

**MINUTES  
OF  
THE OZARK FOOTHILLS TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
  
OCTOBER 11, 2018  
OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
  
THE LUNCH ROOM AT DONIPHAN FLOWERS, DONIPHAN, MISSOURI**

**I. Call to Order**

Vice-Chairman Donald Black called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

**II. Open for Public Discussion**

Bill Kennon, Ripley County, introduced Mr. Jesse Roy, candidate for Ripley County Presiding Commissioner, who, if elected, would represent Ripley County on the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC).

**III. Adoption of July 12, 2018 Minutes**

The minutes of the July 12, 2018 TAC meeting were reviewed. The minutes were adopted on a motion by Vince Lampe, Butler County, and second by Dennis LeGrand, Butler County.

**IV. Guest Speaker**

Donald Rosenbarger with Delta Companies provided a presentation covering Proposition D. The proposition is a statutory referendum to fund Missouri state law enforcement and maintenance for highways, bridges, roads, and streets that will be on the November 6, 2018 statewide ballot. Should the proposition pass, the state fuel tax will increase 10 cents; 2.5 cents a year until fully implemented on July 1, 2023.

The fuel tax has been 17 cents since 1996. Adjusted for inflation, that value only brings 7 cents in today's dollars, losing 60% of its value. Missouri has the 7<sup>th</sup> largest highway system in the United States, while ranking 49<sup>th</sup> for its fuel tax. Only Alaska has a lower fuel tax. Prop D will support local road needs as well. In following the current CART system, 30% of new revenue will be distributed to cities and counties for local maintenance needs. Butler County and its cities would receive \$947,000, Carter County and its cities - \$206,000, Reynolds County and its cities - \$462,000, Ripley County and its cities - \$287,000, and Wayne County and its cities - \$352,000.

If passed by voters, the measure will generate \$288 million annually to the State Road Fund once fully implemented. An additional \$123 million will be distributed to cities and counties. The proposition has a broad coalition of supporters, and is beginning to air television commercials along with a strong social media presence.

Mr. Rosenbarger commented that Delta Company has had to reduce its workforce over the years. Approximately 100 fewer jobs exist today among their Missouri locations than in 2010. More funding for transportation increases more well-paying jobs in Missouri, along with safer roads and safer streets.

## **V. Missouri Department of Transportation Reports**

Elquin Auala, MoDOT Southeast District, reminded those in attendance the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant cycle will close November 2, 2018. Ms. Auala will be happy to answer any questions about the program. She also mentioned that anyone working on projects involving FHWA funds should make sure that the environmental review is complete before construction starts.

Mike Brandon, MoDOT Southeast District, provided a presentation over MoDOT's funding allocation. Annual funding for transportation in the state is roughly \$2.5 billion. However, once highway patrol funding, operations, salary, bond interest, IRS share, etc. are removed, approximately \$900 million remains for the construction budget. Those funds are distributed into different pots of money, including safety, taking care of the system, and flexible spending. Funds are distributed to each of MoDOT's seven districts, based on population, lane miles, and other factors such as accidents and fatalities. The Southeast district receives approximately 10.8% of safety funds, 13.7% of taking care of the system funds, and 9% of flexible funds at almost \$40 million.

Bill Robison, Butler County, asked for an example of a project that might be constructed with flexible funds. An intersection improvement would be such a project.

Chad Henson, Wayne County, asked if Proposition D doesn't pass, where MoDOT goes from here. Mr. Brandon stated that MoDOT is currently deficit spending, and at some point, will have to stop. However, he doesn't foresee lettered routes being returned to the counties as rumors have suggested.

## **VI. Transportation Planning Coordinator Report**

Regarding the Poplar Bluff Railroad Overpass Project, Ozark Foothills Transportation Planning Coordinator Andrew Murphy announced a groundbreaking was held in July 2018, along with the start of construction. The project is approximately 10% complete.

Mr. Murphy announced The City of Ellington was awarded \$250,000 for paving from the CDBG general infrastructure program. The award will help to pave four city streets and include drainage repair along another street.

Mr. Murphy is still waiting an award announcement for the CDBG emergency applications that were submitted in June, one for the City of Ellington to act as match for FEMA for paving projects and an application for Reynolds County to act as match for the BRO program for replacement of two low water crossings.

At the end of September a CDBG general infrastructure application was submitted on behalf of Butler County for the unincorporated community of Harviell. The request is for \$174,986 dollars

and will pave several of the gravel streets in the community.

MoDOT's TAP applications are available. The cities of Poplar Bluff and Bunker plan to submit proposals, and there is interest in Piedmont. Mr. Murphy encouraged any interested communities to contact him by next week.

## **VII. Old Business**

Mr. Murphy reminded the TAC that in 2016 a subcommittee was created to view and rank the Transportation Alternative Program applications from the Ozark Foothills region. That committee consisted of Vince Lampe, Mike Gossett, Renee Horn, Bill Kennon, and Brain Polk. The committee needs to be reorganized for this year's TAP application review. Subcommittee members will receive the applications via e-mail around November 5-6, 2018 and will need to review and rank them by November 15<sup>th</sup>. Vince Lampe and Bill Kennon will serve again. Carter County representatives re-nominated Mike Gossett and Wayne County representatives re-nominated Brain Polk. Reynolds County had no representatives in attendance and will be contacted at a later date.

## **VIII. New Business**

Mr. Murphy provided the calendar year 2019 meeting schedule. The schedule remains the same as 2018 with meetings scheduled on the second Thursday of January, April, July, and October.

## **IX. General Discussion**

Donald Rosenbarger asked for a group photo of the TAC to share on social media. After the photo, Mr. Rosenbarger reminded everyone he had several signs and pieces of campaign literature in support of Proposition D for those interested.

Vice-Chairman Black received a question from former TAC member David Reynolds inquiring as to why Carter County does not have parcel mapping that shows landowners. Felicity Ray, OFRPC Executive Director, stated it costs around \$100,000 to complete that type of mapping, and many counties in Southeast Missouri are not mapped due to the cost.

## **X. Adjournment**

Vince Lampe, Butler County, moved to adjourn. Vice-Chairman Black adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

**TAC ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

**October 11, 2018**

<b>Ms. Felicity Ray</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Andrew Murphy</b>	<b>Ozark Foothills RPC</b>
<b>Mr. Vince Lampe</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Dennis LeGrand</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Don Anderson</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Bill Robison</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Jeff Darnell</b>	<b>Butler County</b>
<b>Mr. Donald Black</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Wayne Gibbs</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Ms. Becky Gibbs</b>	<b>Carter County (alternate)</b>
<b>Mr. William Kennon</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Gary Emmons</b>	<b>Ripley County (alternate)</b>
<b>Ms. Rickie Maples</b>	<b>Ripley County (alternate)</b>
<b>Mr. Chad Henson</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Doug Wood</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>
<b>Mr. Mike Brandon</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Ms. Elquin Auala</b>	<b>MoDOT Southeast District</b>
<b>Mr. Jesse Roy</b>	<b>Guest</b>
<b>Mr. Don Rosenbarger</b>	<b>SaferMO Representative</b>

**THOSE NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

<b>Mr. Mike Gossett</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Jordan Collins</b>	<b>Carter County</b>
<b>Mr. Joe Loyd</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Doug Warren</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Ms. Renee Horn</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Darrell Dement</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Eddie Williams</b>	<b>Reynolds County</b>
<b>Mr. Jerry Halley</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. David Johnson</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Mr. Lonnie Hudson</b>	<b>Ripley County</b>
<b>Ms. Tami Hale</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. Bill Kirkpatrick</b>	<b>Wayne County</b>