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Introduction

Purpose

The Joplin area transportation planning process is an on-going work effort that constitutes the planning work activities developed by the Joplin Area Transportation Study Organization (JATSO) staff. The purpose is to analyze and evaluate various types of data (such as demographic, socio-economic, land use and scientific) to provide a rational basis for making short-range and long-range decisions about transportation needs in the Joplin metropolitan area. The planning process identifies present and future needs, and develops plans, policies, and projects to carry out objectives identified in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

The transportation planning process is required by federal regulations as a prerequisite to the receipt of federal capital and operating assistance. The result from this continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive process will include plans and programs that match and enhance the comprehensively planned development of the metropolitan area. In addition, the planning process and requirements mandated by the enacted by the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), and the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act).

Organization

On May 20, 1983, Governor Christopher Bond of Missouri signed the letter of approval designating the JATSO as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Joplin metropolitan area under Title 23 of the U.S. Code.

The MPO has designated the City of Joplin as the contracting agent for service agreements involving federal planning funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The JATSO organization is governed by the JATSO Policy Board that consists of six members from the City of Joplin, and one member from each of the following organizations: Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council, City of Webb City, City of Carl Junction, MoDOT Southwest District, Newton County, and Jasper County. The Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council is the local regional planning commission and represents smaller villages and unincorporated area on the JATSO Policy Board.

The organization and responsibilities of the various agencies involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process are defined in this Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the Memorandum of Understanding, and the JATSO bylaws.

Funding for the UPWP

Funding for the UPWP comes from three sources: FHWA, FTA and the City of Joplin. FHWA Planning and FTA Section 5303 funds are combined into one category, called a Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG), and provide 80 percent of the UPWP funds. The Federal planning funds require a 20 percent local match. This local match is provided by the City of Joplin general revenue funding source except where jurisdictions are completing individual planning projects.
Planning Factors

The Federal transportation planning regulations require the metropolitan transportation planning process to be continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive; and that the JATSO UPWP provide for consideration and implementation of projects, strategies and services that will address the following ten factors:

1. Support the economic vitality of the Joplin metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity and efficiency;
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
4. Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and freight;
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;
7. Promote efficient system management and operation; and
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
9. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts of surface transportation
10. Enhance travel and tourism

In 2012, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) was signed into law. MAP-21 transformed federal transportation grant programs by establishing new requirements for performance management and performance-based planning and programming to ensure the most efficient investment of federal transportation funds. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was signed into law in 2015 and continued the performance management and performance-based planning and programming requirements of MAP-21 with minor changes. In implementing MAP-21 and the FAST Act, state Departments of Transportation (DOTs), MPOs and providers of public transportation must:

- establish performance targets that reflect the measures;
- report on progress towards achieving those targets
- develop performance-based plans implement a performance-based approach to planning and programming

Eligible Items

There are multiple activities that are considered eligible for transportation planning funds. These include street inventories, map preparation, aerial photography and photogrammetry, traffic volume studies, land use studies, and other studies that support the transportation planning process. Other eligible activities include systems development and project planning, economic and fiscal studies related to streets, project evaluation studies, and compilation of reference statistics.

Public Participation Plan

The purpose for the Public Participation Plan (PPP) adopted in 2017 is to involve the public in the planning process, since the purpose of regional planning is to meet public mobility needs.
The PIP outlines a process for the public comments on the MTP, TIP, UPWP, Title VI/ Environmental Justice and at public meetings. See Table 1 for the comment periods required for various work products.

A paper copy of the PPP can be acquired at Joplin City Hall, Metropolitan Area Public Transit System (MAPS) office and vehicles, Webb City City Hall, Carl Junction City Hall, and Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council offices. Electronic copies of the PPP, Title VI Plan and Limited English Proficiency Plan can be found on the City of Joplin website at this link: https://www.joplinmo.org/922/Plans-and-Publications.

**FY 2020 Program Goals**

The annual transportation planning program begins on November 1, 2019 and continues through October 31, 2020. The UPWP is directed toward the continuation and improvement of existing activities and the development of those activities mandated by federal regulations. For fiscal year 2020, JATSO’s goals are:

1. Improve metropolitan transportation planning through better cooperation and communication from JATSO, MoDOT, and ONEDOT. (Short-Range Transportation Planning and Programming; Program Support and Administration; Transit Planning;)
2. Increase public and public agency participation in the JATSO transportation planning process. (Short-Range Transportation Planning and Programming; Program Support and Administration; Geographic Information Systems; Transit Planning; Programs, Hardware, and Software; Initiate MTP Update)
3. Update the 2020-2023 TIP as needed (Short-Range Transportation Planning and Programming)
4. Improve the operational and technical capacity of the JATSO metropolitan transportation planning process. (Short-Range Transportation Planning and Programming; Program Support and Administration; Geographic Information Systems; Transit Planning; Programs, Hardware, and Software; Initiate MTP Update)
FY 2020 Tasks

Task 1 – Program Support and Administration

Objective

JATSO staff will manage the transportation planning program for the MPA, develop and administer the UPWP, and attend professional development and training events.

Status

This task is on-going with activities occurring on a day-to-day or on-demand basis.

FY 2019 Work Items Completed

- Amended FY 2019 UPWP as needed
- Submitted quarterly invoices to MoDOT
- Developed the FY 2020 UPWP
- Conducted four public meetings
- Created and provided informational handouts at all public meetings
- Updated the JATSO website with current information and work products
- Participated in monthly coordination meetings with MoDOT
- Prepared and transmitted quarterly progress reports to MoDOT
- Participated in the Feb. 2019 Statewide Planning Partner meeting
- Maintained and update prioritized list of needs in the JATSO area as needed
- Continue update of JATSO’s website with new information and amendments
- Improve metropolitan transportation planning through better cooperation and communication from JATSO, MoDOT, and ONEDOT.

FY 2020 Work Items

- Develop the FY 2021 UPWP
- Make any necessary amendments to the FY 2020 UPWP
- Plan and conduct public meetings in accordance with the PPP
- Maintain and update the JATSO website
- Monitor and update planning documents
- Prepare and transmit quarterly progress reports to MoDOT
- Participate in MoDOT’s district and statewide planning partner activities

Public Participation

Any adoption of a UPWP or UPWP amendment will comply with JATSO’s Public Participation Plan. This requires a seven (7) day public comment period prior to JATSO meetings and any updates to the UPWP. A news release will be issued and posted to the JATSO webpage in advance of the public meeting.

FY 2020 End Products

- FY 2021 UPWP
- Any necessary amendments to the FY 2020 UPWP
- Four (4) quarterly progress reports submitted to MoDOT
Schedule for Completion

This work is ongoing.

Budget

Federal Share (80%): $89,147  Local Share (20%): $22,287  Total: $111,434
Task 2 – Short Range Transportation Planning

Objective
JATSO staff will maintain a fiscally constrained area-wide programmed listing of transportation improvement projects inside the Joplin metropolitan planning area for a four-year period that is consistent with JATSO’s metropolitan transportation plan.

Status
The JATSO FY 2020-2023 TIP was developed throughout the final quarter of FY 2019. The TIP will be modified throughout FY 2020 as needed by the completion of JATSO TIP amendments and/or administrative modifications.

FY 2019 Work Items Completed
- Staff maintained and monitored the projects in the JATSO FY 2018-2021 TIP
- Staff updated the 2018-2021 TIP as needed
- Executed the JATSO/MoDOT annual self-certification document and facilitated its review and approval by the JATSO Policy Board and the ONE DOT.
- Prepared the FY 2018 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects
- Coordinate with local jurisdictions on transportation projects to promote regional coordination and cooperation in carrying out planning program activities
- Performance management regarding MoDOT safety and transit target measures
- Incorporate target measures into the TIP and MTP as needed

FY 2020 Work Items
- Administration
  - Complete TIP amendments and modifications as needed to 2020-2023TIP
  - Prepare the FY 2020 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects
  - Coordinate with local jurisdictions on transportation projects to promote regional coordination and cooperation in carrying out planning program activities
  - Performance management regarding MoDOT safety and transit target measures
  - Incorporate performance measures and targets into the TIP and MTP as needed
  - Plan and coordinate projects that support JATSO transportation infrastructure
- Outreach
  - Conduct Public Meetings

Public Participation
Prior to adopting a TIP, a public meeting will be held by the Policy Board. A news release will be issued and posted to the JATSO webpage fourteen (14) days in advance of the public meeting. TIP amendments will have a public comment period of seven (7) days. The public is encouraged to formulate comments regarding the TIP document.

FY 2020 End Products
- JATSO FY 2020-2023 TIP amendments and administrative modifications
- FY 2019 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects
Schedule for Completion

Activities will be on-going from November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020.

Budget

Federal Share (80%): $40,405    Local Share (20%): $10,101    Total: $50,506
Task 3 – Long Range Transportation Planning

Objective

Long range transportation planning’s purpose is to prepare for the long-term health and growth of the regional transportation system, both motorized and non-motorized. This includes JATSO’s Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The MTP must be updated every five years according to federal requirements. JATSO’s MTP will be updated and adopted in FY 2020.

Status

Procurement for the consultant helping JATSO update the MTP began in the 4th quarter of FY 2019. The MTP update will begin after November 1, 2019.

FY 2019 Work Items Completed

- Issued RFP for consultant services to help with MTP update
- Formed selection committee to choose consultant
- Approved contract for consultant services

FY 2020 Work Items

- Initial research, public involvement, and drafting of the 2040 MTP
- First draft of MTP submitted to MoDOT and ONEDOT
- Final draft approved by JATSO Policy Board

Public Participation

JATSO will work with the consultant to develop a public engagement strategy that meets federal requirements and JATSO’s Public Participation Plan.

FY 2020 End Products

- Draft 2040 MTP
- Final 2040 MTP

Schedule for Completion

- August 3, 2020
  - JATSO and consultant submit first draft of 2040 MTP to TP and SW District and ONE DOT for review and comment.
- August 31 – September 13, 2020
  - Draft MTP is posted for public comment.
- September 17, 2020
  - Final draft of the 2040 MTP is presented to the JATSO Policy Board for approval. After Board approval, a copy is sent to MoDOT and ONE DOT for informational purposes only.

Budget

Federal Share (80%): $122,937  
Local Share (20%): $30,734  
Total: $153,671
Task 4 – Transit Planning

Objective
The Transit Coordinator will provide program and administrative support for the Metropolitan Area Public Transit System (MAPS) and the Sunshine Lamp Trolley system. The Transit Coordinator will conduct long and short-range transit planning responsibilities.

Status
The Transit Coordinator continues with program support and administration.

FY 2019 Work Items Completed
- Transit Coordinator monitored the MAPS and collected data and information.
- Transit Coordinator monitored the Sunshine Lamp Trolley system.
- Transit Coordinator planned for the development of a transfer station and updated trolley routes.

FY 2020 Work Items
- Administration – 100%
  - The Transit Coordinator collects and records transit data and information and reports the data findings to local, state and federal government agencies.
  - The Transit Coordinator and JATSO staff use data and information to complete short and long-range planning responsibilities.
  - The Transit Coordinator monitors and analyzes Sunshine Lamp Trolley system.
  - Review transit targets and update TAMP plan if necessary.

Public Participation

FY 2020 End Products
- The Transit coordinator carries out the daily operations of MAPS.
- The Transit coordinator provides MoDOT and FTA with necessary transit data and documentation.

Schedule for Completion
Activities will be on-going from November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020.

Budget
Federal Share (80%): $66,171       Local Share (20%): $16,543       Total: $82,713
Task 5 – Geographic Information Systems

Objective
JATSO staff will work with the City of Joplin, the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council, and other local governments and agencies to update and create databases and collect and input data into the JATSO’s GIS.

Status
The City of Joplin updates zoning maps within the Joplin corporate boundaries. Census information, other socio-economic data, and additional transportation data of the Joplin area is inserted into GIS databases as it becomes available.

FY 2019 Work Items Completed
- Staff maintained and updated street, trail, subdivision, zoning, sewer, flood plain, and ownership GIS layers.
- ArcMap software license was renewed through ESRI
- TransCAD software license renewed through ESRI

FY 2020 Work Items
- Administration – 60%
  - Maintain and update GIS layers used by JATSO, the Metro Area Public Transit System (MAPS), the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council and local governments and agencies.
- Annual ESRI licensing fee – 25%
- Maintaining the GIS website – 15%

FY 2020 End Products
- Maintain GIS layers
- Update street, subdivision, zoning, and property ownership layers.
- Update aerial photography and contour, flood plain, census, environmental and traffic count layers as needed.
- Update data and maps to reflect change in transit/multi-modal facilities
- Update ArcMap software license through ESRI – $15,326
- Update TransCAD software license through ESRI – $2,400

Schedule for Completion
Activities will be on-going from November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020.

Budget
Federal Share (80%): $29,043  Local Share (20%): $7,261  Total: $36,303
Task 6 – ADA Transition Plan Pedestrian Updates

Objective

The Department of Justice requires communities to have sidewalks and ramps that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The cities of Joplin, Webb City, and Carl Junction need to assess what sidewalks and ramps are not currently in compliance with ADA standards.

Current Status

This assessment is currently underway but will not be completed before the end of FY 2019. This task remains in the UPWP to allow the consultants to finish the ADA

Tasks Completed in FY 2019

- Procured a consulting firm to complete the sidewalk and ramp assessment
- Assessment initiated

FY 2020 Work Items

- Complete ADA Sidewalk and Ramp assessment

FY 2019 End Products

- A thorough assessment of sidewalks and ramps in the cities of Joplin, Webb City, and Carl Junction to determine which sidewalks and ramps must be improved to meet ADA standards.
- An update to the pedestrian transportation system component of ADA Transition Plans for the cities of Joplin, Carl Junction, and Webb City.

Schedule for Completion

The estimated completion date of the assessment will be by the end of the second quarter of FY 2020.

Budget

Federal Share (80%): 364,000  
Local Share (20%): 91,000  
Total: $455,000
Task 7 – Upgrade Survey Equipment

Objective

Obtain a Robotic Total Station (RTS) system for use by JATSO communities to improve accuracy and technical capacity. This equipment would be utilized for MPO purposes approximately 15% of the time.

Schedule for Completion

The City of Joplin plans to obtain the RTS system in the first quarter of FY 2020.

Budget

Federal Share (15%): 6,000  Local Share (20%): 34,000  Total: $40,000
Financial Summary Tables

Task Funding Summary

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Source Funding Summary

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<td>Local Match</td>
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<td>Total Funds Allocated</td>
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CPG Balance Tracking

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<td>Estimated FY 2020 Allocation</td>
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The total amount of the CPG and FTA Section 5307 budgeted for FY 2020 is estimated at $651,532 and $66,171. JATSO is budgeting $211,926 in local match for planning tasks in FY 2020, resulting in an overall program budget of $929,629. JATSO has approximately $624,482.48 of un-programmed CPG funds. JATSO has been working to identify program areas that could benefit from the utilization of CPG funding in order to spend down the current balance, including utilizing CPG funds for the salaries of those who do transportation planning work but had not been previously billing to the MPO. All current needs related to CPG funding have been identified and implemented in the FY 2020 UPWP. Projects will continue to be identified in the future. The available local match funds from jurisdictions within the MPO have been programmed into the UPWP.
**JATSO Information**

**Organizational Chart**

- Robert Lolley, Transit Director (1.0 FTE)
- Troy Bolander, MPO Staff Director (0.5 FTE)
- David Hertzberg, JATSO Board Chairman (0.1 FTE)
- Patricia Heagel, Planning and Development Assistant Director (0.25 FTE)
- Dan Johnson, Public Works Assistant Director (0.1 FTE)
- Lynden Lawson, Public Works Director of Operations (0.1 FTE)
- Keegan Stanton, City of Joplin/JATSO Planner (1.0 FTE)
- Mallory Detherage, Finance Budgeting (0.25 FTE)
- Lindsay Dunn, Clerk (0.25 FTE)
- John Gilligan, GIS Coordinator (0.8 FTE)

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<th>Employee</th>
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<td>John Gilligan</td>
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**Voting Members**

- Jasper County Commissioner
- Newton County Commissioner
- David Hertzberg, City of Joplin Director of Public Works
- Dave Taylor, MoDOT SW District, District Engineer
- Troy Bolander, City of Joplin, Director of Planning, Development, and Neighborhood Services
- Carl Francis, City of Webb City, Interim City Administrator
- Steve Lawver, City of Carl Junction, City Administrator
- Robert Lolley, City of Joplin, MAPS/Transit Coordinator
- Jill Cornett, Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council, Director
- Steve Stockam, City of Joplin, Airport Manager
- Dan Johnson, City of Joplin, Assistant Director of Public Works
- Frank Miller, MoDOT SW District, District Planning Manager
- Thomas Hughes, HSTCC, Transportation Planner
Planning Area Boundary Map