



Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization

2805 Claflin Rd. Ste. 100 | Manhattan, KS | 66502
785.620.3070 | FHMPO@FlintHillsMPO.org
www.FlintHillsMPO.org

Policy Board Meeting

Wednesday January 21, 2026
3:30 pm

In Person:

Groesbeck Room
Manhattan Public Library
629 Poyntz Ave
Manhattan, KS 66502

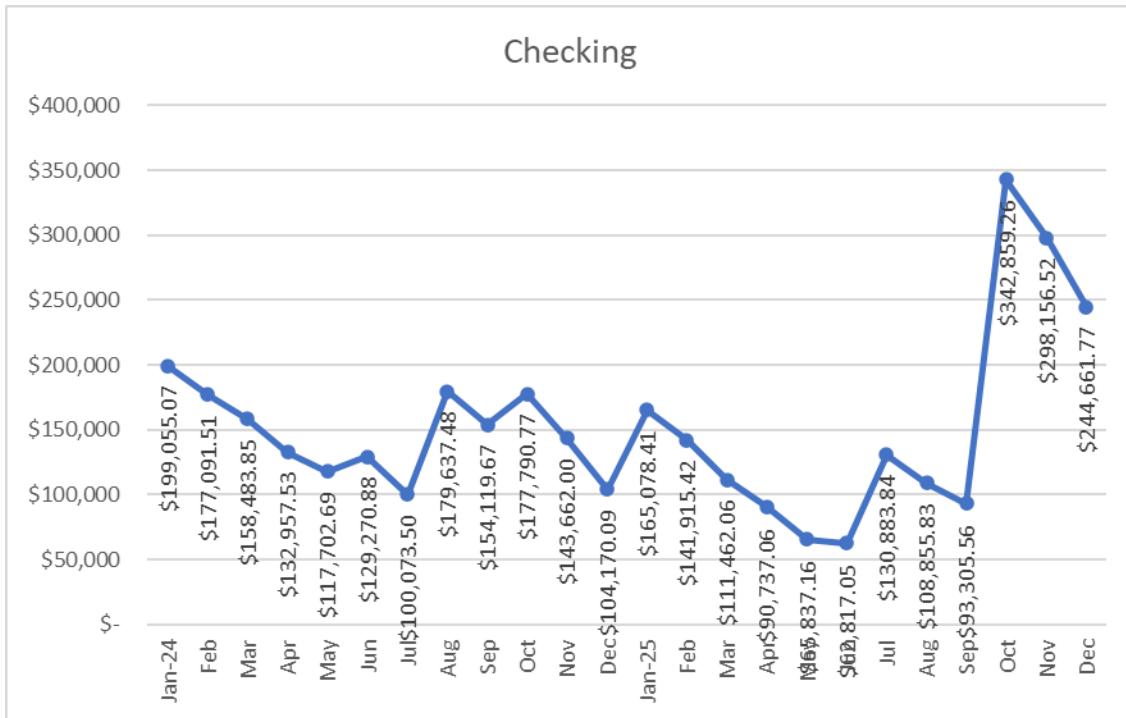
Virtual:

Zoom meeting
Meeting ID: 919 154 6755
Passcode: 148813

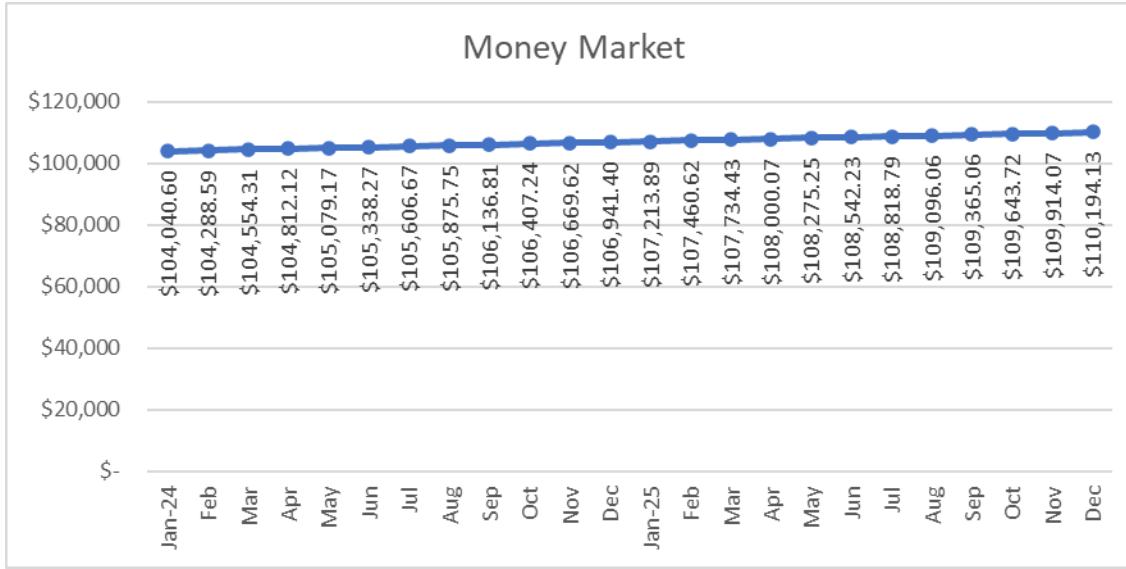
1. Welcome
2. Public Comment Opportunity (for items not on the agenda)
3. Financial Update
 - As of 1.14.2026: \$235,013.34 in checking, \$110,194.13 in money market account
 - Monthly statement balances
 - Revenue & Major Expenses
4. Staff Updates
 - Big Blue River 2nd Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis update
 - US-24 Corridor Study
 - Agreement: Likely signed by all parties by 1.20.2026
5. KDOT Updates
6. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve of December 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes
7. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve Flint Hills ITS Architecture Report
8. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** 2025 Year-End Budget & CPG
9. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** KDOT/Ft. Riley Impaired Driving Partnership Grant Administration
10. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** JC BUILD Grant – Letter of Support
11. Motion for Adjournment

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.

Next Meeting February 18, 2026, Manhattan Public Library



\$87,862.03 of these funds are obligated to Benesch for the Big Blue River 2nd Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis. Therefore, the FHMPO's non-obligated Checking Balance = \$147,151.31.



Revenue & Major Expenses

December 2025			
	Debits	Credits	Notes
12.02	\$ 425.00		Strawn & Associates: Bookkeeper
12.15	\$ 104.50		Quickbooks
12.29	\$ 114.54		Home Depot - Storage Tubs
12.29	\$ 101.55		U-Haul, Gas, & RL Transfer Station - Moving
12.31	\$ 930.00		Warner Transportation - TDM - Amendment #2
12.31	\$ 35,330.28		Benesch - 2nd Connection Study
Total	\$ 37,005.87	\$ -	

Big Blue River 2nd Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis

Paid to Benesch				
Invoice	Amount	Date Received	UPWP Year	UPWP Quarter
339872	\$ 17,958.52	10.24.2025	2025	Q4
342595	\$ 8,835.03	11.19.2025	2025	Q4
346900	\$ 35,330.28	12.30.2025	2026	Q1

Total Paid	\$ 62,123.83	41%
Contract Total	\$ 149,985.86	
Remaining	\$ 87,862.03	59%



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Auditorium
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Manhattan, KS 66502

Virtual:

Zoom meeting
Meeting ID: 919 154 6755
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VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT		
x	Keith Ascher	Geary County Commission
x	Ryne Dowling	KS Dept of Transportation
x	Peter Oppelt	Manhattan City Commission
	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		
	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)
 - Desree Pettera asked whether there is any planned maintenance for East St in Junction City, stating her concern that additional traffic rerouted onto East St while the J Hill Road bridge is under construction will wear down the road.
 - Keith Ascher responded that the portion of East St where traffic is being rerouted belongs to Geary County. The County has a maintenance agreement with Wildcat Construction, who is supposed to repair the road upon the completion of the I-70 construction. However, Mr. Ascher is concerned about the availability of asphalt at this time of year and stated that he will follow up with Geary County Public Works.
 - Keith Ascher asked about the timeline for construction on the J Hill Road bridge.
 - Jared Tremblay stated that the bridge is supposed to be done by July, according to the timeline set by the contractor.

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3. Financial Update

- Jared Tremblay gave an overview of the accounts and monthly statements, including revenue and major expenses. There is currently \$297,166.52 in the checking account and \$109,914.07 in the money market account. The higher-than-normal amount in the checking account is largely due to FHMPD receiving funds from local jurisdictions for the Big Blue River 2nd Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis Study. The consultant, Benesch, will bill FHMPD for the study.

4. 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 will be held in January.
- Jared Tremblay also stated that the US-24 Corridor Study agreement has been signed and that the consultant has completed traffic counts.

5. KDOT Update:

- Ryne Dowling stated that KDOT's annual safety conference will be taking place from April 21-22 at the Hilton conference center in Manhattan. Registration for the conference will open in January.
- John Ford asked about KDOT's reasoning for removing the temporary traffic signal at Marlatt Ave and K-113. He stated that he has been receiving a lot of feedback from constituents about the signal's removal and asked if it will be returned.
 - Ryne Dowling responded that he would pass Mr. Ford's questions along to the KDOT area engineer.
 - Jared Tremblay stated that the signal was supposed to be temporary and that the state safety engineer went ahead with removing it despite local support. FHMPD will look at 2025 crash data to measure the impact of the traffic signal.

6. **ACTION ITEM: Approval of the November 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

- Peter Oppelt moved to approve the November minutes. Keith Ascher seconded. The motion passed.

7. **ACTION ITEM: Approve Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2**

- Jared Tremblay presented the amendment to the TIP, which includes updated costs and changes of year for several projects.
- Ronna Larson moved to approve TIP Amendment #2. Peter Oppelt seconded. The motion passed.

8. **ACTION ITEM: Approve 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

- Jared Tremblay presented the 2026 UPWP, which now includes an ITS architecture line item in case FHMPD's ITS architecture requires changes in 2026. There were no changes to total annual balances.
- Keith Ascher moved to approve the 2026 UPWP. Ronna Larson seconded. The motion passed.

9. **ACTION ITEM: Approve Connect 2050**

- Jared Tremblay presented *Connect 2050*, FHMPO's long-range transportation plan. He also reviewed the comments received during the *Connect 2050* public comment period with the Board.
- Keith Ascher asked how the MPO footprint is determined.
 - Jared Tremblay answered that the MPO boundary is determined by census-defined urbanized areas and areas that may urbanize within 20 years.
- Peter Oppelt moved to approve *Connect 2050*. Ronna Larson seconded.

10. **DISCUSSION ITEM: Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture Report**

- Abigail Danner presented the FHMPO ITS Architecture Report and website, which serves as an inventory of ITS projects and systems in the Flint Hills area. The report will be open for public comment until January 7, 2026.

11. **DISCUSSION ITEM: KDOT/ Ft. Riley Impaired Driving Partnership Grant Administration**

- Jared Tremblay asked the Board to gauge their support for a rideshare program for Ft Riley soldiers to help prevent impaired driving. This idea is in its early stages, with many details yet to be worked out. Mr. Tremblay is waiting to hear back whether funding will be available.
- Board members expressed support for the idea.
- Anne Smith asked how long the money would be able to be spent, and whether she should pause 2027 ATA planning for the report in anticipation of the rideshare program.
 - Jared Tremblay stated that the duration of funding has not been discussed.
 - John Ford stated that other options, including transit, should continue to be considered and that it is too early to rule out any particular possibility.

12. **DISCUSSION ITEM: Fiscal Agreement Updates**

- Based on unexpected cost increases for 2026 and previous feedback from the Board at the November Policy Board meeting, Jared Tremblay stated that FHMPO wants to begin a discussion about updating its fiscal agreements with jurisdictions. He asked the Board how cost adjustments would be handled by their jurisdictions' budgets.
- John Ford stated that budget amendments, which have been used in the past by Riley County, may be a viable option. He asked whether Mr. Tremblay had been in contact with jurisdictions' finance departments.
 - Jared Tremblay responded that he had not yet contacted finance departments and had wanted to get approval from the Board before doing so.
- Ronna Larson suggested speaking to the financial director and city manager for Junction City.

- Keith Ascher supported contacting the jurisdictions' finance departments. He stated that Geary County has also done budget amendments in the past, and that the amendments made their annual audit easier.
- Jared Tremblay stated that he will begin reaching out to jurisdictions' finance departments.

13. Motion for Adjournment

- Keith Ascher moved to adjourn the meeting. Peter Oppelt seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40p.

Next Meeting January 21, 2026, Manhattan Public Library

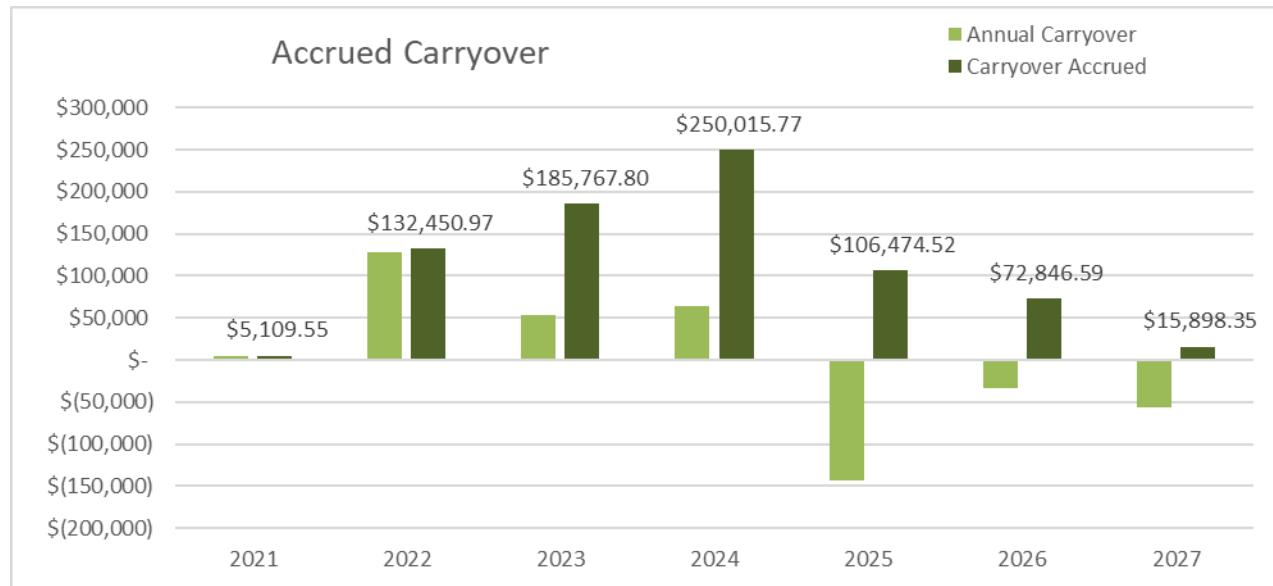
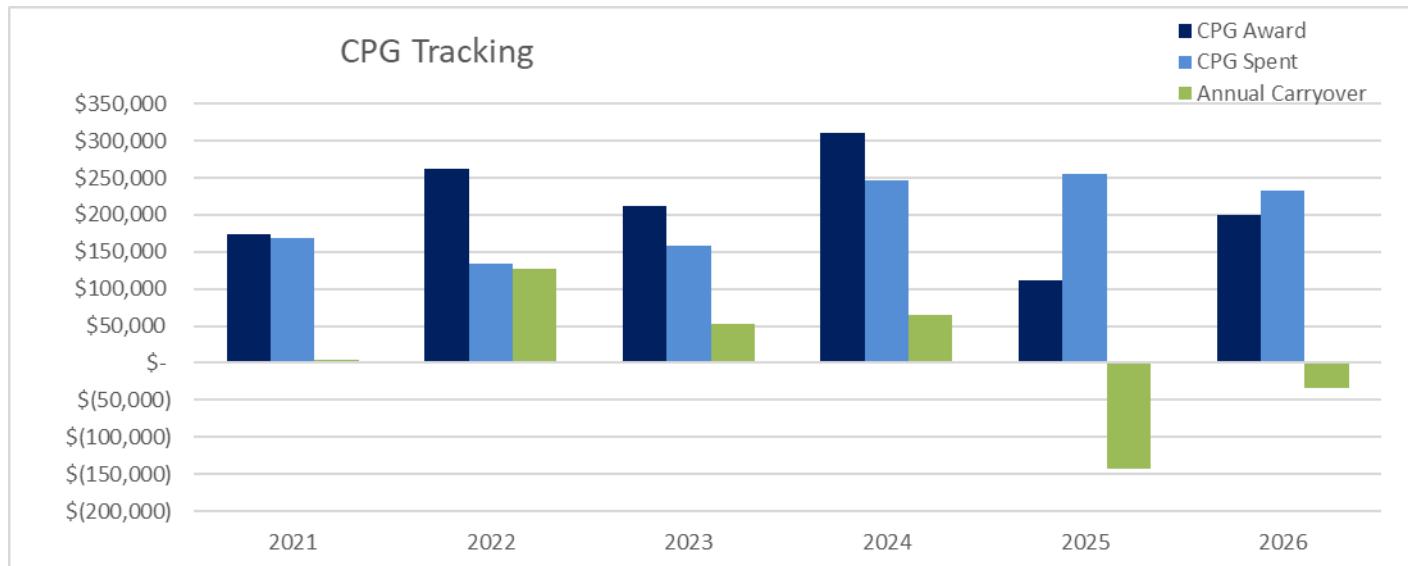
May 2024 Estimate	2025 UPWP (Original)	2025 UPWP A1	2025 UPWP A2	End of Year 2025
\$ 341,160.85	\$ 336,582.62	\$ 325,497.85	\$ 328,216.72	\$ 317,356.83
\$ 23,804.02	\$ 19,225.79	\$ 8,141.03	\$ 10,859.89	Under Budget
7.0%	5.7%	2.5%	3.3%	% Under Budget

Complete Streets (100% CPG)	CPG (80%)	Local Match
\$ 6,376.08	\$ 248,784.60	\$ 62,196.15
2.0%	78.4%	19.6%

Carryover to 2026 (in Checking)
\$ 416.55

2025 Invoice #2
based on A2
budget, so
reduced from
Original budget

Note: No CPG carryover to 2026, due to CPG reduction in spring 2025



2028 & beyond, there could be a CPG issue: meaning 80/20 split would not be sustainable, and Local Match would have to increase