

# FALL 2025

## WAMPO QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) is the lead independent agency for coordinating priorities for regionally significant transportation investments in roads, highways, public transit, railroads, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. In cooperation with its member communities and state and federal partners, WAMPO supports the region's economic and transportation goals.

*Read some of the Fall 2025 regional transportation highlights below and visit [www.wampo.org](http://www.wampo.org) for more information.*

### Transportation Planning Updates

#### Transportation Safety

##### Safe Routes to School

WAMPO is in the midst of a regional effort to develop Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plans for public and private K-12 schools throughout the region, and data collection efforts are underway. SRTS aims to make walking and bicycling to and from school safer for students through infrastructure improvements, programs, and policies. WAMPO staff and consultants are teaming up with school and local government staff to complete a walk audit at and around each of the participating schools, schools have collected Student Travel Tally data on how students get to and from school; and more than 2,100 survey responses have been submitted by parents/caregivers sharing their thoughts and experiences regarding their student(s) walking, biking, and rolling to school. Additionally, WAMPO staff have attended community events to increase awareness and engage residents.



Once school-specific SRTS plans are in place, projects and activities identified in those plans will be better positioned to take advantage of future funding opportunities.

To learn more about Safe Routes to School, please visit [www.wampo.org/srts](http://www.wampo.org/srts).

##### ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition

ICT Safe's mission is to reduce transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries in the WAMPO region. It has several smaller groups under its umbrella, including the Active Transportation Committee and Drive Safe Sedgwick. Topics discussed at the Fall 2025 ICT Safe meeting held on November 5, 2025, included the WAMPO Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), protected-intersection designs, Bike Walk Wichita's Behavioral Safety Campaign, and KDOT safety-related updates.

The next online meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2026, at 9:30 AM. More information about ICT Safe and how to get involved is available at [www.wampo.org/ict-safe](http://www.wampo.org/ict-safe).

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### **KDOT Walk Bike Roll Active Transportation Summit**

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) hosted the Walk Bike Roll Kansas Active Transportation Summit on October 29-30, 2025, in Lawrence, KS. The two-day summit focused on the latest safety research and infrastructure designs to better support people who walk, bike, or use mobility devices. Kim Negrete, WAMPO's Multimodal Transportation Safety Planner, provided the closing keynote presentation.

To learn more about WAMPO's safety initiatives, visit [www.wampo.org/safety](http://www.wampo.org/safety).

### **2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Report**

The 2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Count took place on September 10, 11, and 13, 2025 - Thank you so much to all our volunteers! Volunteer participation is crucial for comprehensive data collection used to enhance understanding of how people are using nonmotorized modes of transportation and inform future transportation planning. In addition to volunteer counters, automatic counting equipment was deployed at nine (9) of the forty (40) locations to aid with data collection.

Data collected each year are used to estimate the Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) of bicycle riders and pedestrians, based on national standards. WAMPO staff have compiled data and performed analyses to develop a comprehensive report and corresponding interactive map.

The top five locations in terms of estimated AADT are: Arkansas River Path at Keeper of the Plains; Broadway and Central; Sedgwick County Park at 21st Street; Prairie Sunset Trail; and Sedgwick County Park at 13th Street.

More information and count reports are available at [www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian](http://www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian).

### **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes what planning activities WAMPO staff and consultants will undertake, and how federal planning funds allocated to WAMPO will be used during the year (January 1-December 31). The UPWP is a crucial document for guiding and managing the transportation planning process within a metropolitan area, ensuring that resources are used effectively and that planning efforts are coordinated and transparent. Funding for the UPWP comes from various sources, including federal Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG) funds, which require a 20% local match (i.e., 80% federal funding, 20% local funding).

#### **2026 UPWP**

The draft 2026 UPWP continues projects and activities outlined in the 2025 UPWP. WAMPO opened the public comment period for the 2026 UPWP from September 12, 2025, through October 12, 2025.

#### **2025 UPWP Amendment 2**

Updates and amendments to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) are periodically necessary to adjust programmed amounts to better align with current and anticipated work. Proposed draft amendment 2 to the 2025 UPWP would adjust allocations between staff tasks, decrease overall operating and consultant-supported project expenditures to reflect completed work and revised work schedules, and account for the removal of a sub-task to purchase data. WAMPO opened the public comment period for Amendment 2 to the 2025 UPWP from October 10, 2025, through October 24, 2025.

Draft 2025 UPWP Amendment 2 and the draft 2026 UPWP are available at [www.wampo.org/upwp](http://www.wampo.org/upwp). Both documents will be brought to the TPB for a vote on approval on November 18, 2025.

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## **Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture**

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) cover a wide range of technologies, including dynamic message signs that provide timely crash alerts, ramp closure updates, and important public service announcements. The number of intelligent devices in the WAMPO region is in the hundreds, and the way they are integrated adds another layer of complexity. To coordinate their use and deployment, regions develop an ITS Architecture, and maintenance of these architectures is often handled by MPOs, such as WAMPO. WAMPO launched a comprehensive update to its architecture in Fall 2024, and the project is now nearing completion.

The regional ITS architecture is being updated through a cooperative effort by regional transportation agencies and local governments. It represents a shared vision of how the region's ITS infrastructure components and maintainers will work together in the future, share information, and provide for a safer, more efficient, and more effective regional transportation system.

WAMPO opened the public comment period for the draft updated regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) architecture from October 18, 2025, through November 16, 2025. Public comments received during this period will be reported to and considered by the WAMPO Transportation Policy Body (TPB), which will decide whether to approve the draft regional ITS architecture at their November 18, 2025, meeting.

Draft materials available for public review at [www.wampo.org/regional-its-architecture](http://www.wampo.org/regional-its-architecture) include the following:

- A searchable set of linked webpages for navigating the regional ITS architecture.
- ITS Architecture Executive Summary.
- ITS Architecture Report.
- ITS Architecture Deployment Plan.
- ITS Architecture Maintenance Plan and Change Request Form.

## **Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050)**

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a federally required, strategic, long-term document guiding future transportation projects in the WAMPO region. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050) development and approval process was completed when the Transportation Policy Body (TPB) approved it on May 13, 2025. MTP 2050 Amendment 1 was approved on August 12, 2025.



*All MTP 2050 chapters & appendices are available on the WAMPO website, at [www.wampo.org/mtp2050](http://www.wampo.org/mtp2050). An Executive Summary of MTP 2050 is available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.*

### **Roadshow for Approved MTP 2050**

Following the conclusion of the MTP 2050 Amendment 1 development and approval process, WAMPO staff are carrying out a roadshow to present the document to the public. A "roadshow" is an outreach activity involving visits to multiple locations and events to promote something specific. This may include presentations at public meetings, attending community pop-up events, and social media posts to encourage ongoing use of the plan. Ongoing discussion of MTP 2050 following initial adoption will ensure the plan remains relevant. Please email [wampo@wampo.org](mailto:wampo@wampo.org) to invite WAMPO to attend an event or meeting.

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## Transportation Improvement Program

All federally funded transportation projects within the WAMPO region, and any additional projects deemed regionally significant by WAMPO in partnership with key stakeholders, are required to appear in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). These projects are made into a prioritized, four-year list representing funding commitments from local, state, and federal partners that benefit the region. The WAMPO Transportation Policy Body (TPB) approved the FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP on August 13, 2024. Changes to and additions/removals of specific projects are often required before the development of the next new TIP, so WAMPO conducts regularly scheduled amendments to the TIP, usually about four per year.

Recent and upcoming TIP amendments:

	Amendment #5	Amendment #6	Amendment #7	Amendment #8
<b>Call for Changes</b>	06/02/2025- 06/13/2025	08/04/2025- 08/15/2025	12/08/2025- 12/19/2025	02/02/2026- 02/13/2026
<b>Public Comment Period</b>	06/27/2025- 07/11/2025	08/29/2025- 09/12/2025	01/02/2026- 01/16/2026	02/27/2026- 03/13/2026
<b>TAC Recommendation</b>	07/28/2025	09/22/2025	01/26/2026	03/23/2026
<b>TPB Vote on Approval</b>	08/12/2025	10/14/2025	02/10/2026	04/14/2026
<b>Reflected In STIP*</b>	09/04/2025	11/06/2025	03/05/2026	05/07/2026

\*State Transportation Improvement Program

For additional details, please visit [www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program](http://www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program).

## On the Horizon

### Regional Active Transportation Plan

Active transportation is any human-powered (non-motorized) mode of transportation, such as walking or riding a bicycle. People who travel this way rely on infrastructure such as sidewalks, crosswalks, trails, shared-use paths, and bike lanes. Consistent with the WAMPO Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), WAMPO will develop a Regional Active Transportation Plan to assess existing conditions, identify gaps in the nonmotorized-travel network, and recommend strategies and projects for improving regional connectivity for active transportation. The plan will guide future infrastructure investments across the region and support efforts to create a more connected, safe, and accessible active transportation network that links communities and key destinations. A consultant to assist WAMPO with plan development has been selected, and a contract is anticipated to be brought to the TPB by the end of 2025.

### Household Travel Survey (HTS)

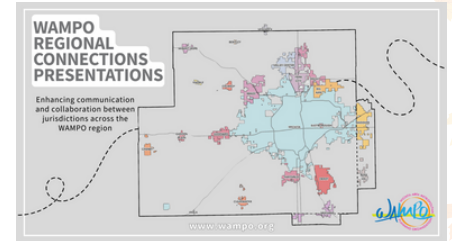
WAMPO issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) from July 28 through September 26, 2025, for a consultant to conduct a regional Household Travel Survey (HTS), and a selection committee is now in the process of interviewing consultant teams that submitted proposals. Relatively recent (usually within the last ten years) Household Travel Surveys are an essential tool for regional transportation planning, collecting details on the daily trips of all of the members of a sample of the households in the metropolitan area (e.g., trip origins, destinations, times, modes, and purposes) and on the characteristics of those households (e.g., number of people in the household, number of vehicles, household income). The primary use of these data is anticipated to be updating the regional Travel Demand Model (TDM), which uses population and employment projections to forecast future traffic volumes, congestion, and travel times throughout the WAMPO-region transportation network.

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## Regional Transportation Updates & Highlights

### Regional Connections Presentation Series

To enhance communication and collaboration across the metropolitan area, WAMPO is coordinating a series of presentations to the TPB with the theme of “Regional Connections.” This initiative invites WAMPO jurisdictions and planning partners to present updates on local projects, policies, or programs of regional significance.



Five presentations have been made so far, the recordings of which are available on WAMPO's YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/WAMPO-Regional-Connections-Playlist>.

### WAMPO Suballocated Project Funding in FFY2025

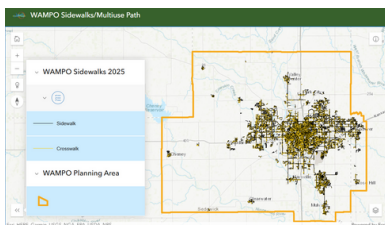
The federally funded transportation projects in the TPB-approved WAMPO TIP include both those programmed to receive non-suballocated federal funds and those programmed to receive suballocated federal funds in amounts awarded to them by WAMPO. The following projects received WAMPO suballocated federal funding during recently concluded Federal Fiscal Year 2025 (FFY2025, October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025):

Lead Agency	Project Title
City of Bel Aire	53rd Street, Oliver to Woodlawn Multi-Use Path
City of Wichita	Douglas, Seneca to Meridian
City of Wichita	17th St N, I-135 to Hillside
City of Valley Center	Seneca St Multiuse Path
City of Wichita	Redbud Multi-Use Path from Woodlawn Blvd., near 17th St., 3.5 miles east to K-96 Phase 1
Butler County	SW Butler Rd Improvements from SW 170th St to SW 155th St
City of Wichita	Wichita Intelligent Transportation System - E 21st St N

More information is available at [www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program](http://www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program) and in bimonthly reports presented to the WAMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Transportation Policy Body (TPB).

### K-15 Bridge Replacement Project

The southbound K-15 bridge over the Wichita Drainage Canal is closed to traffic for bridge reconstruction and improvements. Work is anticipated to be completed in December 2026. More information is available at <https://www.ksdot.gov/about/our-organization/districts/district-5-south-central-kansas/wichita-metro-updates>.



### Regional Sidewalk, Crosswalk, and Multiuse Path Map

As a resource for communities throughout the region, WAMPO has created a GIS map of all known sidewalks, crosswalks, and multiuse paths throughout the region. The interactive map, documenting 2,211 miles of sidewalks and multiuse paths and nearly 14,000 marked crosswalks, is available at [www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian](http://www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian).

**Don't see your update here? Send us an email at [wampo@wampo.org](mailto:wampo@wampo.org) letting us know about upcoming projects and updates in the region to include in our next newsletter.**

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## Upcoming Meetings and Events

### WAMPO Meeting Schedule

Members of the public are welcome to join WAMPO meetings via Zoom or in person at the WAMPO offices (as applicable – some boards/committees meet online only). Meeting dates and times are subject to change at the discretion of each committee's chairperson. In-person meetings are generally held at the Ronald Reagan Building, 271 W 3rd St., Room 203, Wichita, KS 67202, unless otherwise stated on the meeting agenda, and Zoom links are available on the WAMPO website at least one week before the scheduled meeting time.

- **November 13, 2025:** Executive Committee meeting at 11:30 AM
- **November 18, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **November 24, 2025:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting at 10:00 AM
- **December 9, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **January 26, 2026:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting at 10:00 AM
- **February 10, 2026:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **February 23, 2026:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting at 10:00 AM

For more information about each committee and the complete meeting schedule, visit [www.wampo.org/boards-and-committees](http://www.wampo.org/boards-and-committees).

Draft 2026 WAMPO meeting schedule: <https://bit.ly/Draft-2026-WAMPO-Meetings>.

### Upcoming Office Closures

WAMPO will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **Tuesday, November 11, 2025:** Veterans Day
- **Thursday, November 27, 2025:** Thanksgiving Day
- **Friday, November 28, 2025:** Day after Thanksgiving
- **Wednesday, December 24, 2025:** Christmas Eve
- **Thursday, December 25, 2025:** Christmas Day
- **Thursday, January 1, 2026:** New Year's Day
- **Monday, January 19, 2026:** Martin Luther King Day

Information about office closures and upcoming events can be found at [www.wampo.org/events](http://www.wampo.org/events).

### Follow WAMPO on Social Media

To stay informed about and get involved with WAMPO's transportation planning process, connect with WAMPO online.



[Click here to receive WAMPO emails](#)

November 7, 2025

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