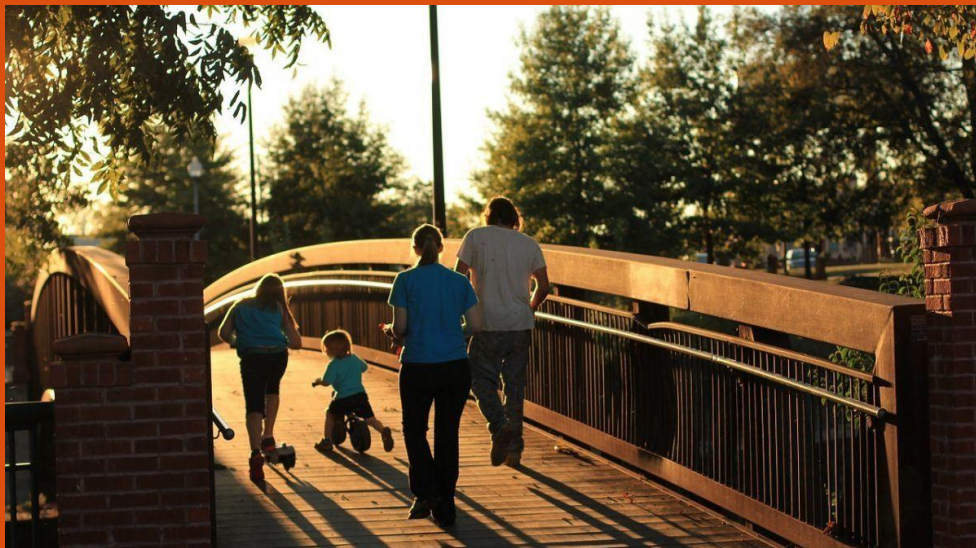




HELLO FALL

Catch up with WAMPO and our fall updates!

National month of ...



October is National Walk to school month

As the final nice days for much of the Northern Hemisphere land in October, International Walk to School Month encourages us to spend that time outdoors stretching our legs! It's not just for our health. We walk to school to spend more time with each other and have conversations. While we also conserve fuel and preserve the environment, the most important part of the entire month is getting exercise.

Walking is one of the healthiest exercises. While it is easy on the joints and muscles, walking gets the heart rate up providing a good cardiovascular workout.

Depending on where you live, schools may focus on a different theme each year. From safety to improved streets, all across the country and around the globe,

communities support Walk to School Month on an international level with events and programs.

HOW TO OBSERVE

Check out your school's website to see if they participate. If they don't, help them get started! Use #InternationalWalkToSchoolMonth to post on social media.

HISTORY

The first International Walk to School Month took place in 2006. However, its inspiration came from the 1994 Hertfordshire County Council's Travelwise team in Great Britain which launched the International Walk to School Week in 1994.

November is Historic Bridge Awareness Month

Throughout November, Historic Bridge Awareness Month explores the spans and arches that carry goods and people across the country. Whether the trusses are only memory or stand proudly still against the horizon, Historic Bridge Awareness Month recognizes their place in the building of a nation.

We are nostalgic where bridges are concerned. They played an iconic role in building the United States. From carrying supplies West to the impressive towering trusses carrying locomotives across wide gorges, bridges took dreamers to unimaginable destinations. Through miracles of engineering, humans built solid pillars of stone and arching steel structures. But they didn't stop there. Thanks to the development of steel cable, bridges seem to float across open spans of water carrying the weight of small cities. And yet, we still explore the colorful wooden covered bridges that dot the country.

We've transformed some of our precious steel bridges from vehicle to pedestrian traffic for preservation purposes. Nostalgia has a way of making us look back while we're looking forward. Historic bridges provide a record for a community of the people who have gone before them. Preserving them is not just a sense of nostalgia, but a means of restoring an engineered structure to purposeful use.

HOW TO OBSERVE

Visit a famous bridge or learn the history of your favorite crossing. Around the country, there are thousands of lost bridges. Many have been replaced over time. Curious about the bridges in your community? Visit your local historical society to find out more, or go bridge hunting on your own. It can be quite an adventure! Use#HistoricBridgeAwarenessMonth to post on social media.

HISTORY

HistoricBridges.org unofficially declared November Historic Bridge Awareness Month in 2006 to reflect on the loss of historic bridges and to encourage the preservation of historic bridges.

WAMPO Calendar

Important Dates

WAMPO Open House

- Public Participation plan event
- October 20, 2022

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

- October 24, 2022

Safety & Health Committee Meeting

- November 02, 2022

Executive Committee Meeting

- November 03, 2022

Veterans Day

- November 11, 2022
- WAMPO Closed

Thanksgiving & Black Friday (Day after Thanksgiving)

- November 24 & 25, 2022
- WAMPO Closed

Transportation Policy Body Meeting

- 15 -minute, online only
- November 08, 2022

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

- November 28, 2022



ABOUT WAMPO

Founded in 1974, WAMPO is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Wichita metropolitan region. MPOs are federally required regional policy bodies in urbanized areas with populations over 50,000. MPOs recognize the critical links between transportation and other societal goals such as economic health, air quality, social equity, environmental resource consumption, and overall quality of life.

Locally, the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) is responsible, in cooperation with the State of Kansas and Wichita Transit, for carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process in 22 cities and 3 counties in South Central Kansas.

Visit our
Website

WAMPO Updates

Here are WAMPO's updates on our current projects and happenings. Please click the button to read more!

- Economic Development RFP Plan out
- TIP Amendment 1
- Population Forecast
- Bike Pedestrian Count Wrap Up
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050
- Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
- Travel Demand Model Update
- Public Participation Plan Update

[Read more here!](#)

Local Updates

Closure of Amidon Bridge

Beginning Monday, October 3, the Amidon Bridge over the Arkansas River in Wichita, will be fully



closed for roughly 14 months for replacement. Although inconvenient, these repairs are crucial to the integrity of the bridge's safety. A temporary fire station, Station 23, will be enacted near 13th and West Street until the project's completion.

[Read More](#)



K-96 Project

The K-96 Improvements Project aims to upgrade the K-96 corridor between I-135 and I-35. Improvements are needed to increase freeway capacity, enhance reliability and relieve traffic congestion to keep Kansans moving.

[Read More](#)



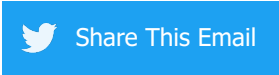
East Kellogg Expansion

The project will include reconstructing roughly 2.5 miles of East Kellogg from K-96 to just east of 159th Street. Work will include adding travel lanes and frontage roads, interchange improvements at K-96 and grade-separated intersections at 143rd and 159th Streets.

[Read More](#)

Don't see your project here? Let us know by clicking the button below and letting us know what is upcoming in your city and we can post it in our next newsletter!

Contact
WAMPO



271 W 3rd St., Ste. 208, Wichita, KS 67202 | (316) 779-1313

<https://www.wampo.org/>



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Fall 2022 WAMPO Newsletter

Economic Development RFP Plan out

WAMPO has issued the Economic Development RFP and will be accepting proposals until November 4th. The Economic Development Report will help WAMPO and our agency partners to respond to the economic growth and production of assets that improve the quality of life and realize the connectivity between communities. The project will include the review of relevant community demographic and economic data, a SWOT analysis of our local economy, community visioning, and stakeholder group engagements to capture the vision of our residents, and the region's capacity for additional growth. To apply please go to: <https://www.wampo.org/wampo-is-hiring>.

For more information, please reach out to: Dora Gallo – dora.gallo@wampo.org

TIP Amendment 1

Amendment #1 to the WAMPO FFY2023–FFY2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was a regularly scheduled amendment adding five new projects and modifying nine existing projects. The Public Comment period for Amendment #1 was open from September 3, 2022, through October 2, 2022. No public comments were received. It was approved by the Transportation Planning Body on October 11, 2022. The FFY2023–FFY2026 TIP took effect on October 1, 2022 and may be found at www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program.

TIP Amendment 2's call for changes will start November 28, 2022, followed by the Public Comment Period currently set to begin on December 24th.

For more information, please reach out to: Nick Flanders -- nicholas.flanders@wampo.org

Population Forecast

Population forecasts are mainly developed and utilized by planning departments and metropolitan planning organizations. Public works departments rely on accurate forecasts for long-term planning of sewer and water. Forecasts play a role in assisting developers with understanding potential demand and the best areas for commercial and residential development. School districts also use population forecasts when planning for new schools or capacity revisions needed to current schools. These population forecasts will be used in the MTP 2050 planning process and Travel Demand Model Update.

For more information, please reach out to: Alicia Hunter -- alicia.hunter@wampo.org



Bike Pedestrian Count Wrap Up

WAMPO's annual Bike Pedestrian Count concluded in late September. We had about 70 volunteers help us count all those who are using bike-paths and sidewalks. We want to thank everyone who volunteered their time!

Unfortunately, we had a rainy day during our counts, so we had to reschedule the Thursday count to the next week. A count report is currently being developed. It will be published on the website and presented to TAC and TPB once it is completed. Please go to – <https://www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian> – to see additional information.

For more information, please reach out to: Dora Gallo -- dora.gallo@wampo.org

Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) sets a vision and strategy for all regional transportation decision-making over the next 20 years. Updated every five years, the plan includes a multimodal list of priority transportation projects and strategies that fit within the region's anticipated funding capacity. The update will reflect new planning priorities and changing patterns in population and economic growth that may impact the multimodal transportation system. The current MTP was approved in June 2020 and the next plan adoption will occur in Spring/Summer 2025. Because the MTP requires extensive data analysis and public engagement we need an early start on updating. In July 2022, WAMPO staff kicked off the MTP update process. Stay tuned for more information at: www.wampo.org/mtp2050.

For more information, please reach out to: Ashley Bryers -- ashley.bryers@wampo.org

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

A Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) is a data-driven framework for reducing fatalities and serious injuries. The plan identifies and prioritizes a comprehensive set of projects and safety improvements that address safety issues and minimize the potential for crashes. The CSAP process will include extensive community engagement and analysis of crash data and best practices to identify the greatest risk contributing to fatal and severe injury crashes for all modes of transportation on the transportation network.

WAMPO has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking a consultant to help develop a CSAP for the WAMPO region. WAMPO anticipates contracting with a consultant and beginning the project in November 2022. Follow us on social media or subscribe to our emails to stay up to date on this and other WAMPO projects!

For more information, please reach out to: Alicia Hunter -- alicia.hunter@wampo.org



Travel Demand Model Update

A critical part of transportation planning is anticipating possible future transportation needs. To that end, WAMPO maintains a Travel Demand Model (TDM) for the Wichita metropolitan area. In addition to WAMPO using TDM outputs in the development of its own planning documents, member jurisdictions may also request that it be used to model specific scenarios of relevance to their transportation programs. In anticipation of the next update to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), which is due by June 2025, WAMPO has begun a project to update and improve the TDM, working with the consulting firm JEO Consulting Group, Inc. This TDM-update effort began in September 2022 and is anticipated to run through April 2024.

For more information, please reach out to: Nick Flanders -- nicholas.flanders@wampo.org

Public Participation Plan Update

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) is a document that describes WAMPO's strategies and techniques for informing and engaging the public throughout the 3-C (Continuing, Cooperative, and Comprehensive) transportation planning process. WAMPO's commitment to meaningful stakeholder engagement is the foundation of this plan. All quality transportation planning and project development require meaningful input from the public. This plan guides our processes and informs public expectations of WAMPO. Since WAMPO's last PPP update, in 2017, the structure, content, and style have been updated to reflect the program's growth and development.

The public can stay up to date by subscribing to WAMPO email lists here: www.wampo.org/subscribe

- Opportunities for involvement are also on the WAMPO Public Participation webpage: www.wampo.org/public-participation
- WAMPO social media accounts:
 - Twitter | @wampoks
 - Instagram | @wampoks
 - Facebook | www.facebook.com/wampoks/
 - LinkedIn | www.linkedin.com/company/wampo-ks

For more information, please reach out to: Emily Thon – emily.thon@wampo.org