

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

SCOTAC

April 19, 2022

The following are the TAC members present ("X"):

<i>Commissioners</i>		<i>Appointed TAC Members 1</i>		<i>Appointed TAC Members 2</i>
_____ Lance Stillings	X	_____ Suzanne Welsh	_____	<i>Vacant</i>
_____ Mark Collins, <i>Vice Chairman</i>	_____	_____ Beverly Hicks	X	_____ Brian Mitchell
_____ Terry Cline	_____	_____ Jason Kemper	_____	_____ Bill Hobbs
X John Turner, <i>Secretary</i>	_____	<i>Vacant</i>	_____	<i>Vacant</i>
X Jeff Cowen, <i>Chairman</i>	X	_____ Herman Kelly	X	_____ David Trotter
X Scott Long	X	_____ Ron Scheets	X	_____ Keith Cantrell
X Zachary Williams	X	_____ Randy Pamperien	X	_____ Tim Schook

SCOCOG staff present:

Angie Ball	-	Communications and Marketing Coordinator
Trent Courtney	-	Planning and Development Manager
Cody Dalton	-	Executive Director
Sarah Callahan	-	Community Development Specialist

MoDOT:

Joe Killian
Michael Brandon (via Zoom)
Mark Croarkin (via Zoom)
Chris Rutledge

Visitors:

Shannon Jordan	-	City of Houston
Tommy Kingery	-	Wright County Associate Commissioner
Scott Avery	-	City of Houston
David Stubblefield	-	Oregon County Presiding Commissioner
John Casey	-	Texas County Associate Commissioner
Brad Loveless	-	Douglas County Associate Commissioner
Dick Salgado	-	Ava Chamber of Commerce

Per Lance Stillings, Brad Loveless will be voting in his place, (per bylaws Article 4, Section 4.6).

Jeff Cowen called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. An introduction of guests and members were made at this time.

Motion to approve the August 17, 2021 minutes was made by Ron Scheets and seconded by Keith Cantrell. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business

None at this time.

New Business

Southeast District Projects and Happenings – *MoDOT Reps.*

Chris said that summer work is coming up, and 181 in Cabool is coming along. There is overlay work being done in the region. He urged everyone to please use caution with workers and if there are any concerns to call him or Elquin.

Joe said that the draft STIP will be released next month for comment. There are more projects on this STIP than in the recent past. He added that the November and December projects were included and those will get underway this summer. Next month, ADA project work will begin and there will be work zone updates. Regarding the cost share program, they need the applications two weeks before the deadline. Chris added that they try to get this step out mid spring. There is a lot more work this year and it is the largest five-year STIP in a while. The gas tax passed but it is still in limbo what will happen with the funding. This STIP will be available mid-May to the public. Trent asked a question about the tiers and what projects made it in. Mark said that it is still early and there are not a lot of expansion projects around the state. Michael Brandon said that tier one projects are in the draft STIP. They were able to get the Mountain Grove/95 project in, barring any negative impacts to funding. He added that the 181 Cabool/Texas County project was funded. Mark added that the repeal of Senate bill 262 would affect funding, but it is not likely. He said that if a six-month fuel tax holiday was held in Missouri, there would be a \$3.8 million impact. Chris said that regarding projects there are three ways that MODOT comes up with those. The first is the tiered list, the second is the asset management plan, and the third is safety data. He encouraged those present to continue their involvement with the TAC. Trent and Cody added that safety shoulders and rumble strips on Route 14 was on the list for several years it just got pushed off through the years. Trent added that this needs to be added to the list but wasn't sure if a vote was necessary. Zach asked about an estimate, Chris said he could get that, but didn't know if it would affect the draft STIP numbers. Mark added that this would probably be in the next STIP. Trent added that we can vote on this in August and Chris will get the final numbers.

John Turner asked about the federal infrastructure program overseen by the highway program. LPA training is required with this. Joe added that the call for projects will be coming in the next few months. John asked what projects we can use funds for and Chris added that MoDOT is in limbo on that as well.

Cody said that Congress passed the bipartisan infrastructure law and a lot of information can be found online about that.

Update TAC board Members

Trent said that regarding the existing board, there are three vacancies, and some that need to be removed. The TAC needs participation with projects coming up. Trent outlined the vacancies and who needs to be replaced. He added that he would follow up before the next Tac meeting with members. He will also send out the current roster, and the new roster will be adopted at the June meeting.

TAC Meeting Schedule

Trent said that he would like to set four meetings per year, in February, April, June, and in August in line with the Executive Board meetings

Grant Opportunities

Trent discussed the CDBG mitigation funding. He said that we applied for six mitigation grants. We would like to get a larger chunk of funding next time. He then discussed the MID money available and added that West plains and Howell County are inside the MID. In June, the application process will start. This time there will be more funds to pay for the preliminary engineering report. He said that in January to March 2023 applications will begin for infrastructure grants and that he would just like to get the word out and discuss projects.

Sarah talked about the CDBG regular cycle applications and the ARPA funds. She discussed the CDBG grant timeline and qualifications necessary to apply. She added that it is good to be ahead of the cycle opening and that most grants are \$500,000 maximum. Regarding the ARPA funds, she said that the state is developing guidelines now. There are several categories and those guidelines are being developed as well. These funds will be used to address the impacts of COVID. The application cycle opens July 1, then is staggered. These funds have to be spent by 2026. Regarding the rails to trails project, this would cover 54 miles of abandoned railway between West plains and Van Buren. This is potentially a large project if funds would be received. Trent added that this would be similar to the Katy trail project and the goal is to identify property owners and to get a feasibility study and preliminary engineering report. Public meetings would be held and entities would work together to pursue the project.

Open Discussion

Scott asked about the 63-expansion money. Sarah then discussed the project development process Scott also asked how to use the infrastructure bill money to expand 63 Highway. Trent said that an application can be submitted and eligibility would be determined through the project development process. There would be a high cost for the environmental review, however. Cody said that the first approach would be to discuss who makes the decisions regarding the project. He also said that on May 3, SCOCOG will host a Highway 63 discussion at 10:00 AM

The next TAC meeting will be held **June 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:53 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Angie Ball
Communications and Marketing
Coordinator

Reviewed for Content,

John Turner
TAC Secretary