

**SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2011**

The quarterly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairman William E. Osborne at 12:03 p.m., on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, in the Commission's meeting room in Perryville, Missouri.

ATTENDEES

William E. Osborne	Chairman	SEMO TAC
	Executive Director	Southeast Missouri Transportation Service
Brent Buerck	City Administrator	City of Perryville
Weldon Macke	SEMO RPC Chairman	Cape Girardeau County
Patrick Mullins	Associate Commissioner	St. Francois County
Jim Sutterer	Associate Commissioner	Perry County
Scott Sattler	Executive Director	Perry County IDA
Gary Nelson	Presiding Commissioner	Ste. Genevieve County
Randy Bahr	1 st District Commission	Ste. Genevieve County
Larry Payne	Representative of Business	Cape Girardeau County
Tom Mogelnicki	Director	Cape County Transit Authority
Paul Koeper	Associate Commissioner	Cape Girardeau County
James Clark	Representative	Ste. Genevieve County
Glenda Hoffmeister	Executive Director	Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging
Rodney Bollinger	Public Works Director	City of Jackson
Jim Dismuke	City Administrator	City of Fredericktown
Kelly Green	Development Services Director	City of Cape Girardeau
Dale Kinneman	Area Engineer	MoDOT District 10
Steve Billings	Administrator of Transit	MODOT
Jay Lancaster	Transportation Planning Coordinator	MODOT
Chauncy Buchheit	Executive Director	SEMO RPC
Ronald Steele	Economic Development Planner	SEMO RPC
Drew Christian	Regional Planner	SEMO RPC
Stan Balsman	GIS Director	SEMO RPC
Erica Palmer	Secretary/Receptionist	SEMO RPC

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions, Chairman Osborne asked for approval of the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Buerck and seconded by Mr. Mogelnicki; motion carried.

Chairman Osborne asked for approval of the minutes of the August 17, 2011 meeting. Mr. Payne moved that the minutes be approved as presented; Mr. Mogelnicki seconded the motion; motion carried.

Steve Billings of MoDOT's Multimodal Operations Transit Section (MOTS) gave a presentation about transit in Missouri. The information is provided on MoDOT's website. MOTS deals with financial and technical assistance. The primary source of financial assistance for transit providers is federal funds. In urban areas these funds do not pass through MoDOT but go directly to the local entity. MoDOT then focuses on specialized or rural providers. The transit section has a rural transit assistance program. It is moving from an in-house program to a partnership. This is part of the downsizing within MoDOT. The Public Transit Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan was a new requirement in 2007-2008 for the Southeast Missouri Region. These plans only have a shelf life of about 5 years. MoDOT is conducting workshops about updating these plans in December-January. These plans have four steps. Mr. Lancaster stated that there will be a meeting so that everyone is up-to-date on the program.

Denis Beganovic, who had served as the MoDOT contact person for the TAC, has accepted a position with the City of St. Louis. The new contact person is Eva Voss. Mr. Lancaster stated that there could be several more changes to the MoDOT staff over the next few months.

MoDOT has won the Governor's Highway Safety Association's Peter K. O'Rourke Special Achievement Award for spearheading a statewide safety coalition that has helped to realize a decrease in traffic fatalities and disabling injuries over the past five years. The state was also recognized for reaching its goal of 850 or fewer roadway fatalities two years early.

TAC members have been asked to review their top three priorities for 2012 and to inform staff of any changes in rankings and any additional needs. Bollinger and Perry County reported no changes. St. Francois and Ste. Genevieve Counties have turned in their updated needs lists. Cape Girardeau County has moved two of their priorities up to replace two earlier needs. Mr. Steele is still waiting on updated needs from Iron and Madison Counties.

Mr. Christian reported on the initiation of the sidewalk surveys required as part of the FY 2012 Transportation Planning Work Program. All communities over 1,000 in population are to be surveyed. There are 13 communities in the Region. They are Jackson, Farmington, Fredericktown, Perryville, Bismarck, Bonne Terre, Desloge, Leadwood, Marble Hill, Park Hills, Ste. Genevieve, Cape Girardeau and Ironton. This is a requirement for the RPC work program with MoDOT. All communities should have received a survey in the mail. There was a question raised at the quarterly transportation meeting in Jefferson City regarding liability issues within communities. There is one community in our Region that does not want to participate in the survey due to the liability issue. The survey is the first step in the program. Next will be the physical inventory. Mr. Christian is still trying to find the most efficient way to go about conducting the physical inventory.

Commissioner Nelson reported on the committee activities to work on safety improvements to Highway 32 in Ste. Genevieve County. He stated that the committee has not met in four months and that there is no change.

Commissioner Nelson discussed concerns in Ste. Genevieve County regarding increased truck traffic on Highways 61 and Y in Bloomsdale due to the location of the new weigh station. Mr. Kinneman stated that MoDOT conducted a traffic study from Route OO south on Highway 61. Over a three day period the total traffic ranged from 1,531 to 1,662 vehicles per day. The total number of trucks ranged from 23 to 54. All of the data concluded that there was no increased traffic due to the weigh station at this time. Route Y and the City of Bloomsdale was not included in the study. Commissioner Nelson stated the county had set out their traffic counters for 24 hours a day for 7 days and recorded 609 trucks. On Y road they recorded 156 trucks. Mr. Lancaster asked if the speed was an issue with the truckers. Commissioner Nelson was concerned about safety. Most trucks that use the bypass are unsafe, overloaded, or not up-to-date on their paperwork. He stated that the Ste. Genevieve Sheriff does not have authority to pull over the truckers unless they are speeding.

MoDOT is continuing to work on the Safe and Sounds Bridge Improvement Program. Mr. Lancaster stated that repairs or replacement of most bridges in the Region have been completed. Work on the replacement of the Route 72 overpass bridge over U. S. Highway 67 will begin in June, 2012. The bridge replacement is likely to take 45 to 60 days.

Construction of U. S. Highway 67 from Fredericktown to Poplar Bluff has been completed and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in August. Construction of improvements to Highway 34 is also progressing.

MoDOT has been holding public meetings across the state to gain input for a new State Rail Plan. Mr. Buchheit suggested committee members complete the online survey regarding the rail plan. Concern has been expressed that the plan will recommend a significant investment in high speed rail for passengers. He pointed out that right now there is more of a need for improved freight rail to support economic growth. A coalition is being formed to preserve freight rail trackage in the state, particularly in rural areas, and to assure that the need is included in the new State Rail Plan.

Mr. Steele reported on the Southeast Coalition for Roadway Safety. There has been a 12.7% decrease in traffic-related fatalities in the Southeast District over last year as of the most recent report. Statewide, there has been a decrease of about 10%.

Mr. Kinneman reported that center guard cable will be installed on I-55 from Route E at Oak Ridge in Cape Girardeau County to the Jefferson County line. There will be a bid opening on November 18 for resurfacing I-55 from the Jefferson County line to Route M in Ste. Genevieve County. Mr. Lancaster passed out maps of the new district boundaries.

Mr. Mogelnicki informed the board that the Cape County Transit Authority has signed a contract with Greyhound Bus Line to serve as a package distributor center. Greyhound will pick up packages from the Transit Authority and distribute the packages throughout the United States.

The next meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee was scheduled to be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. in the Commission's meeting room in Perryville.

Mr. Buerck moved that the meeting be adjourned, Mr. Mogelnicki seconded the motion; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William E. Osborne, Chairman