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DATE: February 17, 2005

TO: Local Elected Officials, City and County Administrators, City and County Public Works Officials, City and County Public Health Officials, City and County Parks and Recreation Directors, Public Transportation Officials, State Department of Transportation Officials, CMAQ Committee, Kansas and Missouri STP/BR Priorities Committees, Air Quality Forum, Total Transportation Policy Committee

FROM: Mell Henderson, Director of Transportation

RE: **Call for Projects and Transportation Improvement Program Update**
FY 2009-2010 Surface Transportation Program and Bridge Program
DEADLINE: April 8, 2005

The purpose of this letter is to serve as notification of two separate processes. Please see the numbered items below for more details.

1. Call for Projects – Surface Transportation Program and Bridge Program

In its capacity as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Kansas City region, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) is issuing a call for projects to utilize funds sub-allocated to the Kansas City metropolitan area through the federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (BR) for fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

Since the new transportation bill is not yet complete, there remains some uncertainty surrounding the level of funding available for programming by MARC. In light of this, MARC will look to recent levels of funding to provide a reasonable estimate of the resources available for programming purposes. For this call for projects, MARC will use the following assumptions:

- Kansas: \$10 million/year
 - Missouri: \$15 million/year*
- *Recent actions taken by the Missouri STP/BR Priorities Committee to address escalating balances of unobligated STP/BR funds may reduce this amount significantly*

Projects recommended by the Kansas and Missouri STP/BR Priorities Committees will be submitted for approval to the MARC Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) and Board of Directors in late summer.

Public agencies within the [metropolitan planning organization boundary](#) are eligible to apply for the funds, which may be used on a wide variety projects. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Roadway Improvements
- Bridge Improvements
- Public Transportation Projects

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects
- Traffic Signals
- Travel Demand Management Projects

As in previous years, the STP/BR application process will be completed using an Internet-based database and submittal form. The application instructions and on-line form will be accessible at the following Internet location:

<http://www.marc2.org/stp-br/default.htm>

The application form will not be accessible until February 28, 2005. Applications for STP/BR funds will only be accepted from February 28, 2005 through April 8, 2005.

Although similar to those used in previous solicitations, the current version of the submittal form has undergone significant revisions since its last use. In light of this, applicants are encouraged to attend an application workshop conducted by MARC staff.

*STP/BR Application Workshop
Wednesday, March 2, 2005
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
MARC Conference Center
600 Broadway, 1st Floor
Kansas City, MO 64105*

Please RSVP attendance by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 1 to mhansen@marc.org.

MARC maintains a regional Congestion Management System (CMS), which provides information about the performance of segments of the high-level street and highway network in the Kansas City area. Special consideration is given to projects on the CMS network when they are evaluated for STP/Bridge funds. The CMS network has recently been reviewed and a number of segments have been added or extended. Please review this information at <http://www.marc.org/transportation/congestionmanagementsystem.htm>.

MARC must also make a determination that the existing transportation system is being adequately maintained. Therefore, each jurisdiction submitting a project for federal funds must certify that its transportation system is being adequately operated and maintained. The attached certification form should be completed by an appropriate official and returned to Marc Hansen at MARC by the application deadline.

Application forms and instructions may be accessed by visiting the following address after February 28, 2005:

<http://www.marc2.org/stp-br/default.htm>

The deadline for submitting STP/BR applications is 4:00 p.m. on APRIL 8, 2005.

For more information regarding the STP and Bridge Programs at MARC, please visit the following web addresses:

- STP: <http://www.marc.org/transportation/stp.htm>
- Bridge: <http://www.marc.org/transportation/bridge.htm>

For more information regarding this call for projects, STP or Bridge project eligibility, or the application process, please contact Ron Achelpohl or Marc Hansen at 816-474-4240.

2. Transportation Improvement Program Update

At this time, MARC is also requesting that jurisdictions review their projects in the current 2004-07 TIP for accuracy. If the scope, schedule, cost, or source of funds for an existing project changes, the TIP should be

updated to reflect the current status of the project. To update one or more existing projects, send an email to tip@marc.org with the following information:

- The TIP identification number(s) of all projects requiring an update
- Contact information

MARC staff will prepare and provide you with a database of the projects to be modified for your use in updating project data. When you have completed your update of the project information, return the updated database to tip@marc.org.

MARC is also required to identify **all regionally significant projects that will be funded with non-federal funds**. “Regionally significant project” means a project that is on a facility which serves regional transportation needs (such as access to and from the area outside of the region, major activity centers in the region, major planned developments such as new retail malls, sports complexes, etc., or transportation terminals as well as most terminals themselves) and would normally be included in the modeling of a metropolitan area’s transportation network, including, as a minimum, all principal and minor arterial highways and all fixed guide-way transit facilities that offer a significant alternative to regional highway travel.

To request that one or more new projects be added to the TIP, complete a [TIP Project Data Template](#) and e-mail the completed form to tip@marc.org. Instructions for completing the form may be accessed at: <http://www.marc.org/transportation/tip/manual.pdf>.

Explain the following in your e-mail:

- Why the projects should be added to the TIP
- The sources of funds for the projects
- Any other information you believe would be useful to explain the projects to MARC committees and the public

Please submit all updates by April 8, 2005.

For more information regarding the TIP update, please contact Marc Hansen or Heidi Schallberg at 816-474-4240 or email tip@marc.org.

MARC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE CERTIFICATION

_____ (name of jurisdiction/agency) attest that the transportation facility/system within our jurisdiction is being adequately operated and maintained to the appropriate level based on current funding abilities.

Dated: _____

Authorized Signature

Title

Print Name

Print Title