Dan Hobart, City of Independence, MO
Auditor Victor Hurlbert, Clay County, MO
Dick Jarrold, Vice President of KCATA
Commissioner Angela Markley, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
Mayor Mike McDonough, City of Raytown, MO
Mayor Eric Mikkelsen, City of Prairie Village, KS
Michael Moriarty, Chief of Transportation Planning at KDOT
Presiding Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, MO
Commission Chairman, Rob Roberts, Miami County, KS
Mayor Curt Skoog, City of Overland Park, KS
Mayor Kristofer Turnbow, City of Raymore, MO
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

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and welcomed attendees. Due to the meeting being held remotely, Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick provided instructions for participation. She 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: Update on Union Station as a Regional Asset

George Guastello, President and CEO of Union Station gave a lively presentation about the history of Union Station from the grand opening in 1914, the closing of the station in 1983, and the revolutionary Bi-State tax that helped this amazing Kansas City monument survive. Now, Union Station is home to businesses and government organizations like the postal service and the Kansas City Board of Elections. Burns and McDonnell partnered with Union Station in 2018 to expand the Science City program so that more children can be reached by STEM activities in the region. And finally, Mr. Guastello reminded the board that Union Station is where the Kansas City Region celebrates, whether that is after the World Series or the Super Bowl or holiday traditions built with families. Kansas City knows where it's celebration destination is and that is at the crossroads of Main St and Pershing Rd.

DISCUSSION: Updated 2023 Economic Forecast

Frank Lenk, Director of Research Services, presented an updated regional economic forecast. You can use the presentation [sing this link](#) for detailed charts and graphs. In 2022, virtually all sectors grew, led by recovery in some of the industries hardest hit by the Covid-recession such as Arts and entertainment and Accommodation and food. But Professional and Health services also grew strongly. It now appears Kansas City achieved its pre-pandemic employment level in April last year and is now sitting 24,500 (2.2%) above that level. Relative to the 10 other metros Kansas City benchmarks economy against, the region's 12-month job growth ranks 5th instead of 8th. MARC staff are still predicting a recession in 2023 but it will likely begin in the second half of the year, and it will be milder than earlier projections made. The forecasts are predicting about 10,000 jobs will be lost and the retail sector will be hit the hardest. Frank also noted that while not yet affecting the labor market, the rapid rise in interest rates has already had an impact on the housing market, raising borrowing costs to the point where many consumers who had been planning to buy a home can no longer afford to.

Council member Logan Heley asked if Frank had any thought on the banking industry and it's impacts for the Kansas City Region. Frank answered that the banks that had a more conservative investment strategy and were depending on bonds because of their safe investment suddenly got hit very hard when interest rates started increasing. We have some banks in in our area that might fall into that into that group, but I don't know if they are as unbalanced as what happened in Silicon Valley. So, I don't really have any insight into whether they are struggling or not.

Mayor Curt Skoog commented that her heard a fellow Kansas City Economist be very bullish about the Kansas City Southern Railroad merger with the Canadian Railroads and how it will open up the Midwest to more opportunities. Does that figure into this forecast update? Frank said that the model is likely not sensitive to rail traffic logistics but he does agree that the merger would open the possibility to serve more markets for a net benefit.

Commissioner Jerry Nolte inquired about inflation and the overall feel of where it is headed in the next year. Frank stated that Inflation is coming down slower than anyone would like, but it is coming down. The national forecast that MARC looks at suggests that by this time next year it will be between 2 and 3%. This could be optimistic; models tend to revert to the long run average. The Fed is very confident that they can make that happen. The question is how much pain will they have to create to get there?

Commissioner Scott Fricker noted that Platte County's sales tax revenues are up 20 plus percent year over year in the first couple months of this year, do you see that falling off as the year goes on? Frank indicated he sees it falling off and those types of increases to moderate by the end of the year, but he's interested to know if the forecast gets it correct.

Commissioner Becky Fast commented that right now many sectors have such a workforce shortage nursing, healthcare, and highly technical fields. So, when you say job loss, would that be more of the lower technical end, the more like frontline or will be we will still have a huge workforce shortage in many of the higher skilled areas? Frank said the job losses will tend to be felt in the in those occupations that are easier to replace, one of the reasons why we haven't seen the job losses that we might be expecting is because employers are doing their best to retain their workers. They don't want to lose them because they have such a hard time getting them in the first place. Frank thinks that is especially true for those higher skilled workers. It will continue to be a case where we're going to have skill shortages, no matter what.

DISCUSSION: Regional broadband infrastructure analysis and Digital Equity Action Plan
This item was delayed to the April 2023 Board meeting.

BRIEF REPORTS:

REPORT: Update on Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative

Marlene Nagel introduced Hannayd Ruiz, HMIS Project Administrator, who presented information on a new and emerging part of the healthcare workforce that MARC is playing a role in helping to expand and support. Part of that agenda item is a vote authorizing a grant application to the state of Missouri. Hannayd provided a brief update about our KC regional CHW collaboratives. You might know a little bit about our work, impact, and social determinants of health already. We have been around since 2016 and we have been building this professionalism across Kansas and Missouri thanks to Healthcare Foundation as well as KDHE. One of the most important things that we did last year was also create a video that we would be able to utilize throughout social media that highlights what a CHW does and how important the work is.

CHW's exists in health agencies, head start, sometimes community health centers, community clinics or organizations. CHW's meet people where they are instead of requiring people to come to a centralized location. Throughout the pandemic, CHW programs were able to be flexible and meet the needs of the community while being safe within COVID-19 protocols. MARC and the team quickly realized that CHWs were able to find new resources, adapt to what was available, what was missing, and addressed the isolation that people faced all while being encouraging for people to continue addressing their health.

A challenge these positions face is most of them are grant based, which can mean programs start and then as the grant ends, so does a program. To sustain this profession, we want to create a reimbursement toolkit; the presentation for the toolkit is available on our website and we are actively presenting to organizations to spread the word. MARC is also creating a form that outlines different questions regarding the toolkit so we can provide technical assistance to different organizations as they bill for services. This way, organizations are not reliant on grants and can be more sustainable to use both private and public pay insurances. CHW's continue to grow as they become certified and credentialed throughout the state of Kansas and Missouri. Because of the high demand for professional development MARC created a basic CHW training for frontline workers and we also have a CHW supervisor training series to empower CHWs who want to train others. There are also different sessions of continued education to obtain credentials and remain certified throughout the year.

CHW's are from the community, for the community. MARC realizes that CHW's can connect more closely with their clients if they share backgrounds, upbringings, and culture. There were several Spanish speaking CHW's who advocated for the curriculum, resources, and materials to be translated so MARC is working on publishing those materials once they are translated.

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

Marlene Nagel, Director of Community Development, presented this application prior to Hannayd's presentation.

REPORT/VOTE: Authorize Consultant Agreement for KCI Airport Public Transit Action Plan
Martin Rivarola, Assistant Director of Transportation, briefly reviewed the KCI Airport Public Transit Action Plan that was presented to the MARC board in January 2023. This effort will be co-led by KCATA and MARC to work with a consultant over the next several months to improve public transit services to the airport terminal and surrounding the terminal. This work is seeking to build connections throughout the region as exciting investments and opportunities come our way i.e. the convention center hotel and visitor amenities, the NFL draft, the World Cup and some major conferences just to name a few. There are numerous success stories in the transit space like the streetcar expansion however, we know there are gaps to fill, and this action plan development process will create a set of objectives and milestones we want to accomplish. This is going to be a 6-month process to assess market demand and opportunities to design new services and develop potential funding mechanisms and implementation strategies. Implementation of those improvements will begin with engagement / outreach activities that include surveys, focus groups, business round tables, virtual public involvement, etc. We will work very closely with many partners throughout the region that will include local governments, our transit providers, our business and civic groups around the region and others. This project is budgeted at \$200,000 as a combination of MARC funds, federal planning funds and some local cash and in-kind match.

We issued a request for proposals two months ago and we received 3 responses; interviews were held last week. We invited several agencies to participate in the interview panel and most of those agencies participated in some way during the consultant procurement process. Then there was a selection panel that recommended the team ranking and preferred team that's shown in the packet for negotiation of consultant services with Kimley-Horn.

Commissioner Scott Fricker requested clarification about the participating members in the planning and organization of the consultant agreement and public transit action plan. Platte County was not listed on the participant slide with other local governments, and he wanted to know why that was the case. Martin replied that there are several members and partners in Platte County that are working closely with the city of Kansas City and the aviation department. One of the early tasks is doing stakeholder interviews with key agencies around the region and Platte County is on that list.

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

Karen Clawson, Air Quality Program Manager, requested that the board to approve a comment letter to the EPA regarding the proposed revisions to the EPA, national ambient air quality standards for particulate matter. PM 2.5 is one of the criteria pollutants that EPA regulates under the Clean Air Act. The standard, which is the amount of a pollutant that you can have in our outdoor air without harming public health. Particulate matter is a breathable pollution, and it has significant health consequences for humans and for animals as well. It can be emitted, it can also be created through atmospheric reactions of chemicals, and it crosses the blood gas brain barrier and creates significant respiratory, cardiovascular, and neurodegenerative issues. This is a worldwide problem and we're concerned about it in Kansas City.

The EPA goes through a process to review the air quality standards every five years. They have found the current PM 2.5 standard is not adequately protecting public health according to a variety of medical studies that the EPA references. The current annual primary standard

is currently set at 12 micrograms per cubic meter and the EPA is taking measures to make it more stringent in the range of 8 to 11 micrograms. MARC performed analysis on our region to answer how this standard could potentially impact our region. We currently have six PM2.5 monitors throughout the region. MARC wanted to identify our design values for each of these monitors. This means the team will look at a three-year average and we can compare that three-year average to the standard. Using the years 2020-2022, we found that the Wyandotte County / KCK is exceeding 10 micrograms. If the EPA were to lower the standard to around 10 we could potentially be in trouble with attainment because of that particular monitor. The Heritage Park monitor is just below 9, and so if EPA were to decrease that microgram standard number that monitor could also be a potential issue for us. We cannot say right now what is causing these increasing trends, it could be transported pollution into the Kansas City region, because they're on the leading edge of pollution coming up from the Oklahoma area. MARC is going to be paying attention to this at the Air Quality Forum and figuring out what we can do to help alleviate some of this.

Our proposed comments to EPA are suggesting a range of eight to 10 micrograms. Which aligns with the recommendation by Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee members. MARC is also asking EPA to provide state and local government funding and resources to help support developing a new state implementation plan. We are able to accomplish a lot at a local level but it would be ideal to have support at a federal level to help with industrial emissions. MARC is also requesting to exempt potential natural events that may occur like wildfire smoke which would offer some protection of our attainment status. If the EPA adopts the new standard, they will not make any designations about attainment until after 2 years of implementation so there is time to comply.

REPORT: Regional Preventive Maintenance Program Update

This item was delayed to the April 2023 Board meeting.

REPORT: Update on Legislative matters:

1. Potential changes to Missouri transportation funding process
Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, called the board's attention to legislation in the Missouri that is currently in the Senate and was passed but the House. This resolution would provide some fundamental changes to the way that transportation dollars are allocated in the state. Currently, the dollars stand appropriated without legislative action; the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission then establishes programs and awards construction projects using the state road funds. This legislation would change that. It proposes a constitutional amendment that would require legislative action to appropriate those funds. MARC is monitoring the resolution even though no action has been taken as of today since the first reading. However, if it does appear to proceed, the region may want to mobilize outreach the about the legislation. MARC is concerned for two reasons: One it would have a significant impact on the ability to plan for projects. The legislature does not currently have a process in place to make decisions about projects or honor them year to year. The second concern is it would open up the funding distribution formula in the state of Missouri for the state funds and chances are our assessment would not fare well in that process.
2. Early education initiatives in Kansas and Missouri
Jovanna Rohs, Director of Early Learning and Head Start, called the board's attention to a Senate bill on the Kansas side that is looking at the childcare safety standard. It should be noted that the intention is well served and that we do need more capacity, however, there is some concerns just around ratios proposed in the bill. If you've ever been in a room with infants and toddlers, having more than a one to four ratio can be difficult and if you don't believe me, I have some sites you can come with me, and we can go hang out. Currently, the regulation is one to three, but they're looking at

increasing that so that an individual could have an up to six infants and toddlers as well as additional children if they are related. This is concerning because the safety of the children, especially when they are younger. Another interesting piece on the Kansas side is it also is shifting inspection of facilities is proposed to move from local public health authority to the state offices.

On the Missouri side, a lot has changed since this report came out, much of the dollars around subsidy and Pre-K expansion have been stripped out of the governor's budget. The bill that MARC is most concerned about is regarding subsidy that would be increasing the subsidy amount so that we are getting closer to 75th percentile of the cost, but this is still not even making programs whole.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Mr. Warm had no updates for the board members.

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda

- a. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the February 28, 2023 Board Meeting
- b. VOTE: Authorize contract with Every 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
- 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

MOTION: Mike McDonough moved for approval of all agenda items and the consent agenda, and Eric Mikkelsen seconded. Commissioner Hanzlick asked if any member wanted to abstain or object to any of the agenda items.

Commissioner Dagmar Wood voted no to item 4c *Approve comment letter to Environmental Protection Agency regarding the proposed revision to the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for particulate matter.*

The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 6b

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve 2023 2nd Quarter Amendment to the 2022-26 Transportation Improvement Program

BACKGROUND:

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the region's short-range program, identifying projects to receive federal funds and projects of regional significance to be implemented over the next three-to-five-year period. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) amends the TIP on both a quarterly cycle and as needed to accommodate changes to projects in the TIP.

The proposed 2023 2nd Quarter Amendment to the 2022-26 Transportation Improvement Programs includes 38 projects:

- 22 new projects to be added, including but not limited to:
 - #180083 - Construction of a roundabout at K-32/158th Street in Leavenworth County
 - #259216 - Unified Government: Development of a countywide Vision Zero Action Plan
 - #350243 - College Boulevard: Reconstruction of the bridge over Indian Creek
 - #524009 - Replacement of the Garland Avenue bridge over Dry Fork of the Fishing River
 - #611221 - Replacement of the Raytown Road bridge over Lumpkins Fork
 - #780010 - Harrisonville: South Commercial Street Extension
 - #880021 - I-35; Guardrail upgrades from Franklin County to Johnson County
- 16 modified projects
 - Scope
 - Schedule
 - Budget

Details of these projects are available for review on the Internet at: www.marc.org/TIP

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

TTPC approved action on this item on April 18, 2023.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

EXHIBITS:

2023 2nd Quarter Amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve 2023 2nd Quarter Amendment to the 2022-26 Transportation Improvement Program

STAFF CONTACT

Marc Hansen

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

2023 2nd Quarter Amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program Public Comment and Proposed Responses

Comment #1

"I'm very excited to see a vision zero plan for Wyandotte County as part of the plan! This will help prioritize safety as an action for the community."

Proposed Response to Comment #1

Thank you for your recent comment regarding the proposed 2023 2nd Quarter Amendment to the 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program. We shared your comments with the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, KS, the MARC Total Transportation Policy Committee, and the MARC Board of Directors for their consideration.

MARC agrees with your assessment regarding Wyandotte County, and other jurisdictions in the Kansas City region awarded funding through the Safe Streets for All program. Improving transportation safety remains a priority in many local planning and enforcement efforts, the *Connected KC 2050* metropolitan transportation plan, and *2022-2027 Transportation Safety Plan*. The additional resources and planning made available through the Safe Streets for All program will help to further these efforts and make a positive impact on the region.

We look forward to your continued participation in the regional transportation planning process and encourage you to review [A Guide to Transportation Decision Making](#). This guide is designed to help area residents understand the complex process of transportation decision-making and learn how they can more effectively provide input.

Sincerely,

Marc Hansen, AICP
Principal Planner
Mid-America Regional Council

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

2022 Special Amendment #2 to the Transportation Improvement Program Public Comments and Proposed Responses

Comment #2

"I would generally like to see a larger focus on transformative changes, not temporary bandages. I don't like the idea of just tolling a road in the area; I like the idea of more investment in public transportation, particularly rail travel. Instead of investing in this project, what if we took all the money and instead invested it in a more reliable bus service? What if we invested it in more streetcar lines or a light rail system? These would both be much better investments than putting more dollars towards cars on the road."

Proposed Response to Comment #2

Thank you for your recent comment regarding the proposed 2022 Special Amendment #2 to the 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program. We shared your comments with the Kansas Department of Transportation, the MARC Total Transportation Policy Committee, and the MARC Board of Directors for their consideration.

MARC shares your concerns regarding the condition of our transportation infrastructure, the safety and reliability of the system, and availability of alternate modes of transportation. These issues are identified as priorities in both the *Connected KC 2050* metropolitan transportation plan and *SmartMoves 3.0*, the Kansas City region's 20-year plan for transit and mobility. Acting on the vision and direction of these plans, the 2023 UPWP includes a wide range of planning activities to monitor and improve system performance, identify and enhance transportation choices, and to coordinate the operation and management of the transportation system.

- 2.2 – Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- 3.4 – Safe and Accessible Transportation Options
- 3.6 – Transportation Safety Planning
- 3.8 – Transportation System Operations & Management Planning
- 3.9 – Transportation System Performance and Target Setting

We look forward to your continued participation in the regional transportation planning process and encourage you to review [A Guide to Transportation Decision Making](#). This guide is designed to help area residents understand the complex process of transportation decision-making and learn how they can more effectively provide input.

Sincerely,

Marc Hansen, AICP
Principal Planner
Mid-America Regional Council

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

2022 Special Amendment #2 to the Transportation Improvement Program Public Comments and Proposed Responses

Comment #2

"I would like to comment and say that expansion of highway 69 is a terrible idea. The cost has already doubled since the initial presentation last year. Homes will be destroyed, this will only create more GHG emissions as it induces more demand, and further exacerbates poor land use decisions by incentivizing people to live further away from jobs and the city. There is literally no upside to this project other than to save a few drivers a few minutes on their commute, which will likely be wasted as many move further away negating any savings. We are in a climate emergency, highway expansion is climate change denial. We should be investing in electrified commuter rail and electrified BRT for these outlying areas."

Proposed Response to Comment #2

Thank you for your recent comment regarding the proposed 2022 Special Amendment #2 to the 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program. We shared your comments with the Kansas Department of Transportation, the MARC Total Transportation Policy Committee, and the MARC Board of Directors for their consideration.

MARC shares your concerns regarding the condition of our transportation infrastructure, the safety and reliability of the system, and availability of alternate modes of transportation. These issues are identified as priorities in both the *Connected KC 2050* metropolitan transportation plan and *SmartMoves 3.0*, the Kansas City region's 20-year plan for transit and mobility. Acting on the vision and direction of these plans, the 2023 UPWP includes a wide range of planning activities to monitor and improve system performance, identify and enhance transportation choices, and to coordinate the operation and management of the transportation system.

- 2.2 – Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- 3.4 – Safe and Accessible Transportation Options
- 3.6 – Transportation Safety Planning
- 3.8 – Transportation System Operations & Management Planning
- 3.9 – Transportation System Performance and Target Setting

We look forward to your continued participation in the regional transportation planning process and encourage you to review [A Guide to Transportation Decision Making](#). This guide is designed to help area residents understand the complex process of transportation decision-making and learn how they can more effectively provide input.

Sincerely,

Marc Hansen, AICP
Principal Planner
Mid-America Regional Council

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 6c

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize consultant agreements for four Planning Sustainable Places projects in the listed jurisdictions

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 projects are provided below. A qualifications-based competitive selection process was used in the selection of all consulting teams.

1: City of Independence, MO - Transportation for All. This study seeks to create a citywide multi-modal network. Key components of the plan include:

- Capture connectivity gaps to existing corridor studies, established bus routes, and emerging multi-modal centers.
- Identify facility needs in all districts of the city and incorporate connectivity with the Historic Trail Retracement Plan.
- Locate gaps on school routes, activity centers, historical sites, park trail segments and population and employment centers.
- Identify facilities in city limits maintained by outside jurisdictions.

The team of Olsson, BikeWalk KC, and Venice Communications, was selected for this project.

2: City of Osawatomie, KS - Oz Commons: Community Hub. This plan will build upon the previous Oz Commons plan and create a narrowed conceptual framework, based on community input and preference, that looks at how bike and pedestrian transportation systems can be enhanced to create safe and reliable connections between the City of Osawatomie's downtown, the Flint Hills Trail State Park, and our other tangible assets. Key components of the plan include:

- Identify network of active transportation pathways that connect to downtown
- Create active transportation access and facilities for residents and visitors
- Capitalize on existing trail framework
- Sustainable, creative reuse of buildings and surroundings to create a vibrant transportation hub in the downtown

The team of Architect One, Vireo and Shockey was selected for this project.

3: City of Parkville, MO - Parkville ADA Transition Plan. This project involves the creation of a citywide ADA transition plan to ensure that all individuals with disabilities have reasonable access to public accommodations via the citywide transportation system. Key components of the plan include:

- Establish a formal process for receiving, documenting and addressing ADA complaints received from the public.
- Establish a process for City staff to inventory and identify ADA gaps in our system (ex: guidelines, policies & procedures, utilizing a standardized form)
- Conduct engagement (e.g., public meeting, surveys) to better understand mobility needs of the community.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

- Conduct the following pilot project, so City staff can replicate it for other neighborhoods over time.
- Conduct an inventory of pedestrian infrastructure in downtown Parkville.
- Create a list of recommended ADA improvements in downtown Parkville based on a prioritization matrix, including costs for implementation

The firm of ACT Services was selected for this project.

4: City of Westwood, KS - Rainbow Blvd/7th St./Hwy. 169 Complete Streets Traffic Management Plan. This project will examine a three-mile route to plan for enhanced and safe options for multi-modal transportation to key destinations along the corridor.

- Propose the optimal locations and types of multi-modal improvements along the corridor, considering current and anticipated traffic volumes and suitability of improvements based on the varying levels of traffic volume and types of land use in each distinct section of the corridor, both existing and anticipated.
- Integrate into the design recommendations strategies and solutions that reduce - or at a minimum don't contribute to or cause higher levels of - non-resident vehicular traffic on adjacent residential streets.
- Integrate the recommendations and findings of the numerous disparate planning documents prepared to-date into one, single Sustainable Places Plan which can be used to seek funding for implementation/construction activities, and which is in a format that can be integrated into the governmental units' capital improvement plans (e.g. include opinions of probable cost and phasing options)
- Create robust public engagement activities to gather community input to understand the personal experiences of residents, employees, and regular multimodal visitors within the corridor to ensure the recommendations and findings address concerns and issues with existing conditions, with the goal of cultivating community buy-in for implementation/construction activities.

The team of WSP and Vireo 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 Independence, MO: Planning Sustainable Places (Federal STP) funding (\$74,250) with the required local match of \$27,500 provided by the City of Independence.

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

3. City of Parkville, MO: Planning Sustainable Places (Federal STP) funding (\$20,000) with the required local match of \$5,000 provided by the City of Parkville.

4. City of Westwood, KS: Planning Sustainable Places (Federal STP) funding (\$118,500) with the required local match of \$31,500 provided by the City of Westwood (\$15,000), City of Mission Woods (\$1,500), and the University of Kansas Health System (\$15,000).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

The consultant contracts involve the jurisdictions of: Independence, MO; Kansas City, MO; North Kansas City, MO; Osawatomie, KS; Overland Park, KS; Parkville, MO; and Westwood, KS

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize consultant agreements for the following:

1. City of Independence, MO: Agreement with the team of Olsson, BikeWalkKC, and Venice Communications, for the Transportation for All study for an amount not to exceed \$101,750.
2. City of Osawatomie, KS: Agreement with the team of Architect One, Vireo and Shockey, for the Oz Commons: Community Hub study for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.
3. City of Parkville, MO: Agreement with the firm of ACT Services, for the Parkville ADA Transition Plan for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.
4. City of Westwood, KS: Agreement with the team of WSP and Vireo, for the Rainbow Blvd/7th St./Hwy. 169 Complete Streets Traffic Management Plan for an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

STAFF CONTACT:

Beth Dawson
Martin Rivarola
Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 6d

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Approve amendment to increase the current Community Center Services agreement with the City of Blue Springs

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Aging and Adult Services contracts with the City of Blue Springs, Missouri, to provide community center services at Vesper Hall Senior Center to eligible participants, funded through the Older Americans Act. A total of seven service components are included in the agreement. Two components include a community nutrition site providing hot, nutritious meals served daily. In addition, hot meals for eligible home-delivered meal participants are prepared, packaged, and delivered to individuals who are homebound.

Participation and demand in both programs exceeded projections when the initial agreement was developed.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

To prevent disruption of these services at Vesper Hall and to complete the full 12 months of the program year, an increase is required within the agreement:

	Current	Increase	Total
Congregate Nutrition @ \$5.86/meal	\$66,703	\$24,026	\$90,729
Home Delivered Nutrition @ \$5.96/meal	\$73,297	\$11,920	\$85,217
Total Nutrition Value of Agreement	\$140,000	\$35,946	\$175,946

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging recommended that the MARC Board authorize the increase in the total value of MARC's SFY 2023 Community Center Services agreement with the City of Blue Springs.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

The City of Blue Springs, Missouri.

EXHIBITS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve amendment to increase the current Community Center Services agreement with the City of Blue Springs by a total of \$35,946.

STAFF CONTACT:

Melody Elston

Bob Hogan

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 6e

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve amendment to increase the current Community Center Services agreement with the Don Bosco Community Center

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Aging and Adult Services contracts with the Don Bosco Community Center to provide community center services to eligible participants. These services are funded through the Older Americans Act. The agreement consists of eight components. Those components include a congregate nutrition site that prepares and serves hot, nutritious meals daily. Additionally, meals are prepared, packaged, and delivered hot to individuals who are homebound.

A fourth component was inadvertently omitted from the original recommendation and is therefore not included in the current agreement. Through the end of February, Don Bosco has delivered nearly 17,000 frozen meals and received \$27,991 in payment. MARC's Aging and Adult Services requests approval to include this service within Don Bosco's existing Community Services Agreement.

All these programs were in greater demand than expected at the time the present agreement was established.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

To prevent disruption of these services, and to complete the full twelve months of the program year, an increase is required in the amounts within this agreement for these components, as follows:

	Current	Increase	Total
Congregate Nutrition @ \$6.62/meal	\$126,243	\$20,588	\$146,831
Home Delivered Nutrition @ \$5.96/meal	\$173,760	\$96,882	\$270,642
Hot Meal Delivery @ \$3.60/meal	\$93,784	\$54,994	\$148,778
Frozen Meal Delivery @ \$1.65/meal	\$0	\$48,500	\$48,500
Total Nutrition Value of Agreement	\$393,787	\$221,074	\$614,861

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Commission on Aging recommended that the MARC Board authorize the increase in the total value of MARC's SFY 2023 Community Center Services agreement with the Don Bosco Community Center.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Jackson County, Missouri.

EXHIBITS:

None

RECOMMENDATION

Approve amendment to increase the current Community Center Services agreement with the Don Bosco Community Center by a total of \$221,074.

STAFF CONTACT

Melody Elston

Bob Hogan

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 6f

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize the Mid-America Regional Council to contract with All Ways Caring and Dynamic Unity for In-home Respite

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Aging and Adult Services posted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for In-home Respite, an additional service program that provides caregivers support by attending to their loved ones so they can take time away from caregiving responsibilities to perform necessary tasks and attend to the caregiver's own wellness. MARC received responses from the following providers for the In-home Respite Service Line: All Ways Caring, Dynamic Unity, Crystal Home Care, and Senior Helpers.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

All Ways Caring	
Service Units Proposed	1,827
Proposed Unit Cost	\$30.52
Total Unit Cost	\$30.52
Total Contract Cost	\$55,760.04

Dynamic Unity	
Service Units Proposed	7,104
Proposed Unit Cost	\$30.52
Total Unit Cost	\$30.52
Total Contract Cost	\$216,814.08

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Two members of the Commission on Aging served on a proposal review panel and recommended All Ways Caring and Dynamic Unity through scoring. Crystal Home Care and Senior Helpers were disqualified for scoring due to incomplete item submission.

EXHIBITS:

None

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts the Missouri counties of Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Commission on Aging recommended authorization of contracts for In-home Respite Agreements with All Ways Caring for \$55,760.04 and Dynamic Unity for \$216,814.08 for upcoming SFY 2024.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties.

STAFF CONTACT

Melody Elston

Bob Hogan

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 6g

Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an application to the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance for the FY2023 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program

BACKGROUND:

The Eastern Jackson County Shared Services Initiative includes Blue Springs, Grandview, Independence, Lee's Summit and Raytown. These five cities in Missouri work collaboratively on issues such as employee training and cooperative purchasing. In 2020, the original participants of Blue Springs, Independence and Lee's Summit partnered with Certified Community Behavioral Health Organizations (CCBHOs) Burrell Behavioral Health d/b/a Comprehensive Mental Health Services and ReDiscover to expand a program to embed mental health clinicians within the three police departments to respond with law enforcement on calls for service. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) administers a grant through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) to support this work. The current grant expires in September 2023.

The partners asked MARC to apply for a new grant through the Connect and Protect program to sustain funding for the mental health co-responder partnership. If awarded, the grant will begin in October 2023. The new funding would expand the program to all five police departments. The CCBHOs will expand their staff, cover some annual training costs and work with the police departments to improve program data collection and analysis.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The grant award is for \$550,000 for three years. Below is an estimated budget based on preliminary planning among the grant partners.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$550,000
Source	FY23 DOJ BJA Connect and Project Grant
Amount	\$231,250
Source	In-Kind Local Match (CCBHOs and Law Enforcement)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$101,931
Contractual	
Pass-Through	\$448,069
In-Kind	\$231,250
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This grant involves communities in suburban Jackson County, Missouri and primarily reaches Blue Springs, Grandview, Independence, Lee's Summit and Raytown.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an application to the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance for the FY2023 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program in the amount of \$550,000 plus local match to expand the Eastern Jackson County Mental Health Co-Responder Program.

STAFF CONTACT:

Lauren Palmer

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023

Item No. 6h

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an application and acceptance of funds from the Health Forward Foundation to support the KC Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) supported the launch of a regional community health worker collaborative in 2016, and MARC has continued to assist with coordination of the collaborative and various committees through regular meetings, communications and outreach, planning and training. Community Health Workers (CHWs) are individuals trained to work with patients to connect them to needed health care and community services that help 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, encouraging agencies to consider adding CHWs to their workforce; supervisory, Continuing Education Unit (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 CHW services.

The work that would be supported by the two-year Health Forward Foundation grant would include continuation of support for expanding the collaborative, promoting the use of CHWs by local healthcare and other agencies, supporting education and advocacy around state policy to support use of CHWs, and helping agencies utilize established insurance billing codes to secure reimbursement for CHW services.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$250,000
Source	Health Forward Foundation
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$125,000
Contractual	ES Advisors LLC - \$60,000; GTI: \$26,000; Billing Consultant: \$20,000; Training Consultant: \$11,500
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	Meeting \$3,000; Printing \$2,000; Supplies \$2,500

EXHIBITS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

VOTE: Authorize an application and acceptance of funds from the Health Forward Foundation for \$250,000 to support the KC Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel
Hannayd Ruiz

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2023
Item No. 6i
Exemplary Core Capacities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve changes to employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND:

MARC's cafeteria, health, dental and vision insurance plans operate on a July 1 — June 30 plan year. MARC currently offers four health insurance plans, one dental plan and one vision plan to employees, all obtained through Midwest Public Risk (MPR). Periodically, we do a full marketing of our health benefits to ensure competitive pricing.

In April 2023, the MPR Board of Directors approved premium increases of 3% to 5% with minimal changes to the plan designs. This year, MPR marketed the entire risk pool and have changed providers from Cigna to United Healthcare or UMR. Even with that change, MPR was able to offer us the same array of plan options and plan design at no increase in cost.

The following are goals that have been developed for benefit plan renewal:

- Offer plan options that represent true choice differences.
- Offer plans with benefit structures that are competitive to the market.
- Offer market competitive employer/employee cost sharing.
- Implement a program that is within our budget and is publicly appropriate.

The Employee Council reviewed the renewal based on these goals.

MARC uses Hallier Benefit Advisors to assist in benefits management. In comparison with regional and national data provided by Hallier Benefit Advisors, the premiums offered are competitive in the market. Other features of the plans including deductibles, premiums, and employee/employer cost sharing are also competitive with the market.

Employee/Employer Cost Sharing

As a basis for cost sharing, MARC designates one plan as a basic "core insurance plan" each year on which to base the cost sharing formula. MARC's current employer premium cost sharing percentages are 72% for family, 78.3% for Tier 2 and 82.3% for individual coverage. The plan with the largest number of employees, the HDHP 1500, is identified as the core plan and the dollar amounts are then carried forward to all plans.

Other Benefits

Dental and vision insurance rates did not change either. MARC does not contribute towards these plans. Staff recommends continuing to offer both benefits.

All employees (whether on MARC's health insurance or not) currently receive a monthly Cafeteria Allowance which helps offset insurance costs and/or to purchase optional benefits of dental, vision, life and disability insurance and/or to contribute to a flexible spending account or health savings account. The current allowance is \$220/month. Staff recommends no increase to that allowance at this time.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

For many years, MARC has offered a Health Savings Account pre-fund option for the HDHP plans. This approach provides the employee with some funds available in the HSA to help with any medical expenses that occur early in the plan year. The current pre-fund amount for individual coverage is \$600, and \$1,200 for tier 2 or family coverage. Staff recommends no change to this benefit for this plan year.

Summary of Recommendations

Recommendations for the 2023-2024 Plan Year are as follows:

- Health Insurance

Plan	Total Premium	Employer			Employee	
Copay Plan 1500						
Family	\$2010.00	\$1172.00	58.3%	\$838.00	41.7%	
Tier 2	1712.00	1076.00	62.9%	636.00	37.1%	
Single	746.00	487.00	65.3%	259.00	34.7%	
Copay Plan 2500						
Family	\$1938.00	\$1172.00	60.5%	\$766.00	39.5%	
Tier 2	1650.00	1076.00	65.2%	574.00	34.8%	
Single	716.00	487.00	68.0%	229.00	32.0%	
High Deductible 1500*						
Family	\$1628.00	\$1172.00	72.0%	\$456.00	28.0%	
Tier 2	1374.00	1076.00	78.3%	298.00	21.7%	
Single	592.00	487.00	82.3%	105.00	17.7%	
High Deductible 2500						
Family	\$1464.00	\$1172.00	80.1%	\$292.00	19.9%	
Tier 2	1242.00	1076.00	86.6%	166.00	13.4%	
Single	518.00	487.00	94.0%	31.00	6.0%	

*Core Plan

- Vision and Dental Insurance. Employees who elect vision and/or dental plans may use their Cafeteria Plan Allowance for premiums. There is no other cost sharing from MARC.

	Employee Total Monthly Premium		
	Family	Tier 2	Individual
Vision	\$ 22.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 8.00
Dental	88.00		36.00

- Cafeteria Plan Allowance at \$220/month.
- Pre-funding option for employees on the high deductible plans of \$600 for individual and \$1,200 for family and tier 2.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

All employer share of benefit costs are budgeted in the Indirect and Clearing Fund and funded through our Fringe Benefits allocation rate. Budgeted numbers are calendar year, and include 6 months of one plan year, and 6 months of the next plan year.

Employer Costs	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023R Budget	
Health Insurance	\$1,304,905	\$1,255,401	\$1,466,208	Based on proposed cost sharing
Cafeteria Allowance	\$439,200	\$407,160	\$450,120	

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize changes to the employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2023, including offering the Copay Plan 1500, Copay Plan 2500, QHDHP 1500 and QHDHP 2500 with the cost sharing shown above; continuing to offer employee funded Vision and Dental insurance; continuing the Cafeteria Plan Allowance at \$220/month; and prefunding QHDHP plan Health Savings Accounts at \$600/\$1200 to be repaid by employees over the plan year.

STAFF CONTACT

Jeremy Medlin
Carol Gonzales