



AGENDA

ACEC-Missouri

MoDOT Kansas City District Liaison Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2023

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Virtual & KC District Office Boardroom

MoDOT KC District Representatives

Chris Redline, District Engineer
Jeff Hardy, Assistant District Engineer
Debbie Huffman, District Design Eng.
Rich Shipley, District Const. Eng.
Ben McCabe, Area Engineer
Jill Bruss, Area Engineer
Jodie Puhr, Project Manager (Virtual)
Heather Barrows, Project Manager (Virtual)
Mark Sommerhauser, Project Manager
Christopher West, Project Manager
Sean Domingo, Project Manager

Karlee Covington, Project Manager (Virtual)
Jackie White, Project Manager
Kenny Voss, Asst. State Design Engr. (Virtual)

ACEC-MO Liaison Committee Members

Anne Schroer, Chair, GBA
Brian Kidwell, Garver
Julie Sarson, Burns & McDonnell
Linda Rottinghaus, Affinis
Matt Spencer, Hg Consult
Ozzy Bravo, Parsons (Virtual)

Discussion Topics:

- I-70 notifications will be issued on 07/03 or so, waiting on Governor.
- I-70 is the biggest push but there are still a lot of projects in the bill that the legislature put out.
 - \$100M for low volume roads (one year, needs to be awarded and spent by this time next year, similar to last year, 1000 ADT). KC gets \$6.7M but NE & NW get the bulk of it, all districts get something. KC will be done with plans before governor signs the bill
 - \$50M for railroad crossings targeting Amtrak
 - 5 or 6 env studies, one for US-50 J turn to improve access to Republic Foods
 - \$37M to Port KC, allocation unknown
- Priorities in area? Jeff says Allan's I-70 project is working to get RFQ out, try to get selection later this year. Industry meeting for this? Not sure, might just be when RFP comes out.
- With statewide I-70 going, there may be changes to current I-70 projects. Having enough contractors to do all this work will be a challenge.
- Up to \$1.7B in awards prior to today, \$1.8B for the entire year, entire state. \$60M in bids today just in KC.
- Interchanges and bridges still have bidding capacity in bidders. Asphalt has fewer bidders, these bidders are busy. Asphalt contractors have increased workload, tight timeframes. Giving two years to get completed now.
- Has MoDOT seen interest from outside contractors? We haven't, we hope. \$2.8B should be enough to have contractors start looking at it. STL contractors may not have as much competition between contractors.

- Doing a little better staffing-wise. Engineers are getting to be fully staffed but need a whole lot of construction people. Not losing folks as fast as they used to.
- When we start staffing I-70, this might be a challenge. Relying even more on consultants to do the work. More Env, utilities, ROW.
- Governor has to sign bill by July 15 but we heard end of June.
- Delivery methods? Too premature to tell. A lot of information will come out in the next month.
- Could be like Safe and Sound – region directors. Website shows this broken up into 5 segments. Some have env studies started, some do not. Nothing from Odessa to Midway. A lot of opportunities on different areas.
- Still have normal STIP to deliver. Didn't bring a lot of projects into STIP this year.
- Later this year the I-29/35 viaduct bridges will be coming out. \$180M, both sides of river over 1000' long total. 29/35 PEL will be done so we'll know what to do. Didn't want to build something in the wrong spot – goal of PEL. Major bridge funding – Bridge turned these into replacements.
- Meeting with CO Bridge to go over what's in the STIP. Bryan is having more difficulty hiring bridge staff.
- Rich – hiring more consultant inspection. 10 contracts this year, probably 3 or 4 next year. Once I-70 kicks in, backfilling with more construction inspectors. They are now are running on their own, we are trying to get to the point where “this is your job, manage it, let us know if there are any problems.” This is where we're going to have to get unless something changes and we're really drawing more people in.
- All jobs including I-70 will be presented to Commission in June, approved in July. Addition of these projects will camouflage the fact that we weren't bringing a lot of projects in because of inflation increases.
- Inflation ate up NW budget, they're now just taking care of what they've got. Getting killed on asphalt, only one contractor.
- Debbie – draft STIP moved some projects back a year or two to balance STIP. On design side, will have surveying needs soon. Plus one or two safety projects.
- Six month outlook – Debbie says they've received a request for this. Not meeting with Bridge until after request date. Will have something, but better idea by end of June.
- Jeff – other grants, earmarks also have to be administered through LPA side, getting a lot of this. A lot of the pots of money are coming in without a lot of design, there are still aspects that MoDOT needs to administer. LPA has 186 active projects, with 30 well beyond the time frame. Goal is to have the project obligated in 4 years.
- MO didn't get nearly as much money as they used to due to federal redistribution. Get penalized if you have unobligated balance. Left some money on the table. LPAs are not getting their money obligated. Big cities do not have this issue, this problem isn't everywhere.
- Kenny – we've maximized the ability to reallocate the funds. Probably have same problem this fiscal year. Lot of projects started but are not getting delivered quickly. \$400M balance for LPA program as of right now.

- Kenny – 20+ projects in the budget that are not I-70 – these could still be vetoed. We'll need to spread those out – construction in STIP or unfunded needs list
- Keep in mind that our stakeholders are busy too – SHPO, USACE – might need spread these projects out.
- Mark – consultant work in last 12 months for ADA, need to get it done now because it has to stay on schedule for permitting, environmental, ROW. If we get inflation under control, we can pull these projects back in sooner. Did not change timelines if it got pulled out. Get it done, put it on the shelf.
- Chris – built in 7% annually for five years, even if it went down to 6.5% this builds in a lot of capacity.
- Chris – Bruce R Watkins grant to KCMO, not sure who signator yet – KCMO or MoDOT. Biggest item by far will be community involvement. Have consent decree so we need positive input from public at 100%. Safety improvements. MoDOT will handle legal side. Limits are to the intersections north and south of signalized crossing.
- DBE verification needs to go directly to MoDOT DBE folks. This is a newer thing that is required, it is not complicated. Fail safe check around the prime consultant – the DBE needs to know to expect that. Has hung up contracting a few times.
- Kenny – consultants asking Jeff Cremer about commission report. This is as accurate as the information we have available. Doesn't include subs or DB contracts. MoDOT shouldn't be using this report to assess workload, should only be assessing the information included in the proposal. New system in MO for finances, going online July 1. Data could be incorporated into invoices.
- Mark – traffic management will be juggling with World Cup Summer 2026. All discussions with core teams, jobs coming up will be hitting time frame.
- MoDOT PM staff are a lot younger than we used to be. Experience level, consultants come with expertise.
- Mark – CADD training going okay too. Kenny – MicroStation up for bid in the next year, will be a solicitation in the next year. Rebid every 5-7 years, this is a requirement.
- Kenny – Piloting a new scheduling tool now, will implement using MS project, templates with major milestones. Will centrally set up a template, district PMs will set schedules or will be consultant-led. License for each firm, will input into cloud. Will be implemented in late summer/fall. Goal is to have pilot done by end of July. Plan to use dashboards to see which tasks are coming up or behind. Implementation – won't do every project we have all at once. FY 25 will be added in, rest of projects in STIP after that.