

SPRING 2024

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 our Spring 2025 updates below and visit www.wampo.org for more information.

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. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050) development and approval process is expected to be completed in May 2025.

Draft Chapters & Appendices on the WAMPO Website

Drafts of all MTP 2050 chapters and appendices are posted on the WAMPO website for public review, including the fiscally constrained list of priority projects and project categories that the WAMPO Transportation Policy Body (TPB) approved to appear in MTP 2050 on November 12, 2024. This 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. The draft chapters and appendices are uploaded as separate PDFs to allow for a more manageable review process, enabling interested parties to focus on specific sections and provide detailed feedback, ensuring that the final plan is comprehensive and reflective of the community's needs and priorities.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan



2050

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

Public-Comment Period

WAMPO released draft MTP 2050 for a 30-day public-comment period from March 8, 2025, through April 7, 2025. This was the fourth round of public engagement, the purpose of which was to present the draft document and collect public comments.

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.

Several outreach strategies were employed during this round of public engagement, including, among other things, social media posts, an online video, a press release, emails, outreach to planning partners, features in local news media, presentations at meetings of regional partners, and two WAMPO-hosted public events (one online and one in-person). All public comments received (forty (40) in total) have been documented and will be presented to the TPB before they are asked whether to approve the plan.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Recommendation

On April 28, 2025, the WAMPO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) voted to recommend that the TPB approve draft MTP 2050 in its current form, without further modification (see www.wampo.org/mtp2050).

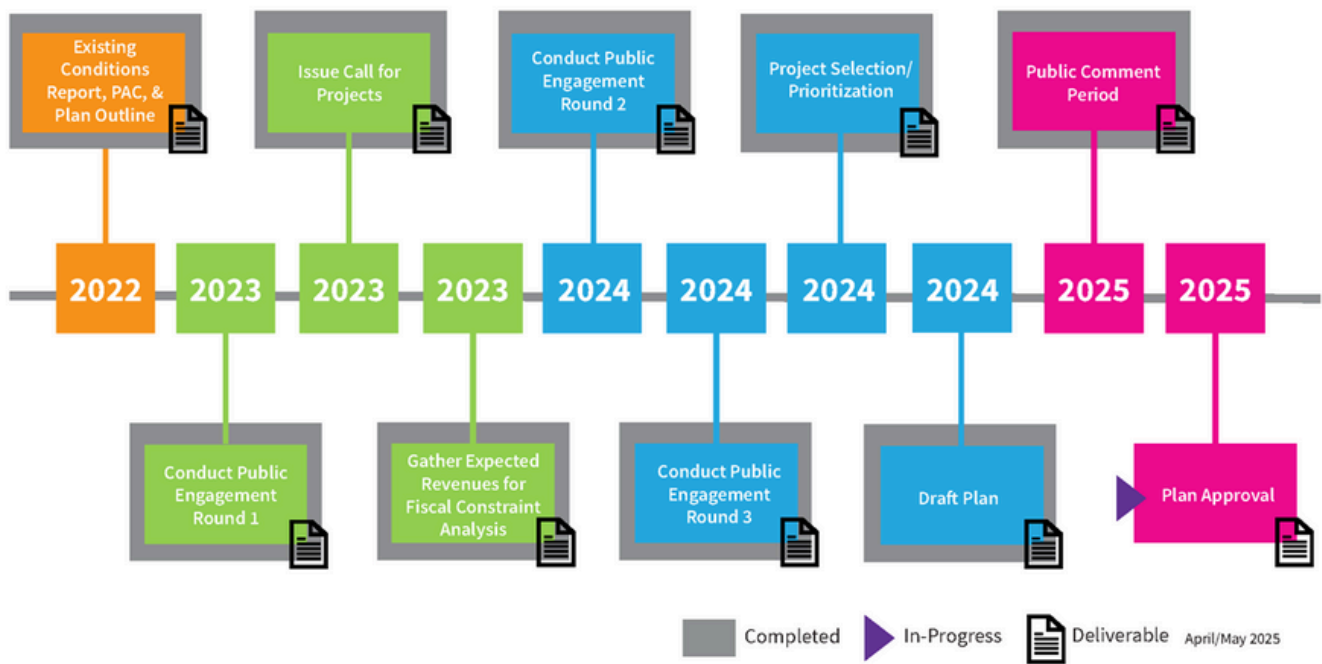


Public Hearing and TPB Vote on Approval: May 13, 2025

A final public hearing on draft MTP 2050 will be held during the regularly scheduled TPB meeting on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, before the TPB votes on whether to approve the adoption of MTP 2050. The TPB meeting is scheduled to begin at 3:00 PM, will include several other agenda items, is open to the general public, does not require RSVPing, and will include an opportunity for public comment (either on MTP 2050 or on other WAMPO-related matters). The public hearing/TPB meeting will have both in-person and virtual attendance/participation options:

- In-Person: 271 W 3rd St., Room 203, Wichita, KS 67202
- Virtual: <https://bit.ly/TransportationPolicyBodyMay2025>

MTP 2050 Timeline



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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. Once SRTS plans are in place for particular schools, districts, cities, or counties, the projects and activities called for 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.



Kansas Bike to School Day

The first annual Kansas Bike to School Day is happening May 7, 2025! The celebration is designed to encourage students and families to bike to school in their communities. Find out more information or register at <https://saferoutes.ksdot.gov/btsd>

ICT Safe Coalition

ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition's mission is to reduce transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries in the WAMPO region by implementing the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) that was first adopted by WAMPO in 2023. The coalition includes a diverse range of stakeholders involved in engineering, planning, law enforcement, advocacy, education, and interest groups. The Active Transportation Committee (whose focus is nonmotorized transportation) and Drive Safe Sedgwick (whose focus is eliminating impaired driving) meet as committees of ICT Safe.

The next online coalition meeting is scheduled for May 7, 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.

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) Updates

The Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) promotes the safety of all users of the transportation system and was developed through a 10-month process, with the guidance of the Transportation Safety Technical Advisors (TSTA), before it was approved by the Transportation Policy Body (TPB) in December 2023. The TSTA recently met to discuss potential strategy updates to the current CSAP. They recommended specific Implementation Plan strategy updates, annual targets aimed at eliminating regional serious-injury and fatal crashes within 25 years, and a community-wide transportation-safety-project list, all of which have been incorporated into the draft amended CSAP. The proposed changes were recommended for approval by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on April 28, 2025, and will be presented to the Transportation Policy Body for approval on May 13, 2025.

To learn more about WAMPO's safety initiatives, visit www.wampo.org/safety.

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)

The U.S. Department of Transportation has released the FFY2025 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). SS4A grants are awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructure, and behavioral and operational initiatives to prevent fatalities and serious injuries among all road users, including pedestrians, bicycle riders, public-transportation users, motorists, and commercial vehicle operators. The SS4A program provides funding for two main types of grants: planning and demonstration grants for the development of Comprehensive Safety Action Plans (CSAPs), including supplemental safety planning and/or safety demonstration activities, and implementation grants. Grant applications are due by 5:00 PM (EDT) on June 26, 2025. The SS4A Notice of Funding Opportunity can be found online at: www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A.

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)). Subsequent amendments were approved on October 8, 2024, February 11, 2025, and April 8, 2025.

In-progress and upcoming TIP amendments (tentative):

	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	07/28/25	09/22/25	01/26/26	03/23/26
TPB Vote on Approval	08/12/25	10/14/25	02/10/26	04/14/26
Reflected in STIP*	09/04/25	TBD	TBD	TBD

*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. The purpose of WAMPO's Title VI Program is to ensure 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 Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan guides WAMPO to provide meaningful access to the transportation planning process for people with a limited ability to communicate in English.

Last approved in 2022, WAMPO's Title VI Program Manual and LEP plan will be updated in Summer 2025. For additional details about either document, please visit www.wampo.org/title-vi.

Regional Active Transportation Plan

WAMPO is developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to complete a Regional Active Transportation Plan. The purpose of the plan is to assess existing conditions, identify gaps in the nonmotorized-travel network, and recommend strategies for improving active transportation options, including bicycling, walking, and other forms of nonmotorized transportation within the region. The plan will guide future infrastructure investments and policy decisions and support efforts to create a more connected, safe, and accessible active transportation network.

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. During an HTS, households throughout the region are recruited to first provide demographic and socioeconomic information about themselves and then record the origins, destinations, start times, end times, modes, and purposes of all of the trips that all members of the household make during a set period of time (one day or multiple days). These data are used to predict how many trips people are likely to make in a day, for what purposes they will make those trips (e.g., work, school, shopping), when during the day they will make the trips (e.g., rush hour or non-rush hour), by what modes they will make the trips (e.g., car, bus, walking, biking), and how long of a trip they are willing to make for a given purpose.

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.

- **May 7, 2025:** ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition meeting at 9:30 AM
- **May 8, 2025:** Executive Committee meeting at 11:00 AM
- **May 13, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **May 19, 2025:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting at 10:00 AM
- **June 10, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **June 23, 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, May 26, 2025:** Memorial Day
- **Friday, July 4, 2025:** Independence Day
- **Thursday, June 19, 2025:** Juneteenth
- **Monday, September 1, 2025:** Labor Day

Information about office closures and upcoming events can be found at www.wampo.org/events.

Follow WAMPO on Social Media

WAMPO has enhanced its digital marketing efforts to increase public engagement, and staff aim to ensure that the organization's digital marketing strategy aligns with WAMPO's Public Participation Plan. To stay informed about and get involved with WAMPO's transportation planning process, connect with WAMPO online.

- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/wampoks>
- **Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/wampoks>
- **X (formerly Twitter):** <https://x.com/wampoks>
- **YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/@WAMPOKansas>
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/wampoks>

[Click here to receive WAMPO emails](#)

April 30, 2025