

**Washington Area Highway Transportation Committee Meeting
Council Chambers of City Hall
405 Jefferson Street
Washington, Missouri 63090**

**Monday, September 28, 2020 at 8:00 AM
Minutes**

Present: Stephen O'Connor, Ray Frankenberg II, Bill Straatmann, Mayor Lucy, L.B. Eckelkamp, Tim Brinker, John Nilges, Joe Holtmeier, Danny Cassette, Bill Miller, Steve Sullentrup

Absent: Craig Mueller, Ed Fischer, Bob Engemann

Chairman Bill Straatmann opened the meeting with a roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the minutes from August 31, 2020

1. **Amtrak- Craig Mueller-Absent-No Report**

2. **Highway 47/Missouri River Bridge-Stephen O'Connor-Looking at putting up some signs on the other side of the bridge for no vehicle access. May also be putting up bollards. Nothing new on the lighting.**
Joe Gildehaus-I will reach out to Erik Maninga today and check the status.
John Nilges-The riverfront trail is open with intermittent closures to seed/straw some areas, put up mile markers, bolt down some benches, and some educational info on the piece of the pier that was left on the trail.
Tammy Morton-Resident at 814 Missouri Avenue-We have attended all the meeting regarding the bridge construction. I have kept photos/videos of when the project was started. I was hoping to donate them to the City at some point. We have become good acquaintances with Judy Wagner, Tim Hellebusch and Matt who was the ground superintendent. In the beginning when they started demoing our neighbors home it did have an impact on our home but it was not a big deal but then the further the project developed the more problems we started to have. Our lights would be swinging, plants would fall off tables, but the problem started when the damaged started. I have photos that are pre-bridge and photos that are now. I have not taken pictures of the exterior of the home yet, but I will touch on the foundation because we have cracks in it. Our stamped concrete is cracked and broken. Our driveway is cracked and broken. Our tie wall failed. All of the back yard shifted. Broke our vinyl fence apart. We, at our expense, replaced that tie wall. When the bridge explosion occurred we had dry wall nails popping, we had beams splitting, we had water damage. They put too much of a charge in the first pier and that is when the problem began. It exploded our chimney, and it caused water damage. We have water damage in five rooms in our home. The water came down and followed the rafters. Our skylight is broken. The seams all around it are broken also and leaking. We also own the two properties on the east side of the bridge, which were also impacted. They had the driveway blocked so much we could not even get in there. We use that building for storage. The people that exploded the bridge had the property completely blocked. After the trailers left, we were very excited. But after they left you could hardly see our vinyl fence if you were on Hwy 47. Everyone that we have worked with have been great but the problem we have is that my husband and I are left with all of this damage to our home. I have been watching them seed and straw the area where the trailers were. I sent a letter in March to the City and MoDOT asking what was going to happen with that remnant because obviously it effects our property and property value. I received responses, not all of them favorable, because of the timing with the pandemic. I apologized for that in my letter. I was told by MoDOT that those remnants are sold. There was supposed to be a pocket park there. There are at times vehicles and people walking through our front yard. Our street has become a thoroughfare. The quality of life is gone. We have been dealing with this since December of 2013. We have not raised any issues, we

have not asked for anything but we did ask Tim Hellebusch if they would come over and do the tuck pointing and replace the flashing. We have black mold from some of the water damage. I am here because we have a couple of options. One, we don't want a parking lot there. We will not accept that. I spoke with the gentleman that was doing the seeding/strawing and leveling all that gravel if that is was not what was going to happen. I believe that someone in this rooms know that that is what is going to take place over there.

Sandy Lucy-Was that a City employee or a MoDOT employee?

Tammy Morton-It was the same man that did the demolition of Dorothy's house.

Steve Sullentrup-He was an employee from Ballmann Earthworks.

Tammy Morton-My husband and I tried zoning the property and Steve Strubberg is a tenant of ours and he helped us with the amount of space required for parking and I don't believe there is adequate parking spaces there to make that into a parking lot there to begin with. Secondly, if it does become a parking space that means for the rest of our life we are going to have crowds of people in our front yard. That is not acceptable and we will not lay down and die on this. We will not. And I promise that I am not here to make any threats or ask for anything other than for the moment. We are not willing to wait for commission meetings, we need a privacy fence put up and that is in our City Code when I talked to Steve Strubberg. There is a language in our codes about a barrier. Well there certainly no barrier between our house and that remnant. Actually, there should have been all along. So we need that immediately, this in insane, I can not walk out in to my front yard to get my newspaper without seeing people. We truly have beams inside our home that have separated from our ceiling. The perimeter of our home, the drywall has separated. You will see all the water damage in the photos. My husband and I are exhausted. This has been a very long five years. I will tell you that I work in the legal system, civil litigation is the area I worked in. You have to have clear evidence. It's what a reasonable person would conclude. Another idea is, buy it then nobody has to spend any money on it. And all this money in litigation, all this money in repairs, we are getting bids on the damage and it is ridiculous. Buy it. Our home needs to be bought by the City or it needs to be made right. I just think that seven years we have not made a sound, but now we are. Thank you for your time.

Bill Straatmann-We are just a committee that looks at transportation issues. We are not in control of any money.

Tammy Morton-Not even for a privacy fence?

Ray Frankenberg II-This group does not have that money. As a voting member of this committee, I would say or make the motion that any damages should be taken care of by the City and MoDOT.

Darren Lamb-Before you go making motions, that is MoDOT's property and it was MoDOT's contract. If anything, Stephen should take this back to his office.

Tammy Morton-Did I not hear that there was a conveyance that the property was going to go back to the City.

John Nilges-There was conversation that MoDOT was going to get with the City with that remnant parcel to get it conveyed potentially but there is no, that I understand, no contractual requirement to do so. The City does not own that property, it is not our bridge or was it our contract. The project is located within City limits and it was coordinated through the City but we have no contractual obligation to that property.

Tammy Morton-We were advised when and if we are forced to file a civil action that you name everybody and you go for the biggest pocket. The City will be named we have already been told that.

Sandy Lucy-There was discussion about a remnant piece of property but there was never any agreement to where this would go. As of now we do not own that piece of property. That is MoDOT's property.

Tammy Morton-That is why I cc'd Stephen, Tim, and yourself because we are concerned about what that property is going to become. I think this case is a slam dunk and it would not take a rocket scientist to figure this one out. I'm here hoping the City will help us.

3. **Highway 47 Corridor Committee-Tim Brinker**-We haven't had a meeting.
4. **Franklin County Transportation Committee-John Nilges**- No report.
5. **MoDOT Northeast District-Warren County-Joe Gildehaus**-Trying to get into contact with Erik Maninga regarding the bollards.
6. **Washington Special Road District-Darren Lamb**- No new report.
7. **Old Hwy 100 Bridge-Tim Brinker**- Darren and I have been in discussions. We have got the number packaged an estimate from Cochran Engineering.
John Nilges-Does the County have access to Federal funding that speeds those projects up? Or is this a typical Federal project that takes about three years to construct?
Tim Brinker-I don't have that answer but they understand the urgency of the timing. We are still trying to find out the ownership of the bridge. We cannot find documentation showing that the ownership of the bridge was handed over to the County.
8. **Airport-John Nilges**-To update you on the hanger project. We have the design project to CMT who is our design consultant. They have not started design yet. That will occur through fall/winter time. We don't know the sizes yet. We submitted for 12 hangars and there is room for future growth.
9. **Team Track-Darren Lamb**-No Report
10. **East-West Parkway- John Nilges**-Second phase of Riverbend is in progress.
11. **Public Transportation-Cory Schmitt**-Not present.
12. **Other Business-Bill Straatmann**-Discussion of Transportation Tax.
John Nilges-The City did get the go ahead to bid the Third Street overlay project from Hwy 100 to Fifth. There will be sidewalk from Hwy 100 to Ninth Street, Borgia High School area. That will be bid this winter. We may start construction late winter.

Also, Busch Creek Greenway, which is a shared use path. It goes from Jefferson Street to Hwy 47 to the Riverfront Trail. It also has a spur for an extension to Washington High School. That is also ready to bid. We will bid that this winter with construction next year.

Third Street has been topod so we will be meeting with our consultant hopefully in October. On Third Street there will be a lag because Ameren did a huge pole replacement project. So it may be a year lag because we had to move the poles to the back of the sidewalks so we could put new ADA sidewalk in. So you may see double poles for a while.

Jefferson Street is ready to go out to solicit engineering firms probably this winter to begin an overlay from Hwy 100 to Fifth Street. And new sidewalk, curb and gutter along the whole corridor.

Front Street-We put in an application to rebuild Front Street also. We will have a lot of the utility burial completed when that project is ready to go.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed without dissent.