

## **SUSTAINABLE PLACES POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **September 13, 2024 Meeting Summary**

#### **Committee Members**

Mayor Dean Katerndahl, Parkville, MO Co-chair  
Councilmember Logan Heley, Overland Park, KS Co-chair  
Brian Alferman, Johnson County, KS  
Michael Park, Lee's Summit, MO  
Leslee Rivarola, Basehor, KS  
Melissa Schmitz, MoDOT  
Allison Smith, KDOT

#### **Guests**

Mike Burton, Overland Park, KS	Mark Lee, Bonner Springs, KS
Tom Cole, Platte City, MO	Summer Lutz, Platte City, MO
Shelie Daniel, Kearney, MO	Shannon McGuire, Lee's Summit MO
AJ Farris, KCATA	Spencer Norman, UMKC
Alyssa Fielder, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS	Sean Partain, WSP
John Findlay, Liberty, MO	Sean P., Kimley-Horn
Lauren Grashoff, Shawnee, KS	Sue Pyles, Lee's Summit, MO
Julie Hurley, Leavenworth, KS	Luke Ranker, Kansas City, MO
Brian Jackson, Wilson & Co	Christina Stanton, Harrisonville, MO
Krystal Jolly, MoDOT	Cate Tucker, MoDOT
Cathy Justice, Bridging the Gap	Gerald Williams, Kansas City, MO
Karie Kneller, Mission, KS	Juan Yin, MoDOT

#### **MARC Staff Present**

Beth Dawson, Ron Achelpohl, Megan Broll, Dianna Bryant, Taylor Cunningham, Bobby Evans, Tom Jacobs, Frank Lenk, Marlene Nagel, Katie Newman, Martin Rivarola, Cy Smith

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

Missouri Co-Chair Mayor Dean Katerndahl called the meeting to order. Introductions in-person and online followed.

#### **Approval of August 9, 2024 Meeting Summary**

Co-Chair Katerndahl called for any additions or corrections to the meeting summary draft; none were suggested. Kansas Co-Chair Logan Heley motioned to accept the meeting summary; Brian Alferman seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting summary was approved.

#### **Finalize Planning Sustainable Places Funding Recommendations**

Principal Planner Beth Dawson reviewed the proposed funding recommendation developed by the committee for Kansas projects at the previous SPPC meeting. Ms. Dawson confirmed with sponsors that they would be able to move forward with their projects with the proposed funding, and no changes were suggested to the proposal.

Due to additional funding being available, the previous proposal for Missouri projects was under programmed by \$92,500. Ms. Dawson presented potential scenarios of distributing that funding,

and the committee discussed customizing percentages of funding based on scalability, sponsor priority, and scoring. KCATA noted their project was very scalable and they would be willing to accept less than 100% funding. The committee finalized its funding recommendations as follows:

Kansas:

Primary Applicant	Project Title	Federal Amount Requested	Recommended	
			%	Funding
Unified Government	UG Zoning Code Update	\$ 150,000	100%	\$150,000
City of Bonner Springs	Bonner Springs Connectivity and Walkability Plan	\$ 65,000	90%	\$ 58,500
City of Leavenworth	7th Street Corridor Study	\$ 65,000	90%	\$ 58,500
City of Osawatomie	Mile Zero Trailhead Master Plan	\$ 36,000	100%	\$ 36,000
City of Overland Park	Overland Park Wayfinding Master Plan	\$ 64,000	90%	\$ 57,600
City of Basehor	Basehor Town Center Trail and Recreation	\$ 60,000		\$ 34,000

Missouri:

Primary Applicant	Project Title	Federal Amount Requested	Recommended	
			%	Funding
City of Kearney	Connected Kearney Plan	\$ 75,000	100%	\$ 75,000
City of Kansas City	Forgotten Homes and Independence Plaza Study	\$ 150,000	100%	\$ 150,000
City of Platte City	Historic Downtown Platte City and Courthouse Square	\$ 150,000	100%	\$ 150,000
City of Lee's Summit	Rock Island Trail Connectivity and Wayfinding Plan	\$ 40,000	100%	\$ 40,000
KCATA	Blue Ridge TOD and Transit Center Study	\$ 150,000		\$ 142,000
City of Liberty	Leonard/Lightburne Multimodal and Reconstruction Study	\$ 150,000	95%	\$ 142,500
City of Harrisonville	Harrisonville Downtown Area Traffic and Parking Study	\$ 120,000	95%	\$ 114,000
City of Parkville	Parkville Sidewalk Gap Inventory and Rating Plan	\$ 20,000	95%	\$ 19,000

Co-Chair Heley moved to recommend both Kansas and Missouri funding recommendations as proposed, and Michael Park seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

After review and approval by the Total Transportation Policy Committee, these recommendations will be submitted to the MARC Board for final approval. Kickoff meetings with sponsors have been scheduled and the first set of requests for proposals will be released October 1, 2024.

### **Presentation of Final Regional Forecast**

Director of Research Service Frank Lenk presented the final regional forecast for the long-range transportation plan update. The forecast will go before the MARC Board in October for final approval and adoption. As previously stated, birth rates are declining and could continue to decline further; without immigration, the natural increase in births minus deaths for the nation would turn negative in 2038. Mr. Lenk addressed immigration rates and that current projections are based on historical norms, but can be affected by policy choice. The greatest difference between the current and previous population forecasts is due to changes in natural increase, not

immigration. The Technical Forecast Committee will evaluate economic forecasts in the Kansas City region, which will be impacted by the Panasonic plant, on-shoring, security-related assets, and climate migration. Compared to the previous forecast, the current forecast predicts slower population growth, but higher job growth; however, nearly half of the increase is recovery from the recession due to Covid in 2020.

### **Connected KC 2050 Project Prioritization, Upcoming Engagement and Next Steps**

Assistant Director of Transportation and Land Use Martin Rivarola shared the latest report on MARC's efforts to update the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Connected KC 2050, which is required to be updated every five years. Previous work has included scenario planning, public engagement, and updating projects and their prioritization. Mr. Rivarola shared current goals and strategies, public feedback, and system performance reports. Committee members were asked if the policy framework reflects public preferences and priorities, if the policy framework advances progress toward all the goals of the plan, and how the proposed policy framework can facilitate more balanced outcomes in cases where proposed investments may advance some goals at the expense of others.

The committee discussed ebikes as a mobility option, and considered how road diets/reducing traffic lane size could provide potential benefits in maintenance costs and bike/pedestrian facilities. Mr. Rivarola shared about multimodal aspects of the plan and the Complete Streets policy.

### **Decarbonization Report**

Transportation Interns Cy Smith and Katie Newman developed the presentation discussing the findings of a USDOT report on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, noting the transportation sector accounts for about one third of emissions. The DOT has committed to rapidly decarbonizing the sector to account for the significant economic and environmental impacts of GHG emissions. When evaluating different scenarios of GHG reduction based on reduced Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and increased amount of Electric Vehicles (EV) in the vehicle fleet, significant changes to both are necessary to meet the country's net-zero emissions goal by 2050. Mr. Smith shared considerations for investments, planning, and project development to aid GHG reduction efforts at the local and regional level.

### **Solid Waste Planning Introduction**

Solid Waste Management District Program Manager Dianna Bryant discussed a 14-month regional planning project aimed at addressing the growing demand for landfills and the transportation impacts associated with waste management. The vision for the plan is to promote a circular resource management system that is comprehensive, convenient, and cost-effective. Ms. Bryant discussed reduction of waste and landfill usage through reuse and material recovery, composting, and local recycling and manufacturing. The planning work is in its first stage of identifying data needs to support infrastructure investments and drive planning efforts. Ms. Bryant shared a survey link (<https://marc.jotform.com/241436917040048>) and informed the committee of upcoming public engagement efforts.

### **Other Business**

No further business was called. The next SPPC meeting will be on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Co-Chair Katerndahl adjourned the meeting.