



Budget and Personnel Committee Meeting

March 24, 2026

Meeting begins at 11:15 a.m.

Attend in-person at the MARC Offices 600 Broadway Blvd Suite 200 Kansas City, MO 64105 or with a remote option via Zoom.

Members of the public who wish to participate in this meeting please email marcinfo@marc.org by 9:00 a.m. the day of the meeting for instructions to join the teleconference.

AGENDA

1. Approve contracts, grants, and other major expenditures

Safe and Secure Communities

- a) VOTE: Authorize acceptance and administration of Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness subgrant funds for planning, training, and exercise activities.
- b) VOTE: Authorize a contract with the Missouri Local Emergency Planning District for hazardous materials planning, training and exercise, and administrative services.
- c) 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.

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

- d) 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.
- e) VOTE: Authorize submission of the SFY 2026 Area Agency on Aging Amendment #2
- f) VOTE: Approve lease of kitchen space at the 1218 Swift building to Guadalupe Centers, Inc.
- g) VOTE: Authorize submission of grant and if awarded accept funds from the Patterson Family Foundation for Community Health Worker Training and Technical Services.

Quality Early Learning

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

Effective Local Government

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

Exemplary Core Capacities

- k) VOTE: Approve changes to employee fringe benefit package effective July 1, 2026.

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

- l) VOTE: Authorize an agreement with WSP USA Inc. to complete a travel pattern after action assessment.
- m) VOTE: Authorize an agreement with ICF Incorporated L.L.C. for the Regional Housing and Transportation Coordination Plan.

Healthy Environment

- n) VOTE: Authorize contract increase with Burns and McDonnell to develop and deliver training programs for the recently updated regional stormwater engineering standards.
 - o) 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.
 - p) 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.
 - q) REPORT: Update regarding 2026 Air Quality Ozone Season outreach media purchases
2. **VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda (Administrative Matter and Minor Expenditures)**
 - a) Approve the minutes of February 24, 2026, meeting
 3. **Other business**
 4. **Adjournment**

UPCOMING MEETING

Monday, Mar. 24, 2026

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

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

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1a
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 for approval 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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1b
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

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

REVENUES	
Amount	\$52,800
Source	MO CEPF FY 26-27

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1c
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1d
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1e
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

	Current Allotment	Title III Carryover	Medicaid	Voluntary Participant Contributions	Local Match Funds	Cash Match/ MEHTAP	Other Cash	In-Kind Contributions	Totals
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
Totals	\$ 6,112,904	\$ 947,277	\$ 1,274,277	\$ 190,156	\$ 72,350	\$ 668,175	\$ 1,354,758	\$ 1,219,078	\$ 11,838,975

Submitted SFY 2026 Amendment #1

	Current Allotment	Title III Carryover	Medicaid	Voluntary Participant Contributions	Local Match Funds	Cash Match/ MEHTAP	Other Cash	In-Kind Contributions	Totals
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
Totals	\$ 5,370,907	\$ 947,277	\$ 1,150,613	\$ 195,150	\$ 67,976	\$ 661,801	\$ 1,136,059	\$ 1,255,868	\$ 10,785,651

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1f
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1g
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

REVENUES	
Amount	\$835,000
Source	Patterson Family Foundation
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1h
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

STAFF CONTACTS

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

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1i
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1j
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1k
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

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

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

Dental	88.00		36.00
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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

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

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026

Item No. 11

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

Budget and Personnel Committee

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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1m
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, 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)

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

REVENUES	
Amount	\$300,000
Source	Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG)

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1n
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.

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. 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.

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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1o
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1p
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

Budget and Personnel Committee

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

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 1q
Healthy Environment

REPORT: Update regarding 2026 Air Quality Ozone Season outreach media purchases

BACKGROUND

At the February Budget and Personnel committee meeting, several important questions were raised about the ozone season media purchases used for outreach to the Kansas City region. A larger report will be shared with the full board at the March meeting and the Budget and Personnel committee is invited to review the contract information below before the full board acts on the item. Please refer to the March board memo which has detailed information regarding the context and impact that this media campaign has on the region.

The Air Quality Program requests approval to make the following media campaign advertising purchases for the 2026 Ozone Season for a total amount of \$245,000:

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
TOTAL	\$245,000

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

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Karen Clawson, Air and Mobility Programs Manager

AGENDA REPORT

Budget and Personnel Committee

March 2026
Item No. 2a

VOTE: Approve minutes of the Feb. 24, 2026, Budget and Personnel 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 Budget & Personnel Meeting Summary

February 24, 2026

BOARD MEMBER AND ALTERNATE ATTENDANCE

Councilmember Bridget McCandless, Independence, MO - B&P chair

Mayor John Bacon, Olathe, KS

Councilmember Holly Grummert, Overland Park, KS

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS

Victor Hurlbert, Auditor, Clay County, MO

Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, MO

Commissioner Mike Stieben, Leavenworth County, KS

Commissioner Tyler Vaughn, Miami County, KS

Commissioner Christal Watson, The Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS

STAFF PRESENT

Executive Director David Warm and other MARC staff

AGENDA

Call to order

Councilmember Bridget McCandless called the meeting to order at 11:21 a.m. Due to the meeting being conducted remotely and in-person Councilmember McCandless provided instructions for participation. She reported that staff would present on all the agenda items, provide an opportunity for comments and questions after each item, and ask for approval of all agenda items with one vote at the end of the meeting. Members would have an opportunity to abstain or object to any items necessary during the final vote.

Item 1a 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.

Victor Hurlbert thanked the transportation department for advocating this project and applying for the grant.

Mayor Christal Watson asked if this program or application had something similar with KDOT on the Kansas side. Mr. Achelpohl answered he is not aware of a grant on the KDOT side.

Commissioner Stieben asked if the funding was based per capita? Mr. Achelpohl answered that the distribution is based on urban versus rural areas and the program is nationwide.

Item 1b VOTE: Approve 2026 air quality ozone season public outreach media purchases.

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, requested to approve media purchases for the 2026 ozone season public outreach campaign. The campaign is designed to educate the public on actions to protect health and reduce air pollution emissions. Proposed outreach includes online, television, audio, outdoor billboard, sponsorship, social media, and print advertising, with a focus on broad regional reach, including minority newspapers and magazines. The total funding for these purchases comes from the KS CMAQ and FTA/MO CMAQ Air Quality Public Education grants and totals \$245,000.

Council member Bridget McCandless asked if the expansion of data centers will impact the ozone season in the region because of their increased usage of energy. Mr. Achelpohl answered that the data centers do have an impact on the energy sector but that this particular program is more focused on transportation emissions.

Mayor John Bacon asked how this campaign differs from information that people receive on their mobile device through a weather app and do we have data that suggests that the campaign affects people's behavior? Mr. Achelpohl answered that surveys are conducted to better understand how to reach people and get the information out to the community more effectively and through the multipronged approach of tv, radio, billboards, and social media, there is a wide audience that is being reached each season. David Warm offered to bring this program back to the full board for review in more detail about the campaigns.

Council member Holly Grummert commented that because the program is trying to reach some of our region's most vulnerable populations who may not have a smartphone or other device connected to social media, the tv, radio, and billboards are an extremely important way to reach those groups to get the message out.

Mayor Watson suggested the contractual use of more diverse tv stations like Bounce, Univision, and Telemundo because those avenues likely reach areas with poor air quality. Ms. Clawson commented that at least 20% of the funding is used to target those communities for further education during the ozone season.

Because of the robust discussion of this item, Mr. Warm suggested to the Chair that this subject be tabled for a vote until next month when a longer report can be made to the full board. The committee agreed and the item was tabled.

Item 1c VOTE: Approve a contract with Weather or Not, Inc. to provide Ozone forecasting for the 2026-2028 seasons.

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, request approval of a contract with Weather or Not, Inc. to provide regional ozone forecasting services for the 2026-2028 seasons as part of the longstanding AirQ program, which has delivered "SkyCast" ozone forecasts to the Kansas City region for more than 30 years. These forecasts play a critical role in protecting public health, particularly for individuals with respiratory and heart conditions, by ensuring timely, high-quality information and encouraging behaviors that reduce ozone-forming emissions. Following a competitive RFP process released in January 2026, Weather or Not, Inc. was selected as the most qualified vendor from two respondents. The contract will be funded through MARC Air Quality Public Education state grants, with a total three-year cost not to exceed \$81,965, and will impact all counties in the MARC region.

Item 1d VOTE: Authorize acceptance of grant funding from Kansas Department of Transportation to support Phase 2 of the regional Natural Hazard Transportation Risk Assessment.

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, requested approval to accept grant funding from the Kansas Department of Transportation to support Phase 2 of the Regional Natural Hazard Transportation Risk Assessment, building on work completed in 2025 that focused on stakeholder engagement and identifying system vulnerabilities. Phase 2, funded through Kansas' apportionment of the USDOT PROTECT program, will develop a comprehensive inventory of regional transportation assets, identify key natural hazards such as flooding, extreme heat, and winter storms, and assess the economic, operational, and social risks associated with those hazards. Findings will inform actionable recommendations for infrastructure improvements, emergency preparedness, and long-term resilience strategies and will be integrated into existing planning tools, including the Transportation Improvement Program and ConnectedKC 2050. The total project budget is \$375,000, consisting of \$300,000 in PROTECT grant funding and a \$75,000 local match from MARC transportation fees, with all funds used for a consultant contract, and the effort will impact all counties in the MARC region.

Item 1e VOTE: Authorize an agreement for the purchase and installation of office furniture.

Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration, requested approval to enter into an agreement for the purchase and installation of office furniture associated with the approved lease at 801 Pennsylvania, following an analysis that determined purchasing new furniture is more cost-effective than relocating existing workstations. The project is being managed by MC Realty under the tenant improvement allowance, with design services provided by Slattery Architects and construction by Haren Construction. MARC issued an RFP for new furniture, received eight proposals, and narrowed the selection to two vendors after staff and consultant review and showroom tours. Spaces Inc was chosen as the preferred vendor due to the substantial cost difference - their proposal was \$853,000 but staff are requesting the agreement to be in an amount not to exceed \$950,000.

Councilmember Grummert asked if the project was staying on budget with what was originally proposed. Ms. Gonzales said that the budget was originally \$875,000 so the team feels like they are in a good place.

Item 1f VOTE: Approve an agreement with Motorola Solutions for the 2026 VESTA 911 hardware refresh at regional Public Safety Answering Points.

Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Communications Director, requested approval to enter into an agreement with Motorola Solutions for the 2026 lifecycle refresh of VESTA 911 call-handling hardware at regional Public Safety Answering Points to maintain system reliability, performance, and vendor support compliance. The proposed refresh will replace aging, end-of-life workstations and peripherals across 14 PSAPs and 67 positions, consistent with prior Board-approved annual refresh cycles, and will ensure continued compatibility with the region's existing 911 infrastructure. Motorola Solutions is the sole-source vendor due to the proprietary nature of the VESTA system and the need to maintain operational continuity and support agreements. The total project cost is \$517,034.72, fully funded through the 2026 911 Allocation Budget/Capital Projects, and the investment supports MARC's Safe and Secure Communities policy goal by ensuring uninterrupted 911 services throughout the region.

Mayor Watson asked when Wyandotte County would be getting their new stations. Mr. Winebrenner answered that they are slated to receive them in 2027 on cycle rotation.

Commissioner Stieben asked for clarification on which sites in Leavenworth were receiving new stations. Mr. Winebrenner answered that Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office and Leavenworth Police Department will be refreshed this cycle.

Item 1g VOTE: Approve the purchase of Garland Technology network test access points to support secure monitoring and data visibility for the regional 911 system.

Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Communications Director, requested approval to purchase Garland Technology network test access points (TAPs) to support secure monitoring, troubleshooting, and performance validation of the regional Next Generation 911 (NG911) system without disrupting live emergency operations. The TAPs are required to ensure reliable visibility into network traffic and to maintain compatibility with data-driven services such as RapidSOS, enabling staff to safely diagnose and resolve network issues that could affect 911 call routing and associated data services. Garland Technology is the sole-source manufacturer for this specialized equipment, with pricing competitively discounted through SHI under the OMNIA Partners cooperative contract. The total cost of \$224,170.08 is fully funded through the 2026 911 Allocation Budget/Capital Projects, supports MARC's Safe and Secure Communities policy goal, and benefits all jurisdictions participating in the regional 911 network.

Councilmember Grummert asked if this system required yearly updates and continued costs? Mr. Winebrenner said that because it's hardware and not software related, updates might be required but they would not be a yearly requirement.

Item 1h 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

Julie Phillips, Capacity Building and Partnerships Manager, requested authorization to reallocate \$235,069 in unspent funds from a multi-year SAMHSA federal grant to support collaborative efforts to enhance mental health mobile crisis response in the Kansas City region. The funds originate from a four-year grant awarded to implement a regional strategic plan developed with certified community behavioral health organizations and CommCARE in preparation for the launch of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, with subrecipients opting to pool unobligated year-three funds for MARC-managed, shared expenses. The proposed reallocation will support mobile crisis staff training, community education and marketing for 988 and mobile crisis response, diversion and suicide prevention training, technical assistance for subrecipients, travel and training for first responders and MARC staff, and limited personnel costs. The project impacts Jackson, Clay, Platte, and Ray counties in Missouri, and the recommended action authorizes MARC to manage and expend the reallocated funds for these purposes.

Mayor Watson asked if this program was only for the Missouri counties? Ms. Phillips answered that this grant was specific to the Missouri side of the state line but she convenes a bi-state group that shares knowledge and expertise regionally.

Item 1i 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

Julie Phillips, Capacity Building and Partnerships Manager, requested authorization to apply for a non-competitive FY26 Byrne Discretionary Community Project Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to support the deployment of automated license plate readers (ALPRs) in Kansas City, MO and Independence, MO, following funding secured through the

Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2026 by U.S. Representative Emanuel Cleaver II. MARC will serve as the grant applicant and administrator for this cross-jurisdictional project, which will fund additional ALPR units and supporting infrastructure at priority, high-traffic and high-crime locations to assist law enforcement with investigations, missing vehicle alerts, and data-driven policing, while also enhancing regional data sharing among agencies. The two-year grant totals \$1,031,000, with MARC retaining 5% for administrative costs and passing through the remainder to the two police departments, and the recommendation includes authorization to apply for the grant and, if awarded, to accept the funds and execute subrecipient agreements with both jurisdictions. MARC is involved in this project because of the cross-jurisdictional collaboration between these jurisdictions.

Councilmember McCandless commented that the police in her jurisdiction have found this tool to be extremely helpful.

Commissioner Stieben asked if there are rules and guidelines in place for how these tools are used? Ms. Phillips said that she is certain that the police departments have them but she wasn't able to define them during the meeting - she indicated that she would follow up with that information.

Item 1j 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.

Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services, requested authorization to apply to the Missouri Department of Transportation for funding through the Missouri Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Assistance Program (MEHTAP) for State Fiscal Year 2027 to support transportation services for older adults and eligible disabled individuals, primarily for medical and essential shopping trips. MARC applies annually for these funds and anticipates the SFY 2027 application to be available in February 2026, with a submission deadline by the end of March. The application will request up to \$350,000, an increase from the \$313,335 received in SFY 2026, and funds will be incorporated into the SFY 2027 area plan transportation budget. MEHTAP funds help meet the required 15% Title IIIB local match and may only be reimbursed at 50% of incurred contractual costs. The Commission on Aging reviewed the request at its February meeting and recommended Board approval, and the program will serve residents in Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties.

Mayor Watson asked if the Kansas side had a program like this and who would apply for those funds? Ms. Bohling-DaMetz answered that she would get the Mayor contacts of those institutions that would be responsible for applying in Kansas if there was a similar program through the state.

Item 1k 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.

Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services, requested to ratify a budget and application to accept \$95,000 in grant funding from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to support Community Health Worker (CHW) training, Blood Pressure Self-Management (BPSM), and KC Fresh Rx programming through June 29, 2026. Building on more than a decade of convening the KC Regional CHW Collaborative, the funding will support Train-the-Trainer certification, supervisory training, continuing education and career pathways for CHWs, as well as network partner training for BPSM and the development of a cross-referral process between BPSM and KC Fresh Rx. Community Health Workers serve as front-line health professionals addressing chronic conditions and social drivers of health, and

both BPSM and KC Fresh Rx are evidence-based programs with documented health outcomes. Funds will support personnel, contractual services, and limited supplies, and programming will be offered at no cost through MARC's Government Training Institute, serving participants across Missouri and Kansas, with pilot programs focused on MARC's five-county Missouri region.

Item 2 Approve Consent Agenda: minutes of the January 27, 2026 meeting

Commissioner Christal Watson moved for the approval of all agenda items with the exception of item 1b that was tabled until the March 2026 meeting and Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

Item 3 Other Business

There was no other business.

Item 4 Adjournment

Councilmember McCandless adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

NEXT/UPCOMING MEETING

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