

The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region

Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission

July 2009

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Mid-MO Regional Transportation Plan Release

The Mid-Missouri Regional Transportation Plan 2009-2013 (RTP) is complete and available for review by all RPC member cities and counties. The plan has been submitted to MoDOT for approval; digital copies are available to all interested parties.

The RTP is a resource for RPC staff, Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) members, cities and counties of the region, and concerned citizens. It contains

valuable information about existing transportation facilities, management systems, identified needs, financing, and the RPC's transportation planning process.

Undertaken as a joint effort with the Missouri Association of Councils of Government (MACOG) and MoDOT, the RTP has continually developed over a period of five years. The plan, set to be completely reworked every five years, will also be subject to

more frequent updates as new pertinent information becomes available.

Those wishing to attain a copy of the Mid-Missouri Regional Transportation Plan can make their requests at mmrpc@mmpc.org or (573) 657-9779. The plan will be available in portable document format (pdf) and can be obtained by e-mail or on a CD. The plan will also be available soon on the RPC's website, mmpc.org.



Gabe Craighead, Chairman of Board of Directors

The Mid-MO RPC Board of Directors met on Wednesday, June 24, and selected their officers for the fiscal year 2010 (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010). Gabe Craighead, Callaway County Commissioner and current Vice-Chairman, accepted the position of Chairman. Lowell Eaton, Howard County Presiding Commissioner, was selected for Vice-Chair. The other officers will remain the same from last year. Please see list at left for complete details.

Draft 2009 CEDS Available for Review

A draft of the 2009 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Mid-MO Region is complete. The document is available for review at the Mid-MO RPC Office. A copy of the Executive Summary may be requested.

The CEDS is a five year blueprint for economic development. It is required by the US Department of Commerce for Mid-MO's designa-

tion as an Economic Development District (EDD). With the EDD designation comes a planning partnership grant which provides for staff to assist RPC members with planning and projects. This recognition also means that public and private organizations within the region are eligible for federal Public Works and Economic Development monies and can access the EDA Revolving Loan Fund.

The Mid-MO RPC staff, consultants, membership, Board of Directors, Economic Development Advisory Committee, public and private organizations, and special interest groups in the region all participated in the development of the CEDS.

New Staff

Susan Galeota has joined the staff of the Mid-MO Regional Planning Commission. Susan was formerly an administrative assistant for the MO River Communities Network and the MO Regional Cuisines Project.

Originally from Columbia, Susan spent 30 years in Minnesota where she worked with community food coops, community newspapers and other small businesses. She holds degrees from the University of Missouri and the University of Minnesota.

Helpful Hints for Project Planning

Now is the time to begin planning community projects. Grant application deadlines are typically in the spring/early summer months. Contact the Mid-MO RPC early to help your community identify the project and potential scope of work.

Determining engineering /general contractor needs and having a preliminary report prepared is the most essential component of project development. The report provides cost estimates required to move the project forward; it is also the essential tool needed to prepare a grant application.

Developing a timeline for your project is also very important. This helps assure that funding applications are submitted in a timely manner. Time provision can be made for unexpected issues that may occur during grant preparation.

Counties and communities are part of the project development and data gathering process. It is critical that elected officials assist in all parts of the planning process.

Do not wait for a grant announcement to develop a project, start planning NOW!



Volunteers Impact Disaster Response

Area F Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee (RHSOC) recognizes the impact local, pre-trained volunteers would have on the ability to respond to the needs of citizens and make a difference in how quickly the community is able to respond to and recover from a disaster. Because of the increased load a disaster can put on emergency personnel, the use of volunteers has proven critical to emergency management. Volunteers offer a wealth of skills and resources that can be used prior to, during, and after an emergency. Volunteers can be used in many ways. One way is to provide mass care to those affected by a disaster.

Over the past year, RHSOC has provided Mass Care and Shelter Operations training to over 200 local volunteers. Area F test-piloted a large-scale Mass Care training via an Internet feed to eighteen locations throughout Area F. Additional local trainings were conducted.

Volunteers learned about disaster relief operations and the role they provide. They learned specific responsibilities for setting up a shelter, the intake of clients into a shelter, managing a shelter, and feeding clients in a shelter. Volunteers also learned about offering valuable services to clients affected by a disaster, such as, health and mental health services, and information about the progress of the disaster and other



community services that can affect their recovery. Volunteers learned specific skills in communications, assisting people with disabilities, working with the media, and donations.

More trainings and volunteer projects will be conducted over the next two years to continue building response capacity and maintain volunteer involvement. Volunteer Trainings scheduled for this fall will include: Mass Care and Shelter Operations, Pet Sheltering, and Volunteer Reception Center training.

Look for further information about these trainings in next month's CURRENT newsletter.



VOLUNTEER SERVICE IS A WIN-WIN SITUATION

By contributing time and service, volunteers can:

- Give back to their community
- Learn and develop new skills
- Network with people
- See a mission accomplished

The community receives more than free labor when volunteers provide service. Volunteers:

- Provide resources
- Provide a broad range of expertise and experience
- Increase public awareness
- Provide a direct line to local, private resources
- Facilitate networking
- Increase support within the community
- Increase paid staff members' effectiveness

Area F Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee Plans Annual Meeting for October 6th

The Area F RHSOC is planning its annual meeting which is set for October 6th from 9 AM to 4 PM. The Cole County Emergency Management Agency has volunteered their newly purchased facility "Scheppers Warehouse" in Jefferson City, which can securely house the Area F granted equipment while providing ample room for equipment demonstration.

Participation in the annual meeting will include representatives from the Office of Homeland Security, State Emergency Management Agency, all disciplines of Area F RHSOC and Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission staff. The meeting is open to state representatives, city and

county government officials as well as the general public and local media. At this meeting new RHSOC representatives (Discipline Chairs, Alternatives 1 and Alternatives 2) for Fiscal Year 2009 will be elected.

The meeting includes a catered lunch. After lunch various emergency response groups will present and demonstrate equipment that has been purchased with Department of Homeland Security grant funds and procured by the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission. This is a good opportunity for local governments and the public to see what Homeland Security dollars are doing for their immediate area.

FY08 Projects

Volunteer - 1) Continuation: shelter development, data base, county special needs task force, pet sheltering, shelters willing to be hard wired for generators, community disaster education; 2) Disaster training and education

HRST - Two XD-2i portable explosive detectors (ordered), one Ahura First Defender handheld Raman Spectrometer

Emergency Management Agencies - Portable Generators in Area F

Health Department - 1) Functional exercise to test points of distribution/mass prophylaxis; 2) Prime mover for Public Health Trailer: ½ ton, 4x4 extended cab pick-up-truck

Police Agencies - Robotic platform for chemical/radiological detection and flash resistant uniform (in process)

Fire Agencies - Training and Exercise for Region F Incident Support Team

Area F Building Disaster Response Capabilities

Over the past several years, Missouri has been impacted by several disasters. Ice storms, severe thunderstorms, tornados and floods have temporarily left many citizens without a place to live. Thanks to the planning and support of the Area F Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee (RHSOC), counties in Area F are building their capability to respond to shelter/feeding needs after a disaster. A mass care/volunteer coordinator is contracted through the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission to coordinate several disaster preparedness projects: identifying shelter sites, training volunteers to work in shelters, and overseeing the purchase and distribution of shelter supplies.

IDENTIFYING SHELTER FACILITIES

Over 150 churches, schools and civic buildings in Area F have been visited for possible use as shelters/feeding sites for citizens displaced by a disaster, information locations, donation sites, or volunteer reception centers. This project is coordinated with local EMDs, American Red Cross, and other local agencies.

SHELTER SUPPLIES READY

The RHSOC provided funding for over \$240,000 of shelter supplies that have been purchased and distributed throughout Area F. Each of the thirteen counties received \$18,778 of supplies, including: 230 standard size cots, 20 oversized cots, 75 special needs cots, 460 pillows and blankets, and a cargo trailer for transporting the supplies.

Many community volunteers (Boy Scout troops, firefighters, American Red Cross, county officials and others) assisted in the distribution of these supplies.



MASS CARE IN DISASTER

Mass Care provides services to the community, such as sheltering, feeding, bulk distribution of items and information about the availability of services.

MASS CARE MEETS:

Physical Needs: a warm (or cool) place to sleep, food, water, first aid/medical supplies, clean-up supplies, and personal hygiene.

Emotional Needs: the need to feel safe, know someone is concerned, a place to tell their story.

Informational Needs: to know that family members are safe, if the disaster is over, learn what kind of assistance is available and where to get help.

AREA F RESOURCES SHARED

These resources (shelter facilities, trained volunteers, and shelter supplies) can be used to respond to a local county disaster, or shared-as-needed, within the region. Some of the supplies and trained volunteers have already been shared with other regions in Missouri following recent ice storms.

Mass Care/Volunteer Projects like these are being coordinated in regions around the state. Through the RHSOC process, regions are able to identify projects needed within their region.

FUTURE PROJECTS

In Area F the Mass Care/Volunteer Coordinator will continue identifying and updating information on shelter sites and offer training for volunteers in each county. The Coordinator will also work with each county to form a task force whose mission to plan for sheltering persons with special needs. A disaster can make this population more vulnerable when there is a lack of utilities, transportation, or agency services available.

There will also be an effort to plan for sheltering pets. Shelters cannot allow companion pets into shelters and many people put themselves at risk because they do not want to leave their pets.

Area F Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee Meeting Scheduled for July 21st

Please plan to attend the Area F Regional Homeland Security RHSOC meeting which is scheduled for 1:30 PM on July 21st at the Cole County #4 fire station, 5206 Monticello Road, Jefferson City, MO 65109-8733.

The following guest speakers are scheduled for the July 21st meeting:

Paul Fennewald, Director of the Office of Homeland Security, will update the RHSOC on general Homeland Security issues.

Paul Rueff, Office of Homeland Security, will present information for the Emergency Response Information Plan (ERIP), an all-hazard preparedness system. He will present information specifically on school emergency plans.

Steve Devine, Department of Public Safety, will be updating the RHSOC on the state of Missouri's interoperability plan.

Laura Kliethermes, Department of Health and Senior Services, will present the program "Ready in 3", a three step plan to prepare for emergencies such as tornado, flood or even terrorist attack.

Carole Schutz, Department of Health and Senior Services, will be presenting information on Show-Me Response, a program designed to register professional volunteers to assist during a state or national disaster.

Zada Farris, State Emergency Management Agency, will give grant updates.

Tim Haithcoat, Office of Administration, will present information on Global Information Systems (GIS).

Matt Buydos, Elliot Data Systems, will give a short presentation on badge systems and the value of this process during an emergency event.

A wealth of information will be presented during this meeting - you won't want to miss it.

Announcements, Conference, and Grant Opportunities

Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) Initiative - Applications Due July 31

The MO Department of Economic Development on Tuesday, June 23 announced the opening of the 2009 Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) Initiative.

The DREAM Initiative was launched to help small and mid-sized Missouri communities navigate through the various downtown revitalization, business development and residential resources available through state government for downtown revitalization and job creation efforts.

The Missouri Development Finance Board, Missouri Housing Development Commission and Missouri Department of Economic Development are the program sponsors, with assistance from numerous other state agencies and divisions on task-specific needs.

Applications will be due by July 31 and may be obtained through the DREAM Internet site, www.dream.mo.gov. The 2009 DREAM communities will be announced in the fall.

Since the first DREAM communities were

established, those communities have received more than \$168 million in public investment for housing, construction and renovation projects and infrastructure improvements. Public funding secured through the initiative has created \$265 million in private investment to benefit the DREAM communities, according to the department. Contact the Mid-MO RPC staff if your community has questions or would like assistance with the application process.

Missouri Municipal League Announces Innovation Award Requests

Nominations Due August 1 The Missouri Municipal League Innovation Awards program showcases municipal projects that demonstrate new approaches for solving municipal problems. This program is intended to complement the Municipal League's goal of serving as a clearing house for municipal information. The Awards, by recognizing and celebrating successful programs, will put the spotlight on municipal programs that might benefit other municipalities. Nominations are due August 1. See the Missouri Municipal League website at www.mocities.com for additional information, including the nomination packet and projects catalog.

ARRA Funding - Energy Assistance

The State of Missouri has established a website - <http://transform.mo.gov/resources> - to provide information regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. The website provides a list of funding opportunities, as well as an opportunity for local governments to submit projects that may qualify for ARRA funds.

For local governments, and in particular county governments, ARRA funding programs of interest include the development of energy programs to assist communities.

The energy programs will be administered through the Missouri Dept of Natural Resources (MoDNR). The MoDNR has submitted the state's application to the Department of Energy, with funding announcement expected in approximately 30-45 days. The programs are:

- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant
- Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program
- State Energy Program.

Please contact Mid-MO RPC staff with any questions.

Calendar

July 3 Independence Day Observance. Mid-MO RPC office closed.

July 21 Area F Homeland Security Oversight Committee. 1:30pm. Meeting to be held at Cole County Fire Station #4. 5206 Monticello Road, Jefferson City. Contact the Mid-MO RPC at 573.657.9779 for additional information.

July 22 Transportation Advisory Committee. 4:30 pm. Copper Kettle Restaurant. Ashland.

July 22 Mid-MO RPC Meeting. 6:00 pm. Copper Kettle Restaurant. Ashland. Contact the Mid-MO RPC office at 573.657.9779 for additional information.



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