



Board of Directors Meeting

January 27, 2026

Meeting begins at 12:00 p.m.

Attend in-person at the MARC Offices 600 Broadway Blvd Suite 200 Kansas City, MO 64105 or 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. the day of the meeting for instructions to join the teleconference.

AGENDA

1. Introductions and board sharing time

Board members are asked to introduce themselves and highlight notable things occurring in their jurisdiction.

2. Quality Early Learning

a) REPORT: Launch of Missouri Child Care Works program in Kansas City region

3. Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

a) REPORT: Update on the regional Planning Sustainable Place program

b) REPORT: Staff will report on the recently approved APWA 5600 Regional Stormwater engineering standards

4. Thriving Older Adults and Communities

a) REPORT: Overview of the Mid-America Regional Council Area Agency on Aging Area Plan for state fiscal year 2027

5. Brief reports

a) VOTE: Approve the 2026 Federal Legislative Agenda

b) REPORT: Status of Mid-America Regional Council federal grants, pass-through funds and other funding

c) REPORT: Annual refresher on the conflict-of-interest policy, whistleblower policy, and board member liability advisory

d) REPORT: Mid-America Regional Council Regional Leadership Awards nominations and Regional Assembly

e) VOTE: Authorize agreement with OMNI to manage the selection process for the next Mid-America Regional Council Executive Director.

f) VOTE: Election of the 2026 Mid-America Regional Council board officers

6. Executive Director's report

The executive director will share brief updates.

7. Consent agenda

a) VOTE: Approve minutes of the December 16, 2025, board meeting

b) VOTE: Review the 2025 audit plan and authorize an agreement with RubinBrown for 2025 audit services

c) VOTE: Approval of local government dues for 2027

d) VOTE: Ratify application to the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services for the state fiscal year 2027 Diabetes Self-Management Program Network

- e) VOTE: Approve five-year agreements with Segra and the Kansas Fiber Network for ethernet local area network services to support the regional 911 system
- f) VOTE: Approve 2026 1st quarter amendment to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program
- g) VOTE: Approve amendment #1 of the 2026 Unified Planning Work Program
- h) VOTE: Approve summer 2025 changes to the functional classification system
- i) VOTE: Approve contract extension with Electronic Technology, Inc. for services to support preventative maintenance and upgrades for the regional Operation Greenlight system
- j) VOTE: Approve purchase of Operation Greenlight field communications equipment to support the regional traffic signal control system
- k) VOTE: Approve contract extension with Olsson Group for traffic signal timing and engineering support services for the regional Operation Greenlight system
- l) VOTE: Approve actions taken on the January 13, 2026, Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting

8. Other business

9. Adjournment

UPCOMING MEETING

Monday, Feb. 24, 2026

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Please notify MARC at 816-474-4240 at least 48 hours in advance if you require special accommodation to attend this meeting (for example, qualified interpreter, large print materials, reader, hearing assistance). MARC programs are non-discriminatory as stated by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, call 816-474-4240 or visit our [Title VI information page](#).

MARC Board of Directors - Members and Alternates

Name	Jurisdiction	Title
Allenbrand, Shirley	Johnson County	Commissioner
Anderson, Jalen	Jackson County	County Legislator - Designee for County Exectuive Phil LeVota
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
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
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
Kelly, Mike	Johnson County	Commission Chairman
LeVota, Phil	Jackson County	County Executive
Lopez, Beto	Lee's Summit, MO	Mayor Pro Tem – Designee for Mayor Bill Baird
Lucas, Quinton	Kansas City, MO	Mayor
McCandless, Bridget	Independence, MO	Councilmember – Designee for Mayor Rory Rowland
McDonough, Mike	Raytown, MO	Mayor
McGee, DaRon	Jackson County	Legislator
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	Shawnee, KS	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
Wagner, Scott	Clay County	Commissioner
Walker, Rick	De Soto, KS	Mayor
Watson, Christal	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Mayor/CEO
White III, Frank**	KCATA	President/CEO
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)

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 1

ISSUE

INTRODUCTIONS AND BOARD SHARING TIME

Board members are asked to introduce themselves and highlight notable things occurring in their jurisdiction.

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

January 2026
Item No. 2a
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE

REPORT: LAUNCH OF MISSOURI CHILD CARE WORKS PROGRAM IN KANSAS CITY REGION

BACKGROUND

Missouri Governor Mike Kehoe allocated \$2.5M to launch a childcare cost-sharing initiative in which the state, the employer (or other community entity), and the family share the cost of childcare. The Children's Trust Fund selected Kids Win Missouri and Child Care Aware of Missouri to administer the program through a competitive bid process.

This is an exciting opportunity to advance a new funding option to foster quality, affordable childcare needed by many working families. While this initial state investment is Missouri-based, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is supporting parallel concepts on the Kansas side of the region to blend public employer and family funds to broaden childcare affordability.

In September of 2025, Kids Win Missouri released community applications for community intermediaries to apply for state funding on behalf of the employers and families in their region. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Early Learning program applied for 160 seats which represents pledges from the City of Grandview, Della Lamb Child Development Center and Independence School District and 20 additional seats. Of the 287 state-wide seats, the Kansas City Region was awarded 98 seats and represents one of 7 communities throughout Missouri. One of the initial partners is developing its parameters, which opens an opportunity to offer up 62 seats to other area employers. MARC will host an informational session on February 2, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. for local governments and public agency partners to learn more about this opportunity and how it could be offered to their employees.

Although not all 160 seats were fulfilled in the Kansas City region, a mid-year adjustment is expected, which may provide the opportunity to capture the additional 62 seats.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

Clay, Platte, Jackson and Cass counties are included under MARC as the intermediary. All currently pledged employers are located in Jackson County.

EXHIBITS

[Missouri Child Care Works | Fall 2025 Launch](#)

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 3a

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

REPORT: UPDATE ON THE REGIONAL PLANNING SUSTAINABLE PLACES PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

On Friday, December 5, 2025, the first Vibrant Success Stories event celebrating the implementation of Planning Sustainable Places (PSP) plans was held at the Kauffman Foundation. For over a decade, the Planning Sustainable Places Program has worked to advance integrated local transportation, environmental, and land use planning across the region. The goal of integrated planning is to further our regional vibrant, connected and green places. The Planning Sustainable Places Program has funded 118 studies that have advanced site and project specific activities that align the centers and corridors framework as promoted through the long-range transportation plan, Connected KC2050. Each study has meaningfully engaged its community in a collaborative dialogue to elevate and advance its future. At the Vibrant Success Stories event, three communities were recognized:

- City of Olathe, KS: Top honors for the Kansas Avenue Streetscape Project for exemplifying the concepts of vibrant, connected and green.
- City of Kansas City, MO: Two projects were recognized for exemplifying the concepts of green and connected - the Gillham Road Cycle Track and the Southwest Boulevard Corridor.
- City of Overland Park, KS: Two projects were recognized for exemplifying the concepts of vibrant and green - the Downtown Event Hub/Clocktower Landing and the OP Central/College and Metcalf corridor.

This May, the eighth Planning Sustainable Places call for applications will open. The following will be programmed with recommendations finalized in September of this year:

State	Funding Level
Kansas	\$720,000
Missouri	\$500,000

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

The Planning Sustainable Places Program funding is available to all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Beth Dawson, Principal Planner

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 3b

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

REPORT: STAFF WILL REPORT ON THE RECENTLY APPROVED APWA 5600 REGIONAL STORMWATER ENGINEERING STANDARDS

BACKGROUND

On December 10, 2025, the KC Chapter of the APWA membership approved the update to APWA Section 5600 stormwater standards. Future adoption of these standards by local governments will generate more support for resilient site design at new and redevelopment initiatives as well as transportation facilities.

Over \$1.5 million of local government and state funding has supported this effort since it was visioned by the Sustainable Stormwater Task Force in 2019. APWA authorized the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) to begin work in 2022 and the project began in July 2023 following an RFP process. Burns and McDonnell and partner firms Black & Veatch, Vireo, and Center for Watershed Protection were chosen as the contractual partners for the project. These firms, alongside 32 local governments, offered their feedback along with a robust group of stakeholders representing developers, development engineers, environmental organizations, and planners.

The project goals included updating and integrating the regional stormwater standards and planning guidelines based on the current APWA Section 5600 and the MARC/APWA BMP Manual and developing a planning and engineering approach to manage stormwater that is aligned with current data, methodologies, and national best practices. The updated manual includes clear design, calculation, and permitting guidance for different types of greenfield development and redevelopment, including public roadway improvements.

The initiative achieved a high level of consensus across the region. However, the adopted standards include policy guidance to allow communities to deviate from certain elements while maintaining compliance with the overall principles of the standards and meeting the Clean Air Act requirements for water quality. It is likely that some local governments will adopt the standards with modifications.

COMMITTEE ACTION

MARC Board approved the receipt of local government and state funds to complete the project and approved the contractual partner contracts.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Tom Jacobs, Environmental Programs Director
- Natalie Unruh, Water Quality Planner II

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 4a

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE

REPORT: OVERVIEW OF THE MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL AREA AGENCY ON AGING AREA PLAN FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2027

BACKGROUND

Mid-America Regional Council Aging and Adult Services (MARC AAS) has prepared the SFY 2027 Area Plan, the third-year update to the 2025-2028 four-year plan required under the Older Americans Act (OAA).

The plan outlines how MARC AAS will support older adults and caregivers across Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties during July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027.

The SFY 2027 update reflects:

- New OAA Final Rule requirements
- Statewide goals in the Missouri State Plan on Aging (2024-2027)
- MARC AAS Goals and Objectives in the Area Plan

Key updates include strengthened nutritional support, better access to benefits, expanded caregiver resources, enhanced mental well-being efforts, and deeper integration with health, social service, and community-based partners. The Area Plan serves as a major implementation tool for MARC's regional aging policy framework.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region served by the Area Agency on Aging: Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties in Missouri.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director, Aging and Adult Services
- Melody Elston, Assistant Director, Aging and Adult Services

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 5a
Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

REPORT: APPROVE THE 2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

BACKGROUND

Each year, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board of Directors adopts a federal policy agenda, reflecting issues of importance to the Kansas City region. The issues come forward from MARC-convened working committees, member local governments, and community partners. MARC Board input was incorporated into the final version that is being considered for adoption.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

EXHIBITS

[2026 Federal Policy Agenda](#)

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the 2026 Federal Legislative Agenda

STAFF CONTACT

- Marlene Nagel, Director of the Office of Resource Development

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 5b

Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

REPORT: STATUS OF MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL FEDERAL GRANTS, PASS-THROUGH FUNDS AND OTHER FUNDING.

BACKGROUND

Changes in the federal and state government continue to impact MARC's work. Staff will present another update at this meeting. Some key issues we are monitoring include:

- Last week, The Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration sent notification that a major grant supporting the 988 mobile crisis response system in our Missouri counties would be discontinued. The termination notice was withdrawn the following day, following concerns expressed by mental health agencies across the country.
- A bill has been filed in the Missouri Legislature that would increase the solid waste tipping fee but eliminate solid waste management districts, undermining the MARC Solid Waste Management District and eliminating an essential source of support for critical recycling and hazardous waste management programs throughout the region. The bill is HB 2761 (Missouri Rep. Brad Banderman, sponsor)
- We are closely monitoring federal appropriations and reauthorization processes. This week, the House of Representatives passed key spending bills that would impact several MARC programs, including homeland security, aging services, early education and transportation. We will review the content of these bills for impacts on these programs and the region. We are also working with other Metropolitan Planning Organizations to align and communicate key policy priorities for reauthorization of the federal transportation bill now under development.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Staff continue to monitor cash flow, grants at risk, partner contracts and staffing.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT

- David Warm, Executive Director
- Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 5c
Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

REPORT: ANNUAL REFRESHER ON THE CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST POLICY, WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY, AND THE BOARD LIABILITY ADVISORY.

BACKGROUND

As a best practice for high functioning boards, the above three documents are reviewed with the MARC Board members on a regular basis. These documents include important guidance related to decisions board members make.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) strives to operate in an open and transparent way that inspires confidence that the organization is an effective steward of public resources. The MARC Board of Directors and a number of MARC committees are responsible for authorizing grants and funding allocations that benefit local governments, public agencies and other organizations in the Kansas City metropolitan area. The committee processes ensure that federal, state and local funds available to the metropolitan area are invested in ways that benefit the region and local communities. The purpose of the conflict-of-interest Policy is to ensure that participants on the MARC board and committees have clear guidance when a participant in any MARC decisions-making process could have a conflict of interest and what the appropriate action would be in those circumstances.

The policy is designed to help directors, officers, employees and volunteers identify conflicts of interest and disclose them to the appropriate authority. It is also designed to provide a procedure to appropriately manage conflicts in accordance with legal requirements and the goals of accountability and transparency in all MARC operations. The policy is intended to supplement but not replace any state or federal laws that govern conflicts of interest in public, non-profit, and charitable organizations. MARC boards and committees involved in making decisions or recommendations regarding funding awards also have this topic on their agenda regularly.

WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

Since the enactment of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, organizations have developed policies that focus on protecting whistleblowers and providing mechanisms for employees to raise concerns realizing “...it is better for an organization to learn about unethical or unlawful conduct internally than to find out about the conduct from a news article, a subpoena from law enforcement, or an investigation for a regulatory agency.”

Nonprofits are now required to answer a question on the IRS 990 form to indicate whether or not the nonprofit has a whistleblower policy. Some grants require MARC to have a whistleblower policy.

A good whistleblower protection program should:

- Provide employees multiple ways to report concerns
- Establish a forum where employees can raise concerns
- Prohibit retaliation
- Train managers and supervisors
- Take disciplinary action against those who engage in retaliation

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

The attached policy incorporates the use of an external hotline program called “WeTip,” which is provided free of charge by Midwest Public Risk, MARC’s insurance carrier. Any reports submitted to the WeTip program will be forwarded to the Executive Director, Director of Finance and Administration, Human Resources Manager and MARC Board Chair.

BOARD LIABILITY ADVISORY

Midwest Public Risk (MPR) provides employee health and dental, workers’ compensation, property and casualty (liability) coverages for MARC. As part of its loss control program, MPR recommends that each of its members with public official liability coverage to participate in an annual refresher.

Attached is a copy of MPR’s risk prevention advisory on public official liability. MARC does not have the same types of public official liability risks as cities and counties and has never had this type of claim. However, it is always important to be aware of those situations that might have potential for claims and/or lawsuits. The advisory includes general but effective rules to follow that will help avoid potential problems.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

All local governments are affected by the integrity and liability of the MARC Board.

EXHIBITS

[Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

[Whistleblower Policy](#)

[Public Official Liability Bulletin](#)

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT

- David Warm, Executive Director
- Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 5d
Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

REPORT: MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL REGIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS NOMINATIONS AND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

BACKGROUND

Through the Regional Leadership Awards, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) recognizes people and institutions whose exemplary leadership and vision have made a significant, enduring impact on the Kansas City area at the regional or local levels. MARC is now accepting nominations for the 2026 awards, which will be presented at the annual MARC Regional Assembly on Friday, Aug. 14.

The nomination period is open until Monday, Feb. 9. Award recipients advance a vision of a strong, healthy region; demonstrate commitment to its growth; and encourage others to support and work toward that vision. Past recipients have included elected officials, local government professionals, civic leaders and organizations, nonprofit leaders and agencies, volunteer leaders and groups, and educators and educational institutions.

The awards recognize leadership in:

- Advocating for regional concepts, approaches and programs.
- Advancing a vision of the region as a community of excellence.
- Addressing regional challenges.
- Applying innovative solutions to regional problems.
- Achieving improved quality of life and opportunity for the region's residents.

Board members are encouraged to submit nominations and disseminate information about the awards to colleagues to encourage them to submit their nominations.

Current members of MARC's Board of Directors are not eligible for nomination.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Please submit award nominations online at marc.org/awards or email a MARC staff member. The nomination period closes Monday, Feb. 9.

A save-the-date for the Friday, Aug. 14, MARC Regional Assembly will be issued in the coming weeks.

STAFF CONTACT

- Kristin Johnson-Waggoner, Public Affairs Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 5e
Exemplary Core Capacities

ISSUE

VOTE: AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT WITH OMNI TO MANAGE THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE NEXT MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

BACKGROUND

At the November Board meeting Executive Director David Warm announced his intent to retire during 2026. On December 3, 2025, a Request for Proposals for Executive Search Firm Services reviewed by the Executive Committee was released. At the December meeting, Chairperson Hanzlick appointed a Search Committee consisting of members of the Board (five from Kansas, five from Missouri). Eleven proposals were received by December 22, 2025, and were reviewed and evaluated by staff and Chairperson Hanzlick. Four top firms were identified through that review. The Search Committee members reviewed the top four and met in January and narrowed to two firms to interview. The Search Committee interviewed two firms and unanimously agreed that OMNI was the best firm to manage the selection process. Committee members agreed that OMNI:

- Has substantial and relevant experience in nonprofit and other executive searches, including working with boards and committees on those searches
- Is familiar with MARC's culture, but also thoughtful about learning more to develop an accurate position profile
- Knows the Kansas City region, but are capable of a national reach
- Clearly explained their strategic and diligent sourcing methods
- Has a personal and high touch approach to assessing candidates
- Is sensitive to the collaborative but confidential nature of this type of search
- Prioritizes the importance of ensuring public trust in the process

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Costs for this search will be covered 40% by the General fund and 60% by the Indirect fund which is how the executive director's salary is funded. This project was not specifically budgeted however, contractual line items in both funds contain money for unanticipated contractual services.

OMNI is unique in that they bill by the hour and only bill for actual hours used. They reduced their cost per hour from the original proposal to \$290/hour and are estimating a maximum of 160 hours for the project and estimate an administrative charge of \$550 making the total estimated maximum costs to be \$46,400. MARC would also reimburse OMNI for any posting costs which are estimated at \$2,000.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$48,400
Source	\$29,040 Indirect Fund; \$19,360 General Fund
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$46,400
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$2,000

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Search Committee members that conducted the interview unanimously agreed that OMNI was the best firm to conduct this search.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize MARC to enter into an agreement with OMNI to manage the selection process for the executive director position.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Janeé Hanzlick, MARC Board Chair
- Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration
- Leah Beatty, Management Intern

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 5f
Effective Local Government

ISSUE

VOTE: ELECTION OF THE 2026 MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OFFICERS

BACKGROUND

At the December 2025 Board meeting, Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board Chair Janeé Hanzlick, Commissioner of Johnson County, KS, appointed Mayor Curt Skoog, Overland Park, KS (past chair) and Mayor Leonard Jones, Grandview, MO to serve as a Nominating Committee for MARC 2026 Board Officers. MARC Board Officers are elected each year, typically at the January board meeting. Board officers are elected for one-year terms but typically serve at least two years and often move up in the chairs as the chair cycles off.

As was announced at the December 2025 board meeting, the Nominating Committee met in early January and is nominating the following slate of officers to be elected by the MARC Board at the January 2026 meeting. These officers will take effect until the January 2027 board meeting:

2026 Officer Nominations:

- Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, MO, Chair
- Mayor Damien Boley, Smithville, MO, First Vice-Chair
- Council member Holly Grummert, Overland Park, KS, Second Vice-Chair
- Council member Bridget McCandless, Independence, MO, Treasurer
- Mayor Eric Mikkelsen, Prairie Village, KS, Secretary

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Elect the above slate of officers for 2026 as recommended by the Nominating Committee.

STAFF CONTACTS

- David Warm, Executive Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 6

ISSUE:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BACKGROUND

This time is reserved for the Mid-America Regional Council Executive Director to make comments or announcements to the Board.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 7a

ISSUE:

VOTE: APPROVE MINUTES OF DEC. 16, 2025, BOARD MEETING

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the Dec. 16, 2025, meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the Dec. 16, 2025, meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

- David Warm, Executive Director
- McKenzie Neds, Executive Assistant



MARC Board of Directors Meeting Summary

December 16, 2025

BOARD MEMBER AND ALTERNATE ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS - Board Chair
Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, MO - 1st Vice Chair
Mayor Damien Boley, Smithville, MO - 2nd Vice Chair
Council member Holly Grummert, Overland Park, KS - Treasurer
Council member Bridget McCandless - Independence, MO - Secretary
Commissioner Allyson Berberich, Platte County, MO
Council member Johnathan Duncan, Kansas City, MO
Commissioner Becky Fast, Johnson County, KS
Council member Logan Heley, Overland Park, KS
Victor Hurlbert, Auditor, Clay County, MO
County Executive Phil LeVota, Jackson County, MO
Legislator DaRon McGee, Jackson County, MO
Mayor Eric Mikkelsen, Prairie Village, KS
Commissioner Christian Ramirez, The Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
Mayor Mickey Sandifer, Shawnee, KS
Legislator Megan Smith, Jackson County, MO
Commissioner Mike Stieben, Leavenworth County, KS
Commissioner Shiela Tracy, Ray County, MO
Commissioner Tyler Vaughn, Miami County, KS
Council member Marge Vogt, Olathe, KS
Mayor Rick Walker, De Soto, KS

STAFF PRESENT

Executive Director David Warm and other MARC staff

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Kay Heley, WaterOne

AGENDA

Item 1 Introductions and board sharing time

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick called the meeting to order at 12:04 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 and the consent agenda at the end of the meeting. Members will have an opportunity to abstain or object to any items necessary during the vote.

Item 2a VOTE: Approve the Mid-America Regional Council's revised 2025 and proposed 2026 budget and workplan.

Erika Benitez, Finance Director, presented the revised 2025 and proposed 2026 budget for approval and outlined MARC's financial outlook, highlighting shifts in revenues and expenditures between 2025 and 2026. Key drivers of the year-over-year decrease include the elimination of energy grants, the conclusion of pandemic-related and other one-time funding,

and timing differences related to contributed services. Despite these reductions, the organization emphasizes that its financial position remains strong, supported in part by modest staffing reductions through attrition—approximately 10 positions—with work redistributed to meet grant requirements.

The budget presentation further underscored major funding categories and organizational priorities. Federal and state funds total \$65.2M, private funds \$4.1M, and a 2% increase in local dues and key capital investments of \$1.51M in the 911 system. Staffing levels are projected at 168 full-time and 14 part-time positions with planned increases for salaries and health insurance costs, concluding with a projected long-term cash balance of \$2.19M by the end of 2026. Ms. Benitez also presented a detailed breakdown of expenditures by fund category with an overall projected net expenditures total of \$1.2M for 2026.

Council member Logan Heley asked if the salary increases for MARC staff were tracking with the current cost of living adjustments. Ms. Benitez answered that the 2% will apply to the base salaries of the employees and some employees may see larger increases based on performance or a change in duties and that MARC does not have the financial capacity right now to increase that number any farther for this year.

Item 3a REPORT: Preliminary Review and input on the 2026 Federal Legislative Agenda

Marlene Nagel, Director of the Office of Resource Development, gave a preliminary report of the Federal Legislative Agenda that outlines a set of federal policy priorities aimed at strengthening infrastructure, public services, and economic vitality across the Kansas City region. The agenda emphasizes reauthorization and investment in key federal programs that support transportation systems, environmental hazard mitigation, data and public health infrastructure, homeland security, emergency services, early education, and services for older adults. The report highlights the importance of robust federal funding, streamlined program structures, and cooperative regional planning—particularly through Metropolitan Planning Organizations—to address evolving transportation technologies, maintain essential water and wastewater systems, expand clean energy, and ensure strong public health preparedness.

Economic development, housing, workforce development, and food security also feature prominently in the agenda. MARC supports federal investment agencies like the Economic Development Administration and National Science Foundation, along with targeted resources for the 2026 World Cup. The agenda calls for increased funding for childcare and early education, stronger support for aging services, expansion of attainable housing, and reauthorization of major workforce programs such as WIOA and the Higher Education Act. These priorities aim to promote economic competitiveness, ensure community well-being, and strengthen regional capacity to meet future challenges.

Commissioner Beck Fast asked if this policy contains language that draws attention to the professional statuses that have recently lost their credibility that is tied to the student loan process. Ms. Nagel replied that reauthorization of the Higher Education Act would help reestablish low interest loans for those important occupations.

Legislator DaRon McGee asked if MARC consults with NACO or NLC to produce and utilize these policies. Ms. Nagel answered that MARC does collaborate with national and state organizations for alignment of priorities. Mr. Warm clarified that MARC does not lobby for legislation and uses these policies as a guidepost when applying for and supporting grant opportunities throughout the region.

Item 4a REPORT: Review and approval of proposal for a new Missouri transportation programming committee.

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, presented the proposed restructuring of MARC's Missouri transportation programming committees. As the MPO and TMA for the Kansas City region, MARC oversees major regional transportation planning efforts—including the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and other key performance-based processes—and aims to make these processes more efficient while maintaining transparency and broad stakeholder participation. Staff identified that MARC relies on more committees than peer MPOs, prompting a review to simplify structures, reduce redundancies, improve member participation, and better integrate multimodal planning.

Following committee leadership discussions, workshops, and feedback throughout 2025, staff developed a proposal for streamlined programming committees. The Missouri recommendation includes a representation structure totaling 49 voting seats across jurisdictions, agencies, and subject-matter representatives, as well as a dispute-resolution process requiring appeals from at least six MPC members for TTPC involvement. TTPC recommended the MPC reorganization proposal at their meeting on November 18, 2025.

Item 4b REPORT: 2025 air quality and ozone season report

Doug Norsby, Air Quality Senior Planner, presented the 2025 ozone season for the Kansas City region. Mr. Norsby reminded the board that the ozone season runs from March 1 to October 31 and included one Ozone Action Alert Day, though ozone concentrations exceeded the federal eight-hour standard on five separate days. The highest exceedance reached 89 ppb at the Rocky Creek station, falling into the Air Quality Index's unhealthy category, with additional exceedances recorded at JFK, Liberty, and Tribble monitors. Despite these daily exceedances, the region's official three-year "design value" for 2025 is 70 ppb, meaning it does not violate the EPA's 2015 ozone standard. Regional air quality in 2023 had been heavily affected by Canadian wildfire smoke and stagnant weather conditions, but those readings will rotate out of the three-year average in 2026, offering an opportunity for improvement.

In addition to ozone, MARC's Air Quality program monitors PM_{2.5} particulate pollution, reporting a 2023-2025 design value of 8.56 µg/m³—just below the new annual federal standard of 9 µg/m³. The air quality findings support broader public health and transportation strategies across regional plans such as ConnectedKC 2050, the Regional Climate Action Plan, the Clean Air Action Plan, and the Smart Moves Mobility Plan.

Item 4c REPORT: Review Kansas City regional Climate Action Technical Report

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, presented the Climate Action Technical Report which provides a comprehensive update to the Kansas City Regional Climate Action Plan. The report incorporates new greenhouse gas inventory data, risk and vulnerability assessments, community engagement findings, and an analysis of the economic, health, and workforce benefits of climate action. Total 2023 regional emissions were measured at 27.2 million metric tons of CO₂e, with on-road transportation and residential buildings contributing 60% of those emissions. The report highlights that timely action will improve health, habitats, affordability, and economic opportunity across the region, while noting extreme heat and flooding as the most pressing climate-related hazards. Following EPA submission, MARC will develop audience-specific playbooks and videos to translate the report into actionable steps and support local implementation efforts.

Item 4d REPORT: Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2026 MARC Board officers

Commissioner Janee Hanzlick explained that each year the MARC Board Chair appoints a Nominating Committee to recommend officer candidates for the upcoming year. Commissioner Hanzlick outlined current officers and noted that roles are typically held for two consecutive one-year terms. The nominating committee traditionally considers members' tenure and participation when forming the slate and board members who are interested in serving are encouraged to notify Commissioner Hanzlick before the committee meets in early 2026.

Item 4e REPORT: Search Committee designated to lead the selection process for MARC's next Executive Director.

Commissioner Janee Hanzlick announced the formation of a Search Committee to lead the process of selecting the next Executive Director following David Warm's planned 2026 retirement. Commissioner Hanzlick appointed members from both Missouri and Kansas jurisdictions to guide the effort, oversee an executive search firm, and develop and implement a comprehensive recruitment and interview process. The RFP for the search firm is due December 22, with a recommendation expected in January, and the overall search is anticipated to conclude by early to mid-summer, during which Mr. Warm will continue serving until a successor is in place.

Item 5 Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Warm assured the board that though times may be uncertain, the work MARC does is not slowing down for the region. He also talked about the USDOT press conference that was hosted at the Lee's Summit MODOT offices with the Assistant Deputy Secretary. This event highlighted a funding opportunity that MARC received to implement a USDOT SMART Grant that uses crowdsourcing technology to better manage future transportation needs in the regional system. He thanked those elected officials who were able to attend the event.

Item 6 VOTE: Approve consent agenda items

- a. Approve Minutes of the November 25, 2025, Board Meeting
- b. VOTE: Authorize a contract with The Olson Group, Ltd. to assist coordination of special event planning with local jurisdictions in the Kansas City region.
- c. VOTE: Authorize a software subscription agreement with Replica to support upcoming regional transportation planning initiatives.
- d. VOTE: Approve the Title VI 2025 -2027 Transportation Program Update and Assurance.
- e. VOTE: Authorize agreement with Forvis Mazars to manage the vendor selection process for a new accounting ERP system.
- f. VOTE: Authorize a three-year agreement with RapidSOS for the UNITE Communicator Module to consolidate key emergency communication tools into a single interface.
- g. VOTE: Authorize renewal and expansion of provider agreement with the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services for the Diabetes Self-Management Program Network.
- h. VOTE: Authorization to release request for proposal documents for state fiscal year 2027 services.
- i. VOTE: Authorization to submit the State Fiscal Year 2027 Aging Area Plan.
- j. VOTE: Ratify approval of a contract amendment for Senior Services Growth and

Development Program funding with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

- k. VOTE: Ratify the submission of a proposal in response to the Jackson County, Missouri, Nonprofit Partnership Grants request for applications and acceptance of funds if awarded.

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

The motion passed.

Item 7 Other Business

There was no other business.

Item 8 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

NEXT/UPCOMING MEETING

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 | MARC Offices 600 Broadway Blvd Suite 200 Kansas City, MO 64105

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
Cass County	Bob Huston	MO	Cass County	Member											
	VACANT	MO	Cass County	Alternate											
	Kristofer Turnbow	MO	Raymore	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	VACANT		Cass County Municipality	Alternate											
Clay County	Jerry Nolte	MO	Clay County	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	VACANT		Clay County	Alternate											
	Victor Hurlbert	MO	Clay County	Member	x		x		x		x	x	x		x
	VACANT		Clay County	Alternate											
	Damien Boley	MO	Smithville	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
	Randy Pogue	MO	Kearney	Alternate											
Jackson County	Phil LeVota	MO	Jackson County	Member	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		x	x
	Jalen Anderson	MO	Jackson County	Alternate		x									
	DaRon McGee	MO	Jackson County	Member	x			x		x					x
	Megan Smith	MO	Jackson County	Alternate	x								x		x
	Mike McDonough	MO	Raytown	Member	x				x		x		x		
	Leonard Jones	MO	Grandview	Alternate	x	x			x	x	x	x		x	
	Rory Rowland	MO	Independence	Member											
	Bridget McCandless	MO	Independence	Alternate	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		x
	Jared Fears	MO	Independence	Member	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
	VACANT		Independence	Alternate											
	Quinton Lucas	MO	Kansas City	Member											
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
	Eric Bunch	MO	Kansas City	Member			x	x		x	x				
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
	Johnathan Duncan	MO	Kansas City	Member	x		x		x	x				x	x
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
	Nathan Willet	MO	Kansas City	Member					x						
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
Johnson County	Bill Baird	MO	Lee's Summit	Member											
	Beto Lopez	MO	Lee's Summit	Alternate		x	x	x		x		x			x
	Mike Kelly	KS	Johnson County	Member	x										
	Becky Fast	KS	Johnson County	Alternate	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
	Janee Hanzlick	KS	Johnson County	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Jeff Meyers	KS	Johnson County	Alternate											
	Eric Mikkelson	KS	Prairie Village	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
	Michael Poppa	KS	Roeland Park	Alternate	x	x	x					x			
	Rick Walker	KS	De Soto	Member		x	x	x	x			x	x		x
	Mickey Sandifer	KS	Shawnee	Alternate	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
	John Bacon	KS	Olathe	Member		x		x					x		
	Marge Vogt	KS	Olathe	Alternate	x		x		x		x				x
	Curt Skoog	KS	Overland Park	Member		x		x	x		x		x		
	Logan Heley	KS	Overland Park	Alternate			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
	Holly Grummert	KS	Overland Park	Member	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x
	Inas Younis	KS	Overland Park	Alternate	x			x	x			x			

[illegible]

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 7b
Exemplary Core Capacities

ISSUE:

VOTE: REVIEW THE 2025 AUDIT PLAN AND AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT WITH RUBINBROWN FOR 2025 AUDIT SERVICES.

BACKGROUND

In November 2025, the Board approved extending the audit agreement with RubinBrown for annual audit services through fiscal year 2025, with the understanding that the Board would reaffirm each engagement on an annual basis. We are ready to begin the fiscal year 2025 audit, so it is time to officially engage RubinBrown. Below is a history and projection of fees.

Fiscal Year	Base Fees*	Report Prep	Base and Report Prep Fees Billed	Each Addl' Major Program **	Combined Fees Billed
2024	\$75,800	\$4,600	\$80,400	\$5,955	\$86,355
2025	78,000	4,800	82,800	6,200	89,000
2026	80,500	5,000	85,500	6,386	91,886
2027	82,800	5,200	88,000	6,578	94,578

**Proposed, base fee includes one major program*

***only if needed, adjusted 3% annually*

RubinBrown is beginning the planning process for the fiscal year 2025 audit. At this point in time, we anticipate that the audit firm will have to audit one major program, resulting in an estimated fee of approximately \$89,000. If additional programs require audit procedures, each additional program's fee will be \$6,200.

Kaleb Lilly, Partner, will discuss the planning process at the Budget and Personnel Committee meeting, covering the following items, and answer any questions about the upcoming audit:

- 2025 Scope of Services
- Engagement Timeline
- Financial Statement Risk Assessment
- Required Discussion Items

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Funding for the annual audit fees is included as an Indirect Cost in MARC's annual budget. Anticipated fees for the 2025 engagement is detailed in the table above.

EXHIBITS

[RubinBrown Planning Presentation](#)
[RubinBrown Communication Letter](#)

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the RubinBrown audit engagement letter for FY2025 at an estimated cost of \$89,000 with the understanding that audit fees for additional major programs may be required at \$6,200 each.

STAFF CONTACT

- Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration
- Erika Benitez, Finance Director
- Darlene Pickett, Accountant III

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 7c
Exemplary Core Capacities

ISSUE:

VOTE: APPROVAL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT DUES FOR 2027

BACKGROUND

In January 2025, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board approved local government dues for 2026. We bring these to the Board a year in advance to give local governments time to include them in their budgets.

Dues and voluntary contributions provide general support to MARC operations. Although they are less than 2% of MARC's overall budget, they are unrestricted funds that provide a foundation for a broad range of regional programs and initiatives, and they can be used as matching funds to leverage federal, state and private grants.

The nine counties and six largest cities in the region (named as incorporating members in MARC's bylaws) pay annual dues calculated on a per-capita basis. The five counties on the Missouri side of the region and the cities of Independence and Kansas City, Missouri, also pay an annual match (calculated per capita) as part of MARC's Area Agency on Aging. Other cities in the MARC region are asked to pay basic dues based on population. In addition, all communities are asked to make program-specific voluntary contributions to Emergency Services (calculated per capita), the Government Training Institute (based on number of employees) and the Government Innovations Forum (calculated per capita).

It has generally been our practice to request a 2 percent increase each year, which is what we are recommending for 2027. The activities supported by these funds increase in costs, and in some years, 2 percent is slightly more than inflation, in other years (such as this year) it is less.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Below is a summary schedule showing history of these dues.

2027 MARC LOCAL DUES SUMMARY	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Actual 2025	Budget 2026	Proposed 2027
Members' Dues	\$ 422,046	\$ 431,001	\$ 439,629	\$ 448,430	\$ 457,407	\$ 466,561	\$ 475,901
Aging Local Match - Missouri	78,265	79,830	81,427	83,055	84,716	86,410	88,138
Voluntary Dues	71,984	80,309	81,715	83,107	84,507	85,898	87,306
Government Innovations Forum	150,907	170,137	174,959	193,115	196,977	200,917	204,939
Government Training Institute	79,332	83,242	88,866	87,778	93,191	98,672	100,659
Subtotal	802,534	844,519	866,596	895,485	916,798	938,458	956,943
Emergency Services	437,189	442,335	448,335	454,455	455,883	467,026	473,519
Total	\$ 1,239,723	\$ 1,286,854	\$ 1,314,931	\$ 1,349,940	\$ 1,372,681	\$ 1,405,484	\$ 1,430,462
Summary of Increases	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%

Attached are detailed schedules showing the information by agency and program. Staff send invoices around the first of April, with a goal of receiving payment by the end of May.

EXHIBITS

[Proposed 2027 MARC Local Dues Combined](#)

[Summary of Emergency Services Local Contributions for 2027](#)

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RECOMMENDATION

Approve a 2 percent increase in local government member and voluntary dues, emergency services, GTI and GIF membership dues, and the Aging match for 2027.

STAFF CONTACT

- Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration
- Erika Benitez, Finance Director
- Darlene Pickett, Accountant III

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 7d
Exemplary Core Capacities

ISSUE

VOTE: RATIFY APPLICATION TO THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 2027 DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM NETWORK.

BACKGROUND

The Missouri Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) oversees a Diabetes Self-Management Program Network for the support of Missouri residents who are diagnosed as diabetic or pre-diabetic. To support this effort, Mid America Regional Council (MARC) has agreed to deliverables including

- Facilitating approximately 6 Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) workshops engaging approximately 72 participants
- Administering social determinants of health screenings
- Facilitating referrals for supportive community services when risks are reported
- Facilitating leader cross-training to certify 12 new DSMP leaders from at least two organizations
- Implementing a cross-referral process between the KC Fresh Rx program and DSMP workshops
- Implementing a self-referral process for participants in the KC Fresh Rx program to increase participation in the region and,
- Providing transportation support for participants that need rides to the nutrition education classes and grocery stores.

This will be the third and final year of funding. Due to the quick turnaround requested by the state in support of their budgeting timeline, MARC's executive director approved the submission of an application to be followed by board approval.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Approximately \$30,000 would be allocated to the Diabetes Self-Management Program scope and nearly \$70,000 to the KC Fresh Rx program.

REVENUES	
Source	Missouri Department of Health and Human Services
Total	\$99,230.77
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$64,163.06
Indirect	\$22,183.71
Leader Training Allotments for Network Partners	800.00
Transportation support	\$500.00
Marketing	\$2,900.00
Translation/Interpretation Services	\$2,060.00
In Region Travel	\$144.00
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$6,480.00
Total	\$99,230.77

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Commission on Aging considered this at its January meeting and recommends Board approval.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

The Diabetes Self-Management Program scope supports the full state of Missouri, and the KC Fresh Rx scope supports the Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties in Missouri.

RECOMMENDATION

Ratify submission of application to the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services for the state fiscal year 2027 Diabetes Self-Management Program Network.

STAFF CONTACTS

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 7e

Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE

VOTE: APPROVE FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENTS WITH SEGRA AND THE KANSAS FIBER NETWORK FOR ETHERNET LOCAL AREA NETWORK SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE REGIONAL 911 SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

As part of ongoing efforts to modernize and strengthen the resilience of the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) regional 911 network, is pursuing a five-year agreement with Segra and a five-year agreement with the Kansas Fiber Network (KFN) for ethernet local area network (ELAN) services. These services support both upgrades to existing circuits for improved reliability and the addition of new sites needed to meet current and future operational demands.

This work aligns with the broader reengineering of the 911 network, which emphasizes redundancy, survivability, and provider variety through Ethernet-based architecture. The proposed KFN services complement existing connectivity and intentionally avoid reliance on a single carrier, reducing risk and supporting continuity of operations.

For cybersecurity and infrastructure protection reasons, specific site locations are not included in this board item and are managed internally using non-public identifiers. Procurement is considered sole source due to the limited number of providers capable of delivering the required ELAN services at these locations, with Segra and KFN being selected for network multiplicity and redundancy.

The proposed agreements provide ELAN services over a 60-month term and are defined below.

	Monthly total cost	Five-year total
Segra (2 locations)	\$995	\$59,700
Kansas Fiber Network (9 locations)	\$4,210	\$252,600
Total	\$5,205	\$312,300

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The total cost of the five-year KFN ELAN agreement is \$252,600 (\$4,210 per month for 60 months) and the total cost of the five-year Segra ELAN agreement is \$59,700 (\$995 per month for 60 months). Funding for the initial year is included in the 2026 Regional 911 Budget, which was approved by the Public Safety Communications Board on November 19, 2025. Funding for years two through five will be incorporated into future annual budget cycles.

These agreements are consistent with previously approved network investments and follows the same justification and procurement rationale used for prior long-term fiber connectivity agreements supporting the regional 911 system.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$312,300
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Network)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$312,300

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the use of these funds with the 2026 Regional 911 Budget, at the November 19, 2025, meeting.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This request supports the 11-county MARC regional 911 network.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the five-year agreements with Segra in the amount of \$59,700 and the KFN in the amount of \$252,600 for ELAN services supporting the regional 911 system.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Eric Winebrenner, Director of Public Safety

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 7f

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

VOTE: APPROVE 2026 1ST QUARTER AMENDMENT TO THE 2026-2030 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. MARC amends the TIP on both a quarterly cycle and as needed to accommodate changes to projects in the TIP.

The proposed 2026 1st Quarter Amendment to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Programs includes 11 projects:

- 4 new projects to be added, including but not limited to:
 - #524014 - Clay County - Old 210 Highway Bridge over Rush Creek Replacement
 - #790186 - Cass County - 331st Street over Sugar Creek Bridge Replacement
 - #995233 - KCATA - 2026 Special Event Transit Service Enhancements
 - #996109 - Johnson County Transit - 2026 Fan Circulator Service
- 7 modified projects
 - Scope
 - Schedule
 - Budget

Details of these projects are available for review on the Internet at: www.marc.org/TIP. MARC's Public Involvement Plan requires that amendments to the TIP be released for public review and comment prior to adoption. Fourteen comments were received during the comment period. The comments and proposed responses are included for review.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Transportation Emissions Committee approved the reallocation of CMAQ funds for #995233 and #996109 at their November 10, 2025, meeting.

The Missouri STP Priorities Committee approved the scope modification to #611217 - Gregory Boulevard Complete Streets at their December 9, 2025, meeting.

The Total Transportation Policy Committee approved this item on January 20, 2026.

EXHIBIT

[2026 1st quarter amendment TIP comments and response](#)

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the 2026 1st Quarter Amendment to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Marc Hansen, Principal Planner

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 7g

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

VOTE: APPROVE AMENDMENT #1 OF THE 2026 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the transportation planning activities MARC and other agencies will undertake during the year; documents the proposed expenditures of federal, state and local funds in support of applications for various planning grants; and provides a management tool for MARC and the funding agencies in scheduling major transportation planning activities, milestones and products.

The proposed 2026 UPWP Amendment #1 will make the following modifications:

- Add a new project (5.15) funded through the FTA 5307 program
 - UGTD Facility Planning & Site Selection Study
 - Lead Agency: Unified Government Transportation Department
- Revise Appendix C as necessary to account for the inclusion of this project.
- Update the prospectus included in the 2026 UPWP to account for recently approved changes to the MARC committee structure.

MARC's Public Involvement Plan requires that amendments to the UPWP be released for public review and comment prior to adoption. No comments were received during the comment period.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Total Transportation Policy Committee approved this item on January 20, 2026.

EXHIBITS

[Unified Planning Work Program Prospectus](#)

[2026 Unified Planning Work Program - Amendment #1](#)

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This amendment adds federally funded transportation planning work in the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

The updated prospectus impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Amendment #1 to the 2026 Unified Planning Work Program.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Marc Hansen, Principal Planner

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 7h

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

VOTE: APPROVE SUMMER 2025 CHANGES TO THE FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

Functional classification is the process by which streets and highways are organized according to how they move vehicles across our transportation network. This designation is based on factors such as roadway volume and speed limit, among other criteria established by the Federal Highway Administration. Functional classification is used in transportation planning, roadway design, and is one factor in determining if a roadway project is eligible to receive federal funds. In some cases, functional classification determines the eligibility of roadways to receive federal funds, most notably the STP funds that MARC's programming committees award every two years.

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Kansas City Region, MARC is responsible for developing and maintaining the Functional Classification system of roadways within its planning boundaries through coordination with local cities, counties, and departments of transportation. MARC developed and launched a new platform for submitting request changes. With the launch of the new platform, MARC conducted one (summer) call for changes to the Functional Classification System.

For the Summer 2025 call, requests were reviewed and draft recommendations were made for 34 new requests for functional classification changes from eight jurisdictions/agencies. Draft recommendations were reviewed by the applicable DOT's and additional coordination with requesting jurisdiction occurred as needed. The requests were organized into the following three recommendation categories.

- Approve: 26 requests (76%)
- Approve with Modification: 5 requests (15%)
- Withdraw: 3 requests (9%)
 - These requests, as proposed, are not considered or are ineligible for change during this call.

Additionally, the City of Olathe submitted 522 change requests. Due to the large request and low time-sensitivity, Olathe has agreed to coordinate with MARC and KDOT to prioritize their change requests for future calls.

To ensure proposed changes meet FHWA guidelines, coordination and communication with DOTs and requesting jurisdictions are necessary. The list of requested changes and draft recommendations is included for review, as a result of all coordination efforts.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

These changes were reviewed and approved by a quorum of the Highway Committee on January 7, 2026. The Total Transportation Policy Committee approved this item on January 20, 2026.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

EXHIBITS

[2025 functional class changes DRAFT](#)

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Summer 2025 Functional Classification System changes, as recommended.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Alicia Hunter, Transportation Planner III

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 7i

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

VOTE: APPROVE CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY, INC. FOR SERVICES TO SUPPORT PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADES FOR THE REGIONAL OPERATION GREENLIGHT SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

Operation Green Light (OGL) is an initiative that assists state and local governments that own and operate traffic signals on regional arterial roadways to work together to coordinate traffic signal timing to improve traffic flow, reduce excessive fuel consumption and reduce emissions. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) staff currently assists in the management and operation of traffic signal timing for 769 intersections in 28 jurisdictions throughout the region.

MARC owns and maintains an extensive field communications network to support the regional traffic signal control system. OGL manages over 1500 network devices ranging from the licensed 18Ghz microwave backhaul equipment to unlicensed radios at the traffic signals, various network switches and supporting equipment. The components of the network are located throughout the region on water towers, rooftops and at traffic signals.

MARC currently contracts with Electronic Technology, Inc. (ETI) to provide services to support the preventative maintenance and all upgrade and troubleshooting work of the field network. This work includes regional field communication system support and upgrades as the OGL program continues to upgrade its wireless radios and backbone technology to provide more advanced communications throughout the region.

On December 21, 2023, a Request for Proposals was released and closed on January 18, 2024, which ETI was selected. The current contract's first two-year term completes March 31, 2026. The contract has an option for two additional one-year terms, and it is recommended to be extended for an additional year.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Funds for this purchase are included in the Operation Green Light operations budget. This procurement will be funded through Federal Grants administered by the Kansas and Missouri Departments of Transportation. Participating local governments provide matching funds for this grant.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$43,200
Source	Federal STBG - Kansas
Amount	\$100,800
Source	Federal STBG - Missouri
Amount	\$36,000
Source	Local Agency Matching Funds
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$180,000
Pass-Through	

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Operation Green Light Committee will meet on January 26, 2026, to vote on the supplemental to recommend the extension with ETI.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

Missouri Department of Transportation, the Cities of Belton, Blue Springs, Gladstone, Grandview, Independence, Kansas City, Lee's Summit, Liberty, MoDOT, North Kansas City, Raymore and Raytown in Missouri and the jurisdiction of the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Cities of Bonner Springs, Fairway, Lansing, Leavenworth, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Mission Woods, Olathe, Overland Park, Prairie Village, Roeland Park, Shawnee, Westwood and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City in Kansas.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a one-year supplemental extension with ETI Inc. for OGL field network support through March 31, 2027.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Ron Achepohl, Director of Transportation and Environment
- Ray M. Webb, Traffic Operations Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 7j

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

VOTE: APPROVE PURCHASE OF OPERATION GREENLIGHT FIELD COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT TO SUPPORT THE REGIONAL TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) owns and maintains an extensive field communications network to support the regional traffic signal control system. Operation Greenlight (OGL) manages over 1,500 network devices ranging from the licensed 18 GHz microwave backhaul equipment to unlicensed radios at the traffic signals, various network switches and supporting equipment. The components of the network are located throughout the region on water towers, rooftops and at traffic signals.

This purchase represents the replacement of aging distribution radios (tower to traffic signals and traffic signal to traffic signal) backbone link radios (tower to tower radios), and switches. The Kansas City Regional Procurement Cooperative (KCRPC) has competitively bid equipment contracts for the region and will be utilized for this purchase.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Funds for this purchase are included in the Operation Green Light operations budget. This procurement will be funded through Federal STP agreements administered by the Kansas and Missouri Departments of Transportation. Participating local governments provide matching funding for this program.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$39,840
Source	Federal STBG - Kansas
Amount	\$92,960
Source	Federal STBG - Missouri
Amount	\$33,200
Source	Local Agency Matching Funds
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$166,000
Pass-Through	

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Operation Green Light Steering Committee will meet on January 26, 2026, to vote to approve issuing purchase orders to ETI for this equipment.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts the following: Missouri Department of Transportation, the Cities of Belton, Blue Springs, Gladstone, Grandview, Independence, Kansas City, Lee's Summit, Liberty, MoDOT, North Kansas City, Raymore and Raytown in Missouri and the jurisdiction of the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Cities of Bonner Springs, Fairway, Lansing, Leavenworth, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Mission Woods, Olathe, Overland Park,

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MARC Board of Directors

Prairie Village, Roeland Park, Shawnee, Westwood and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City in Kansas.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to issue purchase orders to ETI utilizing the KCRPC agreement for up to \$166,000 for the acquisition of Radwin radios and Lantronix switch equipment.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Ron Achepohl, Director of Transportation and Environment
- Ray M. Webb, Traffic Operations Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026

Item No. 7k

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE

VOTE: APPROVE CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH OLSSON GROUP FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL TIMING AND ENGINEERING SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE REGIONAL OPERATION GREENLIGHT SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

Operation Green Light (OGL) is a regional traffic signal coordination and operations program involving local governments and the State Departments of Transportation in Kansas and Missouri. This initiative improves regional traffic flow, air quality and fuel consumption. As a key part of this work, OGL develops and implements traffic signal timing plans in cooperation with participating state and local governments and monitors real-time operations on roadway intersections in the program. Continued traffic signal timing and engineering support services will be integral to the successful operation of the OGL program. These services are needed to continue efforts to keep signal timing at its peak level of performance at the over 750 traffic signals that OGL currently supports for 28 agencies and over 1500 traffic signals supported by the regional software.

After an RFQ selection process in November 2022, Olsson was selected and contracted in April 2023. The first of the two-year contract expired on March 31, 2025, and the allowed one-year extension was invoked. This is the final contract extension as allowable by contract.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Funds for this purchase are included in the Operation Green Light operations budget. This procurement will be funded through Federal Grants administered by the Kansas and Missouri Departments of Transportation. Participating local governments provide matching funds for this grant.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$40,800
Source	Federal STBG - Kansas
Amount	\$95,200
Source	Federal STBG - Missouri
Amount	\$34,000
Source	Local Agency Matching Funds
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$170,000
Pass-Through	

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Operation Green Light Steering Committee will meet on January 26, 2026, to vote to recommend the selection of Olsson for a one-year extension.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts the following: Missouri Department of Transportation, the Cities of Belton, Blue Springs, Gladstone, Grandview, Independence, Kansas City, Lee's Summit, Liberty,

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MoDOT, North Kansas City, Raymore and Raytown in Missouri and the jurisdiction of the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Cities of Bonner Springs, Fairway, Lansing, Leavenworth, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Mission Woods, Olathe, Overland Park, Prairie Village, Roeland Park, Shawnee, Westwood and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City in Kansas.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a supplemental contract with Olsson for Traffic Signal Timing and Engineering Support Services for the Operation Green Light Program in the amount of \$170,000.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Ron Achepohl, Director of Transportation and Environment
- Ray M. Webb, Traffic Operations Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

January 2026
Item No. 7I
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: APPROVE ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE JANUARY 13, 2025, HEAD START ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

BACKGROUND

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

- Approval of 2026 Head Start Child Selection Criteria
- Approval of September 2025 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- Approval of October 2025 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- Approval of December 2025 Shared Governance Meeting Minutes

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Head Start Advisory Committee considered this information at its January 13th meeting and recommended MARC Board approval.

EXHIBIT

[Head Start Advisory Committee January 2026](#)

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the actions taken at the January 13th Head Start Advisory Committee meetings.

STAFF CONTACT

- Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director