

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

SCOTAC

December 15, 2020

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		_____ Lawson Curtis
_____ Mark Collins, Secretary		_____ Beverly Hicks	X	_____ Tom Stehn, Chairman
_____ Jon Hollis		_____ Jason Kemper		_____ Bill Hobbs
X _____ John Turner		_____ Greg Donley		_____ Shane Ledbetter
X _____ Jeff Cowen, Vice Chairman		_____ Herman Kelly		_____ David Trotter
X _____ Scott Long	X	_____ Ron Scheets		_____ Keith Cantrell
X _____ Zachary Williams		_____ Randy Pamperien	X	_____ Tim Schook

SCOCOG staff present:

Angie Ball	-	Administrative Assistant
Trent Courtney	-	Disaster Recovery Planner
Cody Dalton	-	Executive Director

MoDOT via conference call:

Elquin Auala
Chris Crocker
Heather Ledbetter

Visitors:

Layne Nance	-	Ozark County
Emily Gibson	-	City of West Plains
Brian Mitchell	-	City of West Plains
Will Wheeler	-	Senator Blunt’s Office

Tom Stehn called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM. An introduction of guests and members were made at this time.

Motion to approve the August 18, 2020 minutes was made by Tim Schook and seconded by Zach Williams. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Program: Jon Nelson “Traffic Safety presentation”

Jon presented information on the new Show-Me ZERO plan. He said that there have been 929 fatalities to date in Missouri. That is up 89 from this same time last year. There has also been a lower percentage of seat belts used as well. He added that this type of plan is updated every four to five years. There have been 8,505 killed in Missouri traffic crashes in the last ten years. There was a reduction between 2005-2013, and a spike in 2016. There was a 5% reduction last year. The goal of the Show-Me ZERO plan is to change the culture in Missouri, and to cut fatalities in Missouri. Other goals of the new plan are to shorten the plan, narrow

the focus, engage all Missourians, and enhance the online presence. There are four emphasis areas; occupant protection, distracted driving, speed and aggressive driving, and impaired driving. The plan is 44 pages and is available at www.savemolives.com. There is also an informational video, and hard copies of the plan are available upon request. Cody asked about the deaths driven by non-motor victims. Jon said that 2019 compared to 2010, pedestrian and bicyclist deaths have gone up by 95%. Cody asked if the focus should be getting them separated from the roadway. Jon said that this has been seen more in the metro and European areas. The challenge is the rural areas where roadways are already established, and that separation would help along with changing speeds. The group thanked Jon for his presentation. He will be mailing hard copies of the plan to the SCOCOG Office for those who are interested.

Old Business

Prioritization List Discussion

Trent said that at the last TAC meeting in August the \$6.3 million Governor's Bridge Program was discussed. A vote was made and changed the St. Louis Street project and added that to the Bridge program. MoDOT has some concerns about this project and so does the City of West Plains. Trent said that a list still has to be prepared, though some projects might not get funded. Cody added that the state legislature allocated money to the Governor's Bridge Program. A chunk of the bridges were already in the STIP. Bridges were pulled into the Governor's Bridge Program, leaving a pot of money for already planned STIP projects. Then each District got an estimate of money. The TAC put together a \$6.3 million list and submitted to MoDOT. This is the money that's available. Tom said that in West Plains from Gibson Street to CC Highway is being pushed back. MoDOT wants more time, then the project was taken off the list. Now the St. Louis Street roundabout project is using approximately \$1 million. Tom said that he wants the priority to change to the 160 Highway project. He felt the \$1 million should be used for Highway 160 to past Hibby's, and asked the TAC to reconsider for the prioritization list. Zach asked if MoDOT has agreed to this yet; Tom said no. Tim asked where this project is on the prioritization list; Tom said it hasn't been on the list. Trent added that he has received complaints about the area around Hibby's. Trent said that we need a vote from the TAC allowing the scoping of Ramseur Road to the county road past Hibby's to add to the project list. Tom said this would remove the St. Louis Street project. Elquin added that there have been a lot of accidents on 160, and this would be a benefit to MoDOT to put in a center turn lane there. Tom said the dollar amounts won't change, the projects will just switch. After group discussion, it was decided to allow the switch. Motion to remove the St. Louis Street roundabout project and add the 160 Highway turn lane project was made by Zach Williams and seconded by Jeff Cowen. Scott Long voted nay. Motion carried.

John Turner and Suzanne Welsh voiced concerns about Ozark County and Douglas County projects listed in the Governor's Bridge Program. Cody said that he and Trent would look into this.

New Business

Southeast District Projects and Happenings – MoDOT Reps.

Elquin outlined the January 2021 lettings and added that she receives phone calls when there are fatalities, most of which are distracted drivers and those not buckled up. Tom asked about the Highway 63 project in Howell County, if it was resurfacing. Elquin said

yes, it is just a resurfacing. John Turner asked what was the end date for the 160 project at Tecumseh Curve. Elquin said she would look into it. He also asked if there were any plans to widen 160 Highway from Gainesville to Caulfield. Elquin said that project is going to let this spring. Scott Long asked about the Highway 63 resurfacing project in Houston. He said that there is ponding of water in the middle of the road, and asked what can be done. Elquin asked Scott to send her the location and someone will look into it.

Chris Crocker said that there has been a call for projects for TAP funds. This round is going to be more competitive this year. He said that if anybody had any questions, please let him know. The applications need to be emailed by January 29, 2021 at 4:00, and results will be announced by late March. He added that LPA training needs to be done as soon as possible. He said that if any consultant help is used, which he recommends, they have to be paid fair market value. Those costs are not reimbursable. There is approximately \$898,000 available in our District. Cody added that TAP funds can be used for sidewalks and trail extensions. He went on to outline some TAP funded projects in the region. Chris said that this year is a one-year call for projects, last time was a two-year call for projects. Chris said that he sent out a video in regard to the BRO funds, which gives an update on local programs and points out where we stand in the state on that program. The eligibility list is based off of if the bridge is structurally deficient. Next year's allocations will look different. Tom asked that SCOCOG resend the video out.

Elquin said that the Tecumseh Curve project will be done November 21.

Heather Ledbetter said that she is over the Southeast Coalition for Roadway Safety and their goal is to reduce fatalities through education, etc.

Discuss the prioritization list moving forward – Trent Courtney

Trent said that he is going to work with Cody in regard to the upcoming Community Connect meetings and will discuss SCOCOG and the transportation prioritization within each community. They will also discuss future projects. These meetings will start perhaps in April.

Open Discussion

Tom said that he is retiring effective May 1, 2021, and advised the Board to be considering a new TAC Chair.

The next TAC meeting will be held **April 20, 2021 at 10:00 AM.**

Tom Stehn adjourned the meeting at 12:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed for Content,

Angie Ball
Administrative Assistant, SCOCOG

Jeff Cowen
TAC Vice Chairman