Meeting Minutes

Transportation Policy Body (TPB) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 13, 2025, @ 3:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting: *Online & 271 W 3rd St., Rm. 203, Wichita, KS 67202*
Meeting Duration: *66 minutes*

Voting Members in Attendance		
Russ Kessler, *Chair*	Mike Moriarty, *KDOT*	**Alternates**
Jim Benage, *Bel Aire*	Charles Schwanke, *Park City*	Nick Gregory, *Maize (voting)*
Nick Engle, *Derby*	Terry Somers, *SCAC*	Ted Henry, *Bel Aire (non-voting)*
Dalton Glasscock, *Wichita*	Nick Squires, *KDOT*	Warren Porter, *Rose Hill (voting)*
Mike Hoheisel, *Wichita*	Jet Truman, *Valley Center*	J.B. Wilson, *KDOT (non-voting)*
Jim Howell, *Sedgwick County*	Becky Tuttle, *Wichita*	
J.V. Johnston, *Wichita*	Mike Warrington, *Andover*	
George Liebe, *Goddard*	Stephanie Wise, *Sedgwick County*	
Other Attendees		
Javier Ahumada, *FHWA*	Alan Kailer, *Bike Walk Wichita*	Ksusha Peeples, *WAMPO*
Marcy Aycock, *REAP*	Brett Letkowski, *GFT*	Riley Schmitz, *JEO*
Nick Flanders, *WAMPO*	Peter Mohr, *WAMPO*	Allison Smith, *KDOT*
Evan Hathaway, *Hite, Fanning & Honeyman L.L.P.*	ThaiBinh Mursch, *MAPD*	Chris Sweeney, *WAMPO*
	Kim Negrete, *WAMPO*	James Wagner, *Wichita*
Markey Jonas, *WAMPO*	Chad Parasa, *WAMPO*	

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1. Chair Russ Kessler called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

2. Regular Business

A. Approval of the May 13, 2025, Agenda

Discussion: None.
Action: Approve the May 13, 2025, agenda, as presented. (15-0)[1]
Motion: George Liebe
Second: Becky Tuttle

B. Approval of the April 8, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None.
Action: Approve the April 8, 2025, meeting minutes, as presented. (16-0)[2]
Motion: J.V. Johnston
Second: Terry Somers

[1] Three (3) voting TPB members did not arrive until after the vote to approve the May 2025 agenda.
[2] Two (2) voting TPB members did not arrive until after the votes to approve the April 2025 minutes and consent agenda.
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C. Director's Report

Chad Parasa, WAMPO, provided an overview of the items on the meeting agenda and shared that, in response to new guidance from the U.S. Department of Transportation, WAMPO will work with state and federal planning partners to prepare amendments or administrative modifications to WAMPO's core planning documents over the coming months. This will include changes to Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050), approval of which in its current form is nonetheless sought at the meeting to ensure there is not a lapse between the old and new MTPs; the previous MTP was approved in June 2020, and MTP updates are required at least once every five years.

i. Bimonthly TIP Project Statuses

Peter Mohr, WAMPO, explained that the WAMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Policy includes a Reasonable Progress Policy, under which projects programmed to receive WAMPO-suballocated funding that are scheduled to start in the current Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) or that have started but not finished (including projects that started in prior FFYs) are to have progress reports every two months. The TIP Project Statuses report for May 2025 was shared.

May 2025 TIP Project Statuses – https://bit.ly/May2025-TIP-Project-Statuses

Discussion:

Jim Benage shared that the project "53rd Street, Oliver to Woodlawn Multi-Use Path" in Bel Aire is not expected to obligate federal funding until Fall 2025.

ii. ITS Architecture Update

Mr. Mohr shared that WAMPO is actively updating the regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) architecture, as required by federal guidelines to occur every five years. The last comprehensive update was completed in 2006. Progress was made through a series of steering-committee meetings held in Fall 2024. In 2025, extensive work on a draft ITS strategic deployment plan and ITS architecture report has been completed. A regional ITS architecture stakeholder meeting was held on April 22, 2025, and another ITS architecture steering-committee meeting was held on May 13, 2025. The purpose of these meetings was to present draft regional ITS architecture materials for review. An updated regional ITS architecture is tentatively planned to be completed by late summer or early fall 2025 and will be brought to the TAC and TPB for approval.

iii. Regional Active Transportation Plan Consultant RFP Development

Mr. Mohr shared that WAMPO staff are developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to complete a Regional Active Transportation Plan. The purpose of the plan is to assess existing conditions, identify gaps in the nonmotorized travel network, and recommend strategies for improving active transportation options, including bicycling, walking, and other forms of nonmotorized transportation within the region. The plan will guide future infrastructure investments and support efforts to create a more connected, safe, and accessible active transportation network.

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iv. Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Update

Mr. Mohr noted that the U.S. Department of Transportation has released the FFY2025 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). SS4A grants are awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructure, and behavioral and operational initiatives to prevent fatalities and serious injuries among all road users, including pedestrians, bicycle riders, public-transportation users, motorists, and commercial vehicle operators. Applications must be submitted online by 5:00 PM (EDT) on June 26, 2025.

Based on a thorough review of the NOFO and discussions with WAMPO member jurisdictions regarding potential projects to submit, it seems that city and county governments applying individually confers significant advantages over submitting a single regional application through the MPO. WAMPO encourages member jurisdictions to consider submitting individual SS4A implementation-grant applications. WAMPO staff are available to assist jurisdictions in identifying projects, developing grant-application narratives, assembling necessary data, and providing letters of support.

Federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) website, including links to the NOFO and the online application – www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A

v. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Update

Kim Negrete, WAMPO, shared that WAMPO is working with SRF Consulting Group on a regional Safe Routes to School (SRTS) planning initiative to assist local governments and K-12 schools (both public and private) with the development of at least sixty (60) school-specific SRTS plans in the region. So far, forty-three (43) schools have been confirmed as participating in this effort. SRTS Stakeholder Committee meetings were held in March, April, and May 2025 and included representatives from nine (9) of the fourteen (14) public school districts in the region. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Transportation Policy Body (TPB) members are asked to identify any priority schools within their respective jurisdictions and to identify any potential additional individuals to serve on the SRTS Stakeholder Committee that will continue to guide the initiative.

Discussion:

Mike Hoheisel asked if a list of confirmed participating schools could be shared with the TPB and whether there was a deadline for schools to become involved. Ms. Negrete responded that the list of confirmed schools could be shared and noted that it will also be posted to the WAMPO SRTS website. There is no strict deadline for schools to get involved.

D. Consent Agenda

i. Updated Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Roster

Markey Jonas, WAMPO, explained that the Transportation Policy Body (TPB) is the authorizing body for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and that all TAC members need to be approved by the TPB. A proposed updated roster includes the recommended appointment of Pimnara (Lily) Rodkul as the representative for Wichita Transit and of Char

Ehrmann and Christie Fletcher as the representative and alternate, respectively, for Coordinated Transit District (CTD) #9. The TPB was asked to decide whether to approve the updated TAC roster reflecting these appointments.

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. (16-0)

Motion: J.V. Johnston

Second: George Liebe

3. Public Comment Opportunity

Alan Kailer, Bike Walk Wichita, shared that May is Bike Month and read a portion of a Bike Month Proclamation by the City of Wichita to highlight the importance of bicycling. Mr. Kailer thanked the TPB and WAMPO staff for their support of active transportation.

Chair Kessler shared that the City of Haysville also proclaimed May as Bike Month and will hold a Bike Ride with the Mayor on June 7, 2025, at 9:00 AM, at Riggs Park.

4. Action

A. Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) Amendment

Ms. Negrete explained that the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) promotes the safety of all users of the transportation system. The plan was developed through a ten-month process and was approved by the Transportation Policy Body on December 12, 2023. The strategies outlined in the CSAP are being implemented and monitored by WAMPO staff, member jurisdictions, and community partners, including through the work of ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition. Guidance stemming from a direct federal review of the WAMPO CSAP, as well as from the March 28, 2025, Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), indicates that the CSAP would benefit from several updates to qualify it as an eligible "Action Plan," which is required prior to submitting an SS4A implementation-grant application. The Transportation Safety Technical Advisors (TSTA) met on February 25, 2025, and April 17, 2025, to review progress and propose changes to the CSAP. The primary updates recommended by the TSTA were the addition of annual targets for eventually reaching zero traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries, updates to the strategies in the CSAP implementation plan, and a community-wide transportation-safety-project list. All recommended changes/additions have been incorporated into the draft amended CSAP, which the Technical Advisory Committee recommended for approval on April 28, 2025. Ms. Negrete provided details about each proposed change and asked the TPB to vote on whether to approve the proposed changes to the CSAP.

Discussion:

Chair Kessler asked if projects listed in the CSAP would be removed from the document once they are completed. Ms. Negrete said they would not.

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Action: Approve the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, as presented. (17-0)[3]
Motion: Mike Hoheisel
Second: Nick Engle

B. Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050): Public Hearing and Approval Vote

Nick Flanders, WAMPO, shared that WAMPO's new long-range planning document, Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050) needs to be adopted by June 2025. The draft document was reviewed by the Plan Advisory Committee (PAC) and by state and federal staff and went through a public-comment period (March 8, 2025-April 7, 2025), which was the fourth round of public engagement. All comments have been addressed by WAMPO staff. An overview of the contents of MTP 2050 was presented in light of this meeting being a formal public hearing for the draft plan.

MTP 2050 is divided into seven (7) chapters: Plan Purpose & Development; Regional Trends; Existing Conditions; System Management; System Performance Report (discussing federal/regional performance measures (PMs)); Financial Plan (demonstrating how MTP 2050 is fiscally constrained); and Project Selection & List (containing the MTP 2050 fiscally constrained project list). MTP 2050 also has 14 appendices. Mr. Flanders and Mr. Mohr summarized and provided key details from each of the seven chapters.

Ms. Jonas reiterated that the plan was available for a 30-day public comment period, March 8-April 7, 2025. This was the fourth round of public engagement, the purpose of which was to present the draft document and collect public comments. Several outreach strategies were employed during this round of public engagement, including, among other things, presentations at meetings of regional partners and two WAMPO-hosted public events (one online and one in-person). WAMPO received 40 public comments on the draft plan, which have been addressed and documented in Appendix B: Public Involvement and Engagement Summary. The Transportation Policy Body (TPB) was asked to vote on whether to approve MTP 2050.

After the approval of MTP 2050, to comply with new guidance laid out in an April 24, 2025, letter from the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to all recipients of USDOT funding, WAMPO will work with state and federal planning partners over the coming months to prepare either an amendment or an administrative modification to MTP 2050, which will be brought to the TAC and TPB for approval.

Discussion:
Mr. Hoheisel asked if the letter received from the USDOT had to do with diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Ms. Jonas confirmed it did.

Action: Approve Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050, as presented. (16-0)[4]

[3] One (1) voting TPB member did not arrive until after the vote to approve the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan amendment.
[4] Two (2) voting TPB members left before the vote to approve Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050.
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Motion: Becky Tuttle

Second: Nick Engle

C. Supporting Wichita Transit 2025 Transit Safety Performance Measure Targets

Mr. Mohr explained that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are required to set performance measures for roadway safety (PM1), pavement and bridge condition (PM2), system performance and freight movement (PM3), transit asset management (TAM), and transit safety. Wichita Transit approved 2025 transit safety targets on February 27, 2025. The TPB was asked to vote on whether to support Wichita Transit's 2025 transit safety performance measure targets:

Mode of Transit Service	Fatalities	Fatalities/ 100k VRM**	Bus Driver Injuries	Bus Patron Injuries	Facility Injuries	Injuries /100k VRM**	Safety Events	Safety Events/ 100k VRM**	VRM**/Major System Failure
Fixed route	0	0	0			0.046	39.5	2	20,000
Paratransit	0	0				0.00	11.25	1.40	80,000
Micro-transit*									
Vanpool*									

***Transit mode currently under pilot contracts for potential development but not utilized.

**VRM = Vehicle Revenue Miles

Discussion:

Nick Engle asked if there are any implications of not achieving the safety targets. Mr. Parasa said there are no penalties if the targets are not met.

Mr. Benage asked what the implications are of supporting Wichita Transit's targets despite Wichita Transit not serving the entire WAMPO region. Mr. Mohr explained that Wichita Transit is the only fixed-route service provider and is the designated recipient of FTA funding in the region.

Action: Approve supporting Wichita Transit's 2025 transit safety targets for the WAMPO region, as presented. (15-0)[5]

Motion: Nick Engle

Second: Terry Somers

5. Discussion/Updates

A. Employment Sectors: IT Systems & Support

Mr. Mohr shared that the WAMPO region is home to a diverse and vibrant economy. As a part of WAMPO's mission to serve and inform its stakeholders, staff are developing a series of

[5] Three (3) voting TPB members left before the vote to approve supporting Wichita Transit's 2025 transit safety targets.

presentations on seven major sectors of the local economy. This presentation focused on the IT systems & support sector in the WAMPO region. IT systems & support, as defined by the Greater Wichita Partnership, not only includes IT services like cybersecurity and software development, but also business support services such as payroll, accounting, and logistics of all kinds. In the WAMPO region, there are approximately 300 establishments in this sector, supporting over 8,500 regional jobs.

WAMPO IT Systems & Support Sector Report – https://bit.ly/IT-Systems-and-Support-Sector

6. Committee & Partnership Updates

Chair Kessler announced that the Executive Committee met on May 8, 2025, and the next Executive Committee meeting will be at 11:00 AM on August 7, 2025, in the MAPD Conference Room in the Ronald Reagan Building (271 W 3rd St. N, Room 237, Wichita, KS 67202) and via Zoom.

Mike Moriarty, KDOT, shared that KDOT will update the 1997 Major Investment Study (MIS) for the Northwest Expressway. The solicitation process to hire a consultant will begin soon. There will be a committee of local representatives to assist with the scoping process. It will likely be a 10-12 month process once work begins. Additionally, KDOT recently selected a consultant to design interchange updates on K-254 at Rock Rd. and Webb Rd.

Mr. Moriarty also noted that many staff members at the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Kansas division offices have taken the Deferred Resignation/Retirement Program being offered by the USDOT. Kevin Ward, Division Administrator of the FHWA-Missouri Division, is currently Acting FHWA-Kansas Division Administrator.

J.B. Wilson, KDOT Wichita Metro, provided construction updates in the region.

7. Other Business

None.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 PM.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at 3:00 PM.

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