



Meeting Minutes

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 25, 2024, @ 10:00 AM

Hybrid Meeting: *Online & 271 W. 3rd St, Room 203, Wichita, KS 67202*

Meeting Duration: *56 minutes*

Voting Members in Attendance		
Russ Kessler, <i>TAC Chair</i> Raven Alexander, <i>Wichita Transit</i> Marcy Aycock, <i>REAP</i> Jack Brown, <i>Public Health</i> Brent Clark, <i>Freight Movement</i> Duane Flug, <i>KDOT</i> Danielle Gabor, <i>SCAC</i> Jolene Graham, <i>Economist</i> Paul Gunzelman, <i>Wichita</i>	Mary Hunt, <i>Urban Land Use Planning & Development Trends</i> Gary Janzen, <i>Wichita</i> Les Mangus, <i>Butler/Sumner Counties</i> Shawn Mellies, <i>Wichita</i> Lizeth Ortega, <i>Air Quality</i> Lynn Packer, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Allison Smith, <i>KDOT</i>	Alternates Tonja Howard, <i>Wichita Transit (non-voting)</i> Emily Jensen, <i>CTD #9 (voting)</i>
Other Attendees		
Lauren Bulcroft, <i>WAMPO</i> Ronald Colbert, <i>Valley Center</i> Dylan Cossaart, <i>WAMPO</i> Chaitanya Dodda, <i>WAMPO</i> Haley Dougherty, <i>KDOT</i> Slade Engstrom, <i>TranSystems</i> Nick Flanders, <i>WAMPO</i> Markey Jonas, <i>WAMPO</i>	Alan Kailer, <i>Bike Walk Wichita</i> Ethan Kershaw, <i>Wichita</i> Dani Lasher, <i>WAMPO</i> Brett Letkowski, <i>TranSystems</i> Peter Mohr, <i>WAMPO</i> ThaiBinh Mursch, <i>MAPD</i> Kim Neufeld, <i>WAMPO</i> Chad Parasa, <i>WAMPO</i>	Clayton Pearson, <i>Bike Walk Wichita</i> Kyle Thomas, <i>WAMPO</i> Tyler Voth, <i>WSP</i> James Wagner, <i>Wichita</i> J.B. Wilson, <i>KDOT</i> Rich Wood, <i>KSN</i>

1. Chair Russ Kessler called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2. Regular Business

A. Approval of March 25, 2024, Agenda

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the March 25, 2024, agenda, as proposed. (13-0)¹

Motion: Jolene Graham

Second: Raven Alexander

B. Approval of February 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the February 26, 2024, meeting minutes, as proposed. (13-0)

¹ Four (4) voting TAC members did not arrive until after the votes to approve the March 2024 agenda and February 2024 minutes. WAMPO provides meeting minutes that are not verbatim. TAC and TPB meetings are recorded and hosted on YouTube [@WAMPO Kansas](https://www.youtube.com/@WAMPO_Kansas). To request assistance accessing meeting recordings call – (316) 779-1313 or email – wampo@wampo.org.

Motion: Jolene Graham

Second: Lynn Packer

C. Director's Report

Chad Parasa, WAMPO, gave an overview of the meeting agenda and introduced Kim Neufeld, WAMPO's new Multimodal Transportation Safety Planner.

i. **MTP 2050/FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP: Upcoming Project Selection Committee (PSC) Meetings**

Peter Mohr, WAMPO, shared that from September 15, 2023, through February 2, 2024, WAMPO held a combined Call for Projects for Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050) and the FFY2025-FFY2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). One hundred and three (103) projects from eleven (11) WAMPO member jurisdictions have been scored and ranked by WAMPO staff and consultants. These projects will be considered by the Project Selection Committee (PSC) at meetings in April 2024 for recommendations to the TAC and TPB on which projects to prioritize for funding. Maps of the proposed project locations can be viewed at <https://www.wampo.org/mtp2050>.

ii. **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Updates**

Dani Lasher, WAMPO, 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, and WAMPO staff are working with the FHWA to start the process of using those funds. Ideas for temporary projects for before-and-after studies are requested to be shared with WAMPO staff so that they may coordinate with FHWA to determine project eligibility.

Kim Neufeld, WAMPO, shared that having completed the prerequisite adoption of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), WAMPO intends to apply for an SS4A implementation grant. SS4A implementation grants focus on the execution of strategies in the CSAP, which may involve major safety-related infrastructure improvements. WAMPO staff will prepare an application for the 2024 round of implementation-grant funding, the deadline for which is May 16, 2024. For the 2025 round of SS4A implementation-grant funding, WAMPO will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to assist with preparing an application.

Discussion:

Gary Janzen asked for clarification about when consultants would be hired to assist with the implementation grant application. Ms. Neufeld replied that WAMPO plans to develop an implementation grant application in-house to meet the May 16, 2024, application deadline, and will hire a consultant to assist with the application in 2025.

Mr. Janzen asked if there were ongoing Vision Zero efforts and whether there were already locations identified within the CSAP as needing safety improvements that should be considered for inclusion in an SS4A grant application. Mr. Parasa shared that WAMPO staff will coordinate with each jurisdiction individually regarding Vision Zero and are

currently working to identify which data-supported, safety-improvement projects to include in the grant application. Ms. Neufeld shared that projects do not need to be fully planned out before the application is submitted because there is a five-year funding window to complete them.

Lynn Packer asked when a project let date must be to qualify for the grant. Ms. Neufeld said that she had not seen any indication of that on the application form.

iii. Upcoming Requests for Proposals (RFPs)

Ms. Lasher announced that WAMPO is preparing to issue several Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for consultants to assist with the region's Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) architecture, Travel Demand Model (TDM) update phase 2, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) planning assistance, and a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) implementation-grant application in 2025.

An RFP for a consultant to assist WAMPO with the completion of its annual single audit was issued on March 8, 2024, and will be active through March 29, 2024, and WAMPO staff are currently reviewing received proposals for the recently closed RFP for the procurement of automated bicycle/pedestrian counters. Active Requests for Proposals can be viewed at <https://www.wampo.org/wampo-is-hiring> and RFP submissions can be emailed to wampo@wampo.org.

Discussion:

Mr. Janzen asked if maintenance or monitoring of the automatic bicycle/pedestrian counters were included in the RFP submissions. Mr. Parasa said that the upkeep of the counters is one of the factors being considered while evaluating the proposals received. Ms. Neufeld added that the selection committee is meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

iv. FFY2023-FFY2028 TIP Amendment 8 Call for Changes open 04/08/2024-04/19/2024

Mr. Mohr discussed the amendment schedule for the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which covers Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) 2023-2026 (October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2026). The Call for Changes period for regularly scheduled TIP Amendment 8 is April 8, 2024, through April 19, 2024. The timeline for TIP Amendment 8 includes a Public Comment Period (05/03/24 - 5/17/24), TAC Recommendation (05/20/24), TPB Approval, (06/11/24), and KDOT STIP Amendment (07/05/24). The FFY2023-FFY2026 TIP and amendment schedule can be viewed at <https://www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program>.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Action

A. Transportation Improvement Program Amendment 7

Mr. Mohr asked the TAC to take action on proposed Amendment 7 to the WAMPO FFY2023 – FFY2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Amendment 7 is a regularly scheduled amendment for which the Public Comment period was held from March 8, 2024, through March 22, 2024; no comments were received. TIP Amendment 7 adds five (5) new projects and modifies four (4) projects. There is also an administrative adjustment to one (1) additional project, which does not require approval.

Mr. Mohr listed the projects modified/added, discussed the changes in local, state, and federal funding, and explained the Federal requirements met by TIP Amendment 7: it is consistent with the current Metropolitan Transportation Plan, *REIMAGINED MOVE 2040*, and is fiscally constrained. The financial impact is an additional cost of \$70.9 million, with no changes in WAMPO-suballocated funds. Following approval by the TPB, the amendment will be sent to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) to be included in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for review and consideration by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Federal approval is expected in May 2024.

FFY2023-FFY2026 TIP Amendment #7 Summary – <https://bit.ly/TIP-Amendment-7-Summary>

Discussion:

Paul Gunzelman asked if the K-15 project listed in the amendment was the KDOT K-15 Corridor Study. Mr. Parasa replied that it is not; it is a new intersection-improvement project. Allison Smith, KDOT, shared that the project includes signal-pole replacements for the K-15 intersections at 71st Street, 47th Street, and MacArthur Road in the City of Derby.

Gary Janzen inquired about the Federal funding for the new Butler County bridge project and asked about the location and scope of the KDOT project on US-54 Bridges #331, #334, and #336 at the US-54 and Eisenhower Airport Parkway Interchange in Wichita, as the City of Wichita is pursuing a large future project at that same interchange. Nick Flanders, WAMPO, explained that the Butler County bridge project has non-suballocated Federal funding through KDOT and stated that WAMPO staff will follow up with Gary Janzen about the US-54/Eisenhower Airport Parkway project.

Action: Recommend the TPB approve FFY2023-FFY2026 TIP Amendment 7, as presented. (17-0)

Motion: Gary Janzen

Second: Lynn Packer

5. Discussion/Updates

A. WAMPO Electric Vehicle Network Plan

Mr. Mohr shared that WAMPO's recently-completed Electric Vehicle (EV) Network Plan addresses the region's growing demand for electric vehicles by providing a comprehensive strategy for EV charging infrastructure. Emphasizing immediate actions and longer-term planning, the plan aims

to position the WAMPO region as an EV destination, corridor, and gateway. It aligns with existing plans for economic development and improved air quality. The plan categorizes charging infrastructure into Level 1, Level 2, and Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC), which have different charging speeds and appropriate applications. Community input was gathered through a survey, showcasing WAMPO's commitment to inclusivity. The plan recommends strategically placing EV charging stations in key locations to support EV owners, promote sustainability, and stimulate market growth. Overall, the plan aims to create a robust and interconnected EV charging network to meet the evolving needs of the growing electric vehicle market.

Mr. Mohr gave background details about the plan development process, explained the different types of EVs and EV chargers, and shared an overview of some of the contents of the plan. The WAMPO EV Network Plan is open for public comment through April 11, 2024, and comments can be posted online at <https://www.wampo.org/electric-vehicles> or emailed to wampo@wampo.org.

WAMPO Electric Vehicle (EV) Network Plan - <https://bit.ly/3TxjoGw>

Discussion:

Brent Clark asked what the next steps are and how the EV Network Plan will be used. Mr. Mohr replied that the plan can be used to develop an application for EV infrastructure grants and will help identify charger-installation locations.

Allison Smith, KDOT, clarified that National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) funding can only be used on designated alternative-fuel corridors at this time, for charging stations within a one-mile driving distance of the corridor. Although some of those corridors pass through the WAMPO region, KDOT is currently focusing on other priority areas of the state, so NEVI funding is not available for use in the WAMPO region at the moment.

B. Safe System Approach: Safer Roads

Haley Dougherty, KDOT, gave a presentation on the Safer Roads element of the US DOT's Safe System Approach and National Roadway Safety Strategy. The Safer Roads objective strives to design roadway environments that mitigate human mistakes and account for injury tolerances, encourage safer behaviors, and facilitate safe travel by the most vulnerable users. Methods for creating safer roads include separating users in space or time, increasing attentiveness and awareness, and managing crash speed and angle. Ms. Dougherty gave details on proven safety countermeasures and on the KDOT Drive to Zero Coalition and Safe System Strategy Teams, and highlighted current and upcoming KDOT safety programs.

Safe System Approach: Safer Roads slides - <https://bit.ly/Safer-Roads-Slides>

Safer Roads Objective - <https://www.transportation.gov/NRSS/SaferRoads>

Safe System Roadway Design Hierarchy - <https://bit.ly/Safe-System-Road-Hierarchy>

Drive to Zero Crash Data Dashboard - <https://bit.ly/Drive-to-Zero-Dashboard>

KDOT Safety Conference - <https://hospitality.ku.edu/transportation-safety-conference-program>

C. Quarterly Transit Update

Raven Alexander, Wichita Transit, shared that transit ridership continues to grow. There were roughly 1.2 million Wichita Transit trips in 2023, which is almost at pre-COVID levels and can be attributed to Wichita Transit's partnership efforts. A Request for Proposals (RFP) for the construction of a new multimodal center, called the Hub, will be released in the next few weeks. The onboard survey, online survey, and stakeholder workshops for the Wichita Transit Network Plan have been completed and the results are being analyzed. Concepts are being developed and will be published in April 2024.

6. Committee & Partnership Updates

None.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 22, 2024, at 10:00 AM.