

# ST. JOSEPH AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

## Technical Committee

August 22, 2013

### Voting Members Present:

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Dustin Smith    | City of St. Joseph      |
| Jody Carlson    | City of St. Joseph      |
| Dan Hausman     | Buchanan County         |
| Shannon Kusilek | MoDOT - NW              |
| Gary Leftin     | City of St. Joseph      |
| Andrew Clements | City of St. Joseph      |
| Scott Gatewood  | City of St. Joseph      |
| Abe Forney      | City of St. Joseph      |
| Angie Hoecker   | MoDOT - CO              |
| Allison Smith   | K-DOT                   |
| Bill Shellhorn  | Village of Country Club |
| Roger Sparks    | City of St. Joseph      |

### Other:

|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Paul Cockram      | ATU Local #847       |
| Mary Gaston       | St. Joseph Transit   |
| Michael Rinehart  | MoDOT – NW           |
| Laura Handke      | Live Well St. Joseph |
| Gary Myers        | Ag Expo Boardmember  |
| Marty Grey        | Ag Expo Chairman     |
| Fred Hannah       | Ag Expo Boardmember  |
| Gerald Sprong     | Ag Expo Boardmember  |
| Melody Smith      | Ag Expo Boardmember  |
| Sharont Cornelius | Ag Expo President    |
| Beth Langley      | OATS, Inc.           |

### Staff:

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Ty Nagle       | City of St. Joseph |
| Elaine Buckner | City of St. Joseph |

**OPENING REPORTS - Roll Call of Voting Members.** A quorum was present.

Approval of June 13, 2013 meeting minutes. **Member Hausman moved, and Member Leftin seconded, that the minutes of the June 13, 2013 meeting be approved as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.**

Opportunity for Public Comments. None were given.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None.

**NEW BUSINESS – Designing Healthy Communities – Video Part 1.** Member Nagle asked to postpone viewing the video. **Member Forney moved to remove the item from the agenda. Member Kusilek seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.**

2035 LRTP Amendments – Amending Long Range Transportation Plan to include interchange at 36 Highway. Mr. Nagle said the project has been through the committee twice for different reasons. It began as a TIP amendment and there was some confusion as to the project having one or two sidewalks. With it being one, it went through the review process because of the bridge deck policy. The project is on the line of the urban boundary. At this meeting it is being considered as an LRTP amendment and on the TIP in different sections: 1) for a private developer to construct a collector roadway off the bridge; and 2) for MoDOT to sponsor the interchange. The funds are listed in 2014.

Member Hausman said there is no road north of the interchange, but a collector road goes south. Member Nagle explained that, initially, staff felt it would conflict with a future outer loop because of spacing and the bridges over 36 Highway. It was then considered as part of the outer loop. The loop connection was not closely examined due to time constraints in meeting the 30 day public notice. With the LRTP being updated soon they will decide if the outer loop will stay where it is or connect to the new road. For now, the project is listed as a collector. It is fiscally constrained, Tier 2 and 3. It is a collector for both future functional classification and land use maps.

Member Hausman asked what requirements are on collector roads. Member Nagle said traffic volume brings about the designation.

**Member Kusilek moved to accept the project as amended in the LRTP. Member Hoecker seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.**

2014-2017 TIP Amendments - All new projects: BR-47, HE-33, HE-34, BR-48. Mr. Nagle introduced the new MoDOT projects.

Member Kusilek offered project details as follows: BR-47 – As a way to stretch their dollars in the funding crisis, federal funding is being applied to bridge inspection projects. Critical bridges are inspected every year. The amendment will affect design dollars. The work will be done by MoDOT staff.

HE-33: pedestrian crossing light for Hosea School on Alabama. Member Kusilek noted that the School District's Safe Routes to School application for 100 % grant funds was accepted. The amendment will change the sponsor name from the School District to MoDOT. As a 4-lane divided highway, Alabama is difficult for children to cross. The improvement will feature a flashing signal warning light with crossing stripes. It does not reduce speed. The application was specifically for that type of improvement and cannot be altered.

HE-34: Guard rail improvements. Member Kusilek said the national standards for a 4-lane highway have changed to include protection between lanes under bridges. There are three locations in the MPO area where the guardrail cable will be extended with statewide safety

enhancement funds. Member Carlson remarked that those funds came about from the state not passing the open container law.

BR-48: Member Nagle said funds for the 36 Highway bridge are shown as local match because the project sponsor is paying for it up front and will be reimbursed based on the number of jobs created, after they are created. The project will come in later as a TIP project. This amendment is for the bridge itself to be constructed in 2014, featuring one sidewalk. Member Kusilek explained that it will be designed so that when the road is extended to the north, the second sidewalk can be added. **Member Kusilek moved to accept the TIP amendment. Member Leftin seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.**

Live Well St. Joseph Coordination – Introduction of healthy living alliance in St. Joe. Member Nagle explained that the MPO works with the organization which will eventually expand into the metro area. He introduced Lori Hanky, Coordinator, and Salina Good. Ms. Hanky explained that their purpose is to get organizations to work together that have common goals, such as tobacco cessation and obesity awareness. They may broaden their scope to include mental health. A school curriculum has been developed which was part of the summer school program this year. “Get Moving” through the Bike Club and St. Joe Fit uses walking and biking trails along with events that the YMCA and Bike Club are organizing. They are working on a “Walk to School Day”, bike and pedestrian counts, and a “Bike to Work Day”. They intend to increase usage of St. Joseph’s infrastructure.

Member Nagle said the MPO has 5 years of trail usage counts. Ms. Good’s position will encourage kids to use the trails. She works for the Youth Alliance and has a “Trips for Kids” program. Ms. Good said the program offers free access to 25 bikes and helmets. A van picks up the kids, takes them on a ride and takes them home twice a week using the trail system. They also do walks and runs. They offer free smoking cessation classes which have been attended by 300 people thus far. A follow up is done in 2 and 5 years. Their first 2 year follow up showed 80% had quit smoking. The Welfare Board is assessing how this factors into the rest of their lifestyle. Youth through Power offers prevention activities for grades 6-12. Long term goals are to develop early lifestyles and influence choices people make through education and environment by activities. They focus on sustainability and trying to maintain that through partner members and working together. Member Carlson asked how they measure success. Ms. Good responded that they use a set of assessments through two and five year studies. They also have sign-in sheets and do follow ups.

2014 Draft UPWP- Work elements to be completed in 2014, and alignment with strategic plan. Member Nagle said he received timely comments. It will be approached at the next meeting. The recent MPO boundaries update is reflected. Work products are under quick descriptions. As part of our LRTP update and a product of our transit operational review, they talked about salvaging the transit working group which will last through the update of the LRTP. Public participation stays the same. Most of the TIP work remains the same. Current land use and transportation planning for 2013 we wanted to identify a master plan and coordinate an analysis study. Next year we will be doing a master plan for the Village of Country Club. We are examining their road connecting to St. Joseph Avenue and extending it north to connect to the Village or Savannah. Land use effects will be considered.

The Strategic Plan presented at the last meeting showed how 1-year goals match up with 25 year goals. There was a big gap between them. The Strategic Plan looks at what the next five years will look at. Better Block St. Joseph will continue working with them on the streetscape aspect. “Biking Day” involves taking a parking space and turning it into a park for a day. During Better Block, they removed four spaces and converted them into seating areas for cafes.

Member Nagle asked if there were any elements the members would like to see in the TIP. Member Carlson questioned why, with MPO boundaries changing, has the MPO danced around Agency? Member Clements noted that when MPO boundaries increased in 2000, the city of Agency chose not to be part of it. It was at their request, so the urbanized area had no choice. Savannah chose to be part of the metro area. The Village of Country Club had to be part of it, they had no choice. Member Leftin asked if Agency annexes, does the MPO boundary change? Mr. Clements said they are forced to operate in two worlds. They may decide later to be in it. Ty one of the larger elements of the UPWP this year is working with the LRTP steering committee on 2040. SIM elements are found in non-motorized planning. Mr. Nagle said it was noticed in the newspaper 30 days from now. They started 30 days ago. Technically, the approval date will be two months from now. We will advertise the meeting so it will be in the next advertisement as well because we will be voting on it. Member Clements noted that a major comment would be renoticed. Mr. Nagle said he received comments from Federal Highway Transit, KDOT and MoDOT. Member Hausman asked if the public submitted comments. Member Nagle responded no, not for the UPWP, but they did for the TIP and LRTP.

**OTHER/ADJOURN** – The meeting adjourned by motion at 11:15 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at the Buchanan County Courthouse (location tentative).