

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

**Monday August 30, 2021 at 8:00 AM  
Minutes**

**Present:** Craig Mueller, Ed Fischer, Stephen O'Connor, Ray Frankenberg II, Bob Engemann,  
Bill Straatmann, Joe Holtmeier, Danny Cassette, Bill Miller, Tim Brinker, Steve Sullentrup

**Absent:** Mayor Lucy, L.B. Eckelkamp, John Nilges

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

Approval of the minutes from July 26, 2021, Motion made, seconded and passed without dissent.

1. **Amtrak- Craig Mueller-** Not much to report here. We did have a MoPAC meeting and much of the things they talked about were the fact that our two round trips haven't been extended past December so far. They're kind of working on that and it sounds pretty positive. Then other than that news is that early November we should start seeing new Amtrak cars on trains coming this way, which is good news.  
**Bill Straatmann-**Any difference in the people who are riding it? How many?  
**Craig Mueller-**Ridership counts have been better.  
**Bill Straatmann-**That Big Boy. Is that coming in today?  
**Craig Mueller-**It is today.  
**Joe Holtmeier-**It will be there today from 11:30 to 12:15.
2. **Highway 47/Missouri River Bridge-Stephen O'Connor-**I've talked to the resident engineer and he said they're still having some issues with some of the lights. He said the northeast quadrant is where they happened to have the most issues. So he's been dealing with John Nilges and there kind of going back and forth and still trying to troubleshoot that problem. But he said that's all they have on that bridge.
3. **Highway 47 Corridor Committee- Stephen O'Connor-**Nothing on my end.  
**Jim Grutch-**No, not at this time.  
**Bill Straatmann-** It's all just waiting. You're just waiting, aren't you? Yeah, all the ducks are in a row. Okay, that's great.
4. **Franklin County Transportation Committee-Darren Lamb-**The only note I had, John wanted passed along, we did receive a grant from the county to construct new guardrail and fencing along 8<sup>th</sup> Street from Elm to Locust.  
**Bill Straatmann-**So there's not much right of way there?  
**Darren Lamb-**I don't know how much. There's plenty to work with in order to get the guard rail and I don't think that's an issue.  
**Jim Grutch-**In addition to the City of Washington receiving a \$50,000 grant for their portion. The Washington Special Road District is receiving \$70,500. That is of the total of \$398,800 that was available for granting to the different entities throughout the county. Both the City of Washington and Washington Special Road District received almost her full requested amounts. This has been forwarded to the county commission for their drafting a commission order and issuing that which should happen this week yet. The committee unanimously approved these requests. Thank you.

5. **MoDOT Northeast District-Warren County**-No report.
6. **Washington Special Road District-Ed Fischer**- We're working on the easement. Darren asked that we should put in our easement request with the people that the city could annex the easement. But if we put that in there, that's a job killer because you know, you can't do that. But we haven't had a meeting yet. I can tell you this. That's a job killer. You know, if we put that in.
- Bill Straatmann**-Well, what is exactly when you say easement to widen the road?
- Ed Fischer**-It is just a couple feet
- Darren Lamb**-We are also running a water line down there etcetera. I think that the road district had proposed curb and gutter on the west side, but not the east side. And so we had proposed to go ahead.
- Bill Straatmann**-why would people oppose that? Just curious.
- Darren Lamb**-Yeah. I don't understand that with regard. Then we would take over, the City would also take over maintenance on that stretch to just to make it very clear.
- Ed Fischer**-They had some problems with erosion.
- Bill Straatmann**-I guess maybe it hasn't been explained to the people. Maybe what exactly they're getting as a result of this.
- Ed Fischer**-The word easement is fine but the word annex doesn't fly.
- Ray Frankenberg II**-That's what I got out of what Ed said was sure they give the easement to the city but they won't agree to annex. If that's where it's at, then I think that needs to be addressed because I agree if you're going to put a water line and do maintenance out there, you have to have an easement or it kills the whole project. So it's dead from both sides right now. But if you could get over the word annex and just get back to easement, you might be able to work with them.
- Darren Lamb**-It's the right of way. Make sure we're very clear.
- Bill Straatmann**-yes, I know that's why I asked the question.
- Steve Sullentrup**-Ed, how often do you guys meet?
- Ed Fischer**-Once a month.
- Bill Straatmann**-So you're talking about putting in fire protection also.
- Darren Lamb**-The Road District had and Ed correct me where I'm wrong, the road district had proposed to go ahead and do improvements along South Point Road which included curb and gutter on the west side of South Point Road from approximately up there where Peter's sign wherever you pick up there and go all the way to Stone Crust. I guess I think probably the southernmost entrance of Stone Crest, we are looking at doing a waterline project to go ahead and loop our system and keep that through there and so as not to go ahead and have them go ahead and do South Point Road and then tear it up a year or so later. We were trying to go ahead and coordinate the work. In addition to that though, we had proposed that they go ahead and put in curb and gutter on the east side as well. The city would go ahead and put in the water line, we would go ahead and annex the roadway and then the city would take over maintenance. It would be continuous maintenance by the City from all the way to Special Road District.
- Bill Straatmann**-The annexing the roadway really has nothing to do with property owners?
- Darren Lamb**-Correct.
- Bill Straatmann**-It's a positive, is it not? Why I'm looking at this wrong?
- Darren Lamb**-It would be less maintenance miles for the Road District.
- Ed Fischer**-I'm just telling you it's going to kill the project.
- Bill Straatmann**-I'm trying to wrap my hands around if it's going to improve the water lines and the lines are going to be larger, correct?
- Steve Sullentrup**-So that we continue our maintenance program all the way to Stone Crest then correct?
- Darren Lamb**-And we've also had complaints. I know Tim can attest to it. We've had property owners out there. You go in and out of the city limits and then you get issues that people have with regards to

speeding along the road etcetera and it's just a hodgepodge of enforcement out there. It's been that way for years.

**Bill Straatmann**-So what's the alternative Darren?

**Darren Lamb**-What's the alternative? They go ahead with their plan and we go ahead with ours.

**Ray Frankenberg II**-That's kind of that's the way it always ends when it comes to annexation here, neither party gives or takes. So I think shame on both sides, but we're just going to be sitting here watching it again.

**Bill Straatmann**-Well, I disagree. I think get a handle on it. I'd love to walk out there and see exactly what you're talking about when you're talking about how many landowners are going to really be affected couple three, ten?

**Darren Lamb**-Six to ten. My guess would be my best guess.

**Ray Frankenberg II**-And we're probably only talking a couple feet of property along the road.

**Darren Lamb**-We're not even talking about acquiring additional right of way.

**Steve Sullentrup**-If it's not the money, what do you think the reason is?

**Ed Fischer**-The word annex. There's some people, I'm not against that, but there's some people out there that are.

**Ray Frankenberg II**- It doesn't matter if the city is going to add stuff out there that needs to be maintained and agree to maintain, it makes sense that you would want to annex it.

**Bill Straatmann**-That doesn't mean you have to annex the property. Just the right of way.

**Ed Fischer**-You don't have to annex that either. I don't know if he's explaining that to them.

**Bill Straatmann**-That's the key. And if maybe the people when they hear annex there blocking it all out. I don't want anything to do with annexation.

**Ed Fischer**-But if they give us the easement we can give the city the permission to put a water line or any utility in there in that easement.

**Bill Straatmann**-But the city is sitting there what do they have to do in order for them to extend things, they have to have it in the city.

**Darren Lamb**-Correct. We can go ahead and you can maintain improvements outside of it. But it certainly would be for, it would make sense to go ahead and continue South Point Road to Stone Crest. And that would be where rather than drive in the city limits outside the city limits back in the city limits.

**Steve Sullentrup**-We have always had a problem with maintaining that. You get a like a snow truck go by, then they have to stop, then they start again. It just doesn't make sense. I mean, it's not annexing, it's maintaining and taking care of the property. That's what it is. So I suggest you get your committee get together and have a talk with it and maybe Darren comes to a meeting.

**Darren Lamb**-John and I would be happy to come to the meeting.

**Steve Sullentrup**-Probably need to discuss the sooner than later.

**Bill Straatmann**-This is a positive for both.

**Steve Sullentrup**-It's been a problem for a while.

**Bill Straatmann**-When annexation comes up. I agree with Ed, there's a connotation that some people don't like, but in this case it makes their property more valuable because they could annex if they chose to, they can't annex anything of their property without.

**Steve Sullentrup**-I spoke to quite a few people out there in Barrett Estates that want to be annexed into the City of Washington. So I don't know who it is that doesn't want to be annexed in but maybe go talk to them people again.

**Bill Straatmann**-They're not required to come into the into the city limits just by giving up this little strip?

**Darren Lamb**-No.

**Bill Straatmann**-That's the key. Anyway I can help you I would be glad to come and try to explain it best I could. I think it's a positive for the city and for you guys. If there's just one or two or three people, we just we just need to do a better explanation.

**Ed Fischer**-But I think all we have to do is scratch that off that word on the easement right of way and if they give the road district the easement for utilities, we can get the city easement for that utility.

**Darren Lamb**-Yes, we can. The city has the rights to go ahead and run the water line through there.

**Ed Fischer**-Well, I just don't want that in the that wording in there because it won't fly. I can guarantee you.

**Darren Lamb**-I don't know that you need those property owners permission.

**Bill Straatmann**-I agree. I don't know why you would. Can the fire department do anything? Darren, are there going to be bigger lines that they would pull?

**Darren Lamb**-Yes.

**Bill Straatmann**-Will it have the capacity to put some more water out?

**Darren Lamb**-But I think the water stops somewhere about where Peters signs located.

**Bill Straatmann**- So then what have you got ?

**Darren Lamb**-What we're going to do is we're going to continue it down South Point Road. It's a ten inch probably or at least something like that.

**Bill Straatmann**-A major water line protection. That's where I see it now. Maybe it needs to be approached from that anyway. Anyway, I could help you. I mean I'll be glad to get the fire department to give their ten cents worth of why they need it. Why it should be good for them. What's good for them and what they have happen. Does that then extend to wear?

**Darren Lamb**-The waterline goes all the way down South Point Road and N. Goodesmill Road. The city's going to be putting in a water tower at the intersection of N. Goodesmill Road and South Point Road.

7. **Old Hwy 100 Bridge- Stephen O'Connor**- Nothing on our end. I've talked a little bit about, we have a scheduled for fiscal year 2026 So it's still out there. No progress on our end.

**Bill Straatmann**- Just a question. I know that the school district is actually using that to come to and from the school. When's the last time that bridge was physically expected? Just out of curiosity.

**Stephen O'Connor**-I know they have to inspect every two years.

**Bill Straatmann**-I mean with the traffic that happened just in the last year, building that new school and all the concrete trucks. I don't know whether they went that way or not. Most of them probably did from the concrete plant. So that bridge has probably had some tremendous amount of loads and stuff go over it just in the last year. Just a double check.

**Stephen O'Connor**-They might inspect it every year.

**Bill Straatmann**-Just because of what is happening there with the school buses and whatever it would be. You know, last thing, some of those things to choose, why didn't somebody inspect it. All you have to inspect and make sure that it is safe. It hasn't deteriorated more since a year ago. So that's all.

**Stephen O'Connor**-I'll ask.

8. **Airport- Darren Lamb**- The only thing we have is will be still looking to go out to bid this fall or winter for the hangers. Just keeping an eye on steel prices right now. So ready to go out whenever it's advantageous to us.

9. **Team Track- No report.**

10. **East-West Parkway-No report.**

11. **Public Transportation-No report.**

12. **Other Business-Bill Straatmann**-I know the United Way in discussion about their needs are transportation and people being able to get to and from these jobs or whatever it is. And maybe Tim, I don't know whether you guys with the buses or whatever and that's part of the county or I know that has come up, the transportation of individuals to get to the jobs is now becoming more of an issue for United Way. Not only United Way but other agencies that, what is it, the FCC RB Franklin County Committee Resource Board and the kids that could be left out of the drug homes etcetera and things like this.

They're always needing some additional modes of transport. We are always looking so I know they want input and they're looking for other opportunities out there from a public transportation perspective and you know, not only that, but the older folks in our region are of that same need at times. Family members who can't bring them where they wish to go. So I think the need is going to continue to increase as to what threshold we have to get to to really start focus again. Providing solution is always the question.

**Bill Straatmann**-It's been years now since we've had a representative.

**Tim Brinker**-And I know many have tried and there's just not been the support to maintain and that's where look always lies. It is having it implemented and keeping it funded. You dictate. But we don't have a funding mechanism in place current for that from the county. But it's definitely recognized and that's being talked about more.

**Ray Frankenberg II**-I heard a week or two ago somebody was giving rides to elderly people who lost their eyesight or couldn't drive anymore for just various reasons. But one individual came up to someone and said, you know, this guy's going through cancer or whatever, if you need to drive him here there yonder to the store wherever, just give me a call. And it seemed like years ago we had somebody that did report and there was some sort of rideshare thing that she was putting together from volunteers and things like that. So I know there's a few people out there just doing it out of the goodness of their heart. But it would be nice if we could afford somebody that could schedule that type of stuff too

**Bill Straatmann**-Tim who would I talk to over there?

**Ray Frankenberg II**-But what was that a group that went away that used to come here and report or is that just something that maybe is dying on the vine?

**Bill Straatmann**-That's the need. That's where the need is I guess.

**Erik Maninga**-They've got a replacement for Deanna who had left a few years ago and that program is still continuing on its multi-county area. So I suggest talking with Chad Eggan. He has got Booneslick up there and he can get everything squared away.

**Bill Straatmann**-So there is something happening in Warren County. I think it covers Warren County, St. Charles County, even Franklin County. That website was providing assistance for people that needed rides all across the state. Definitely contact Chad and give him a chance to go.

**Bill Straatmann**-Thanks Eric appreciate it. Any other business, anybody?

**Jim Grutch**-Just to give you an update as discussed at the last meeting Franklin County Highway Department will begin milling and resurfacing Old Highway 100 from the bridge, the old bridge, the Seco plant on east will be starting that on September 13th and as we go past St. John's Road we will also resurface St. John's Road between Highway 100 and Old Hwy 100 that will start two weeks from today.

**Steve Sullentrup**-Does the school district know that?

**Jim Grutch**-I was going to notify them today. I recieved confirmation from the contractor Thursday that that was the hard schedule for him. We will coordinate that and we will have all traffic notification. We will have signs up notifying the public that this is upcoming event.

**Steve Sullentrup**-The reason I bring it up, they have been running buses on the Old Hwy 100.

**Ray Frankenberg II**-Will it be closed completely?

**Jim Grutch**-It will not be closed completely. But there will be times where there will be some delays.

**Bill Straatmann**-Jim, in the last minutes and I can't find it exactly. I was asking about some areas along Old Hwy 100 in those curves that have drop offs and the answer that was recorded in the minutes said, well they were going to take these millings and they were going to try to, you know, make some..

**Jim Grutch**-I talked with the contractor and we are going to take the millings and strengthen those shoulders. We really can't expand much because there's such a drop off.

**Bill Straatmann**-But they could maybe look at some guardrails is what I think is probably needed. There's a spot and it's been tailing off, you can see where it's been tailing off and falling right down by the old bridge, that area.

**Jim Grutch**-That would be the area just west of St. John's Road, I believe. That's where you're referring now.

**Steve Sullentrup**-He's talking about west of the old Seco, there's a drop off there right there if you drive by, you'll notice it.

**Bill Straatmann**-No, no, no that's not the one I'm talking about. No, there's another one.further east and it's got post steps like warning signs 1234 of them and they're kind of off in that curve, **Jim Grutch**-Correct.

**Bill Straatmann**-If you look down, but it's a quite a drop off, that's all I'm saying there should be guardrails there, it appears to me and then there's another spot right where Todd Geisert? You know, he's got his thing over here on the river side, there's probably just to 20 or 30 ft. area, you can't see it because it's all full of weeds. That does the same thing, It drops straight down to the, it's not a roadway and I think that was in the minutes, that it dropped to the roadway there and the other one, it's actually the railroad, it drops that far down. So all I'm saying is if you try to pull off a bus and they didn't know that was there. Those two places I think should have guardrails and that's my opinion. Not necessarily what, but have them look at that.

**Jim Grutch**-We will take a look at it.

**Bill Straatmann**-If you can head off a problem, the millings aren't going to help in that curve. I can tell you that.

**Jim Grutch**-We will take a hard look at that this week and see if we can come up with the solutions to alleviate a problem

**Bill Straatmann**-Appreciate it. That would be great. I think when you see it, you'll say, oh yeah, I know what he's talking about because they've tried to hold that one area with some concrete that they built down further down in that hole, but you're going to drop ten ft. before you get to there and then you drop probably another 50 ft., 60 ft., or 100 ft. to the railroad.

**Jim Grutch**-I know exactly where we're talking about. We'll take another look at that this week.

**Bill Straatmann**-Thank you.

**13. Adjournment-Motion to adjourn at 8:32 motion made and seconded, passed without dissent.**