

TO: CATSO Technical Committee

FROM: CATSO Staff

SUBJECT: Item 7 - DRAFT Population Projections for use in CATSO Long-range transportation plan (LRTP) Update

DATE: November 1, 2017

Attached is a spreadsheet with draft population projections for the Columbia Metro Area, Boone County, and the City of Columbia. Staff has used the 2016 American Community Survey (ACS) population estimates as a base number for the projections. The ACS is conducted by the US Census Bureau. The growth percentages included are in the range of what has been utilized in the past to derive a projection number.

Between the 2010 Census and the 2016 ACS population estimate, the CATSO Metro Area increased from 134,472 in 2010 to an estimated 149,635 in 2016. This is an 11.3 % increase, which is 1.88% annually. With current economic trends, and the decline in enrollment at the University of Missouri, this growth rate is anticipated to be lower in the future.

CATSO staff believes that a 1.5% annual growth rate would be a reasonable presumption to use for a 2045 population projection. Other projections in the range might also be considered, but staff prefers a lower estimate to one higher than 1.5% annually.

Staff requests that the Technical Committee make a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee on the preferred growth rate to be used. Additional projections using other growth rates may be prepared if the Committee prefers.

Suggested Technical Committee Action

Forward their recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.