



Board of Directors MEETING NOTICE

Mid-America Regional Council • 600 Broadway, Suite 200 • Kansas City, Missouri 64105 • 816/474-4240

February 23, 2021
Board Member Meeting: 12:00 p.m.
Remotely via Zoom

- **Members of the public who wish to participate in this meeting: please email Karina Bielecki at kbielecki@marc.org by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 for instructions to join the teleconference.**

AGENDA

1. Introductions and Board Sharing Time
2. Recognize Commissioner Rob Roberts for his Service as MARC Board Chair
3. REPORT: Update on Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Initiatives
4. REPORT: Adverse Conditions Evident among Long-term Care Residents under COVID-19 Emergency Rules
5. HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT
 - a. REPORT: Update on Regional Climate Action Plan
6. COMPETITIVE ECONOMY
 - a. REPORT: KC Rising Pillar Metrics
7. BRIEF REPORTS:
 - a. REPORT: MARC's 2021 Regional Assembly and Awards
 - b. REPORT: Update on Buck O'Neil Bridge Project
 - c. REPORT: Regional Zero Fare Study
 - d. REPORT: Transportation Reauthorization Update

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

8. VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda
 - a. Approve Minutes of the January 26, 2021 Board Meeting
 - b. Authorize a Contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to Provide COVID Vaccination Support for Older Missourians
 - c. Authorize Contract Increase for Aging and Adult Services Contract Assessor
 - d. Authorize an Application for the SFY 2022 Missouri Elderly & Handicapped Transportation Assistance Program
 - e. Authorize Contracts with Selected Partners for Home Repair and Modifications
 - f. Approve the 2021 Special Amendment #1 to the 2020-24 Transportation Improvement Program
 - g. Authorize Receipt of Federal Funds to Support Various MARC Transportation Programs



Board of Directors MEETING NOTICE

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- h. Authorize a Consultant Contract for a Planning Sustainable Places Project
- i. Authorize an Application to the Health Forward Foundation to Support the Regional Housing Partnership
- j. Approve an Application to the Administration of Children and Families to Carry Forward Unused Funds

9. Other Business

10. Adjournment

MARC Board of Directors — Members and Alternates

Name	Jurisdiction	Title
Allen, Jim	Johnson County	Commissioner
Allen, Perry**	MoDOT	Asst. District Engineer
Alvey, David	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Mayor/CEO
Baird, Bill	City of Lee's Summit	Mayor
Boehm, Mike	City of Lenexa	Mayor
Boley, Damien	City of Smithville	Mayor
Bunch, Eric	City of Kansas City	Councilmember
Burnett, Scott	Jackson County	Legislator
Culbertson, Jeff	Leavenworth County	Commissioner
Eilert, Ed	Johnson County	Commission Chairman
Ellington, Brandon	City of Kansas City	Councilmember
Elliott, John	Platte County	Commissioner
Fields, Vernon	City of Basehor	Councilmember
Gallagher, Danny	Miami County	Commissioner
Gerlach, Carl	City of Overland Park	Mayor
Hall, Heather	City of Kansas City	Councilmember
Hanzlick, Janee	Johnson County	Commissioner
Harrington, Jeff	City of Bonner Springs	Mayor
Huston, Bob	Cass County	Presiding Commissioner
Jarrold, Dick**	KCATA	Vice President
Johnson, Harold	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
King, Bob	Ray County	Presiding Commissioner
Koehn, Leroy**	KDOT	District Engineer
Lucas, Quinton	City of Kansas City	Mayor
Lopez, Beto	City of Lee's Summit	Mayor Pro Tem
Makinen, Robbie**	KCATA	President/CEO
Markley, Angela	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
McDonough, Mike	City of Raytown	Mayor
McKiernan, Brian*	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
McTaggart, John	City of Edwardsville	Mayor
Medsker, Mike	Cass County	Recorder of Deeds
Moriarty, Michael**	KDOT	Chief of Transportation Planning
Nolte, Jerry	Clay County	Presiding Commissioner
Owen, Gene	Clay County	Commissioner
Pogue, Randy	City of Kearney	Mayor
Preisinger, Mark	City of Leavenworth	City Commissioner
Ridgeway, Luann	Clay County	Commissioner
Roberts, Rob	Miami County	Commission Chairman
Ross, Carson	City of Blue Springs	Mayor
Schieber, Ron	Platte County	Presiding Commissioner
Schwach, Paula	City of Westwood Hills	Mayor
Shute, Steve	City of Gardner	Mayor
Silvester, David**	MoDOT	District Engineer
Skoog, Curt	City of Overland Park	Councilmember
Smith, Doug	Leavenworth County	Commission Chairman
Spears, Fred	City of Overland Park	Councilmember
Turnbow, Kristofer	City of Raymore	Mayor
Vogt, Marge	City of Olathe	Councilmember
Walker, Rick	City of De Soto	Mayor
Walters, Jim	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Weir, Eileen	City of Independence	Mayor
White, Frank	Jackson County	County Executive
Wood, Dagmar	Platte County	Commissioner

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

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 1

ISSUE:

Introductions and Board Sharing Time

BACKGROUND:

Time has been reserved on the agenda for introductions and items of interest to Board members. The Board Chair encourages board members to raise matters for discussion at future meetings or other issues of general concern or interest.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 2

ISSUE:

Recognize Commissioner Rob Roberts for his Service as MARC Board Chair

BACKGROUND:

Incoming Board Chair Commissioner Harold Johnson, Jr. will recognize outgoing Board Chair Commissioner Rob Roberts for his leadership and service to MARC and the greater Kansas City region.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 3

ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Initiatives

BACKGROUND:

MARC Staff will give short updates on regional efforts in which we are engaged to support and coordinate regional response and recovery to the COVID-19 crisis, including:

COVID-19 General Updates

- Blue KC Support of Isolation
- Vaccination Strategies
- State of Child Care

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel

Jennifer Sutherlin

Jovanna Rohs

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 4

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

REPORT: Adverse Conditions Evident among Long-term Care Residents under COVID-19 Emergency Rules

BACKGROUND:

At the onset of the COVID-19 emergency, the US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allowed unprecedented authority to individual nursing home administrators and corporate entities biased toward risk aversion and liability limitations. Immediately, all oversight mechanisms, including site surveyors and long-term care ombudsman programs were barred from entry. Perhaps even more damaging, most family visits were curtailed or ended in their entirety. The deterioration or elimination of these critical regulatory and advocacy functions in some cases allowed rampant over-reach, further silencing of the voiceless, and an ongoing humanitarian crisis, including in and around the Kansas City region.

Many of these observed conditions continue today. The human impact is beginning to be counted through investigations into complaints and conditions by MARC's ombudsman program.

In regional facilities, the following have been documented in complaints to MARC:

- Severe decline in food quality and nutrition content.
- Refusal or apathetic approaches to implement common-sense approaches to family and advocate visitation.
- Extreme isolation within the walls of facilities, including residents forced to spend months at a time isolated in individual rooms, lack of ability to dine with other residents, and other critically detrimental restrictions.
- Bias toward prioritization of corporate interests rather than resident rights.

Recent advocacy by the State Ombudsman and others has resulted in improving visitation conditions by advocates, however much work remains.

Many of the problems unearthed during the pandemic restrictions are simply exacerbations of the realities of living in institutions.

Under the MSN model an initiative will be tested to find pathways for transitioning out of nursing facilities at critical points in the journey to institutionalization. Missouri trails the nation in share of population residing in nursing facilities, and better offramps from institutionalization would make immediate and tremendous impact.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Melody Elston

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 5-a
Healthy Environment

ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on Regional Climate Action Plan

BACKGROUND:

MARC and Climate Action KC, together with over one thousand community stakeholders, developed a Regional Climate Action Plan (CAP) during 2019-2020. In November 2020, staff presented draft plan goals and strategies to the MARC Board. At this time, staff will share the final draft plan for board review. Staff request that the Board consider the plan for adoption at its March meeting.

The CAP provides a broad framework to facilitate collaborative community-wide climate resilience efforts. The plan articulates a broad set of strategies to mitigate climate change by achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, and to adapt to and bounce forward from the many risks posed by climate change.

The plan is technically feasible, but its success hinges on high levels of collaboration and leadership from all parts of the community. No individual or organization can do everything; yet each of us can do something. The plan builds from a long track record of success, resting on shared regional goals to create stronger, healthier, and more vibrant communities.

Like all MARC plans, the CAP is not prescriptive. Goals and strategies included in this plan reflect community priorities, the importance of equity-focused solutions, and an approach that is rooted in adopted local and regional plans. For example, the plan is fully aligned with adopted goals in Connected KC 2050, the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the Regional Green Infrastructure Framework.

A regional greenhouse gas inventory shows current emissions levels at about 30 million tons of CO₂e/year. Strategies to reduce emissions focus on renewable energy and building energy efficiency; transportation and land use measures to reduce vehicle miles traveled and shift the regional fleet to low or zero emissions vehicles; and green infrastructure restoration strategies to store carbon in both vegetation and the soil.

The climate risk and vulnerability assessment recognizes three key climate threats facing our region: flooding, drought, and extreme heat. A variety of interrelated adaptation responses are contemplated, many of which focus on social equity. Trees and green infrastructure mitigate both extreme heat and flooding. Linking green infrastructure with land stewardship and food production responds to visible food security needs. Transit-oriented development and complete/green streets increase mobility options, reduce flood risks, and improve public health by reducing heat islands and facilitating active transportation. A whole home approach links energy efficiency, affordability, and home health. Links to the region's innovation ecosystem will help spur business and job creation.

The plan went through a second round of community review and comment in November 2020, followed by votes to endorse the plan by the Air Quality Forum and Sustainable Places Policy Committee. The Total Transportation Policy Committee is expected to consider endorsement at its March meeting, in advance of MARC Board consideration, following additional outreach to rural communities in the MARC region.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

The final draft plan, along with its executive summary, may be viewed at www.marc.org/climateaction.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Tom Jacobs

Karen Clawson

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2020
Item No. 6-a
Competitive Economy

ISSUE:

REPORT: KC Rising Pillar Metrics

BACKGROUND:

KC Rising has developed a new framework to describe what a successful region looks like. Based on extensive input from the community, they developed what they are calling the seven pillars of prosperity: Enterprise (entrepreneurship), Industry (tradable sectors), Inclusion, Connectivity (both physical and digital), Neighborhoods, Culture (what makes KC unique), and Education. These pillars were previously presented to the MARC Board in September 2020 and they were adopted as consistent with MARC's mission.

The question immediately arose of how to measure progress on these pillars. MARC has been providing staff support to KC Rising's Data and Analytics Resource Team (DART), which is charged with developing the metrics that describe each pillar. After considerable deliberation, a short list of the metrics to be used has been prepared. KC Rising is meeting with various community groups in February to ensure the metrics align with their expectations concerning the most important features to be measured. Staff will present the short-listed metrics to the MARC Board so that they may also provide comments and feedback.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Frank Lenk

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 7-a
Core Capacities

ISSUE:

REPORT: MARC's 2021 Regional Assembly and Awards

BACKGROUND:

The Mid-America Regional Council recognizes individuals and institutions that have made outstanding contributions to the region with Regional Leadership Awards at its Annual Regional Assembly. MARC is now accepting nominations for 2021 award recipients, which will be presented at the Annual Regional Assembly, held virtually in June.

The deadline for nominations is March 17. MARC is looking for individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the Greater Kansas City region – those who have gone above and beyond their jobs and their work in their own communities to advance a regional vision of excellence. Past recipients have included elected officials, local government professionals, civic leaders or organizations, nonprofit leaders or agencies, volunteer leaders or groups, and educators or educational institutions.

Selection criteria includes recognizing leadership in:

- Advocating regional concepts, approaches, and programs
- Addressing regional challenges
- Applying innovative solutions to regional problems
- Advancing a regional vision of excellence and opportunity

MARC Board members are asked to submit nominations and disseminate information about the awards to colleagues to encourage them to submit their nominations.

RECOMMENDATION:

Submit nominations online at <http://www.marc.org/nominations.htm> by March 17, 2021.

STAFF CONTACT:

Kristin Johnson-Waggoner

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 7-b

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on Buck O'Neil Bridge Project

BACKGROUND:

In 2017, the MARC Board of Directors provisionally approved up to \$40 million of federal Surface Transportation Program funds for a new Buck O'Neil bridge with accommodations for bicyclists and pedestrians, subject to MoDOT and the City of Kansas City, Missouri securing the remaining funds for the project. In the past few months, several important milestones have been completed for this project.

MoDOT and the city have each secured their share of funding for the project and MARC and MoDOT have amended both the Kansas City Regional Transportation Improvement Program and the Missouri Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to commit these funds. The Federal Highway Administration has issued a formal finding of no significant impact, completing the required analysis under the national Environmental Policy Act. In August of 2020, MoDOT qualified five design build teams to submit formal proposals for the project. The final selection of the winning Massman-Clarkson team was announced on February 6, 2021.

More information about the project is available at: <https://www.modot.org/buck-oneil-bridge-project>

MoDOT staff will provide an update on the project at the meeting.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 7-c

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

REPORT: Regional Zero Fare Study

BACKGROUND:

The Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) and the City of Kansas City, Missouri planned to suspend farebox revenue collection on bus routes (zero-fare program) at some point in 2020. The rationale for this involved potential economic benefits to customers (especially low-income riders), improving mobility and access to transit, ridership increases, and efficiencies in KCATA operations including cash management, onboarding, and reductions in fare disputes. The intent was to implement zero-fare through cost efficiencies and additional funding to offset any revenue loss and not reduce services.

An analysis of the potential benefits of a zero-fare program was prepared for KCATA by the Center for Economic Information at the University of Missouri Kansas City in 2019; the final report was issued in February 2020. It concluded that there would be significant economic benefit to the community and to transit customers of having a zero-fare transit program in the Kansas City region.

When the COVID-19 pandemic reached the Kansas City area in March of 2020, farebox collection was suspended on all area transit routes, including flexible and paratransit services, as a public health measure. CARES Act funding has been used to offset this revenue loss.

MARC in partnership with the University of Kansas Transportation Center and University of Missouri Kansas City Bloch School, and with support from KCATA, will analyze the impacts of zero-fare on a range of performance measures including economic impacts, opportunity costs, agency revenues and costs, operations, community impacts, and other policy considerations.

Staff will provide an update on the project at the meeting.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Ron Achelpohl
Martin Rivarola

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 7-d

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

REPORT: Transportation Reauthorization Update

BACKGROUND:

The federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) has been extended through 2021 and will need to be reauthorized by September 30 to continue to provide funding for surface transportation programs. Based on the policy goals of MARC's 2021 federal legislative agenda, staff have been consulting with local partners and the region's congressional delegation to coordinate messaging about the need for timely reauthorization, sustainable and multi-modal funding, strengthening the role of regional and local decision-making, and addressing climate resilience and new technologies in future legislation.

Staff will provide more information on these coordination efforts at the meeting.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 8-a

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve minutes of the January 26, 2021 Board meeting

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the January 26, 2021 meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

David Warm

Karina Bielecki



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING SUMMARY
January 26, 2021
12:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Rob Roberts, Miami County, Kan. - MARC Board Chair
Commissioner Harold Johnson, Jr., Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan. - MARC 2nd Vice Chair
Mayor Eileen Weir, Independence, Mo. - MARC Board Treasurer
Mayor Carson Ross, Blue Springs, Mo. - MARC Board Secretary
Councilmember Curt Skoog, Overland Park, Kan.
Councilmember Vernon Fields, Basehor, Kan.
Mayor Damien Boley, Smithville, Mo.
Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, Mo.
Commissioner Angela Markley, Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan.
Commissioner Doug Smith, Leavenworth County, Kan.
Councilmember Brandon Ellington, Kansas City, Mo.
Mayor Paula Schwach, Westwood Hills, Kan.
Mayor Michael Boehm, Lenexa, Kan.
Mayor Steve Shute, Gardner, Kan.
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, Kan.
Commissioner Jim Walters, Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan.
Dick Jarrold, Vice President of Planning & Development, KCATA
Mayor Rick Walker, De Soto, Kan.
Mayor Kristofer Turnbow, Raymore, Mo.

STAFF PRESENT

Executive Director David Warm and other MARC staff

OTHERS

Councilmember Logan Heley, Overland Park, Kan.
Griffin Smith, MoDOT

INTRODUCTIONS AND BOARD SHARING TIME

Commissioner Rob Roberts called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and welcomed attendees. Due to the meeting being held remotely, Commissioner Roberts 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, as well as the consent agenda, with one vote at the end of the meeting. Members will have an opportunity to abstain or object to any items necessary during the final vote. Board sharing was emitted due to

the amount of COVID-19 activity currently underway in all counties.

VOTE: Election of 2021 MARC Board Officers

Commissioner Roberts shared the proposed slate of 2021 MARC Board Officers, as selected by the Nominating Committee. Nominations include: Commissioner Harold Johnson, Jr. for Chair, Mayor Carson Ross for First Vice Chair, Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick for Second Vice Chair, Mayor Eileen Weir for Treasurer, and Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez for Secretary. Commissioner Roberts commended the nominated officers for their leadership and service to the region. Commissioner Roberts paused for questions, but there were none.

REPORT: Update on Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Initiatives

Ms. Lauren Palmer, Assistant Community Development Director and Local Government Services Director at MARC, provided an update on the COVID-19 Multiagency Coordination Group (MAC-G). The group continues to meet every two weeks to broaden situational awareness and enhance communication around the pandemic. Meetings average 50-60 attendees who represent a cross-section of the jurisdictions and disciplines involved in regional COVID-19 response and recovery. The most recent meeting was this morning. A standing item on the agenda is a report on the common operating picture to understand factors such as testing, cases, deaths, and hospitalizations. Ms. Palmer shared two key takeaways from today's meeting. First, hospitalizations have decreased from very high risk to moderate risk due to decreased pressure on hospital capacity. Ms. Palmer noted that while overall hospitalizations are down, MARC has heard anecdotally from hospital partners that the severity of cases is worse. ICU bed availability remains low at 20%, but there is evidence that collective efforts are making an impact. Secondly, there is continued emphasis on testing as a critical component of pandemic response. Tests per day for the metro region are hovering close to the CDC minimum guideline and testing has struggled to return to pre-holiday levels. Currently, testing sites have the capacity to serve more people, indicating renewed messaging on the importance and availability of testing is needed. Regarding messaging, work is underway to support safe celebrations during and after the upcoming Superbowl. Ms. Palmer reminded attendees that the next MAC-G meeting is on February 9 and invited them to participate as time and interest allows.

Ms. Jennifer Sutherlin, Senior Planner and Exercise Coordinator at MARC, provided an update on vaccine planning and availability. The federal plan for COVID-19 vaccine distribution was announced last week and has seven goals: restore trust with the American people; mount a safe, effective, and comprehensive vaccination campaign; mitigate spread through expanding masking, testing, treatment data, workforce, and clear public health standards; immediately expand emergency relief and exercise the Defense Production Act; safely reopen schools, businesses, and travel while protecting others; protect those most at risk and advance equity, including across racial, ethnic, and rural-urban lines; and restore US leadership globally and build better preparedness for future threats.

Ms. Sutherlin noted that Kansas has changed the naming of their vaccination phases to help understanding among the public. Kansas is currently in Phase Two, which includes persons age 65 and older, congregate settings, high contact critical workers, and those unvaccinated from Kansas' first phase. Ms. Sutherlin stressed that while states continue to move on in phases, that does not mean the supply is available locally to move on in phases. MARC is communicating with public health directors and has noted variance across the region in who jurisdictions are currently able to vaccinate. Kansas has also changed guidance on distribution. They were previously sending doses to approved vaccinators across counties; now, local public health departments in each county will receive the total county allocation and be responsible for its distribution across approved

vaccinators. MARC is working with Kansas to get a list of approved vaccinators to support. In Missouri, vaccination is in Phase 1B, Tier 2, which includes critical infrastructure.

The regional vaccination workgroup has begun meeting and is composed of stakeholders across sectors such as public health, hospitals, technology, public safety, federally qualified health centers, national pharmacy partners, and state partners. The workgroup is organized along five microcells, or lines of effort: vaccinators and prioritization, communication, logistics, technology, and legal and advocacy. Leadership will meet today to discuss further priorities and objectives for each microcell. Ms. Sutherlin noted that challenges include changing guidance, differences in prioritization across state lines and counties, a lack of communication from federal and state levels, supply chain issues, and vaccine hesitancy and misinformation. Ms. Sutherlin noted that the vaccine is not a quick fix and that infection control efforts will continue for many months.

Ms. Marlene Nagel, Director of Community Development at MARC, shared that MARC sent communication to the heads of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services last week on behalf of local public health directors. The communication thanked the state health directors for the work they are doing on behalf of the two states and made several recommendations and requests given the regional challenges mentioned by Ms. Sutherlin. Missouri has been identifying organizations as “regional implementation teams” to partner with the state in public vaccination allocation and oversight efforts. MARC has asked to be designated along with the Kansas City Health Care Coalition as the regional implementation team for Region A, which includes all Missouri counties in MARC’s service area as well as some additional counties to the east. Additionally, MARC asked for more transparency in vaccine allocation. Approved vaccinators who receive vaccines often don’t know how many doses they will receive until shipments arrive. Prior notice will allow for more timely distribution of vaccine once it’s delivered. MARC has received some early information from Missouri on the approved vaccinators and has asked Kansas for similar information in order to coordinate efforts in the region. Finally, no local health departments or organizations have received any funding to support the vaccination effort and many remain in need of funding to support testing and contact tracing.

Mayor Michael Boehm inquired via the chat how vaccine doses are allocated, specifically in Kansas which has moved to Phase 2 when a significant number of those eligible for Phase 1 have not been vaccinated. Ms. Nagel shared that largely the two states are examining population numbers within each of the priority groups, but that states are challenged by trying to distribute vaccine to large and small jurisdictions as well as approved vaccinators. Ms. Nagel noted pressure on both state health departments to move as quickly as possible through phases, but that each health department is examining numbers within their own jurisdiction. Health departments cannot proceed beyond phases allowed by the state, but they have discretion to focus on the most critical priorities until they feel comfortable moving to the next phase. Ms. Sutherlin added that vaccine shipments are dependent on logistics; Pfizer vaccine shipments are only available in orders of 975 doses while Moderna shipments are available in orders of 100 doses. Storage capability also affects shipments and ordering capacity. In Missouri, the Moderna vaccine has been allocated to long-term care facilities only, so other agencies are only able to order the Pfizer vaccine. In some cases, agencies may move through phases to avoid spoilage of excess vaccine.

Commissioner Roberts asked if jurisdictions offering the vaccine are retaining sufficient vaccine to provide the recommended second dose. Ms. Sutherlin replied that they are not; vaccinators are expected to give all first-round doses and will receive shipments of booster shots when applicable. Commissioner Roberts also asked if either state reported how much vaccine they have been issued and where doses have gone. Ms. Sutherlin noted that Kansas has a dashboard updated multiple

times a week with information on doses delivered and administered, but it is not broken out by location. Missouri reports similar information and a public-facing dashboard is expected this week. Both states also have a vaccine finder online, where you can search by location, but this also provides challenges since not all vaccinators listed online have enough doses to vaccinate the general public. Ms. Sutherlin noted that messaging is focusing on what the public can do to be ready when it's their turn to be vaccinated and how to stay safe in the meantime. There were no further questions.

CORE CAPACITIES

VOTE: Authorize an Agreement with RubinBrown and Review the Plan for the 2020 Audit

Ms. Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration at MARC, requested approval of an engagement letter with RubinBrown to perform the 2020 audit. Ms. Gonzales noted this is the last year of a five-year agreement with RubinBrown. Ms. Gonzales shared that Kaleb Lilly of RubinBrown appeared at the Budget and Personnel Committee meeting earlier to outline the planning process, scope of services, and timeline of the audit. The process will conclude in June with a draft of the audit brought to the Board in May. Ms. Gonzales encouraged any board members with questions to reach out to her or Executive Director David Warm. Ms. Gonzales paused for questions, but there were none.

VOTE: Approve Minor Updates to the Whistleblower Policy and Review the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Board Liability Advisory

Ms. Gonzales reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Board Liability Advisory with the board. Ms. Gonzales noted that serving on other public boards that interact with MARC does not serve a conflict of interest. Ms. Gonzales also noted that minor updates had been made to the Whistleblower Policy to remove outdated language. Ms. Gonzales paused for questions, but there were none.

EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

VOTE: Approve the 2021 Federal Policy Agenda

Ms. Nagel reminded the board that every year, MARC works with local stakeholders and officials to develop a federal policy agenda. A draft agenda was presented at the December 2020 meeting, with feedback incorporated into the final version presented today. Priorities include: COVID-19 response and recovery, role of local governments in metropolitan areas, transportation law reauthorization and funding, early education, the 2020 Census and other census bureau surveys and data, Older American Act funding, affordable housing, workforce development, and climate change and adaptation. Ms. Nagel noted that several of the issues in the platform are being carried over from last year's policy agenda.

Mr. Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment at MARC, provided some additional details on transportation priorities. There is a need to reauthorize the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, as it is due to expire in September 2021. Mr. Achelpohl noted the need for multi-year and multi-modal transportation bills, increased and sustainable funding, and an emphasis on metropolitan and local government roles in transportation. There is also a need to address climate change and adaptation as well as new technologies like automated vehicles. Mr. Achelpohl noted that Congress has an opportunity to advance the data-driven, performance-based planning of previous bills. Several larger metropolitan areas are also proposing an idea for recognizing high-performing MPOs by establishing a funding program that could provide additional resources. Mr. Achelpohl paused for questions, but there were none.

COMPETITIVE ECONOMY

REPORT: Update on Regional Economic Forecast

Mr. Frank Lenk, Director of Research Services at MARC, noted he shared this forecast earlier with a webinar of regional public officials. Nationally, non-farm payroll employment has recovered more than half of the jobs lost at the peak of the economic shutdowns that took place to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Recent months show the recovery stalling, however. Though down 89% from their peak in March 2020, initial unemployment claims are still four and half times their level before the pandemic began. Nearly 76 million claims have been filed since March 13, 2020, when the declaration of a national emergency and the closure of many businesses began. Latinos were hardest hit by the economic shutdown initially, then saw the quickest improvement, but their unemployment rate increased last month. The Black unemployment rate continues to be the highest among all racial and ethnic groups and, at 9.9%, is two-thirds higher than that for whites, at 6.0%.

Looking at the best-case scenario going forward, the recovery in economic output continues to grow without missing a beat. The baseline forecast shows a significant slowing until a vaccine is widely available. In the worst case, a resurging virus causes widespread shutdowns again. The labor market shows the same pattern of growth as GDP, though at a much slower pace. As a result, employment isn't projected to return to its prior peak until the fourth quarter of 2023 in the baseline forecast, which is more than two years after GDP is projected to return to its prior peak. Examining scenarios for the unemployment rate, the baseline forecast shows a slight worsening in the short run with a small decline of only 0.2 percentage points over the next year. This compares to a 2.1 percentage point reduction in unemployment in the best case and a nearly 3 percentage point increase in the worst case. Not included in Moody's Analytics' December forecasts, however, is how the final results of the 2020 election might change the forecast. In September 2020, however, Moody's analysis indicated a Democratic sweep of both houses of Congress would result in higher GDP and employment growth.

Mr. Lenk then turned from the national forecast to a local one. Like the nation, the economic recovery in Kansas City proceeded swiftly at first, but is showing signs of slowing significantly. Kansas City has outperformed the national average, though, recovering nearly two-thirds of the jobs initially lost. Correspondingly, as of November 2020, Kansas City's unemployment rate is nearly two percentage points below the nation's. Progress has slowed considerably in recent months and remains 1.7 percentage points above pre-recession levels. Using Moody's December baseline forecast, Kansas City's employment will recover to pre-pandemic levels about half a year earlier than the nation. While much deeper job losses occurred than during the Great Recession, the recovery time for the pandemic-induced recession is expected to be twice as fast, thanks largely to the more aggressive federal policy response. In the scenario in which Democrats sweep both houses of Congress, however, the recovery period is expected to be cut in half, with full recovery of total employment by the first quarter of 2022. A full enactment of the Democratic agenda potentially leads to three times the metropolitan job growth over the projection period than in the baseline scenario. Viewed on a fourth quarter to fourth quarter basis, the region is expected to be down 68,000 jobs relative to a year ago, after having grown by 26,000 the year before. It takes into the third year of average growth to make up for this loss, after which employment growth slows down dramatically once the excess labor force capacity is absorbed. However, under the Democratic sweep scenario, growth is well above average in 2021 and 2022, and the loss is nearly made up by the end of this year. Under the baseline forecast, Kansas City employment grows slightly faster than the US, about 1.2 percentage points by the end of the forecast period. This leads to Kansas City recovering its pre-recession peak employment about a half a year sooner than the US. Under the Democratic sweep scenario, Kansas City employment

grows two percentage points more than the US by the end of the forecast period. Both KC and the US recover their pre-recession peak employment more than a year sooner than under the baseline assumptions.

Mr. Lenk noted several industries in which Kansas City specializes, including management of companies and enterprises, federal civilian, professional services, finance and insurance, wholesale trade, and transportation and warehousing. Overall, the Kansas City economy lost 11.2 percent of its jobs in the downturn, with the arts and entertainment and accommodation and food sectors hit the hardest. On the other hand, some of our specializations (such as finance and insurance, management of companies, and professional services) proved relatively resilient. Some of our specializations also do better than average in the recovery projections, such as finance and insurance, professional services, and transportation and warehousing. Construction, administrative support, and health care are also projected to rebound strongly. But arts and entertainment, manufacturing, information, and accommodation and food aren't projected to return to pre-recession levels by the end of 2025. Under the Democratic sweep scenario, virtually all industries recover their pre-recession employment levels. For those that don't, their loss is significantly less. The professional services sector grows significantly faster than average, boosting Kansas City's relative performance. Retail employment also grows faster than average.

Moving to the topic of consumer spending, Mr. Lenk noted that spending in the Kansas City area stalled at the same time as plans for another round of stimulus. The latest "lame duck" round of stimulus seems to have triggered a rebound after the "third wave" of infections caused consumer spending to drop. Under baseline assumptions, real retail sales were still down from pre-recession levels at the end of 2020 and are not projected to fully recover until 2022. Under the Democratic sweep scenario, real retail sales are expected to fully recover by the end of this year, growing significantly faster in the medium-term before settling back to similar rates to the baseline by the end of the projection period.

In summary, the forecast has gotten progressively better over time as the economy has rebounded more sharply than expected. Kansas City has regained nearly two-thirds of jobs lost at the trough of the recession. We are currently in the toughest period since the initial shutdowns in March 2020, though increasing vaccines show light at the end of the tunnel. The baseline forecast suggests the Kansas City economy will fully recover the jobs lost by the second quarter of 2023, about half a year faster than the US. Greater federal spending under the Democratic sweep scenario produces a much more robust recovery, with the metro job growth nearly three times greater than under the baseline. Mr. Lenk noted that "recovery will follow the virus" is not a complete explanation; it may be more accurate to say that recovery follows policy. Mr. Lenk paused for questions, but there were none.

SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES

REPORT: Update on the Regional Public Safety Work Plan and Budget

Mr. Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Program Director at MARC, provided an update on the 2021 Public Safety Communications Board (PSCB) budget and work plan. In September 2020, the PSCB approved a 2021 budget of approximately \$8.9 million, a small decrease over the 2020 budget. After the 2021 budget was approved, Douglas County notified MARC in November that they intended to terminate their contract for 911 service and move to the state's system. Mr. Winebrenner noted the decision to leave the MARC system was likely based on cost. With Douglas County leaving the system, the budget has been adjusted downward. Capital projects planned expenses have been reduced, along with travel and training expenses due to COVID-19. Some technical projects planned for this year have also been pushed to later years. Mr. Winebrenner

expressed disappointment with Douglas County's decision to leave, but noted MARC is working with Douglas County and the state of Kansas to ensure a smooth and successful transfer of 911 services. Mr. Winebrenner also noted that Atchison County has now been connected to the 911 system.

According to the PSCB bylaws, the biennial census is used to determine the cost charge to each county for 911 services. Since census numbers for 2020 have not been received, the PSCB elected to use 2019 estimates for this year's budget. Douglas County showed a ten percent increase in population year-over-year, which significantly increased the cost of their 911 services. This likely led to their decision to move to the state system. When 2020 census numbers are released, they will be used for the 2022 budget.

MARC 911 staff will now take over maintenance for much of the 911 system. An outside contractor provided maintenance for the last five years. An analysis showed there were very few after hours calls for maintenance, and they were usually deferred to the next day for MARC staff. With MARC taking over 24/7 service, there is an opportunity to save money by buying directly from Motorola and installing our own equipment. Public safety answer points (PSAPs) will not see any change in service. The switch to in-house maintenance saved approximately \$500,000 in the budget.

Mr. Winebrenner shared that the selective router installation is about 70 percent complete. 42 PSAPs are being programmed into the router; usually only one or two are programmed. Once programming is complete and routers are operational, they will run for a time to make sure they are fully functional and then the Missouri router will be transferred to a new data center in Clay County. The Kansas router will remain in Johnson County.

Mr. Winebrenner turned to 2021 capital projects. MARC is in the process of updating the ten-tower microwave system across the region. We received \$800,000 in grant money to help with this project, which will have a total cost of \$1.5 million. 2021 is year two of planned PSAP equipment upgrades. Between 50 and 60 workstations are planned to be upgraded this year. Initial cost estimates were for \$1.3 million; with Douglas County leaving the system, the cost will be reduced by \$300,000. MARC is waiting on the delivery of the remaining workstations replaced in 2020. With 60 workstations replaced in 2020 and 60 replaced in 2021, the entire region is planned to have replacement workstations over a four-year cycle. As part of cybersecurity efforts, a data recovery system will be installed this year. Currently, if there were to be a cybersecurity attack, there would be no backup to use in rebuilding the system. The installation of a data recovery system allows for periodic backups at a cost of approximately \$144,000. Two system host servers at KCPD were installed in 2013 and are reaching the end of their lifecycle. Replacing those will cost around \$130,000 with the goal of keeping equipment as modern as possible to reduce maintenance costs. Two additional technicians will be hired in order to provide 24/7 support.

COVID-19 has forced all 911 training into an online format. In 2020, online training started due to requests from counties and cities whose dispatchers who struggled to find time to come to MARC for in-person training. Eighteen courses are provided throughout the year. Working with the Government Training Institute (GTI), all courses will be put into the learning management system as online courses. Online options are very popular with telecommunicators in the region.

Database staff will be replacing aerial imagery for the region this year. They will update pipeline and hazmat data for all counties, and they will continue to work on the master street address guide to ensure it is as accurate as possible for 911 calls from landlines.

Mr. Winebrenner noted that in-person Telecommunicators Appreciation Celebrations for 2020 and 2021 have been canceled due to COVID-19. A virtual ceremony is being planned to recognize and celebrate the region's telecommunicators.

Finally, Jackson County passed a 911 Subscriber Tax in November 2020. This tax replaces the landline surcharge tax, which only charged landlines for 911. The subscriber tax will tax up to one dollar on all Jackson County-registered devices capable of calling 911. The tax goes into effect on April 1, 2021.

When Mr. Winebrenner paused for questions and comments, Mayor Kristofer Turnbow shared that a new Executive Director has been hired for the Cass County Emergency Services Board. The new director will start on February 1. Mayor Turnbow also indicated Cass County had struggled with outside contractors for PSAP maintenance and asked if MARC's technicians would potentially be contractible with outside groups for similar services. Mr. Winebrenner replied that it would depend on services required and staff availability, and he invited Mayor Turnbow to discuss the topic more after the meeting. There were no other questions.

CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda

- a. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the December 15, 2020 Board Meeting
- b. VOTE: Authorize Contracts to Support Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery
- c. VOTE: Authorize an Application to the Health Forward Foundation to Support the Regional Community Health Worker Program
- d. VOTE: Authorize the Acceptance of Additional Private Foundation Funds for the Double Up Heartland Program
- e. VOTE: Approve an Agreement with GeoComm, Inc. for 911 Mapping Services
- f. VOTE: Authorize Payment for Regional 911 System Cybersecurity Monitoring and Risk Assessment from Seculore Solutions
- g. VOTE: Authorize a Contract with Affinis for Traffic Engineering Services for Operation Green Light
- h. VOTE: Authorize Receipt of Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds to Support MARC's Active Transportation, Air Quality Public Education, and Rideshare Programs
- i. VOTE: Authorize Agreements for Federal and Local Matching Funds for Various 2021 Planning Sustainable Places Studies
- j. VOTE: Approve the 2021 First Quarter Amendment to the 2020-24 Transportation Improvement Program
- k. VOTE: Accept Funds from Local Governments for the Regional Water Quality Public Education Program
- l. VOTE: Authorize MARC to Contract with Partner Agencies to Provide Medically Sensitive Home-Delivered Meals
- m. VOTE: Authorize RFPs and Extend Contracts to Support Aging and Adult Services
- n. VOTE: Authorize a Contract with Johnny Lightning Strikes Again for Redesign of MARC's Website

MOTION: Commissioner Harold Johnson, Jr. moved for approval of all agenda items and the consent agenda, and Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick seconded. Commissioner Roberts asked if any member wanted to abstain or object to any of the agenda items. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez has a

standing disclosure of his conflict of interest in contractual matters between MARC and his employer, Guadalupe Center, and he is recorded as having abstained from a vote on agenda item 7-m, since it is likely to include a contract extension for Guadalupe Center. All others were in favor of approving agenda items 1 through 7-n. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

MEETING SUMMARY APPROVED:

Rob Roberts, Chair

Date

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 8-b

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize a Contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to Provide COVID Vaccination Support for Older Missourians

BACKGROUND:

Recent rollout of vaccinations in the bi-state region has resulted in inequalities among certain vulnerable populations, including those whom MARC's Older Americans Act services are designed to prioritize: individuals who may be classified as low-income minority, rural dwelling, or limited-English proficiency. These are the exact populations disproportionately suffering under the COVID-19 pandemic and they are least likely to be able to access a vaccine.

MARC and sister Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) across Missouri were selected as single feasible source providers of COVID vaccination support for older Missourians. MARC will provide the following comprehensive services in our region:

- Employ or contract with aging service professionals with experience and training in the nuances of communicating information and assistance to a wide spectrum of functional abilities and impairments, including those with hearing and memory impairments, and those who may have limited-English proficiency.
- Have comprehensive service coverage for our entire planning and service areas, often down to the neighborhood level.
- Maintain staffed call centers and the ability to scale this capacity rapidly.
- Maintain connections to community-based organizations who will assist individuals directly and have full information on local resources.
- Offer callers direct enrollment into higher levels of assistance to receive the vaccine, such as care management, transportation assistance, and other vital services.

MARC is committed to providing older adults and individuals with disabilities who are already enrolled in our services supportive pathways to vaccination, including transportation and identification of homebound individuals who may need in-home vaccination options.

Moreover, similar capacities as those provided for under this funding will be made available to Kansas and Missouri local public health agencies who are attempting to process similar high-risk older adults.

The Missouri Association of Area Agencies on Aging will be contracted to provide central coordination and messaging to key stakeholders.

Michael Henry of Online 2 Learn will be retained to develop a training module for call-center staff.

Several community-based organizations will contribute staff and volunteers to assisting older adults in vaccination registration. Several key partners at approximately \$25,000 each are known at this time: Clay County Senior Services, with a subcontract with Northland Shepherd's Center

City of Excelsior Springs

United Way of Greater Kansas City, 2-1-1

City of Liberty Silver Center

Don Bosco Centers

City of Blue Springs Vesper Hall

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

City of Independence Palmer Center

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The base contract for all Missouri AAAs is \$1.55M, with allocation designated by the existing Intrastate Funding Formula. Additional services, for which demand and volume are unknown, are at additional contracted rates. Surge callers and assistance are expected February - April, with diminishing demand throughout the remainder of 2021. The contract is front-loaded for larger allocations during those first three months.

REVENUES	
Missouri DHSS - Base contract	\$232,416
Contracted services, unknown demand	Registry case management, \$25/instance Transportation case management, \$25/instance Ride provision, \$27.50/one-way trip
PROJECTED EXPENSES (outside of metro region)	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)*	\$136,269
Contractual*	\$93,647
Other (supplies, printing, training sessions, travel for trainings)	\$2,500

*Depending upon partner capacity, personnel costs may be shifted to contractual costs

**Contracted services beyond the base amount will result in additional expenses to contracted partners

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Commission on Aging recommended approval of contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to provide COVID vaccination support for older Missourians.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize a contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to provide COVID vaccination support for older Missourians.

STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 8-c

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Contract Increase for Aging and Adult Services Contract Assessor

BACKGROUND:

Due to increasing demand for comprehensive in-home assessments of clients across the health sector, the capacity for quality assessments is a strategic priority for MARC's Aging and Adult Services department. Contract assessors complete mandatory in-home assessments required under the Older Americans Act (new assessments and annual re-assessments for service eligibility and priority), as well as Medicaid Re-Assessments for the State of Missouri using the InterRAI validated assessment tool. They also conduct "options counseling" duties for the Veteran-Directed Care program and similar integrated care duties across several health contracts through private funding sources.

Contractors are selected through a competitive, rolling RFQ process. Each contractor must meet or exceed the qualifications required to be employed as a Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Adult Protective and Community Services Worker II, including years of experience requirements and a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a health or human services field. MARC currently contracts with eight assessors and is seeking two additional assessors to meet demand.

With continued strong demand, and additional volume through remote assessments due to COVID-19, approval is sought to increase the agreement cap to \$75,000 for Aging Assessor Sarah Albin.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The cost of services is offset by the revenue from the assessments.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Commission on Aging recommended amending the contract to increase the cap to \$75,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize amending the Aging Assessor contract with Sarah Albin so as not to exceed \$75,000.

STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe

Shannon Halvorsen

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 8-d
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Application for the SFY 2022 Missouri Elderly & Handicapped Transportation Assistance Program

BACKGROUND:

Each year, MARC applies to the Missouri Department of Transportation for funds through the Missouri Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Assistance Program (MEHTAP). These funds are used to provide transportation services for senior citizens, as well as 18 to 59-year-old disabled persons, primarily for medical trips. The application deadline for funds to be received and expended during SFY 2022 is March 31, 2021.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

MARC will incorporate this funding into the SFY 2022 area plan transportation budget. Currently, MARC receives \$96,451.76 under the SFY 2021 program. This application will request \$125,000.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$125,000
Source	Missouri Department of Transportation
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$125,000

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Commission on Aging recommended authorization of the application for SFY 2022 MEHTAP funds.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an application for MEHTAP funds for the SFY 2022 program year.

STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 8-e
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Contracts with Selected Partners for Home Repair and Modifications

BACKGROUND:

MARC accepts responses to its Integrated Care Network Partner Services RFP on a rolling basis. MARC received responses from the following providers:

- Metro Lutheran Ministries (Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties in Missouri and, if funded separately, Wyandotte and Johnson Counties in Kansas)
- Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. (Clay and Platte Counties)
- Rebuilding Together (Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties)
- HopeBUILDERS (Jackson County)

Reimbursement is provided on a per project basis and is generally capped at \$1,500-1,800. Providers usually braid additional resources to contribute to individual projects. Both revenues and expenses remain estimates until additional program clarity can be established.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES (total program funding through September 30, 2021)	
Older Americans Act Titles IIIB Supportive Services and IIIIE National Family Caregiver Support	\$750,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES (expenses for three listed partners only)	
Contractual	\$300,000

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Commission on Aging had already met by the time MARC received the listed partners proposals. The Commission will ratify the Board's decision at their next meeting in March 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize MARC to contract with the partners listed above for home repair and modifications.

STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe
Cindy Terryberry

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 8-f

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve the 2021 Special Amendment #1 to the 2020-24 Transportation Improvement Program

BACKGROUND:

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the region's short-range transportation 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 a quarterly cycle to accommodate changes to projects in the TIP.

The proposed 2021 Special Amendment #1 to the 2020-2024 TIP includes the following:

- 45 new and 7 existing projects recommended to receive FFY 2023-2024 funding through the following programs:
 - Kansas and Missouri Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP) funding
 - Kansas and Missouri Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funding
 - Kansas and Missouri Surface Transportation Block Grant Program - Set Aside (TAP) funding

Details of these projects are available for review on the Internet at:

<http://www.marc.org/Transportation/Plans-Studies/Transportation-Plans-and-Studies/TIP/TIP-Amendment-Archive/Archive-assets/21SA1amend.aspx>

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

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

MARC will collect a 1.0% project fee for all federal funds awarded through the 2023-2024 programming in accordance with the MARC Transportation Program Local Match Policy and Strategy.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Total Transportation Policy Committee approved this amendment on February 16, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 2021 Special Amendment #1 to the 2020-24 Transportation Improvement Program

STAFF CONTACT:

Ron Achelpohl

Marc Hansen

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 8-g

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Receipt of Federal Funds to Support Various MARC Transportation Programs

BACKGROUND:

One of MARC's fundamental roles as a Metropolitan Planning Organization is to provide a forum and facilitate processes for cooperative decision-making about the use of federal transportation dollars for projects and programs in the Kansas City area.

In December 2020, the MARC Board approved programming recommendations that included 2023-2024 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding for MARC's Active Transportation, Air Quality Public Education, RIDESHARE, Operation Greenlight, and Planning Sustainable Places programs. MARC seeks authorization to enter into the agreements necessary to secure funding to support these projects as detailed below:

- Active Transportation

This program includes three components: public outreach to educate and encourage human-powered transportation, monitoring to evaluate shifts in active transportation traffic counts, and focused technical assistance for walking and bicycling programs. This request would extend the current Active Transportation Program.

- Air Quality Public Education

MARC provides information to the region regarding ground level ozone pollution and transportation-related strategies that businesses, local governments, and residents can take to improve air quality.

- RIDESHARE

This program provides information to employers and commuters about alternatives to driving alone and provides free ride-matching services to area residents who wish to carpool for some of their trips as a strategy to reduce ozone precursor emissions.

- Operation Green Light Arterial Traffic Management System Operations

The Operation Green Light Program (OGL) assists state and local governments that own and operate traffic signals on regional arterial roadways to coordinate traffic signal timing and operation oversight to improve traffic flow, reduce excessive fuel consumption, and reduce emissions throughout the region. MARC's OGL program staff provides traffic signal timing operations support, maintains its regional communications network, and oversees the advanced traffic management system software that allows for real-time traffic signal operations.

- Operation Green Light Regional Advanced Traffic Management System Software

This project includes the implementation of new Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) software and the replacement of up to 30 obsolete traffic signal controllers.

- Planning Sustainable Places

The Planning Sustainable Places Program (PSP) provides local governments and agencies with financial support to advance detailed local planning and project development activities in direct support of the Creating Sustainable Places (CSP) Initiative, Connected KC 2050's (CKC2050) Activity Centers and Corridors framework, and the MARC Board's policy on regional land use direction.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The funds detailed in the table below will be added to the MARC budget.

Program/Project	Kansas		Missouri		Match Required
	CMAQ	STPM	CMAQ	STPM	
Active Transportation	\$ 72,000		\$ 72,000		\$ 36,000
Air Quality Public Education	\$ 555,000		\$ 555,000		\$ 277,500
Rideshare ¹	\$ 300,000		\$ 300,000		\$ -
Operation Greenlight ATMS Operations		\$ 420,000		\$ 980,000	\$ 1,400,000
Operation Greenlight System Software	\$ 302,688		\$ 354,690	\$ 302,622	\$ 240,000
Planning Sustainable Places ²		\$ 700,000		\$ 800,000	\$ 375,000
Total	\$ 1,229,688	\$ 1,120,000	\$ 1,281,690	\$ 2,082,622	\$ 2,328,500

¹ No matching funds are required for this project.

² Historically each funding round of the Planning Sustainable Places program has exceeded the minimum 20% local match requirement. The number shown here represents the 20% local match minimum. The actual amount may be greater

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize MARC to enter into agreements with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and local agencies as needed to receive federal CMAQ funds, federal STP funds, and matching funds as described above.

STAFF CONTACT:

Ron Achelpohl
Beth Dawson
Karen Clawson
Alex Rotenberry
Ray Webb

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021

Item No. 8-h

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize a Consultant Contract for a Planning Sustainable Places Project

BACKGROUND:

For projects funded through Planning Sustainable Places (PSP), MARC will hold the contracts on individual projects, although the project leads and local match will be provided by the local sponsors. Details for a project sponsored by the City of Overland Park, Kan. and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kan. are provided below. A qualifications-based competitive selection process was used in the selection of the consulting team.

Merriam Drive Gateways Corridor Study: This is a plan to analyze the relationship between transportation and land use along Merriam Drive, spanning two Johnson County cities and the Unified Government. Key components of the plan include:

- Equitably engage property owners and neighbors in meaningful and descriptive conversation about the future uses in the corridor.
- Conceptualize a multi-modal complete streets plan for the Merriam Drive corridor and its integration into adjacent multi-modal transportation networks.
- Develop an implementation strategy to close existing gaps in the Turkey Creek trail across all jurisdictions.
- Identify and develop complimentary green infrastructure projects along the corridor that support stormwater management and stormwater quality, place-making, urban heat island reduction, and buffers for multi-modal connectivity.
- Create a framework that best positions the corridor and surrounding neighborhoods to become a thriving and desirable place to live and conduct business.

MARC advertised the project from December 4, 2020 through January 8, 2021 on MARC's website, DemandStar, and the National American Planning Association's RFP page. There were eight proposals received. A selection committee with representatives from Overland Park, Merriam, and the Unified Government reviewed and interviewed four teams. MARC staff attended the interviews to ensure federal guidelines were followed.

Using a competitive, qualifications-based selection process, the team of Olsson and Merge Midwest Engineering was recommended for the project. The team's proposal includes data collection and analysis, market analysis, creating a vision for the corridor, alternative analysis, and recommendations including an implementation plan.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The project will use federal Surface Transportation Planning funds (\$100,000) with the required local match of \$36,200.00 provided by the City of Overland Park, Kan. and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize MARC to enter into agreement with the team of Olsson, Canyon Southwest Research, and Merge Midwest Engineering for the Merriam Drive Gateways Corridor Study project for an amount not to exceed \$136,191.29.

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

STAFF CONTACT:

Beth Dawson

Patrick Trouba

Martin Rivarola

Ron Achelpohl

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 8-i
Effective Local Government

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Application to the Health Forward Foundation to Support the Regional Housing Partnership

BACKGROUND:

MARC is partnering with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Greater Kansas City to organize the Regional Housing Partnership (RHP). The RHP will mobilize individuals and organizations to enact systems-level change to grow the supply of affordable housing for cost-burdened households. This will be accomplished through five elements of an effective regional housing system: (1) research and analysis; (2) connectivity of stakeholders; (3) financing and capacity; (4) policy; and (5) education.

MARC and LISC are seeking funding for personnel (coordination and research) and an online housing platform to support this work. MARC requests authorization to apply to the Health Forward Foundation for a 2021 Healthy Communities grant. Housing and other social determinants of health are increasingly understood to have a profound impact on health outcomes. The RHP will engage more individuals in healthy practices because they will have the security of stable housing in neighborhoods that support active lifestyles and healthy eating.

The RHP will be advised by a committee of diverse stakeholders representing various disciplines in the housing and health realms such as community development corporations, community-based organizations, neighborhood leaders, tenants, homeowners, bankers, developers, builders, and elected officials. The housing platform will connect over 200 housing stakeholders and will facilitate information sharing and community-based solutions.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

MARC and LISC developed an 18-month start-up budget of \$500,000. This grant would provide \$150,000 of seed funding while additional support is raised from other grants and foundations.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$150,000
Source	2021 Health Forward Foundation Healthy Communities Grant
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$60,000
Pass-Through	\$90,000

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an application to the Health Forward Foundation for the Regional Housing Partnership in the amount of \$150,000.

STAFF CONTACT:

Lauren Palmer

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

February 2021
Item No. 8-j
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve an Application to the Administration of Children and Families to Carry Forward Unused Funds

BACKGROUND:

MARC received funds from the Administration of Children and Families totaling \$2,044,985 in late July 2020. These funds are targeted to support MARC Head Start and our direct service providers in their efforts to continue to provide services and supports for families during the pandemic.

In the beginning stages of receiving the funds, MARC Head Start brainstormed how the funds would be used appropriately. Immediate identified needs were for PPE, and most of the initial expenditures went to securing these supplies.

As time progressed and requests from our providers changed to larger expenditures, we decided to implement a robust policy on reimbursement:

- Reimbursement is based on expenses that are necessary to maintain services using the following criteria:
 - Is the cost incurred for an enrolled child or that child's family (the term "family" is defined in 45 CFR 1305.2)?
 - Is the cost necessary for the delivery of Head Start or Early Head Start services?
 - Is there a lack of community resources, or inability to access those resources that would typically be used to fulfill the identified need?
 - Is the decision to incur the cost and use of funds adequately documented?
 - Is the expense to prepare for, respond to, or recover from COVID-19?
- A "YES" answer to all the foregoing questions indicates an allowable expense for COVID-19 one-time funds.

MARC Head Start partners began to request the use of funds for bathrooms for increased handwashing, flooring/tiles for ease of cleaning, and computers/tablets for remote instruction. Many partners are part of school districts, requiring them to go through an internal fiduciary bidding process as well as MARC's internal process. Head Start's fiscal year ended on October 31, 2020. With only 3 months between the award and the end of the fiscal year, MARC Head Start only expended \$152,918 leaving a balance of \$1,892,067. MARC Head Start would like to request a carry forward of the remaining funds to continue the support of programs as they continue operations during the pandemic.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

These COVID specific carry forward funds are in addition to the current grant and are one-time funds.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$1,892,067
Source	Administration for Children and Families
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Expenses for COVID Response	\$1,892,067

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Head Start Policy Council and Advisory Committee approved the application for the carry forward at their February 2020 meetings.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve MARC Head Start's carry forward application to the Administration for Children and Families in the amount of \$1,892,067 to support continued operations during COVID.

STAFF CONTACT:

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