

MINUTES
MO-KAN TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 2, 2020, 9:00 AM

VOTING MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Bob Caldwell – Andrew County
Bruce Lundy – Andrew County
Bob Burnett, Chair – Buchanan County
Johnnie Hoggatt – Buchanan County
Patrick Clark – Clinton County - *zoom*
Drew Bontrager – Clinton County
Mike O’Donnell – Clinton County
Bill Gray – DeKalb County

NON VOTING MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Shannon Kusilek – MoDOT - *zoom*
Dave Earls – MoDOT - *zoom*
Jennifer Sardigal – MoDOT – *zoom*
Rebecca Thacker – Mo-Kan Regional Council

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kenneth Reeder – PCLA (Public Citizens Local Associates)

A meeting of the Mo-Kan Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was held September 2, 2020 at the Mo-Kan Regional Council office, 224 North 7th Street, St. Joseph, MO. Bob Burnett, chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

- 1. Roll call taken by sign-in sheet. A quorum was present.**
- 2. Minutes – A motion to approve minutes for the meeting on June 24, 2020 was made by Drew Bontrager and seconded by Bob Caldwell. Minutes were approved unanimously.**

Open Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

- 1. Recent Project Awards/Upcoming Bid Openings** – Shannon Kusilek discussed the financial situation MoDOT was in from the decrease in gas tax and other sources of revenue due to the pandemic. He reported that the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) was not released this year due to financial uncertainty, but that it would be amended to add projects as funding becomes available. He stated that revenue generated from car sales have recently rebounded and that gas tax revenues are trending back up, putting MoDOT \$10 million ahead of where it expected to be.

Shannon listed the recently awarded projects and said that the I-229 Study has six potential options. The Section 106, the environmental review aspect of the I-229 Study, took longer than anticipated. More public meetings will be held in December and the final option for I-229 could possibly be selected in the spring. He reminded the group that there is no funding for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant round at this time.

2. **MoDOT Construction Update** – Jennifer Sardigal gave a construction update, which included two bridges in Andrew County and resurfacing on I-35, I-229 and Hwy 169.
3. **LPA/BRO Update** – An update was given about the six bridges in the BRO program. There were environmental review complexities with the bridge in Clinton County and the bridge in Andrew County has been completed.
4. **Cameron Community Improvement District (CID)** – Mike O'Donnell spoke about the Highway 36 and Bob Griffin Road interchange CID. The CID will start collecting funding to make improvements at the interchange in October. The CID is expected to raise about \$125,000 per year. The potential of using the funds raised by the CID as match for improvements at the adjacent I-35/ Highway 36 intersection was discussed. Shannon asked what the agreement would be for maintenance and future improvements. A MoDOT cost share application was mentioned. Mike noted that he was not a voting member of the CID (he serves as an advisor) and suggested meeting with MoDOT and Mo-Kan to prepare/discuss information that would be needed for the meeting with the CID voting members.
5. **Blueprint for Safety Grants** – Rebecca Thacker informed the group that the Blueprint for Roadway Safety grant round was open and encouraged communities and counties to submit applications. There is a \$2,000 award cap put on projects this year due to the cut in the Coalition for Roadway Safety's budget. She also told the group that a TAC meeting will likely be called prior to the regular December TAC meeting to score these grant applications.
6. **Off System Transportation Funding Opportunities** – Rebecca asked the group to let her know if they need funding for local transportation needs (non-MoDOT roads) and she can explore grant opportunities.
7. **Transportation Priorities Process Discussion** – Rebecca asked the group if there were changes/improvements they would like to see in the process of identifying/voting for transportation priorities. Shannon said that he would like to meet with the three RPCs and MPO in the NW MoDOT District to discuss having both a constrained and unfunded needs list.

Other Business:

1. **Scheduling the next TAC Meeting** – The next scheduled meeting is December 2, 2020. However, there will likely be a meeting called prior to that to score the Blueprint for Safety Grant applications.

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 am.