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Past issues of the SW Missouri Local Government Briefings can be found at: [smcog.missouristate.edu](http://smcog.missouristate.edu)

To subscribe or submit an item for the Briefings, please contact: [JasonRay@missouristate.edu](mailto:JasonRay@missouristate.edu).  
For information, call Jason Ray at 417-836-6977.

## Announcements...

### OTO Transit Funding Announcement

The Ozarks Transportation Organization (OTO) announces availability of transit funding for public transit agencies (FTA Sections 5307, 5310, and 5339 Funding Programs) within the OTO Metropolitan Planning Area. Applications are **due June 22**. The application and guidelines, which outline eligible projects and requirements for applying, are available on the Ozarks Transportation Organization website: <http://goo.gl/DsX0Jg>

### MoDOT Seeks Comments on Draft STIP

The Draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) is available to view on the MoDOT website at <http://goo.gl/YLenli>. Comments regarding the Plan may be submitted online by **June 10**.

### Submit Session Proposals for the MO Planning Conference

The 2016 Missouri Planning Conference will be **October 5-7** in Springfield! Organizations and individuals are encouraged to submit session proposals that may be of interest to Planners across Missouri. Proposals are due **June 17**. More information can be found at [www.mo-apa.org](http://www.mo-apa.org).

## Conferences and Events...

### SMCOG Meetings

**SMCOG Board meeting**, June 22, 9:00 AM, Library Station, Frisco Room, 2535 N. Kansas Expy, Springfield, MO 65803  
**RHSOC Quarterly meeting**, July 20, 9:00 AM, Mt. Vernon Arts and Recreation Center (MARC), Mt. Vernon, MO

### Elected Officials Training

The Missouri Municipal League will be conducting the Elected Officials Training Conference **June 9-10** at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. Conference sessions will emphasize the knowledge base all newly elected officials will need to govern effectively, such as budgeting, ethics, economic development, planning and zoning, and more. The changes that continually occur in the municipal arena make this a Conference relevant for all officials (not just newly elected). To register go to: <http://goo.gl/XOoQY0>

### River Jam... on the Finley

James River Basin Partnership's annual event and fundraiser returns to the water at the Finley River Park in Ozark, MO **June 11**, 2 PM to 10 PM. Gather to celebrate local water through hands-on interactive activities, live music, beer & food stands, a crawdad boil & catfish fry with the help from water loving businesses and organizational booths. Take a boat ride up the Finley River and enjoy entertainment throughout the day. More information at: <http://goo.gl/7gNVJR>

### SMCOG Livable Streets Workshop

SMCOG is partnering with Trailnet to provide a **Livable Streets Workshop** on **Thursday, June 16 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. This workshop is for anyone interested in adopting Livable Streets (similar to Complete Streets) policies in your area or would like to learn more about ways other users interact with the transportation system. Attendees will experience the local transportation system while walking, riding a bike, using a wheel chair, and wearing vision impairment goggles. This is a very informative and unique workshop! Space is limited and lunch will be provided, so please RSVP to [jasonray@missouristate.edu](mailto:jasonray@missouristate.edu) by June 10. To view the workshop agenda, go to: <http://goo.gl/I905mB>

### 'Every Voice Counts' Community Conversations: Homelessness

The Community Foundation of the Ozarks (CFO) is hosting four 'Community Conversations' around local responses to

homelessness in Springfield/Greene, Christian and Webster Counties on **June 20 and 21**. Attend one session or all sessions if you are a consumer, funder, advocate or have a vested interest in helping us create a plan to end homelessness.

Sessions include:

- Aligning local goals with the federal plan to end homelessness among Veterans, Youth, Families and the Chronically Homeless
- Strategies to address local permanent housing needs
- Local responses to our unsheltered homeless population
- Effectively prioritizing local funding to address homelessness

No RSVP required. For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/cBhRBk>.

### **EDC Exchange – Local & Tribal Agencies Smarter Work Zones (SWZs)**

Every Day Counts (EDC) will host a local exchange on **June 23**, 1 – 3:00 PM at the Traffic Management Center of the Ozarks. FHWA has collected and developed a number of example policies, practices, and tools to help agencies implement SWZs. This EDC Exchange will present success stories from local agencies using SWZ project coordination and technology application strategies to improve safety and mobility in and around work zones within their jurisdictions. It will also include discussions on planning and implementing SWZ within your region. This Exchange will be of interest to local and tribal agencies involved with or interested in implementing SWZ. For more information, go to: <http://goo.gl/f8Atfh>

### **2016 Planning Law Review**

OTO will host a viewing of the American Planning Association's annual Planning Law Review webinar on **June 29** from 3 to 4:30 PM at the OTO Offices located at 2208 W. Chesterfield Blvd., Suite 101, Springfield, MO 65807. 1.5 CM Law credits are available for AICP members. RSVP to [Natasha Longpine](mailto:Natasha.Longpine). For more information about the webinar, visit: <https://goo.gl/6T32M4>

### **Conferences and Events Further Out...**

#### **July 11-12: Missouri Brownfields Conference**

In conjunction with the Missouri Waste Control Coalition Conference, MoDNR will host the MO Brownfields Conference at Tan-Tar-A Resort. For more information, follow this link: <http://goo.gl/Q5hsBb>, and view the FULL AGENDA to see details about the Brownfields sessions. Municipalities and non-profits may receive scholarships to attend.

#### **July 11-15 and July 18-22: St. Louis Summer Transportation Institute for High School Students**

Saint Louis University is offering a free one-week summer camp for high school students interested in pursuing a career in transportation, civil engineering, aviation, science, engineering, or technology. This free one-week camp for high school boys and girls offers two sessions: July 11-15 and July 18-22. Please visit <http://goo.gl/cKSrXx> to learn more about this camp.

**2016 Transit Midwest/State Public Transportation Partnerships Conference:** a cooperative effort among the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri, and state partnerships AASHTO, APTA, and CTAA. The Conference is scheduled for **August 14 - August 16** at The Westin at Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri. For more information and to register, visit: <http://goo.gl/san0vu>.

**Governor's Economic Development Conference** will be held **September 7-9** at Crown Center in Kansas City, MO. <https://goo.gl/zM5Nm2>

**APA Missouri Statewide Planning Conference** – The American Planning Association (APA), Missouri Chapter will host their 2016 Annual Statewide Planning Conference at University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, MO **October 5-7**. Session proposals are due June 17 and registration is now open: <http://goo.gl/Wv0IXd>

## News...

### Top Distraction for Teen Drivers in Crashes May Surprise You

Startling new research by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety reveals the disturbing behaviors behind distracted driving accidents among young drivers. The report has prompted AAA to call the "summer driving season," the "100 Deadliest Days". During the summer months, more teenagers are on the road and the number of deaths from crashes involving teen drivers has soared to an average of 10 every day, 16 percent higher than the rest of the year... Read more <http://goo.gl/O17EBv>

Source: CBS News, June 1, 2016

### America! The Cyclist Is Not Your Enemy

"Of all our wacky and agitated 21st century culture wars, the most ridiculous and unnecessary, to me, is Bike Haters vs. Bike Lovers." This Wall Street Journal piece by columnist Jason Gay explores the sometimes complicated relationships among cyclists, pedestrians and drivers. Read more: <http://goo.gl/lyVXuT>.

Source: WSJ.com, May 12, 2016

## Online Resources...

### Environmental Site Tracking and Research Tool (ESTART)

The MoDNR Hazardous Waste Program continues to maintain and grow the ESTART online interactive site map. The map can be searched by site name, address, city, county, or zip code. The website also provides downloadable data layers to local governments to the public can incorporate it into their own geographic information systems. Many of the sites on the map have supporting documents available as a PDF, such as certificates of completion and environmental covenants. Before you do a sunshine request, check out E-START at: <https://goo.gl/UehbZb>. The petroleum storage tank site layer should be available later this year. Currently, MoDNR staff are working on a Brownfield Assessments layer as well as inactive BVCP sites.

## Jobs...

**Regional Planner**, Lake of the Ozarks Council of Local Governments, Salary DOQ: <http://goo.gl/lK1zuB>

**Police Dispatcher I**, City of Branson, \$13.15/hr.: <http://goo.gl/Q7boF5>

**Police Chief**, City of Branson, \$70,733 - \$106,100/yr.: <http://goo.gl/uO8254> Closes June 24.

**Police Officer**, City of Springfield, \$16.57 - \$28.35/hr.: <https://goo.gl/QGZKU3>

**Director of Finance**, City of Springfield: <https://goo.gl/A3AALG>

**Sewer Operations Coordinator**, City of Springfield, \$40,996 - \$56,784/yr.: <https://goo.gl/lCkzEx>

**Arborist**, City of Springfield, \$13.05 - \$18.77/hr.: <https://goo.gl/e12D1F>

**9-1-1 Telecommunicator**, Monett – Lawrence County 911, \$27,348 - \$30,904/yr.: <http://goo.gl/AHm6HN>

**Police Officer**, City of Aurora: <http://goo.gl/4RF1uu>

## Grants...

### MDC Community Conservation Grant

Missouri Department of Conservation is offering a Grant Opportunity in the Southwest region of Missouri to support partner-led habitat improvement projects and connecting communities to nature: The Community Conservation Grant Program. Eligible applicants include government entities (e.g., municipal and county parks departments, public schools), or non-profit corporations. Projects eligible for funding include (but aren't limited to) stream restoration, prairie or native warm season grass reconstruction, forest management or wetland enhancement. Funding may also be used for the training of partner organization staff. All project applications should have a long-term management plan. Requests for

Community Conservation Grants should not exceed \$10,000. Preference will be given to projects that involve cost-share or in-kind contributions.

Interested parties are encouraged to register and attend one of two informational meetings that will be hosted in June: **June 10**, Springfield and **June 17**, Joplin. For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/Wte8B8>.

### **USDA Rural Broadband Grants**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is now accepting applications for grants to establish broadband in unserved rural communities through its Community Connect program. Administered by USDA's Rural Utilities Service, [Community Connect](#) helps fund broadband deployment into rural communities where it is not yet economically viable for private sector providers to deliver service. USDA plans to award up to \$11.7 million in grants through the program. **Applications are due June 17.** <http://goo.gl/K1fQf6>

### **Farmers Market Promotion Program**

Approximately \$13 million in competitive grant funds in fiscal year (FY) 2016 is available to be awarded through the Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP). The purpose of the FMPP is to increase domestic consumption of, and access to, locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets by developing, improving, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to, or assisting in the development, improvement, and expansion of, domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourist activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities. Go to <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp> for more information.

### **Department of Homeland Security – FEMA, Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program**

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grants Programs Directorate is responsible for the implementation and administrations of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. The purpose of the AFG Program is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The Grants Programs Directorate administers the Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grants as part of the AFG Program. FP&S offers grants to support activities in two categories: (1) activities designed to reach high-risk target groups and mitigate incidences of death and injuries caused by fire and fire-related hazards ("Fire Prevention and Safety Activity") and (2) research and development activities aimed at improving firefighter safety ("Firefighter Safety Research and Development Activity"). The program guidance document provides potential applicants with the details of the requirements, processing, and evaluation of an application for financial assistance for both of these activity areas. For more information: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=282157>

### **Missouri Main Street Grants**

Missouri Main Street offers three matching grant programs providing up to 75 percent of the costs: Affiliate Grant, People Energizing Places (PEP), and Strategic Teams Engaging Places (STEP). These grant programs continue the mission of MMSC that is to provide the tools and resources for downtown revitalization to Missouri communities. MMSC is a 501(c)3 and financially supported by funding from the State of Missouri, Missouri Department of Economic Development, grants, sponsors, members, and other donations. Contact the MMSC office at 417-334-3014 or email Keith Winge at [kwinge@momainstreet.org](mailto:kwinge@momainstreet.org) for more information about these programs.

### **Value Added Producer Grant Funds Available**

The VAPG program helps agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of bio-based, value-added products. Generating new products, creating and expanding marketing opportunities, and increasing producer income are the goals of this program. You may receive priority if you are a beginning farmer or rancher, a socially-disadvantaged farmer or rancher, a small or medium-sized farm or ranch structured as a family farm, a farmer or rancher cooperative, or are proposing a mid-tier value chain. Grants are awarded through a national competition. For more information, go to <http://goo.gl/ZaCXCJ>.

## DOT – Railroad Safety Infrastructure

The purpose of these funds is to award grants for eligible railroad safety infrastructure improvement projects. The funding available under this solicitation, \$25 million, was appropriated by Congress in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016, Division L, Title I. In order to maximize the benefits of the amount of funding available, the FRA is choosing to further focus the broad project eligibilities allowed under the appropriations act to specific project types that align with FRA's current mission and objectives. For more information, go to: <http://goo.gl/Vsb8Ln>

**Deadline: Applications are due June 14, 2016**

## Quotes...

*“When you have less competition, it becomes easier for people in city hall. Anytime you don’t have to worry about a reporter from one news organization trying to beat the competition at your expense, that [means] less scrutiny.”*

Dan Kennedy, a journalism professor at Northeastern University, quoted in an article suggesting that the biggest victim of weekly newspapers’ demise is good government. You can read the article at <http://goo.gl/m4aZnJ>.

Source: *Governing*, December 2015

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