



Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization

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Policy Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 21, 2026
3:30 pm

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	Larry Fox	Manhattan City Commission
x	Dee McKee	Pottawatomie Co. Commission
x	Sam Yoskowitz	Junction City Commission
x	John Ford	Riley County Commission
x	Zac Kreider	Wamego City Commission
NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT		
x	Javier Ahumada	Federal Highway Admin.
	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 Pettera	
Randy Pettera	

1. Welcome
 - Meeting called to order at 3:31p.
2. Public Comment Opportunity (for items not on the agenda)
3. **ACTION ITEM: Approve Flint Hills ITS Architecture Report**
 - Per staff request, Dee McKee moved to approve, and Larry Fox seconded, that the topic be moved from item 7 to item 3. Motion carried.
 - Abigail Danner provided an overview of the plan, stating that staff had met with local staff in May of 2025 about project updates and new projects for the report. She highlighted several new projects, and there was a discussion about Manhattan’s system with the connection map.
 - Dee McKee asked about the labeling of US-24 as E. Poyntz Ave on the Manhattan map, noting it was confusing to non-Manhattan residents. Staff stated the map

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was produced by the City of Manhattan, but that they could add a US-24 logo to remove confusion for the report.

- Dee McKee moved to adopt the plan, with the added the US-24 logo to maps, and Keith Ascher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Financial Update

- Jared Tremblay gave an overview of the accounts and monthly statements, including revenue and major expenses. There is currently \$235,013.34 in the checking account and \$110,194.13 in the money market account. The higher-than-normal amount in the checking account is largely due to FHMPO receiving funds from local jurisdictions for the Big Blue River 2nd Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis Study. The consultant, Benesch, will bill FHMPO for the study.
- Jared Tremblay then highlighted the monthly large expenses.

5. Staff Updates

- Jared Tremblay provided an update on the Big Blue River 2nd Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis. Invoices have been paid to Benesch. The first meeting between Benesch and public works departments was held on January 20, 2026, and progress is good. Final plan is expected in April-May, with June & July serving as public outreach.
- There was discussion about how best to reach the public, with staff stating they are open to presenting to anyone, and happy to take suggestions.
- Jared Tremblay also stated that the US-24 Corridor Study agreement has been signed by the City of Manhattan, with the Counties signing this week or next. He also stated there is a kick-off meeting on Friday, January 23.

6. KDOT Update:

- Ryne Dowling stated that the 2025 Q4 billing reimbursement was progressing. He also stated that he hoped to have the 2026 CPG amounts out within the next few weeks.
- John Ford stated his concern that the K-113 & Marlatt temporary signal had been removed unexpectedly in December, despite discussions that it would stay due to the success and safety concerns.
 - Ryne Dowling said he would inquire about why it was removed
- Dee McKee asked about a signal at US-24 & Excel Rd, as the roadway is being extended north and a new car dealership is being built at the intersection.
 - Jared Tremblay stated that Public Works staff for the City of Manhattan, PT & RL Counties had a conversation about why the signal request didn't meet warrants and how to move forward.

7. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the December 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - Keith Ascher moved to approve the minutes. Sam Yoskowitz seconded. The motion passed.

8. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** 2025 Year-End Budget & CPG
 - Jared Tremblay presented final 2025 budget compared to the UPWP projection from May 2024 Estimates, through the 2nd Amendment. Approximately \$10k was not spent, going towards 2026 carryover.
 - Jared Tremblay then showed how the 2025 change in CPG allotment by KDOT, is having a major impact on CPG carryover, with nearly \$150k of carryover spent in 2025, with 2026 projected to spend another \$30k-\$40k. He explained that in the long-run this will create a problem similar to 2019-2021, where the 80/20 funding split is not feasible, likely starting by 2028.

9. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** JC BUILD Grant – Letter of Support
 - Sam Yoskowitz requested this item be moved from #10 to #9 for sake of time. As it was discussion item, no vote was held.
 - Jared Tremblay state the FHMPO staff was a key partner helping with the JC BUILD Grant to reconstruct Grant Avenue in Junction City. He stated that staff would like to write a letter of support for the grant, but wanted Policy Board feedback.
 - There was discussion about project details including location and cost, raising of roadway out of flood zone, etc.
 - Members supported the grant, and staff will write a letter.

10. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** KDOT/ Ft. Riley Impaired Driving Partnership Grant Administration
 - Jared Tremblay provided background on the effort to cut drunk driving by Ft. Riley soldiers, and how this program would provide rideshare rides to soldiers using a voucher system via a phone app. The FHMPO would run the program, writing the RFP, contracting the operator, paying the operator, and then seeking reimbursement from KDOT.

11. Motion for Adjournment
 - Keith Ascher moved to adjourn the meeting. Larry Fox seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:38p.

Next Meeting February 18, 2026, Manhattan Public Library