

# THE ROLLA DAILY NEWS

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## **City of Rolla makes progress with Move Rolla TDD**

**By RDN REPORTS**

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Planned development is rarely done haphazardly. Here is how the City of Rolla has partnered, to pave the way of our progress in 2018.

The City of Rolla, in partnership with Missouri S&T, Phelps County Regional Medical Center, and the Missouri Department of Transportation, has kicked off the Move Rolla Transportation Development District (TDD) program.

A majority of the property owners within the Move Rolla Transportation District (MRTDD) voted in January 2017, to impose a 1 cent transportation sales tax that is estimated to generate approximately \$35 million for transportation infrastructure investment. The vision established for the TDD is to develop a transportation system that meets the needs of all people and modes and promotes a safe, healthy community and economic opportunities for the next 20 years.

Checks went out this week to Rolla West Funding Cooperators to reimburse costs incurred for the Rolla West Master Plan and the Move Rolla Transportation Strategy. In June of 2007, this group (see below), through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), pledged up to \$350,000 to do the Rolla West Master Plan which also factored in the S&T Tech Park and E-Cubed Campus (north of Hwy E and 1-44).

Part of that project included a cost-share application for the Hwy 72 extension with MoDOT. The plans were put on hold due to a the rejection by MoDOT of the cost-share application and the downturn in the economy — collectively we incurred \$233,078.23. Of that, the City of Rolla/MRTDD group estimated that 70 percent of the Rolla West Master Plan was transportation related (\$69,295) and the preliminary design/cost-share application for the Hwy 72 extension (including Kingshighway connectivity and interchange improvements) would be fully reimbursable (\$112,705).

They surmised it would not be appropriate for the TDD to reimburse costs incurred in the Retail Market Study, the zoning/utility components of the Rolla West or the Tech Park Master Plan which was largely paid for by a Community Development Block Grant (though anticipated traffic volumes/patterns were a consideration). Consequently, the City of Rolla/MRTDD group would assess TDD reimbursement as follows:

Rolla West Master Plan — Total reimbursable expenses of \$182,000:

City 35.71% \$64,997

RREC 14.29% \$26,003

PCRMC 14.29% \$26,003

S&T 14.29% \$26,003

Phelps County 7.14% \$12,991

St. John's/Mercy 14.29% \$26,003

\$182,000

### **Keep informed through the website**

A website has been set up at [www.moverollatdd.com](http://www.moverollatdd.com) to keep the public up to date on information about the five-year transportation program. The website serves as a source of information for program background, project status, schedules and a place to leave comments or questions for the project team. Individuals can sign up for project newsletters on the website that will be sent via email through the course of the program. The City of Rolla may also use Facebook and Twitter for immediate communication updates.

Since the vote has passed, the City of Rolla and core team of partners and contractors have started planning, designing and started construction of projects. Already underway is the Highway 72 extension between US 63 and I-44. Construction began in December 2017 and is expected to be complete by the end of 2018.

### **Other projects in the planning and design phase include:**

Kingshighway from I-44 to US 63 to improve access management, mobility, safety and aesthetics.

I-44 Pedestrian Bridge at University Ave to design and build a new pedestrian bridge across I-44.

Bishop Avenue and University Drive are in the planning phase for improvements. Potential improvements include University Drive realignment and Bishop Avenue updates to improve traffic flow, enhance pedestrian access and upgrade safety.

### **Future public meeting**

A public meeting will be scheduled in the summer to gather input, and discuss the program with the project team.

The Move Rolla TDD is focused on implementing the projects, over a five-year period. Projects were initially identified in the 2015 Move Rolla Strategy. Goals of the project include:

- \* Develop a safe and convenient transportation environment
- \* Promote alternative mobility choices
- \* Develop a transportation system that promotes economic opportunities
- \* Creates a sense of place

For more information on the Move Rolla TDD, contact Steve Hargis, PE, Public Works director at (573) 364-8659 or [shargis@rollacity.org](mailto:shargis@rollacity.org). Additional project background can be found on the project website: [www.moverollatdd.com](http://www.moverollatdd.com).



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