



Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization

206 Southwind Place, Suite 2B | Manhattan, KS | 66503
 785.620.3070 | FHMPO@FlintHillsMPO.org
 www.FlintHillsMPO.org

Policy Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Manhattan Public Library – Groesbeck Room

3:30 pm

Zoom

Meeting ID: 919 154 6755

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT		
x	Keith Ascher	Geary County Commission
x	Ryne Dowling	KS Dept of Transportation
x	Usha Reddi	Manhattan City Commission
x	Dee McKee	Pottawatomie Co. Commission
x	Ronna Larson	Junction City Commission
x	John Ford	Riley County Commission
	Clifford Baughman	Wamego City Commission
NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT		
x	Cecelie Cochran (Zoom)	Federal Highway Admin.
x	Wilford Rose (Alt)	Fort Riley Representative
	Eva Steinman	Federal Transit Admin.
x	Anne Smith	Flint Hills ATA

Staff Present		
x	Jared Tremblay	MPO

Guests Present		

1. Welcome

- The Policy Board meeting was called to order at 3:32p by chairperson John Ford

2. Public Comment Opportunity (for items not on the agenda)

3. Financial Update

- Jared Tremblay gave a quick overview of the accounts and noted no changes save for interest in the money market account, and standard transactions in the checking. He noted the MPO spent slightly less money in 2022 than was outlined in the UPWP.
- Jared Tremblay stated the Q4 2022 billing had been submitted to KDOT and reimbursement was expected in the next few weeks.

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

- New Employee

- Jared Tremblay stated a new employee has been hired by the MPO. Abigail Danner will begin working on Feb. 8th, 2023 as an hourly employee while she finishes her degree at K-State. Pending a 90-day review she will transition to full-time employment in May 2023 as the Transportation Planner.

5. KDOT Update: Available on KDOT's website, [here](#)

- Ryne Dowling stated that the MPO's Q4 billing request was being processed and should be finalized in the next few weeks.
- Mr. Dowling noted 2023 CPG agreements for the state's MPOs are in the works and letters should be mailed in the next few weeks.
- John Ford requested the letter be emailed to the Board for them to stay informed
- Dee McKee stated her concern about Ad Valorem and how the state will allow local municipalities to utilize that funding for match on local projects.

6. **ACTION ITEM:** Election of Chairperson

- Jared Tremblay began by stating that per the bylaws, John Ford cannot be elected as Chairperson for a third consecutive year.
- Dee McKee nominated Keith Ascher, who respectfully declined due to recent nominations and commitments to other boards.
- John Ford nominated Ronna Larson, who accepted. Usha Reddi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the December 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- Keith Ascher motioned for approval and John Ford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of 2023 Safety Performance Measures Report and Targets

- Jared Tremblay gave an overview of the Safety PM summary, going over each performance measure and what trends the data is showing, noting not a single target set in 2020 was met. He noted new targets have been set based on the current data, and that this information is due to KDOT by March 2023. He noted the new targets that run through 2026.

- Jared noted several items including the 10 fatalities in 2021 compared with 4 in 2018.
- Cecelie Cochran noted that this is a problem across the country, and specifically noted that since COVID 19 began, despite less vehicles on the roadway, crashes and fatalities have increased.
- Keith Ascher stated there have been 4 or 5 head-on crashes on I-70 in Geary County the last few months to year. He would like to see what could be done about this and how we can address it.
- Dee McKee noted that the signage may need updating and could be helpful.
- Jared Tremblay stated he will work with KDOT to look into the crash reports as well as existing built conditions
- Ryne Dowling stated he had access to the crash reports and will get the data
- Jared Tremblay and Ryne Dowling will set up a time to discuss the data
- Cecelie Cochran stated that when KDOT and the MPO look at the crash reports they should look to see if there is any signage or roadway departure specific information, and then try to find and focus on 2 or 3 main characteristics to address.
- John Ford motioned for approval and Ryne Dowling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of 2023 Pavement & Bridge Condition Performance Measures Report and Targets

- Jared Tremblay provided an overview of the Summary sheet and went through each performance measure and future targets. He noted how several targets were not met, specifically those for interstate condition, but that in the next few years those should be addressed with planned projects in the TIP.
- John Ford motioned for approval and Ryne Dowling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

10. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of 2023 System Reliability Performance Measures Report and Targets

- Jared Tremblay gave an overview of the Summary sheet and went over each performance measure and the new targets. He noted that the MPO region is on-target for 2 of the 3 measures, and that the issue with the Non-NHS System Reliability in 2021 was due to two specific locations; Wildcat Creek bridge construction on K-18 and Green Valley Rd intersection construction on US-24.

- Mr. Tremblay noted that the Truck Travel Time Reliability measure takes in a national dataset that compares the MPO reliability vis-à-vis with the rest of the nation.
- Cecelie Cochran states that the MPO overall looks very good in terms of traffic flow and reliability.
- Dee McKee asked if the dataset included local trucks for just long-distance trucks. She stated her concern is that it is not reflective of the local and agriculture vehicle travel as they frequently have issue with traffic along US-24, specifically getting to and from the Coop on Excel Rd.
- Cecelie Cochran noted the dataset has issues and while it provides a good nation-wide comparison. She stated the data looks at Peak hour flows throughout the day, but that some vehicles may not be fully reflected or represented in the data.
- John Ford motioned for approval and Ryne Dowling seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Motion for Adjournment

- Jared Tremblay noted there will likely not be a February meeting unless something comes up for the agenda.
- John Ford motioned and Dee McKee seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 4:31pm.

Next Meeting February 15, 2023