

Board of Directors MEETING NOTICE

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

September 23, 2025 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 marcinfo@marc.org by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, for instructions to join the teleconference.

AGENDA

- 1. Brief Self-Introductions
- 2. QUALITY EARLY LEARNING
 - a. REPORT: Briefing on Missouri Early Connections program that provides community resources for parents and professionals.
- 3. HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT
 - a. REPORT: Introducing a regional solid waste plan for material recovery.
- 4. EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
 - a. REPORT: Briefing on draft 2026 Missouri and Kansas State Policy Agendas.
- 5. BRIEF REPORTS
 - a. REPORT: Public sector workforce development update and launch of new website for promoting public service job openings.
 - b. VOTE: Update on Regional Housing Partnership and authorization for contractual services for network mapping with Visible Network Labs.
- 6. Executive Director's Report

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

- 7. VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda
 - a. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the August 26, 2025, Board Meeting
 - b. VOTE: Authorization to solicit and accept funds from the States of Kansas and Missouri for The Mid-America Regional Council's air quality program.
 - c. VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency to support the Mid-America Missouri Local Emergency Planning District.
 - d. VOTE: Approve Actions Taken on the September 9th, 2025, Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting.
 - e. VOTE: Ratify an application for and acceptance of an award of \$400,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation to support the Double Up Food Bucks Program.
 - f. VOTE: Approve amendments to contractual agreements with partnering organizations which assist with implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program.
 - g. VOTE: Retroactively approve a grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation for a Capacity Building Grant to support economic mobility and workforce development.



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- h. VOTE: Authorize contract amendment with The Family Conservancy for the Refugee Family Childcare Micro-Enterprise Development program.
- 8. Other Business
- 9. Adjournment

MARC Board of Directors - Members and Alternates

Name	Jurisdiction	Title
Anderson, Jalen	Jackson County	County Legislator - Designee for County Exectuive Frank White Jr.
Bacon, John	Olathe, KS	Mayor
Baird, Bill	Lee's Summit, MO	Mayor
Boley, Damien	Smithville, MO	Mayor
Bolon, Greg	MoDOT	District Engineer
Bunch, Eric	Kansas City, MO	Councilmember
Burroughs, Tom	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Caiharr, Carolyn	Edwardsville, KS	Mayor
Carpenter, Jon	Clay County	Commissioner
Culbertson, Jeff	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Dove, Willie	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Duncan, Johnathan	Kansas City, MO	Councilmember
Fast, Becky	Johnson County	Commissioner - Designee for Commission Chair Mike Kelly
Fears, Jared	Independence, MO	Councilmember
Fricker, Scott	Platte County	Presiding Commissioner
Garner, Tyrone	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Mayor/CEO
Grummert, Holly	Overland Park, KS	Councilmember
Hanzlick, Janee	Johnson County	Commissioner
Hardy, Jeff*	MoDOT	Asst. District Engineer
Heley, Logan	Overland Park, KS	Councilmember - Designee for Mayor Curt Skoog
Hill, Dr. Evelyn	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Hockemeier, Max	Ray County	Commissioner
Hurlbert, Victor	Clay County	Auditor
Huston, Bob	Cass County	Commissioner
Jones, Leonard	Mayor	Grandview, MO
Kane, Mike	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner - Designee for Mayor/CEO Tyrone Garner
Kelly, Mike	Johnson County	Commission Chairman
Lopez, Beto	Lee's Summit, MO	Mayor Pro Tem – Designee for Mayor Bill Baird
Lucas, Quinton	Kansas City, MO	Mayor Mayor
McCandless, Bridget	Independence, MO	Councilmember – Designee for Mayor Rory Rowland
McDonough, Mike	Raytown, MO	Mayor
McGee, DaRon	Jackson County	Legislator
Meyers, Jeff	Johnson County	Commissioner
Mikkelson, Eric	Prairie Village, KS	Mayor
Moriarty, Michael**	KDOT	Chief of Transportation Planning
Nolte, Jerry	Clay County	Presiding Commissioner
Pogue, Randy	Kearney, MO	Mayor
Poppa, Michael	Johnson County municipalities	Mayor
Pretz, George	Miami County	Commission Chairman
Ramirez, Christian	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Rowland, Rory	Independence, MO	Mayor
Sandifer, Mickey	•	Mayor
Skoog, Curt	Overland Park, KS	Mayor
Smith, Megan	Jackson County	Legislator
Smith, Mike	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Stephens, Tom	Bonner Springs, KS	Mayor
Stieben, Mike	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Tracy, Sheila	Ray County	Presiding Commissioner
Turnbow, Kristofer	Raymore, MO	Mayor
Vaughan, Tyler	Miami County	Commissioner
Vogt, Marge	Olathe, KS	Council member - Designee for Mayor John Bacon
Wagner, Scott	Clay County	Commissioner
Walker, Rick	De Soto, KS	Mayor
White III, Frank**	KCATA	President/CEO
White Jr., Frank		
•	Jackson County	County Executive
Willett, Nathan	Kansas City, MO	Council member
Wright, Chris	Platte County	Recorder of Deeds
Younis, Inas	Overland Park, KS	Council member

^{*}Public Transit Representatives (Voting) **Public Transit Advisory Representatives (Non-Voting)

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 1

ISSUE:

Introductions and Board Sharing Time

BACKGROUND:

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

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 2a Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

REPORT: Briefing on Missouri Early Connections program that provides community resources for parents and professionals.

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is one of four partners in the Northwest Region of the Missouri Early Connections program that seeks to make navigating Missouri's Early Care & Education (ECE) system easier for families and professionals. As a part of this work, they have developed a system of Childhood Community Leaders in every part of the state that develop and implement strong community plans aimed at ensuring all families with young children can access high-quality programs, services, and resources in their communities.

MARC staff will highlight how these Childhood Community Leaders bring together local stakeholders to increase awareness of and coordination among early childhood programs and services. And how they contribute to the statewide resource website by identifying and documenting local resources. By leveraging these tools, community leaders improve access to early childhood programs and services for families with young children and reduce any unnecessary duplication of services through coordination.

Funding for this program is provided through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Childhood and is submitted annually from May to June of the following year.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Atchison, Holt, Nodaway, Worth, Gentry, Andrew, Dekalb, Buchanan, Clinton, Platte, Clay, Jackson, Cass, Bates, and Vernon counties in Missouri.

EXHIBITS:

Power Point presentation will be provided after the board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information Only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Pam Harris, Early Learning Shared Services Dr. Toni Sturdivant, Director of Early Learning

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 3a Healthy Environment

ISSUE:

REPORT: Introducing a regional solid waste plan for material recovery.

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Solid Waste Management District (SWMD) team has concluded a two-year planning process to develop a solid waste plan for the region. This process was transformative and resulted in a focus on material recovery from merely efficient disposal and recycling of residential trash. The planning process also launched an economic growth strategy to maximize the value of previously discarded materials from all sectors that generate solid waste. The strategies include action items at multiple scales including: local community-based reuse and repair hubs, expansion of recycling to underserved rural areas, local government engagement to utilize used tires in asphalt paving, and economic growth for the region with new and expanded business opportunities to collect, process, build, and manufacture with recovered materials.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

How can the region work to locate and support a network of reuse hubs and resource recovery parks where the value of recovered materials can build community and fuel economic expansion?

REGIONAL INVESTMENT:

The SWMD has invested \$15 million over the last 30 years to build infrastructure, programs, and services to divert materials from landfills. The MARC Board recently approved \$795,000 in grants to reduce waste of food, single use food service items, recover furniture and household items for reuse, recycle mattresses, provide more Repair Cafes, demonstrate the functionality of low carbon concrete using waste drywall, and advance the work in Missouri to recover and recycle paint, tires, and mattresses through the adoption of Extended Producer Responsibility legislation.

The SWMD grant funds must be expended for services in Missouri, but Kansas citizens also have access to many of the services provided by organizations funded. These services include expansion of Kanbe's Markets in KCKS, availability of mattress recycling, access to Flourish Furniture Bank for furnishing households that are recently rehoused in the region, access to Repair Cafes and Undumpster events, the opportunities to host events with reuseable food service cups and plates, and a potential solution to reuse of drywall waste in concrete for new construction and sidewalks.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

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

EXHIBITS:

Examples of strategies attached

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Dianna Bryant, Solid Waste Management Program Manager

MARC SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Mid-America Regional Council Solid Waste Management District

REGIONAL RECOVERED MATERIALS PLAN

Guiding Principles for Landfill Diversion

- 1. Value: Reclaim materials to maintain highest value.
- 2. Community: Building partnerships to expand access.
- 3. Health: Reduce risk and minimize negative impacts.
- 4. Local First: Economic growth here with material recovery.

Strategies to decrease landfill dependency and increase reuse of recovered materials

- 1. Encourage use of scrap tires in asphalt paving.
- 2. Support use of reusable food serviceware to reduce singleuse plastic waste at large public venues and events.
- 3. Promote material recovery from construction waste and advocate for material recovery from deconstruction of buildings.
- 4. Establish Food Waste Bites program for food service and retail sectors.
- 5. Establish regional home composting training program.
- 6. Support and promote repair, rental and borrowing services to reduce consumption of new goods.
- 7. Support development of reuse hubs to reclaim reusable materials locally.
- 8. Promote integration of Regional Recovered Materials Plan with other regional planning efforts (transit, disaster, water quality, etc.).
- 9. Support statewide Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws for recycling of paint, batteries and mattresses.
- 10. Encourage the creation of businesses that process recovered materials for use in manufacturing new products locally.
- Engage economic development specialists with opportunities for business development and growth for material recovery.
- 12. Expand energy production from solid waste, including biochar processing of biosolids and anerobic digestion of organics.

OCT. 15 is the next Management Council meeting. All are welcome! Come learn about the implementation of these strategic initiatives.

Implementation activities of the MARC Solid Waste Management District

- A. Realign Recycle More at Work program to address specific sectors.
- B. Expand drop-off recycling centers in the district.
- C. Expand food waste prevention, rescue and composting throughout the district.
- D. Expand waste reduction efforts at arenas and large venues.
- E. Promote membership in the Regional Household Hazardous Waste Program with goal of 100% membership within the district.
- F. Identify and document local activities that produce energy from solid waste streams.
- G. Develop data management tools for diversion reporting and documentation.
- H. Collaborate with transfer station operators and MoDNR regulators to expand material diversion at transfer stations.
- I. Engage with public bodies such as chambers of commerce and city councils to elevate material recovery efforts.

CONTACT US

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 4a Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

REPORT: Briefing on draft 2026 Missouri and Kansas State Policy Agendas.

BACKGROUND:

Annually, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board adopts a state policy agenda. The adopted policy has allowed the organization to respond to policy issues, specific legislation or proposed rules during the legislative session that might affect the Kansas City region. MARC does not lobby directly for specific bills in the legislatures, but often works with community partners to share information with state officials to help inform decision-making.

The 2026, the policy agenda areas include:

Local Government Authority
Transportation
Environment
Early Learning
Economy and Housing
Health
Safety and Security
Aging

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION: The MARC Board is asked to provide input in the development of the 2026 state policy agendas.

The agendas identify important federal funding that flows through the states to local communities and MARC.

• Are there additions important to cities and counties?

The agenda identifies needs that would benefit from increased state resources.

 Are there needs where additional state funds would be important to cities and counties?

EXHIBITS:

2026 State Policy Agenda - Missouri 2026 State Policy Agenda - Kansas

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. MARC staff will recommend adoption of the 2026 State Policy Agenda in October.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel, Director of the Office of Resource Development

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 5a Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

REPORT: Public sector workforce development update and launch of new website for promoting public service job openings.

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is introducing a new career site as a regional hub for public service jobs which will automate and streamline the sharing of job postings among member jurisdictions. This centralized resource will grow to include public service career stories, feature employers and careers, and provide other key information to help individuals navigate career opportunities. This new website is part of a larger effort to overhaul MARC services for the public service workforce, including training and professional development. MARC staff will provide a preview of the regional hub among other services to support the public sector workforce.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

EXHIBITS:

PowerPoint presentation to be provided after the Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Ashley Z. Hand, AIA - Director of Local Government Services

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 5b Competitive Economy

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize contractual services for regional housing network mapping with Visible Network Labs to advance the Regional Housing Partnership.

BACKGROUND:

This project serves to provide the Regional Housing Partnership (RHP), cooperatively supported by Mid-America Regional Council (MARC and LISC-KC, with a community partnership data mapping and learning platform to collect information and track the organizational partnerships among members of the regional housing network. The purpose of this effort will be to develop a comprehensive and systematic approach to informing, engaging, and connecting a broad array of groups invested in housing. These groups can include agencies, developers, builders, neighborhood leaders, civic officials and others.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The proposed agreement includes project management, project design, data capture, analysis, and final presentations/reporting services from Visible Network Labs (VNL), as well as subscriptions to VNL's PARTNER networking platform for MARC staff. The total request of \$74,000 would come from the housing program budget and would cover all expenses related to the proposed project.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$74,000
Source	Bloch Family Foundation
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$74,000
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	

EXHIBITS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize executive director to enter into a contract for regional housing network mapping with Visible Network Labs for \$74,000.

STAFF CONTACT:

Ashley Hand, Director of Local Government Services Hannah Mitchell, Regional Housing Program Manager

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7a

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve minutes of the August 26, 2025, Board meeting

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the August 26, 2025, meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the August 26, 2025, meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

David Warm, Executive Director McKenzie Neds, Executive Assistant N/A = Not Appointed MARC does not hold a Board of Directors meeting during the month of July

County	Board Member	State	Jurisdiction	Member/ Alternate	January	February	March	April	May	June	August	September	October	November	December	Total	Percentage
	Bob Huston	МО	Cass County	Member												0	0%
Cass County	VACANT	MO	Cass County	Alternate												0	0%
cass county	Kristofer Turnbow	MO	Raymore	Member	х	х	х	х	х	х	х					7	117%
	VACANT		Cass County Municipality	Alternate												0	0%
	Jerry Nolte	MO	Clay County	Member	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х					7	117%
	VACANT		Clay County	Alternate												0	0%
Clay County	Victor Hurlbert	МО	Clay County	Member	х		Х		х		х					4	67%
	VACANT Damien Boley	MO	Clay County	Alternate	х	, v	х	v	,							0 6	0% 100%
	Randy Pogue	MO	Smithville Kearney	Member Alternate	x	Х	×	х	Х	х						0	0%
	Frank White Jr.	MO	Jackson County	Member	x				<u> </u>	х						2	33%
	Jalen Anderson	MO	Jackson County	Alternate		x				<u> </u>						1	17%
	DaRon McGee	MO	Jackson County	Member	х			х		х						3	50%
	Megan Smith	MO	Jackson County	Alternate	x											1	17%
	Mike McDonough	MO	Raytown	Member	х				х		х					3	50%
	Leonard Jones	MO	Grandview	Alternate	х	х			х	х	х					5	83%
	Rory Rowland	MO	Independence	Member												0	0%
	Bridget McCandless	MO	Independence	Alternate	х	х	х	х	х		х					6	100%
	Jared Fears	MO	Independence	Member	х		х	х	х	х	х					6	100%
Jackson County	VACANT		Independence	Alternate												0	0%
Jackson County	Quinton Lucas	MO	Kansas City	Member												0	0%
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate												0	0%
	Eric Bunch	MO	Kansas City	Member			х	х		х	х					4	67%
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate					-							0	0%
	Johnathan Duncan	МО	Kansas City	Member	х		х		х	х						4	67%
	VACANT	140	Kansas City	Alternate					l							0	0%
	Nathan Willet VACANT	MO	Kansas City	Member					Х							0	17% 0%
	Bill Baird	MO	Kansas City Lee's Summit	Alternate Member												0	0%
	Beto Lopez	MO	Lee's Summit	Alternate		x	х	х		х						4	67%
	Mike Kelly	KS	Johnson County	Member	х	_ ^	_ ^									1	17%
	Becky Fast	KS	Johnson County	Alternate	x		х	х	х	х	х					6	100%
	Janee Hanzlick	KS	Johnson County	Member	х	х	х	х	х	х	х					7	117%
	Jeff Meyers	KS	Johnson County	Alternate												0	0%
	Eric Mikkelson	KS	Prairie Village	Member	х	х	х	х	х	х	х					7	117%
	Michael Poppa	KS	Roeland Park	Alternate	х	х	х									3	50%
Johnson County	Rick Walker	KS	De Soto	Member		х	х	х	х							4	67%
Joinison County	Mickey Sandifer	KS	Shawnee	Alternate	х	х	х	х	х	х	х					7	117%
	John Bacon	KS	Olathe	Member		х		х								2	33%
	Marge Vogt	KS	Olathe	Alternate	х		х		х		х					4	67%
	Curt Skoog	KS	Overland Park	Member		х		х	х		х					4	67%
	Logan Heley	KS	Overland Park	Alternate			Х	х	х	х						4	67%
	Holly Grummert	KS	Overland Park	Member	х	х	Х	х	х		х					6	100%
	Inas Younis	KS	Overland Park	Alternate	Х			х	Х							3	50%

County	Board Member	State	Jurisdiction	Member/ Alternate	January	February	March	April	May	June	August	September	October	November	December	Total	Percentage
	Mike Stieben	KS	Leavenworth County	Member		х	х	х		х	х					5	83%
Laguanuarth County	Willie Dove	KS	Leavenworth County	Alternate					х							1	17%
Leavenworth County	Jeff Culbertson	KS	Leavenworth County	Member	х	х	х		х	х						5	83%
	VACANT		Leavenworth County	Alternate												0	0%
Miami County	George Pretz	KS	Miami County	Member												0	0%
Ivilaini County	Tyler Vaughan	KS	Miami County	Alternate	х		х	х	х		х					5	83%
	Scott Fricker	МО	Platte County	Member	Х		х	х		х						4	67%
Platte County	VACANT		Platte County	Alternate												0	0%
Platte County	Chris Wright	МО	Platte County	Member		х		х	х		х					4	67%
	VACANT		Platte County	Alternate												0	0%
Ray County	Sheila Tracy	МО	Ray County	Member	Х	Х	х		Х		х					5	83%
Ray County	Max Hockemeier	MO	Ray County	Alternate						х						1	17%
	Tyrone Garner	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member					х							1	17%
	Mike Kane	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate												0	0%
	Christian Ramirez	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member					х							1	17%
	VACANT		Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate												0	0%
Unified Government of Wyandotte	Dr. Evelyn Hill	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member			х			х						2	33%
County/Kansas City	VACANT		Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate												0	0%
	Tom Burroughs	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member	х	х	х		х	х						5	83%
	VACANT		Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate												0	0%
	Ton Stephens	KS	Bonner Springs	Member	х	х	х		х	х	х					6	100%
	Carolyn Caiharr	KS	Edwardsville	Alternate												0	0%
	Frank White III		KCATA	Member	х											1	17%
Non Voting	VACANT		KCATA	Alternate												0	0%
Non Voting	Michael Moriarty	KS	KDOT	Member	х											1	17%
Transportation Representatives	VACANT	KS	KDOT	Alternate												0	0%
representatives	Greg Bolon	МО	MoDOT	Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	Х								4	67%
	Jeff Hardy	MO	MoDOT	Alternate												0	0%



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SUMMARY AUGUST 26, 2025 12:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS - MARC Board Chair Council member Holly Grummert, Overland Park, KS - MARC Board Treasurer Council member Bridget McCandless, Independence, MO - MARC Board Secretary Council member Eric Bunch, Kansas City, MO Council member Johnathan Duncan, Kansas City, MO Commissioner Becky Fast, Johnson County, KS Council member Jared Fears, Independence, MO Victor Hurlbert, Auditor, Clay County, MO Mayor Leonard Jones, Grandview, MO Mayor Mike McDonough, Raytown, MO Mayor Eric Mikkelson, Prairie Village, KS Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, KS Mayor Curt Skoog, Overland Park, KS Mayor Tom Stephens, Bonner Springs, KS Commissioner Mike Stieben, Leavenworth County, KS Commissioner Sheila Tracy, Ray County, MO Mayor Kris Turnbow, Raymore, MO Commissioner Tyler Vaughn, Miami County, KS Council member Marge Vogt, Olathe, KS Chris Wright, Recorder of Deeds, Platte County, KS Council member Inas Younis, Overland Park, KS

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 12:06 p.m. and welcomed attendees. Due to the meeting being held remotely and in-person, Commissioner 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 they appear on the agenda. The consent agenda will be voted on at the end of the meeting. Members will have an opportunity to abstain or object to any items necessary during each vote.

<u>VOTE:</u> Authorize application and acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2025 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant and issuance of associated subaward agreements.

John Davis, Fiscal Administrator, requested retroactive approval for the submission of a fiscal year 2025 UASI grant that was released August 1, 2025 and due 12 days later. The NOFO showed that the Kansas City Urban Area was eligible to apply for \$3,982,079.85 and this application will include several key projects and subawards that were vetted with the RHSCC

committee within that short timeframe and Mr. Davis commended the committee for being responsive and getting the application approved under such short notice. \$1,457,146.72 of the funds will be passed through to subaward agreements with the following agencies: KCK Fire Department, KCMO Fire Department, KCMO Police Department, Lenexa, KS Police Department, and Olathe Fire Department. Specific equipment for projects are featured in the recommended funding amounts that includes equipment for election security, enhancing communications and information sharing, enhancing cybersecurity and protection of soft targets in crowded places, homeland security task forces / fusion center, regional planning, and regional tech rescue teams. Mr. Davis also mentioned that these projects and equipment items are able to be deployed throughout the service area and are not jurisdictionally specific.

Mayor Eric Mikkelson asked if these types of projects and equipment will offset the funding the region may receive for the World Cup. Mr. Davis said that the World Cup funding is different from this and mostly unknown at this point because we don't know how it will be budgeted and expended through to the cities or states.

<u>VOTE</u>: Authorize the Executive Director to sign a lease with Penn Seven, L.L.C. for space at 801 Pennsylvania.

Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration, requested authorization for the Executive Director to sign a lease agreement (once finalized) for an office space at 801 Pennsylvania in downtown Kansas City. Ms. Gonzales shared that the current lease at 600 Broadway will end at the end of July 2026 and that staff toured eight other available sites in the downtown loop. Several considerations were taken into account when analyzing the other sites: location, size, parking, safety and security, visitor accessibility, meeting spaces, and 911 secured space with delivery and storage options were top priorities. During consideration, it was clear that the current space and the building at 801 were the best fits and at test fit and construction estimate were performed for the 801 space which proved favorable for 801. Ms. Gonzales showed images of the outside of the building and screenshots of the test fit draft. She also shared financial details of the draft terms and conditions as well as construction estimates. The lease is still being negotiated but with board approval, the work to finalize would begin immediately so that the space would be ready to move in by June 2026. Budgetary impacts and estimated fees were listed in the board packet memo and included a breakdown of totals between properties. Funding for MARC's lease payments are paid out of the Indirect fund, and a percentage of salaries charged to programs.

Commissioner Hanzlick thanked Ms. Gonzales for planning for this decision and bringing the executive committee along in the process.

Commissioner Becky Fast asked if the people visiting the parking garage would need to pay for parking and what the timeline to move in was. Ms. Gonzales said that the parking tickets would be validated and we are hoping to move in before the World Cup festivities begin, so by the end of June 2026.

REPORT: Update regarding the importance of the federal role in the Kansas City economy. Frank Lenk, Director of the Office of Economic Development, provided a report that reflected the federal workforce in Kansas City. The federal government is the largest employer in the Kansas City economy with a total of roughly 29,300 workers in the region, with many of those roles are in the science, business and finance, and legal fields. If you compare the federal workforce percentages of Kansas City to the top 50 largest metro areas, the region ranks 8th of the country. Because of this the region is vulnerable to layoffs which are expected to be large even though the official figures locally are only showing a small decline in the workforce. Mr. Lenk explained that if the expected job loss becomes permanent, it would have negative impacts on GDP, population, and labor force throughout the region. He also explained the downward trends that are being seen in the federal spending obligations which is concerning because those funds represent investment that helps the region grow.

Council member Grummert asked if there was any news regarding the recent hirings at the IRS? Mr. Lenk indicated he hadn't heard word but would keep the board updated as he hears more.

Mr. Victor Hurlbert asked if the region lost 700 jobs and there are more in flux, which employers would pick up those workers? Mr. Lenk said that we could track which employers are hiring to see if there are any job replacement trends that are happening around the region.

REPORT: Regional Housing Partnership Updates.

Ashley Z. Hand, Director of Local Government Services, presented updates about the strategic goals for the Regional Housing Partnership (RHP) and the implementation teams that will advance public policy, process improvement, workforce development, narrative change, and more. Ms. Hand explained the housing continuum which details the housing options that people can move through during the course of their life. With the continuum in mind, the RHP has goals to build a collaborative regional process and approach that will strengthen the regional housing system, produce and preserve housing options that are available for all, and increase resident housing stability and access to housing. The framework used by RHP has seven components including: data and analysis, networked leadership, financing tools, production capacity, rental & homeowner resources, public policy, and public engagement. She highlighted the Housing Data Hub that is the main resource for regional housing data and can be accessed on the MARC website. Ms. Hand informed the board that the housing in the region is increasingly unaffordable and is creating a mismatch between housing and employment in the region (i.e. communities with higher incomes and higher home values have more low-wage jobs than low-wage workers). Another cause for concern that will widen the affordable rental housing gap is in the next 10 years, more than 50% of the LHTC housing is set to expire causing unknown ramifications for the people living in those units now. The region currently has approximately 157,000 single family rentals and 20% of those have owners with 10 or more properties.

The RHP is creating workgroups that seek to address the state of housing in our region in the topics of Workforce, Community Voice, and Policy and Process. Ms. Hand invited the board and their jurisdictions to take part in these workgroups and join MARC and LISC-KC for the RHP launch event on Thursday September 30 at CPKC stadium to learn more about the next steps for the region.

Mayor Kris Turnbow asked about suburban community concerns surrounding too much multifamily housing, conversion from single-family ownership to rental properties, and government subsidized housing and he assumes that the discussion will include these concerns. Ms. Hand said that these concerns will be addressed throughout this work of the RHP and will require a community by community solution because of the various needs and logistics across the region.

Mayor Mikkelson commented that he appreciates the narrative change work that was mentioned because education and advocacy for these issues help lay the foundation for process. He asked if MARC was working with UCS JoCo and Ms. Hand confirmed that they have been a part of this process from the beginning.

Commissioner Hanzlick noted that the Kansas Legislative session just recently passed a reduction of the affordable housing trust fund match.

Commissioner Jerry Nolte commented about the burden on small scale rental operations when they are up against these larger, out of state firms that buy out regional properties which harms the narrative of these affordable housing units and the smaller landlords.

Public Sector Workforce Development Updates.

This item was deferred to the September Board meeting due to time constraints.

REPORT: Report on current Kansas City regional 911 network technology upgrades and initiatives.

Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Communications Director, updated the board about several key actions taken by the 9111 department. Geospatial routing is gearing up to be fully implemented which will reduce the number of call transfers between PSAPs due to incorrect cell carrier location data. He also noted that there is a voting item on the agenda for approval with System Select and router upgrades that were installed these were presented in more detail at the Budget & Personnel meeting. This system upgrade will eliminate the need to move PSAP staff in the event of a technical issue because it provides a back-up system to continue to receive calls. Mr. Winebrenner also highlighted the preparations the 911 team is making in advance of the World Cup. One of these advancements is making sure that if a member of a foreign country is here in the US and they require emergency services, they will dial their "home emergency number" and it will route to the US 911 services. The team has also added a translation service contract through Propio so there is an option to translate 911 calls if needed. Additionally, RapidSOS will be implemented and allows transcriptions of the call to be sent back and forth in the native language of the caller and 911 call taker allowing for more communication and seemly emergency response.

Commissioner Hanzlick asked if staff could come back with an update about how the geospatial routing is progressing. Mr. Warm indicated that once there is more data and how the system is functioning, staff will report out.

Commissioner Fast asked how this program intersects with 988 and Mr. Winebrenner clarified that 988 and 911 are on different systems and routed through different technologies.

REPORT: Mid-America Regional Council transportation committee structure and process update.

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, presented a potential committee process change for the transportation committee structure. After reviewing peer MPO' committee structures, it was noted that MARC relies on a significantly greater number of committees to accomplish its work than most of benchmarked MPOs across the county. Although these processes are known for their transparency, thoroughness, predictability, flexibility, fairness, and openness, they can appear overly complex and time consuming. Mr. Achelpohl explained and showed graphics of the current committee structure and the proposed structure which moves several planning and technical committees to become roundtables. The timeline for this implementation process is hoped to be completed by 2026 so that the new committees can start with the new schedules and convening cadence.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

David Warm, MARC's Executive Director, reminded the board that the next meeting will be September 23, 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda

- a. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the June 24, 2025, Board Meeting
- b. VOTE: Review and accept the 2024 Uniform Guidance Single Audit Report.
- c. VOTE: Retroactively authorize a grant application in the amount of \$418,338 to the Kansas Highway Patrol for Kansas State Homeland Security Grant funding to support agencies' cooperative efforts.
- d. VOTE: Authorize one-year contract renewals with Bound Tree and Life Assist for MARCER cooperative purchasing agreements for emergency medical supplies and equipment.

- e. VOTE: Approve an agreement with Motorola Solutions for system upgrades: System Selector functionality, VESTA 9-1-1 call processing hosts, and Router 2 software updates.
- f. VOTE: Authorize renewal provider agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs for the Veterans Directed Care program.
- g. VOTE: Ratify renewal of the subcontract agreement with the Missouri Association of Area Agencies on Aging for the Give 5 program.
- h. VOTE: Ratify the submission of a proposal for an Administration for Community Living grant opportunity to develop and implement strategies for chronic disease self-management education programs.
- VOTE: Authorize a contract amendment with Forvis Mazars, LLP for extended support and to update MSER automation based on State Unit on Aging template changes.
- j. VOTE: Ratify acceptance of funds from the USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program and other non-federal funders for a combined federal/non-federal amount up to \$11 million dollars for a 3-year period (2025-2028) to support the Double Up Food Bucks Program.
- k. VOTE: Authorize a Grant Application to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start for One-time Supplemental Funds for Nutrition and Healthy Eating for Head Start Children and Families.
- l. VOTE: Approve contractual agreements for renovations and upgrades to Render's Hope's Head Start facility to meet health and safety needs.
- m. VOTE: Approve revisions to Policy on Transportation Improvement Program to increase financial modification threshold.
- n. VOTE: Approve 2025 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #3 for KCATA East West Transit Study

VOTE: Approve Administrative Actions from July 2025 Memo

- a. VOTE: Authorize grant application and acceptance of funds, if awarded, to the Elevance Health Foundation for up to \$600,000 dollars to support the KC Fresh Rx program.
- b. VOTE: Authorize acceptance of funds and increased contract for the Mid-America Refugee Family Child Care Microenterprise Development Program (\$250,000).
- c. VOTE: Authorize acceptance of funds from Child Care Aware of Missouri to serve as a Regional Community Partner (\$62,400).
- d. VOTE: Approve a contract between The Family Conservancy and Mid-America Regional Council's Early Learning Department (\$57,889).
- e. VOTE: Authorize a contract between Deb Bowman and Mid-America Regional Council Head Start Department (\$55,000).
- f. VOTE: Authorize a contract between Alyssa Howk and Mid-America Regional Council Head Start Department (\$69,009).
- g. VOTE: Approve the 2025 3rd Quarter Amendment to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program.

MOTION: Mayor Kris Turnbow moved for approval of the consent agenda and Council member Holly Grummert seconded. Commissioner Hanzlick asked if any member wanted to abstain or object to any of the agenda items.

The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7b Healthy Environment

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorization to solicit and accept funds from the States of Kansas and Missouri for The Mid-America Regional Council's air quality program.

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has been actively involved in air quality issues since the early 1970s and, since 1978, has served as the official air quality planning organization for the bistate metro area under section 174 of the federal Clean Air Act. Section 174 requires that states appoint an organization to coordinate local input to the development of the state air quality implementation plans.

MARC's air quality responsibilities include coordination, planning, technical analysis, and public information and education. MARC has no regulatory authority related to air quality issues but makes recommendations to the state air quality agencies concerning air quality planning and regulatory measures.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Kansas and Missouri each provide planning funds to support regional air quality work on an annual basis. Contractual elements of the grants will support the 2026 Air Quality Public Education Campaign and Clean Air Action Plan implementation.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$110,960
Source	Kansas Dept. of Health & Environment (\$65,000) &
	Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources (\$45,960)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$44,960
Contractual	\$64,000
Pass-Through	
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$1000

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

All MARC counties.

RECOMMENDATION:

The executive director be authorized to solicit and accept from the MDNR and the KDHE funding for the MARC air quality program for the fiscal period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$110,960.

STAFF CONTACT:

Karen Clawson, Air and Climate Program Manager

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7c Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

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

BACKGROUND:

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

On August 27, 2025, SEMA announced the release of the Local Emergency Planning Commission/Local Emergency Planning District Grant program with an application deadline of September 26, 2025. Members of the LEPD, representing area hazmat teams, hospital and public health representatives, and LEPD leadership, were notified of the grant program on September 8 with a deadline of September 23 for any funding requests. The LEPD will consider as many options at its September 18 meeting in preparation for the deadline.

Due to the complex timing of grants, the hazmat teams have previously met to discuss regional needs as part of planning for the 2025 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant. Two items were not able to be included in the 2025 UASI application, for a total value of \$157,000 and MARC is seeking advanced approval to submit a SEMA application not to exceed \$157,000 to close that gap.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

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

EXHIBITS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Executive Director to approve the application on behalf of the Mid America LEPD and, if awarded, authorize acceptance and expend \$157,000 in Local Emergency Planning Commission/Local Emergency Planning District grant funds as noted above.

STAFF CONTACT:

Erin Lynch, Emergency Services and Homeland Security Program Director John Davis, Fiscal Administrator

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7d Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve Actions Taken on the September 9, 2025, Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting.

BACKGROUND:

The Head Start Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the following program information reports at its June meeting:

- Approval of August 2025 Shared Governance Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Non-federal Share

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Head Start Advisory Committee considered this information at its September 9th meeting and recommended MARC Board approval.

EXHIBITS:

Advisory Committee meeting packet

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the actions taken at the September 9th Head Start Advisory Committee meetings.

STAFF CONTACT:

Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7e Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Ratify an application for and acceptance of an award of \$400,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation to support the Double Up Food Bucks Program.

BACKGROUND:

As reported in August 2025, a program officer from the USDA's Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program reached out to indicate that they were considering rescinding the denial of our FY 2024 proposal. The program officer asked if the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) could still meet the required 50% match. The original proposal for FY2024 included match funds equal to \$5,034,223 and a federal ask of \$5,034,000. In preparation for the FY 2025 RFA, MARC staff have been communicating with funders to provide the necessary match dollars. Most funders have agreed to commit the same amount or more than their FY 2024 proposal commitment.

Staff met with the Patterson Family Foundation, whose catchment area for funding is the northwest corner of Missouri and several rural counties in Kansas. The Patterson Family Foundation had already committed \$100,000 to support the Double Up Food Bucks program and they invited MARC staff to submit a request for additional funding. With the expectation that the USDA would imminently be reaching out for more information about the match for our FY 2024 proposal, and with approval from the Executive Director, staff applied to the Patterson Family Foundation for \$400,000. The Foundation's board met on September 3, 2025, and approved the award. The Patterson funds will be used to support incentives at farmers markets and grocery stores in their catchment areas plus some administrative costs.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$400,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Grocery store incentives	\$270,000
Farmers' market incentives	\$100,000
Printing, postage, media, etc.	\$30,000

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Northwest Missouri counties and rural Kansas counties.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging considered this at its September meeting and recommended board approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the application for and acceptance of an award of \$400,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation which will contribute to the required match for a USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program award.

STAFF CONTACT:

Donna Martin, Public Health Program Manager Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7f Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve amendments to contractual agreements with partnering organizations which assist with implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program.

BACKGROUND:

The Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB) program is implemented by a collaboration between Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and K-State University Research & Extension, Cultivate KC, and the University of Missouri Extension help by providing coordination with farm direct locations (farmers markets, farm stand and mobile markets) that want to offer the Double Up Food Bucks incentive to their SNAP (food assistance) customers. Those organizations also provide capacity building and technical assistance services to farm direct locations, interested but perhaps not ready to offer the incentive. The contracts with these three coordinating organizations include funds for administrative purposes (personnel, travel, supplies, etc.) and funds for incentives redeemed at the farm direct locations. The contract signed in January 2025 with the University of Missouri Extension included an end date of August 31, 2025 due to uncertainty of funding sources.

In addition, MARC coordinates with grocery stores across Kansas and Missouri to implement the program. The grocery stores involved in the program range from small, independent grocery stores to mid-sized grocery chains. The program prioritizes grocery stores that commit to purchasing from local growers in the region at least during the local growing season. The grocery stores commit to reporting data, including the amount of incentives distributed and redeemed on a monthly basis. The Double Up Food Bucks contracts with the grocers in Missouri, outside of Kansas City, had an end date of August 31, 2025, since we were not sure if there would be additional funding to support those locations after the USDA grants ended and we believed the Missouri funding allocated in FY 2025 would end June 30, 2025.

Since January 2025 when the current contracts with the University of Missouri Extension and the grocery stores in Missouri were signed, MARC received confirmation that the Missouri funds which were included in the FY 2025 budget could be spent after June 30, 2025. The funds left from the Missouri funding will support MU Extension into 2026 and the Missouri locations will be able to redeem the incentives until December 31, 2025.

The additional amount needed for the University of Missouri Extension equals \$215,061. \$105,000 of that amount is for incentives redeemed at farmers markets. Some of the contract amendments for the Missouri grocers extend just the amount of time the grocers can implement the program until the end of the year. Those grocers have incentive budgets from their original 2025 budgets which will likely last the rest of the year. Other grocery stores will need both an extension of time (until the end of the year) and an additional incentive budget to provide the program until the end of the year. The following table lists the amendments for the Missouri grocers needing additional incentive budget:

Grocery Store Company	Amendment Amount	New Contract Amount
G&W Foods (Missouri stores only)	\$6,000	\$44,000
Harps Food Stores (Poplar Bluff store)	\$20,000	\$68,000
Hays Food Town, Inc.	\$15,000	\$58,200
Local Harvest	\$2,400	\$9,600
T&C Foods, Inc.	\$125,000	\$475,000

MARC Board of Directors

W.H. Koch, Inc	\$6,000	\$14,000
Totals	\$174,400	\$668,800

In addition, there are grocery stores in Kansas City and Kansas that are coming close to exceeding their contracted amount for incentives redeemed. Additional funding for those locations is available from private funding and the new USDA grant award we are expecting. The following is a list of the Kansas City metro area and Kansas grocers needing amendments to increase their incentive budget:

Grocery Store Company	Amendment Amount	New Contract Amount
CBCKC Eats	\$14,000	\$39,000
Farmers Market/Leeker's	\$20,000	\$57,040
Malay's	\$1,400	\$4,840
Mize IGA, Inc	\$564	\$2,704
Totals	\$35,964	\$78,584

Total amount in contract amendments (MU Extension + Grocery stores): \$425,025

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The combined funding to support the above contract amendments will be from a variety of different sources: state of Missouri funds appropriated in 2024 for one year, private funders and a new USDA GusNIP award expected to be finalized soon.

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REVENUES	
Amount	Estimated \$11,092,905
Source	Variety of funders
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$110,061
Pass-Through (incentives, Grocery and farm direct)	\$314,964
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	
Total Expenses related to contract amendments	\$425,025

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Kansas and Missouri communities with participating Double Up Food Bucks locations.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging considered this at its September meeting and recommended board approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve contract amendments with University of Missouri Extension and a variety of grocery stores in Missouri and Kansas which assist with implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program.

STAFF CONTACT:

Donna Martin, Public Health Program Manager Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7g Competitive Economy

ISSUE:

VOTE: Retroactively approve a grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation for a Capacity Building Grant to support economic mobility and workforce development.

BACKGROUND:

The Kauffman Foundation issued a call for applications by nonprofit organizations to support efforts to build capacity that enables the organization to address one of the foundation's priorities - workforce development, career readiness and post-secondary attainment and entrepreneurship. Through the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) economic and workforce development efforts, the organization has supported efforts around economic data and analytics, workforce and career readiness, post-secondary attainment, etc. This opportunity is a one-time grant for up to \$250,000 and the application was due September 12, 2025 and was submitted on time. Staff are asking for a retroactive approval of the application submission.

Funding from this grant, if awarded, would enable MARC to achieve the following objectives over 18 months:

- Enhance MARC's capacity to better integrate the organization's work across departments and programs that support economic mobility and workforce development (local government services, economic development planning, economic research, data and analytics, transportation, and early education).
- Evaluate the use of AI and other data and analytical tools to enhance the organization's work around economic and workforce development and using data licenses to be able to test new tools.
- Engage community stakeholders to better understand their data and analytical needs around workforce development and economic mobility, and use their input to guide MARC's work, using convenings by stakeholders in focus groups and a steering committee.
- Evaluate how this work will strengthen data and analytics that could be shared through webinars / convenings and develop a business plan for a stronger Government Training Institute.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount 18-months	\$250,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, indirect,	\$153,000
rent)	
Training (GTI support)	\$20,000
Data Tools	\$20,000
Consultants	\$57,000

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

MARC Board of Directors

RECOMMENDATION:

Retroactively authorize the submission of a grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 and accept the funds if awarded.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel, Director of the Office of Resource Development Ashley Z. Hand - AIA, Director of Local Government Services Frank Lenk, Director of the Office of Economic Research

MARC Board of Directors

September 2025 Item No. 7h Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize contract amendment with The Family Conservancy for the Refugee Family Childcare Micro-Enterprise Development program.

BACKGROUND:

In September 2024, the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) awarded the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) a grant under the Refugee Family Child Care Microenterprise Development Program. The program offers training and technical assistance in professional childcare and micro-enterprise development, financial literacy education, help navigating the childcare business licensing process, and financial assistance to prepare homes for childcare operations.

MARC currently contracts with The Family Conservancy to provide training services for participants in both Missouri and Kansas. In order to keep participants in a cohort, The Family Conservancy will complete training services for more participants than budgeted for in their original contract.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The amended amount is fully covered by the original grant funds from the ORR.

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REVENUES	
Amount	\$250,000
Source	Administration for Children and Families, Office of
	Refugee Resettlement (ORR)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Original Contract Amount	\$41,092
Additional Amount	\$10,273
New Total Passthrough Funds	\$51,365

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Current participants reside in Johnson County, KS and Jackson County, MO.

EXHIBITS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize contract amendment with The Family Conservancy for the Refugee Family Childcare Micro-Enterprise Development program

STAFF CONTACT:

Toni Sturdivant, Ph.D., Director of Early Learning