



MARC July 2024 Board Memo - Supplemental Information
ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TAKEN IN JULY 2024; TO BE APPROVED BY
THE BOARD AT THE AUGUST 27, 2024 MEETING

SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES

Authorize a contract with the Mid America Missouri Local Emergency Planning District to provide hazardous materials planning, training and exercise, and administrative services (\$52,800): The Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Emergency Services program supports the Missouri Local Emergency Planning District (MO LEPD) with its hazardous materials preparedness activities including planning, training and exercise, and administrative services. The MO LEPD includes Clay, Platte, Jackson, Ray, and Cass Counties in Missouri. This contract is for services from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. The MO LEPD voted at their July 11, 2024 meeting to continue contracting with MARC to provide these services for another year.

THRIVING OLDER ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES

Authorize contract with Kelly Construction Group for updated amount to complete renovations of the repack facility at 1218 Swift, North Kansas City (\$738,400): In March 2024, the board approved the selection of Kelly Construction Group in response to an open RFP. The repack facility is considered a small project regarding construction scope. Due to the small scope, two phases of documents were produced by the architect. The first phase was "Concept Drawings" which included diagrammatic floor plans and a narrative list of architectural work to consider. The concept drawings did not include any information regarding systems (mechanical, electrical, plumbing, structural, or fire protection). Concept drawings were included with the RFP. Responding contractors were provided a tour of the building and asked to create a high-level estimate based on their assumptions. The original estimate of \$490,256 provided by Kelly Construction was included in their RFP response and based on the concept drawings / assumptions.

Once Kelly was selected, the second phase of documentation, "Construction Documents" including the original layouts and additional information from the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, structural, and fire protection engineers commenced. This additional information revealed more system scope increases than either firm responding to the RFP had assumed. Additionally, in the time between concept and construction drawings, it was discovered that a simple lift and enclosure would not be code compliant due to the 15'10" floor to floor height (the maximum for a simple lift being 14' floor to floor). This required changing the lift to a more complete elevator system, including a concrete pit with pump, CMU shaft walls, and additional electrical, fire protection, and plumbing requirements. The increases in elevator and building systems scope led to a value engineering effort, resulting in the final \$738,400 construction cost.

Authorize acceptance of funds and increased contracts for Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative: The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has supported the Kansas City Regional Community Health Worker (CHW) Collaborative since 2015 with funding provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Health Forward Foundation. Funding from KDHE has supported a substantial increase in training for both new and experienced CHWs since early 2022. KDHE has offered MARC an additional \$215,000 to continue the work through July 31, 2025. The Health Forward Foundation's current grant of \$370,000 was awarded in late 2023 and will cover support for the CHW Collaborative work through the end of 2024. The Health Forward Foundation has offered a new two-year grant of \$300,000 for 2025-2026.

With these funds, MARC will increase and extend existing agreements with two contractors: the CGA Consulting contract will be increased from \$135,000 to \$185,000 for training services and the ES Advisors contract will be increased from \$110,050 to \$140,050 for convening, advocacy and policy analysis. MARC staff is requesting authorization for the acceptance of additional funding from KDHE (\$215,000) and Health Forward Foundation (\$300,000) to support the KC Regional CHW Collaborative. And requests authorization for amendment increases for consultants, CGA Consulting (\$50,000) and ES Advisors (\$45,000).

QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

Approve a contract between The Family Conservancy and Mid-America Regional Council's Early Learning Department (\$50,319): The Family Conservancy (TFC) wishes to contract with the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Early Learning Department to provide quality assessments to the TFC's Start Young Program. The Start Young initiative is a public-private collaborative designed to improve child care in Wyandotte County by increasing access to high-quality, full-day, full-year child care for working families. MARC contracts with Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) certified assessors to conduct observations in all Start Young participating classrooms to measure classroom quality. Most of the funding from this agreement will be passed through for classroom assessments and professional development grants. A portion of the funds will be used to support existing MARC staff time in the management and oversight of the project subcontracts and to support data entry and coordination of program supports. The contract period is July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025.

Approve the purchase of Creative Curriculum kits for five Head Start direct service providers (\$140,134): Early Head Start/Head Start grantees are required to identify research-based curriculum models and implement them with fidelity. Direct service providers Independence School District, the YMCA of Greater Kansas City, Grandview School District, Cub Care-Blue Springs School District and Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center have identified the Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers & Twos and the Creative Curriculum for Preschool to meet this requirement. This purchase will equip 45 existing classrooms and 3 new classrooms with the latest version of Creative Curriculum volumes, materials, and resources.

EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND QUALITY PLACES

Approve the 2024 3rd Quarter Amendment to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program: The Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) considered an amendment to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add 55 new projects and modify 43 projects. Staff circulated the amendment for public review and comment per MARC's adopted Public Participation Plan requirements and received one comment not specific to any of the projects in the amendment, suggesting a metro wide rail transit system. The comment and its response was shared with the committee. The committee unanimously recommended approving the amendment as presented. Additional details for this item are available here: www.marc.org/TIP

Approve 2024 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #4: The Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) considered an amendment to the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to add a new project, the Destination Safe Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, funded through the Safe Streets for All program. The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is the lead agency for this project. Staff circulated the amendment for public review and comment per MARC's adopted Public Participation Plan requirements and received no comments. The committee unanimously recommended approving the amendment as presented. Additional details for this item are available here: <https://www.marc.org/transportation/plans-and-studies/unified-planning-work-program>

Approve Connected KC 2050 Amendment #8: The Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) reviewed an amendment to the Connected KC 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to amend project #1466, to alter the limits of the I-70 Capacity Project from Mo Rt7 east to limits of MPO boundary at Jackson/Lafayette County line; update the project cost to \$150 million; and categorize the project as a “high priority financially constrained project.” Staff circulated the amendment for public review and comment per MARC’s adopted Public Participation Plan requirements and received one comment (as stated above for the TIP amendment), which was not specific to this project. The comment and its response was shared with the committee. The committee unanimously recommended approving the amendment as presented. Additional details for Project 1466 are available here: https://marc2.org/tr_rtp/projectdetails.aspx?PID=1466

Approve the 2025-2027 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal: The Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) reviewed a proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 20% for FFY 2025-2027. As a direct recipient of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds that receive federal planning, capital or operating assistance and will award prime contracts, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is required by the USDOT to have a DBE Program. Based on FTA’s formula, MARC’s proposed 2025 - 2027 DBE goal will be 20%. MARC’s current 2022 - 2024 DBE goal is 20%. Federal regulations also require a 45-day public comment period before adopting a new DBE goal. The new goal was released for public review and comment from May 21, 2024 through July 5, 2024 and received no comments. MARC’s 2025-2027 DBE goal must be submitted to USDOT by August 1, 2024. The committee unanimously recommended approving the DBE goal as presented. Additional details are available here: <https://www.marc.org/transportation/metropolitan-planning/disadvantaged-business-enterprise>

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Authorize a contract amendment with Sustainable Solution Groups (SSG) to increase the budget of on-call services supporting the update to the Kansas City Regional Climate Action Plan (\$290,000): (required as lead agency/recipient of funds through EPA’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program): The Sustainable Solution Groups (SSG) Team is providing technical consulting services to conduct the greenhouse gas emissions inventory and analyze mitigation scenarios, co-pollutant emissions reduction, workforce requirements, low-income/disadvantaged co-benefits, implementation authority, and economic impacts. This work is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) because the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is a lead agency/recipient of funds through EPA’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program. MARC will increase SSG’s budget to support additional tasks including, but not limited to: stakeholder engagement, communications, strategy and metric development, workforce planning, and plan development. This work will be supported by Hoxie Collective, an existing SSG subconsultant based in Kansas City and specializing in community planning. The do-not-exceed limit of this contract will increase from \$110,000 to \$290,000 using funding previously allocated to personnel.

CORE CAPACITIES

Approve contract with Forvis Mazars for support in researching, selecting and implementing a human resources information system: On December 20, 2023, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) contracted with Forvis Mazars (Forvis) to accomplish a technology assessment and assist in developing a strategic approach for acquisition of new software platforms to ensure compatibility across new and existing systems. Over the past six months, Forvis met with multiple staff members in a variety of roles, mapped 10 major administrative processes, identified gaps and risks and developed a heat map which enabled staff to prioritize platform acquisition. The team is now moving into phase 2 of the Technology Assessment and Acquisition project and a human resources information system (HRIS) was identified as the highest priority. A new financial system was identified as the next imperative.

Forvis was selected after a competitive request for proposal (RFP) process for phase 1 and the stated intent in the RFP was that that this would be a multi-year relationship and the scope of work will include several selection processes and implementations in the future. MARC staff scoped the HRIS project and worked with Forvis to achieve a cost-effective balance of MARC staff work and Forvis support but have left flexibility for more or less time by either side. The minimum cost for this acquisition project is \$41,700, with a high end not to exceed amount of \$91,035. The bulk of these funds will be paid for from Indirect funds but may incorporate other grant funding if it becomes available.

Approve renewal of Property, Liability, Vehicle, Cyber and Work Comp Coverages with Midwest Public Risk (\$345,328.85): The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is a member of Midwest Public Risk (MPR) and uses the public entity risk pool for our insurance coverage. The plan year for those policies is July 1 - June 30. Limits and deductibles vary within the different coverages, generally limits are \$3,000,000. Below are the renewal coverages and premiums for the 2024-2025 plan year. Staff deems these to be competitive rates in today’s market.

| Coverage | Premium Amount |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Property | \$ 93,220.00 |
| Liability | \$ 178,865.00 |
| Workers Compensation | \$ 31,369.39 |
| Cyber-Liability | \$ 41,874.46 |
| Total | \$ <u>345,328.85</u> |