



Meeting Minutes

Transportation Policy Body (TPB) Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, @ 3:00 PM

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

Meeting Duration: 65 minutes

Voting Members in Attendance

Russ Kessler, <i>Chair</i> Jim Benage, <i>Bel Aire</i> Jeff Blubaugh, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Nick Engle, <i>Derby</i> Dalton Glasscock, <i>Wichita</i> Jim Howell, <i>Sedgwick County</i> J.V. Johnston, <i>Wichita</i> George Liebe, <i>Goddard</i>	Pete Meitzner, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Ronnie Price, <i>Andover</i> Charles Schwanke, <i>Park City</i> Joseph Shepard, <i>Wichita</i> Terry Somers, <i>SCAC</i> Nick Squires, <i>KDOT</i> Pat Stivers, <i>Maize</i> Becky Tuttle, <i>Wichita</i>	Burt Ussery, <i>Clearwater</i> Dan Woydziak, <i>Butler County</i> Alternates Mark Detter, <i>Rose Hill (voting)</i> Nick Gregory, <i>Maize (non-voting)</i> J.B. Wilson, <i>KDOT (non-voting)</i>
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Other Attendees

Chris Brown, <i>SRF</i> Nick Flanders, <i>WAMPO</i> Evan Hathaway, <i>Hite, Fanning & Honeyman L.L.P.</i> Brian Jackson, <i>Wilson & Company</i> Markey Jonas, <i>WAMPO</i>	Brett Letkowski, <i>GFT</i> Peter Mohr, <i>WAMPO</i> ThaiBinh Mursch, <i>MAPD</i> Kim Negrete, <i>WAMPO</i> Katie Newman, <i>WAMPO</i> Lynn Packer, <i>Sedgwick County</i>	Chad Parasa, <i>WAMPO</i> Allison Smith, <i>KDOT</i> Angela Stateler, <i>Wichita Sports Commission</i> Chris Sweeney, <i>WAMPO</i> Laura VanBurkleo, <i>WAMPO</i>
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1. Chair Russ Kessler called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

2. Regular Business

A. Approval of the September 8, 2026, Agenda

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the September 8, 2026, agenda, as presented. (16-0)¹

Motion: Jim Benage

Second: Terry Somers

B. Approval of the August 11, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None.

Action: Approve the August 11, 2026, meeting minutes, as presented. (17-0)²

Motion: Terry Somers

Second: J.V. Johnston

¹ Three (3) voting TPB members did not arrive until after the vote to approve the September 2026 agenda.

² Two (2) voting TPB members did not arrive until after the vote to approve the August 2026 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.

C. Director's Report

i. Bimonthly TIP Project Statuses

Nick Flanders, WAMPO, explained that the WAMPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes a Reasonable Progress Policy, under which projects programmed to receive WAMPO suballocated federal 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 August 2026 was shared.

September 2026 TIP Project Statuses – <https://bit.ly/September2026-TIP-Project-Statuses>

ii. Title VI Annual Report

Markey Jonas, WAMPO, reported that the WAMPO 2026 Title VI Annual Report was submitted to KDOT on August 25, 2026, and demonstrates WAMPO's efforts to create and maintain a transparent and accessible planning process by integrating Title VI principles into the transportation planning process. To date, no Title VI complaints have ever been received by WAMPO.

iii. 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Public Comment Period: 09/11/2026-10/11/2026

Ms. Jonas reported on the upcoming public comment period for the 2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), September 11-October 11, 2026. The UPWP is developed annually and outlines the transportation planning activities and tasks WAMPO staff and consultants will undertake throughout the year.

iv. Annual Bicycle and Pedestrian Count: September 16, 17, and 19, 2026

Laura VanBurkleo, WAMPO, informed the TPB about the upcoming annual bicycle and pedestrian count in September 2026. Counts will be conducted by volunteers and by MioVision cameras purchased by WAMPO in 2024. Additional count data are being collected by MioVision cameras throughout the year, in Wichita, Haysville, and Sedgwick County. Data collected by camera can provide additional insights on how people travel and on safety issues and can be collected for longer periods, including at night.

Volunteer signup webpage – www.wampo.org/volunteer

v. Regional Transit Coordination Committee: Next meeting on October 8, 2026, at 10:30 AM

Ms. VanBurkleo informed the TPB that the Regional Transit Coordination Committee's next meeting will be at 10:30 AM on October 8, 2026, at 10:30 AM, at Goddard City Hall, 118 N Main St., Goddard, KS 67052.

vi. KDOT Behavioral Safety Grant

Kim Negrete, WAMPO, discussed a KDOT Behavioral Safety Grant awarded to WAMPO. KDOT held a call for applications in spring 2026 for FFY2027 KDOT Behavioral Safety Grants. WAMPO shared this funding opportunity with member jurisdictions and submitted a successful application to develop a media campaign focused on reducing speeding. WAMPO and member jurisdictions will work with a media firm to develop a campaign and strategies that will run on multiple communication platforms with various target audiences. KDOT notified WAMPO of the grant award that will fund this work on July 1, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$251,004, with no local-match requirement. KDOT is developing a contract that will be brought to the TPB for approval.

vii. Regional Active Transportation Plan Engagement Activities

Ms. Negrete gave an update on engagement activities related to the development of a regional active transportation plan, to be branded as the Strengthening Transportation Alternatives for the Region (STAR) Plan. The Active Transportation Advisory Group (ATAG) last met on August 27, 2026. Meanwhile, WAMPO staff are registering to table at fall festivals/events across the region and scheduling open-house events for the last week of September, including in Andover, Goddard, Derby, and Maize. Additional virtual events will also be scheduled during the last week of September.

STAR Plan webpage – www.wampo.org/star-plan

Discussion:

Burt Ussery asked about the logistics of WAMPO tabling at the Clearwater Fall Festival. Ms. Negrete responded that WAMPO staff would contact the City of Clearwater about tabling.

viii. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Bylaws

Evan Hathaway, Hite, Fanning & Honeyman L.L.P., discussed draft updates to the TAC bylaws that will be presented to the TPB for an approval vote at a future meeting. The most significant draft updates are the addition of a seat on the TAC to any city of the first class in the WAMPO region, other than Wichita, and asking the TPB to approve the membership of the TAC annually, rather than TAC members having open-ended appointments.

Marked-up version of the TAC bylaws, highlighting the proposed revisions, including both the current and proposed revised language – <https://bit.ly/TAC-Bylaws-Draft-Markup-2026>
Clean version of draft proposed TAC bylaws – <https://bit.ly/Draft-Clean-TAC-Bylaws-2026>

D. Consent Agenda

i. WAMPO Kansas Open Records Act (KORA) Policy and Naming of KORA Officer

Ms. Jonas asked the TPB for its consent to implement a proposed WAMPO Kansas Open Records Policy. The policy describes how WAMPO will comply with the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA) and respond to public record requests, as well as designates WAMPO's KORA officer, the official custodian of public records for WAMPO.

KORA requires Kansas public agencies to make their records open for inspection upon request. To ensure compliance with this act, WAMPO legal counsel has prepared a Kansas Open Records Policy for WAMPO. It describes how WAMPO will respond to public record requests and designates WAMPO's KORA officer, the official custodian of public records for WAMPO. The proposed policy designates the employee who serves in the data-manager role or equivalent position at WAMPO as the KORA officer, responsible for ensuring KORA requests are handled in ways consistent with the law.

The policy also includes information on which records are available, common cases in which public records are exempt from disclosure, how to obtain records, and a Public Records Request Form.

WAMPO Kansas Open Records Policy – https://bit.ly/WAMPO_OpenRecordsPolicy

ii. Updated Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Roster

Ms. Jonas asked the TPB to take action on an updated Technical Advisory Committee roster. The updated roster includes the recommended addition of Ryne Dowling as a designated alternate for Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) representative Allison Smith.

Discussion:

Pete Meitzner asked if the TAC has a vice-chair. TPB Chair Kessler responded that the TAC has a chair, but no vice-chair, and that the WAMPO Executive Director performs the TAC Chair's duties if the TAC Chair is absent.

Action: Approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. (19-0)

Motion: J.V. Johnston

Second: Pat Stivers

3. Public Comment Opportunity

No Comments.

4. Action

None.

5. Discussion/Updates

A. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Update

Ms. Negrete, Peter Mohr, WAMPO, and Chris Brown, SRF, gave an update on the SRTS planning initiative. WAMPO is working with SRF Consulting Group to assist local governments and K-12 schools (public and private) with the development of at least sixty (60) school-specific SRTS plans in the region; so far, sixty (60) schools have confirmed their participation. School-specific SRTS plans have been drafted and are being reviewed by school administrators and staff, local government partners, and WAMPO staff during online meetings scheduled in August and

September 2026. Other outstanding deliverables, including an SRTS Best Practices Guide, are being drafted by the consultant team for WAMPO staff review. WAMPO and its member jurisdictions are in discussions regarding the provision of local matching funds for the federal funding supporting the SRTS planning initiative. WAMPO staff plan to ask the TPB to vote on whether to endorse the school- and local-government-reviewed draft SRTS plans at the last TPB meeting of 2026.

September 2026 SRTS Update Presentation Slides - <https://bit.ly/SRTS-TPB-09-2026-Slides>

Discussion:

Jim Benage asked whether copies of the final SRTS plans would be distributed to city governments. Mr. Mohr responded that they would, since the plans include recommended infrastructure interventions that will require coordination between schools and local governments. Ms. Negrete added that SRTS plans will all be publicly available on the WAMPO and KDOT websites.

B. Household Travel Survey (HTS) Update

Mr. Flanders and Ms. Jonas gave an update on WAMPO's upcoming Household Travel Survey (HTS), including the HTS survey instrument and website, the sampling plan, and the project schedule. A project steering committee met on August 19, 2026, and will meet again on September 21, 2026. A pilot survey began August 24, and the main survey will take place during September 2026 through March 2027. The survey results will be integrated into the WAMPO Travel Demand Model (TDM) in summer 2027, and the final report for the project will be finished in early 2028.

Wichita Area Travel Survey website - www.wichitaareatravelsurvey.com

Household Travel Survey presentation slides - <https://bit.ly/HTS-TPB-September2026>

Discussion:

Mr. Meitzner asked for confirmation of whether the last WAMPO HTS was conducted in 2011. Ms. Jonas responded that it was, and that HTSs are usually conducted about every ten years, but WAMPO chose to delay conducting its next HTS until now in order to avoid the data being skewed by temporary effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Meitzner then asked if MPOs are required to conduct HTSs, to which Ms. Jonas responded that it is not a requirement but is a best practice. Then, Mr. Meitzner asked what funding source is being used for the HTS, to which Ms. Jonas responded that the project uses federal Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG) funds, which are only allowed to be used for planning purposes. Mr. Meitzner asked about the effects on the data of the anticipated September 2027 opening of the Wichita Biomedical Campus, to which large numbers of students and workers will commute; Mr. Flanders responded that an HTS provides insights on patterns of travel behavior that can be used to predict the effects of events such as the opening of the Wichita Biomedical Center; Mr. Mohr added that new trip generators/attractors come into existence all the time and get modeled in the TDM.

Chad Parasa, WAMPO, discussed the importance for transportation planning of tracking HTS-derived measures of transportation behavior over time, such as average trip duration, trip mode

shares, and trip purposes, which, among other things, are utilized during decisions about the awarding of federal transportation funds. Because the data used to calculate these measures needs to be of high quality, HTSs are generally more expensive than most other surveys.

C. Community Events: Prairie Fire Race Series

Angela Stateler, Wichita Sports Commission, provided a presentation about the Prairie Fire Race Series, its reach and community impact, and considerations for event setup and planning.

Prairie Fire Race Series Presentation Slides – <https://bit.ly/September2026-Prairie-Fire-Slides>

6. Committee & Partnership Updates

Chair Kessler announced that the next Executive Committee meeting will be on October 29, 2026, at 11:00 AM, in the MAPD Conference Room in the Ronald Reagan Building, 271 W 3rd St., Room 237, Wichita, KS 67202, and via Zoom.

J.B. Wilson, KDOT Wichita Metro Division, gave construction updates for the region.

7. Other Business

None.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 PM.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 3:00 PM.