



# Board of Directors MEETING NOTICE

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

April 27, 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](mailto:kbielecki@marc.org) by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 for instructions to join the teleconference.

## AGENDA

1. Introductions and Board Sharing Time
2. REPORT: Update on Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Initiatives
  - Status of COVID-19/Variants/Public Health Orders
  - Vaccination Strategies
  - Communications Update
3. EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
  - a. REPORT: Parade of Hearts, a Public Art Experience
  - b. REPORT: Update on Formation of a Regional Housing Partnership
4. EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND QUALITY PLACES
  - a. REPORT: Update on the Planning Sustainable Places Program
5. BRIEF REPORTS:
  - a. **REPORT: MARC's 2021 Regional Assembly and Awards**
  - b. REPORT: Update on Federal Highway Administration Transportation Performance Targets
  - c. REPORT: 2021 Air Quality Public Awareness Campaign

## CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

6. VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda
  - a. Approve Minutes of the March 23, 2021 Board Meeting
  - b. Engage RubinBrown to Perform the 2021 Audit
  - c. Authorize Contracts to Support Workforce Services under New EDA CARES Act Grant
  - d. Authorize Final Acceptance of Designated Aging and Adult Services Proposals
  - e. Authorize an Application for the Expansion of the Double Up Heartland Program 2021 - 2024
  - f. Approve 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Amendment to the *2020-24 Transportation Improvement Program*
  - g. Authorize Consultant Contracts for Two Planning Sustainable Places Studies
  - h. Authorize an Application to the Environmental Protection Agency to Support Regional Planning for Food Waste Reduction
  - i. Authorize an Increase to an Agreement with Guadalupe Centers to Support Regional Public Health



# Board of Directors MEETING NOTICE

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

- j. Approve the Purchase of Two Vehicles for 911 Technicians
  - k. Approve Agreements with Motorola to Replace VESTA Call-taking Hardware in Johnson and Cass Counties
  - l. Approve the Purchase of Equipment from CDW-G for the Public Safety Answer Point Workstation Replacement Program
  - m. Authorize a Grant Application to the Missouri Emergency Response Commission to support the Mid-America Local Emergency Planning Committee
  - n. Authorize an Application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to Support the Regional Early Learning System
  - o. Approve Mid America Head Start's 2021 Cost of Living Adjustment Application to the Administration for Children and Families
  - p. Authorize an Application to the Administration for Children and Families for Supplemental Funds in Response to COVID-19
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

**MARC Board of Directors — Members and Alternates**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Title</b>
Allen, Perry**	MoDOT	Asst. District Engineer
Alvey, David	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Mayor/CEO
Bacon, John	City of Olathe	Mayor
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
Hobart, Dan	City of Independence	Councilmember
Huston, Bob	Cass County	Presiding Commissioner
Jarrold, Dick**	KCATA	Vice President
Johnson, Harold	Unified Government of WyCo/KCK	Commissioner
Johnson, Ryan	Cass County	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

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MARC Board of Directors

April 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

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MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 2

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

- o Status of COVID-19/Variants/Public Health Orders
- o Vaccination Strategies
- o Communications Update

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel

Jennifer Sutherlin

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 3-a  
Effective Local Government

### ISSUE:

REPORT: Parade of Hearts, a Public Art Experience

### BACKGROUND:

The Parade of Hearts is a region wide public art experience intended to unite the region after the events of 2020. The Parade will be held in 2022 and is centered around the KC Heart marketing campaign and its historical connection to the Kansas City Monarchs Negro Leagues baseball team. Artistic KC Hearts will be placed at strategic locations throughout the region, and tourism will be promoted through a Parade of Hearts visitor app. A sponsorship campaign will raise funds to support areas of need highlighted by the events of 2020:

1. University of Kansas Health System - New imaging equipment that is an important tool during and after a pandemic.
2. **MARC's Early Learning Department** - Grants to help providers prepare for child care licensing, business licensing and enhanced health and safety for children and staff.
3. AltCap - Grants and business advisory services for minority and women-owned small businesses.
4. VisitKC Foundation - Funding for community initiatives such as Restaurant Week, the Community Meals Project and the Visitor Influencer Program.
5. ArtsKC - Stipends and promotion for all KC Heart artists.

Jenn Nussbeck (Hope House) and Tucker Trotter (Dimensional Innovations) from the Parade of Hearts Community Engagement Committee will brief the MARC Board of Directors about the event prior to a public announcement and launch in June 2021. Board members are asked to provide feedback and to suggest individuals and organizations who may be interested in supporting the event. Please provide contacts to Lauren Palmer at [lpalmer@marc.org](mailto:lpalmer@marc.org) who will coordinate with the Community Engagement Committee on city and county outreach.

### RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Lauren Palmer

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 3-b  
Effective Local Government

### ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on Formation of a Regional Housing Partnership

### BACKGROUND:

Last fall, staff reported that MARC is working with the Kansas City Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) to create a Regional Housing Partnership. The goal is to combine the housing expertise of LISC with the regional convening expertise of MARC to create the elements necessary for an effective housing system. Many local governments and organizations in the region are undertaking important initiatives to expand affordable housing. MARC has been involved in a number of these efforts, including analysis of housing trends, promoting sustainable housing concepts, and addressing barriers to fair housing in partnership with several local governments. MARC has also supported the First Suburbs Coalition focus on housing that engaged technical support from the National League of Cities and culminated in a Regional Housing Summit in fall 2019.

The Summit identified several opportunities to organize efforts and to strengthen the capacity of the regional housing system, including formation of a regional partnership to engage local governments and key housing interests. Work on this was delayed when the pandemic set in early last year, though MARC has continued to support efforts to advance housing stability and eviction prevention, most notably through coordinating the KC Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund in partnership with other organizations and foundations.

Efforts are now underway to build awareness and to identify philanthropic and other resources for forming a Regional Housing Partnership (RHP). Enclosed is a concept outline for the partnership, including several early priorities that were identified in the Summit and continued dialogue with housing interests. The RHP would focus on seven broad elements essential to an effective, productive housing system:

1. Market data and analytics,
2. Networked leadership
3. Financing and development tools
4. Production capacity
5. Rental and ownership support systems
6. Supportive public policy
7. Public education and support

The work of the RHP will be accomplished through a three-part leadership structure. The project management team of LISC and MARC will be responsible for executing the day-to-day operations of the partnership. An advisory committee of diverse public, private, and non-profit stakeholders will provide guidance on strategies to address affordable housing challenges. A broader Housing Partnership Network will be connected through an online platform and will convene at least annually to review progress. It is possible that the partnership can be launched in mid-2021 as resources are identified.

### RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Lauren Palmer  
Marlene Nagel  
David Warm

## Regional Housing Partnership An Introduction

Building an effective housing system that expands and sustains access to affordable housing will promote regional prosperity and result in better economic and health outcomes. A successful regional affordable housing system requires seven elements:

1. Market data and analytics
2. Networked leadership
3. Financing and development tools
4. Production capacity
5. Rental and ownership support systems
6. Supportive public policy
7. Public education and support



These elements interact to enhance the ability of all persons and families in the region to access safe, affordable and adequate housing. Strong leadership and coordination is required to research and develop best practices in these areas, pilot promising strategies at the neighborhood and local level, then scale them for regional success.

There are many examples throughout the region of successful programs, policies, and services that are addressing housing needs at the neighborhood level. Yet these efforts are disconnected from each other and from a broader regional housing approach. MARC will partner 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. The RHP will combine the convening and research expertise of MARC with the housing and financing expertise of LISC.

The RHP will research, plan, support and facilitate the preservation and creation of affordable housing units, while strengthening the capacity of the civic infrastructure to address housing challenges on an ongoing basis. MARC and LISC envision the partnership aligning with KC Rising and serving as the regional table for addressing the Neighborhoods Pillar of Prosperity. SourceLink will provide technological and planning support.



**Regional Housing Partnership  
Year One Deliverables**

Organizing the RHP and connecting the disparate players in the affordable housing field is necessary to achieve results. This conclusion is based on qualitative analysis from interviews with nearly 30 key leaders in the field. Based on common themes emerging from these interviews, and best practices research conducted by LISC and MARC, the following year-one strategies were identified to move the region toward the desired outcomes for each element in an effective housing system.

<b>Key Elements of an Effective Regional Housing System</b>		<b>Regional Housing Partnership Year One Priorities</b>
Market Data & Analytics	Accessible, reliable, current data to empower developers, officials, lenders, and communities to meet ever shifting needs.	<p>1. Launch a Regional Housing Data Hub</p> <p>Create an online data service with public access of useful affordable housing data. The hub will be the resource to define housing problems at the local and regional scales and track effectiveness of various housing strategies to support localized housing solutions. Initial work will focus on the analytical needs of housing cohorts identified in the 2019 First Suburbs Coalition Regional Housing Summit report.</p>
Networked Leadership	Platform to enable housing leaders in all sectors to connect, inform and engage affordable housing builders, advocates, officials, and planners.	<p>2. Launch the KC Housing Connection online portal in partnership with SourceLink</p> <p>Form an affordable housing community from disconnected players. Connections will occur through an interactive online platform called KC Housing Connection (KCHC), a resource navigator developed by SourceLink and patterned after a successful platform that connects entrepreneurs with mentors, partners and resources.</p> <p>3. Form the Regional Housing Partnership Steering Committee</p> <p>Convene a diverse group of stakeholders from various disciplines in housing such as community development corporations, community-based organizations, neighborhood leaders, tenants, homeowners, bankers, developers, builders and elected officials. The steering committee will set regional goals and will establish subcommittee work groups of thought leaders to advise and oversee deliverables for each element an effective housing system.</p>

<p>Financing and Development Tools</p>	<p>Variable, available models for financing options that broaden home ownership, new construction and infill and rehabilitation; develop tools for facilitating successful affordable housing development across the region; promote coordination of federal and other resources serving homelessness.</p>	<p>4. Develop a tool kit for housing financing tools and options and identify gaps in available sources.</p> <p>Conduct research on other tool kits to build upon what exists; convene stakeholders (steering subcommittee work group) to review existing resources and identify gaps in information and resources; convene finance experts to discuss how to address gaps and to promote financial tools and options; prepare recommendations for action.</p> <p>5. Support successful investment of new federal housing resources.</p> <p>Develop inventory of new federal resources and how being deployed; conduct research on best practices; identify and convene experts to outline steps for investment of new resources; outline strategies. Convene cities from housing cohorts to develop joint strategies to implement study recommendations. Utilize private funding to match local/federal resources to incentivize housing strategies.</p> <p>6. Develop a feasibility assessment for a regional housing trust fund and regional housing land bank/trust aimed at supporting small to mid-sized communities.</p> <p>Review state laws to understand opportunities for new trust funds and/or land banks/trusts; strategize to upset investor purchasing and create more opportunities for neighborhood-based wealth generation; research best practices consistent with legal review; convene stakeholders from target communities to determine interest in various models; draft program design.</p>
<p>Production Capacity</p>	<p>High capacity housing production companies and non-profit entities that work throughout the region; a strong, capable housing construction workforce; and the use of housing models that reduce the costs of new construction and renovation.</p>	<p>7. Develop an agenda for expanding housing construction workforce</p> <p>Devote resources to accelerate recommendations from the 2019 Talent-to-Industry Exchange on skilled trades. Activities include marketing to change the perception of skilled trades, expanding trades-related experiential learning and improving drug testing technology and zero-tolerance policies.</p>

		<p>8. Develop partnerships with non-profit development partners to facilitate rehab and production in multiple communities across the region.</p> <p>Issue a request for proposals (RFP) to identify non-profit development partners; engage consultant support as needed to devise a systemic approach to expand the productivity and scope of suburban affordable housing development.</p>
<p>Rental and Ownership Support Systems</p>	<p>Highly coordinated and accessible resources to foster a healthy rental market and prevent housing insecurity and homelessness. Reduce the incidence of eviction with well-supported services for tenants and landlords, financial management resources and voucher coordination. Broaden services to increase homeownership for first-time homebuyers and to assist existing homeowners to enable property maintenance and improvements and to avoid foreclosure.</p>	<p>9. Develop a plan to sustain the regional eviction prevention partnership coordinated by United Way of Greater Kansas City and other local programs supported by federal stimulus funds.</p> <p>Develop an inventory of agencies and resources available through federal funds to address eviction prevention; Identify gaps in rental households by type or geography able to be served; determine what steps could be taken to ensure the sustainability of eviction prevention support. Partners include United Way, nonprofit emergency assistance agencies, local governments.</p> <p>10. Explore expanding capacity of personal financial support services to serve first-time home buyers in First Suburbs Coalition communities.</p> <p>Convene stakeholders (steering subcommittee work group) to identify inventory of available resources to (a) prevent foreclosure for homeowners affected by COVID-19 and (b) support first time home buyers; research best practices for local government support of first time homebuyers; outline programs/strategies for local adoption.</p>
<p>Supportive Public Policy</p>	<p>Public policies at all levels that foster affordable housing through such means as effective planning and code regulation, income supports, public-private partnerships, and fair housing practices.</p>	<p>11. Develop a regional housing policy agenda focusing on state and local governments.</p> <p>Convene stakeholders (steering subcommittee work group of local government stakeholders) to identify housing policy issues for focus; conduct research with legal support and draft recommendations for state and local policy work.</p>

<p>Public Education and Support</p>	<p>Broad leadership and public awareness of the intersection of housing with health and economic prosperity and support for affordable housing strategies that create vital, safe and affordable and attractive communities.</p>	<p>12. Launch Housing Innovations Institute for policy and planning officials.</p> <p>Convene stakeholders to discuss how a regional training institute could build on local and other resources; conduct research on best practices for institute services; develop curriculum and instructional delivery models to improve education for local decision-makers about housing conditions and effective housing strategies.</p> <p>13. Produce community engagement tools for planning affordable housing.</p> <p>Convene initial discussions with local government stakeholders on tools in use and what capacities desired; conduct research on available tools and techniques found to be most effective; offer workshops to share various tools; determine if cooperative purchases or MARC support for delivery of tools would be useful.</p>
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## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 4-a  
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on the Planning Sustainable Places Program

BACKGROUND:

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.**

PSP held its first call for projects in 2012 and is now fast approaching its tenth anniversary next year. To date, eighty-four projects have been awarded funding. It has supported planning in the breadth of **our region's** settings, from rural community historic downtowns to suburban corridors to urban centers. Complete streets, green infrastructure, enhanced connectivity, associated redevelopment components, and more have been furthered by communities who desire to make their communities vibrant, connected, and green through integrated planning. To view the various study areas and their **associated details and plans, please visit the program's projects and grantees [story map](#).**

**Today's presentation will provide an overview of the implementation and impact that the program has achieved.**

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACT:

Beth Dawson  
Martin Rivarola  
Ron Achelpohl

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 5-a  
Core Capacities

ISSUE:

**REPORT: MARC's 2021 Regional Assembly and Awards**

BACKGROUND:

Plans are progressing for the 2021 Regional Assembly on Friday, June 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Print and email invitations have been **distributed, and registration is open on MARC's website**. This will be a virtual event. The program will feature a year-in-review segment and the Regional Leadership Awards. The recipients are AltCap, Climate Action KC, Dr. Rodney Smith & Stephenie Smith, MSW, and Bill Ebel & Steve Arbo. In addition, there will be a special recognition for the **region's public health** departments.

In lieu of a keynote presentation, the event will feature two original art pieces. Glenn North will deliver an original poem and Julia Haile will compose and perform an original song. Mr. North is an award-winning poet, activist, educator, and arts executive based in Kansas City. He is currently the executive director at the Bruce A. Watkins Cultural Center. Ms. Haile is a jazz singer who started on the local music scene with the Motown/Soul band The Good Foot after studying at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory. The performances will celebrate the following themes:

- Recognize the value of regional coordination this year to address complex challenges, particularly response and recovery for the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Acknowledge the hardships of the past while embracing a spirit of healing and moving forward, especially regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Look ahead with positivity toward a bright, hopeful, future and a season of renewal for the region.

Staff is working to secure a third art performance by the Mid America Freedom Band (MAFB) to provide instrumental music for the opening and closing of the assembly. **MAFB's mission is to** provide a safe space for instrumental performance opportunities, outreach, and social advocacy for music enthusiasts within the LGBTQ+ and ally spectrum of the Kansas City area to create an inclusive community that fosters and celebrates diversity.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

STAFF CONTACTS:

Lauren Palmer

Kristin Johnson-Waggoner

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021

Item No. 5-b

Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

### ISSUE:

REPORT: Update on Federal Highway Administration Transportation Performance Targets

### BACKGROUND:

The **Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST)** Act, the current federal transportation bill, includes a series of requirements for Transportation Performance Management (TPM). Generally, the performance measures relate to national goals of safety, infrastructure condition, air quality, and transportation system performance. State DOTs were required to establish performance targets for these measures by 2018. MPOs had the option of supporting the statewide targets or establishing their own regional targets. State DOTs have the opportunity to update targets every two years and with each update MPOs have the option to: (a) support the state targets, or (b) establish regional targets within 180 days.

MARC has previously elected to establish regional targets. Core reasons include the need to harmonize different statewide targets between Kansas and Missouri as well as the fact that trends in the Kansas City region do not consistently align with statewide trends on either side of the state line. To develop the targets, MARC staff consider historical trends, statewide targets, regional plans, and programmed projects. Targets were developed in coordination with State DOT and local partners, as well as subject matter experts.

Infrastructure condition and transportation system performance are both goals in *Connected KC 2050*. Recommended targets are closely linked to statewide targets adopted by KDOT and MoDOT, which are both informed by extensive data analysis and engineering judgement.

At the Board meeting, staff will provide an overview of various transportation performance measures including system condition and reliability, significant takeaways from our review of the data, and discussion of how this information is considered in our policy/programming activities.

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Highway Committee and the Total Transportation Policy Committee have reviewed this data and provided direction to staff in recent months.

### RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Ron Achelpohl  
Martin Rivarola

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 5-c  
Healthy Environment

### ISSUE:

REPORT: 2021 Air Quality Public Awareness Campaign

### BACKGROUND:

The MARC Air Quality Program provides information to the public about what ozone is, how it impacts human health, and ways to keep our air clean through an extensive annual public outreach and **education campaign. This campaign is conducted throughout “ozone season” which begins on March 1<sup>st</sup>** and concludes on October 31<sup>st</sup>, encompassing the warmest days of the year when the occurrence of high ozone levels and harmful impacts to public health are most prevalent.

The campaign includes expansive media purchasing including television, online, radio, billboards, transit vehicle ads, and social media in order to get air quality messaging to a broad audience. A portion of the campaign every year is targeted to reach minorities.

Each year at the end of the ozone season, the ETC Institute conducts a public awareness survey through standard and electronic mail, stratified across the five counties in the MARC Air Quality Boundary: Wyandotte and Johnson Counties in Kansas, and Clay, Platte, and Jackson Counties in Missouri. The purpose of the survey is to measure the impact of air quality education efforts on awareness and behavior and to provide a benchmark for objectively evaluating the sustained impact of air quality education.

MARC staff will share highlights of the 2020 Public Awareness Survey and the public education campaign approach for the 2021 ozone season. More information about regional air quality issues and initiatives is available at <http://airqkc.org/>

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

### RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Doug Norsby  
Karen Clawson



## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-a

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve minutes of the March 23, 2021 Board meeting

BACKGROUND:

The minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

David Warm

Karina Bielecki



BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING SUMMARY  
March 23, 2021  
12:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Harold Johnson, Jr., Unified Government of Wyandotte/Kansas City, Kan. - MARC Board Chair  
Mayor Carson Ross, Blue Springs, Mo. - MARC Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, Kan. - MARC Board 2nd Vice Chair  
Mayor Eileen Weir, Independence, Mo. - MARC Board Treasurer  
**Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, Mo.** - MARC Board Secretary  
Commissioner Rob Roberts, Miami County, Kan.  
Councilmember Curt Skoog, Overland Park, Kan.  
Presiding Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, Mo.  
Councilmember Vernon Fields, Basehor, Kan.  
Mayor Damien Boley, Smithville, Mo.  
Commissioner Doug Smith, Leavenworth County, Kan.  
Mayor Paula Schwach, Westwood Hills, Kan.  
Mayor Michael Boehm, Lenexa, Kan.  
Mayor Steve Shute, Gardner, Kan.  
Dick Jarrold, Vice President of Planning & Development, KCATA  
Mayor Kristofer Turnbow, Raymore, Mo.  
Commissioner Jim Walters, Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan.  
Mayor David Alvey, Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan.  
County Executive Frank White, Jr., Jackson County, Mo.  
County Legislator Scott Burnett, Jackson County, Mo.  
Councilmember Daniel Hobart, Independence, Mo.  
Councilmember Fred Spears, Overland Park, Kan.  
Commissioner Angela Markley, Unified Government of Wyandotte/Kansas City, Kan.  
Councilmember Brandon Ellington, Kansas City, Mo.  
Mayor Mike McDonough, Raytown, Mo.  
Commissioner Dagmar Wood, Platte County, Mo.

STAFF PRESENT

Executive Director David Warm and other MARC staff

OTHERS

Councilmember Logan Heley, Overland Park, Kan.  
Juliana Garcia, Shawnee Mission Post  
Councilmember Lindsey Constance, Shawnee, Kan.

Mayor Mike Kelly, Roeland Park, Kan.

#### INTRODUCTIONS AND BOARD SHARING TIME

Commissioner Harold Johnson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and welcomed attendees. Due to the meeting being held remotely, Commissioner Johnson 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.

Self-introductions were made, and members shared items of interest from their jurisdictions.

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

Mr. James Stowe, Director of Aging and Adult Services at MARC, shared that MARC is manning a helpline for individuals sixty and over on the Missouri side of the metro who may have digital access barriers to vaccine registries. To date, the initiative has registered 1,900 older adults without internet access for vaccines through the helpline, a third of whom have received their doses. This effort has also yielded an offshoot initiative to get homebound individuals vaccinated in their homes, as many are unable to travel to clinics and some clinics are unable to accommodate their ambulatory needs. In collaboration with MARC's department of Community Development and with the approval of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, MARC's Aging and Adult Services department is able to work directly with emergency medical services (EMS) to identify homebound individuals, connect them with a local EMS provider, and make an in-home vaccination appointment. This work is not disrupting any existing city- or county-level initiatives to reach homebound individuals; MARC seeks not to overlap or duplicate efforts but support them where possible. Mr. Stowe thanked the many internal and external collaborators who have made this work possible.

Ms. Marlene Nagel, Director of Community Development at MARC, shared a link to [MARC's regional data hub for COVID-19](#), noting that information about vaccinations in the region has been added to the website. Both Missouri and Kansas have provided vaccinations for approximately 22% of adults sixteen and over in the state. In the Kansas City metro, the Missouri side numbers are slightly lower at 19.5% of those eligible receiving at least a first dose. The data on the Kansas side is not as good due to an issue of access to information. Ms. Nagel noted that the number of doses coming to Kansas counties in the metro this week are slightly less than last week. The state of Kansas predicts an increase in vaccine doses in the coming weeks at the end of March and early April. Kansas has moved to Phases Three and Four of its vaccination plan, allowing younger adults with health conditions and more essential workers to get the vaccine. Kansas hopes to make the vaccine available to all residents sixteen years or older by May 1, 2021. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has added a new equity advisor to work with state and local jurisdictions to address gaps in vaccine equity. In Missouri, approximately two million doses have been administered statewide. On March 22, many essential workers in the state became eligible for the vaccine. All adult Missouri residents will be eligible to receive the vaccine on April 9, 2021. The Kansas City area has seen several recent mass vaccination events, such as those at Arrowhead Stadium and Operation Safe in Clay County. Both Kansas and Missouri now have efforts by area pharmacies and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), and staff are hopeful that the coming weeks will see increased vaccine distribution in the greater Kansas City area.

Ms. Nagel recalled that the Kansas City Regional COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund was established in March 2020, early in the pandemic when area foundations and corporations came

together to respond to the expected need as businesses shut down or closed and area residents were out of work. An initial fund of \$16 million was raised in a matter of weeks. Through community input, four founding partners (United Way, the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, the Local Initiative Support Corporation, and MARC) and the funders established a twenty-member advisory board to shape the fund. The board incorporated best practices in disaster philanthropy and applied an equity lens to their process. They received over 600 online applications in several weeks. A series of grant rounds were announced by the advisory board, which awarded 260 grants to address urgent needs. Several initial rounds of funding for those needs totaled approximately \$10.5 million. Just over \$4 million additional funding was awarded to four partnerships to address the areas of housing and eviction prevention, digital access, public health, and out-of-school time and childcare support. The advisory board also identified ongoing needs and issued a third round of funding in areas of behavioral health, food insecurity, and domestic violence. In total, the board has awarded just under \$18 million in grant funding. A recent analysis by the board shared lessons learned in the process: the power of collaboration among funders and agencies; the importance of community voices, engaging community members in decision-making, and trust-based philanthropy; the significance of funding organizations of all sizes, particularly smaller ones who work with some of the region's most vulnerable households; applying an equity lens to respond to the unique needs and disparities of those most affected by COVID; and the recognition that significant needs continue and greater community capacity is needed. A recent meeting of the advisory board determined that interest exists at several foundations to continue the fund's work and to provide additional resources. That effort is just getting underway and possible focus areas include food insecurity, behavioral health, housing instability, digital access, health care access, economic empowerment, and public health.

Finally, Ms. Nagel noted that local public health agencies and public information officers have been working together with MARC to communicate safe practices around vaccination and the safety of the vaccine. There are also new statewide campaigns rolling out around the vaccine. This morning, the Multiagency Coordination Group (MAC-G) heard from Comeback KC, which has designed a new "Two Million Arms" campaign addressing vaccine hesitancy with an equity lens, relying on a message of "protecting myself, my family, and my community". The campaign aims to reach out to those who are hesitant to get the vaccine by employing trusted voices. Ms. Nagel paused for questions, but there were none.

## HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

### VOTE: Adopt the Regional Climate Action Plan

Mr. Tom Jacobs, Environmental Program Director at MARC, reminded the Board that they heard a presentation of the Regional Climate Action Plan at the February 2021 meeting. Mr. Jacobs asked the Board to now consider and officially adopt the plan. In January 2021, the Air Quality Forum and the Sustainable Places Policy Committee endorsed the plan. The Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) endorsed it on March 16, 2021. A number of issues have been raised by the Board and other committees, and Mr. Jacobs presented an overview of those issues and MARC's response.

The most important issue raised was a concern that the plan was too prescriptive. The intent of the plan, like all MARC plans, was that it be a voluntary, flexible, and collaborative framework for action. This intent is framed in a variety of places in the document. Mr. Jacobs emphasized the spirit of the plan as bringing people together and finding places to make a difference. The intention is to identify opportunities for alignment among local needs and challenges, then find contextually appropriate solutions. Another key issue was the relationship between the regional transportation plan and the climate action plan. Mr. Jacobs noted that all recommendations in the

climate action plan are aligned with the transportation plan the Board adopted last year. Recommendations around building walkable communities, investing in public transportation, and creating sustainable places are reaffirmed in the climate plan. Another issue was the relationship between energy efficiency and its impact on affordable housing. Mr. Jacobs noted that energy efficiency is a fundamental tenant of what the plan hopes to achieve and emphasized that there are many paths to this goal. The plan defers to local communities about what is most appropriate for them. The plan creates a menu of options for communities to make progress on the issue. Finally, the relationship between rural development and the climate plan was raised as an issue. To address this, MARC staff held meetings with the Ray and Miami County Commissions and planning leadership throughout the region. Mr. Jacobs noted the extreme productivity of these meetings, highlighting points of shared interest and alignment on topics such as soil health, agricultural productivity, protecting the rural character of communities, and more. The conversations reinforced the plan as a framework for collaborative action.

Mr. Jacobs shared the second page of the plan, highlighting the statement prominently identifying the plan as a voluntary framework to guide and align local action in ways that make a difference for the entire Kansas City region. Strategies can be tailored to meet local community needs and priorities.

The plan has nine action areas: collaboration & leadership, innovation & finance, community resilience, urban greening, renewable energy, energy efficiency, transportation & land use, industry & resource management, and food & agriculture. Mr. Jacobs noted that there is precedent for all of these ideas in the region. The goal is to build from existing successes and scale up for greater community impact. The spirit of the plan is to identify elegant solutions that solve more than one problem at a time: addressing food security through sustainable land stewardship, creating jobs and dramatic cost savings through investments in energy efficiency, improving public health through green infrastructure strategies, and more. Mr. Jacobs expressed hope the plan would put wind in the sails of those interested in pursuing this work and spur creativity in all related areas.

Mayor Michael Boehm thanked Mayor Mike Kelly and Councilmember Lindsey Constance for their efforts on the plan. Mayor Boehm noted the beauty of the plan as a menu of options to choose from and adapt for communities. He also thanked staff for including additional language about the voluntary nature of the plan. Mayor Carson Ross, co-chair of the TTPC, thanked Mr. Jacobs, Ron Achelpohl, and his fellow co-chair Councilmember Chuck Adams for their work on the document, noting the geographical diversity of the region.

Commissioner Jerry Nolte raised several concerns. First, Commissioner Nolte expressed concern about the cost of the plan's incentives to counties. He also expressed concern that while the plan is voluntary now, it may become mandatory in the future or be required for transportation funding. Finally, Commissioner Nolte compared the plan to a report from Gould Evans, noting his fear the report was used as a reason to minimize funding and investment in Clay County. Commissioner Nolte expressed concern that, due to Clay County's lower population density, the plan's recommendations would be detrimental to the county's growth. Commissioner Nolte acknowledged the good aspects of the plan and the hard work of those who contributed to it.

Mayor Eileen Weir also thanked staff and committee members for their work on the plan, particularly in addressing concerns and receiving the support of various committees. Mayor Weir drew attention to the Building Energy Exchange, noting that Mayor Kelly has led a collaborative

effort among cities on both sides of the state-line to compete for funding from the Bloomberg Mayor's Challenge.

Mayor Damien Boley also thanked staff for their work on the plan. He noted the alignment of the plan with the goals of mayors in Clay County to improve transportation, trails, green spaces, waterways, sewers, and water treatments. Mayor Boley noted that much of Clay County's water travels down to other communities in the area.

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick highlighted the plan's emphasis on equity issues and the potential impact of future weather on vulnerable populations. Commissioner Hanzlick noted the plan strengthens the area's ability to care for our most vulnerable populations. It is important to prepare for the impact of drought, flooding, and high heat on the most vulnerable communities and have a plan in place.

Commissioner Dagmar Wood noted the plan's push for renewable energy and expressed concern, given the recent spate of cold weather and power outages in the area. Commissioner Wood expressed an interest in preserving safe and efficient use of power plants alongside encouraging renewable energy sources. Mr. Jacobs noted that the rolling blackouts experienced by the community point to the importance of more investment in energy efficiencies to reduce costs for heating homes. Communities are now facing exorbitant natural gas bills and efficiency can be part of the solution to this. Mr. Jacobs noted the need to manage energy supply, transmissions, and use in ways that can respond to extreme weather, produce affordable energy, and reduce emissions where possible.

#### COMPETITIVE ECONOMY

##### REPORT: KC Rising Pillar Metrics and Place Related Strategy

Mr. Frank Lenk, Director of Research Services at MARC, reminded the Board that KC Rising is the region's civic collaborative around growing the economy in an inclusive way. KC Rising has been developing new metric of measuring progress, known as Pillars.

KC Rising was started because Kansas City was not keeping up with peer cities' economic growth. To change trends, accelerate past peers, and emerge stronger, we must make progress on place and inclusion. MARC has been asked to coordinate KC Rising's efforts around Place. The Place Committee that has been formed will address issues of mobility solutions, attainable housing, infrastructure investment, community amenities, global connectivity, and public health and safety. KC Rising 2.0 adopted Horizon Goals to better imbed Place and Inclusion in concepts of economic growth and prosperity. KC Rising identified ten benchmark metros that are similar in size to Kansas City, but doing better at growing the economy for everyone. Public engagement of thousands of people revealed seven themes around what prosperity means for Kansas City: Enterprise, Industry, Inclusion, Connectivity, Culture, Neighborhoods, and Education. Pillar metrics are system-level metrics that lead the Horizon Goals. They are also influenced by the strategies we are pursuing as a region. Pillar metrics are the fulcrum between the region's strategies and the Horizon Goals, ensuring the strategies have sufficient leverage to achieve them.

Mr. Lenk identified the following metrics for each pillar:

- Enterprise
  - Percent of metro jobs created by startup firms over the preceding five years
  - Venture capital investment relative to benchmark metros
  - Percent of businesses that are minority- or women-owned

- Bank lending to small businesses in high- vs. low-poverty and majority white vs. majority people of color census tracts
- Industry
  - Total traded sector or industry employment growth rate, relative to benchmark metros
  - STEM occupation pay rate adjusted for cost-of-living, relative to benchmark metros
  - Gender and race-ethnicity gaps in percent employed in the traded industries
  - Proportion of workers in traded industries in households with self-sufficient incomes
- Inclusion
  - Prime age (25-64 years) employment-to-population ratio (total and by race, gender)
  - Percent of workers working more than 40 hours per week whose household incomes are not self-sufficient (total and by race, gender)
  - Earnings gap by race and gender, controlling for age, education, and occupation
  - Residential lending rates in majority white vs. majority people of color census tracts
- Connectivity
  - Percent of jobs accessible within 45 minutes by transit vs. auto
  - Percent of households with broadband subscriptions
  - Percent of jobs accessible to the low-wage workforce within 45 minutes by transit
  - Disparity in broadband subscriptions, by race/ethnicity
- Culture
  - Direct economic impact of events, especially trade shows, as tracked by using a common platform by VisitKC (KCMO), Overland Park, KCK, plus others
  - Social media mentions or favorable sentiment
  - Percent rating their quality of life as excellent, by race and ethnicity
  - Number of events KC area residents can attend in an average month
- Neighborhoods
  - Percentage of poor children living in mixed-income areas (total and by race/ethnicity)
  - Percent of renters who are cost-burdened, paying more than 30% of gross income on rent (total and by race/ethnicity)
  - Life expectancy differential between majority white and majority people of color census tracts
  - Disparities in perceptions of communities' schools and safety by race
- Education
  - Percent of young adults (25-39) employed in a good or promising job, as defined by Brookings
  - Percent of bachelor's degrees earned in STEM fields
  - Race/ethnicity and gender gaps in percent of young adults employed in a good or promising job
  - Race/ethnicity and gender gaps in STEM degree attainment

Mr. Lenk invited feedback from Board members on the metrics. Metrics will be finalized ahead of the KC Horizon event on May 6, 2021. Mr. Lenk paused for questions, but there were none.

#### EFFECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

##### REPORT: 2020 Annual Report on Eastern Jackson County Shared Services Initiative

Ms. Lauren Palmer, Assistant Community Development Director and Local Government Services Director at MARC, shared the Eastern Jackson County Shared Services report for 2020. In 2018, the city managers in Blue Springs, Independence, and Lee's Summit expressed interest in advancing

shared services. The three city councils adopted by resolution a statement of common purpose emphasizing their intent to collaborate. In 2019, the first annual report of early accomplishments was presented to the governing bodies and to the MARC board. In March 2020, Raytown and Grandview were welcomed into the initiative. Both jurisdictions are acting soon on resolutions to adopt the statement of common purpose.

There were several highlights of the group's work in 2020. First, a sustained work relationship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Palmer noted the value in the informal sharing, especially in the early pandemic. Second, they completed a cooperative purchase for a Stopt! regional ethics, safety, and fraud hotline and case management vendor. Thirdly, they continue joint supervisory training and just completed a five-part series on Legal Aspects of Supervision. The first annual report for exit interviews was conducted on behalf of Blue Springs and Independence. While Lee's Summit opted not to participate in the program initially, exit interview surveys were designed for data sharing among all three communities to gauge if interviews are more successful when administered by an outside party. Finally, the group received a \$748,406 grant from the Department of Justice (DOJ) to expand the mental health co-responder program. The program embeds mental health clinicians in local police departments to help respond to calls for service. MARC administers the grant on behalf of the partnership.

In 2021, the group is looking at other shared services opportunities, including more networking opportunities for staff, shared equipment or maintenance opportunities, and ways to work together to combat illegal dumping. MARC is eager to expand this work to other micro regions in the area and Ms. Palmer encouraged interested communities to visit with MARC staff.

Mayor Kristofer Turnbow inquired about the mental health co-responder program and if it would be possible for northern Cass County to participate in the program as it is a huge concern for the area. Ms. Palmer said she would share more details on the program with him, and noted that the grant application was modeled off of a very similar, successful program in Johnson County.

#### BRIEF REPORTS

##### **REPORT: Update on MARC's Government Training Institute**

Ms. Palmer reminded the Board that the Government Training Institute (GTI) was established in 1996 as a shared service to provide a consistent and responsive mechanism for meeting the training and organizational development needs of public organizations. The market for professional development has evolved, and MARC is working to modify course content and delivery models to be more responsive to our local government audience.

About one hundred open enrollment courses are hosted each year, covering topics such as customer service, supervision, technical skills, and more. GTI is perhaps best known for certificate programs which students complete over a one- to two-year period. GTI also provides customized trainings and special event coordination by contract on a case-by-case basis if a city wants to train an entire division or department on a topic. GTI works with cities to customize trainings to best fit their needs. Ms. Palmer introduced Ms. Shelly Bolling-Strickland, GTI Program Assistant and Registrar at MARC, to give an overview of new programming for 2021.

Ms. Bolling-Strickland highlighted new programming, a lot of which came from the GTI advisory council formed last summer to talk about what is new, needed, or a hot topic within local governments. New offerings include: a course series to help employees and organizations advance their commitments to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the workplace; a course series to help employees navigate remote working challenges and maximize success; a course series



focused on the legal aspects of supervision; a new partnership with LANTEC of Louisiana Corporate Training Center for computer skills classes; and a Data Academy certificate program to develop skills to work with big data to inform decisions and solve problems. Ms. Bolling-Strickland provided an overview of start dates and class formats for many of these offerings.

Ms. Bolling-Strickland shared that GTI is offering eighty-eight scholarships for its new DEI series and workshop for front-line workers. Scholarships are available until September 30, 2021. Scholarship awards are initially limited to three scholarships per organization. Scholarships will cover 80% of training fees, with the organizations being responsible for the other 20%. Organizations will be required to submit a simple statement of need to qualify. Ms. Bolling-Strickland encouraged anyone interested in classes to contact staff at <https://www.marc.org/gti>. Ms. Bolling-Strickland paused for questions, but there were none.

#### REPORT: Update on State and Federal Legislative Issues Related to Public Health

Ms. Nagel shared that MARC has been tracking various state legislative efforts consistent with the policy platform adopted by the Board in late 2020. A particular focus has been COVID-19 and public health orders. The Kansas legislature, in a special session, placed some limits on the governor's authority last year. House and Senate bills were recently introduced to extend those restrictions. A final version was passed by both chambers and is on the governor's desk. The bill provides for local county commissions to issue public health orders in consultation with their public health officials. School districts and community college boards are the only ones that have authority to close their facilities. The governor is expected to sign the bill.

In Missouri, two public health bills are likely to move forward. HB75 would limit public health orders for businesses, schools, and churches and place a fifteen-day limit on how long a public health order can be in effect without extension. SB100 provides a tax credit for businesses that had to close due to public health orders. Staff continue to monitor those bills. Early in the pandemic, Missouri issued several waivers to state rules to make it easier for EMS, hospitals, public health, older adult services, and childcare in schools to operate during the pandemic. Those waivers expire at the end of this month and several groups are asking the governor to extend those waivers.

Finally, with the American Rescue Plan (ARP) approved by Congress recently, there is almost \$100 billion available for public health funding, half of which is for state and local public health departments to address vaccination, testing, contact tracing, and staffing. Staff are hopeful that funds will flow to public health to ensure adequate resources in the short- and long-term. Ms. Nagel paused for questions, but there were none.

#### REPORT: Update on Federal Highway Administration Transportation Performance Targets

This report was held for **April's** Board meeting in the interest of time.

### CONSENT AGENDA (ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS)

#### VOTE: Approve Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Minutes of the February 23, 2021 Board Meeting
- b. Authorize Consultant Contracts for Five Planning Sustainable Places Studies
- c. Approve Media Purchases to Support the 2021 Air Quality Ozone Season Public Outreach Campaign
- d. **Authorize MARC to Submit the Area Agency on Aging's State-Mandated Area Plan and to Accept**

- and Expend Allotted Older Americans Act and Associated Funds
- e. Authorize Contract Cap Increases for Two Aging and Adult Services Contract Assessors
  - f. Authorize a Proposal to Kansas City, Mo. to Support Vaccination of Vulnerable Populations in Partnership with Heart to Heart International
  - g. Authorize a Proposal to Kansas City, Mo. for a Housing Market Analysis and Fair Housing Report and to Subcontract for Support Services
  - h. Approve Change Order with Nokia for Microwave Equipment and Installation
  - i. Authorize Change Order for the Roof Repair Project at Thomas Roque Early Education Center
  - j. **Approve Mid America Head Start's Core Grant Carry Forward Application**

MOTION: Mayor Carson Ross moved for approval of all agenda items and the consent agenda, and Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick seconded. Commissioner Johnson asked if any member wanted to abstain or object to any of the agenda items. Commissioner Dagmar Wood and Presiding Commissioner Jerry Nolte objected to item 3-a. All others were in favor of approving agenda items 3-a through 7-j. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

MEETING SUMMARY APPROVED:

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Harold Johnson, Chair

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Date

# AGENDA REPORT

## MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-b  
Core Competencies

ISSUE:

VOTE: Engage RubinBrown to Perform the 2021 Audit

BACKGROUND:

RubinBrown audited MARC for fiscal years 2011 through 2015. During the fall of 2016, MARC staff conducted an RFP process for the audits of fiscal years 2016 through 2020. The MARC Board of Directors approved the selection of RubinBrown for annual audit services with the understanding that the Board would reaffirm the engagement on an annual basis. In January 2021, the Board approved engaging RubinBrown for the 2020 audit.

Staff is recommending that the Board approve engaging RubinBrown for the 2021 audit. During 2020, almost all financial processes were modified to accommodate remote work. One of the finance department's 2021 goals is to evaluate, refine, and document new procedures. Additionally, in September 2020 the long-time Accounting Manager, **who had worked on MARC's audit for many years** and led the audit for the past two years, left full-time employment with MARC. That position was filled with an internal promotion in December 2020. Due to these challenges, finance staff believe MARC would be best served by continuing with RubinBrown one more year before engaging in another competitive RFP process.

RubinBrown has broad public sector and grant experience and they have provided excellent service to MARC. They have periodically rotated audit managers to provide a fresh perspective. The United States Governmental Accounting Office has endorsed manager rotation for audits as an efficient way to mitigate costs and still retain some institutional knowledge. Staff requested RubinBrown provide a proposal for the 2021 audit. They have offered to rotate managers for the 2021 audit and to perform 2021 audit services at a three percent increase. Staff has obtained pricing from several cities and believe that pricing to be competitive.

Staff is bringing this forward at this time because an RFP process for audit services would need to commence in May. If the Board approves engaging Rubin Brown for the 2021 audit, a formal engagement letter will be brought forward in December 2021.

A summary of the actual and estimated fees is shown below.

Fiscal Year	Base Fees	Additional Major Programs Audited (\$5,000 each)		Total Fees Billed
		Number	Fees	
2016	66,700	1	5,000	71,700
2017	68,700			68,700
2018	70,760			70,760
2019	72,800	1	5,000	77,800
2020 (Estimated)	74,900			74,900
2021 (Proposed)	77,300			77,300

## AGENDA REPORT

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### MARC Board of Directors

#### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Funding for the 2021 audit will be included as an Indirect Cost in the 2022 Clearing Fund budget.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the engagement of RubinBrown for the FY 2021 audit at an estimated cost of \$77,300.

#### STAFF CONTACT:

Carol Gonzales

Katelyn Click

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-c  
Competitive Economy

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Contracts to Support Workforce Services under New EDA CARES Act Grant

### BACKGROUND:

In June 2020, MARC submitted an application to the US Economic Development Administration to aid in the economic recovery of communities due to the COVID-19 disaster. MARC has worked with community partners on a modest funding proposal that would respond to the impacts of the disaster **on “main street” small businesses and on those unemployed with limited skills** to re-enter the workforce. The proposal is focused on Wyandotte County, Kan.

The board authorized acceptance of the grant, if awarded, and contracts with project partners. EDA awarded the grant in mid-February 2021, and work is underway to secure necessary partner support to launch the program.

**The grant would enable MARC’s KC Degrees program to assist unemployed residents with career** guidance and access to training resources to support re-employment. The KC Degrees staff would work with community organizations in Wyandotte County to encourage those newly unemployed and most disadvantaged to take advantage of the guidance and training. The training resources would be made available through Workforce Partnership. In addition, there is a need to help case managers at Workforce Partnership and other agencies serving unemployed residents to gain expertise in assessing skills and career interests for clients and helping guide them in career pathways where jobs are or will be available.

Through a competitive RRP process, ICATT, a workforce training company, has been selected to assist in training case managers helping unemployed and underemployed residents with skills assessment, career interests, and career counseling to support training and employment. The contract for \$27,300 will enable ICATT to develop a curriculum and conduct training for case managers and career navigators.

An RFQ was issued for Career Navigators to support residents seeking career guidance. Ileana Cepeda, a current Career Navigator with KC Degrees, responded to the RFQ and has been selected to provide part-time services over the next 18 months at a cost not to exceed \$40,500.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize contracts as described above.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-d  
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Final Acceptance of Designated Aging and Adult Services Proposals

### BACKGROUND:

RFPs were released for selected services. This round of approvals is specifically designed to address new contracts or initiatives.

In-home services proposals will be considered at the May Commission meeting.

At a later meeting, services that were high-performing, or in which there was no immediate perceived opportunity to improve effectiveness, will be recommended for renewal.

The following services were received and scored by MARC:

- Integrated Care Network Services: Home Modifications and Repairs (one new respondent)
- Family Caregiver: Grandparents as Parents (sole respondent)
- Special Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals funding

Please see the included handout for full details on projects and initiatives.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Costs associated with the implementation of service provision for all recommended service providers will be incorporated into the SFY 2021 and 2022 Area Plan Budgets.

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Commission on Aging recommended final acceptance of designated Aging and Adult Services proposals, with noted caveats for individual projects, and the inclusion of automated external defibrillator (AED) units at all congregate sites, as applicable.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize final acceptance of designated Aging and Adult Services proposals.

### STAFF CONTACT:

James Stowe

**SFY 2022 PROPOSED CONTRACTS  
NEW PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES**

Fund as proposed
Fund with modifications or caveats
Ineligible or unallowable project

**COMMUNITY CENTER SERVICES SPECIAL FUNDING**

**Title III C.1**

**City of Belton, Belton Senior Center – 609 Minnie Avenue, Belton, MO**

Project 1 (Flooring replacement).....	\$10,800 (City labor match of \$4,800)
Project 2 (Commercial folding tables) .....	2,625
Project 3 (Temperature infrared scanner).....	3,300
Project 4 (Window replacement for airflow improvement).....	19,955
<b>Total Value of Contract .....</b>	<b>\$31,880</b>

***Require respondent to locate lower-cost unit.***

**Cass County Council on Aging – Harrisonville Senior Center, 2400 Jefferson Pkwy,  
Harrisonville, MO**

Project 1 (Ovens).....	\$3,000
Project 2 (Steamer) .....	8,000
Project 3 (Ice maker/dispenser).....	6,000
Project 4 (Air quality improvement – MARC recommended) .....	20,000
<b>Total Value of Contract .....</b>	<b>\$37,000</b>

**Don Bosco Community Center – 580 Campbell Street, Kansas City, MO**

Project 1 (Safety equipment).....	\$2,005
Project 2 (Educational equipment, smart board) .....	\$4,570
Project 3 (Air quality improvements – recommended by MARC).....	\$20,000 (\$2,000 retail discounts)
<b>Total Value of Contract .....</b>	<b>\$26,575</b>

**Guadalupe Center – 1015 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Kansas City, MO**

Air Quality Improvements.....	\$20,000
<b>Total Value of Contract .....</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

**City of Independence– Palmer Center, 218 N Pleasant, Independence, MO**

Project 1 (Reopening equipment, beverage station) .....	\$6,365
Project 2 (Reopening equipment, commercial dishwasher and microwave) .....	35,052
Project 3 (Education equipment, projector).....	290
Project 4 (Reopening equipment, lobby furniture) .....	6,931
Project 5 (Education equipment, computer lab notebooks x4) .....	4,600
Project 6 (Safety equipment, plexiglass barriers).....	1,455
Project 7 (Air quality improvement – MARC recommended) .....	20,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$74,693**

**City of Liberty – Liberty Silver Center, 1600 Withers Rd, Liberty, MO**

Project 1 (Reopening Equipment)..... \$2,045  
\*Project 2 (Educational Equipment)..... 2,025  
Project 3 (Air quality improvement – MARC recommended) ..... 20,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$24,070\***

*\*Request for Title IIID participant incentives of \$1,000 was unallowable under the RFP and not considered as part of this project.*

**City of Oak Grove, Davis Oak Grove Senior Center – 1901 Broadway, Oak Grove, MO**

Project 1 (Center seating and tables) ..... \$20,312  
Project 2 (Air quality improvement – MARC recommended) ..... \$20,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$40,312**

**Require respondent to find lower cost seating and tables or procure 3 written bids.**

**Platte Senior Services, Inc., Platte County Senior Center – 11724 Plaza Circle, Kansas City, MO**

Project 1 (Cleaning service, PPE, and supplies, ongoing expense) ..... \$27,400  
\*Project 2 (Satellite location cleaning service, PPE, and supplies, ongoing expense)..... 13,600  
\*\*Project 3 (Joint venture with Turner Community Garden) ..... 17,000  
\*\*\*Project 4 (Restaurant Voucher Program) ..... 74,400  
Project 5 (Air quality improvement – MARC recommended)..... 20,000

**Total Value of Contract..... \$47,400**

**Project 1: Exclude ongoing cleaning service from funding**

*\*Satellite locations are not currently contracted MARC centers. Therefore, this proposed use of funds was not evaluated.*

*\*\*The proposed off-site location and program does not conform to the RFP. Therefore, this proposed use of funds was not evaluated.*

*\*\*\*At this time, restaurant voucher programs are not approved by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Therefore, this proposed use of funds was not evaluated.*

**Ray County Fellowship Center – 1015 W Royle, Richmond, MO**

Project 1 (Window air conditioner) ..... \$600  
Project 2 (Air quality improvement – MARC recommended) ..... 20,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$20,600**

**No RFP Response**

**City of Blue Springs -- Vesper Hall, 400 NW Vesper, Blue Springs, MO**

Air Quality Improvements..... \$20,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$20,000**



**Palestine Senior Activity Center – 3325 Prospect Avenue, Kansas City, MO**

Air Quality Improvements..... \$20,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$20,000**

**City of Excelsior Springs, Excelsior Springs Senior Center – 500 Tiger Drive, Excelsior Springs, MO**

Air Quality Improvements..... \$20,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$20,000**

**Commission on Aging Recommendation  
All Congregate Dining Sites**

AED Installation and Maintenance (\$2,500 per site)..... \$30,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$30,000**

**HOME-DELIVERED MEALS SPECIAL FUNDING**  
**Title III C.2**

**Don Bosco Community Center – 580 Campbell Street, Kansas City, MO**

\*Project 1 (2021 Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van) ..... \$26,295

\*\*Project 2 (Kitchen equipment, storage)..... \$16,038

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$16,038**

*\*The proposed vehicle does not conform to frozen meal delivery specifications. Therefore, this proposed use of funds was not evaluated.*

*\*\*Reviewers may recommend requesting more detail about Don Bosco’s commitment to the frozen meal model beyond the emergency.*

**Guadalupe Center – 1015 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Kansas City, MO**

\*Project 1 (Ford F150 hotshot conversion) ..... \$54,011

Project 2 (Ram Promaster freezer conversion) ..... \$53,033

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$53,033**

*\*The proposed vehicle does not conform to frozen meal delivery specifications. Therefore, this proposed use of funds was not evaluated.*

**City of Independence– Palmer Center, 218 N Pleasant, Independence, MO**

Project 1 (Ford Transit 250 Freezer Conversion) ..... \$70,000

**Total Value of Contract ..... \$70,000**

**Kansas City Shepherd’s Center – 1111 W 39<sup>th</sup> Street, STE 200, Kansas City, MO**

Home-delivered meal equipment for kitchen storage and delivery ..... \$38,885

Total Value of Contract ..... \$38,885

*Exclude steam table and warming oven from funding lines (frozen home-delivered meals only)*

**Ray County Fellowship Center – 1015 W Royle, Richmond, MO**

Project 1 (100 KW generator) ..... \$55,000

Total Value of Contract ..... \$55,000

**SeniorAge (Area Agency on Aging)  
1735 S Fort Ave, Springfield, MO**

\*Project 1 (key stop freezer pod at production facility) ..... not to exceed \$24,386

Project 2 (all-terrain pallet jack) ..... not to exceed \$1,700

\*Project 3 (northern Kansas City key stop freezer pod) ..... not to exceed \$34,186

Project 4 (meal ordering software) ..... not to exceed \$12,500

Total Value of Contract..... not to exceed \$72,772

\*These freezers will belong to, and be titled by, MARC.

**Platte Senior Services, Inc., Platte County Senior Center – 11724 Plaza Circle, Kansas City, MO**

\*Project 1 (Home-delivered meal supplies) ..... \$8,900

Total Value of Contract..... \$--

*\*The respondent is not actively contracted with MARC for the provision of home-delivered meals. Therefore, this proposed use of funds was not evaluated.*

**INTEGRATED CARE NETWORK PARTNER SERVICES**  
**HOME MODIFICATIONS AND REPAIRS**  
**Titles III B, and E**

**Jewish Family Services**

Total Value of Contract..... not to exceed \$90,000

**NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT, GRANDPARENTS-AS-PARENTS**  
**Title III E**

**University of Missouri – Kansas City**

Total Value of Contract..... not to exceed \$103,264

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-e  
Thriving Older Adults and Communities

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Application for the Expansion of the Double Up Heartland Program 2021 - 2024

### BACKGROUND:

In September 2020, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded a \$4.05 million Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive grant to MARC to fund a four-year expansion of the Double Up Food Bucks program, which provides Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) customers at participating locations with a dollar-for-dollar matching incentive (up to \$25 per day) to purchase fresh produce.

After launching a successful pilot program in five grocery stores in 2015, MARC and its grant partners secured a USDA grant to expand the program from 60 locations in 2016 to 160 by the beginning of 2019, including twenty-two grocery stores and sixteen farmers markets in the greater Kansas City area. The program was offered in the Kansas City metro, eastern Kansas, the St. Louis metro, and central and southern Missouri. MARC operated the program through the end of 2019. The new grant awarded in fall 2020 covers the entire state of Kansas and the greater Kansas City metro area and adjacent counties on the Missouri side of the metro. The 2020 grant included a 50:50 match requirement, and funds from a number of foundations and health insurance corporations were secured.

With the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic crisis impacting many households, especially those requiring food assistance, the USDA has offered existing grantees the opportunity to apply for additional funds of up to \$5 million. The new funds would enable MARC and its partners to expand services in the Kansas City area and the state of Kansas as well as add new areas with substantial SNAP households needing assistance in central and southern Missouri. No additional matching resources would be required.

SNAP households may shop at any participating farmers market or grocery store. The goals of the program are to increase access and ability for SNAP customers to purchase and consume more fruits and vegetables, to support locally grown agriculture, and to keep more food dollars in our local communities.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The current USDA and matching resources support the program through September 30, 2024. The new funds could allow the expansion of the program in the existing area (state of Kansas and KC metro area in Missouri) and allow for additional areas in Missouri to be served. No additional matching resources would be required. A portion of the funds will be sub-granted to existing and potential new partners to support new farmers markets and grocers operating the program.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an application to the US Department of Agriculture for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, as described above, in an amount not to exceed \$5 million.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Donna Martin  
Marlene Nagel

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-f  
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Amendment to the *2020-24 Transportation Improvement Program*

### BACKGROUND:

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

The proposed 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Amendment to the *2020-2024 TIP* includes the following:

- 7 new projects to be added, including but not limited to:
  - #180079 - 158<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements; K-32 to Kansas Avenue
  - #280170 - Phase IV: Downtown Bonner Springs Improvements
  - #380201 - K-10; Cantilever replacement ¼ mile east of Renner Road
  - #790138 - McCoy Road Bridge Replacement over Black Creek
- 6 modified projects
  - Scope
  - Schedule
  - Budget

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/21Q2amend.aspx>

**MARC's Public Involvement Plan requires that proposed amendments to the TIP be released for public review and comment prior to adoption.** One comment from the public was received. The comment and proposed response from MARC are included.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Total Transportation Policy Committee approved the amendment on April 20, 2021.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Amendment to the *2020-2024 TIP*.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Marc Hansen

**From:** Liam Dai <[liamdai@icloud.com](mailto:liamdai@icloud.com)>  
**To:** Transportation <[Transportation@MARC.ORG](mailto:Transportation@MARC.ORG)>  
**Subject:** 2020-2024 TIP Comments

**I do not support the funding of the proposed road & bridge projects without the requirement that they also include dedicated pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure within their scope of work.**

Best,

Liam Dai

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Dear Mr. Dai:

Thank you for your recent comment regarding the proposed 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Amendment to the regional Transportation Improvement Program. We shared your comment with Board of Directors for their consideration.

We look forward to your continued participation in the regional transportation planning process and encourage you to review the [Guide to Transportation Decision Making](#). This guide is designed to help area residents understand the complex process of transportation decision making and learn how they can more effectively provide input.

Sincerely,

Marc Hansen, AICP  
Principal Planner  
Mid-America Regional Council

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-g  
Efficient Transportation and Quality Places

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Consultant Contracts for Two Planning Sustainable Places Studies

### BACKGROUND:

For projects funded through Planning Sustainable Places (PSP), MARC will hold the contracts on individual projects, although the project manager and local match will be provided by the local sponsors. Details for one project in Missouri, sponsored by the City of Kansas City, and one project in Kansas, sponsored by the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, are provided below. **All RFPs were advertised on MARC's website, DemandStar, and the National American Planning Association's RFP page.** A qualifications-based competitive selection process was used in the selection of all consulting teams. MARC staff attended the interviews to ensure federal guidelines were followed.

Kansas City, Mo.: Blue Parkway/Swope Parkway Pedestrian Facilities. The project will evaluate the feasibility of improving pedestrian crossings at all intersections across Swope Parkway and Blue Parkway. Key components of the plan include:

- Improve pedestrian connections and improve transportation options.
- Support and enhance areas of employment and create thriving business districts.
- Create a sustainable community that is economically, environmentally, and socially healthy and resilient.
- Build strategic infrastructure investments that will advance housing and economic developments.

MARC advertised the project RFP from January 4, 2021 through January 29, 2021. Four proposals were received. A selection committee with representatives from the City of Kansas City and the Community Builders of Kansas City reviewed the proposals and interviewed the four teams. The team of TranSystems and Parson + Associates was recommended for the project. The **team's proposal** includes public engagement, data analyses, and alternatives analysis.

Unified Government, Kan.: Going Green with Groundwork + UG: Developing a NE KCK Heritage Trail and GI Project. The plan will develop Heritage Trail in the northeast of Kansas City, Kan. Key components of the plan include:

- Understand community needs and desires around the development of a NE KCK Heritage Trail.
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of Community-Based Participatory Action Research (CBPAR) as a community engagement and planning approach.
- Develop an integrated trail plan that leverages existing infrastructure to connect the east and west boundaries of NE KCK.
- Identify vacant land in the NE area with the highest confluence of opportunity regarding ecosystem services and socio-economic intervention to prioritize for Green Infrastructure projects.
- Identify policy interventions to address the risk of increased displacement pressures in areas adjacent to the NE KCK Heritage Trail.

MARC advertised the project RFP from December 8, 2020 through January 8, 2021. Four proposals were received. A selection committee with representatives from the Unified Government and Groundwork

## AGENDA REPORT

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### MARC Board of Directors

NRG reviewed the proposals and interviewed the four teams. The team of COLLABO, All Together, and Phronesis **was recommended for the project. The team's proposal** includes an existing conditions analysis, community events and steering committee meetings, a preferred trail route selection, a final plan, and more.

#### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The projects will use federal Planning Sustainable Places funding with a required local match as follows:

Kansas City, Mo.: Planning Sustainable Places funding (\$25,075) with the required local match of \$45,000 provided by the City of Kansas City, Mo.

Unified Government, Kan.: Planning Sustainable Places funding (\$108,000) with the required local match of \$30,000 provided by the Unified Government.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION:

The MARC Board authorized the award of the PSP funds to the two projects and the receipt of their local match on January 26, 2021.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the following:

Kansas City, Mo.: An agreement with the team of TranSystems and Parson + Associates for the Blue Parkway/Swope Parkway Pedestrian Facilities project for an amount not to exceed \$70,075.

Unified Government, Kan.: An agreement with the team of COLLABO, All Together and Phronesis for the Going Green with Groundwork + UG: Developing a NE KCK Heritage Trail and GI Project for an amount not to exceed \$138,000.

#### STAFF CONTACT:

Beth Dawson  
Patrick Trouba  
Martin Rivarola  
Ron Achelpohl

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-h  
Healthy Environment

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Application to the Environmental Protection Agency to Support Regional Planning for Food Waste Reduction

### BACKGROUND:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 is seeking applications for projects that support Sustainable Materials Management, which is a systemic approach to using materials more productively over their life cycles.

The MARC region disposes of 2.4 million tons of trash annually. It has been estimated that approximately fifteen percent of this waste is generated from uneaten food. When this uneaten food **decomposes in landfills, it generates methane that contributes to the region's greenhouse gas** emissions. At the same time, a growing number of the **region's residents do not have a reliable** supply of food. Addressing food waste in a holistic way—through prevention, rescue, and composting—can **reduce the region's** disposal needs, limit greenhouse gas emissions, and get more fresh food to those in need.

This grant would allow MARC and partners to develop a regional initiative to reduce food waste and promote local composting capacity. MARC will work to convene partners and stakeholders to identify cross-cutting opportunities and strategies including:

- Wasted food prevention strategies that will reduce the production and purchase of excess food in many sectors;
- Food rescue strategies that maximize the donation of excess wholesome food to those in need;
- Food scrap composting strategies that increase the diversion of food scraps from landfills and return valuable nutrients to the soil;
- Household food waste prevention education through the Save the Food Campaign and other food reduction and composting messaging.

Input will be sought from various agencies, organizations, educational institutions, and individuals to provide input and ensure MARC develops community-driven, implementable strategies and educational materials. This scope of work supports the goal of the EPA and several other federal agencies to reduce food loss and waste by fifty percent over the next ten years. The opportunity also aligns with the goals of the MARC Solid Waste Management District and the KC Metro Climate Action Plan.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Work is underway on a budget that addresses development of food waste reduction strategies and a residential education campaign that serves the entire MARC region.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$200,000
Source	EPA Region 7
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$100,000
Contractual	\$50,000
Other (supplies, printing of educational materials, marketing, media purchases, etc.)	\$50,000



## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an application to the US Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 for up to \$200,000 to support regional food waste reduction planning and education.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Lisa McDaniel

Tom Jacobs

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-i  
Safe and Secure Communities

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Increase to an Agreement with Guadalupe Centers to Support Regional Public Health

### BACKGROUND:

In September 2020, the MARC Board authorized an agreement with Guadalupe Centers for \$75,000 to ensure that community COVID-19 support services are available to Spanish-speaking persons. Services include education and outreach services, Community Health Worker/case management support, and emergency assistance for those affected by COVID-19. Additional residents have been identified as in need of assistance, and foundation funds of \$11,300 are available to address these needs. The agreement would be increased to \$86,300.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize an increase to an agreement with Guadalupe Centers to assist COVID-19 affected clients with emergency services as described above.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-j  
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve the Purchase of Two Vehicles for 911 Technicians

BACKGROUND:

The Public Safety Communications Board has approved hiring two additional public safety communications technicians to bring the 911 system maintenance in-house. It is necessary to purchase two vehicles for the new technicians to travel to and from 911 public safety answering points (PSAPs) and microwave radio sites throughout the ten-county region. Due to the immediate need, MARC will purchase vehicles that the dealerships already have in stock. One Ford Explorer SUV has been located, and another work truck is currently being sought.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The total price of the vehicles and after-market custom shelving and installation costs will be \$80,000. The vehicles will be purchased within the 911 allocation budget. The purchase will be made using the regional public procurement joint bid program.

REVENUES	
Amount	\$80,000
Source	911 Allocation Budget
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$80,000

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Public Safety Communications Board has approved this purchase.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the purchase of two Ford vehicles and needed accessories at a total cost of \$80,000.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-k  
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve Agreements with Motorola to Replace VESTA Call-taking Hardware in Johnson and Cass Counties

BACKGROUND:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the start of a public safety answering point (PSAP) VESTA Call-taking hardware replacement program. **The intent is to replace 60 of the region's 240 PSAP VESTA Call-taking workstations each year.** This will improve productivity by preventing repairs, keeping the equipment current and updated. The contract with Motorola allows MARC to purchase equipment directly from the manufacturer, leaving out the increased cost of a middleman. This was made possible by the Public Safety Communications Board approving the move to MARC maintenance instead of contracted maintenance.

Equipment purchased with these agreements will replace hardware in the Johnson County Emergency Communications Center (ECC) and Cass County.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$585,188.40
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Capital Projects)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$585,188.40

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the use of the funds needed for this project in the 2021 Regional 911 Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the agreements with Motorola and accept the quote for the purchase of equipment for Johnson County ECC and Cass County.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-I  
Safe and Secure Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve the Purchase of Equipment from CDW-G for the Public Safety Answer Point Workstation Replacement Program

BACKGROUND:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the start of a public safety answer point (PSAP) VESTA Call-taking hardware replacement program. The intent is to replace 60 of the **region's** 240 PSAP VESTA Call-taking workstations each year. This will improve productivity by preventing repairs, keeping the equipment current and updated. This purchase of HPE 5510 switches will allow the completion of the workstation replacement projects in Cass County; Kansas City, Missouri South Patrol; Kansas City; Raytown; Belton; Shawnee; and Riverside police departments.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$59,220
Source	911 Allocation Budget (Capital Projects)
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual	\$59,220

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Public Safety Communications Board approved the use of the funds needed for this project in the 2021 Regional 911 Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the quote from CDW-G for the purchase of equipment for the annual workstation replacement program.

STAFF CONTACT:

Eric Winebrenner

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-m  
Safe and Secure Communities

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize a Grant Application to the Missouri Emergency Response Commission to support the Mid-America Local Emergency Planning Committee

### BACKGROUND:

**MARC's Emergency Services programs help ensure the region's ability to prepare, respond,** and recover with coordinated plans and high-quality training, technology, and equipment.

Authorization is requested to apply to **Missouri's Chemical Emergency Planning Fund (CEPF)** for funding to support the 2021-2022 Mid-America Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). The LEPC collects and maintains information on the types and quantities of hazardous materials at facilities throughout the metropolitan area, develops and updates a regional hazardous materials plan, conducts hazardous materials training courses and exercises, provides technical assistance to counties in developing their local operational plans, monitors legislation, and works on state and federal public policy issues related to hazardous materials and emergency response.

The Missouri CEPF dollars are awarded to each of the Missouri counties (Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray) in the Mid-America LEPC. This funding is used to support the operations of the LEPC including training, outreach, and staff support. For the 2021-2022 funding cycle, approximately \$57,098 is available to the Mid-America LEPC from this fund.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the application for and acceptance of \$57,098 from the Missouri Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund for hazardous materials planning, training, and exercises; authorize the Executive Director to enter into agreements with Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties in Missouri for administration of Mid-America LEPC funds.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Erin Lynch  
John Davis

AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-n  
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to Support the Regional Early Learning System

BACKGROUND:

**MARC's** Department of Early Learning provides leadership for the development and implementation of a community-driven, outcomes-based plan for a comprehensive early learning system.

**The Department of Early Learning's** grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation will support efforts to develop, expand, and strengthen the regional early learning system. Funds from this grant will be used to:

- support implementation of the Early Learning Program Profile,
- implement an equity-focused early childhood educator leadership program,
- expansion of the Kindergarten Observation Form (KOF) and the Pre-Kindergarten Observation Form (PKOF) to measure school readiness,
- support ongoing COVID-19 early childhood response and recovery activities.

Funding for these projects will expand efforts to increase access to quality early learning programs, address critical workforce equity issues, provide a greater context for understanding of the school readiness factors exhibited by area preschool children, and support critical emergency response and recovery services for early learning programs in the region.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$150,000
Source	Kauffman Foundation
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$92,300
Contractual	\$57,700

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize MARC to submit a \$150,000 grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and, if awarded, accept and disburse grant funds.

STAFF CONTACT:

Jovanna Rohs  
Kyle Matchell

# AGENDA REPORT

## MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-o  
Quality Early Learning

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve Mid America Head Start's 2021 Cost of Living Adjustment Application to the Administration for Children and Families

### BACKGROUND:

MARC received a funding opportunity announcement from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) on March 16, 2021 for a FY 2021 cost of living adjustment (COLA) increase of \$255,152.00 for Head Start, \$67,729.00 for Early Head Start, and \$20,317.00 for Early Head Start Expansion. In coordination with its partnering agencies, MARC has determined to utilize the additional dollars available from COLA funding for FY21 to ensure all staff in partnering programs received a minimum increase of 1.22% in their hourly rate of pay. COLA funds will be directly allocated to participating partnering agencies. Five partners elected not to participate in the retroactive COLA application. This is due to raises already being provided to all staff or salary scale limits from being part of a school district. These programs will receive an increase to their based contract in FY 22 which runs from November 1, 2021 to October 31, 2022.

In coordination with its delegates and partners, MARC proposes to use the remaining funds from COLA FY21 to offset higher operating costs. HS/EHS programs will identify their agency priorities where support is most needed to enhance their operational and programmatic capacity. MARC will utilize the funds to offset costs that were not included in the FY 21 budget. These include website conversion from HTML to WordPress, a space use study, technology upgrades and replacement, trauma-informed programming, the purchase of classroom supplies and curriculum for our partners, and an office ventilation modification.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

COLA amounts are based upon the Head Start and Early Head Start core and Early Head Start Expansion grant totals. These funds are in addition to the current grant award and will be added to the base amount in future grant years.

REVENUES—Head Start and Early Head Start Core	
Amount	\$322,881
Source	Administration for Children and Families
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual-Delegates & Partners	\$234,625
Contractual—Website, Space Study	\$18,600
Supplies-Technology upgrades & replacement	\$41,158
Other-Classroom materials & furniture/office modification	\$28,871



## AGENDA REPORT

### MARC Board of Directors

REVENUES—Early Head Start Expansion	
Amount	\$20,317
Source	Administration for Children and Families
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Contractual-Delegates & Partners	\$18,584
Other-trauma-informed programming	\$1,733

#### COMMITTEE ACTION:

**MARC's Head Start Policy Council and Advisory Committee** approved the FY21 COLA application on Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

**Approve Mid America Head Start's application to the Administration for Children and Families for a Cost of Living Adjustment grant in the amount of \$322,881.00 for Head Start and Early Head Start Core, and in the amount of \$20,317 for Early Head Start Expansion.**

#### STAFF CONTACT:

Jovanna Rohs

Steven Lewis

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC Board of Directors

April 2021  
Item No. 6-p  
Quality Early Learning

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Application to the Administration for Children and Families for Supplemental Funds in Response to COVID-19

### BACKGROUND:

On March 29, 2021, MARC received notification from the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families (ACF) announcing the availability of supplemental funds for Head Start programs in continued response to COVID-19. As a result of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, \$250 million for programs under the Head Start Act was awarded for continued support of preventative, preparedness, and response activities related to COVID-19. MARC Head Start was invited to apply for \$714,801 from this first allocation.

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan, an additional \$1 billion was allocated to Head Start programs. The Office of Head Start anticipates awarding these funds after the Consolidated Appropriations Act funds are awarded. We do not yet have a total amount for this second round of funding, however we have been told to anticipate approximately \$1,100 per slot. Based on this calculation, MARC can anticipate receiving approximately \$2.6 million.

Unlike the CARES Act funds that were distributed last year, the new COVID funds will be awarded through a separate grant. Also, this will be a two-year supplemental grant that will run from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023. This will ease the administrative burden of funds being awarded with varying ending dates, as well as needing to allocate funds between Head Start and Early Head Start.

ACF recognizes that Head Start programs may need to undertake a wide range of one-time, specific actions or activities in response to COVID-19. Activities could include:

- Mental health services, supports, crisis response, and intervention services.
- Provision of meals and snacks not reimbursed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- Training and professional development for staff on infectious disease management.
- Purchasing necessary supplies and contracted services to sanitize and clean facilities and vehicles.
- Other actions that are necessary to maintain and resume the operations of programs such as hiring substitute staff, investing in technology infrastructure, or other emergency assistance.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

Currently, \$714,801 dollars has been allocated to MARC Head Start. We anticipate approximately \$2.6 million to be awarded after the initial round of funds for a total of approximately \$3,314,801. These are one-time funds and the non-federal match is waived.

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

**MARC's Head Start Policy Council and Advisory Committee approved this application** on April 12 and 13, 2021.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize MARC Head Start to apply for, accept, and expend 2021 Supplemental Funds in Response to COVID-19 for the core grant and Early Head Start Expansion grant from the ACF.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Jovanna Rohs