

Total Transportation Policy Committee
October 15, 2024
Meeting Summary

Members and Alternates Present

Co-Chair Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS
Co-Chair Mayor Leonard Jones, Jackson County, MO
Cecelie Cochran, FHWA - Missouri Division
Councilmember Fred DeMoro, Lee's Summit, MO
AJ Farris, KCATA
Councilmember Lindsay French, Kansas City, MO (Northland)
Leslie Herring, Johnson County, KS Municipalities
A.J. Herrmann, Kansas City, MO
Dick Jarrold, KCATA
Joe Johnson, Johnson County, KS Municipalities
Councilmember Jerry Kaylor, Jackson County, MO Municipalities
Lee Kellenberger, Johnson County, KS
Mayor Norman Larkey, Cass County, MO Municipalities
Jill Lawlor, Kansas City, MO (Northland)
Lane Massey, Johnson County, KS Municipalities
Joe McAfee, Leavenworth County, KS
Janet McRae, Miami County, KS
Jack Messer, Overland Park, KS
Wes Minder, Platte County, MO
LaVert Murray, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
Matt Nolker, Ray County, MO
Bill Noll, Leavenworth County, KS
Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, MO
Tawn Nugent, WTS
Luz Ortiz, HETF Wyandotte County
Michael Park, Lee's Summit, MO
Joshua Powers, Johnson County, KS
Eric Rogers, BikeWalkKC
Eric Sandberg, Miami County, KS
Mayor John Smedley, Platte County, MO Municipalities
Chuck Soules, Clay County, MO Municipalities
Mike Spickelmier, Leavenworth County, KS Municipalities
Councilmember Dean Vakas, Olathe, KS
Mayor Dana Webb, Jackson County, MO Municipalities
Doug Wesselschmidt, Jackson County, MO
Sabin Yanez, Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce

MARC Staff Present

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation & Environment
Megan Broll, Transportation Program Assistant
Dianna Bryant, Solid Waste Management District Program Director
Raymart Dinglas, Public Affairs Coordinator II
Bobby Evans, Principal Planner
Marc Hansen, Principal Planner
Alicia Hunter, Transportation Planner III
Tom Jacobs, Chief Resilience Officer & Environmental Programs Director
Frank Lenk, Director of Research Services
Martin Rivarola, Assistant Director of Transportation & Land Use Planning
Cy Smith, Transportation Intern
Patrick Trouba, Transportation Planner II
Ryan Umberger, Planner II
Lukas Yanni, Transportation Planner III

Others Present

Alysen Abel, Spring Hill, KS
Randy Gorton, BHC
Art Gough
Jason Hanson, Raytown, MO
Bob Heim, Platte County, MO
Mark Hoppe, Affinis Corporation
Katie Jardieu, MoDOT
Krystal Jolly, MoDOT
Adam Jones, Stantec
Garrett Kauss, Garver
Matt Kleinmann, Vibrant Health KC
Jason Langhammer, Garver
Kevin Manning, Shawnee, KS
Kimberly Marotta, KDOT
Stan Meyers, I-Solutions
Mac Milburn, Garver
Alex Miller, Parsons & Associates
Davonna Moore-Edeh, CDM Smith
Fahteema Parrish, Parrish and Sons Construction
Kurt Roterger, Olsson Associates
Laura Schopp, Parsons & Associates
Will Sharp, FHWA - Kansas Division
Allison Smith, KDOT
Mayra Toothman, Smithville, MO
Dan Weitkamp, FHWA - Missouri Division
Brett Wood, GBA
Juan Yin, MoDOT

1) *Welcome/Introductions*

Missouri Co-Chair Mayor Leonard Jones called the meeting to order. Introductions followed, and a quorum for the committee was present.

2) *Approval of September 17, 2024, Meeting Summary*

Co-Chair Jones called for a motion to approve the September 17, 2024 Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) meeting summary.

Committee Action:

Joe Johnson moved to approve the meeting summary. Mayor John Smedley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

3) *VOTE: 2024 4th Quarter Amendment to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program*

Principal Planner Marc Hansen reviewed the latest amendment to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which would add 3 new projects and modify 5 projects. The amendment was released for public review and comment, and no comments were received. Additional details can be found at <https://www.marc.org/document/2024-tip-4th-quarter-amendment>. The TIP documents all federal transportation investments in the region, and amendments to the TIP are typically triggered when DOT partners need to adjust project schedules or to update budgets.

Committee Action:

Tawn Nugent moved to approve the 2024 4th Quarter Amendment to the 2024-2028 TIP. Janet McRae seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

4) *VOTE: Proposed 2025 Unified Planning Work Program*

Marc Hansen presented the draft 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), describing major transportation planning initiatives for the next year. The budget has increased to about \$6.45m, and includes a new activity-based travel demand model. Mr. Hansen reviewed the process and timeline in developing the draft, which will come back before the TTPC for final approval after release for public review. The draft program is available at: <https://www.marc.org/sites/default/files/2024-10/2025-Unified-Planning-Work-Program-DRAFT.pdf>.

Committee Action:

Janet McRae moved to release the proposed 2025 UPWP for public review and comment. Chuck Soules seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

5) *VOTE: FFY23-24 FTA Section 5310 Project Funding Recommendations*

Transportation Planner Lukas Yanni described the funding program for Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities, which aims to improve mobility for older adults and people with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding mobility options. Mr. Yanni summarized the programming cycle, which began with a call for projects in June of 2024. MARC partners with KCATA to manage the Mobility Advisory Committee to review and provide funding recommendations for these funds, and monitor and report progress to awarded projects. The program is funded on a two-year cycle. Mr. Yanni reviewed the scoring process and funding recommendations proposed by the committee.

Committee Action:

Mayor Smedley moved to approve the Section 5310 Project Funding Recommendations. Jill Lawlor seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

6) *VOTE: Land Use Population/Household/Employment 2050 Forecast*

Director of Research Service Frank Lenk presented the final regional forecast for the long-range transportation plan update. The forecast will go before the MARC Board for final approval and adoption. As previously reported, birth rates are declining and could continue to decline further; without immigration, the natural increase in births minus deaths for the nation would turn negative in 2047. Mr. Lenk addressed immigration rates and that current projections are based on historical norms, but can be affected by policy choice. The forecast was updated to slightly increase immigration due to low climate risk. The greatest difference between the current and previous population forecasts is due to changes in natural increase, not immigration.

Employment rates for manufacturing in the previous forecast showed a decline, but recent trends, policy action, and the development of the Panasonic plant have led to growth in jobs in that sector. Although the job forecast is slightly higher, nearly half of that growth is due to rebound from the impact of Covid. Mr. Lenk discussed household size and its slight decline, and how household growth can be a better indicator of economic health than the overall population itself.

The Technical Forecast Committee (TFC) developed and oversees the forecast, and is composed of about 40 representatives from across the region. After the MARC Board approves the forecast for use, next steps include applying the regional forecast to census tracts, cities, and counties.

Committee Action:

Jack Messer moved to approve the Land Use Population/Household/Employment 2050 Forecast. Councilmember Lindsay French seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

7) *REPORT: CKC2050 Facilitated Policy Discussions and Policy Framework Update*

Assistant Director of Transportation & Land Use Planning Martin Rivarola shared feedback from the TTPC and other policy committee discussions regarding the Connected KC 2050 update. Three key questions about the proposed policy framework were posed to the TTPC and other committees: does the policy framework reflect public preferences and priorities, will it advance progress towards the goals of the plan, and how can it facilitate balanced outcomes?

Key takeaways from the TTPC and other committees include increasing/focusing on: equity for low-income/disadvantaged areas, planning investments in underserved areas, coordination of transportation planning and housing development, regional transit needs, active transportation and centers and corridors, safety, progress in performance metrics, prioritizing maintenance/asset management over system expansion, and connection to not only downtown KCMO but suburban centers and corridors. Feedback across the board included concerns about progress towards safety, climate resilience, and accessibility to active transportation and public transit. Mr. Rivarola discussed existing goals and strategies and proposed adjustments to the policy framework to incorporate committee and public feedback. Details of these changes were shared with the committee in the meeting packet.

Next steps for the Connect KC 2050 update include completing travel demand modeling and environmental justice analysis around the projects that the region has the resources to implement. There will be a major engagement push starting next month, with both in-person and online meetings to share the work with the public and gather feedback, and MARC staff are available to share presentations with local agencies/jurisdictions by request. Information about the next public meeting is available at <https://bit.ly/CKC2050-fall2024>. The final plan is expected to be ready for review and adoption in the spring of 2025.

The committee discussed rural area connectivity through alternative transportation and transit service needs, especially for teens and young adults. One of the revised goals explicitly states enabling access to education, and committee members expressed specific interest in addressing school bussing needs throughout the region. Lack of education/information was discussed as a possible barrier to using existing transit services.

8) *REPORT: Bistate Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor*

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation & Environment, reviewed the first phase of planning work on the east-west 24-mile corridor connecting Village West in Kansas City, KS and Independence, MO. The vision of the project includes connecting neighborhoods that may be underserved with transportation and other investments to the growing parts of the community, and advances the corridor as a catalyst for growth. This is the largest planning effort in the region to do transportation and land use planning concurrently, and this first phase of work is more conceptual and includes broad public engagement and coordination between state/county/municipal leaders to identify investment strategies. Partners have expressed interest in opportunities for other alignments near the corridor, especially in Kansas City, KS and Independence, MO.

The committee questioned if rail transit would be a consideration of this plan, but partners are interested in prioritizing opportunities that can be feasibly supported by federal funding; building demand through bus transit may be an approach that leads to identifying other modes along the corridor in the future.

9) *REPORT: Transportation Emissions Committee Update*

Transportation Planner Ryan Umberger reviewed the new Transportation Emission Committee, which was developed to evaluate, recommend funding, and monitor progress of projects for the Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) and Carbon Reduction (CRP) programs. Mr. Umberger reviewed the current committee schedule and details about the applications received for CMAQ and CRP funding. The committee has vacancies for several jurisdictions and agencies:

- Cass County, MO
- Clay County, MO
- Jackson County, MO
- Jackson County, MO Municipalities
- Johnson County, KS Municipalities
- Miami County, KS
- Miami County, KS Municipalities
- Ray County, MO
- Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS
- Wyandotte County, KS Municipalities
- Kansas City, MO
- Olathe, KS

- Overland Park, KS
- Kansas City Area Transportation Authority

Appointing authorities are encouraged to contact Ryan Umberger to set appointments for this committee.

10) *Other Business*

The next TTPC meeting will be November 19th. No other business was called.

11) *Adjournment*

Seeing no other business, Co-Chair Jones adjourned the meeting.