

**MINUTES  
OF  
THE OZARK FOOTHILLS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**JULY 8, 2021  
OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**OZARK FOOTHILLS RPC, POPLAR BLUFF, MISSOURI/WebEx CONFERENCE**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Brian Polk called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**II. Open for Public Discussion**

No Public Discussion ensued.

**III. Adoption of April 8, 2021 Minutes**

The minutes of the April 8, 2021 TAC meeting were reviewed. The minutes were adopted on a motion by Vince Lampe, Butler County, and second by Butch Anderson, Butler County.

**IV. Missouri Department of Transportation Reports**

Mark Croarkin, MoDOT Southeast District, took over the role of Southeast District Engineer in September 2020. Mr. Croarkin has been with MoDOT for 23 years, spending the last 10 in the St. Louis District. He appreciates the work the TAC performs and feels there is a good chance more funding is coming to Missouri. Senate Bill 626 will raise the fuel tax 2.5 cents per gallon each year for the next 5 years. Once fully implemented, this will generate an extra \$500 million in revenue, shared with cities and counties. The Southeast District should see about \$18 million in additional funding.

Butch Anderson asked if we can expect an increase in maintenance with the extra fuel tax funds. Currently, there are signs on the highway that can't be read, grass tall enough to hide deer, and other items that fall under maintenance that need improvement. Mr. Croarkin stated priorities do change with time, and currently MoDOT is looking at adding items such as signage to their asset management plan. He noted there are not a lot of expansion jobs currently in the state, outside of US Highway 67, and maintaining the system is important.

Chad Henson, Wayne County, stated there has long been an issue at intersections of county roads and state highways. The state needs to grade or pave a bit down the county road for safety, so vehicles are able to safely get on the roadway. Mr. Croarkin stated this is something that MoDOT and the counties can work together on and that David Wyman needs to know any areas of concern.

David Wyman, MoDOT Southeast District, announced the new 5-year STIP has been

approved. There are 1,434 projects in the STIP. Many of those projects were developed at the local level around the state, and the work the TAC does, providing input from local citizens, is a powerful list of projects.

Striping crews are out and will begin working overnights in the Southeast District in many locations. Nationwide, there is a paint shortage, as many companies were shut down temporarily either due to COVID-19 or the severe winter weather this past February.

Lettings from May 2021 were reviewed, with pavement resurfacing on Routes F, KK, and N in Butler County. In Ripley County, resurfacing will occur on Route T and State Highway 21. In Carter County, Route B will be surfaced. Lastly, in Wayne County, resurfacing will occur on Routes B, V, Z, and D. Updates on the US Highway 67 Cost Share projects were provided, with the project broken up into Phases. Phase 1 is from US Highway 160 to County Road 338. Phase 2 is from County Road 338 to County Road 352.

Butch Anderson asked about installing a roundabout at the Highway 160/C/V intersection. It is currently not a part of the 4-lane expansion of US Highway 67. It is a priority for the TAC and an area of concern with a number of wrecks that occur at the location. Mr. Wyman encouraged the TAC to keep prioritizing the project.

Mike Brandon, MoDOT Southeast District, mentioned the Unfunded Needs List is a great tool for planning and serves two purposes. First, it allows MoDOT to act quickly with a list of projects that have been developed at the local level. Second, it has been useful in legislation for increasing the fuel tax, by showing projects that could be completed with additional funding. Tier 1 of the Unfunded Needs List is \$500 million with about \$14 million in the Southeast District. Tier 2 is a \$2 billion list. MoDOT and their planning partners are now developing a Tier 3 list, which will also be around \$2 billion statewide and will have a multi-modal list of projects as well. Not sure at this time where the funding will come from, but it would generate \$88 million for the Southeast District and \$12.5 million in the OFRPC region.

Chris Crocker, MoDOT Southeast District, mentioned that all cities and counties need to make sure their LPA certification is up to date. With COVID-19, a number of communities have fallen off the list. Patty Fuller has replaced Arlene Dorris in the office.

Chairman Polk inquired if extensions could be granted for LPA training certification, since the COVID-19 pandemic has caused delays and extensions in many things. Mr. Crocker stated that it would be best to complete the training and not risk loss of federal funds. He also mentioned an August 9<sup>th</sup> training for purchasing Right of Way provided by LTAP and provided a list of current BRO balances that will be e-mailed to TAC members.

## **V. Transportation Planning Coordinator Report**

Ozark Foothills Transportation Planning Coordinator Andrew Murphy reported that all seven grant applications submitted for paving to the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program were awarded. Bunker was awarded \$226,914 for a proposed project along Oak Street, 5th Street, 4th street, and the intersection of Main and 6th Street. Butler County was awarded \$177,599 for paving County Road 639 in Broseley. Ellington was awarded \$295,819 for paving Fairground

Street, Manor Street, Logan Street, Park Street, Meadow Drive, King Street, Clark Street, 3rd Street, Alley between 3rd and 4th Street, 4th Street, 5th Street, 6th Street, Caleb Street, Lloyd Street, Baker Street, Tubbs Avenue, and Pratt Hollow Road. Ellsinore was awarded \$316,072 for paving along Walnut Street, Burch Street, Maple Street, Cherry Street, and Pine Street. Poplar Bluff was awarded \$498,074 for paving along Abington, Bradley, Center, Clyde, Clare, Marion, and North Riverview Streets. Qulin was awarded \$254,910 for repairing and overlaying portions of First Street, Second Street, Fourth Street, Fifth Street, and a portion of Connecticut Street. Lastly, Williamsville was awarded \$234,386 for paving along Wayne St., South Main, East Middle, Biggerstaff, First, a section at West and White Oak St., and a section on East St. This will also consist of 3-inch asphalt on the more heavily traveled areas along School Street and around Williamsville Elementary School.

In April the planning commission was informed the CDBG 2021 grant round would most likely open in June, at the beginning of June the commission was informed the 2021 round would be “delayed” as the state is looking into minimum requirements and maximum request amounts to make sure the criteria is best applicable to projects statewide. A new timeline has not been announced, but the expectation is an end of the year deadline.

The LPA Advisory Committee meeting for the month of July was delayed until July 22nd. Mr. Murphy mentioned this was his last year on the committee, and encouraged TAC members to consider applying to serve on the committee. Applications usually open in September.

## **VI. Old Business**

Mr. Murphy announced the updated Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), adopted by the TAC in April 2021, was adopted by the OFRPC Board of Directors in June, submitted to MoDOT, and posted upon the OFRPC website.

Beginning in 2018, the FHWA required partnering agencies to have an official Title VI Plan, which is current for 3 years. The plan was passed in 2018 and expired on June 30, 2021. In May, the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission held a public hearing to address the plan, along with a 30-day public comment period that ended June 4, 2021. The Ozark Foothills Board approved the updated plan at the June Board of the Directors meeting and the plan was submitted to MoDOT at the end of June. The current plan is effective July 1, 2021-June 30, 2024.

## **VII. New Business**

Mr. Murphy presented the voting results from the TAC’s electronic voting prioritized needs list. See attached ballots with complete voting below.

## **VIII. General Discussion**

No general discussion ensued.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Vince Lampe moved to adjourn. Chairman Polk adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

## OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC PROJECT PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/ Description	AADT	Commercial Volume	Number of Crashes	Injuries	Fatalities	
28	<b>Butler:</b> 4-lane Highway 67 from Highway 160 to the state line	7,085	1,740	232	95	3	
	<b>Butler:</b> Construct a round-a-bout at the intersection of Highways 67/C/V	6,296	2,309	61	39	1	
	<b>Butler:</b> Move and straighten Twin Springs Hill on Route M and shoulders on W Highway from PB to Route KK	1,388 1,333	488 449	6 177	3 49	0 4	
5	<b>Carter:</b> Overlay and add shoulders to D Highway	698	134	18	6	0	
1	<b>Carter:</b> Overlay and add shoulders on C Highway from Highway 60 to county line	356	160	21	10	1	
2	<b>Carter:</b> RT N Widen and eliminate one-lane bridge over Middle Brushy Creek	335	87	8	4	0	
42	<b>Reynolds:</b> Guardrails on Highway 21, from Highway H to Highway 60	1806	435	112	40	2	
1	<b>Reynolds:</b> Shoulder on Highway N from Highway 21 to Johnson Shut-Ins	616	115	28	12	0	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Add paved shoulder for bike and pedestrian traffic through Reynolds Co. for Hwy 76 Bike Route	864	92	265	99	11	
15	<b>Ripley:</b> Low water crossing on Highway K between CR K-5 and K-6	644	270	1	0	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Repair Highway 21 South at Briar Creek – Dip in road from flooding	1,734	471	9	4	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Highway 160 – Repair poor construction so people do not get sea sick	6,224	1,278	601	256	15	
16	<b>Wayne:</b> Safety Shoulders on Highway 49 from Highway 67 to Mill Spring and Piedmont to Iron County line and widen existing box culverts	318	104	454	140	4	
	<b>Wayne:</b> Low water Dip on C Highway approximately 1 mile northwest of C & E Junction	170 392	33 42	0 4	0 2	0 1	
	<b>Wayne:</b> Repair small bridge on A Highway (1/2 mile west of Hwy 67) with large box culvert	792	207	14	7	0	

## OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/Description	AADT	Commercial Volume	Number of Crashes	Injuries	Fatalities	
20	<b>Butler:</b> Resurface Route O	252	42	24	7	0	
	<b>Butler:</b> Repair/Resurface Butzen Drive			0	0	0	
	<b>Butler:</b> Resurface Route NN	758	16	21	13	0	
9	<b>Carter:</b> Redesign median crossover of Highway V & Highway A at Highway 60 in Ellsinore	1,644 1,196	322 260	17 18	13 21	0 3	
1	<b>Carter:</b> Overlay Highway V & H in East Carter County	390 232	96 35	13 14	9 7	1 1	
2	<b>Carter:</b> Add Shoulders and rumblestrips to Highway 103	1609 275	242 10	15	10	1	
16	<b>Reynolds:</b> Highway 72 overlay from 72/21 Junction to 72/32 Junction	670	246	177	90	5	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Repair bridges over Black River on Hwy 21 where bridges connect with Highway and also on Hwy KK at West Fork Mine	1,434 792	69 276	0	0	0	
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Secondary Roads overlay and chip & seal Hwy A (Hwy 49 to County Line), Hwy U from Hwy 21 to end of State Maintenance, and Highway W from Highway K to end of Maintenance	94 929 68	18 269 12	0 10 0	0 5 0	0 0 0	
43	<b>Ripley:</b> Add Shoulders on Highway 160 W from Doniphan to C Highway	1,080	295	146	93	1	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Overlay EE Highway	200	41	2	2	0	
	<b>Ripley:</b> Overlay T Highway	432	88	19	8	1	
16	<b>Wayne:</b> HWY 49 Resurface from Williamsville to Iron County Line	1,628	126	395	123	4	
1	<b>Wayne:</b> Overlay Route 49 from Highway 67 to west Junction of Route A	340	34	72	30	1	
2	<b>Wayne:</b> Overlay Route A from west junction of Highway 49 to US Highway 60 East	782	78	50	15	1	

## OZARK FOOTHILLS TAC MULTI-MODAL PRIORITIES

# of Votes	Project/ Description	AADT				
21	<b>Butler:</b> Extend the Poplar Bluff airport runway					
	<b>Butler:</b> Improve Amtrak Depot service facility					
	<b>Butler:</b> Pedestrian Overpass over Railroad along Highway 53					
10	<b>Carter:</b> Construct new helipads					
9	<b>Carter:</b> Sidewalks in Ellsinore from East Carter Schools to US Hwy 60					
1	<b>Carter:</b> Sidewalks from College Ave to Commercial Drive in Van Buren					
11	<b>Reynolds:</b> Add bike lane for TransAmerica Bike Trail on Highway 76 Bike Route					
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Ellington					
	<b>Reynolds:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in Bunker on Main and 4 <sup>th</sup> Streets					
40	<b>Ripley:</b> Add/repair sidewalks on Walnut Street, from Summit to Highway Street, and Highway Street from Lafayette to Walnut Street, for safe pedestrian and wheelchair access to north end of shopping center					
	<b>Ripley:</b> Sidewalks on Highway 142 E (Walnut Street) and west on Washington Street to Courthouse					
1	<b>Ripley:</b> Ellington to Van Buren to Grandin to Doniphan bike trail extension that ties in with TransAmerica Trail in Ellington					
	<b>Wayne:</b> Repair the bridge leading to the Airport on Airport Rd in Piedmont					
10	<b>Wayne:</b> Sidewalk construction on Cemetery Road in Williamsville					
7	<b>Wayne:</b> Sidewalk repair/construction in City of Greenville					

*This Report contains information that is protected from disclosure by federal law, 23 USC Section 409 and the MO Open Records Law (Sunshine Act), Section 610.021 RSMo. Please review MoDOT's policy and procedure manual on the Sunshine Act before releasing any of the information contained herein.*

**TAC ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

**July 8, 2021**

<b>Mr. Andrew Murphy</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Vince Lampe</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Don Anderson</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Dennis LeGrand</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Jeff Darnell</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Bill Robison</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Tom Wilder</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Joe Loyd</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Eddie Williams</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Denise Smith</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Renee Horn</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Jesse Roy</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Dennis Cox</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Brian Polk</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Ms. Angela Smith</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Chad Henson</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Doug Wood</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Mark Croarkin</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Mike Brandon</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. David Wyman</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Ms. Elquin Auala</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Chris Crocker</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Joe Killian</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>

**THOSE NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

<b>Mr. Ron Keeney</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Jordan Collins</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Wayne Gibbs</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Darrell Dement</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Gary Emmons</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Ms. Rickie Maples</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Ms. Tami Hale</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Bill Kirkpatrick</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>