ACEC-Missouri/MoDOT Kansas City and Northwest District
Liaison Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 15, 2016
11:00 AM-1:00 PM
KC District Board Room

Attendees:
Daniel Niec          Matt Killion          Wes Moore          Mark Sommerhauser
Brian Kidwell        Allan Ludiker         Debbie Huffman     Jeff Hardy
Richard Shipley      Shelia Daniel         Steve Hileman      Troy Eisenbraun
Gretchen Ivy         Chip Touzinsky

MoDOT Discussion Items

• Director search\staff update – The new Director, Patrick McKenna, was announced at the November Commission Meeting in Jefferson City. A short intro video was shown to the committee. He is mostly trying to get to know staff and procedures, but his goal is to create a steady program that can be consistent from year to year.

• Road to Tomorrow Update – The committee has identified three to four level 4 proposals. These will be taken to the commission in June but the question now is to decide how much, if any, money the commission wants to invest in these ideas. One idea, smart pavement is a level 4 project they would like to try in the KC area if the details can be worked out.

• STIP Update
  ▪ At the January meeting, the Commission officially dropped the “325 Program” and announced their STIP amounts for FY17 – 21. There was a substantial increase from the 325 plan due to additional state tax income, the commitment of the new federal highway bill and the decision to spend down some of the contingency MoDOT was holding due to the lack of a long term bill. This will allow them to budget full match of federal funds throughout this time period. STIP amounts are: FY17 $700M, FY18 $775M, FY19 $775M, FY20 $860M, and FY21 $860M. While this is good news, it has MoDOT staff scrambling to program projects for FY17 and FY18 buy mid-February.
  ▪ The KC District program will go from $80M to $160M. They do plan to construct some of the projects that have been under design but right now are not planning any expansion projects.
  ▪ NW District plan now is to use additional FY17 funds mostly for pavement work. FY18-19 would focus on bridge work.

• Other Items
• The Commission is considering setting up a Major Bridge Fund that would be from $50M to $100M and would be only for bridges over 1,000 feet long.
• Kansas City and St. Louis are both putting together applications for $50M Smart Cities grant that could be used to link technology and transportation.
• The Commission does not plan to reintroduce the cost share program at least through FY18. A bill has been introduced to provide $45M of cost share funds through the general budget. MODOT would be supportive of this if they were able to work with local governments to program the money/projects.

• Political Update
  • Sen. Libla has introduced a bill to increase the gas tax 1.5 cents and diesel by 3.5 cents per gallon. This is the most that can be done without going to a public vote and would raise around $55M per year in additional revenue. While this has the Senate’s and Governor’s support, it is unlikely to pass in the House since all seats are up for election next fall and most do not want to be associated with any kind of tax increase.
  • There is also a bill introduced to put together a bridge program to repair around 270 bridges over the next five years.

ACEC/MO Discussion Items
• ACECMO Updates – The grass roots transportation support group is called the Mercury Alliance. Jeff Glenn has been hired as the Executive Director.

Project Opportunities
• Future Consultant Contracts - Update for STIP should be done by early March. Program should be much better than was expected.

• Broadway Rehabilitation – MARC lead project – no new updates, they are still working on details so they can get an RFQ out.

Next Meeting Date and Location
  MoDOT KC District Office - Friday, March 25, 2016