



## Board of Directors Meeting

March 24, 2026

12:00 - 1:30 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](mailto: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 matters occurring in their jurisdiction.

#### 2. Healthy Environment

- a) REPORT: Update about the ReLoop KC regional plan for material recovery
- b) VOTE: Approve 2026 air quality season outreach media purchases and overview of outreach plan

#### 3. Effective Local Government

- a) REPORT: Updates on recent changes in local government services

#### 4. Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

- a) VOTE: Authorize an agreement with ICF Incorporated L.L.C. for the Regional Housing and Transportation Coordination Plan

#### 5. Brief reports

- a) REPORT: Update on World Cup preparations
- b) REPORT: Executive Director search committee update

#### 6. Executive Director's report

The executive director will share brief updates

#### 7. Consent agenda

- a) VOTE: Approve minutes of the Feb. 24, 2026, board meeting
- b) VOTE: Authorize acceptance and administration of Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness subgrant funds for planning, training, and exercise activities.
- c) VOTE: Authorize a contract with the Missouri Local Emergency Planning District for hazardous materials planning, training and exercise, and administrative services.
- d) VOTE: Approve a five-year agreement with Segra in the amount of \$59,700 for Ethernet Local Area Network services to provide network connectivity at the new MARC office.
- e) VOTE: Ratify approval to submit SFY 2027 budget and accept grant funds from Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for community health worker training and blood pressure self-management.
- f) VOTE: Authorize submission of the SFY 2026 Area Agency on Aging Amendment #2

- g) VOTE: Approve lease of kitchen space at the 1218 Swift building to Guadalupe Centers, Inc.
- h) VOTE: Authorize submission of grant and if awarded accept funds from the Patterson Family Foundation for Community Health Worker Training and Technical Services.
- i) VOTE: Authorize contract increase with Burns and McDonnell to develop and deliver training programs for the recently updated regional stormwater engineering standards.
- j) VOTE: Authorize grant submission to EPA for the Wetland Program Development Grant program to support the adoption and implementation of the updated regional stormwater engineering standards.
- k) VOTE: Approve a contract with Agile Mile, Inc. to provide a web-based software tool for ride-matching/trip planning services for the WAY TO GO program.
- l) VOTE: Authorize an agreement with WSP USA Inc. to complete a travel pattern after action assessment.
- m) VOTE: Approve Mid-America Regional Council Head Start program federal carryover funds request.
- n) VOTE: Approve Head Start's proposal to complete a change in scope for Head Start enrollment for the 2026-2027 program year for three Head Start partners.
- o) VOTE: Approve actions taken at the March 10, 2026, Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting.
- p) VOTE: Approve changes to employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2026.

## 8. Other business

## 9. Adjournment

### Upcoming meeting

Tuesday, Apr. 28, 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**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Title</b>
Anderson, Jalen	Jackson County	County Legislator - Designee for County Executive Phil LeVota
Bacon, John	Olathe, KS	Mayor
Baird, Bill	Lee's Summit, MO	Mayor
Berberich, Allyson	Platte County	Commissioner - Designee for Presiding Commissioner Scott Fricker
Boley, Damien	Smithville, MO	Mayor
Bolon, Greg	MoDOT	District Engineer
Brewer, Julie	Johnson County	Commissioner
Bunch, Eric	Kansas City, MO	Councilmember
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, Janeé	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
Howard, Jermaine	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	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
Mellott, Garrett	Edwardsville, KS	Council member
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

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 2a  
Healthy Environment

### **VOTE: Update about the ReLoop KC regional plan for material recovery**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Regional Plan for Material Recovery is reframing the solid waste management problem into an economic development project to reclaim materials and use them locally for community benefit. This plan culminates two years of engagement, planning, and review to create a set of strategies to guide our collective action in the next decade. In April 2024, the Solid Waste Management District (SWMD) Management Council kicked off the planning with development of a Vision and Mission for the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) SWMD that would anchor the plan in collaboration with local government and shift the paradigm from efficient disposal to material recovery and reuse.

In the two years since, an Executive Roundtable composed of elected officials from across the region have met regularly to elevate the concepts of reuse, recovery, and energy extraction to the forefront of economic growth. The SWMD Executive Board and Management Council met four times a year including a planning retreat to explore district services and programs and identify new avenues of landfill diversion of materials. By identifying the current and future value of redirecting waste materials to emerging industries in the region, solid waste planning became focused on opportunities. These opportunities were prioritized into twelve strategies that are at the core of the Regional plan.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

This plan intersects with housing, transportation, emergency planning, food systems, environmental quality and economic development. These strategies need to be integrated into other planning efforts to unify efforts. Blending material recovery with other regional initiatives will clarify where these opportunities intersect with shared goals and vision.

#### **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

The MARC SWMD Executive Board has approved a \$176,000 budget for Plan Implementation out of funds held by the SWMD. In addition to smaller projects focused on specific materials, the key targets are management of organics and waste from construction and demolition.

#### **EXHIBITS**

The Regional Plan can be [viewed on the MARC website](#).

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

The MARC SWMD Executive Board met on March 18 and voted to affirm this Regional Plan in alignment with the District Solid Waste Management Plan that was approved in November 2025.

#### **RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

None. Information only.

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

### STAFF CONTACTS

- Dr. Dianna Bryant, MARC SWMD Program Manager
- Tom Jacobs, MARC Environmental Director

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

February 2026  
Item No. 2b  
Healthy Environment

### VOTE: Approve 2026 Air Quality Ozone Season Outreach Media Purchases

#### BACKGROUND

Air quality is a central determinant of health, economic vitality, environmental adaptability and overall quality of life in the Kansas City region. Air pollution, particularly ground-level ozone and fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), can have significant health consequences. Exposure can trigger asthma attacks, throat irritation, reduced lung function, increased hospitalization, worsening heart and lung conditions and premature death. These impacts are especially significant for vulnerable populations such as children, older adults, pregnant individuals, outdoors workers and people with chronic respiratory and cardiac diseases. Low-income and minority communities face disproportionately higher exposure to pollutants like PM<sub>2.5</sub> due to closer proximity to highways, freight corridors and industrial facilities.

Poor air quality can also have economic costs for regions designated as nonattainment under federal air quality standards. These areas are subject to stricter environmental requirements that could increase costs for businesses. These requirements can reduce investment and limit economic growth.

#### Sources of air pollution

Ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> are the pollutants of greatest concern in the Kansas City region, and the region has a particularly long history with ozone challenges. Ground-level ozone is not directly emitted. It is produced through a chemical reaction between volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) in the presence of heat and sunlight. Ozone production is most likely to form in the warmer months, which is why ozone production typically occurs between March 1 and October 31, the period known as ozone season.

The primary sources of VOCs and NO<sub>x</sub> are emissions from transportation (mobile sources), industrial processes, power plants and utilities, and commercial and consumer products. While business and industry contribute to poor air quality, more than half of all ozone pollution comes from emissions caused by everyday people doing everyday things – driving, mowing, painting and fueling vehicles.

#### Local government collaboration

In 1978, Johnson, Wyandotte, Jackson, Platte and Clay counties were designated as nonattainment for the one-hour ozone standard. Through a regional [memorandum of understanding](#), the governors of Kansas and Missouri formalized MARC's role as the lead planning agency to coordinate state and local efforts in air quality planning. Following two decades of coordinated action and planning, the region attained compliance in 1992, overcame periods of new ozone violations in the mid-1990s, and completed its required maintenance period in 2004. Since this time, MARC has continued to have a significant role in air quality planning, stakeholder coordination through the Air Quality Forum and voluntary action related to public education and outreach.

The EPA promulgated a more stringent ozone standard in 2015. While the Kansas City region was able to meet the standard for many years since due to cleaner power generation and voluntary actions such as those described in MARC's Clean Air Action Plan, the region has now [violated the standard for the last three years](#).

## AGENDA REPORT

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### MARC Board of Directors

MARC continues to coordinate regional, state and local efforts to protect air quality. This work includes ozone forecasting (SkyCast) and the ozone alert system, public education programs and administration of federal funding dedicated to voluntary emissions reduction initiatives. The activities are funded by Federal Highway Administration's Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program, as well as grants from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

#### **Role of public education**

Public education is a critical component of preventing ozone exceedances. Small changes in daily behavior – such as delaying refueling, reducing car trips, limiting engine idling or postponing the use of gas-powered lawn equipment – can reduce emissions. MARC's public outreach campaign is designed to help residents understand these connections and take reasonable steps to reduce ozone formation and protect their health.

The campaign also prioritizes hard-to-reach populations, particularly low-income and non-English-speaking communities in the region who may not receive or rely on traditional media and weather app notifications. Approximately 20-percent of the campaign budget is dedicated to targeted outreach, including Spanish-language radio and television, print and targeted digital and streaming in areas with higher exposure and vulnerability.

MARC evaluates campaign performance through the tracking of detailed metrics in partnership with media partners. MARC also conducts a statistically valid public awareness survey each season to measure public recognition of ozone alerts, understanding of recommended actions, motivations to take action and the primary sources where residents encountered air quality messages. Together, the metrics and survey results help MARC staff recalibrate each annual campaign to maintain impact.

Survey research consistently shows that TV and radio remain the primary sources of air-quality information for most residents, while digital and social platforms have become increasingly important, particularly for younger audiences. While the widespread use of mobile weather apps has increased general awareness of poor air quality, these apps typically provide only high-level air quality index (AQI) information and do not offer localized guidance about which specific actions will reduce emissions or protect personal health on high-ozone days. MARC recognizes that weather apps are an important information source and include Weather Channel app ads as part of the media campaign mix, but survey results make clear that a multi-channel strategy remains essential. MARC's Public Affairs department monitors trends in communication channels and message performance, and MARC is working with a new consultant to strengthen the motivational appeal of campaign messaging by emphasizing personal responsibility, empowerment and the tangible benefits of individual behavior change.

The campaign is especially important because the Kansas City region frequently experiences ozone concentrations that are very close to the federal threshold—and has violated the ozone standard for three consecutive years. Timely and consistent communication during the ozone season, particularly on forecasted Ozone Action Alert days, helps limit emissions at moments when the region faces the greatest risk. In addition, the campaign strengthens collaboration with meteorologists, media outlets and community partners, which extends the reach of public messages and reinforces the importance of air quality protection. We use a variety of communication channels to ensure this vital information reaches broad audiences while also

## AGENDA REPORT

### MARC Board of Directors

allowing us to target people and communities with specific needs. The multi-prong approach is guided by performance data and audience insights to ensure the campaign reaches the right people at the right time. The 2026 campaign also considers the impact of the World Cup, which is increasing advertising costs during the tournament.

The Air Quality Program requests approval to make the following media campaign advertising purchases for the 2026 Ozone Season:

Online (Targeted video and images through various providers)	\$75,000
TV (KMBC, KCTV5, WDAF Fox 4, KSHB, KMCI, KUKC, KGKC, etc.)	\$50,000
Audio (Cumulus, Steel City, Audacy, Carter, KCUR, KTBG, Reyes, La Mega, Streaming audio, etc.)	\$50,000
Outdoor Billboards (Adsposure, Commuter Ads, Outfront, Lamar, Steel City)	\$40,000
Sponsorship	\$15,000
Social media	\$8,000
Print	\$7,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$245,000</b>

Note that the above amounts are estimates based on the 2025 campaign and are likely to shift through the course of negotiations and impacts of the World Cup. Approximately 20 percent of the \$245,000 budget will be spent targeting low-income and minority communities.

#### RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the executive director to enter into agreements for advertising and promotion for the air quality program as itemized above.

#### STAFF CONTACTS

- Karen Clawson, Air and Mobility Programs Manager

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 3a  
Effective Local Government

### **REPORT: Updates on recent changes in local government services**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Local Government Services Department currently oversees a broad collection of programs, from 911 public safety communications to emergency services, to housing and small cities support, public sector workforce, and various shared services. There are several legacy initiatives, beyond these categories, now supported by Local Government Services until they sunset over the next 12-18 months. With new department leadership and several key positions being filled in 2025, Local Government Services has been working through an assessment of current capacity and strengths, existing priorities and expectations, challenges and barriers to our success. With a focus on effective local government, this report will highlight several forthcoming MARC member service changes.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

MARC provides high quality training and technical assistance services to local governments and develops collaborative efforts and shared services to help cities and counties work more efficiently and effectively.

#### **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

The goal of these changes is to move Local Government Services toward a refined understanding of the level of effort required to execute existing programs for better resource planning and management. We anticipate several efficiencies in reduced staff time and more revenue from providing more cost-effective, timely services. Budget goals will be established for each service as they are launched.

#### **RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

None. Information only.

#### **STAFF CONTACTS**

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

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026

Item No. 4a

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

### **VOTE: Authorize an agreement with ICF Incorporated L.L.C. for the Regional Housing and Transportation Coordination Plan**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Following the addition of housing specific goals to the metropolitan transportation plan (MTP) Connected KC 2050, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) will create a Regional Housing and Transportation Coordination Plan. This study will offer a thorough, data-driven approach to better integrating transportation, housing, and economic development within MARC's planning efforts. It will analyze current conditions, regional challenges, and future opportunities, ultimately providing robust data, recommendations, and implementation tools to foster sustainable growth of both the housing network and transportation system across the region.

Tasks to be conducted during this study include:

- Geospatial analysis of housing and transportation systems
- Economic and policy level analysis
- Suitability analysis to identify locations with prime access to various housing and transportation types
- Engagement with key stakeholders
- Evaluation of MARC products, identifying where to implement housing-focused strategies in existing plans and programs

Work on this plan will begin in April 2026, following the completion of procurement for a consultant for this project. Oversight will include a Housing and Transportation Advisory Committee (temporary committee for duration of the plan), MARC's transportation policy committees, and the Regional Housing Partnership's Coordinating Council.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

The 2021 federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) allows the creation of "housing coordination plans" that could be associated with required short- and long-term transportation plans. This is only an eligible activity for MPOs representing Transportation Management Areas (TMAs), which are those with populations over 200,000.

#### **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

MARC's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) has budgeted \$300,000 for a consultant contract to assist in the development of this plan over 2026-2027. This will be a 12-month contract, including the Scope of Work outlined in MARC's UPWP.

MARC staff have undergone a selection process for a consulting firm to help perform this work, including a request for proposals, proposal review of the 10 respondents, and formal interviews. The selection committee is recommending ICF Incorporated, L.L.C. for this contract with a not-to-exceed amount of \$300,000.

(continued on next page)

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<b>REVENUES</b>	
Amount	\$300,000
Source	Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG)

<b>PROJECTED EXPENSES</b>	
Contractual	\$300,000

#### **RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize an agreement with ICF Incorporated L.L.C. for MARC's Regional Housing and Transportation Coordination Plan, not to exceed \$300,000.

#### **STAFF CONTACTS**

- Cy Splichal, Transportation Planner
- Hannah Mitchell, Regional Housing Program Manager

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 5a  
Safe and Secure Communities

### REPORT: Update on World Cup preparations

#### BACKGROUND

Kansas City will host the World Cup in June 2026 with major activities being coordinated by the KC2026 host committee. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has been providing support for local events with a regional calendar, travel demand management tools, and solid waste management grants; sharing information with local jurisdictions; hosting a broad range of training and exercises; and coordinating multi-agency emergency services planning. Working with public safety and health/medical partners, MARC is convening stakeholders to coordinate and synchronize planning efforts, identify gaps through ongoing needs assessments and exercises, and working together to mitigate gaps to strengthen regional preparedness.

#### POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

MARC has played an important role in coordinating emergency services across the region. The World Cup demonstrates the value of our region's long-standing commitment to collaboration in emergency preparedness and safety and security to enhance readiness at a time when there is uncertainty around federal funding.

#### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

There is currently no executed contract for management and administrative services related to supporting World Cup activities. This, however, is subject to change with the anticipated arrival of the World Cup Grant program to be awarded to KC2026.

#### RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

#### RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

#### STAFF CONTACTS

- Ashley Z. Hand, AIA, Director Local Government Services
- Erin Lynch, Emergency Services Program Director
- Dan Manley, Emergency Services Project Manager / Senior Planner
- Jennifer Sutherlin, Health and Medical Program Manager

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 5b  
Exemplary Core Capacities

### REPORT: Executive director search committee update

#### BACKGROUND

At the December Board meeting a search committee comprised of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) board members was appointed. At the January Board meeting, OMNI was selected to manage the recruitment and hiring process. The search committee met with OMNI for an initial meeting on February 6 and met again on March 6. At the March 6 meeting, the committee:

- Received an update regarding the postings and sourcing activities.
- Reviewed results from various source groups regarding priority characteristics. The highest ranked traits included:
  - High integrity, ethics, and trustworthiness
  - Passion/Commitment to the mission
  - Strategic Thinker
  - Strategic Leader
  - Innovative Thinker
- Discussed compensation benchmarks
- Began discussion about the interview process - structure and topics to cover
- Reviewed the timeline with first round interviews planned for end of April; second round interviews planned for mid-May; and a recommendation to the Board at the June meeting.

#### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

The search committee will continue to meet with OMNI over the next few months and keep the board informed of the progress.

#### RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

#### RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

#### STAFF CONTACTS

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

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 6

**REPORT: Executive Director's report**

**BACKGROUND**

The executive director will share brief updates.

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7a

**VOTE: Approve minutes of the Feb. 24, 2026, Board meeting**

**BACKGROUND:**

The minutes of the Feb. 24, 2026, meeting are enclosed.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the minutes of the Feb. 24, 2026, meeting.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

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



## MARC Board of Directors Meeting Summary

February 24, 2026

### **BOARD MEMBER AND ALTERNATE ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, MO - Board Chair  
Council member Holly Grummert, Overland Park, KS - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Council member Bridget McCandless - Independence, MO - Treasurer  
Mayor Eric Mikkelson, Prairie Village, KS - Secretary  
Mayor John Bacon, Olathe, KS  
Commissioner Allyson Berberich, Platte County, KS  
Council member Eric Bunch, Kansas City, MO  
Commissioner Becky Fast, Johnson County, KS  
Council member Jared Fears, Independence, MO  
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS  
Council member Logan Heley, Overland Park, KS  
Commissioner Dr. Evelyn Hill, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS  
Commissioner Jermaine Howard, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS  
Victor Hurlbert, Auditor, Clay County, MO  
Mayor Leonard Jones, Grandview, MO  
County Executive Phil LeVota, Jackson County, MO  
Legislator DaRon McGee, Jackson County, MO  
Council member Garrett Mellott, Edwardsville, KS  
Mayor Mickey Sandifer, Shawnee, KS  
Mayor Curt Skoog, Overland Park, KS  
Commissioner Mike Stieben, Leavenworth County, KS  
Commissioner Shiela Tracy, Ray County, MO  
Mayor Kris Turnbow, Raymore, MO  
Commissioner Tyler Vaughn, Miami County, KS  
Commissioner Scott Wagner, Clay County, MO  
Mayor/CEO Christal Watson, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City,

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Executive Director David Warm and other MARC staff

### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Tobias Steffensmeier, Field Representative for Senator Josh Hawley

### **AGENDA**

#### **Item 1 Introductions and board sharing time**

Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and welcomed attendees. Due to the meeting being held remotely and in-person, Mayor Pro Tem Lopez provided instructions for participation. He 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 REPORT: Update on the regional 911 geospatial routing system improvements**

David Warm, MARC's Executive Director, provided background information regarding the regional 911 system and the successes of cross jurisdictional collaboration. He then introduced Hassan Al-Rubaie, Technical Services Director, who provided a brief history of 911 in the United States and the Kansas City region. He also described the different responsibilities of MARC and the PSAP locations that work within the 911 system. MARC is responsible for: developing annual budget, paying of all 911 bills, 911 community outreach, and telecommunicator training, carrier coordination, cell sector mapping, maps and map layers, receiving call from carriers to selective routers, delivering call from selective router to correct PSAP, and all network, hardware and software used for receipt, delivery and answering of calls. Whereas PSAPs are responsible for: staffing to answer calls, CAD data entry, dispatch of resources, call recording, and facility operations.

Mr. Al-Rubaie described the key advantage to the newest upgrade to Router 2 that provides geospatial routing with every 911 call. Before this system was in place and a caller dialed 911, the call would be set-up on the carrier network, routed to a predetermined PSAP based on call sector programming (static location), and then the caller's location was received by the system. With Router 2, the call is set-up on the carrier network, then the caller's location is received, and routed to the appropriate PSAP for the location of the caller. This new technology is especially important for boundary lines of services areas between PSAPs (i.e. Olathe vs Overland Park) and cell phone users calling 911 (instead of land line users).

The initial data findings of call transfer volume between PSAPs are down 19%. That means that calls are being routed more efficiently, creating more opportunities for the first responders to serve the community better. The Public Safety team is continuing to search for innovative solutions as the system and our communities progress. With the World Cup arriving shortly, there are several new projects in the pipeline to ensure the safety of our visitors and our residents including live translation services during the incident.

Commissioner Mike Stieben asked what percentage of 911 calls are wireless vs LAN-based. Mr. Al-Rubaie answered that 93% of calls are wireless and wireline traffic hovers between 6-7%. Text to 011 is only around 1% of the regional traffic currently.

Mayor Eric Mikkelson asked if the geospatial routing system can determine the floor position of someone calling from a high-rise building. Mr. Al-Rubaie said that type of technology exists but not in the current system. The team is exploring the option and how much it would cost to integrate with our current technology.

Later in the meeting, County Executive Phil LeVota asked about the funding that was secured through Congressman Cleaver's office for automated license plate readers and how that program would be implemented. Mr. Warm mentioned that he would discuss it later in the agenda but that in short, MARC is administering the funds because it is a cross-jurisdictional, cooperative project between KCMO and Independence, MO along the Bi-State Reinvestment Corridor.

## **Item 3a REPORT: Update on the regional KC Fresh Rx produce prescription program**

Alissa Cunningham, Nutrition Innovation Specialist II, updated the board on the KC Fresh Rx program which provides fresh fruits and vegetables to eligible members and tracks their health progress and goals throughout the program. The KC Fresh Rx program is a USDA-funded, three-year initiative designed to improve health outcomes for patients experiencing food insecurity and chronic disease risk. The program operates through four partner clinics referring Medicaid patients who have recently faced food insecurity and have

pre-diabetes/diabetes or pre-hypertension/hypertension. Participants receive grocery store incentives, monthly in-person nutrition education with cooking demonstrations, and weekly nutrition-focused text messages to support behavior change.

Ms. Cunningham reviewed the program goals, emphasizing improvements in dietary-related clinical outcomes—specifically A1c and blood pressure—along with reductions in food insecurity and changes in healthcare utilization and associated costs. The reported outcomes from 2023 through 2025 show consistent improvements across biometric indicators. In 2023, participants redeemed 89% of issued incentives, with decreases observed in average A1c (from 5.93% to 5.75%) and both systolic and diastolic blood pressure. In 2024, redemption of incentives increased to 91%, and the proportion of individuals in the normal A1c range rose from 33% to 60%.

The 2025 capacity-building program results further demonstrated meaningful improvements. Normal A1c rates increased from 31% to 55%, while the proportion of participants in hypertensive or diabetic categories decreased across A1c, systolic BP, and diastolic BP indicators. Average A1c decreased from 6.3% to 5.9%, and systolic and diastolic blood pressure averages also declined. Looking ahead to 2026, the program plans to transition to a hybrid model, expand partnerships with clinics, incorporate cross-referrals from diabetes self-management programs, and streamline post-program biomarker testing into evaluation meetings.

Mayor Christal Watson asked if the program was integrating with public health clinics around the area. Donna Martin, Public Health Program Manager, answered that the locations currently in use need to be able to write prescriptions for the program. However, the team is working to expand the reach of the program because it has shown such an amazing success rate. Mayor Watson asked for a breakdown of participants by zip code to see how many members of her community are affected.

Councilmember Logan Heley asked if there was overlap with these participants and those in the DUFB program. Ms. Cunningham answered that there is overlap with the participants and those who use the DUFB program are encouraged to use both programs to maximize the healthy foods they can purchase. Councilmember Heley also asked if expansion into local food providers for the KC Fresh Rx program would be possible. Ms. Martin said that expansion is possible but that there is a technical aspect to the program, in the form of point-of-sale technology and cards the participants use. These cards act like a gift card that houses their Rx allowance and can only be read at certain POS systems. The team is looking into getting technology into other venues for participants to use.

#### **Item 4a VOTE: Authorize transportation suballocated call for projects for fiscal years 2029-2030**

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, requested authorization for the 2026 Suballocated Call for Projects for FFY 2029-2030, and emphasized its role in selecting, prioritizing, and scheduling regionally funded transportation projects. The call covers four federal programs—CRP, CMAQ, STBG, and TAP—with preliminary funding targets totaling \$54.2M for Kansas and \$65.4M for Missouri. This process occurs every 2 years and is the link between planning and implementation, and helps align projects with regional policies and long-range plans.

Mr. Achelpohl reviewed program-specific funding details, eligible project types, and advance allocations. Notably, CRP focuses on reducing transportation emissions, CMAQ supports Clean Air Act compliance, STBG provides broad flexibility for infrastructure investment, and TAP funds active transportation and community enhancement projects. Advance allocations for

both states include support for Active Transportation, Air Quality Education, WAY to GO, Operation Greenlight, and Planning Sustainable Places, with totals of \$1.2M in each state for the first set and additional multimillion-dollar STBG and CMAQ advance commitments.

This process is a two-phase application process. Phase I evaluates alignment with Connected KC 2050 and other regional policy frameworks, categorizing projects into alignment tiers. Phase II involves a technical scoring process addressing readiness, safety, multimodal elements, and additional criteria, managed by state programming committees. A detailed schedule was presented, with Phase I launching on February 25, 2026, and final programming recommendations expected in January 2027. Resources available to applicants and key administrative requirements, including MARC project fees (1% of the amount of federal funds awarded) and reimbursement processes, were also reviewed.

Councilmember Logan Heley asked if MARC was seeing any issues with federal funding being awarded due to new restrictions. Recently, Overland Park had to analyze their applications due to changes in scope for a federal grant because of a requirement to share personal data of recipients of funding. Mr. Achelpohl mentioned that he was not aware of any restrictions in this type of funding and noted that these funds in particular typically go to companies and firms, not individuals.

#### **Item 5a VOTE: Authorization to submit 2026 US Department of Transportation BUILD grant application**

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, requested authorization to submit a BUILD grant application to USDOT. The grant application would support NEPA clearance and preliminary design work for critical improvements along the I-29 corridor in partnership with MoDOT and the City of Kansas City, Missouri. The project builds on a previous highly rated but unfunded 2025 application and aligns with regional transportation priorities aimed at reducing congestion, improving safety, and supporting economic activity along a corridor where more than 75% of freeway segments have crash rates above statewide averages.

Mr. Achelpohl amended the dollar amount that was presented in the board memo from \$14.4 million to \$15,092,000. The initiative is included in Connected KC 2050 and MARC's list of unfunded needs, with \$15,092,000 million in BUILD funding—matched by Missouri legislative appropriations—to be passed through entirely for project work. The effort primarily affects travel in Clay and Platte counties.

#### **Item 5b REPORT: Update on pending federal and state legislation**

David Warm, Executive Director, gave the below updates about recent legislation.

Missouri Solid Waste Management Legislation - Missouri bills have been introduced that would eliminate the solid waste management district system, which is funded through a landfill tipping fee. Mr. Warm noted this system has supported regional recycling and waste-reduction initiatives for 30+ years. MARC staff have been testifying, monitoring the legislation closely, and may elevate advocacy efforts depending on movement.

Missouri 1115 Medicaid Waiver Proposal - Proposed changes would expand Medicaid reimbursement to allow healthy food programs, including medically tailored meals and programs like Fresh RX, to be funded.

Kansas Tri-Share Childcare Model & Missouri Interest - Kansas continues to deploy the employer-state-employee childcare cost-sharing model. A similar bill is now proposed in Missouri and is being monitored.

Federal: Surface Transportation Act Renewal - The current federal surface transportation program expires fall 2026 and renewal is crucial because it brings tens of millions of dollars to the metro for transportation investments. MARC is coordinating with U.S. Rep. Sam Graves.

Federal: Release of FIFA 2026 Safety & Security Funds - Congress appropriated \$59 million for Kansas City region security for the 2026 World Cup. Funds are approved but not yet released by the Department of Homeland Security. Delay is becoming critical, as local jurisdictions need to start major equipment purchases with long lead times.

Federal: FEMA / DHS Structural Reform Discussions - National conversations are underway about restructuring FEMA and DHS. MARC is focused on ensuring continuation of federal homeland-security funding streams such as the Urban Area Security Initiative, which supports KC-area emergency response networks.

Mayor Mickey Sandifer asked if the World Cup security funding will only cover overtime for emergency services officers. Mr. Warm mentioned that yes the bulk of the funds is for emergency services officers but that a portion of the funding will also be used at FIFA-designated sites like hotels, stadiums, and practice facilities.

Mayor Eric Mikkelsen commented that the long lead time for equipment purchases is making the funding announcement urgent.

#### **Item 5c REPORT: Executive Director search committee update**

Janee Hanzlick, Commissioner, Johnson County, KS provided an update on the search committees progress to find the next MARC Executive director. She announced that the Search Committee met on February 6 for an initial meeting with OMNI to discuss the timeline, survey, position profile, and sourcing strategy. The current timeline for a board recommendation will be by the June Board meeting. She reported that a survey was sent to the MARC Board, MARC Staff, and city and county managers and will close by Feb 27 at 5pm. The primary postings for the position have been made to several websites, local and national organizations, and local government associations. The Search Committee will meet again on March 6 to review the final profile, review survey results, and discuss the structure and format of the interview / selection process.

#### **Item 6 Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Warm did not make further comments.

#### **Item 7 VOTE: Approve consent agenda items**

- a. VOTE: Approve minutes of the Jan. 27, 2026, board meeting
- b. VOTE: Approve the 2026 Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan
- c. VOTE: Approve 2026 safety performance management targets
- d. VOTE: Approve 2026 air quality ozone season public outreach media purchases
- e. VOTE: Approve a contract with Weather or Not, Inc. to provide Ozone forecasting for the 2026-2028 seasons.
- f. VOTE: Authorize acceptance of grant funding from Kansas Department of Transportation to support Phase 2 of the regional Natural Hazard Transportation Risk Assessment.
- g. VOTE: Authorize an agreement for the purchase and installation of office furniture
- h. VOTE: Approve an agreement with Motorola Solutions for the 2026 VESTA 911 hardware refresh at regional Public Safety Answering Points

- i. VOTE: Approve the purchase of Garland Technology network test access points to support secure monitoring and data visibility for the regional 911 system.
- j. VOTE: Authorize reallocation of awarded federal funds for the U.S. Department of Health Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration federal award project to enhance mental health mobile crisis response.
- k. VOTE: Authorize an application to the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs for an FY26 Byrne Discretionary Community Project Grant for automated license plate readers in Kansas City, MO and Independence, MO.
- l. VOTE: Authorize application to Missouri Department of Transportation for the Missouri Elderly and Handicapped Assistance Program for SFY 2027 to provide transportation for older adults and disabled persons.
- m. VOTE: Ratify approval to submit budget and accept grant funds from Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for Community Health Worker Training, Blood Pressure Self-Management and KC Fresh Rx programming.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez called attention to the item **7d: Approve 2026 air quality ozone season public outreach media purchases** was not approved by the Budget and Personnel committee meeting and will be brought to the board for further discussion in March.

Motion: Council member Eric Bunch moved for approval of the consent agenda and other voting items, excluding item 7d, and Council member Holly Grummert seconded. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez asked if any member wanted to abstain or object to any of the agenda items.

The motion passed.

#### **Item 8 Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **Item 9 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

#### **NEXT/UPCOMING MEETING**

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





**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7b  
Safe and Secure Communities

**VOTE: Authorize acceptance and administration of Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness subgrant funds for planning, training, and exercise activities.**

**BACKGROUND**

The Mid-America Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), with Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) serving as the fiduciary and administrative agent, applied for FY 2025-2026 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) subgrant funding through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. The application includes planning, training, and exercise activities designed to enhance regional preparedness for transportation-related hazardous materials incidents. Proposed activities include updates to LEPC hazardous materials plans and hazard vulnerability analyses, delivery of specialized hazmat training courses, and execution of a multi-day functional exercise.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

These activities support MARC’s adopted regional emergency preparedness and public safety goals by strengthening interagency coordination, improving hazardous materials planning, and enhancing responder readiness across the bi-state region.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

The projects are funded through federal HMEP subgrant funds administered by the State of Kansas and require a 20 percent non-federal match, provided through a combination of personnel time and in-kind contributions.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$163,312
Source	U.S. DOT / PHMSA - HMEP (Pass-through: Kansas Adjutant General’s Department)

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$163,312

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Application was presented and approved at the May 8, 2025, LEPC Meeting.

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

The related jurisdictions tied directly to the grant funding are the three Kansas counties: Leavenworth, Wyandotte, and Johnson. The planning work also encompasses Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray Counties.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize acceptance of the HMEP subgrant funds and approval for MARC to administer the projects on behalf of the Mid-America LEPC.

**STAFF CONTACTS**

- Erin Lynch, Emergency Services Program Director
- John Davis, Emergency Services Fiscal Administrator

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7c  
Safe and Secure Communities

**VOTE: Authorize a contract with the Missouri Local Emergency Planning District for hazardous materials planning, training and exercise, and administrative services.**

### BACKGROUND

Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Emergency Services program supports the Local Emergency Planning District (LEPD) with its hazardous materials planning and preparedness activities. MARC will provide planning, training, and exercise and administrative support services to the LEPD for FY 2026-2027 under a total annual contract amount of \$52,800. These services support the district's ability to meet federal and state requirements under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) and maintain effective regional hazardous materials preparedness across Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties in Missouri.

#### 1. Administration and Management - \$14,860

MARC will serve as the district's administrative and fiscal agent, providing operational support, including:

- Development of an annual LEPD work plan.
- Fiscal management, grant fund administration, required audits, and financial reporting.
- Procurement support for specialized professional services.
- Maintenance of LEPD membership rosters and support for appointment processes.
- Compliance oversight with federal and state LEPC/LEPD regulations.
- Meeting logistics, public notices, agendas, and documentation management.
- Processing emergency hazardous materials notifications and staying current on statewide hazmat developments.

#### 2. LEPD Plan Development and Updates - \$19,498

To ensure readiness and regulatory requirements, MARC will:

- Lead an annual review and update to the District's Hazardous Materials Emergency Operations Plan.
- Support consultant engagement for technical plan updates when needed and funds allow
- Receive and maintain Tier II facility reporting records for five counties.
- Assist with outreach to facilities that may be required to file Tier II reports and have not.
- Provide Tier II information with access to public agencies, private partners, and the community as requested.

#### 3. Training and Exercise Support - \$18,442

MARC will strengthen regional hazmat response capabilities through:

- Annual identification of training needs and delivery of hazmat related training to public and private response partners.
- Work with the MO LEPD to support the design, execution, and evaluation of an annual hazmat exercise to test emergency plans and response capabilities.
- Procurement and coordination of instructors, evaluators, and other exercise related services.

## AGENDA REPORT

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### MARC Board of Directors

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

The contract ties MARC’s services to support compliance with federal and state regulations related to LEPC/LEPD duties and hazardous materials planning (e.g., Missouri statutes §292.600-292.625 and EPCRA Title III requirements). Hazardous materials policies are a continuing obligation.

#### **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>REVENUES</b>	
Amount	\$52,800
Source	MO CEPF FY 26-27

<b>PROJECTED EXPENSES</b>	
Contractual	\$52,800

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

This contract was approved at the March 12, 2026, MO LEPD meeting.

#### **RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

The related jurisdictions are the five Missouri counties that make up the Mid-America Local Emergency Planning District (LEPD): Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize a contract between the MO LEPD and MARC for administration and management, plan development, and training and exercise support not to exceed \$52,800.

#### **STAFF CONTACTS**

- Erin Lynch, Emergency Services Director
- John Davis, Emergency Services Fiscal Administrator

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7d  
Safe and Secure Communities

**VOTE: Approve a five-year agreement with Segra in the amount of \$59,700 for Ethernet Local Area Network services to provide network connectivity at the new MARC office.**

**BACKGROUND**

As part of Mid-America Regional Council’s (MARC) planned relocation from 600 Broadway to 801 Pennsylvania Avenue, staff must establish reliable, secure, and resilient network connectivity at the new facility to support ongoing public safety and regional operations. The existing City of KCMO-provided fiber at 600 Broadway will not be available at the new location and therefore must be replaced with a comparable or improved service.

Staff recommend contracting with Segra for a 500 Mbps Ethernet Local Area Network (ELAN) circuit at 801 Pennsylvania. This service aligns with the Segra architecture and operational justification previously approved by the Board and supports MARC’s network strategy focused on high-availability fiber, provider diversity, and mission-critical operations. The ELAN circuit provides dedicated, scalable bandwidth consistent with existing network standards.

Procurement is considered sole source due to the limited number of providers capable of delivering ELAN services with the required performance and fiber availability at the 801 Pennsylvania location.

The proposed agreement is for a 60-month term at a monthly cost of \$995, resulting in a five-year total of \$59,700. There is no non-recurring installation charges associated with this service.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

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 / Network Budget previously approved by the Public Safety Communications Board. Funding for years two through five will be incorporated into future annual budget cycles.

This request follows the same financial and procurement justification used for prior long-term fiber connectivity agreements and represents a direct replacement of the KCMO-provided fiber service currently supporting operations at 600 Broadway.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$59,700
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Network)

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$59,700

**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.

## AGENDA REPORT

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### MARC Board of Directors

#### RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This connectivity supports MARC operations and support functions, serving the 11-county 911 region.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Approve a five-year agreement with Segra in the amount of \$59,700 for ELAN services to provide network connectivity at the new MARC office located at 801 Pennsylvania Avenue, replacing the existing City of KCMO fiber service at 600 Broadway.

#### STAFF CONTACTS

- Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Program Director

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026

Item No. 7e

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

**VOTE: Ratify approval to submit SFY 2027 budget and accept grant funds from Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for community health worker training and blood pressure self-management.**

### BACKGROUND

For over a decade, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has convened a KC Regional Community Health Worker (CHW) Collaborative and worked with local and state partners to build a strong workforce through training, advocacy and technical services. The two state health departments have provided funds to MARC since 2022 to support free training to individuals desiring to become certified CHWs and to build the skills and knowledge of current CHWs. In addition, MARC supports evidence-based programs (EBP) and has a strong network of contracted community-based organizations that facilitate EBP.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has offered MARC approximately \$87,000 to support CHW training and Blood Pressure Self-Management (BPSM) programming from July 1, 2026, through June 29, 2027 (state fiscal year 2027).

The funds will support training for individuals who wish to be certified as trainers by the state of Missouri, Supervisory Training for individuals with healthcare and community-based organizations who supervise CHWs, and continuing education and career pathways training for CHWs to maintain their credential/certificate. It will also support network partner training and facilitation for the BPSM program.

### POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Community Health Workers are front-line health care employees who help patients with chronic conditions and social drivers of health to improve their health status. BPSM is an EBP with documented results improving health outcomes for participants.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The following budget was submitted to MO DHSS for SFY2027

REVENUES	
Amount	\$87,197.98
Source	Missouri Dept. of Health and Senior Services

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$45,397.98
Contractual	\$41,200
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$600

### COMMITTEE ACTION

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

(continued on next page)

## **AGENDA REPORT**

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### MARC Board of Directors

#### **RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

MARC provides CHW training at no cost to participants through virtual sessions and use of the Learning Management System operated through MARC's Government Training Institute. CHWs and others throughout the two states are eligible to register. BPSM programming is a pilot covering MARC's Missouri five county region.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Ratify approval to submit and accept SFY 2027 funding from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHHS) for Community Health Worker Training and Blood Pressure Self-Management programming.

#### **STAFF CONTACTS**

- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services
- Marlene Nagel, Director, Director of the Office of Resource Development

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026

Item No. 7f

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

### **VOTE: Authorize submission of the SFY 2026 Area Agency on Aging Amendment #2**

#### **BACKGROUND**

As the Area on Aging (AAA) for the Missouri portion of the Kansas City Metropolitan Area, the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Department of Aging and Adult Services received new, updated SFY 2026 allotment tables, from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), on February 6, 2026. It is now a requirement that each AAA submit an area plan budget amendment, incorporating its new table information into its current budget and submit it within sixty days. Therefore, MARC must submit Amendment #2 to DHSS no later than April 7, 2026.

#### **BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

On the next page is the recommended budget, titled Amendment #2, compared to amendment #1, submitted last fall.

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

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

#### **RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize submission of the SFY 2026 Amendment #2, in compliance with MO DHSS regulations.

#### **STAFF CONTACTS**

- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services
- Margaret Murphy, Grant Manager

**Proposed SFY 2026 Amendment #2**

	<b>Current Allotment</b>	<b>Title III Carryover</b>	<b>Medicaid</b>	<b>Voluntary Participant Contributions</b>	<b>Local Match Funds</b>	<b>Cash Match/ MEHTAP</b>	<b>Other Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Administration	\$ 598,547	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 72,350	\$ 93,025	\$ -	\$ 8,500	\$ 772,422
Supportive Services	\$ 1,120,347	\$ 193,702	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ 290,512	\$ -	\$ 365,650	\$ 1,970,361
Ombudsman	\$ 156,338	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000	\$ 191,338
Disease Prevention/Health Promotion	\$ 60,562	\$ 84,681	\$ 9,782	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 155,025
Family Caregiver Programs	\$ 431,124	\$ 317,291	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,460	\$ -	\$ 10,812	\$ 859,687
Congregate Nutrition	\$ 1,029,726	\$ 343,830	\$ -	\$ 181,156	\$ -	\$ 95,854	\$ 1,466	\$ 348,398	\$ 2,000,430
Home Delivered Nutrition	\$ 2,716,260	\$ 7,773	\$ 1,264,495	\$ 8,850	\$ -	\$ 88,324	\$ -	\$ 450,718	\$ 4,536,420
Specil Project Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,353,292	\$ -	\$ 1,353,292
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 6,112,904</b>	<b>\$ 947,277</b>	<b>\$ 1,274,277</b>	<b>\$ 190,156</b>	<b>\$ 72,350</b>	<b>\$ 668,175</b>	<b>\$ 1,354,758</b>	<b>\$ 1,219,078</b>	<b>\$ 11,838,975</b>

**Submitted SFY 2026 Amendment #1**

	<b>Current Allotment</b>	<b>Title III Carryover</b>	<b>Medicaid</b>	<b>Voluntary Participant Contributions</b>	<b>Local Match Funds</b>	<b>Cash Match/ MEHTAP</b>	<b>Other Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Administration	\$ 589,788	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67,976	\$ 86,651	\$ -	\$ 8,500	\$ 752,915
Supportive Services	\$ 920,392	\$ 193,702	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ 290,512	\$ -	\$ 365,650	\$ 1,770,406
Ombudsman	\$ 155,510	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000	\$ 190,510
Disease Prevention/Health Promotion	\$ 58,152	\$ 84,681	\$ 9,782	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152,615
Family Caregiver Programs	\$ 16,191	\$ 317,291	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,460	\$ -	\$ 10,812	\$ 444,754
Congregate Nutrition	\$ 964,556	\$ 343,830	\$ -	\$ 175,000	\$ -	\$ 95,854	\$ 1,466	\$ 355,058	\$ 1,935,764
Home Delivered Nutrition	\$ 2,666,318	\$ 7,773	\$ 1,140,831	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 88,324	\$ -	\$ 480,848	\$ 4,404,094
Specil Project Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,134,593	\$ -	\$ 1,134,593
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 5,370,907</b>	<b>\$ 947,277</b>	<b>\$ 1,150,613</b>	<b>\$ 195,150</b>	<b>\$ 67,976</b>	<b>\$ 661,801</b>	<b>\$ 1,136,059</b>	<b>\$ 1,255,868</b>	<b>\$ 10,785,651</b>

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026

Item No. 7g

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

**VOTE: Approve lease of kitchen space at the 1218 Swift building to Guadalupe Centers, Inc.**

**BACKGROUND**

In 2024, Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) purchased a building for home delivered meals repackaging and distribution located at 1218 Swift Street, North Kansas City, MO 64116. Included with the building purchase was a 1,900 square foot commercial kitchen, which we maintained as a kitchen space during renovations to rent to a catering business for additional revenue to cover building expenses (utilities and maintenance).

The building renovations concluded and we received our Certificate of Occupancy in May 2025. MARC worked with a real estate company, Clemons Real Estate, to develop pricing and advertise availability of the space through Multiple Listing Services (MLS) and other public channels. The opportunity was publicly listed August through November of 2025. In October of 2025, Guadalupe Centers approached MARC with interest in leasing the space for their meals and catering operation.

The base rent of \$4,300/month was determined utilizing a market rate informed by square foot (rate was within the range set by Clemons Real Estate) plus associated maintenance and utilities costs (electricity, gas, water, trash, high-speed internet, pest control, security, grease trap maintenance, and six parking spaces).

This partnership with Guadalupe Centers, Inc. will provide additional revenue to pilot and sustain programming at the meals distribution facility, now under the program umbrella of “KC Meal Link,” a bi-state initiative which aims to unite community-based organizations, health care agencies and meal providers to address food insecurity by providing pre-prepared and home-delivered meals to community members in need of nutritional support.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

The lease will provide MARC Aging and Adult Services with \$51,600 in revenue annually for a three-year period, with opportunity for base rent adjustment due to increase in utility rates.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$51,600 annually
Source	Guadalupe Centers, Inc.

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

The KC Meal Link property is located in North Kansas City (Clay County) though its services will reach across all counties in the MARC region.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize lease of commercial kitchen space at 1218 Swift St, North Kansas City, MO (“KC Meal Link” building) to Guadalupe Centers, Inc.

**STAFF CONTACTS**

- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director, Aging and Adult Services
- Lauren Schaumburg, Program Manager, Aging and Adult Services

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026

Item No. 7h

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

**VOTE: Authorize submission of grant and if awarded accept funds from the Patterson Family Foundation for Community Health Worker Training and Technical Services.**

### BACKGROUND

For over a decade, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has convened a KC Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative and worked with local and state partners to build a strong workforce through training, advocacy and technical services. MARC has received funding since 2016 from the Health Forward Foundation for this healthcare workforce development program. The two state health departments have provided funds to MARC since 2022 to support free training to individuals desiring to become certified Community Health Workers and to build the skills and knowledge of current CHWs. Much of the training has been offered virtually, allowing participants from across the two states to benefit.

Funding from the two states was available from federal grants that are ending. MARC submitted a Letter of Interest to the Patterson Family Foundation, and MARC was invited to submit a full application. The funding would be used to support three areas of work:

1. Expand virtual CHW training for those interested in entering the profession and to enhance the skills of those already employed as CHWs, supervisors and trainers. This training will ensure that CHWs hired through the states' Rural Health Transformation Grant programs have access to quality core competency and skill-building training.
2. Offer training through the Kansas Corrections Department to individuals in state corrections facilities that are interested in becoming CHWs at the facility health clinics or upon reentry. MARC is currently funded to adapt training materials and develop continuing education modules for justice-involved CHW students. The foundation's funds would be used to engage trainers to offer the training on-site at the correctional facilities. Additionally, MARC can provide coaching and mentoring to facilities who are interested in becoming CHW curriculum providers and need support for capacity building.
3. Provide technical assistance and support to healthcare organizations employing CHWs on steps to bill Kansas Medicaid and Medicare for reimbursement of CHW services to patients. In addition, support expansion and integration of Community Paramedicine with CHWs across the two states through training and technical support.

### POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Community Health Workers are front-line health care employees who help patients with chronic conditions and social drivers of health to improve their health status. The project will focus on increasing participants for training and technical assistance from rural and small-town areas in Kansas and western Missouri, including CHWs, healthcare organizations (hospitals, safety net clinics, public health agencies, etc.). The program will serve the KC metro area.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The following budget will be submitted to the Patterson Family Foundation for a 2-year grant.

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

<b>REVENUES</b>	
Amount	\$835,000
Source	Patterson Family Foundation
<b>PROJECTED EXPENSES</b>	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$340,000
Contractual	\$65,000 for MARC’s Government Training Institute \$420,000 for trainers and ES Advisors LLC to support training, technical assistance and program evaluation
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$10,000

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

MARC provides the training at no cost to participants through virtual sessions and use of the Learning Management System operated through MARC’s Government Training Institute. CHWs and others throughout the two states are eligible to register. Technical assistance will be provided to employers of CHWs and Community Paramedics throughout the two states with a focus on rural and small town areas, including Ray County.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize the submission of an application of \$835,000 to the Patterson Family Foundation for work as described above and accept funds if awarded.

**STAFF CONTACTS**

- Hannayd Ruiz, Public Health Project Manager
- Marlene Nagel, Director of the Office of Resource Development

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7i  
Healthy Environment

**VOTE: Authorize contract increase with Burns and McDonnell to develop and deliver training programs for the recently updated regional stormwater engineering standards.**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board authorized a consulting contract with Burns and McDonnell to update the American Public Works Association (APWA) 5600 stormwater engineering standards. The update was carried out together with 32 participating local communities and the Kansas City Chapter of the APWA.

The project was completed in December 2025, with APWA membership voting overwhelmingly to adopt the new standards. At this time, there is substantial demand among local communities to better understand the new standards to facilitate implementation. Under the proposed contract amendment, the consultant would develop curriculum for three workshops which would then be delivered at least twice each in 2026 and 2027.

A previously approved grant from KDHE will provide \$45,000 in contractual support. The balance of contractual funds will be generated by workshop registration fees. On the Kansas-side, jurisdictions expected to provide funding support for the initiative include: Bonner Springs, Gardner, Johnson County, Lawrence, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Miami County, Mission, Prairie Village, Unified Government, Westwood and Westwood Hills. Contributing partners on the Missouri-side include Blue Springs, Excelsior Springs, Gladstone, Grandview, Independence, Kansas City, Liberty, North Kansas City, Parkville and Riverside. The APWA also contributed funds toward the effort.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:**

PROJECTED REVENUES	
KDHE grant funds (approved 11/2025)	\$45,000
Workshop registration fees	\$75,000
Total	\$120,000

EXPENSES	
Consultant expenses	\$120,000

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS:**

This effort is expected to benefit all area cities and counties.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize Executive Director increase the scope/budget of its contract with Burns and McDonnell from \$1,310,000 to \$1,430,000 in order to develop curriculum for three workshops for local jurisdictions.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

- Tom Jacobs, Environmental Programs Director

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7j  
Healthy Environment

**VOTE: Authorize grant submission to EPA for the Wetland Program Development Grant program to support the adoption and implementation of the updated regional stormwater engineering standards.**

**BACKGROUND:**

After a six-year planning process, membership of the Kansas City Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) voted overwhelmingly to adopt the recently updated regional stormwater engineering standards. Currently, there is a need to support the adoption and implementation of these standards by local communities.

To support local efforts, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) proposes to apply to the EPA Wetland Program Development Grant program to carry out two sets of activities. First, MARC will facilitate discussions among area communities about challenges and opportunities associated with implementing the new standards. Key issues to be addressed will include transportation system design and management, redevelopment strategies, and stream buffer management. Second, MARC will provide technical assistance and educational programs to public and private sector partners through activities such as workshops, field trips and case studies.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:**

PROJECTED REVENUES	
EPA grant	\$250,000
In-kind match	\$83,334
Total	\$333,334

EXPENSES	
Personnel	\$200,000
Training expenses	\$50,000
Community and stakeholder engagement	\$83,334
Total	\$333,334

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS:**

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize MARC to submit grant to EPA for \$250,000 and accept funds if approved.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

- Tom Jacobs, Environmental Programs Director

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7k  
Healthy Environment

**VOTE: Approve a contract with Agile Mile, Inc. to provide a web-based software tool for ride-matching/trip planning services for the WAY TO GO program.**

### BACKGROUND

The [WAY TO GO](#) program began in 1980 as the “Regional Rideshare Program,” created to help commuters form carpools during the energy crisis and address growing air quality concerns in the Kansas City region. Today, the program continues to support carpooling but has expanded significantly to help commuters find a wide range of alternatives to driving alone, including carpool, vanpool, public transit, micro-mobility, biking and walking.

A core function of the program is its web-based software (desktop and mobile app), which enables commuters to:

- View multiple transportation options available through a trip planner
- Find commute matches with others traveling similar routes
- Message potential partners and arrange shared trips
- Log trips to earn points redeemable for discounts or prize drawings
- Track commute savings, health benefits and emissions reductions

The software also administers the Guaranteed Ride Home program, which reimburses eligible commuters for up to two Uber/Lyft rides per year in the event of a qualifying emergency. Additionally, the system supports the annual Green Commute Challenge, an employer-based competition held each October. The WAY TO GO program plans to use the app to support transportation demand management for residents during the World Cup.

This resource is promoted through outreach to local governments, universities/colleges, area employers, chambers of commerce, community improvement districts, and through mobility partners (RideKC, BikeWalkKC, Commute with Enterprise, 211, etc.) and media campaigns.

An RFP was issued in February 2026 to procure a software provider. Four proposals were received, two of which met qualifications. Agile Mile, Inc., the incumbent provider, was selected based on its experience, qualifications and ability to meet the software and security requirements of the WAY TO GO program.

The desktop app can be viewed here: <https://my.waytogokc.org/>.

### POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The WAY TO GO program is a strategy included in the Clean Air Action Plan and supports both ConnectedKC 2050 and the Kansas City Regional Climate Action Plan goals to shift trips to affordable, safe and lower-emissions mobility options.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

An annual amount of \$42,000/yr. has been negotiated with Agile Mile, Inc. Funding to support this expense is sourced from Missouri and Kansas Congestion Mitigation/ Air Quality funding, a program of the Federal Highway Administration.

## AGENDA REPORT

### MARC Board of Directors

REVENUES	
Amount	\$126,000
Source	FHWA Congestion Management Air Quality grants (KS and MO)

  

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$126,000 for three years

#### RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

#### Recommendation

Approve a three-year contract with Agile Mile. Inc. in the amount of \$126,000 (\$42,000/year) to provide a web-based software tool for ride-matching/trip planning services for MARC's WAY TO GO program.

#### Staff contacts

- Karen Clawson, Air and Mobility Programs Manager

# AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026

Item No. 7l

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

**VOTE: Authorize an agreement with WSP USA Inc. to complete a travel pattern after action assessment**

## BACKGROUND

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) seeks to retain consulting services of a qualified consultant to produce a 2026 travel patterns after action assessment. During the summer of 2026, a major sporting event will bring thousands of visitors to the Kansas City area. MARC anticipates that this influx of visitors will impact regional transportation facilities and services in a variety of ways and may serve as a unique stress-test of these systems. The goal of this After-Action Assessment is to capture quantitative and qualitative data about resident and visitor travel patterns during the event to understand key pressure points on the transportation system. This assessment will also document lessons learned and generate recommendations for future use by regional partners to support planning for regional transportation systems as well as other large-scale events. Work on this plan will begin in April 2026, following the completion of procurement for a consultant for this project.

Tasks to be conducted during this study include:

- Document existing conditions, travel systems and travel patterns
- Document deployed services and origin/destination of trips during summer of 2026
- Quantify key metrics for travel patterns through summer of 2026
- Develop a final report that captures changes in travel patterns throughout summer of 2026, outlines any lessons learned and recommendations for future use by regional partners.

A request for proposals (RFP) was released by MARC on January 26, 2026. A total of 6 teams/firms submitted responses to the RFP. Three teams were interviewed by staff representing MARC and KC2026. The interview panel recommends MARC enter into negotiations with WSP USA Inc. (WSP) for this project.

## POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The intent of this work is to generate findings and recommendations for future use by regional partners as transportation planning and investments are considered for the Kansas City region. It is anticipated that conclusions and recommendations out of this work would be amended into the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Connected KC 2050.

## BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

MARC intends to execute a 'Time-and-Materials' contract, with a budget maximum of \$250,000 for a performance period of approximately ten months (ending 3/31/2027). MARC's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) has budgeted \$250,000 for a consultant contract to assist in this after-action assessment.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$250,000
Source	Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG)

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$250,000

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize an agreement with WSP USA Inc. (WSP) for MARC’s 2026 Travel Patterns After Action Assessment, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.

**STAFF CONTACTS**

- Martin Rivarola, Transportation Planning Director
- Bobby Evans, Principal Planner

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7m  
Quality Early Learning

**VOTE: Approve Mid-America Regional Council Head Start program federal carryover funds request.**

**BACKGROUND:**

The administration for Children and Families (ACF) awarded \$32,918,852 to the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Head Start program. Of that amount, \$1,034,132.26 went unspent due to a short window to encumber the additional funds due to the YMCA closure and projects not being able to be completed by October 31, 2025. For this reason, MARC would like to request to carry over \$253,553 of the unspent funds to complete needed projects. If approved this amount will be added to the Core Year 3 grant ending October 31, 2026.

We are requesting the following renovations and upgrades to facilities:

- Guadalupe Centers at Thomas Roque
  - 2 Preschool playgrounds equipment and surface cost \$243,553.

All these renovations will support the health and safety needs of children. Three bids have been provided for each project to ensure they meet MARC’s Procurement Policy and the requisite purchasing protocols of our providers, including complying with the Davis-Bacon Act for prevailing wages.

We are also requesting \$10,000 to support ongoing work with Head Start Program Directors for all Tier’s leadership training and materials through Gallup. This support will increase program leadership wellness as well as identify program strengths and areas for growth opportunities.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

The costs of these projects are allowable expenses within the Head Start grant through the Administration of Children and Families.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$253,553
Source	Administration for Children and Families

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$248,553
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$5,000

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Head Start Policy Council approved the item on March 9, 2026. Head Start Advisory Committee approved the item on March 10, 2026.

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

The Missouri counties of Clay, Jackson and Platte will be impacted by this request.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve MARC Head Start’s Carryover request from program year 2 to complete the listed projects that were unable to be completed during the period in the amount of \$253,553.

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

### STAFF CONTACTS

- Kasey Lawson, MARC Head Start Director
- Dr. Toni Sturdivant, Director of Early Learning

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7n  
Quality Early Learning

**VOTE: Approve Head Start’s proposal to complete a change in scope for Head Start enrollment for the 2026-2027 program year for Lee’s Summit School District.**

**BACKGROUND**

In January 2026 Lee’s Summit School District notified the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Head Start that they would like to move from part-time services to full day services for Head Start Preschool. As part of the annual enrollment planning process, each of MARC’s Direct Service Providers (DSP) are asked to submit their requests for changes in enrollment and program options by January 30, 2026. Programs were asked to consider if changes were needed in program hours, length of day, number of days per year, and number of Head Start Preschool or Early Head Start slots to be served. DSP agencies were asked to include data such as the previous year’s enrollment and waitlist information and community data that would support the need for the proposed changes.

MARC is recommending approval of changes in enrollment for the following DSP agencies:

- Lee’s Summit School District: create 34 full-day child care slots transitioning 68 part-day child care slots
- Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center: increase full-day child care slots from 73 to 78 to better meet the community needs
- EarlystART St. Mark: increase full-day child care slots from 68 to 78 to better meet the community needs

This change in scope would reduce MARC Head Starts overall enrollment by 19 (part-day) Head Start preschool slots, while providing 49 additional full-day slots. The new total enrollment for full-day child care will be 1,744. We will request to keep our allotted funding amount due to the cost difference to operate a full day vs. a part-day classroom.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

Contracts for individual agencies will be revised based on these changes. The table below indicates the details of changes in contract amounts.

Agency Name	Total Funding Before	Total Funding After	Proposed Change
Lee’s Summit SD (Tier 1)	\$ 426,972	\$392,810.50	\$(34,161.50)
Emmanuel (Tier 2)	\$ 687,441	\$699,212.25	\$ 11,771.25
Early Start St. Mark (Tier 2)	\$ 640,356	\$663,898.50	\$ 23,542.50

Agency Name	Training Funding Before	Training Funding After	Proposed Change
Lee’s Summit SD (Tier 1)	\$ 7,386	\$ 6,462.75	\$(923.25)
Emmanuel (Tier 2)	\$ 10,608	\$10,915.75	\$ 307.75
Early Start St. Mark (Tier 2)	\$ 11,194	\$11,809.50	\$ 615.50

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Head Start Policy Council approved the item on March 9, 2026. Head Start Advisory Committee approved the item on March 10, 2026.

## **AGENDA REPORT**

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MARC Board of Directors

### **RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

Clay, Jackson and Platte counties in Missouri will be impacted by this request.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve MARC Head Start's change in scope request for Head Start preschool programming for the 2026-2027 program year and approve proposed contract changes for the three impacted locations.

### **STAFF CONTACTS**

- Kasey Lawson, MARC Head Start Director
- Dr. Toni Sturdivant, Director of Early Learning

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7o  
Quality Early Learning

**VOTE: Approve actions taken at the March 10, 2026, Head Start Advisory Committee Meeting.**

### BACKGROUND

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

- Approval of January 2026 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- Approval of MARC Head Start Carry Over Request
- Approval of MARC Head Start Change in Scope

### POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

None.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

None.

### EXHIBITS

[Read the Head Start Advisory Committee March Board Packet](#)

### COMMITTEE ACTION

The Head Start Advisory Committee considered this information at its March 10, 2026, meeting and recommended MARC Board approval.

### RECOMMENDATION

Approve the actions taken at the March 10, 2026, Head Start Advisory Committee meetings.

### STAFF CONTACTS

- Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7p  
Effective Local Government

**VOTE: Approve amendment to professional services agreement for grant administration services with the City of Camden Point.**

**BACKGROUND**

The Mid-America Regional Council’s (MARC) Small Cities Program contracted with the City of Camden Point for professional grant administration services in the amount of \$30,000 to assist with the city’s administration of a Missouri Community Development Block Grant project awarded in 2017. The project supports the construction of a municipal wastewater treatment and collection system. The project was delayed during the COVID-19 pandemic when proposed construction costs exceeded the awarded USDA and CDBG funding. MARC staff assisted the city with securing additional federal funds through EPA in 2021 and 2022. The city approved an amendment in 2023 for \$17,000 to support continued administration services. MARC is seeking additional funds up to \$10,000 for expenses incurred in 2025 as well as anticipated costs in 2026 to help the city fully close the project with its federal partners. Costs to administer the project increased due to funding and weather-related construction delays and unanticipated assistance to the city due to limited city staff and turnover.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

MARC provides contractual grant administration assistance to eligible communities through the Small Cities Program for a fee as a part of MARC’s enterprise fund.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

The original agreement of \$30,000 approved by the Board of Directors in 2017 for CDBG grant administration services. Amendment No. 1 in the amount of \$17,000 approved by the executive director in 2023 extended support for EDA grant administration. Amendment No. 2 seeking funds up to \$10,000 for unanticipated delays and assistance will bring the total contract amount up to \$57,000.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$10,000 (will increase contract from \$47,000 to \$57,000)
Source	City of Camden Point

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$9,500
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$500

**RELATED JURISDICTIONS**

This item impacts the city of Camden Point in Platte County.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve amendment of up to \$10,000 with the City of Camden Point with a time extension until December 31, 2026.

**STAFF CONTACTS**

- Ashley Hand, Director of Local Government Services
- Lisa Danbury, Small Cities Program Manager

# AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

March 2026  
Item No. 7q  
Exemplary Core Capacities

## VOTE: Approve changes to employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2026

### BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council’s (MARC) cafeteria, health, dental and vision insurance plans operate on a July 1 – June 30 plan year. MARC currently offers four health insurance plans, one dental plan and one vision plan to employees, all obtained through Midwest Public Risk (MPR). Premium increases have been relatively low over the past four years. For the upcoming plan year, the MPR Board of Directors approved some slight plan changes, a 3.0% premium increase for all health plans, and no increases for dental or vision coverage. With this pricing, the plans remain very competitive with the market both in structure and price.

MARC also offers supplemental plans for Long Term Disability, and Voluntary Life and Short-Term Disability. In the past, MARC offered those through a separate provider, managed by an outside broker. MPR has begun a program through their broker, making these types of benefits available to members, and staff recommend moving to the MPR programs.

### Health Plans

Staff recommend continuation of the same health plans, and that MARC absorbs the entire 3.0% increase. As a basis for cost sharing, MARC’s practice has been to designate the plan with the largest number of employees as the “core insurance plan”. A percentage of employer paid premium is applied to that plan for Family, Tier 2 and Single coverages, and that static dollar amount is carried through to all plans. Current employer premium cost sharing percentages are 73.0% for Family, 79.0% for Tier 2 and 82.3% for Single coverage. Since the overall increase is relatively small this year and salary increases are at 2.0%, staff recommend keeping core plan employee premiums flat. Under this approach, MARC would absorb the full 3.0% increase, raising its share to 73.6% for family, 79.7% for Tier 2, and 83.3% for individual coverage. The chart below shows the differences in 12-month employer contributions.

2025-26 Employer Contribution	2026-2027 employer contribution with same cost sharing percentages	Increase in employer share from 2025-2026 with same cost sharing percentages	2026-2027 employer contribution with no increase to employee share	Increase from 2025-2026 with no increase to employee share	Difference between same cost-sharing percentages vs no increase to employee share
\$1,353,852	\$1,396,021	\$42,169	\$1,407,794	\$53,942	\$11,774

### Other Benefits

Dental and Vision insurance rates are not changing for the 2026-2027 plan year. MARC does not contribute toward these plans. Staff recommend continuing to offer both benefits.

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

## AGENDA REPORT

### MARC Board of Directors

#### Supplemental Plans

MARC currently offers the following plans through Mutual of Omaha:

- Employer Paid
  - Long Term Disability Insurance (25-26 est. annual cost to MARC: \$40,763)
- Employee Paid
  - Group Term Life Insurance
  - Optional Life Insurance
  - Short Term Disability Insurance

Through MPR, we can closely match benefit levels through the program they are offering through The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company. Pricing for the employee paid plans are based on age and on percentage of salary which varies by employee. On average, employees will see a decrease of around 14%. Pricing for the employer paid Long Term Disability plan is based on covered payroll. The current rate is \$0.33, and the proposed Lincoln pricing is \$0.28. The estimated annual savings to MARC will be around \$6,000. All of these prices are guaranteed through 6/30/2029. Incorporating these supplemental plans into our MPR portfolio creates administrative efficiencies, and because it is a larger group, we can access lower costs.

#### Summary of Recommendations

Recommendations for the 2026-2027 Plan Year monthly premiums are as follows:

#### Health Insurance

Plan	Total Premium	Employer**		Employee**	
Copay Plan 1500					
Family	\$2,134	\$1,274	59.7%	\$861	40.3%
Tier 2	1,818	1,163	64.0%	645	35.5%
Single	794	523	65.9%	263	33.1%
Copay Plan 2500					
Family	\$2,056	\$1,274	62.0%	\$783	38.1%
Tier 2	1,752	1,163	66.4%	590	33.7%
Single	760	523	68.8%	237	31.2%
High Deductible 1700*					
Family	\$1,730	\$1,274	73.6%	\$456	26.4%
Tier 2	1,460	1,163	79.7%	297	20.3%
Single	628	523	83.3%	105	16.7%
High Deductible 2500					
Family	\$1,554	\$1,274	82.0%	\$287	18.5%
Tier 2	1,320	1,163	88.1%	161	12.2%
Single	550	523	95.1%	29	5.3%

\*Core Plan

\*\*Some slight rounding may occur

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

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

**AGENDA REPORT**

MARC Board of Directors

Cafeteria Plan Allowance at \$220/month.

Supplemental Plans. Purchased through MPR/The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company

- Employer Paid
  - Long Term Disability Insurance
- Employee Paid
  - Group Term Life Insurance
  - Optional Life Insurance
  - Short Term Disability Insurance

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS**

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

Employer Costs	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
Health Insurance	\$1,501,921	\$1,322,232	\$1,438,501
Cafeteria Allowance	\$473,220	\$434,830	\$464,640
Supplemental LTD	\$46,538	\$43,269	\$46,356

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize changes to the employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2026, including offering the Copay Plan 1500, Copay Plan 2500, QHDHP 1700 and QHDHP 2500 with the cost sharing shown above; continuing to offer employee funded Vision and Dental insurance; continuing the Cafeteria Plan Allowance at \$220/month; and replacing the current vendor with The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company for the supplemental plans shown above.

**STAFF CONTACT**

- Jeramy Medlin, Human Resource Manager
- Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration