



**Mid-Missouri
Regional Planning
Commission**

The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region

May Announcements

RPC Meeting to Feature Heritage Tourism Project

Representatives of local communities, interested citizens, and regional and state officials began discussions in November, 2004 about the value of heritage tourism, and the economic development opportunities the Missouri River corridor presents to our local communities. These conversations have led to the development of The Missouri River Heritage Tourism Initiative.

One of the goals of this effort is to coordinate marketing and development activities throughout the Missouri River corridor. In Missouri, tourism is one of the top three revenue producers and is one of the fastest growing elements of the state's economy. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources statistics indicate that approximately \$660 million dollars per year is spent on heritage travel. For example, the average expenditure for Katy Trail visitors (non Missourians) is \$250 per individual, with nearly 50% of these visitors stopping in Missouri communities such as Washington, Herman, Boonville, or New Franklin.

A presentation on the Missouri River Tourism Initiative will be given by representatives of the project's working group at the May 25, 2005 Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission meeting beginning at (time) the Copper Kettle restaurant in Ashland. The initiative is coordinated through the Missouri River Communities Network.

Highway 50- Recommended to Highway Commission for Funding

Officials with the Missouri Department of Transportation will recommend to the Missouri State Highway Commission in May that a portion of U.S. Highway 50 be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for funding. This project- the expansion to four lanes of U.S. Route 50 from St. Martins to California was the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee's top priority for major projects in our six county region. The 16 mile segment has an estimated cost of \$87 million.

As a result of the passage of Amendment 3 in November 2004, MoDOT has funds available to be used for major projects throughout the state. To determine which projects should receive priority for this funding allocation, MoDOT implemented a new planning framework process. This planning framework outlines the process that is used

between MoDOT and its planning partners (including the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission) to insure that each geographic region in the state has meaningful involvement in the evaluation process. A series of major project review and recommendation meetings were held at the regional (Mid-Missouri TAC), district (MoDOT Districts 2 and 5), and statewide. MMRPC staff participated in the evaluation process at each of these levels.

Boonville MK&T Bridge

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has issued a press release in which MoDNR Director Doyle Childers stating that "the state will ask Union Pacific Railroad to assume liability for the lift bridge in Boonville, thus clearing the way for the structure to be moved from its current location to the Osage River".

State representatives and local officials are requesting that Governor Blunt reverse his decision, and our organizing efforts to address liability and financial issues associated with the bridge. The membership of the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission passed a resolution of support for the "Save the Bridge" project at the March MMRPC meeting.

Tax Credit Assistance Glasgow Senior Center

The building housing the Glasgow Senior Center dates to circa 1875. Through several generations the ornate brick structure has housed the city's offices, post office and most recently, the Glasgow Senior Center. In an effort to restore the building, the center board of directors, the City and the MMRPC teamed up to submit a 2006 application to the State of Missouri Neighborhood Assistance Program requesting \$177,000 in State tax credits. If funded, the credits will be sold to pay for repairs to the building's roof and facade, replace windows and doors and convert an adjacent building into an expanded center kitchen. Local governments interested in pursuing and wanting assistance with making application for tax credits for historic preservation or downtown revitalization should contact the MMRPC at 573.657.9779."

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Phone: 573.657.9779/Fax: 573.657.2829

PROJECT STATUS REPORT
May 2005

Activity	Description- Status
Hazard Mitigation Plans	
Boone County	Complete. SEMA and FEMA approval process complete.
Callaway County	Draft complete. @ SEMA review.
Cole County	Approved SEMA @ FEMA review stage
Cooper County	Draft complete @ SEMA review.
Howard County	Approved SEMA @ FEMA review stage
Moniteau County	Draft complete @ SEMA review.
CDBG Grants- Contracted	
Cooper County	ADA compliance project. Project constructed.
City of Rocheport	2 new housing units plus common room. Construction activity complete.
St. Thomas	Wastewater treatment facility- outstanding property easement acquisition acquired. Final project design almost complete- start-up projection late summer /early fall.
Hallsville	Project closed-out.
Auxvasse	Repair and upgrade of city lagoon. Project rebid. Loan closing May 11, 2005.
Other Projects-Contracted	
Department of Transportation	Annual planning contract includes- TAC support, Regional Transportation Plan, general transportation planning assistance.
HUD Incubator	HUD/EDI grant for continued development of the life science incubator. Grant agreement executed. Environmental complete. Draw down account established.
DNR Watershed	\$5,000 grant to promote watershed education and best management practices. 18 month project thru 2006.
Solid Waste Management	Project completed FY05.
Developing CDBG Projects	
Cole County	Proposed CDBG ADA (courthouse elevator)
City of Glasgow	CDBG – Bridge, Street, Drainage project- Deadline June 15, 2005
City of Otterville	CDBG project- street and drainage- Deadline June 15, 2005
City of Clarksburg	CDBG project- water/wastewater- Open cycle
Other:	
Local Community Planning Assistance	Staff support to MMRPC membership as required.
City of Glasgow	Downtown Infrastructure Study
Mo River Communities Network	Potential heritage tourism development for Mo River Communities- Community design/heritage tourism workshop being developed.
City of Sturgeon	Mapping assistance- base map, utilities and zoning map
Ashland	MoDOT Enhancement application support- due May 19
Rocheport	MoDOT Enhancement application support- due May 19
Auxvasse	MoDOT Enhancement application support- due May 19
City of Glasgow	Senior Center- NAP Application (tax credit)

Calendar of Events:

May 04- Agribusiness / Cole County Communities. Breakfast meeting. Meet at Jefferson City Police Department.
May 04- I-70 Advisory Group meeting. 4-6 pm. Columbia Activity and Recreation Center, 1701 W. Ash Street, Columbia.
May 09- Truman Day. MMRPC office closed.
May 18/19- Floodplain and Stormwater Management Conference. Resort at Port Arrowhead. Lake Ozark. 573.526.9115.
May 19- Transportation Enhancement Grant deadline.
May 25- Transportation Advisory Council (TAC) meeting. 4:30 pm. Copper Kettle Restaurant. Ashland. 573.675.9779
May 25- Mid-Missouri regional Planning Commission meeting. 6pm. Copper Kettle Restaurant. Ashland. 573.675.9779
May 30- Memorial Day. MMRPC office closed.

Upcoming Events:

June 6-8: RPC GIS Training/UMC MSDIS, Stewart Hall, Columbia, MO To Register email Lisa Nichols at lisanichols@mmrpc.org.
June 22: Low Impact Development Seminar and Luncheon. Columbia, Missouri. Register on line at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/oac/rmi-reform.htm>

The Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission seeks an intern to start work in June 2005. The ideal candidate has experience working with web design and GIS software. Work will be primarily located in the MMRPC office in Ashland, Missouri, but some travel may be required assisting staff with current projects. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to MMRPC Attn: Lisa Nichols, 206 E Broadway, PO Box 140, Ashland, MO 65010.

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