



Meeting Minutes

Transportation Policy Body (TPB) Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2024, @ 3:00 PM

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

Meeting Duration: *103 minutes*

Voting Members in Attendance		
Russ Kessler, <i>Vice-Chair</i> Ryan Baty, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Jim Benage, <i>Bel Aire</i> David Dennis, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Nick Engle, <i>Derby</i> Jim Howell, <i>Sedgwick County</i> George Liebe, <i>Goddard</i>	Pete Meitzner, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Mike Moriarty, <i>KDOT</i> Ben Sauceda, <i>Park City</i> Terry Somers, <i>SCAC</i> Jet Truman, <i>Valley Center</i> Mike Warrington, <i>Andover</i> Dan Woydziak, <i>Butler County</i>	Alternates Nick Gregory, <i>Maize (voting)</i> Warren Porter, <i>Rose Hill (voting)</i> J.B. Wilson, <i>KDOT (voting)</i>
Other Attendees		
Raven Alexander, <i>Wichita Transit</i> Rick Backlund, <i>FHWA</i> Kaylee Bates, <i>WAMPO</i> Dylan Cossaart, <i>WAMPO</i> Penny Feist, <i>Wichita Transit</i> Nick Flanders, <i>WAMPO</i> Dora Gallo, <i>WAMPO</i> James Gamez, <i>Nelson\Nygaard</i> Evan Hathaway, <i>Hite, Fanning & Honeyman L.L.P.</i> M Hennen, <i>Wichita Documenters</i>	Markey Jonas, <i>WAMPO</i> Alan Kailer, <i>Bike Walk Wichita</i> Sruthi Kesa, <i>WAMPO</i> Brett Letkowski, <i>TranSystems</i> Peter Mohr, <i>WAMPO</i> ThaiBinh Mursch, <i>MAPD</i> Kim Negrete, <i>WAMPO</i> Jonathan Norris, <i>WSU-CEDBR</i> Ron Nuessen, <i>Benesch</i> Lynn Packer, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Chad Parasa, <i>WAMPO</i>	Tia Raamot, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Kelly Rundell, <i>Hite, Fanning & Honeyman L.L.P.</i> Will Sharp, <i>FHWA</i> Allison Smith, <i>KDOT</i> Kyle Thomas, <i>WAMPO</i> Bill Troe, <i>SRF</i> James Wagner, <i>Wichita</i> Brad Waller, <i>Benesch</i> Jessica Warren, <i>WAMPO</i>

1. Vice-Chair Russ Kessler called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM.

2. Regular Business

A. Approval of the August 13, 2024, Agenda

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the August 13, 2024, agenda, as presented. (14-0)¹

Motion: George Liebe

Second: Nick Gregory

B. Approval of the July 9, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the July 9, 2024, meeting minutes, as presented. (14-0)

Motion: Dan Woydziak

Second: Terry Somers

¹ Three (3) voting TPB members did not arrive until after the votes to approve the August 2024 agenda and July 2024 minutes.

C. Director's Report

i. MTP 2050 Sections on WAMPO Website

Dora Gallo, WAMPO, shared that WAMPO is developing long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050), which will guide the region's transportation infrastructure investments and policies over the next quarter century. As WAMPO works towards completing a draft of the full plan, draft chapters and appendices will be posted on the WAMPO website for public review. This approach ensures transparency and allows community members, stakeholders, and policymakers to review and provide input on the proposed strategies and projects. By making the information readily available, WAMPO is fostering an inclusive planning process that seeks to incorporate diverse perspectives and insights, ultimately leading to a more robust and effective transportation plan for the future.

MTP 2050 webpage, with draft sections uploaded as available: www.wampo.org/mtp2050

ii. Annual Bicycle and Pedestrian Count

Ms. Gallo explained that every year, WAMPO coordinates an annual count of bicycle and pedestrian activity across the region. The data collected during this count help to estimate the number of people who bicycle, walk, and run, and the locations where they do so. To gather this information, WAMPO relies on a team of volunteers to spend a short period of time counting pedestrians and bicycle riders at designated locations. The 2024 dates and times available to volunteer are Wednesday, September 11, 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM and/or 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM; Thursday, September 12, 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM and/or 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM; and Saturday, September 14, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM. For more information and volunteer registration, please visit www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian.

Discussion: Jim Benage requested that the bicycle-and-pedestrian-count volunteer-recruitment flyers be shared with TPB members.

iii. Safety Updates

Kim Negrete, WAMPO, said that safety is at the forefront of transportation planning and provided an update on recent safety-related initiatives, including Safe Routes to School (SRTS) planning assistance, WAMPO/KDOT Behavioral Safety Grants, a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration grant, and ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition.

WAMPO staff are currently developing a contract with the selected SRTS planning-assistance consultant and anticipate work to begin soon. For the joint WAMPO/KDOT Behavioral Safety Grants, one applicant, Bike Walk Wichita, has been awarded a grant to conduct a media campaign geared toward the safety of non-motorists. WAMPO was awarded an SS4A Planning and Demonstration grant in December 2023, in the amount of \$940,000; staff are working with the FHWA and member jurisdictions to get eligible projects lined up and the grant agreement executed. ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition held its quarterly

meeting on August 7, 2024. This was the first joint meeting combining the Active Transportation Committee (ATC), Drive Safe Sedgwick, and ICT Safe. For more information please visit <https://www.wampo.org/ict-safe>.

iv. Grants and Opportunities: USDOT Reconnecting Communities Pilot Grant Program NOFO open through September 30, 2024

Ms. Negrete announced the USDOT Reconnecting Communities Pilot grant program, which focuses on projects that reconnect communities by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating transportation facilities that create barriers to connectivity. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is open through September 30, 2024, and there are upcoming NOFO webinars on August 16, 20, and 27, 2024. More information about the grant opportunity is available at www.transportation.gov/reconnecting.

D. Consent Agenda

i. Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Architecture Contract

The TPB was asked to take action on a proposed contract for updating the regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture between the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) and JEO Consulting Group, Inc., during the period of August 2024-December 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$298,375.

ii. Travel Demand Model Support Services Contract

The TPB was asked to take action on a proposed contract for Travel Demand Model (TDM) support services between the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) and JEO Consulting Group, Inc., during the period of September 1, 2024, through September 1, 2027, for an amount not to exceed \$201,774.

iii. Financial and Single Audit Services Contract

The TPB was asked to take action on a proposed contract for Financial and Single Audit services between the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) and Forvis Mazars, L.L.P., for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2024, December 31, 2025, and December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$101,265.

iv. Automatic Bicycle and Pedestrian Counters Contract

The TPB was asked to take action on a proposed contract for the purchase of automatic bicycle and pedestrian counters from MioVision. Under the proposed contract, WAMPO would purchase ten (10) automatic bicycle/pedestrian counters from MioVision at a price of \$83,498.80, between the effective date of the agreement and December 31, 2024.

Discussion:

Mr. Benage shared concerns about data that may be collected under the Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Architecture contract, the Travel Demand Model Support Services contract, and the Automatic Bicycle and Pedestrian Counters contract, citing possible

infringement upon Fourth Amendment rights, and proposed language stating that any data collected and can in no way be used to identify individuals.

Action: Approve the consent agenda, with the change that a provision be added to the Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems Architecture contract, the Travel Demand Model Support Services contract, and the Automatic Bicycle and Pedestrian Counters contract stating that any data collected and retained by systems developed with these programs can in no way be able to identify individual persons in their image or likeness. (14-1)²

Motion: Jim Benage

Second: Ryan Baty

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

4. Action

A. FFY2025-FFY2028 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Mohr explained that the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is an ongoing program of priority, agreed-upon projects, programs, and initiatives that the greater Wichita region has committed either to continue or to start in the near future. Projects in the TIP help to implement WAMPO's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The TIP programs, or assigns, funding to specific highway, road, bridge, public transit, bicycle, pedestrian, and other transportation projects. It includes all transportation projects in the region receiving federal funding, whether WAMPO-suballocated or non-suballocated (through either the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) or Wichita Transit), as well as other projects that are not programmed to receive federal funding but are regionally significant. Transportation projects in the WAMPO region are required to be in the TIP to access federal funding. The current TIP covers projects that are expected to start, continue, or end during Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs, October 1-September 30) 2023-2026. Because, for both practical and legal reasons, TIPs need to be updated regularly, it is proposed that WAMPO adopt a new TIP covering FFYs 2025 through 2028.

Mr. Mohr presented details about the proposed new TIP, including a map and table of FFY2025-FFY2028 projects, performance measures, a fiscal-constraint analysis, project costs by project type, and an environmental justice (EJ) analysis. The public comment period was held from June 12 through July 11, 2024; no comments were received. The TPB was asked to take action on the proposed WAMPO FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP. On July 22, 2024, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommended approving the FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP, as presented.

Draft FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP and Appendices: <https://bit.ly/Draft-FFY2025-FFY2028TIP>

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP, as presented. (15-0)

² Two (2) voting TPB members did not arrive until after the votes to approve the August 2024 agenda, the July 2024 minutes, the consent agenda, and Action Item 4A, FFY2025-FFY2028 Transportation Improvement Program.

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: Dan Woydziak

Second: Jim Benage

B. FFY2025-FFY2028 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #1

Mr. Mohr asked the TPB to take action on proposed Amendment #1 to the WAMPO FFY2025-FFY2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Amendment #1 is a special TIP amendment, enacting time-sensitive project changes/additions, and would maintain the fiscal constraint of the FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP. The Public Comment period for Amendment #1 was July 19, 2024 through August 2, 2024; no comments were received. TIP Amendment #1 adds two (2) new projects, removes one (1) project and modifies one (1) project. There are also administrative adjustments to four (4) additional projects, which do not require approval by the TAC or TPB.

Mr. Mohr listed the projects modified/added/removed, discussed the changes in local, state, and federal funding, and explained the federal requirements met by TIP Amendment #1: it is consistent with the current Metropolitan Transportation Plan, *REIMAGINED MOVE 2040*, and is fiscally constrained. The financial impact is an additional cost of \$3.45 million. 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 September 2024. On July 22, 2024, the TAC recommended approving FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP Amendment #1, as presented.

FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP Amendment #1 Summary – <https://bit.ly/2025-2028TIP-Draft-Amend-1-Summary>

Discussion:

Mike Warrington asked why no funding changes are shown on the table for the project “Wichita Intelligent Transportation System - E 21st St N”. Mr. Mohr explained that the overall funding amount did not change, but the programs through which it will receive funding were adjusted.

Rick Backlund explained that some funding programs, such as the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program, are much more flexible than others, such as the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program, which requires more specific monitoring.

Vice Chair Kessler expressed appreciation for WAMPO staff working to prepare the amendment within a short time period.

Mr. Parasa thanked state and federal partners for their help and Mr. Backlund provided more details about the August Redistribution of FHWA funds.

Action: Approve FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP Amendment #1, as presented. (16-0)³

Motion: George Liebe

Second: Mike Warrington

³ One (1) voting TPB member did not arrive until after all votes had been completed.

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C. Population Projections

Jonathan Norris, CEDBR, explained that, in collaboration with Wichita State University's Center for Economic Development and Business Research (CEDBR), WAMPO recently developed population projections to the year 2050, incorporating projections calculated by/for WAMPO's individual member jurisdictions. Though this approach provided a more inclusive representation of the assumptions employed by WAMPO member jurisdictions to reflect their individual circumstances, subsequent feedback has indicated that these projections may not accurately capture the internal growth patterns of the metropolitan area and may exceed reasonable expectations for the future regional population. To address this feedback, WAMPO staff and consultants have worked together to develop a new methodology for creating projections, the details of which were presented. The new methodology was applied to project WAMPO-region population growth. Mr. Norris presented the proposed population projections to the TPB.

Key components of the new model include community net migration trends, employment forecasts, and building permits. Mr. Norris explained that this approach allows for dynamic projections at the community level, constrained by overall regional forecasts. The revised model also adjusts the weighting of migration and employment factors to stabilize estimates and reduce volatility, and incorporates building-permit data to further refine the projections to ensure they reflect actual development investments.

Mr. Mohr asked the TPB to approve the draft population projections for the WAMPO region.

August 2024 Population Projections Presentation: <https://bit.ly/Population-Projections-Slides>

Discussion:

David Dennis made an argument that, in decision-making, current population trends should be given more consideration than population projections, and that funding-distribution decisions should not be directly correlated to population, especially since the projections show the population of the unincorporated portions of the WAMPO region going down over time. Mr. Norris agreed, noting the importance of considering all factors.

George Liebe agreed, sharing that connectivity projects between cities are important for the entire WAMPO region and not just the populations that reside in the jurisdictions where the projects are located, providing the Northwest Bypass/Expressway as an example.

Action: Approve the population projections, as presented. (16-0)

Motion: Jim Benage

Second: David Dennis

5. Discussion/Updates

A. 2025 UPWP Planning

Chad Parasa, WAMPO, explained that the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) outlines WAMPO's transportation planning activities and tasks it will undertake throughout the year. A UPWP describes how the federal planning funds allocated to WAMPO (in the form of Consolidated

Planning Grant (CPG) funds) will be used and what planning activities WAMPO staff and consultants will undertake each year. A new UPWP is produced each year.

Markey Jonas, WAMPO, shared that WAMPO staff met with planning partner staff from KDOT, the FHWA, and Wichita Transit to discuss potential planning activities for 2025, based on work done in 2024 and core-planning-document update cycles, and presented WAMPO's potential 2025 priority planning tasks and sought input on whether there are any other tasks that should be included for 2025.

B. MTP 2050 Public Engagement Round 3 Results Summary

Ms. Jonas shared that the third round of public engagement for Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050) was conducted from May 20, 2024, through June 30, 2024. WAMPO staff utilized several strategies, including a survey, to engage with the public about the development of MTP 2050 and how it will help shape the transportation network. 474 survey responses were recorded and analyzed. The purpose of this round of public engagement was to gather opinions on transportation issues & policy alternatives and to document transportation-mode usage trends within the WAMPO region. The survey was an engagement tool for collecting feedback from the public and is not intended to provide a scientific, statistically valid representation of all the region's residents, but will be considered during the development of MTP 2050 and other long-range planning efforts. Ms. Jonas provided an overview of the non-demographic questions from the MTP 2050 Public Engagement Round 3 survey, the most common response to each question, and the frequency with which that response was chosen. All engagement efforts and survey responses will also be discussed in the MTP 2050 public-engagement appendix.

MTP 2050 Public Engagement Round 3 Summary: <https://bit.ly/MTP2050-Round3-Engagement-Summary>

C. Regional Transit Implementation Plan Update

Bill Troe, SRF, provided an update on the Regional Transit Implementation Plan, explaining the progress that has been made based on the input received from jurisdictions so far. Representatives were asked to review and provide feedback from a community perspective on various regional transit service alternatives, if they have not already done so. The importance of discussing these alternatives within communities was emphasized, with a focus on identifying which ones are supported and which do not apply to their needs. Mr. Troe offered to assist jurisdictions in reviewing the alternatives and encouraged them to contact him at BTroe@srfconsulting.com with any questions or to schedule a session for further discussion. The project team is also working to make contact with major employers to gauge the level of support they may be able to provide for employees.

Regional Transit Implementation Plan webpage: www.wampo.org/regional-transit

Discussion:

Nick Gregory asked what questions a community needs to ask themselves and their residents to get an idea of transit demand. Mr. Troe said he would share a list of suggested questions and is available to meet to discuss in more detail.

D. Wichita Transit Network Plan Update

James Gamez, Nelson\Nygaard, explained the Wichita Transit Network Plan timeline and progress, sharing that the project team is currently developing growth scenarios. The presentation included ridership patterns, transit hot spots, a comparison between service investments in Wichita and peer cities, onboard rider-survey results, and stakeholder input priorities. The data and public input were used to inform the development of short-range service concepts. Potential future expansion options and next steps were presented.

6. Committee & Partnership Updates

Vice-Chair Kessler announced that the next meeting of the Executive Committee will be at 11:00 AM on August 15, 2024, in the MAPD Conference Room in the Ronald Reagan Building (271 W 3rd St. N, Room 237, Wichita, KS 67202) and on Zoom. It will be an open meeting; anyone is welcome to attend.

Mike Moriarty, KDOT, shared that applications are currently being accepted for the KDOT cost-share program, which provides financial assistance for communities in Kansas to complete a wide range of transportation projects. Applications are due on September 19, 2024, and there will be an informational webinar on August 21, 2024. More information is available at <https://www.ksdot.gov/CostShare/CostShareProgram.asp>. Mr. Moriarty also shared that the Canal Route Modernization study should be underway in early 2025.

J.B. Wilson, KDOT Wichita Metro, shared some construction updates in the WAMPO region.

Mr. Backlund, FHWA, shared that there has been continued success in the receipt of discretionary grants in Kansas, including KDOT receiving over \$62 million for a major bridge improvement in Kansas City, KS. He also noted that there will be discussions in 2025 around the reauthorization of transportation funding under successor legislation to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), for which local input will be key. Mr. Backlund also introduced Will Sharp, the new FHWA Community Planner for the Kansas Division.

7. Other Business

None.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 PM.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 3:00 PM.