

Meeting Summary

ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition Wednesday, May 1, 2024, @ 9:30 AM

Online meeting

Meeting Duration: 87 minutes

Attendees

Raven Alexander, Wichita Transit

James Bryan, Bentley

Adrienne Byrne, Sedgwick County

Jane Byrnes

Georgie Carter, Haysville

Collin Click, JNA Advertising

Dylan Cossaart, WAMPO

Chaitanya Dodda, WAMPO

Maura Fitzgerald, KDOT

Nick Flanders, WAMPO

Dora Gallo, WAMPO

Markey Jonas, WAMPO

Alan Kailer, Bike Walk Wichita

Daniel Kiser, KDOT LEL

Patricia Middleton, KTSRO

Peter Mohr, WAMPO

Kim Neufeld, WAMPO

Lizeth Ortega, Wichita

Heather Plaza, DUI Victims Center of

Kansas

Tia Raamot, Sedgwick County

Noel Schneider, KDOT

Dan Squires, Derby

Bill Sullivan, KDOT LEL

Brian Turner, Wichita Sports

Commission

Ingrid Vandervort, KDOT

James Wagner, Wichita

Troy Wells, KDOT LEL

I. Welcome

Kim Neufeld, WAMPO, opened the meeting at 9:30 AM, welcoming everyone to the May 2024 ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition meeting, and wished everyone a happy National Bike Month.

II. February 7, 2024, Meeting Summary

ICT Safe Members reviewed the February 7, 2024, Meeting Summary. No concerns were raised.

III. Discussion Items

A. Introductions and Updates

Attendees introduced themselves and their agencies, noting any updates relevant to the ICT Safe mission and areas of interest.

B. Updates

Brian Turner, Wichita Sports Commission, explained that the Wichita Sports Commission is one of KDOT's sports-marketing partners in the Wichita area and gave an update on their activities, focusing on promotions for the "Fans with a Plan" campaign. Mr. Turner reported a 10% increase in runners for the upcoming Prairie Fire Half Marathon, with a partnership with Girls on the Run contributing to the rise in participants. There is also an upcoming public-service radio campaign promoting the various locations that are participating in the Fans with a Plan campaign and encouraging rideshare use in Wichita, running from May to August. The Wichita Sports Commission is planning for 2025 NCAA March Madness games that will be held in Wichita, aiming to improve safety around Intrust Bank Arena, including by closing roads and exploring grant opportunities for rideshare subsidies.

C. CSAP: Progress Report & Next Steps

Ms. Neufeld gave details about WAMPO's Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), which is meant to promote the safety of all users of the transportation system and aims to eliminate serious-injury and fatal crashes. During the plan-development process, a group of transportation safety professionals in

the region came together to establish the Transportation Safety Technical Advisors (TSTA) committee, which offered guidance, made plan development recommendations, and identified three major areas of emphasis, based on a deep dive into crash data: intersections of concern, vulnerable road users, and speed-related crashes. The presentation focused on CSAP implementation and ongoing strategies, including tasks that are currently underway and upcoming this year. ICT Safe will meet regularly to carry out updates to the document and plan implementation. The TPB adopted the CSAP on December 12, 2023, and can be viewed at https://www.wampo.org/safety.

Discussion:

Jane Byrnes expressed concerns about education and enforcement-based strategies, noting that educating is not the same as motivating, and enforcement tactics often result in blaming the victim. Ms. Neufeld said WAMPO is committed to a comprehensive approach and is working to ensure there are also action- and infrastructure-based ongoing strategies.

Troy Wells gave details about the peer-to-peer SAFE (Seatbelts Are For Everyone) program in high schools that is supported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and KDOT, noting the upcoming "Click It or Ticket" campaign. Patricia Middleton directed attention to the Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office's SAFE website (www.ktsro.org/safe).

Heather Plaza shared details about a recent conversation with the Wichita police department about the <u>Drive to Zero Crash Data Dashboard</u> and how beneficial it is for identifying focus areas.

Daniel Kiser gave information about the City of Springfield, Missouri's <u>SGF Yields- Pedestrian Safety Program</u> which performs targeted education and enforcement in locations where yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks is an issue. The goal of the campaign is to initiate cultural change toward being more pedestrian-friendly and responsible.

Ms. Brynes asked if roundabouts have been considered as a countermeasure. Ms. Neufeld said that they are one of the FHWA's proven safety countermeasures. Mr. Kiser shared examples of locations where roundabouts could be highly useful. James Wagner expressed that sometimes the construction logistics for redesigning an intersection are not feasible and that business and other land-use aspects also have to be considered. Dan Squires agreed, saying that roundabouts are safe, efficient ways to manage traffic and should be considered for new builds, but that it is very difficult to retrofit them.

D. DUI Victims Center of Kansas

Heather Plaza described the history of the DUI Victims Center of Kansas (DUI VCKS), whose mission is to provide services to victims, survivors, and their families and increase awareness of the traumatic human consequences of the choice to drive impaired. Ms. Plaza shared sobering stories of victims and described the comprehensive support that DUI VCKS offers.

DUI Victims Center of Kansas website – https://www.duivictimscenterofkansas.com/

Discussion: Adrienne Byrne and other attendees thanked Ms. Plaza and the entire DUI VCKS team for the work they do for the community.

E. Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Updates

Ms. Neufeld explained that in December 2023, WAMPO was awarded a Federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) demonstration grant in the amount of \$940,000. WAMPO staff are working with the FHWA to start the process of using those funds and working with awarded jurisdictions to identify eligible demonstration projects.

For the 2025 round of SS4A funding, WAMPO will apply for an implementation grant, which focuses on the execution of strategies in the CSAP and may involve major safety-related infrastructure improvements. These grants are anticipated to range from \$1 million to \$25 million and are highly competitive. Funding has been programmed in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for WAMPO to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to assist with preparing an application.

Discussion:

Mr. Wagner asked what types of infrastructure/safety equipment are eligible under the demonstration grant. Ms. Neufeld clarified that anything permanent is not allowed. Alan Kailer shared a link to the Flint Hills MPO's demonstration-projects webpage: https://www.flinthillsmpo.org/demoprojects.

F. KDOT/WAMPO Behavioral Safety Grant Opportunity

Ms. Neufeld announced that the Behavioral Safety Office of the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and WAMPO will jointly conduct a Call for Projects for Behavioral Safety Grants in the WAMPO region. These are reimbursement grants. Funding for the grants comes from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and will be administered by KDOT. The total amount available for all projects in 2024 is \$50,000. Grant applications need to address the concerns of ICT Safe, the Drive to Zero Coalition, the WAMPO Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), and/or the Kansas Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Projects should fall under the Safer People element of the USDOT Safe System Approach and all grants under this program must focus on improving road-user behavior; construction projects are not eligible expenses. ICT Safe members will be notified when the applications open; the deadline to apply is June 30, 2024. The KDOT contact is Noel Schneider (noel.schneider@ks.gov), and the WAMPO contact is Kim Neufeld (kimberly.neufeld@wampo.org).

G. WAMPO Updates: KDOT Transportation Safety Conference, Road Safety Assessment Training, and Safe Routes to School Request for Proposals

Markey Jonas, WAMPO, shared that WAMPO staff attended the KDOT Transportation Safety Conference in Topeka in April and had an opportunity to present on WAMPO's CSAP and SS4A grant experiences. Noting that all sessions were very informative, the takeaways mentioned include framing traffic safety as public health and the use of key resources such as the Drive to Zero Crash Data Dashboard, KanDrive, and the upcoming release of a Vulnerable Road User (VRU) safety assessment tool. Ingrid Vandervort, KDOT, said that a press release and other marketing tactics announcing the VRU safety assessment tool will go out on May 16, 2024.

Ms. Neufeld announced that three WAMPO staff members and local partners recently attended a Road Safety Assessment training and that WAMPO is preparing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant for the development of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plans. The SRTS initiative strives to make it safer and easier for children to walk or ride bicycles to and from school.

H. Open Discussion

None.

III. Adjournment

Ms. Neufeld adjourned the meeting at 10:57 AM.

The next ICT Safe meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 7, 2024, at 9:30 AM.