

SUMMER 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 engagement with its member communities and state and federal partners, WAMPO supports the region's economic and transportation goals.

Read some of the Summer 2025 regional transportation highlights below and visit www.wampo.org for more information.

Annual Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Event

The 2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Count is approaching, and you are invited to participate! Volunteer participation is crucial for ensuring comprehensive data collection and aiding WAMPO's efforts to create a more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly community. This is a chance to have a meaningful impact on enhancing the walkability, bike-friendliness, and overall accessibility of our community.

Volunteering is simple - sign up and indicate your preferred days/times and locations. WAMPO staff will provide you with everything else.

The 2025 count will take place during the following times:

- **Wednesday, September 10:** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- **Wednesday, September 10:** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- **Thursday, September 11:** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- **Thursday, September 11:** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- **Saturday, September 13:** 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Ready to make a difference? Sign up today and secure your spot as a volunteer! For more information and to register, please visit www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian.



Transportation Planning Updates

Safety Updates

Safe Routes to School

WAMPO is partnering with schools, school districts, and local governments to develop Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plans across the region. The SRTS program aims to make walking and bicycling to and from school safer for K-12 students through infrastructure improvements, programs, and policies. Passionate about the goal of promoting safety, active transportation, and community engagement while reducing traffic congestion, WAMPO recently hired a consulting firm to assist with SRTS plan development. At this time, more than 50 schools in the WAMPO region have confirmed their participation. As the school year starts this fall, the SRTS team will conduct walk audits, a parent/caregiver survey, and other engagement initiatives as part of the development of school-specific SRTS plans and a Best Practices Guide for the region.

WAMPO fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Discrimination Complaint Form visit www.wampo.org or call (316) 779-1313. The preparation of this report has been financed in part through funds from the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, under the Metropolitan Planning Program, Section 104(d) of Title 23, U.S. Code. The contents of this report do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Once SRTS plans are in place, projects and activities identified in those plans (e.g., new crosswalks and sidewalks, safety-education programs) 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.

ICT Safe Coalition

ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition's mission is to reduce transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries in the WAMPO region. ICT Safe is an overarching coalition with several smaller entities under its umbrella. The Active Transportation Committee and Drive Safe Sedgwick meet as committees of ICT Safe. The next online meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2025, at 9:30 AM. An agenda and a link for accessing the online meeting can be found at www.wampo.org/ict-safe, usually about a week prior.

KDOT/WAMPO Behavioral Safety Grants

The Behavioral Safety Office of the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and WAMPO are jointly conducting a call for projects for Behavioral Safety Grants in the Wichita metropolitan area. All grants under this program must focus on improving road-user behavior. Grant proposals due September 12, 2025, by 5:00 PM.

For more information and the grant application, visit www.wampo.org/safety.

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. In accordance with federal rules, Metropolitan Planning Organizations must involve the public throughout the MTP-development process. Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050) was approved by the Transportation Policy Body (TPB) on May 13, 2025.



All MTP 2050 chapters & appendices are available on the WAMPO website, at www.wampo.org/mtp2050. An Executive Summary of MTP 2050 is also available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

MTP 2050 Amendment 1

WAMPO has opened the public comment period for Amendment 1 to MTP 2050, July 11, 2025, through July 25, 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 MTP 2050 Amendment 1 at their August 12, 2025, meeting.

Proposed MTP 2050 Amendment 1 changes include, among other things:

- The removal of supplemental appendices that are not necessary in the MTP.
- Language adjustments and the removal of some sections to better align with updated federal guidance.
- The removal of references to rescinded Executive Orders.
- Edits to correct grammar, improve word choice, and perform other editorial changes for clarity and accuracy.

No changes are proposed to the project list in MTP 2050.

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The proposed amended version of MTP 2050 is available on the WAMPO website at www.wampo.org/mtp/2050. A proposed amended Executive Summary of MTP 2050 is also available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Paper copies of draft MTP 2050 Amendment 1 may also be viewed at the WAMPO offices, 271 W 3rd St., Suite 208, Wichita, KS 67202, and at the Wichita Advanced Learning Library, 711 W 2nd St., Wichita, KS 67203.

Comments can be submitted via email to wampo@wampo.org.

Roadshow for Approved MTP 2050

Following the conclusion of the MTP 2050 Amendment 1 development and approval process, WAMPO staff plan to carry 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. This may include presentations at public meetings, attending community pop-up events, and social media advertisements to encourage ongoing use of the plan. Ongoing discussion of MTP 2050 following adoption will ensure the plan remains relevant. Please email wampo@wampo.org to invite WAMPO to attend an event or meeting.

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 and amended the FFY2025-FFY2028 TIP on August 13, 2024 (following a public comment period and a recommendation from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)). Amendments were approved on October 8, 2024, February 11, 2025, and April 8, 2025.

In-progress and upcoming TIP amendments:

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

Plans on the Horizon

Title VI and Limited English Proficiency Plan Updates

WAMPO fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities, ensuring that no person, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any WAMPO program or activity. This includes ensuring accessibility to programs and services for persons not proficient in the English language. WAMPO’s Title VI Program Manual and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) plan will be updated in 2025. For additional details about either document, please visit www.wampo.org/title-vi.

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Regional Active Transportation Plan

WAMPO recently released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to complete a Regional Active Transportation Plan. The deadline for submission was July 3, and proposals received are under consideration by a selection committee. The purpose of the plan is to assess existing conditions, identify gaps in the nonmotorized-travel network, and recommend strategies and projects for improving regional connectivity for bicycling, walking, and other forms of active transportation.

Household Travel Survey (HTS)

WAMPO is developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to conduct a Household Travel Survey (HTS) for the region. The purpose of conducting an HTS is to improve the equations underlying the regional Travel Demand Model (TDM), which uses projected future population and employment data to create forecasts of future usage of the transportation network and any resulting traffic congestion, which will be considered during discussions of what changes to the transportation network to invest in and will inform other local planning initiatives to which future traffic levels are relevant. The upcoming WAMPO HTS will capture the travel patterns of various individuals and households in the region.

Regional Transportation Updates & Highlights



Valley Center Meridian Avenue Reconstruction Project Completion

Meridian Avenue from a quarter mile south of 69th Street to the railroad crossing north of 77th Street in Valley Center is now open!

Among other changes, there is now a roundabout at the intersection of Meridian Avenue and 69th Street and a ten-foot-wide multiuse path along the length of the project.

Wichita Downtown Paid Parking

On July 1, 2025, the City of Wichita began enforcement of paid parking in the downtown area of the city, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM on Monday-Thursday and 8:00 AM-9:00 PM on Friday-Saturday. More information is available at www.parkwichita.com.

Kansas Move Over Law

Starting July 1, 2025, drivers in Kansas are required to move over for all disabled vehicles displaying hazard lights.

2025 Kansas Transportation Annual

Check out some of the exciting transportation initiatives across Kansas at kstransportationannual.com

Redbud Trail Updates

Construction bid letting is expected this year on a City of Wichita project to improve a 3.5-mile section of the Redbud Trail between Woodlawn Boulevard and K-96 (near 17th Street). The project will include paving this previously unpaved trail section, making safety improvements to the roadway crossing on the trail section, and, where possible, adding new trail access points and parking areas.

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Walk Bike Roll Kansas Summit 2025

Registration is open for the October 29-30, 2025, Active Transportation Summit! Join statewide partners in Lawrence, KS, for a two-day, in-person event to deepen your understanding of the current state of active transportation in Kansas and build valuable partnerships as you learn how to improve walking, biking, and rolling in your community. More information and registration are available at <https://walkbikeroll.ksdot.gov/>.

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

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.

- **July 28, 2025:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting at 10:00 AM
- **August 6, 2025:** ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition meeting at 9:30 AM
- **August 12, 2025:** Executive Committee meeting at 2:00 PM
- **August 12, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **August 25, 2025:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting at 10:00 AM
- **September 9, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **September 22, 2025:** 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.

Upcoming Office Closures

WAMPO will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **Monday, September 1, 2025:** Labor Day
- **Tuesday, November 11, 2025:** Veterans Day
- **Thursday, November 27, 2025:** Thanksgiving Day
- **Friday, November 28, 2025:** Day after Thanksgiving

Information about office closures and upcoming events can be found at 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](#)

July 24, 2025

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