



Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Policy Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 18, 2024
 3:30 pm

Keith Ascher
Oct 16 2024

In Person:

Groesbeck Room
 Manhattan Public Library
 629 Poyntz Ave
 Manhattan, KS 66502

Virtual:

Zoom meeting
 Meeting ID: 919 154 6755
 Passcode: 148813

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT		
x	Keith Ascher	Geary County Commission
x	Ryne Dowling	KS Dept of Transportation
x	Peter Oppelt	Manhattan City Commission
x	Dee McKee	Pottawatomie Co. Commission
	Ronna Larson	Junction City Commission
x	John Ford	Riley County Commission
	Clifford Baughman	Wamego City Commission
NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT		
x	Will Sharp	Federal Highway Admin.
x	Kelley Paskow	Fort Riley Representative
	Eva Steinman	Federal Transit Admin.
x	Anne Smith	Flint Hills ATA

Staff Present		
x	Jared Tremblay	MPO
x	Abigail Danner	MPO

Guests Present	
Desree Pettra	
Randy Pettra	

1. Welcome
 - Meeting called to order at 3:31p
2. Public Comment Opportunity (for items not on the agenda)
3. Financial Update
 - Jared Tremblay gave an overview of the accounts noting that as of today, noting the Q1 & Q2 reimbursement from KDOT have been received.
 - Jared Tremblay then showed a detailed 2024 timeline of the finances, dating amounts and requests by date for Q1 & Q2, as well as CPG signatures, awards, and final reimbursement. This was to show that the first steady decline in the checking account was due to delayed CPG agreement processes in 2024

Special Accommodations: Please notify the MPO at (785) 620-3070 or FHMPO@FlintHillsMPO.org at least 72 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend this meeting. We will make every effort to meet reasonable requests. The MPO does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, or national origin, according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, visit the MPO office at the address above or www.FlintHillsMPO.org.

4. Staff Updates

- EVRP – Jared Tremblay moved this item to later in the agenda, time permitting
- TDM – Jared Tremblay noted the MPO has sent GIS data to the consultant and will be meeting with the consultant the following day. The consultant will be finalizing future 2050 conditions before running future scenario model runs over the next month.
- 2025 UPWP – Jared Tremblay state the 2025 UPWP is in progress and updated per recent FHWA & KDOT guidance. The board will be briefed on the item at the October meeting, for adoption in November or December.

5. KDOT Update:

- Ryne Dowling noted that the requested PM1 data had been sent to MPO staff.
 - Jared Tremblay stated that staff will present on the 2023 crash data & targets at a future autumn meeting when the report is complete
- Keith Ascher requested an update on the US-77 and Lyons Creek Rd turn lanes.
 - Jared Tremblay stated he was not aware of any formal plans
 - Ryen Dowling state he will reach out to local area engineers to see if there are any plans, and if not, what could be a next step.
- I-70 & Taylor Road was questioned about any updates.
 - Jared Tremblay showed the project table in the TIP stating that only PE had been authorized and funded.
- John Ford state he had received calls about median and right-of-way vegetation being too high and blocking visibility for residents in the River Chase area along US-24
 - Jared Tremblay state he will reach out to local KDOT District 1 staff and inquire
- Dee McKee asked about follow-up on the US-24 and Flush Road R-turn project
 - Jared Tremblay stated that since the study's completion, there has been no movement, and no funding towards construction.
- Keith Ascher stated that he'd heard from businesses along E Chestnut in Junction City about safety issues for people walking across the roadway as there are no marked crossings anywhere.
 - Jared Tremblay noted the road belongs to Junction City, but that the MPO agreed a crossing is a good idea. He will reach out to Ray Ibarra of JCPW. He also recommended that Mr. Ascher get letters of support for the project signed by local businesses concerned to present to JC Commission and staff.

6. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the August 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes
 - Keith Ascher moved and Peter Oppelt seconded. Motion passed.

7. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the Amendment #4 of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
 - Jared Tremblay gave an overview of the changes noting the amendment is driven by updates from FHWA and KDOT in regards to budgeting and tracking Complete Streets projects. He stated the change was a budget reorganization, not a change in funds or amounts.
 - Dee McKee asked if there were any projects in PT that were eligible for funding, specifically the extension of Excell Rd and side path.
 - Jared Tremblay noted the MPO can only work and fund planning projects, not construction.
 - Keith Ascher motioned and Dee McKee seconded. Motioned passed.

8. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** ATIIP Memo
 - Jared Tremblay reviewed the ATIIP memo MPO staff had written to the Policy Board. He stated the point was to highlight the background of the ATIIP grant application process, as well as lay out the timeline of events and letters of support, but also to update MPO procedures going forward in regards to Letters of Support for Trails from Junction City and Geary County.
 - John Ford stated he discussed the topic with Ogden staff and he'd expressed the public's concerns about the trails in Ogden. He noted the priority is to fix Riley Avenue.
 - Dee McKee stated she felt the sidewalk connection to Oliver Brown Elementary from Excell and Harvester Road neighborhoods was more important than recreation trails
 - Jared Tremblay stated that project would be an excellent TA application as it is already in the SRTS report

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Annual review for Planning Manager
 - John Ford tabled the discussion until October as Ronna Larson from Junction City was not present, and as the second largest contributor to the MPO financially, she should be included.
 - Dee McKee and Keith Ascher requested a copy of the evaluation form.
 - Jared Tremblay stated he will send the documents out to all board members.

10. Motion for Adjournment

Peter Oppel motioned and Keith Ascher seconded. Motion passed at 4:28p

Next Meeting September 18, 2024, Groesbeck Room, Manhattan Public Library