MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

November 24, 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** (15 minutes)
   Board members are asked to introduce themselves and highlight notable matters occurring in their jurisdiction.
2) **Exemplary Core Capacities** (15 minutes)
   a) REPORT: Overview of MARC's proposed 2027 work plan and upcoming priorities
3) **Effective Local Government** (10 minutes)
   a) VOTE: Approve MARC's State and Federal action plans for the 2027 legislative session
4) **Efficient Transportation and Quality Places** (5 minutes)
   a) VOTE: Approve letter of support to for the considered new parkway alternative plan for US-71 involving the Reconnecting the East Side Planning Study.
5) **Brief Reports** (6 minutes)
   a) REPORT: Review of example e-mobility ordinance for local jurisdictions
   b) VOTE: Approve the FY2027 Memorandum of Understanding totaling $821,450 with the Mid-America Regional Council Solid Waste Management District.
6) **Executive Director's report (5 minutes)**
   The executive director will share brief updates and upcoming events. See page 12 for the report.
   i) Resilient Success Stories | Dec 4 @ 8:30 a.m. Register here
   ii) Solid Waste Management District Annual Luncheon and Awards | Dec 8 @ 11:00 a.m. Register here
   iii) Short-term rental policy session | Dec 15. @ 2 p.m. Register here
7) **Consent agenda**
   a) VOTE: Approve minutes of the October 27, 2026, board meeting
   b) VOTE: Authorize contracts with the remaining 17 nonprofit organizations to implement the US Department of Energy's Renew America's Nonprofits Grant Program.
   c) VOTE: Approve proposal submission not to exceed $250,000 to the Jackson County Senior Fund for the first round of community grants that will support older adults in Jackson County.
   d) VOTE: Approve Head Start site enrollment changes for the 2026-2027 program year.

e) VOTE: Approve action items of the Head Start advisory committee.
f) VOTE: Approve 2027 Unified Planning Work Program.
g) VOTE: Approve 2026 Special Amendment #4 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program
h) VOTE: Approval of agreement extensions with GeoComm Maps and GIS Data Hub to enhance mapping accuracy and next generation 911 support.
i) VOTE: Authorize the purchase of Layer 3 routing switch hardware from SHI for regional 911 sites.
j) VOTE: Authorize $300,000 subrecipient agreement with Wichita State University to monitor indoor air quality for childcare facilities.
k) VOTE: Authorize transfer of 2026 USDOT BUILD grant totaling $9,055,200 to the Missouri Department of Transportation to lead studies for the I-29 interstate corridor.

8) **Other business**

9) **Adjournment**

Upcoming meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2026

- Approve MARC revised 2026 and proposed 2027 budget and work plan
- Engagement update regarding the regional Smart Moves transit plan
- Review of 2026 Ozone season

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

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 2a
Exemplary Core Capacities

REPORT: Overview of MARC's proposed 2027 work plan and upcoming priorities

BACKGROUND:
Budget development this year has followed our normal process. Key committees reviewed their accomplishments and identified goals for the upcoming year. Some, such as 911, OGL and the Solid Waste Management District, developed their own 2027 budgets, which are folded into this MARC budget. Grant applications and large expenditures approved by the Board and B&P Committee for this year and into 2027 are included in the 2026R/2027 budget process. MARC staff also held planning sessions on each policy goal area and prepared a comprehensive summary of 2026 accomplishments and priority work for 2027. As is our practice, we use this process to direct resources toward the policy goal areas that support the regional vision. Our 2027 work is based on five themes: adapting to a changing funding environment, turning regional plans into lasting results, building lasting regional capacity, supporting local governments through change and modernizing systems, technology and data.

Staff entered budget numbers in August, projecting revenues and expenses for grants and fee-based programs for the revised 2026 budget and the 12-month 2027 budget. Staff also completed a comprehensive computation to confirm that personnel budgets in grants match the staffing costs those grants require. A first draft of the budget document will be complete by Tuesday, and over the next few weeks staff will continue to refine the numbers and finalize detailed financial charts.

The 2027 Budget and Work Plan document will once again follow the GFOA Distinguished Budget Award format, with the goal of clearly communicating our financial condition and operations to the public. At its meeting, the Budget and Personnel Committee will review the Budget Highlights section, which provides narratives on the most significant information in the Revised 2026 and Proposed 2027 Budget. At the Board meeting, staff will review the policy goal workplans and highlight the projects that will be particularly impactful in 2027.

Please review the document over the next few weeks and send any questions to staff. The December Board meeting will include high-level financial information, and the Budget and Personnel Committee meeting will include detail on the sources and uses of revenue.

EXHIBITS:
The DRAFT 2026 Revised Budget and Proposed 2027 Budget will be posted at this link once available.

RECOMMENDATION
None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS
Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration
Erika Benitez, Finance Director
Darlene Pickett, Accountant III
Amanda Rehani, Grant Manager

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 3a
Effective Local Government

VOTE: Approve MARC's State and Federal action plans for the 2027 legislative session

BACKGROUND
As discussed in the October Board meeting, MARC is enhancing its approach to intergovernmental relations for 2027. These changes are intended to:

- Prioritize MARC's intergovernmental work by identifying where staff should actively engage, monitor developments or maintain awareness based on the significance of an issue and the likelihood of federal or state action.
- Create regular feedback loops with the Board so MARC can respond to changing legislative and executive activity with ongoing Board guidance.
- Strengthen internal coordination so MARC's engagement reflects organizational priorities and presents a consistent voice across programs and policy areas.

The proposed federal and state action plans apply a common framework introduced to the Board in October. Key characteristics include:

- Relationship building. Maintain strong, ongoing relationships with elected officials, agency leaders and partners to support MARC's intergovernmental work across issues and levels of engagement.
- Defined levels of engagement. Prioritize issues by establishing the appropriate level of posture for MARC attention and engagement based on regional significance and the likelihood of legislative or executive action.
- Flexibility. Allow issues to move between levels of engagement as legislative and executive activity unfolds, new issues emerge or circumstances change.

Proposed Action Agendas
Staff developed the proposed agendas using MARC's existing policy positions and program interests, anticipated legislative and administrative activity, input from program directors, and information from state and national associations. Initial recommendations regarding the appropriate posture for each issue considered both the potential fiscal or regional significance to MARC and the region and the likelihood of meaningful action during the coming legislative cycle.

Approach to Implementation
The proposed agendas are intended to establish an initial direction rather than a fixed set of priorities for the year. As legislative and executive activity develops, staff will assess whether issues should receive greater or lesser attention and bring significant changes or questions to the Board for guidance. Following the approval of the action agendas by the Board, MARC staff will:

- Develop internal implementation plan to advance each agenda and external communication materials to summarize MARC's agendas.
- Allocate staff resources to an Intergovernmental Working Group to monitor legislative and executive action in line with the approved agendas
- Prepare and share updates with the MARC Board as the legislative sessions unfold and seek guidance throughout the session to determine if the Board wants to change the posture or engagement activities.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
None.

EXHIBITS:
2027 Federal Action Agenda
2027 Kansas State Action Agenda
2027 Missouri State Action Agenda

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the proposed 2027 Federal Action and 2027 State Action plans.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 4a
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

VOTE: Approve letter of support for the considered new parkway alternative plan for US-71 involving the Reconnecting the East Side Planning Study.

BACKGROUND
The Reconnecting the East Side project aims to address long-standing challenges created when US-71 was constructed. The study area extends from Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on the north to 85th Street on the south and from Paseo Boulevard on the west to Swope Parkway on the east. The project has also focused on providing safe transportation improvements for the surrounding community in Kansas City, Missouri, and beyond.

The Reconnecting the East Side project team, led by Kansas City, MO in partnership with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), has developed a comprehensive understanding of land use, green space, economic development, traffic safety, housing, public health, and other issues. Strategies have been identified to address the corridor's needs. A draft US-71 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study document has been developed and the revised draft will be shared with resource agencies, tribes, and the public for additional review and comment.

The study team is now seeking support from MARC regarding the study conclusions, including the alternative likely to be advanced from this effort—the "new parkway alternative."

More information about the project is available at https://reconnecteastside.com/. Detailed information, including presentations and meeting materials, supporting testimonials, considered alternatives, and other documentation, can be found at https://reconnecteastside.com/community-summit-4.

Once the review period is complete, the final PEL, a design alternatives memorandum, letters of support, and other information will be included with a motion to be filed by MoDOT to modify the federal consent decree that guides any future improvements to this corridor. This action is anticipated to occur in January or February 2027.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS
Improvements to this corridor are described in Connected KC 2050's Safety Improvements US-71/Bruce R. Watkins Dr. (CKC #46) plan. This project is also listed as a Priority 2 project in MoDOT's unfunded needs list.

EXHIBITS:
Kansas City, MO's request letter
Draft letter of support

COMMITTEE ACTION
TTPC and the MARC Board recommended including safety improvements across Bruce R. Watkins Drive in MoDOT's High-Priority Unfunded Road and Bridge Needs list in May 2026. TAC and TTPC were most recently briefed on the project in April, May and November of 2026.

The TAC reviewed and concurred with the planned alternative from study sponsors on November 4, 2026. TTPC is scheduled to review this request on November 17, 2026.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
While the project is located entirely within the City of Kansas City, Missouri, the PEL considers potential impacts to travel patterns beyond the study area.

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the submission of the attached letter of support to Kansas City, MO in favor of the new parkway alternate for US-71.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation & Environment
- Martin Rivarola, Transportation Planning Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 5a
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

Report: Review of example e-mobility ordinance for local jurisdictions.

BACKGROUND
The Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) partnered to host workshops for cities and other community partners in the region to develop model e-mobility policy. The initial convening in January 2026 highlighted the need for consistent policy throughout the region that improved safety and was easy for the public to understand. Representatives from local municipalities have provided feedback multiple times to shape the final version of model policy.

Highlights of e-mobility model policy include:

- Clear definitions that distinguish between e-bikes, electric motorbikes ("e-motos") and micromobility devices such as e-scooters.
- Specific regulations about where different devices can safely be operated.
- Helmet requirements for minors.
- Speed limits for sidewalks, bike lanes and trails.
- Due consideration rules such as yielding the right of way to pedestrians.
- Age restrictions for certain devices.
- One version of the policy for Kansas and another for Missouri, designed to be added to their existing model traffic ordinances.

A key goal of this model policy effort is that regulations on e-mobility devices will be consistent across the region. The policy text is available on the MARC website for local jurisdictions to adapt as needed: https://www.marc.org/transportation/plans-and-studies/e-mobility-devices-kansas-city-metro

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS
Public Health and Safety and Transportation Choices are key goals in the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Connected KC 2050. Safe Systems is a key strategy within the plan.

EHIBITS
Model E-Mobility Policy for Kansas
Model E-Mobility Policy for Missouri

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION
None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT

- Patrick Trouba, Transportation Planner

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 5b
Healthy Environment

VOTE: Approve the FY2027 Memorandum of Understanding totaling $821,450 with the Mid-America Regional Council Solid Waste Management District.

BACKGROUND
The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has provided administration, planning and financial services to the MARC Solid Waste Management District (SWMD) since its inception. Each year, MARC renews its Memorandum of Understanding with the District to implement the agreed upon work plan for the coming year. The District Board authorized the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding for 2027 at its November 18, 2026, meeting.

MARC serves as the fiscal agent for the district's allocation, interest income funds, and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program funds. MARC will manage special projects as approved by the district's executive board, such as regional education and regional solid waste planning, to utilize these funds. MARC also administers the district grant program and the HHW program.

Staff will provide an overview of the District's recent accomplishments and a preview of their upcoming work plan.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
The Memorandum of Understanding provides $821,449.50 from the annual allocation to compensate MARC for services provided to the district. The budget will support approximately 3.3 FTE MARC staff.

REVENUES	
Amount	$821,450
Source	MDNR Funds allocated to District

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	$542,605
Contractual	$153,000
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	$125,845

COMMITTEE ACTION
The MARC Solid Waste Management District Executive Committee will consider this MOU on November 18, 2026.

EXHIBITS
FY 2027 SWMD MOU

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts all Missouri counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the FY2027 Memorandum of Understanding with the Mid-America

Regional Council Solid Waste Management District.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Dianna Bryant, Solid Waste Program Manager
- Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment

November 2026
Item No. 6

REPORT: Executive Director's report

BACKGROUND
The executive director will share brief updates and upcoming events.

MARC MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL Executive Director's report November 2026

What we're working on

Kansas City Regional Purchasing Collaborative

The Local Government Services team is launching an assessment of our current purchasing program and will be engaging MARC members on their current and future procurement needs. This program supports cost-effective purchasing by leveraging existing contracts with vetted providers. If you are interested in learning more, please email marcinfo@marc.org

Kansas City Economic Outlook

Dr. Frank Lenk, MARC's Director of Economic Research, presented the regional economic forecast at a recent event for local officials and staff. While the economy will see continued regional growth over the next two years, led by the healthcare and construction industries, real wages appear to be stagnant and growth is slowing. To learn more about the forecast or learn how to use it as a tool for your jurisdictions planning, visit 2027 Economic Forecast or email marcinfo@marc.org.

Regional Wastewater dashboard

The regional wastewater monitoring dashboard RFP received 74 proposals. Consultant interviews are taking place, and final selection will be made before the December MARC Board meeting. This new dashboard will bring together existing wastewater monitoring data from Kansas and Missouri to create a regional view of respiratory illness prevalence for further analysis and possible prediction.

Regional Housing Fund launch

LISC Greater Kansas City, the Mid-America Regional Council and LISC Fund Management have launched a new regional housing fund to help address Greater Kansas City's shortage of nearly 69,000 affordable homes. With more than $25 million already committed by local financial and philanthropic partners, the fund aims to raise $100 million to support the development and preservation of up to 5,000 homes across Kansas and Missouri.

Kansas spotlight



Upcoming 2027 produce prescription program cohorts

The KC Fresh Rx program will be offering two six-month cohorts in January and May of the produce prescription program. The program is for Medicaid patients who have experienced food insecurity and who are coping with either diabetes and/or hypertension or are at risk for those conditions. The program provides nutrition education and a financial incentive for the participants to use to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables from participating grocery stores. *Note: participants must be referred by a physician to participate in this program.*

Missouri spotlight



Former Planning Sustainable Places project is awarded $72 million in US DOT funds

The Berkley Riverfront Connectivity Study was a project funded by the Planning Sustainable Places program for Port KC to reimagine transportation connections to the riverfront. Since this study was awarded, Port KC has received multiple grants through the Federal Railroad Administration's Railroad Crossing Elimination Program, including the most recent announcement of a $72 million grant aimed at improving safety, mobility and freight efficiency by removing dangerous at-grade rail crossings. Learn more on Port KC's website.

MARC MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL Executive Director's report November 2026

Upcoming events

Connect with the Mid-America Regional Council at these upcoming opportunities.

NOV. 26–27

MARC offices closed
The MARC offices will be closed Nov. 26 and 27.

DEC. 4

Deadline to comment on the Public Participation Plan
Members of the public are encouraged to review and comment on MARC's public participation plan that guides public involvement in MARC's transportation planning projects. You can access the plan on the MARC website: https://www.marc.org/public-participation-plan

Regional events

Please share with your networks

DEC. 2–3

Grant Management Workshop
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at KC Meal Link | 1218 Swift Avenue, North Kansas City, MO
Two-day training on managing government grants, covering records and documentation, allowable costs, internal controls, financial requirements, compliance and grant closeout.
Register here

DEC. 4

Resilient Success Stories
8:30 a.m. at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center | 4801 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO
Regional leaders and organizations will share climate-resilience successes, challenges they've overcome, and community benefits, followed by a Q&A panel.
Register here

DEC. 8

Solid Waste Management District 2026 Annual Luncheon and Awards
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center | 4801 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO
Join the annual luncheon and awards program to celebrate local leaders in solid waste.
Register here

DEC. 15

Short-Term Rental Policy Session: Post World Cup
2 p.m. at MARC offices | 801 Pennsylvania Ave, Kansas City, MO
A follow-up forum for cities to identify lessons learned from the World Cup and refocus on regional housing goals.
Register here

Staff corner

Welcome new staff

- **Andy Hanson** — Business Technology Analyst
- **Cassy Gellhaus** — Head Start Grant Accountant
- **Karen Juliana** — Head Start Grant Accountant

Celebrating service milestones

- **John Hwang,** IT System Analyst I – 22 years
- **Nordia Epps,** Media Planning Coordinator – 11 years

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7a

VOTE: Approve minutes of the October 27, 2026, Board meeting

BACKGROUND:
The minutes of the October 27, 2026, meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the minutes of the October 27, 2026, meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:
- Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director
- McKenzie Neds, Executive Assistant

N/A = Not Appointed MARC does not hold a Board of Directors meeting during the month of July

County	Board Member	State	Jurisdiction	Member/ Alternate	January	February	March	April	May	June	August	September	October	November	December
Cass County	Bob Huston	MO	Cass County	Member											
	VACANT	MO	Cass County	Alternate											
	Kristofer Turnbow	MO	Raymore	Member	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		
	VACANT		Cass County Municipality	Alternate											
Clay County	Jerry Nolte	MO	Clay County	Member	x		x	x	x			x			
	Scott Wagner	MO	Clay County	Alternate		x									
	Victor Hurlbert	MO	Clay County	Member	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			
	Jon Carpenter	MO	Clay County	Alternate											
	Damien Boley	MO	Smithville	Member	x		x	x	x			x			
	Randy Pogue	MO	Kearney	Alternate											
Jackson County	Phil LeVota	MO	Jackson County	Member		x	x	x							
	Jalen Anderson	MO	Jackson County	Alternate											
	DaRon McGee	MO	Jackson County	Member		x	x								
	Megan Smith	MO	Jackson County	Alternate											
	Mike McDonough	MO	Raytown	Member	x		x			x					
	Leonard Jones	MO	Grandview	Alternate	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		
	Kevin King	MO	Independence	Member	n/a	n/a	n/a					x			
	Jackie Dorman	MO	Independence	Alternate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	x	x	x	x	x		
	VACANT	MO	Independence	Member											
	VACANT		Independence	Alternate											
	Quinton Lucas	MO	Kansas City	Member											
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
	Eric Bunch	MO	Kansas City	Member		x	x		x	x	x				
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
	Johnathan Duncan	MO	Kansas City	Member	x			x	x	x	x				
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
	Nathan Willet	MO	Kansas City	Member											
	VACANT		Kansas City	Alternate											
	Beto Lopez	MO	Lee's Summit	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	Hillary Shields	MO	Lee's Summit	Alternate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a							
Johnson County	Mike Kelly	KS	Johnson County	Member								x			
	Julie Brewer	KS	Johnson County	Alternate	n/a		x		x	x	x	x			
	Janeé Hanzlick	KS	Johnson County	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	Becky Fast	KS	Johnson County	Alternate		x	x		x						
	Eric Mikkelson	KS	Prairie Village	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	Michael Poppa	KS	Roeland Park	Alternate											
	Rick Walker	KS	De Soto	Member			x	x		x	x	x	x		
	Mickey Sandifer	KS	Shawnee	Alternate		x		x	x	x	x	x			
	John Bacon	KS	Olathe	Member	x	x									
	Jeff Creighton	KS	Olathe	Alternate	n/a	n/a	x	x		x	x	x	x		
	Curt Skoog	KS	Overland Park	Member		x					x	x	x		
	Logan Heley	KS	Overland Park	Alternate	x	x	x		x	x	x		x		
	Holly Grummert	KS	Overland Park	Member	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		
	Inas Younis	KS	Overland Park	Alternate			x	x	x	x		x	x		

County	Board Member	State	Jurisdiction	Member/ Alternate	January	February	March	April	May	June	August	September	October	November	December
Leavenworth County	Mike Stieben	KS	Leavenworth County	Member	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		
	Willie Dove	KS	Leavenworth County	Alternate											
	Jeff Culbertson	KS	Leavenworth County	Member											
	VACANT		Leavenworth County	Alternate											
Miami County	George Pretz	KS	Miami County	Member											
	Tyler Vaughan	KS	Miami County	Alternate		x									
Platte County	Scott Fricker	MO	Platte County	Member	x										
	Allyson Berberich	MO	Platte County	Alternate		x				x	x		x		
	Chris Wright	MO	Platte County	Member											
	VACANT		Platte County	Alternate											
Ray County	Sheila Tracy	MO	Ray County	Member	x	x			x				x		
	Max Hockemeier	MO	Ray County	Alternate				x							
Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Christal Watson	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member	x	x	x	x	x	x		x			
	VACANT		Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate											
	Christian Ramirez	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member	x				x						
	VACANT		Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate											
	Dr. Evelyn Hill	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member	x	x	x	x	x			x			
	VACANT		Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate											
	Jermaine Howard	KS	Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Member	n/a	x		x	x	x					
	VACANT		Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City	Alternate											
	Garrett Mellott	KS	Edwardsville	Member	n/a	x	x		x						
	Tom Stephens	KS	Bonner Springs	Alternate	x										
Non Voting Transportation Representatives	VACANT		KCATA	Member											
	VACANT		KCATA	Alternate											
	Michael Moriarty	KS	KDOT	Member											
	VACANT	KS	KDOT	Alternate											
	Greg Bolon	MO	MoDOT	Member								x	x		
	Jeff Hardy	MO	MoDOT	Alternate							x				

MARC Board of Directors Meeting Summary

October 27, 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 – Treasurer
Mayor Rick Walker, De Soto, KS – Secretary
Commissioner Allyson Berberich, Platte County, MO
Greg Bolon, MoDOT
Council member Jeff Creighton, Olathe, KS
Council member Jackie Dorman, Independence, MO
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS
Councilmember Logan Heley, Overland Park, KS
Mayor Leonard Jones, Grandview, MO
Mayor Curt Skoog, Overland Park, KS
Commissioner Mike Stieben, Leavenworth County, KS
Commissioner Shelia Tracy, Ray County, MO
Mayor Kris Turnbow, Raymore, MO
Council member Inas Younis, Overland Park, KS

STAFF PRESENT

Executive Director Geraldine Gardner and other MARC staff

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Erin Winn, Chief of Staff, Johnson County, KS

AGENDA

Item 1 Introductions and board sharing time
Mayor Beto Lopez called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.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 REPORT: Updates regarding local planning for sustained public investment in early childhood through Connecting the P.I.E.C.E.S.

Dr. Toni Sturdivant, Director of Early Learning and Head Start, updated the Board on planning for a local, sustainable funding and governance model for early childhood in the region, following up on the conversation that began in August. The project is now in Phase 2: direction and strategy. In this phase, stakeholder interviews have been completed and a governance and funding framework is being developed. After consensus is reached, Dr. Sturdivant will bring a recommendation on MARC's potential role to the Board for a vote in Phase 3. The Board affirmed the proposed vision: *a region where every family can find and afford high-quality care for children from birth to five, providers have the resources and*

talent to thrive, and sustainable investment strengthens families, employers, and the regional economy.

Dr. Sturdivant proposed using existing infrastructure because Kansas and Missouri already use the same payment platform, which takes in payments and pays out funds to child care providers. Missouri public funds already flow through it, and Kansas employer, private, and family funds do too. Adding regional philanthropic and local funding could flow through the same platform. Missouri uses the same model plus state funding. For governance, a regional organization would administer the program as a one-stop shop for providers and families and a regional advisory group would guide it and hold it accountable. Opportunities for additional Board engagement include registering for the November summit, serving on a business and civic leadership council that will emerge from it, and acting as "information champions" in their communities to avoid duplicated efforts.

In response to a question from Mayor Walker, she clarified that Kansas payments are employer and family contributions, supported by state tax credits for employers.

Item 3a REPORT: Regional data center engagement.

Amanda Graor, Director of Data and Digital Services, briefed the Board on an upcoming regional deliberative polling engagement on data centers, run by Stanford's Deliberative Democracy Lab. MARC and the City of Kansas City, Missouri helped expand it from a single-city process to a regional one. MARC is not designing, contracting for, or funding it, but its participation lets MARC help shape the questions and the participant panel. Participants are recruited by a third-party polling firm and polled before and after briefing materials, small-group deliberation, and an expert plenary session. The session is a compensated, roughly four-hour online event proposed for December 5, with briefing materials finalized in late November and results expected in late December or early January. Board members can still help assemble the expert panel and review the briefing materials by contacting Amanda.

Ashley Hand followed Amanda Graor's presentation by asking members what support they need from MARC on data centers. She noted that Amanda's work helps inform the region on public opinion, and that a related event covers national best practices and how they apply in Kansas City. She highlighted what MARC can offer local governments: training and general awareness, events such as the Regional Innovation Forum, and Government Training Institute offerings. MARC can also provide technical support on policy, local data, and pre-development capacity.

Mayor Rick Walker asked whether MARC has a utility group. He proposed independent regional verification of what utility providers say about their capacity to power new industry. Ashley Hand said MARC does not currently offer this and will look into it.

Commissioner Sheila Tracy said smaller, rural counties need general awareness and training. She said local Q&A sessions have not always drawn on people who truly understand the issue.

Commissioner Allyson Berberich agreed. She suggested a forum, pamphlet, or landing page where residents can read the pros and cons, and have facts.

Commissioner Mike Stieben raised concerns about electricity demand and its effect on the Southwest Power Pool and the Evergy network. He asked where regional guidance is on how many hyperscale data centers are sustainable. He also said Evergy's process for prioritizing projects is not transparent. Commissioner Tracy agreed that the region lacks a true picture of how many data centers exist or are planned.

Councilmember Jackie Dorman cautioned that data centers are signing NDAs with utility companies. She said communities need to get ahead of this and that there should be a rule against NDAs on power serving residents.

Commissioner Stieben asked who funds the Stanford Deliberative Democracy Lab. Amanda Graor said it is funded through a mix of private and public funds at Stanford, and no regional funds are involved. She will look into whether any big tech company contributes.

In response to Mayor Lopez, Graor said the panel is not yet assembled. It will likely include a utility and a builder, sourced locally where possible, and she is open to suggestions. Lopez suggested local general contractors and trade organizations.

Item 4a REPORT: Board discussion to guide MARC's approach to intergovernmental relations, including legislative agendas, priorities and processes.

Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, discussed MARC's approach to intergovernmental relations, defined as the coordinated management of governmental relationships, policy intelligence, communications and targeted action across federal and state executive and legislative levels. She presented guiding principles: bi-partisan, non-partisan and evidence-based engagement, targeted and realistic agendas, and clear Board direction. Member benefits would come from relationship building, neutral policy intelligence, and coordinated expertise and advocacy. Leadership survey findings showed that MARC has strong departmental expertise and established legislative priorities. However, engagement is often reactive and coordination is episodic. Staff most often asked for support with influencing policy and funding, relationship development and coordinated advocacy. All respondents prioritized educating policymakers about MARC.

Staff proposed building a year-round, relationship-centered IGR program that enhances current strengths and focuses on Board-authorized advocacy. Next steps are to map stakeholder relationships, shape an engagement strategy, and develop prioritized Kansas, Missouri and federal action plans. These plans would come to the Board for discussion in November and approval in December. Board members were invited to give feedback on their IGR goals, the proposed next steps, any cautions, and whether to form a Board committee.

Mayor Eric Mikkelson cautioned that MARC's earned reputation as bipartisan and nonpartisan could be put at risk by engaging at this level, but said the work is increasingly important and should be balanced and proactive. He said local control is being eroded in both Kansas and Missouri. He noted that other organizations, such as the League of Kansas Municipalities, mostly represent areas outside the Kansas City region. He suggested the region lacks a unified voice in Topeka, Jefferson City, and DC.

Commissioner Sheila Tracy stressed the importance of educating people in the region about MARC's role.

Commissioner Mike Stieben said rural counties need to understand MARC's value, such as 911 service and project and grant funding. A lack of understanding can erode support for MARC when budgets are set.

Commissioner Janee Hanzlick said MARC's voice and expertise are needed at the state and federal levels. She said the non-partisan effort and relationship building will help legislators make data-based decisions.

Item 5 Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Gardner pointed the board to the one pager in front of them for more information that is going on at MARC.

Item 6 VOTE: Approve consent agenda items.

a. VOTE: Approve minutes of the September 22, 2026, board meeting
b. VOTE: Authorize $250,000 contract with Iteris, Inc. for ClearGuide, a roadway and traffic signal analytics platform to support the regional Operation Greenlight program.
c. VOTE: Approve FFY25-26 FTA Section 5310 Project Funding Recommendations.
d. VOTE: Approve 2026 Functional Classification System change requests
e. VOTE: Approve 2026 4th quarter amendment to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program
f. VOTE: Authorize receipt of $200,000 subaward from LISC Greater Kansas City to support work on the Greater Kansas City Regional Housing Partnership.
g. VOTE: Approve $180,000 application to Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Community Health Worker Rural Workforce Leadership and Advancement request for proposals
h. VOTE: Approve $2,637,500 application to the America's Healthy Food Financing Initiative: Local and Regional Healthy Food Financing Partnerships Program for capacity building funds.
i. VOTE: Authorize a $64,980 contract with Carl Abraham to complete regional emergency services assessment and outreach work.
j. VOTE: Authorize acceptance and administration of Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness subgrant funds totaling $146,555 for FY 2026–2027 planning, training, and exercise activities.
k. VOTE: Authorize a $155,000 subrecipient agreement with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for the hospital preparedness program.
l. VOTE: Approve the purchase of 20 Digi Connect EZ 32 serial-to-IP converters from Digi-Key totaling $67,082.40 to support the GeoComm Maps component of the VESTA 9-1-1 Host upgrade.
m. VOTE: Authorize a 10-year contract with Sparkrock for a new enterprise resource planning system.

Mayor Lopez indicated that the board would vote on all items on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Hanzlick moved to approve the consent agenda and Councilmember Grummert seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez then asked whether any member wished to abstain from or object to any agenda item.

The motion passed.

Item 7 Other Business

There was no other business.

Item 8 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

NEXT/UPCOMING MEETING

Tuesday, November 24, 2026 | MARC Offices 801 Pennsylvania Ave. Ste 400, Kansas City, MO 64105

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7b
Healthy Environment

VOTE: Authorize contracts with the remaining 17 nonprofit organizations to implement the US Department of Energy's Renew America's Nonprofits Grant Program.

BACKGROUND:
In May 2024, the Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation (MARC CSC) Board authorized acceptance of a grant from the US Department of Energy, Renew America's Nonprofits, in the amount of $4,734,755. The grant was matched with $1.5 million in private funds from four area foundations.

In June 2026, the MARC Budget and Personnel Committee and MARC Board heard a report on the status of the US Department of Energy Renew America's Nonprofits grant program and authorized agreements with the first 11 nonprofit organizations for energy improvements to their buildings.

MARC has submitted the remaining 17 nonprofit buildings to DOE to proceed with improvements. The improvements include HVAC replacements and controls, LED lighting, building envelope sealing and other repairs.

Organization	**Improvement**	**Dollar Estimate**
Blue Hills Community Dev.	LED lighting, HVAC, duct sealing, and weatherization	$85,000
Center for Developmentally Disabled	LED lighting, roof replacement & insulation	$200,000
Community Services League	LED lighting, HVAC replacement, refrig/freezer	$200,000
Cross-Lines Cooperative Outreach	HVAC replacement, LED lighting	$110,000
Don Bosco Center	Door, ductwork insulation, HVAC	$120,000
El Centro	HVAC controls, aerosol, lighting, roof insulation, windows, doors	$200,000
Footprints	Weatherization, HVAC, windows	$75,000
Full Employment Council	HVAC replacement, LED lighting	$200,000
Habitat for Humanity	HVAC, LED lighting, garage door replacement, ductwork	$85,000
Healing House	HVAC, lighting, ductwork, windows	$85,000
Independence Avenue Christian Church	Windows, LED lighting, ductwork, insulation	$200,000
Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council	LED lighting, ductwork, HVAC	$90,000
Rediscover	HVAC, roof replacement, insulation	$175,000
Safe Home	LED lighting, HVAC replacement, controls, water heater	$200,000
Shawnee Mission Unitarian Church	LED lighting, electrical panel, HVAC upgrades	$175,000
Vernon Multipurpose Center	Windows	$100,000

Vineyard Neighborhood Assoc.	HVAC, lighting, ductwork, window solar film	$75,000

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

REVENUES	
Amount 3-Year Grant Awarded to MARC CSC DOE Federal Funds Local foundations	 $4,734,755 $1,500,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, indirect) Office rent	$867,066 30,500
Contractual	$924,591
Pass-Through 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.	Nonprofit organizations: $4,395,806
Other (supplies, mileage, stipends)	$16,792

RECOMMENDATION:
Authorize MARC and MARC CSC to execute agreements with the 17 nonprofit organizations listed above.

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7c
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

VOTE: Approve proposal submission not to exceed $250,000 to the Jackson County Senior Fund for the first round of community grants that will support older adults in Jackson County.

BACKGROUND
The Jackson County Senior Levy was passed in 2024 and will be issuing its first funding cycle. All revenues generated by the levy remain in Jackson County and are used exclusively for programs that benefit adults aged 60 and older. A seven-member Board of Directors oversees the fund, including stewardship of revenues and administration of grants.

The Jackson County Senior Fund (JCSF) has opened its first round of community grants and anticipates awarding up to $6 million to support projects and programs benefiting older adults in Jackson County based on the five priority areas below:

- Food insecurity
- Caregiver support
- Social isolation
- Home modifications and falls prevention
- Transportation

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
MARC's Area Agency on Aging submitted a proposal to support the Age of Celebration services fair, Give 5 volunteer match program, and care management staff.

REVENUES	
Amount	Not to exceed $250,000
Source	Jackson County Senior Levy Fund

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

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts Jackson County, MO

RECOMMENDATION
Approve MARC's submission of a Jackson County Senior Fund proposal and acceptance of funding if awarded.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Bethany Reyna, Program Director, Aging and Adult Services
- Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Department Director, Aging and Adult Services

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7d
Quality Early Learning

VOTE: Approve Head Start site enrollment changes for the 2026-2027 program year.

BACKGROUND
In January 2026 Lee's Summit School District notified MARC Head Start that they would like to move to full day services for Head Start Preschool children from part day services which would result in a decrease of 19 enrollment slots. 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.

On August 6, 2026, the Office of Head Start issued Information Memorandum ACF-OHS-IM-26-01, which provided updates to the requirements for enrollment reduction. MARC Head Start submitted a request for a change in scope to accommodate for the Lee's Summit program's decrease but the request was returned by the Office of Head Start for further consideration. MARC was given 45 days to either resubmit the change in scope request or determine whether the overall Head Start program could maintain the 19 enrollment slots by identifying alternative funding sources within the existing budget.

After reviewing available resources, MARC staff and partners successfully identified sufficient funding within the program budget to continue supporting the 19 slots. This funding became effective on November 1, 2026, allowing the program to maintain services without implementing the proposed enrollment reduction.

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

- Increase 7 slots at Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center.
- Increase 12 slots at the Grandview School District location

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
Grandview SD (Tier 1)	$ 558,615	$653,149	$94,534
Emmanuel (Tier 2)	$ 750,357	$811,167	$60,810

COMMITTEE ACTION
Head Start Policy Council approved the item on November 9, 2026. Head Start Advisory Committee approved the item on November 10, 2026.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts Jackson County, MO

RECOMMENDATION

Approve MARC Head Start's contract amendments and enrollment changes for Head Start preschool programming for the 2026-2027 program year and approve proposed contract changes.

STAFF CONTACTS

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7e
Quality Early Learning

VOTE: Approve action items of Head start advisory committee

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

- Election of Advisory Committee Chair
- Approval of September 2026 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Enrollment Changes

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
None

EXHIBIT
Head Start Advisory Committee November actions

COMMITTEE ACTION
The Head Start Advisory Committee considered this information at its November 10th meeting and recommended MARC Board approval.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts Clay, Jackson and Platte counties.

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the actions taken at the November 10th Head Start Advisory Committee meeting.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7f
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

VOTE: Approve 2027 Unified Planning Work Program.

BACKGROUND
The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) 1) describes the transportation planning activities MARC and other agencies will undertake during the year; 2) documents the proposed expenditures of federal, state and local funds in support of applications for various planning grants; and 3) provides a management tool for MARC and the funding agencies in scheduling major transportation planning activities, milestones and products. A draft of the 2027 UPWP is available at: https://www.marc.org/transportation/plans-and-studies/unified-planning-work-program

Major Transportation Planning Initiatives proposed for 2027 include:

- Respond to planning provisions in the IIJA – Tasks 1.1, 2.2, 3.5, 3.6, 4.1, and 5.10
- Suballocated federal funds programming – Task 4.1
- Development of the 2028-2032 Transportation Improvement Program - Task 4.1
- Economic, Demographic and Travel Demand Forecasting – Tasks 2.1 and 3.1
- Performance Measures and Targets – Tasks 2.2, 3.6, and 4.1
- Regional Active Transportation Planning – Tasks 3.4 and 3.5
- Regional Transportation Safety Planning - Task 3.7
- Completion of the Housing and Transportation Coordination Study – Task 5.10
- Completion of the regional Activity-Based Travel Demand model– Task 3.1
- Completion of the 2026 Travel Patterns After Action Assessment – Task 5.11
- Completion of the Natural Hazard Transportation Risk Assessment Phase 2 – Task 5.12
- Metrogreen Network Assessment – Task 5.13
- Smart Moves KC Rail Planning Baseline Study – Task 5.14

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

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
The Draft 2027 UPWP has been developed based on funding levels resulting from the passage of IIJA and the 2020 Census counts for urbanized area populations in Kansas and Missouri.

EXHIBITS
FY 2027 Draft Unified Planning Work Program

COMMITTEE ACTION
MARC hosted a virtual meeting on June 11, 2026, with its planning partners to coordinate development of the 2027 UPWP. An initial version of the 2027 UPWP was circulated among the planning partners for comment in September 2026. The Total Transportation Policy Committee took action on this item at their November 17, 2026 meeting.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Marc Hansen, Transportation Programs Manager

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7g
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

VOTE: Approve 2026 Special Amendment #4 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program

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

The proposed 2026 Special Amendment #4 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program includes 7 projects:

- 3 new projects to be added:
  - #165024 – Leavenworth County – 235th St Improvements – Final Phase
  - #725033 – Belton – Markey Parkway Phase 3
  - #970131 – MARC – I-29 Corridor Improvement Project
- 4 existing projects with modifications to the scope, schedule, or budget

Details of these projects are available for review on the Internet at: www.marc.org/TIP.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS
MARC's Public Involvement Plan requires that amendments to the TIP be released for public review and comment prior to adoption. No comments from the public were received.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
None.

COMMITTEE ACTION
The Missouri Programming Committee approved the scope modifications for TIP #420010, #611207, #611208, and #634085 at their meeting on October 13, 2026. The Total Transportation Policy Committee took action on this item at their November 17, 2026 meeting.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the 2026 Special Amendment #4 to the 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.

STAFF CONTACT
- Marc Hansen, Transportation Programs Manager

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7h
Safe and Secure Communities

VOTE: Approval of agreement extensions with GeoComm Maps and GIS Data Hub to enhance mapping accuracy and next generation 911 support.

BACKGROUND
MARC utilizes GeoComm Maps and GIS Data Hub subscription services to support accurate and reliable 911 mapping throughout its 11-county service area. GeoComm Maps provides telecommunicators with geographic information to identify caller locations and support emergency response, while GIS Data Hub supports the validation, maintenance and integration of regional mapping data. Together, these services enhance mapping accuracy and support Next Generation 911 (NG911) capabilities.

Staff propose extending both agreements, so they share a December 31, 2030, expiration date. The GeoComm Maps agreement is scheduled to run through December 31, 2028; its proposed addendum adds calendar years 2029 and 2030. The GIS Data Hub agreement currently runs through July 31, 2028. This modification would extend that subscription from August 1, 2028, through December 31, 2030. The existing scope, deliverables, and service obligations would remain unchanged.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS
The extensions support continued regional coordination of 911 mapping and GIS data services. Aligning the contract end dates also provides a consistent timeframe for managing the related services and future renewal planning.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS
The proposed additional contractual cost is $615,556.15 across the two extensions. GeoComm Maps would remain at $253,754.40 per year for 2029 and 2030 $507,508.80 total. GIS Data Hub Addendum 1 adds $108,047.35, payable in three installments:

- $43,436.12 on August 1, 2028
- $45,607.93 on August 1, 2029
- $19,003.30 on August 1, 2030

The existing GIS Data Hub contract terms and charges through July 31, 2028, are unchanged.

REVENUES	
Amount	$615,556.15
Source	911 Allocation Budget (GIS Maintenance)

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	$615,556.15

COMMITTEE ACTION
The Public Safety Communications Board approved the use of 911 Allocation – GIS Maintenance funds for network resiliency and infrastructure improvements consistent with this project at the November 19, 2025, meeting.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS
This item supports the MARC regional 911 system and benefits all participating jurisdictions.

RECOMMENDATION
Approve the extensions of the GeoComm Maps and GIS Data Hub agreements through December 31, 2030.

STAFF CONTACTS
- Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Communications Program Director
- Saralyn Hayes, Public Safety Data & GIS Manager

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7i
Safe and Secure Communities

VOTE: Authorize the purchase of Layer 3 routing switch hardware from SHI for regional 911 sites.

BACKGROUND:
The MARC 911 system is a complex network of hardware devices that require regular monitoring and maintenance to ensure peak performance. The MARC public safety technical team plans for ongoing hardware refreshes on a rotating basis. This approach replaces aging equipment with current models to address capacity and performance needs. Because network hardware components have a limited lifespan, this planned replacement schedule helps reduce failure rates and minimize potential downtime of the critical 911 system.

As part of the procurement process, staff obtained three quotes and SHI's proposal was approximately 25% lower than the other vendors. The network hardware refresh includes 30 routing switch units with dual power supplies and five years of support, at a total cost of $155,049.90.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:
The SHI quote of $155,049.90 includes 30 switch units, associated dual power supplies and five years of support. Funding for this planned hardware refresh was included in the 2025 911 Allocation Budget/Capital Projects.

REVENUES	
Amount	$155,049.90
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Capital Projects)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	$155,049.90

COMMITTEE ACTION:
This work is a typical expense anticipated in the 911 system capital projects budget, which was approved as part of the 2026 budget by the Public Safety Communication Board on November 19, 2025.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:
This item supports the MARC regional 911 system and benefits all participating jurisdictions.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the purchase of 30 routing switches and dual power supplies from SHI to support the planned hardware refresh project in the amount of $155,049.90.

STAFF CONTACT:
- Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Communications Program Director
- Hassan Al-Rubaie, Public Safety Technical Services Director

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7j
Healthy Environment

VOTE: Authorize $300,000 subrecipient agreement with Wichita State University to monitor indoor air quality for childcare facilities.

BACKGROUND

Childcare providers are responsible for the quality of air in occupied rooms but rarely have the engineering staff, building automation systems, or resources to determine which operational action will improve it. A low-cost monitor may identify elevated carbon dioxide (CO_2) or fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$), yet does not explain whether the appropriate response is to increase outdoor air, control an indoor source, operate a portable air purifier, or combine measures. The problem is acute in both center-based childcare and home-based daycare, where equipment, building configurations, and the authority to change HVAC operation vary widely. In addition, outdoor smoke and particle pollution create a recurring conflict: increasing outdoor-air ventilation can lower CO_2 while introducing $PM_{2.5}$.

Researchers from Wichita State University (WSU) have invited MARC to serve as a strategic partner in their application to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for funding to research and support indoor air quality improvements in center-based childcare and home-based daycare facilities in the bi-state Kansas City metropolitan area.

If the proposal is selected for funding, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) intends to collaborate as a subrecipient with WSU and its Environmental Finance Center (EFC) over the three-year project. MARC will contribute childcare-sector knowledge, provider relationships, and regional outreach capacity to connect indoor air quality research with practical childcare operations.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- MARC will assist recruitment toward the goal of 40 Kansas City-area childcare centers and family childcare homes through its provider networks, individual outreach, mailed materials, newsletters, and social media. MARC will advise EFC on provider-appropriate language, messaging, and outreach methods. Staff will participate in initial site visits with WSU to discuss facility needs and monitoring procedures and, following training, conduct visits and assist monitoring-system setup with WSU technical support as needed. MARC will help develop provider training and survey activities and review the project evaluation plan.
- MARC will maintain communication with participating providers, reinforce indoor air quality education, support retention, and assist additional recruitment if needed. Staff will help communicate intervention procedures and gather provider feedback on feasibility and implementation barriers. MARC will encourage completion of project evaluations to inform refinement of the tool and its supporting resources.
- MARC will promote the tool through regular provider visits, newsletters, and existing communication networks; distribute implementation and training materials; and encourage completion of project evaluations. MARC anticipates participating with the project team in one to two conferences in Kansas or nearby states.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

REVENUES	
Amount	$300,000
Source	National Science Foundation Grant

PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	$289,200
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	$1,800

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the executive director to sign a subrecipient agreement with WSU to provide complementary services for their National Science Foundation Grant and to accept funds if awarded.

STAFF CONTACTS

Provide name(s) in a bulleted list.

- Doug Norsby, Senior Environmental Planner
- Karen Clawson, Air and Mobility Programs Manager
- Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment
- Dr. Toni Sturdivant, Director of Early Learning

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

November 2026
Item No. 7k
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

VOTE: Authorize transfer of 2026 USDOT BUILD grant totaling $9,055,200 to the Missouri Department of Transportation to lead studies for the I-29 interstate corridor.

BACKGROUND

In April 2022, the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), in partnership with the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), began the I-29, I-35, and U.S. 169 PEL Study1. The study was to identify the purpose and need for improvements with the study areas for I-29, I-35, and US-169 and determine possible viable alternatives for a long-term solution and recommendations that can be carried forward seamlessly into National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies. In 2025, the Missouri Legislature appropriated $30 million of general revenues to advance the recommendations of this study.

In February of 2026, MARC successfully applied for USDOT BUILD program planning funds on behalf of MoDOT and the City of Kansas City, Missouri, to prepare preliminary and final design, benefit-cost analysis, and NEPA clearance to accelerate the development of two critical interchanges along the Kansas City region's vital I-29 interstate corridor. The application was awarded $9,055,200 in BUILD program funding and will focus on NEPA clearance and design for the project.

Since receiving notice of the award, MARC and MoDOT staff have determined that MoDOT is best suited to lead in the design, engineering and environmental studies necessary to prepare this project for implementation.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

This project is included in the Connected KC 2050 metropolitan transportation plan as well as MARC's approved list of unfunded needs on MoDOT's system.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS

This item directly impacts communities in Clay and Platte counties in Missouri.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the transfer of the USDOT 2026 BUILD Grant for the I-29 Corridor Improvement Project to the Missouri Department of Transportation.

STAFF CONTACTS

- Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation & Environment