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Active Transportation Programming Committee Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Time: 10:30 AM to 12:00

Location: In-person – Lewis & Clark Room, MARC Offices and online via Zoom.

Attendees

Allison Smith, KDOT
Angie Laurie, City of Kansas City, MO
Athena Huynh, City of Grandview
Bailey Waters, City of Kansas City, MO Public Works
Bill Noll, Leavenworth County
Brian Nowotny, Jackson County Parks + Rec (MO co-chair)
Brian Shields, City of Overland Park
Chuck Soules, City of Smithville
Dave McCumber, City of Blue Springs
Doug Wesselschmidt, City of Grandview
DuRon Netsell, MO Community Representative
Grant Purkey, City of Harrisonville
Eric Rogers, BikeWalkKC
John Pa James Wendell Phillips Neighborhood
Jared Elbert, City of Grandview
Jean Carder, City of Louisburg
John Jacobson, Leavenworth County
John Neuberger, Sierra Club (KS co-chair)
Juan Yin, MoDOT
Krystal Voth, City of Basehor
Leslee Rivarola, City of Basehor
Lisa Donnelly, Jackson County Parks + Rec

Lisa Treese, City of KCMO Parks and Recreation
Maddie Waldeck, City of Basehor
Mario Vasquez, City of Kansas City, MO
Marisela Ward, MoDOT
Mark Lee, City of Bonner Springs
Matt Davis, Jackson County Parks + Rec
Matt Henderson, Alfred Benesch & Associates
Mike Burton, City of Overland Park
Robinson Camp, City of Raytown
Rodney Honeycutt, City of Independence
Rodney Riffle, Johnson County PRD
Santos Arellano, Platte County EDC
Shelie Daniel, City of Kearney
Sherri McIntyre, City of Liberty
Soma San, Leavenworth County
Stacey Lowe, City of Independence
Steve Casey, City of Lee's Summit
Steven Lachky, City of Parkville
Ted Smith, Platte County
Tim Nebergall, City of Gladstone
Travis Hoover, City of Riverside
Vernon Fields, City of Basehor
Wes Minder, Platte County
Wendy Shay, City of Independence

MARC Staff

Jonathan Feverston
Marc Hansen

Martin Rivarola
Patrick Trouba

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. VOTE: Approve the November 8, 2023, meeting summary.

- a. Motion made and seconded.
- b. Summary approved.

3. Review of programmed projects and options for addressing KS and MO TAP balances

a. Kansas program balances and options (Patrick Trouba)

- i. Balance at end of FY 2023: \$3.18 million
- ii. Distribution for FY 2024: \$2.09 million
- iii. Total balance: \$5.28 million
- iv. Total of programmed projects for FY 2024: \$3.46 million. This assumes all projects will obligate that fiscal year.
- v. Minimum to obligate would be approximately the distribution for FY 2024: \$2.1 million
- vi. The goal to obligate is about \$3.5 million. This is a goal from MARC staff.
- vii. Allison Smith: Checking your numbers against mine... not sure where \$3.5 million came from... \$2.7 million is the amount for projects to be obligated this year.
- viii. Patrick Trouba: \$3.5 million is a staff goal and can change.
- ix. Options to take action:
 - 1. There are some projects in Kansas obligating very soon; MARC can use administrative modification to increase federal funding by up to 25%. Need to let KDOT know of changes very soon. Allison Smith: this week.
 - 2. Wes Minder: You mean an administrative TIP amendment? Patrick Trouba: Yes.
 - 3. Allocate funds to projects up to 80% of construction costs.
 - 4. Advance projects from later fiscal years to earlier ones.

b. Missouri program balances and options (Patrick Trouba)

- i. Balance at the end of FY 2023: \$11.6 million.
- ii. Distribution for FY 2024: \$4.6 million.
- iii. Total balance: \$16.2 million.
- iv. Total of programmed projects for FY 2024: \$12.06 million. This assumes all projects will obligate this fiscal year.
- v. Would like to see a minimum of \$4.6 million obligated in FY 2024
- vi. Goal to obligate for FY 2024: \$5.56 million, 120% of FY 2024 distribution
- vii. Options to take action:
 - 1. Projects are not obligating right away in Missouri, so we do not have the option of an administrative modification.
 - 2. Allocate funds to projects up to 80% of construction costs.
 - 3. Advance projects from later fiscal years to earlier ones.

- c. Brian Nowotny: do these numbers include CMAQ funds? Patrick Trouba: no, I kept them separate. Including them in the spreadsheet would have made things more confusing.
- d. Overview of the spreadsheet: includes numbers from TIP (except where sponsors have changed them). We asked sponsors to provide anticipated project costs since project costs are increasing for most; there were a couple cases where project costs went down. We also asked sponsors to provide anticipated obligation dates, letting dates, and general updates as of late November or early December. We calculated additional capacity for federal funds, sometimes based on project costs given by the sponsor.
- e. **Kansas Projects**
 - i. Bonner Springs – 138th St. Improvements Phase 1: Martin Rivarola: question about this project: the project cost from the sponsor is less than what we have in the TIP, and this impacts how much in funds the project can take. Wanted to confirm that. Mark Lee: that was the number our city engineer gave us.
 - ii. Martin Rivarola: There are three projects that are slated to be obligated later this month. We have the option of doing an administrative TIP amendment up to 25% of the total programmed funds. A fourth project is from Overland Park (Downtown Overland Park Wayfinding Signage), which can accept \$120,000. The total of modifications for these four projects would be \$891,000.
 - iii. Allison Smith: If we have the capacity to do it administratively and the cities can accept the federal funds, then that's the way I would go. Need to make sure to work very swiftly so to not jeopardize the letting of the projects.
 - iv. Martin Rivarola: we could turn this around and get paperwork to KDOT this afternoon.
 - v. Maddie Waldeck: **motion** to authorize administrative recommendations from MARC for the Bonner Springs project and the two Basehor projects as presented.
 - vi. Motion seconded.
 - vii. Martin Rivarola: There is a 4th project, the Downtown Overland Park Wayfinding Project, that could be a candidate for additional funds. Although that is above the 25% threshold, would require a TIP amendment, but there is time to do it. That is not part of your motion?
 - viii. Maddie Waldeck: I **amend my motion** to include the Overland Park Wayfinding Project as presented.
 - ix. Second concurred.
 - x. **Motion passes.** Effects include:
 - 1. Additional \$286,400 of KS TAP funds to 138th Street Improvements – Phase 1 (Bonner Springs).
 - 2. Additional \$310,020 of KS TAP funds to Basehor Civic Campus Trails
 - 3. Additional \$175,000 of KS TAP funds to Parallel Road and 158th Street Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements (Basehor).
 - 4. Additional \$120,000 of KS TAP funds to Downtown Overland Park Wayfinding Signage.
 - xi. Chuck Soules: how does that help with the balance? Patrick Trouba: balance would be spent down sooner. Chuck Soules: by about \$800,000? Patrick Trouba: Yes.
- f. **Missouri Projects**
 - i. Martin Rivarola: We've identified some candidates that can accept some additional funding. This program is more difficult. We received updated information from some project sponsors, but not all, though some recent information was submitted before the meeting. Wanted to start with a review of projects scheduled for FY 2024.

- ii. Complete Street Improvements, 3rd St. Blue Pkwy. to Jefferson, and Market St. (Lee's Summit): This project has most funding in local construction funds instead of TA funding, but they do have \$500,000 in TA funding. This project could accept quite a bit of additional federal funds, over \$5 million. Steve Casey: numbers were prepared by city engineer and project consultant; don't have any additional information. Would take as much as could be reasonably obligated to the project. Martin Rivarola: Is this project on track to obligate by May? Steve Casey: This project is very much on track, yes.
- iii. Little Blue Trace/Rock Island Connector: this project has \$475,000 in TA funding and a similar amount in local construction funding. Cost of the project is projected at \$1,750,000. This was a priority for Jackson County? Matt Davis: Yes, the cost of the project has jumped significantly a couple of times. The local construction share in the TIP must be a very early number. The additional \$925,000 would get us to a 80/20 federal/local share. We could certainly use that entire amount. Had already anticipated a large local share before the last increase in project costs. Any additional funds would help us deliver the project.
- iv. Commercial Pedestrian Project (Smithville): This project has \$500,000 in TA funding and \$250,000 in local funding in the TIP. The updated anticipated cost for the project is \$1,250,000. Based on the updated cost estimate, the project could accept \$460,000 in additional federal funds. In the November meeting, the Committee granted Smithville \$1 million for the Streetscape project. Chuck Soules: this project is a 6-foot sidewalk that will go from downtown to the high school. We are on track to bid this in late spring or early summer. Need some temporary easements. Residents and City have worked well together.
- v. Linden Connector (Gladstone): This project has \$475,000 in TA funding with \$325,000 of local funding according to the TIP. With no updated cost, we calculate it could accept an additional \$165,000. Looks like it should be obligated in 2024. Tim Nebergall: We could use additional funding. Cost estimate is just under \$900,000. Submitted ROW plans and just about finished up environmental. A little apprehension since ROW has not been acquired yet, but don't anticipate any delays, so additional funding would be accepted. Patrick Trouba: based on a \$900,000 cost estimate, the project could accept an additional \$245,000. Martin Rivarola: What is your confidence level that this project will obligate in 2024? Tim Nebergall: Confidence level is good; it's funded at the city level, so it will obligate this year. Just one property owner that is cause for concern, but still confident the City can work through it. Marisela Ward: For ROW, would you be condemning property? Tim Nebergall: No, we have other options.
- vi. Greenwood Connector: Jefferson to Hamblen Road (Jackson County): \$475,000 of TA funding, anticipated project cost of \$1.26 million, could accept \$58,000, obligating fairly soon, in March. Matt Davis: numbers are correct, could use the funds, in ROW right now, so the timeline is good and we should be able to obligate Q1 2024.
- vii. Vivion Road Trail Segment 1 (Riverside): \$500,000 in TA funding. Not a very large project, small additional capacity for federal funding. Should be able to obligate this year. Marisela Ward: We have PS&E, just need ROW.
- viii. Bike Share Missouri Phase 6 (BikeWalkKC): Has \$250,000 of TAP funding. May not have used up all prior dollars. Will it obligate in 2024? Eric Rogers: Yes, should be closing out current grant in the coming months and on track to obligate this year. If costs are too high, we'll scale back the project instead of taking additional money.
- ix. SRTS: Local Spokes Missouri 2023-2024 (BikeWalkKC): Eric Rogers: already executed our contract with MoDOT. Marisela Ward: This is already obligated.

- x. Vivion Road Trail Extension – Phase 1 (Gladstone): Received note from sponsor saying that Gladstone would like to move funds to FY 2026. Tim Nebergall: working with MoDOT on bigger project, will not be obligated in 2024.
- xi. Truman Connect (Independence): Has \$500,000 in TA funding. Anticipated cost from the sponsor of \$11 million. Stacey Lowe: Planning on obligating in 2024. Understand that we will be cutting it close to obligate in FY 2024; building schedule with that understanding. Working on finalizing ROW plans to MoDOT so that we can get started with acquisition. Martin Rivarola: could be a candidate for additional funding, although the timeline makes it difficult. Stacey Lowe: This project may need a TIP update; project has been split into multiple phases.
- xii. 23rd Street (M-78 Highway) Complete Streets (Independence): \$145,090 in TA funding. Larger project: total anticipated costs at \$4 million. Stacey Lowe: no update on this; supposed to be in conjunction with a redevelopment, and those conversations have not moved forward, so this project has been on hold.
- xiii. Kansas City, MO projects: Bailey Waters, Mario Vasquez, Lisa Treese:
 1. Paseo Boulevard Bikeways: we would like to get this obligated in 2024, but could be cutting it close.
 2. Vivion Corridor Improvements: Needs to move to FY 2025. This is a much larger project that we originally conceived. Cost estimate now closer to \$8 million; need a TIP amendment. Depends on how acquisition goes; it is tied to a roadway improvement. Going to try to get this done in FY 2024; if we hit condemnation, that could slow the process down.
 3. US-169 Bike/Ped Overpass: should be able to obligate in FY 2024. Getting the plans reviewed by MoDOT. There is an opportunity to allocate additional funds to this project.
 4. Missouri River Trail Segment 1: plans are being finalized and submitted to MoDOT for review, should be able to stay in FY 2024.
 5. KCI Corridor Trail Segment 1: Plans are approved, getting ready to advertise, will stay in 2024.
 6. Swope Park Blue River Connector Trail: This project is complete. Can be taken off the list.
 7. KCI Corridor Trail Segments 2 and 3: Plans have been approved, getting them advertised.
 8. Lexington Gladstone Bikeways: Likely to come back with an additional scope change; meeting with Council members tomorrow. If they approve, should still be able to get done in FY 2024.
 9. Martha Truman Connector Trail: would like to get extra funding for this one if we can. TA funds are at \$250,000, cost estimate is \$704,000. Have turned in PS&E, about to resubmit. Ready to obligate in spring 2024.
 10. Route 9 and NW Prairie View Road: can keep this in FY 2024. A couple small easements needed.
- xiv. Martin Rivarola: a few projects may not obligate in FY 2024: Gladstone Vivion Road Trail Extension Phase 1, Independence 23rd Street, and Kansas City's Vivion Road Improvements. It may not be as urgent to take action at this meeting today; the Jackson County Greenwood Connector is obligating sooner, but others are obligating later. Any funds reallocated by the Committee would have to be used in FY 2024.
- xv. Mario Vasquez: given that our projects would obligate around August, could we take this up at the next meeting in February? Not sure what the implications are for shifting funds.
- xvi. Marc Hansen: In the last programming round, we programmed all funds that we anticipate would come to the region in FY 2026. If you're moving money around

and adding it to projects earlier in the program, you're taking it out of the back end of the program. With such a large balance building, we need to give the public the benefit of the dollars that have been allocated to the region. Taking funding out of the back end of the program may impact how much funding we have for FY 2027 and 2028, but the Committee has consistently delayed a lot of projects each year. There will be potential impacts, but the Committee can probably deal with it.

- xvii. Marisela Ward: Last year MoDOT looked at STP balances, this year MoDOT will look at TAP and BRO funding, as a heads up.
- xviii. Chuck Soules: have a comment from a smaller community like Smithville: we have a hard time coming up with local funding; the sooner we can resolve these problems, the sooner we can make decisions. If we don't have the funding to do a project, we need to know that sooner.
- xix. Brian Nowotny: Marc, to clarify, you mentioned the potential of funds available for FY 2027 and 2028, was that to say that those funds could backfill funds that were advanced to earlier projects? Marc Hansen: we would anticipate new allocation amounts from the federal program, but projects take a long time to get going. Most of the time our programming is outside of a federal bill. If we're spending all of the allocations in our balance, then we have to spread the program more thinly. Brian Nowotny: History says we're pushing more projects back. Chuck Soules: to get to 80 percent, we need a TIP amendment, correct? Marc Hansen: depends how much funding is being added. If the addition is 25% or less, that's an administrative modification and we can do it quickly. But if it's more, or change their scope, we need a TIP amendment, which is a longer process.
- xx. Martin Rivarola: One project is obligating in March, Jackson County's Greenwood Connector. It has \$58,000 of capacity. There may need to be some conversation with the Committee about projects that can take a lot of funding, but there is time to talk about those.
- xxi. Wes Minder: is there an opportunity to include STP funding? Marc Hansen: I don't know that the STP committees will entertain new projects outside of their own program. Marisela Ward: the actions the MO-STP Committee took were to spend FY 2023 funding.
- xxii. Matt Davis: one point on the Little Blue Trace/Rock Island Connector, that is a joint project with KCMO. It is in KCMO and some of the responsibilities are being split. So, this is a KCMO project, too.
- xxiii. Martin Rivarola: The extra capacity for the Greenwood Connector, \$58,000, falls within the 25% limit for an administrative amendment. That could be handled immediately. Marc Hansen: are those estimates correct? Matt Davis: Possible I entered the wrong engineer's estimate, but I think it's in the ballpark.
- xxiv. Patrick Trouba: Lisa Treese says in the chat to please consider Martha Truman Connector which could obligate before March 2024. Calculations on the spreadsheet indicate that it could take \$313,200 more in federal funding.
- xxv. Brian Nowotny: I'm hearing two lines of discussion: one is that there is some time to reevaluate and for staff to look at some scenarios, but also hearing that there is some early 2024 obligation opportunities that could take additional funding, as well as some decisions that would need to be made by some of the projects for planning and engineering.
- xxvi. Marisela Ward: the projects we have out there, engineering should keep going, we're just considering additional funding.
- xxvii. Doug Wesselschmidt: this might be an appropriate time to talk about a project in Grandview that has FY 2025 funding: the Kansas City Southern Railroad to Blue Ridge Blvd. – we're widening the roadway and adding a sidewalk and a

multipurpose trail to the Blue Ridge Blvd. section. Project started out using federal railroad funds as well as some funds from Kansas City Southern. With the last round of TAP funds, we received (and appreciate) \$900,000 in FY 2025 funds. This is a project we can obligate and intend to bid in FY 2024, so if it were possible to acquire additional FY 2024 funds, we'd appreciate it. We're seeing extreme cost escalations. Brian Nowotny: Grandview's estimation is high that it can be a 2024 project to help with the balance issue? Doug Wesselchmidt: Yes, we intend to let the project in '24. Wes Minder: since August is the target for PS&E, would we have to decide in the spring? Marc Hansen: the last TIP amendment that we would do on a regular cycle before the end of the fiscal year... we would release it for public comment in June, approve in July, and hope that it gets through MoDOT and the Governor's office in August. Prior to that, you'd have a March public comment for an April approval. If this Committee met again in February, that would be a realistic schedule. Martin Rivarola: we're looking for projects in later years that could realistically move up, that appears to be the case with this one. I do have a note in the spreadsheet that the anticipated letting date is May of 2024; is that what you're looking at? Doug Wesselchmidt: Yes.

- xxviii. Bailey Waters: a note on one of KCMO's projects: Missouri River Trail Segment 1 could use additional funds. That project would stay in 2024.
- xxix. Doug Wesselchmidt: As part of the Grandview project, we've already required the necessary ROW for the project. Other than the funding gap, we're ready to go.
- xxx. Matt Davis: I do think the estimate on the Greenwood Connector is old, need a better number for it. But we're still on track in terms of completing ROW and PS&E and getting it out to bid. Martin Rivarola: that's a project that obligates in March, so the window for additional funds will be closing soon. The next meeting of the Committee is February. Also have the Martha Truman Connector Trail, obligating in the spring, extra capacity is \$313,200. The Grandview project is a large project (could take \$6.46 million more).
- xxxi. Chuck Soules: all the projects that are already scheduled in 2024, with the exception of a couple, don't reach the \$900k that Grandview has already received. Most of these projects could use some additional funding.
- xxxii. Brian Nowotny: Since there is no motion, it seems appropriate to ask staff to work to update the spreadsheet and get it out to everybody, and give some consideration to the larger projects on the list, particularly given the roadway focus vs the bike/ped focus, and bring it back to the Committee in February for more discussion and a recommendation for action.
- xxxiii. Chuck Soules: Is there a reason we couldn't meet in January? Wes Minder: February would give more time for NEPA and other matters.
- xxxiv. Brian Nowotny: project sponsors should strive to get information in to MARC staff for the February meeting.

4. Adjournment

- a. Wes Minder: a mile of the Second Creek Trail has been completed with a used railroad flatcar bridge. Encourage everyone to try it out.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 10:30 a.m.