MARC
MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL

Board of Directors Meeting

August 25, 2026
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Attend in-person at the MARC Offices 801 Pennsylvania Ave. Ste 400, Kansas City, MO 64105 or with a remote option via Zoom.
Members of the public who wish to participate in this meeting please email marcinfo@marc.org by 9:00 a.m. the day of the meeting for instructions to join the teleconference.

AGENDA

1. **Introductions and board sharing time**
   Board members are asked to introduce themselves and highlight notable matters occurring in their jurisdiction.
2. **Competitive Economy**
   a) REPORT: Project update regarding the Housing and Urban Development Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing Grant to promote increased development of affordable housing across the Kansas City region.
3. **Thriving Older Adults and Communities**
   a) REPORT: Presentation on the Phase 1 win of the Administration for Community Living Health At Home Challenge.
4. **Quality Early Learning**
   a) REPORT: Updates regarding local planning for sustained public investment in early childhood through Connecting the P.I.E.C.E.S.
5. **Executive Director's report**
   The executive director will share brief updates including the following:
   a) Issues for Board Awareness:
      - Pending MDNR rules on Solid Waste Management District grants management
      - Proposed federal regulations affecting Head Start programs
      - Status of MARC Office move to 801 Penn
   b) Notable Recent Grants:
      - Public Interest Technology-Infrastructure for a regional health data platform
      - USDOT BUILD grant for I-19/1-35 Improvements
      - EPA riparian grant for stream and wetland conservation resources
6. **Consent agenda**
   a) VOTE: Approve minutes of the June 23, 2026, board meeting
   b) VOTE: Approve application for an Assistant Secretary Preparedness and Response grant for fiscal year 2026-2027 to continue support of the region's health care coalition.
   c) VOTE: Authorize contract with Porsena Solutions, LLC to provide support services for the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee 2027-2029 strategic plan.
   d) VOTE: Authorize application for the FY 2026 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant and associated subaward agreements to enhance regional emergency response preparedness.

e) VOTE: Approve a five-year agreement with Segra to renew existing Ethernet Local Area Network services supporting five regional Public Safety Answering Point locations.
f) VOTE: Approve contract renewal with Learning Genie to support children's progress in the classroom and electronic portfolio reporting of child outcomes.
g) VOTE: Approve a contract with Futures First for MARC to provide quality assessment services of classrooms for their Start Young Program.
h) VOTE: Authorize increase in monthly fee to ARIS Solutions to provide fiscal oversight for the Veteran Directed Care program.
i) VOTE: Approve a grant with OASIS Institute to facilitate and support falls prevention evidence-based programs.
j) VOTE: Approve a grant with ma4 Network to support the Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative: Dementia-Capable Community Health Workers.
k) VOTE: Approve contract with ES Advisors, LLC to support the Administration of Community Living Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Cooperative Agreement award and program.
l) VOTE: Approve amendment increase to the SFY 2027 agreement with Legal Aid of Western Missouri to provide access to legal services for eligible clients.
m) VOTE: Authorize the purchase and distribution costs of caregiver consumable supplies for older adults on fixed incomes receiving caregiver support.
n) VOTE: Approve 2026 special amendment #3 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to add federal funds to a project in Riverside, MO.
o) VOTE: Authorize contract with Sustainable Investment Group LLC to provide project management support for the US Department of Energy's Renew America's Nonprofits Grant Program.
p) VOTE: Review and accept the 2025 Uniform Guidance Single Audit Report

7. **Approve Administrative Actions from July 2026 Memo**
a) VOTE: Approve a five-year agreement with Segra for up to $259,200 to renew existing Ethernet Local Area Network services supporting five regional Public Safety Answering Point locations.
b) VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Sunflower Foundation Kansas Fights Addiction program to support justice-involved community health worker training and workforce development.
c) VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Kansas Health Foundation Upward Mobility program to support justice-involved community health worker training and workforce development.
d) VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Health Forward Foundation to support CHW training and workforce development.
e) VOTE: Approve submission of Amendment #1 of the SFY 2027 Area Plan Budget to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.
f) VOTE: Approve the submission of a proposal to the Transformation of Rural Community Health (ToRCH) Community Grant through Ray County Hospital.
g) VOTE: Authorize application to the United State Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program's Produce Prescription Program to support the KC Fresh Rx program.
h) VOTE: Approve a contract amendment with the Harps Grocery Store Company for the Double Up Food Bucks program.
i) VOTE: Authorize acceptance of funds for MO Program Support Network extension.
j) VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Children's Services Fund of Jackson County to support mental health services for the MARC Head Start program.
k) VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start for One-time Supplemental Funds for Nutrition and Healthy Eating for Head Start Children and Families.

l) VOTE: Approve the 2026 3rd Quarter Amendment to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.
m) VOTE: Authorize a grant application to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to support local adoption and implementation of regional stormwater engineering standards.
n) VOTE: Approve application to Housing and Urban Development Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) Grant to promote increased development of affordable housing across the Kansas City region.

8. **Other business**

9. **Adjournment**

Upcoming meeting
Tuesday, September 22, 2026

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

MARC Board of Directors - Members and Alternates

Name	Jurisdiction	Title
Anderson, Jalen	Jackson County	County Legislator - Designee for County Exectuive Phil LeVota
Bacon, John	Olathe, KS	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
Creighton, Jeff	Olathe, KS	Councilmember
Culbertson, Jeff	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Dorman, Jackie	Independence, MO	Councilmember
Dove, Willie	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Duncan, Johnathan	Kansas City, MO	Councilmember
Fast, Becky	Johnson County	Commissioner - Designee for Commission Chair Mike Kelly
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	Grandview, MO	Mayor
Kelly, Mike	Johnson County	Commission Chairman
King, Kevin	Independence, MO	Mayor
LeVota, Phil	Jackson County	County Executive
Lopez, Beto	Lee's Summit, MO	Mayor
Lucas, Quinton	Kansas City, MO	Mayor
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
Sandifer, Mickey	Shawnee, KS	Mayor
Shields, Hillary	Lee's Summit, MO	Mayor Pro Tem
Skoog, Curt	Overland Park, KS	Mayor
Smith, Megan	Jackson County	Legislator
Smith, Mike	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Stephens, Tom	Bonner Springs, KS	Mayor
Stieben, Mike	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Tracy, Sheila	Ray County	Presiding Commissioner
Turnbow, Kristofer	Raymore, MO	Mayor
Vaughan, Tyler	Miami County	Commissioner
Wagner, Scott	Clay County	Commissioner
Walker, Rick	De Soto, KS	Mayor
Watson, Christal	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Mayor/CEO
White III, Frank**	KCATA	President/CEO
Willett, Nathan	Kansas City, MO	Council member
Wright, Chris	Platte County	Recorder of Deeds
Younis, Inas	Overland Park, KS	Council member

*Public Transit Representatives (Voting) **Public Transit Advisory Representatives (Non-Voting)

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 2a
Competitive Economy

REPORT: HUD PRO Housing funding opportunity to promote development of affordable housing across the Kansas City region.

BACKGROUND
The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) submitted a grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)'s FY26 Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) funding opportunity on August 3rd, 2026 for $9,713,250 to expand attainable homeownership opportunities across the greater Kansas City region by pairing construction-ready local projects with regional policy coordination, technical assistance, and barrier-removal strategies.

MARC worked with regional partners to identify cities and projects to be included in the proposal that met the funding opportunity criteria, based on the following factors: 1) location in/proximity to Opportunity Zones, 2) evidence of successful implementation of policy and/or regulatory changes that promote housing development, 3) evidence of site control, 4) readiness of homeownership construction projects, and 5) capacity and willingness to administer and complete the grant activities in the grant period. Ultimately, MARC identified four projects that were included in the proposal:

City	Project	Subrecipient(s)
Kansas City, KS	Douglass-Sumner Neighborhood	Build WyCo, Habitat KC
Excelsior Springs, MO	Infill on City-Owned Vacant Lots	Excelsior Springs, MO
Independence, MO	Englewood Neighborhood/EastGate Commerce Center	Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity
Kansas City, MO	Housing Accelerator – Washington Wheatley Neighborhood	Kansas City, MO

If awarded, these funds will provide critical Construction and Infrastructure funding for these projects, creating more than 110 units of new construction homeownership opportunities in areas of high need across the region. MARC will also use grant funds to engage housing stakeholders, developers, employers, and community partners to identify and address regulatory, policy, and procedural barriers that constrain housing supply and affordability. The broader goal of this initiative is to establish a durable regional framework for housing policy coordination and implementation that extends beyond the grant period.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS
This award supports MARC's housing goals as it will provide critical construction and infrastructure funding to build new homeownership opportunities across the region, as well as funding MARC's efforts to work with stakeholders and partners to identify and address policy, regulatory, and procedural barriers to housing in communities across the region.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
MARC has requested a total of $9,713,250 in funding, $8,700,000 of which will be distributed to subgrantees as pass-through funding. The remaining grant request will support MARC's policy work with local jurisdictions across the region and administration of the grant award.

REVENUES	
Amount	$9,713,250
Source	HUD FY26 PRO Housing

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	$997,701
Pass-Through	$8,700,000
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	$15,549

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts the entire MARC region, as the policy and process improvement work will produce resources, tools, and technical assistance that will be made available to all cities and counties in the 9-county region. The four projects that were selected for pass-through funds to support ongoing affordable homeownership construction projects are located in Kansas City, Kansas, and Excelsior Springs, Independence, and Kansas City, Missouri.

RECOMMENDATION
This board memo represents an item on the July 2026 Administrative update and MARC staff recommend retroactive approval for MARC's grant application for HUD's FY26 PRO Housing funding opportunity to support efforts to reduce policy and process barriers to housing and create attainable homeownership opportunities across the region.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Hannah Mitchell, Regional Housing Program Manager

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 3a
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

REPORT: Presentation on the Phase 1 win of the Administration for Community Living Health At Home Challenge.

This spring, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) released a challenge to recognize and reward advanced community care networks and health care organizations addressing the whole-person health needs of dually eligible and near-dually eligible Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. These networks link hospitals and healthcare providers to community-based organizations that provide critical in-home service necessary to achieving health outcomes. The networks provide many of the administrative and operational functions that individual CBOs may not be able to manage on their own—including contracting, billing, referrals, technology, data, compliance, and reporting.

With previous board approval to submit an application and accept funds if awarded, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) applied as lead entity with statewide partners. There are three progressive phases, with cash prizes awarded in each. Submitting teams must win a phase to be eligible for the next. Up to $2M will be awarded in each phase. Phase 1 identified 10 winners, including MARC as lead entity for a Missouri Collaborative approach. Phase 2 will include up to five winning teams, and Phase 3 will be awarded to a maximum of three teams that best meet the judging criteria.

ACL seeks to achieve community-clinical integration for a significant portion (up to one million) of the nation's dually eligible and near-dually eligible beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions and at least one functional limitation.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

REVENUES	
Amount/Challenge Prize	$200,000
Source	Administration for Community Living

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item is statewide in Missouri and impacts all counties.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 4a
Quality Early Learning

REPORT: Updates regarding local planning for sustained public investment in early childhood through Connecting the P.I.E.C.E.S.

BACKGROUND

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), Watershed Advisors, and Kids Win Missouri are working to develop a public investment implementation toolkit to provide a sustainable solution to childcare affordability in the Kansas City region. Funding from the Ewing Marrion Kauffman Foundation has aided progress through the regional planning project: Connecting the P.I.E.C.E.S. including the launch of Missouri Child Care Works and eceinkc.org.

Currently, families in the Kansas City region who do not qualify for public benefits are paying anywhere from 15-33% of their household income for child care, if slots are available. There is an estimated regional gap of 32,000 slots needed for infants and toddlers in order to serve our population at any income level.

As a part of this solution generation work, MARC will host a fall summit of civic and business leaders to get feedback on the implementation toolkit before finalizing and launching. MARC board members can provide input and feedback by joining implementation planning team, attending the upcoming fall summit, and/or championing the plan in the community.

DISCUSSION

Board members should consider the following and prepare to discuss at the meeting:

- **Breadth vs. depth**: Serve more children with smaller benefits OR fewer children with more comprehensive support
- **Seats vs. services**: Funding direct enrollment that follows the child OR broader supports to programs such as workforce, quality, and facilities
- **Age range**: Prioritize birth-to-five OR focus on specific age groups (e.g., infants and toddlers, preschool)
- **Eligibility**: Target families with the greatest need OR reach a broader income range
- **Delivery model**: Invest across a range of providers OR concentrate funding within specific settings

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

This planning initiative continues the work of Connecting the P.I.E.C.E.S. with a focus on the services, funding and governance components of the toolkit.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties in Missouri and Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS

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

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 5

REPORT: Executive Director's report

BACKGROUND
The executive director will share brief updates including the following:

Issues for Board Awareness:
- **Pending MDNR rules on Solid Waste Management District grants management.** The staff is evaluating pending Missouri Department of Natural Resources regulations that would significantly affect funding available to Solid Waste Management Districts and the process for allocating and managing grants.
- **Proposed federal regulations affecting Head Start programs.** The staff is evaluating proposed changes in the regulations for Head Start grantees that would have significant implications for the quality and character of Head Start programs.
- **Status of MARC Office move to 801 Penn.** An overview of the status of MARC office relocation.

Notable Recent Grants:
- **Public Interest Technology-Infrastructure for Health Data Platform.** An award has been made to support an initiative to develop and equip regional health departments with AI-enable data infrastructure for regional analysis of wastewater disease tracking.
- **USDOT BUILD grant for i-19/1-35 Improvements.** Funding will be made available to MoDOT to support improvements to this priority freeway intersection.
- **EPA riparian grant for stream and wetland conservation resources.** An award has been made to use on trainings for stream and wetland conservation, restoration and buffer management, and use of the Riparian Restoration Guide that is under development currently through October.

August 2026
Item No. 6a

VOTE: Approve minutes of the June 23, 2026, Board meeting

BACKGROUND:
The minutes of the June 23, 2026, meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the minutes of the June 23, 2026, meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:
- David Warm, Executive Director
- McKenzie Neds, Executive Assistant

MARC Board of Directors Meeting Summary

June 23, 2026

BOARD MEMBER AND ALTERNATE ATTENDANCE

Mayor Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, MO – Board Chair
Council member Holly Grummert, Overland Park, KS – 2nd Vice Chair
Mayor Eric Mikkelson, Prairie Village, KS - Secretary
Commissioner Allyson Berberich, Platte County, MO
Commissioner Julie Brewer, Johnson County, KS
Council member Eric Bunch, Kansas City, MO
Council member Jeff Creighton, Olathe, KS
Council member Jackie Dorman, Independence, MO
Councilmember Johnathan Duncan, Kansas City, MO
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS
Council member Logan Heley, Overland Park, KS
Commissioner Jermaine Howard, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
Victor Hurlbert, Auditor, Clay County, MO
Mayor Leonard Jones, Grandview, MO
Mayor Mike McDonough, Raytown, MO
Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, MO
Mayor Mickey Sandifer, Shawnee, KS
Mayor Kris Turnbow, Raymore, MO
Mayor Rick Walker, De Soto, KS
Mayor/CEO Christal Watson, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City,
Councilmember Inas Younis, Overland Park, KS

STAFF PRESENT

Executive Director David Warm and other MARC staff

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Connye Griffin, Kansas City Documenter, Beacon

AGENDA

Item 1 Introductions and board sharing time

Mayor Beto Lopez called the meeting to order at 11:59 a.m. and welcomed attendees. Due to the meeting being held remotely and in-person, Mayor 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 VOTE: Review and accept the 2025 MARC Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and the Solid Waste Management District 2025 Financial Report.

Kaleb Lilly, Auditor with RubinBrown, requested approval to accept the 2025 audit. He explained to the board that an in-depth presentation was given to the Budget and Personnel committee and that RubinBrown will produce an unmodified or clean opinion of the financial records which indicates no findings for MARC and the MARC Solid Waste Management District.

He noted that small adjustments were made but they were considered immaterial in nature. The Single Audit will be produced and ready for review at the August 2026 meeting.

Mayor Lopez asked for a motion to accept the 2025 MARC Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and the Solid Waste Management District 2025 Financial Report.

Mayor McDonough motioned and Commissioner Hanzlick seconded. The motion passes.

Item 3a REPORT: Staff will present an update about the FY 2026-2027 Head Start Program.

Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director, explained to the board that the Office of Head Start administers the program under the Head Start Act, which establishes standards and regulations, and competitively selects and funds local grantees. MARC has served as a grantee since 2005 and supports the well-being of 2,350 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers across Clay, Platte, and Jackson counties.

MARC Head Start oversees a network of 17 school districts and community-based providers operating 29 centers and three home-based programs. Its 45-person department provides training, technical assistance, monitoring, and oversight across quality and data, health, education, mental health and disabilities, family services, and enrollment-related functions.

Item 4a VOTE: Authorize contracts with nonprofit organizations to implement the US Department of Energy's Renew America's Nonprofits Grant Program.

Beth Dawson, Planning Sustainable Places Program Manager, presented information regarding the Renew America's Nonprofits initiative which MARC received $4.7 million in federal funding with a $1.5 million local foundation match to help nonprofit building owners achieve at least a 15% reduction in energy use, with improvements capped at $200,000 per project. From 68 applicants, the advisory process narrowed the field to 30 organizations for detailed energy analysis.

The Department of Energy requested an initial group of 11 recipients, including Cornerstones of Care, Guadalupe Centers, Hope Faith Ministries, Jewish Vocational Services, Mattie Rhodes Center, ReStart, Synergy Services, and others. Board authorization is requested to negotiate contracts with the selected nonprofits and hire a construction project manager.

Mr. Hurlbert asked how the Community Advisory Board was formed and if it was a MARC group. Ms. Dawson said that is was assembled by organizations from diverse backgrounds that understand energy resources and non-profits in the Kansas City region.

Mayor Watson asked how many Kansas applications were received. Ms. Dawson said she would follow up with the Mayor after the meeting.

Mayor Lopez asked for a motion to authorize contracts with nonprofit organizations to implement the US Department of Energy's Renew America's Nonprofits Grant Program.

Commissioner Hanzlick motioned to approve. Council member Grummert seconded. The motion passes.

Item 4b VOTE: Election of the 2026 Mid-America Regional Council board officers.

Beto Lopez, Mayor of Lee's Summit, MO, explained that due to recent elections the MARC Board Officers held a vacancy which needed to be updated. The new slate of officers include moving Mayor Eric Mikkelson from Secretary to Treasurer and nominating Mayor Rick Walker into the Secretary role. These roles will remain until January 2027.

Mayor Lopez asked for a motion to approve the 2026 Mid-America Regional Council board officers.

Mayor Turnbow motioned to approve. Commissioner Brewer seconded. The motion passes.

Item 4c REPORT: Home Plus One accessory dwelling unit design competition

Lauren Schaumburg, Program Manager, announced the Home Plus One program as an accessory dwelling unit design competition promoting universal, age-friendly housing as an affordable, manageable option for aging in place. Its objectives are to raise awareness, educate stakeholders, generate buildable ADU plans, and award professional and student designers.

The initiative brings together MARC's Communities for All Ages and Regional Housing Partnership with the R.L. Mace Universal Design Institute and philanthropic partners. Activities run from a June kickoff through webinars, September submissions, October judging, and November awards, followed by continued ADU awareness-building in 2027.

Commissioner Brewer clarified that there would be awards for the winners of the competition. Ms. Schaumburg answered that there are 3 cash prizes for professionals and 2 prizes for students. Commissioner Brewer also asked if there was a way to encourage Communities for All Ages recognized communities to make the space for the winning award to be in their community. Ms. Schaumburg said that a direct link between Communities for All Ages has not been made yet.

Council member Duncan asked if the team has spoken to the KC housing department yet? He stated that the main barrier for their AUD concept was cost. Ms. Schaumburg said that they would love to connect to learn more about that and potentially build this into a portfolio home with them. Ms. Hand commented that the Housing Director is a part of the Regional Housing Partnership and is involved with these conversations as well.

Council member Bunch noted that other barriers like zoning can be a challenge but these designs could help pave the way for implementation.

Commissioner Hanzlick asked if there was data on the demand for ADUs as opposed to maintenance provided townhomes. Ms. Schaumburg said that the group could potentially look into that and find out and report back to the board.

Item 4d REPORT: Update regarding the Mid-America Regional Council's move to 801 Pennsylvania.

Amanda Graor, Director of Data and Digital Services, reminded the board that this is the last meeting in the 600 Broadway location and that the board can still take advantage of excess furniture that will not be moved to the new building. Members should contact Amanda directly for access. She briefly explained the parking validation system that will be in place for the metered garage that is attached to 801 Pennsylvania. Members should expect to take a parking ticket and bring it into the office for validation before they exit.

Item 5 Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Warm reminded the board that we will not meet in July but that he will send out an administrative report that will be ratified at the August board meeting. He also invited the board to attend the 2026 Annual Regional Assembly and Leadership Awards happening on August 14 at the Marriot downtown. Additionally, he announced that Marlene Nagel was presented with the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) President's

Award for her exceptional career in local government and tireless effort while she worked at MARC. The staff will recognize her at an internal meeting later this summer.

Item 6a Recess into executive session to discuss recommendations for appointment of a new Executive Director

VOTE: Approve appointment of new Executive Director.

Mayor Lopez requested a motion to recess into executive session to discuss recommendations for appointment of a new Executive Director, pursuant to the personnel matters of nonelected personnel exception in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), and subsection (3) of Missouri Revised Statutes Section 610.021. Thos present during executive session will be: All Board members and alternates, all members of the Search Committee, the MARC Director of Finance and Administration, and Michelle Anderson and Stacey Cowan from OMNI.

The open meeting will resume in the meeting room in 15 minutes at 1:15 p.m.

Mayor Turnbow motioned to approve. Mayor McDonough seconded. The motion passes.

Commissioner Hanzlick gave the board an overview of the Search Committee process and how the board arrived at their decision to appoint the new Executive Director. She thanked the MARC staff, the Search committee, and OMNI for their hard work and dedication to the process. She then motioned to approve the new MARC Executive Director, Ms. Geraldine Ide Gardner. Mayor Turnbow seconded. The motion passes.

Ms. Gardner joined the board meeting virtually to thank the committee and express her excitement about the role.

Item 7 VOTE: Approve consent agenda items

a. VOTE: Approve minutes of the May 26, 2026, board meeting
b. VOTE: Approve renewal of Property, Liability, Vehicle, Cyber and Work Comp Coverages with Midwest Public Risk effective July 1, 2026.
c. VOTE: Approve application to the Civic Council for a grant to develop a Rural Companion to the KC Investment Playbook.
d. VOTE: Authorize grant application to the Health Forward Foundation's Affordable Housing and Homeownership funding opportunity to support the Regional Housing Partnership.
e. VOTE: Approve subaward agreement with KC2026 for planning and operational support related to regional safety, security and communications planning for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
f. VOTE: Approve Mid-America Regional Council Head Start FY 2026 Cost of Living Adjustment for partner program staff salary increases.
g. VOTE: Authorize grant submission to the Administration for Children and Families for the continued support of the Mid-America Regional Council Head Start program.
h. VOTE: Approve contracts for program year 2026 – 2027 Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start support services.
i. VOTE: Approve action items at the June 2026 Head Start Advisory Committee meeting.
j. VOTE: Approve a contract with High Street Consulting to develop a data-driven transportation resilience plan and decision-support tool.
k. VOTE: Approve the regional Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Performance Measure Target.
l. VOTE: Approve the Critical Urban Freight Corridors priority list for submission to

the Kansas Department of Transportation to update the Kansas State Freight and Rail Plan.

m. VOTE: Approve the transportation project alignment assessments for FFY 2029-2030 suballocated funds.
n. VOTE: Approve amendment #2 to ConnectedKC 2050 metropolitan transportation plan for replacement of Central Avenue bridge in Wyandotte County.
o. VOTE: Approve special amendment #2 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.
p. VOTE: Authorize a contract with consulting firm Vireo to develop a streamside restoration best practices manual.
q. VOTE: Approve agreement with Kids Win Missouri to support the Child Care Works program.

Motion: Mayor McDonough moved to approve the consent agenda and Mayor Turnbow seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez then asked whether any member wished to abstain from or object to any agenda item.

Council member Heley abstained from item 7p: Authorize a contract with consulting firm Vireo to develop a streamside restoration best practices manual.

The motion passed.

Item 8 Other Business

There was no other business.

Item 9 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

NEXT/UPCOMING MEETING

Tuesday, August 25, 2026 | MARC Offices 801 Pennsylvania Ave. Ste 400, Kansas City, MO 64105

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6b
Safe and Secure Communities

VOTE: Approve application for an Assistant Secretary Preparedness and Response grant for fiscal year 2026-2027 to continue support of the region's health care coalition.

BACKGROUND
The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has received funding from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) under the Hospital Preparedness Program since 2003. The funding anticipated to be available for FY26/27 is $380,567 for continued support of the region's health care coalition (HCC) of hospitals, public health, emergency management, and emergency medical services in Missouri's Highway Patrol Region A.

This grant will be used to strengthen the readiness of the public health and health care delivery system to save lives during emergencies that exceed the day-to-day capacity and capability of the emergency response systems. The grant will allow MARC to coordinate assessments and planning, conduct training and exercises and coordinate information and resource sharing during and following incidents and disasters. The grant performance period is July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Funding is primarily for personnel and contractual support to execute the approved work plan.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

REVENUES	
Amount	$380,567
Source	FY26/27 ASPR Grant from Missouri DHSS
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, indirect)	$313,532
Contractual	$35,000
Other (supplies, printing, travel, etc.)	$32,035

COMMITTEE ACTION
The Healthcare Coalition (HCC) Steering Committee met on February 24, 2026. New workplan items for the next 5-year budget period were reviewed along with the budget.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
In addition to the 17 Missouri Metro Hospitals, there are 8 Region-A hospitals: Carroll County Memorial Hospital, Lafayette Regional Health Center, Ray County Memorial Hospital, Fitzgibbon Hospital, Bates County Memorial Hospital, Bothwell Regional Health Center, Golden Valley Memorial Hospital, and Western Missouri Medical Center.

RECOMMENDATION
Authorize application and acceptance of an Assistant Secretary Preparedness and Response (ASPR) grant from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services in the amount of $380,567 for FY26/27.

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6c
Safe and Secure Communities

VOTE: Authorize contract with Porsena Solutions, LLC to provide support services for the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee 2027-2029 strategic plan.

BACKGROUND
The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Emergency Services and Homeland Security Department seeks approval to enter into a professional services agreement with Porsena Solutions, LLC to conduct a regional World Cup safety and security preparedness and operations review, develop an After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP), and facilitate development of the 2027-2029 Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC) Strategic Plan. The contract amount will not exceed $56,800 and the contract period pending board approval is anticipated to begin on August 25, 2026, and conclude by November 19, 2026.

MARC conducted a competitive procurement process to identify a qualified consultant with expertise in homeland security planning, stakeholder engagement, after-action reporting, and strategic planning. Following evaluation of proposals, Porsena Solutions was selected based on its extensive experience supporting regional, state, and federal preparedness initiatives and its demonstrated expertise in facilitating collaborative planning efforts.

Porsena's approach is designed to capture lessons learned from regional World Cup preparedness and operations activities and translate those findings into actionable recommendations and long-term strategic priorities. The effort will engage public safety, emergency management, healthcare, transportation, public information, government, and private-sector partners throughout the region.

The scope of work includes:
- Conducting a comprehensive review of World Cup preparedness and operational activities.
- Administering stakeholder surveys, interviews, and facilitated discussion sessions to validate findings and identify opportunities for improvement.
- Developing a regional After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) with recommendations, capability assessments, and implementation actions.
- Evaluating the current RHSCC Strategic Plan and developing a strategic planning foundation for future priorities.
- Facilitating an in-person RHSCC Strategic Planning Session and preparing the 2027-2029 RHSCC Strategic Plan.

This work will help the region capture and validate lessons learned from one of the largest special events in its history, strengthen regional preparedness and coordination capabilities, and establish a strategic framework to guide homeland security investments and initiatives through 2029.

Approval of this contract will support MARC's ongoing efforts to improve regional preparedness, enhance cross-discipline collaboration, and provide a strategic roadmap for future homeland security planning and investment decisions.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

REVENUES	
Amount	$56,800
Source	Emergency Services Local Funding

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	$56,800

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
Leavenworth, Wyandotte, Johnson counties in Kansas and Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties in Missouri, as represented through the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC) and its partner organizations.

RECOMMENDATION
Authorize a contract between MARC and Porsena Solutions, LLC for after-action review, stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning services supporting regional homeland security preparedness and development of the 2027-2029 Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC) Strategic Plan in an amount not to exceed $56,800.

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

August 2026
Item No. 6d
Safe and Secure Communities

VOTE: Authorize application for the FY 2026 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant and associated subaward agreements to enhance regional emergency response preparedness.

BACKGROUND
The Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Program originated following the attacks of September 11, 2001. The UASI program provides funding to enhance regional preparedness and capabilities in designated high-threat, high-density areas to build, sustain, and deliver the capabilities necessary to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism. Eligibility is determined yearly through an analysis of the relative risk of terrorism faced by the 100 most populous Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in the United States, in accordance with the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended.

The Notification of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was released with the following timelines:
- NOFO/Application Opens: June 24, 2026
- Application Due: July 24, 2026, 11:59 p.m. ET
- Anticipated Awards: No later than September 30, 2026

The Kansas City Urban area was eligible to apply for $3,523,097.80 in Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funding. Our application was due to the State of Missouri by July 21, 2026. Due to the short notice and deadline, this action is asking the Board for affirmation of the submitted application.

The Kansas City Urban Area is comprised of jurisdictions in Jackson, Platte, Clay, Cass and Ray counties in Missouri and Wyandotte, Johnson and Leavenworth in Kansas. It is one of forty-one urban areas across the nation eligible for this funding. The following are projects approved by the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC) to include in the application:

Investment Justifications	Project Name	Application Amount
Enduring Needs - Training, Exercise, and Awareness	MEMC Community Education – Weather Radios and Printing	$11,000
	T&E- Sustaining Regional Exercise Program Capacity	$141,343
	T&E- Sustaining Regional Training Program Capacity	$272,822
Enhancing Communication and Information Sharing	HCC- Mesh Core	$10,521.11
	MEMC SIAS- Common Operating Picture	$35,000
Enhancing Regional Cybersecurity	Cyber Security	$24,843
	Cyber Security Resilience and Penetration Testing	$7,500

	LE- End-of-Life Switch Replacement (Kansas City, MO Police Dept)	$17,443.18
Enhancing Regional Election Security	LE- Election Security Enhancements	$122,680
Enhancing the Protection of Soft Target and Crowded Places – Enhancing Law Enforcement Capabilities	LE - Bomb and Arson Expired Bomb Suit Replacement (Kansas City, MO Police Dept.)	$83,886
	LE- Annual Continuation Training (Kansas City, MO Police Dept)	$19,660
	LE- Discipline Specific Training and Exercises	$29,500
	LE- EOD Bomb Suits and Helmets (Independence Police Dept.)	$83,886
	LE- Explosive Breaching Readiness (Kansas City, Kansas Police Dept.)	$18,019.24
	LE- Joint Hazard Robot Upgrade (Lee's Summit Police Dept.)	$78,070
	LE- Open Space Security Surveillance Platform (MOSSP) (Leawood Police Dept. and Kansas City, MO Police Dept.)	$130,000
	LE Robot (Olathe Police Dept.)	$116,815
	LE- XRAY System Replacement (Olathe Fire Dept.)	$70,450
	Hazmat	$387,625.70
	HCC- Decontamination Tent Replacement (Menorah Medical Center)	$45,000
Management and Administration	Management and Administration	$176,154.89
Preserving and Strengthening Effective Regional Planning	MEMC ERAPIO- Planning and Exercise	$30,000
	MEMC Resource Management- Sustaining Regional Badging and Accountability	$32,920
	MEMC-Planning	$10,000
	Regional Collaboration and Advancing Readiness through Effective Planning	$411,434.36
Supporting Border Crisis Response and Enforcement	LE- Night Vision Googles (Regional Teams)	$567,578.02
Supporting Homeland Security Task Forces and Fusion Centers	LE - KCRFC	$189,165

Sustaining Regional Mass Fatality Capabilities	KCRMORG	$4,632
Sustaining Regional Tech Rescue Capabilities	Tech Rescue	$395,149.30
	Total	**$3,523,097.80**

Subaward agreements are issued to each entity receiving funds/goods/services through the UASI FY26 grant. The subaward agreement identifies the funding amount and types of items being provided, as well as requirements to be met as a condition to receive the funds or goods. It also serves as a mechanism to transfer ownership to the end user agency from MARC.

The following subawards are a part of the above $3,523,097.80 total grant and require board approval because they are above the $50,000 approval limit.

Agency	Project	Subaward Amount
Central Jackson County Fire Protection District	Tech Rescue	$80,339.30
Independence Police Department	EOD Bomb Suits and Helmets	$83,886
Kansas City KS Fire Department	Tech Rescue	$72,950
Kansas City MO Fire Department	Tech Rescue	$148,850
Kansas City MO Police Department	Annual Continuation Training	$19,660
	Bomb and Arson Expired Bomb Suit Replacement	$83,886
	Fusion Center	$114,185
	Open Space Security Surveillance Platform	$65,000
Leawood Police Department	Open Space Security Surveillance Platform	$65,000
Lee's Summit Police Department	Joint Hazard Robot Upgrade	$78,070
Olathe Fire Department	Tech Rescue	$72,950
	XRAY System Replacement	$70,450
Olathe Police Department	Robot	$116,815
	Total	**$1,072,041.30**

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:
This action item includes the anticipated award and the known subaward that exceeds $50,000 and requires approval from the MARC Board of Directors.

REVENUES	
Amount	$3,523,097.80
Source	FY 2026 UASI Grant

PROJECTED EXPENSES – SUBAWARDS >$50,000	
Pass-Through	$1,072,041.30

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:
The Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC) has approved all projects.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:
Agencies receiving specialized equipment have agreed to training and to respond anywhere within the region or beyond if available through mutual aid processes.

RECOMMENDATION
Authorize the application for and acceptance of the FY 2026 Urban Area Security Initiative grant. Authorize the Executive Director to execute the subaward agreement as noted herein.

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6e
Safe and Secure Communities

VOTE: Approve a five-year agreement with Segra to renew existing Ethernet Local Area Network services supporting five regional Public Safety Answering Point locations.

BACKGROUND

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) regional public safety communications network relies on dedicated Ethernet Local Area Network (ELAN) services to provide secure, reliable connectivity for mission-critical voice and data communications serving regional Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs).

Segra (formerly Unite Private Networks) has offered MARC the opportunity to renew existing service agreements early in exchange for reduced monthly rates. Staff determined the proposal provides significant cost savings while maintaining current bandwidth, service levels, and network reliability.The proposed 60-month agreement consolidates and renews existing ELAN services under a single agreement, ensuring uninterrupted service to participating PSAP locations. The renewal maintains the current configuration of four 300 Mbps ELAN circuits and one 100 Mbps ELAN circuit, with no installation or transition costs.

Monthly recurring costs will decrease from $4,800 to $4,320, resulting in annual savings of $5,760 and total projected savings of $28,800 over the five-year term.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

This action supports Connected KC 2050 by maintaining resilient, reliable, and secure public safety communications infrastructure while reducing long-term operating costs through proactive contract management.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The total agreement amount is $259,200, representing monthly recurring charges of $4,320 over a 60-month term. Funding is provided through the 911 Allocation – Network budget previously approved for regional network operations.

The proposed early renewal reduces ongoing operating expenses while maintaining existing service levels and avoids higher monthly recurring charges under the current agreements.

REVENUES	
Amount	$259,200
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Networks)

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	$259,200

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Public Safety Communications Board approved funding for these network services as part of the Regional 911 Network Budget previously approved on November 19, 2025.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This agreement supports connectivity for the following regional public safety agencies:

- Grandview Police Department
- Shawnee Police Department
- Kansas City, Missouri Police Department—South Patrol Division
- Platte County Sheriff's Office Backup
- Jackson County Sheriff's Office

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the five-year agreement with Segra in an amount not to exceed $259,200 to renew existing ELAN services supporting regional public safety communications while reducing recurring network costs by an estimated $28,800 over the agreement term.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Program Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6f
Quality Early Learning

VOTE: Approve contract renewal with Learning Genie to support children's progress in the classroom and electronic portfolio reporting of child outcomes.

BACKGROUND
The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Head Start classrooms use the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) early childhood assessment system to track children's progress throughout the school year. This assessment of children's progress and reporting of child outcomes is required for Head Start grantees.

The Learning Genie application supports implementation of these assessments by providing an electronic portfolio for each child in Head Start. Evidence of the children's learning and development can be entered into portfolios by educators, who are able to connect the evidence to DRDP measures. Educators can also rate children's progress on each measure three times each year and run child outcomes reports for individuals and groups. Learning Genie has customized the application to meet the needs of MARC Head Start providers and has provided effective technical support to educators since the contract began in 2017.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	$60,480
Source	Administration for Children and Families

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	$60,480

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:
Clay, Jackson and Platte counties in Missouri are impacted by this item.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the Learning Genie contract from July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 in the amount of $60,480.

STAFF CONTACT:
- Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director
- Dr. Toni Sturdivant, Early Learning Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6g
Quality Early Learning

VOTE: Approve a contract with Futures First for MARC to provide quality assessment services of classrooms for their Start Young Program.

BACKGROUND

Futures First (formerly The Family Conservancy) wishes to contract with the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Early Learning Department to provide quality assessments for the Start Young Program. The Start Young initiative is a public-private collaborative designed to improve childcare in Wyandotte County, KS by increasing access to high quality, full-day, full-year childcare for working families. In addition to certified MARC staff, MARC contracts with Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) certified assessors to conduct observations in all Start Young participating classrooms to measure classroom quality. This work is estimated to support 75 classrooms and 9 home-based providers. The contract period is July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Funding will be used to support existing MARC staff time in the management and oversight of the project subcontractors, data entry, coordination of program supports and classroom assessments as well for contract assessor time, training and supplies.

REVENUES	
Amount	$52,919
Source	Futures First

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	$30,051
Contractual	$6,660
Staff Training	$5,500
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	$10,708

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts Wyandotte County, KS

RECOMMENDATION

Approve contract between Futures First and MARC Early Learning for $52,919 for assessment services.

STAFF CONTACTS

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6h
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Authorize increase in monthly fee to ARIS Solutions to provide fiscal oversight for the Veteran Directed Care program.

BACKGROUND

In Missouri and nationally, Area Agencies on Aging have contracted with local VA Medical Centers to manage the Veteran Directed Care (VDC) program. In this program, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) primarily manages referrals made by the Kansas City VA Medical Center for veterans who opt to receive care in the community rather than in a skilled nursing facility. It is possible for MARC to receive referrals from other VA Medical Centers in which patients reside in the Kansas City region. Veterans choose a care provider(s), and MARC provides assessment, care plan development, and management of the care relationship between the chosen provider(s) and the veteran.

A financial management services firm, ARIS Solutions, is contracted to provide fiscal oversight of the care provider/veteran as well as review activities and expenditures according to the established budget. ARIS Solutions is increasing their monthly fee, effective October 1, 2026.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Under the VDC program, MARC is reimbursed approximately $796 per veteran each month for coordination and program management. An elevated reimbursement of approximately $1,125 is made for the first veteran assessment. MARC's total enrollment is currently 80 veterans, with increases expected in the coming years.

REVENUES (Annual at estimated enrollment of 80 veterans)	
Source	VA MISSION Act
Total	$790,480

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	$157,248

COMMITTEE ACTION

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

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend contract amendment between MARC Aging and Adult Services and ARIS Financial Management Services with the increase of per-Veteran monthly rate from $156 to $163.80 effective October 1, 2026.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Shannon Halvorsen, Program Manager
- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6i
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Approve a grant with OASIS Institute to facilitate and support falls prevention evidence-based programs.

BACKGROUND

The Oasis Institute requested support from the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) for their proposal for an upcoming Administration for Community Living (ACL) grant opportunity focused on scaling evidence-based falls prevention programs. The title of Oasis' grant proposal is Falls Free Missouri: Scaling Up STEADI and Stepping On. The CDC's Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries (STEADI) Initiative comprises three core elements: Screen, Assess, and Intervene. Oasis and partners propose to scale up adoption of the STEADI screening tool in Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). Stepping On is a seven-week program designed for people who are living at home and have experienced a fall or are concerned about falling.

Oasis is a nonprofit based in St. Louis that provides programs for older adults on a variety of topics in community settings. Oasis has delivered evidence-based programs (EBP) for nearly 20 years. Historically, Oasis and MARC partnered for previous statewide applications for ACL Falls Prevention in 2014 and 2018. In addition, Oasis was a subcontractor for the AAA Aging Ahead throughout two statewide ACL Chronic Disease Self-Management Education grants for which MARC served as the network lead entity from 2018 to 2025.

Oasis offered MARC a subaward of approximately $215,132 ($72,000 each year) over the three-year period of the grant if awarded. The subaward includes a $40 per hour reimbursement rate to trained leaders of the Stepping On program for 18 workshops in year one and 20 workshops in both years two and three. It also includes total compensation costs for two MARC employees who would provide project administration, monitor referrals, and manage EBP scheduling for the MARC Area Agency on Aging coverage region.

MARC supports EBP and has a strong network of contracted community-based organizations (CBOs) that facilitate EBP. Stepping On is instructor-led, group-based, and focuses on improving balance, functional movement, safe mobility, understanding home hazards, safe footwear, recognizing the influence of vision on the risk of falling and bone health to reduce injury when falls occur. Classes are adapted to accommodate varying functional abilities while maintaining safety and inclusivity, and group formats are intentionally used to foster social connection, accountability, and sustained engagement.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The following budget identified for the grant period.

REVENUES	
Amount	$215,132 ($72,000 each year)
Source	The Oasis Institute

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	$33,556 (approx. $11,185 each year)
Contractual	$181,576 (approx. $60,525 each year)

COMMITTEE ACTION
The Commission on Aging considered this at its August meeting and recommended board approval.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts Clay, Cass, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties in Misouri.

RECOMMENDATION
Ratify approval to submit and accept subaward from the Oasis Institute through their ACL grant, if awarded.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Tane Lewis, Program Manager
- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6j
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Approve a grant with ma4 Network to support the Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative: Dementia-Capable Community Health Workers.

BACKGROUND
The Missouri Association of Area Agencies on Aging (ma4) requested a letter of commitment from the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) for the ma4 Network proposal for an Administration for Community Living (ACL) grant opportunity focused on building a person-centered workforce within area agencies on aging (AAAs) that improves access to dementia services and helps more people live well in their communities. The program will increase early detection and care linkage while expanding engagement in supportive services for people living with dementia and their caregivers. Through these efforts, recipients will work to improve participant well-being and achieve measurable outcomes over time.

MARC's letter of commitment outlines full participation as a core collaborating partner in the proposed statewide Dementia-Capable Community Health Worker program, actively engaging, if awarded, during year 1 and throughout the three-year project period in the following ways:

- Formalizing MARC's participation in the ma4 Network through a Memorandum of Understanding or consortium agreement that defines shared governance, HIPAA-compliant data-sharing protocols, referral pathways, and roles in Medicare-eligible service delivery.
- Contributing to the CHW workforce plan, including identification of hiring needs, integrating pathways with LCSWs and Registered Dietitians, and support for recruitment and training of dementia-capable CHWs.
- Establishing billing infrastructure and protocols to enable Medicare reimbursement for Community Health Integration (CHI), SDoH screenings and whole person risk assessments, Principal Illness Navigation (PIN), and Chronic Care Management (CCM) services.
- Evaluating shared services options.
- Embedding CHWs into our existing aCCH care coordination teams, standardized intake processes, and client management platforms.
- Participating in monthly partnership convenings, joint training initiatives, and continuous quality improvement activities.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
If the ma4 Network is successful and awarded, they may receive up to a total of $750,000 for the three-year project. Sub-awardee budgets would be based on the overall grant budget.

COMMITTEE ACTION
The Commission on Aging considered this at its August meeting and recommended board approval.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts Clay, Cass, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties in Misouri.

RECOMMENDATION
Ratify approval to submit a letter of commitment and accept subaward from the ma4 Network through their ACL grant, if awarded.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Tane Lewis, Program Manager
- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6k
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Approve contract with ES Advisors, LLC to support the Administration of Community Living Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Cooperative Agreement award and program.

BACKGROUND
The Administration for Community Living (ACL) notified the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) on August 7, 2026 that we were selected as one of seven grant recipients for Advancing Strategies to Deliver and Sustain Evidence-Based Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs (CDSME) to Support Older Adult Behavioral Health.

This funding will allow MARC in partnership with participating Missouri Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), over 35 service providers and six behavioral health providers to develop and implement strategies for the sustainability of CDSME, connecting participants with behavioral health service providers when appropriate. This funding aims to expand CDSME programs to older adults with behavioral health conditions, improve health outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and share successful strategies nationwide that enhance access and care. Awardees will focus on serving those with behavioral health conditions such as depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance use disorder, and those with behavioral health stressors such as a recent diagnosis of a chronic condition, loss of a loved one, or being a caregiver.

This grant award builds on the previous ACL grants MARC held as lead entity for the Missouri Association of Area Agencies on Aging (ma4) Network. Erika Saleski, owner and Principal of ES Advisors LLC, served as the project director for the previous ACL grants. Due to her extensive experience and policy expertise, MARC included ES Advisors LLC in the grant application to serve as the project director for this cohort.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
The following budget is identified for the contract with ES Advisors LLC for the grant period.

REVENUES	
Amount	$1,249,979 over three years
Source	Administration for Community Living

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	$277,500 ($92,500 each year)

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item is statewide in Missouri and impacts all counties.

RECOMMENDATION
Authorize a contract with ES Advisors, LLC to serve as Program Director for the ACL CDSME grant at MARC.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Tane Lewis, Program Manager
- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6l
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Approve amendment increase to the SFY 2027 agreement with Legal Aid of Western Missouri to provide access to legal services for eligible clients.

BACKGROUND

The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Aging and Adult Services department contracts with Legal Aid of Western Missouri to provide legal services, including Family Caregiver legal services, funded through the Older Americans Act (OAA). At this time additional funding is needed to increase services provided to caregivers needing this service through SFY 2027.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

In order to continue services to existing participants, we need to increase the amount with available funds within this agreement as follows:

REVENUES	
Amount	$ 805,602
Source	Older Americans Act Title III E

	Current	Increase	Total
Legal Services $75.00/hour	$57,440	$71,280	$128,720

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

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

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize amendment to the current legal services SFY 2027 agreement between MARC and the Legal Aid of Western Missouri to reflect an increase of $71,280 and new not to exceed total of $128,720.

STAFF CONTACTS

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6m
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Authorize the purchase and distribution costs of caregiver consumable supplies for older adults on fixed incomes receiving caregiver support.

BACKGROUND

The Older Americans Act Title III E funding supports caregiver programs and services. Products such as incontinence supplies and nutritional supplements are costly and difficult to find for older adults receiving caregiver support who are on fixed incomes. With the KC Meal Link location and distribution processes in place, Title III E carryover funds can be used to stock and support distribution of such supplies.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Title III E carryover funds in the amount of $150,000 expire at the end of September 2026.

REVENUES	
Amount	$150,000
Source	Older Americans Act Title III E carryover

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Purchase of consumable supplies	Not to exceed $120,000

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the use of Older Americans Act Title III E funding for the purchase and cost to distribute caregiver consumable supplies.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Bethany Reyna, Program Director
- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

August 2026
Item No. 6n
Effective Transportation and Quality Places

VOTE: Approve 2026 special amendment #3 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to add federal funds to a project in Riverside, MO.

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the region's short-range program, identifying projects to receive federal funds and projects of regional significance to be implemented over the next three to five-year period. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) amends the TIP on both a quarterly cycle and as needed to accommodate changes to projects in the TIP.

The proposed 2026 Special Amendment #3 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program adds $3.2M of Congressionally Directed Highway Infrastructure Program funding to the Riverway Boulevard Improvements project (TIP# 414009) in the City of Riverside, MO.

Details of this project are available for review on the Internet at:
https://www.marc.org/document/2026-tip-special-amendment-3.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

MARC's Public Involvement Plan requires that amendments to the TIP be released for public review and comment prior to adoption. Since the August meeting of the Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) was not conducted and to avoid a potential lapse in the Congressionally Directed funding, MARC's Executive Director, under authority granted in the Declared Emergencies provisions of MARC's Policy of TIP Modifications and in consultation with the TTPC Co-chairs, released this amendment for public review and comment. No comments were received during the advertised comment period of August 4-18, 2026.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts Platte County, Missouri

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Special Amendment #3 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.

STAFF CONTACT

- Marc Hansen, Transportation Programs Manager

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6o
Healthy Environment

VOTE: Authorize contract with Sustainable Investment Group LLC to provide project management support for the US Department of Energy's Renew America's Nonprofits Grant Program.

BACKGROUND

In June 2026, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board heard a report on the status of the US Department of Energy (DOE) Renew America's Nonprofits grant program and authorized agreements with selected nonprofit organizations for energy improvements to their buildings. The agenda report included modest funds for a construction project management firm to support MARC in working with the 28 selected nonprofit organizations.

In early August, the DOE approved MARC's request to move the project forward to construction, starting with the first 11 buildings. MARC issued a request for qualifications and received four proposals. After interviews, one firm, Sustainable Investment Group, LLC, a subsidiary of TUV SUD America Inc., has been identified as the best company to support the work. Given the number of nonprofit organizations that will require project management support and the retirement of MARC personnel, the revised budget submitted recently to the DOE includes up to $235,000 for this project management contractor to support the program through mid-2028.

The program implementation will begin with 11 nonprofit buildings needing work on HVAC replacements and controls, LED lighting, building envelope sealing and other repairs. The board authorized amounts for each of the first 11 nonprofit buildings and subrecipient agreements are being finalized for signature.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES
Amount 3-Year Grant - $4,734,755 Federal; $1,500,000 from local foundations

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, indirect) Office rent	$867,066 $30,500
Contractual	$924,591
Pass-Through	Nonprofit organizations: $4,395,806*
Other (supplies, mileage, stipends)	$16,792

***** *Some projects may have higher bid estimates; no one building will receive more than $200,000. If additional funds remain, there are 3 other nonprofits that have been selected as backup for support.*

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize MARC to negotiate and execute an agreement with Sustainable Investment Group, LLC, as the selected contract project manager to support the construction work in an amount not to exceed $235,000 as described above.

STAFF CONTACT:

- Beth Dawson, Planning Sustainable Places Program Manager
- Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 6p
Exemplary Core Capacities

VOTE: Review and accept the 2025 Uniform Guidance Single Audit Report

BACKGROUND:
As the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) annually expends more than $1,000,000 of Federal Financial Assistance, a "Single Audit" is required to ensure that grant funds received were used in compliance with the federal government's requirements. The engagement is referred to as a Single Audit because it consolidates multiple individual compliance audits into a single audit covering all an organization's federal awards. The Single Audit is performed parallel to the financial audit that culminates in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report; however, the Single Audit takes slightly longer to complete.

The 2025 Uniform Guidance Single Audit engagement has gone well and is wrapping up with finalization expected this month. Management believes MARC has complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements described in the OMB Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on our major federal programs.

The report identifies one finding. The Compliance Supplement requires us to verify that all vendors receiving covered contracts are not suspended or debarred. There was one renewal of a contract where we did not have documentation that the vendor's status was checked before entering into the agreement. A subsequent review determined the vendor was not listed as debarred or suspended and therefore no questioned costs were identified.

In 2025, MARC expended $55.3M of federal funds of which $19.6M was passed through to Sub-Recipients. The $55.3M expenditure is a decrease of $12.5M or 18% compared to 2024 and is the first decrease since 2020.

The Draft 2025 Uniform Guidance Single Audit Report is available for review on the MARC website at:

https://www.marc.org/about-marc/financial-information

If there are any questions about the draft report, please contact Carol Gonzales, Darlene Pickett or Erika Benitez at MARC, or Kaleb Lilly at (913) 499-4417.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:
The Board approved the agreement with Rubin Brown for continuation of Audit Services at the January 2026 board meeting. The estimated cost for the 2025 audits is $89,000. Funds for the audit are budgeted in the Indirect Costs Fund in the 2026 Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:
Accept the 2025 Uniform Guidance Single Audit Report.

STAFF CONTACT:
Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration
Erika Benitez, Finance Director
Darlene Pickett, Accountant III

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

August 2026
Item No. 7
Exemplary Core Capacities

VOTE: Approve actions taken in the July 2026 Administrative Update.

BACKGROUND
The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) did not meet during the month of July and the Executive Director administratively approved of several items that need to be ratified.

These items include:

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TAKEN OR PLANNED AND

TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD AT THE AUGUST 25, 2026 MEETING

SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES

Approve a five-year agreement with Segra for up to $259,200 to renew existing Ethernet Local Area Network services supporting five regional Public Safety Answering Point locations.
The agreement with Segra will consolidate and extend existing network services while maintaining current bandwidth, service levels, and reliability. By renewing the services early, MARC will reduce monthly recurring costs, generating an estimated $28,800 in savings over the five-year term. Funding is included in the approved 911 Allocation – Network budget.

THRIVING OLDER ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES

Community Health Worker Initiative Grant Applications:

- **Authorize grant application to the Sunflower Foundation Kansas Fights Addiction program to support justice-involved community health worker training and workforce development.**
  The Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation (MARC CSC) has supported efforts to advance the Community Health Worker (CHW) workforce in Kansas and Missouri since 2016. This proposed program would enable MARC to build on the foundation established under KDHE's Beyond Walls: Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification Training During Incarceration initiative in Kansas jurisdictions.
- **Authorize grant application to the Kansas Health Foundation Upward Mobility program to support justice-involved community health worker training and workforce development.**
  The proposed program would enable MARC to build on the foundation established under KDHE's Beyond Walls: Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification Training During Incarceration initiative. The program is intended to build capacity within correctional facilities to deliver training, develop career paths and help justice-involved individuals gain marketable skills for meaningful employment that offers a livable wage upon reentry.

- **Authorize grant application to the Health Forward Foundation to support CHW training and workforce development.**
  The Health Forward Foundation has provided support to the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Community Services Corporation (CSC) for its work to convene the KC Regional CHW Collaborative, promote the CHW profession and encourage employment of CHWs, provide information and training on reimbursement of CHW services through Kansas Medicaid and Medicare, and integrate CHWs in diverse settings working collaboratively with other roles such as community paramedics in the community.

Approve submission of Amendment #1 of the SFY 2027 Area Plan Budget to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

The Area Plan Budget and subsequent amendments are due to the State Unit on Aging (SUA) at the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), from which MARC receives all Older Americans Act (OAA) funding. AAAs are required to submit updated Area Plan Budgets after new or updated allotment tables or a Notice of Award (NOA) are distributed to DHSS. The plan budget reflects an increase in meal reimbursement rates, but an overall reduction in Missouri General Revenue to be reappropriated as Medicaid Home Delivered Meals totaling $11,597,988.

Approve the submission of a proposal to the Transformation of Rural Community Health (ToRCH) Community Grant through Ray County Hospital.

The MARC Community Support Network (CSN) receives referrals from Ray County Hospital for the provision of services that address health-related social needs in ToRCH, a DSS initiative. Through ToRCH, Ray County Hospital offers a community grant to build community partner capacity. The application in an amount not to exceed $100,000 to set-up the One Trust platform to manage administrative systems and completion of an operations and market analysis for the CSN to to enable effective service delivery and improve health outcomes.

Authorize application to the United State Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program's Produce Prescription Program to support the KC Fresh Rx program.

The KC Fresh Rx produce prescription program is currently funded by a $500,000 three-year USDA grant ending December 31, 2026. Partners in this proposed extension of the grant include MARC, Balls Food Stores, University of Kansas Medical Center Department of Dietetics and Nutrition, as well as clinics at KUMC Family Medicine and Internal Medicine, Samuel U. Rodgers Health, and Advent Health, along with others to be added. The Balls Food Stores will continue as partners as well. Several more grocery stores will be added as incentive distribution and redemption methods are developed for the stores. The program will serve an estimated 320 patients enrolled in Medicaid, diagnosed with underlying medical conditions, and experiencing food insecurity. The amount requested is $500,000 for two years. The contract amendment will increase their budget for incentives by $500,000 from $166,486 to get a new total of $666,486 to be funded through the USDA NIFA's Nutrition Incentive grant 2025-2028.

Approve a contract amendment with the Harps Grocery Store Company for the Double Up Food Bucks program.

The Harps Grocery Store Company has been offering Double Up Food Bucks at three of their grocery stores (DeSoto, Kansas, Richmond, Missouri and Poplar Bluff, Missouri since 2022). This grant will expand the program to eleven more of their stores located in Missouri communities not already served by a grocery store offering the program. The contract amendment will expand the program from $500,000 to a new total of $666,486 to be funded through the USDA NIFA's Nutrition Incentive grant 2025-2028.

QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

Authorize acceptance of funds for MO Program Support Network extension.

MARC has received notice that Local Investment Commission (LINC) secured an additional year of MO Department of Elementary and Secondary education funding for the Program Support Network and would like to continue subcontracting with MARC for coaching, training, supplies and technical assistance. As a subrecipient, MARC supports LINC services in a 15-county area (Northwest Missouri). The program agreement totals $208,570.58 for personnel and program expenses from July 1, 2026-2027.

Authorize grant application to the Children's Services Fund of Jackson County to support mental health services for the MARC Head Start program.

Following submittal of a letter of interest, Children's Services Funds of Jackson County has invited MARC Head Start to move forward with a full application to support the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Wellness initiative. Services include increased access to qualified mental health consultants for classrooms and families; early identification, screening and referral for children with social-emotional concerns; training and classroom coaching to teachers on trauma-informed care, and; behavior support strategies and family engagement through mental health education and resources for caregivers including pregnant women. Funds requested total $300,000 for 24 months and will serve staff, children and families throughout Jackson County.

Authorize grant application to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start for One-time Supplemental Funds for Nutrition and Healthy Eating for Head Start Children and Families.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Head Start (OHS) has announced the availability of one-time funding to support nutrition and healthy eating for Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start children and families. Funds will support direct service providers with food service upgrades, materials, kitchen supplies and equipment, and nutritional education resources at Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center, Excelsior Springs School District and Render's Hope Day School in Clay and Jackson counties.

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND QUALITY PLACES

Approve the 2026 3rd Quarter Amendment to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.

MARC's Total Transportation Policy Committee considered an amendment to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program to add 37 new projects and modify

25 other projects. Staff circulated the proposed amendment for public review and comment per MARC's adopted Public Participation Plan requirements. No comments were received and the committee unanimously recommended approving the amendment as presented. Additional details for this item are available at: www.marc.org/TIP

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Authorize a grant application to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to support local adoption and implementation of regional stormwater engineering standards.

The proposed grant includes two sets of activities which will involve MARC staff time and training expenses. 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. MARC was encouraged to apply for $80,000 but may be awarded up to $130,000 depending on demand from other applicants.

EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Approve application to Housing and Urban Development Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) Grant to promote increased development of affordable housing across the Kansas City region.

MARC is preparing an application for HUD's FY2026 Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) funding opportunity, due August 3, 2026. The purpose of the proposed project is to promote increased development of affordable, attainable housing across the Kansas City 9-county region through supporting local policy and process improvements, activating vacant or idle land for development, and creating affordable housing through completion of a series of building demonstrations of housing typologies that are underproduced in the region. MARC is working closely with several cities and counties across the region, as well as private and nonprofit partners, to develop the proposal. While the application scope and details are still being solidified, staff expect to request approximately $7.5 million (no more than $10 million) to be spent over the 6-year grant period. Due to the tight turnaround of the proposal deadline, we will present a full board report concerning the application at the August board meeting.