



## 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 December 17, 2025**

**3:30 pm**

In Person:

Auditorium  
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 12.10.2025: \$297,166.52 in checking, \$109,914.07 in money market account
  - Monthly statement balances
  - Revenue & Major Expenses
4. Staff Updates
  - Big Blue River 2<sup>nd</sup> Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis update
  - US-24 Corridor Study
    - Agreement: forecast signing in January 2026
    - Traffic counts along corridor conducted 12.9 & 12.10.2025
5. KDOT Updates
6. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve of November 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes
7. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2
8. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
9. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve Connect 2050
10. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** ITS Architecture Report

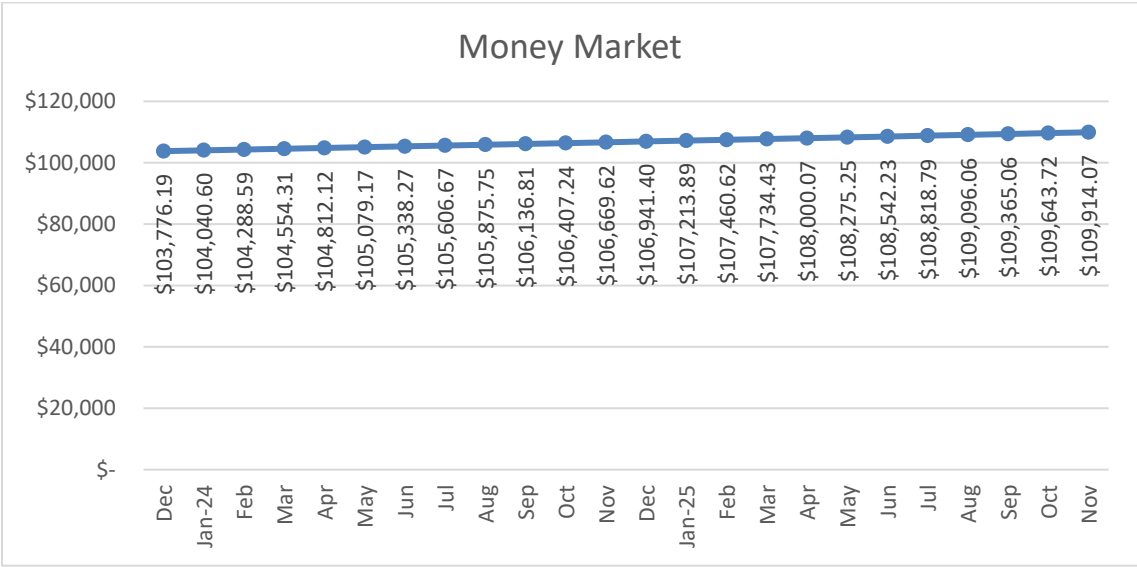
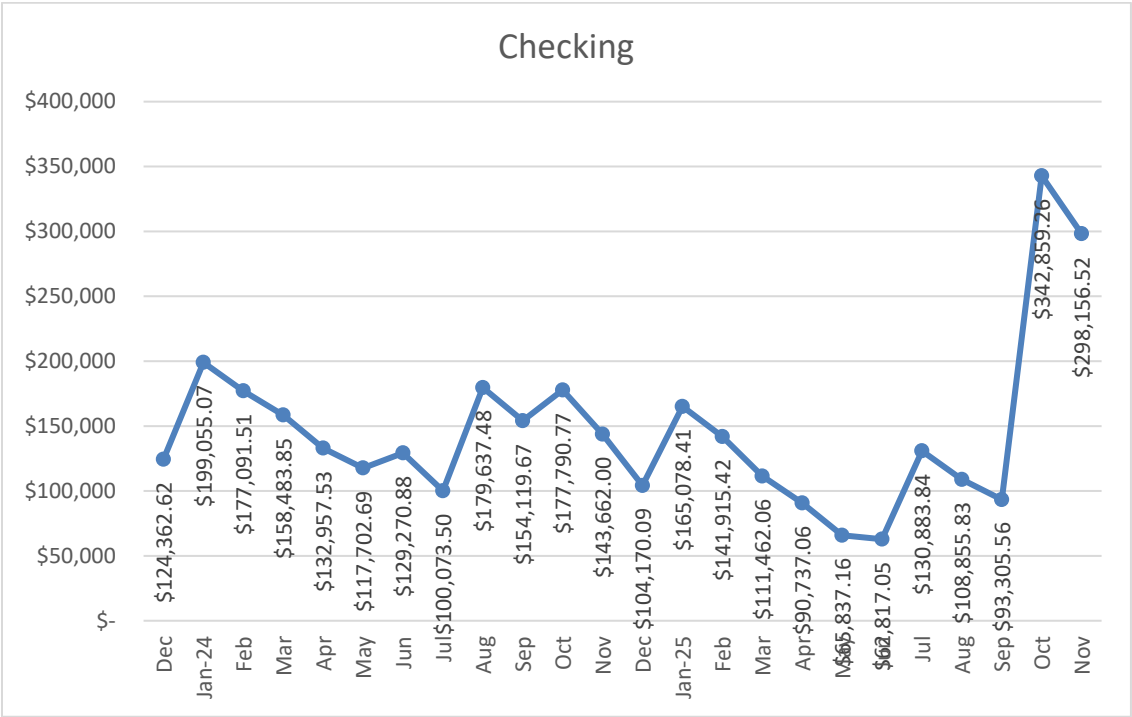
**Special Accommodations:** Please notify the MPO at (785) 620-3070 or FHMPO@FlintHillsMPO.org at least 72 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend this meeting. We will make every effort to meet reasonable requests. The MPO does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of 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.

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

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

13. Motion for Adjournment

**Next Meeting January 21, 2026, Manhattan Public Library**



## Revenue & Major Expenses

November 2025			
	Debits	Credits	Notes
11.03	\$ 17,958.52		2nd Connection Invoice - Benesch
11.04	\$ 425.00		Strawn & Associates: Bookkeeper
11.13	\$ 103.00		Quickbooks
11.21	\$ 8,835.03		2nd Connection Invoice - Benesch
11.24	\$ 126.00		Fidelity Bond - Al Langton Insurance

## Big Blue River 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Total Paid	\$ 26,793.55	18%
Contract Total	\$ 149,985.86	
Remaining	\$ 123,192.31	82%



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#### In Person:

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Manhattan Public Library  
629 Poyntz Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66502

#### Virtual:

Zoom meeting  
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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
<b>NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT</b>		
x	Javier Ahumada	Federal Highway Admin.
	Kelley Paskow	Fort Riley Representative
	Eva Steinman	Federal Transit Admin.
	Anne Smith	Flint Hills ATA

#### **Staff Present**

x	Jared Tremblay	MPO
x	Abigail Danner	MPO

#### **Guests Present**


1. Welcome
  - Meeting called to order at 3:32p.
2. Public Comment Opportunity (for items not on the agenda)
  - No public comment.
3. Financial Update
  - Jared Tremblay gave an overview of the accounts and monthly statements, including revenue and major expenses. There is currently \$323,910.74 in the checking account and \$109,643.72 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Connection Cost-Benefit Analysis Study. The consultant, Benesch, will bill FHMPO for the study. In addition, FHMPO received complete reimbursements from KDOT after the supplemental agreement was approved.

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4. Staff Updates

- Jared Tremblay provided an update on the final phase of public outreach for *Connect 2050*, FHMPO's long-range plan. FHMPO hosted Transportation Trivia at Willie's Hideout in St George and at Manhattan Brewing Company. The Manhattan event had 20+ participants, while the St George event had none.
- FHMPO has been receiving public input on the *Connect 2050* plan. The public comment period will close on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Comments from the public will be published in the final *Connect 2050* report.

5. KDOT Update:

- Ryne Dowling stated that the US-24 Corridor Study agreement is in the works, with the contract having been completed.
- John Ford asked for an update on the timeline for the roundabouts at US-24 & K-113/K-13.
  - Ryne Dowling responded that he would inquire at KDOT for an updated timeline.

6. a. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the October 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes

- The October 20<sup>th</sup> Policy Board minutes were revisited after being tabled last month due to insufficient votes. Ronna Larson moved to approve the October minutes. Ryne Dowling seconded. The motion passed.

b. **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the September 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

- The September 17<sup>th</sup> Policy Board minutes were revisited after being tabled last month due to insufficient votes. Keith Ascher moved to approve the September minutes. Peter Oppelt seconded. The motion passed with Ronna Larson abstaining.

7. **ACTION ITEM:** Approve Updates to the Operations Manual

- Jared Tremblay presented a recommendation to update the Merit Policy of the Operation Manual. The change would remove the "2% merit increase every two years...into odd-year budgets." and replace it with a simplified "a merit increase when the budget allows, and per satisfactory performance."
  - Ronna Larson moved to approve the update to the Operations Manual. Keith Ascher seconded. The motion passed.

8. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** 2026 UPWP

- Jared Tremblay noted that the amount charged by BCBS for employee health insurance is higher than the amount budgeted in the May Estimate of the 2026 UPWP approved by local jurisdictions. The MPO cannot ask for more funds per the agreements between FHMPO and member jurisdictions.
  - John Ford recommended a future amendment to the jurisdiction agreements to allow FHMPO to ask the Board for budget increases due to unforeseen circumstances. He stated that this would be easier for the annual audit.

9. **DISCUSSION ITEM:** December Meeting

- Jared Tremblay reminded the Board of upcoming deadlines, noting that *Connect 2050* and the UPWP will need approval.

10. Motion for Adjournment

- Peter Oppelt moved to adjourn the meeting. Ronna Larson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:06p.

**Next Meeting December 17, 2025, Manhattan Public Library**

KDOT/Ft. Riley Impaired Driving Partnership Grant Administration

- Goal: Get soldiers to/from Ft. Riley, Aggieville, Junction City to reduce impaired driving (Fri & Sat evenings)
- KDOT has Impaired Driving funds through NHTSA to support a program
- Ft. Riley cannot directly accept NHTSA funds, so they cannot run the program
- KDOT would like a local entity to run the program
- FHMPO is interjurisdictional, and is the correct fit to administer the program
- Timeline: As quickly as possible in 2026 (2026 funds)

