



Meeting Summary

United Community Transit Coalition

Thursday, May 18, 2023, @ 2:00 PM

Hybrid meeting

Meeting Duration: 79 minutes

Attendance		
Raven Alexander, <i>Wichita Transit</i> Ashley Bryers, <i>WAMPO</i> Justin Constantino, <i>Andover</i> Jenny Foster-Farquhar, <i>Derby</i> Dora Gallo, <i>WAMPO</i>	Rene Hart, <i>KDOT</i> Kristen McDaniel, <i>Haysville</i> Kaylie Mistretta, <i>Mulvane</i> ThaiBinh Mursch, <i>MAPD</i> Crystal Noles, <i>Butler County (Chair)</i>	Chad Parasa, <i>WAMPO</i> Mike Spadafore, <i>Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging</i> Jessica Warren, <i>WAMPO</i>

I. Welcome

Jessica Warren, WAMPO, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the UCTC meeting at 2:03 PM. UCTC members introduced themselves and the agencies they work for.

III. Agenda Items

A. Homework from the February Meeting – Kristen McDaniel, Haysville Hustle

i. Profile of key decision-makers in your community

Kristen McDaniel, Haysville, shared the chain of command in Haysville, with Mayor Russ Kessler and the City Council making decisions based on financial considerations and the needs of residents.

Raven Alexander, Wichita Transit, identified the Wichita City Council, Mayor Brandon Whipple, City Manager Robert Layton, and Transit Director Mike Tann as key decision makers in Wichita, motivated by using resources to the full extent that they are able without going over funding limits.

Crystal Noles, Butler County, pointed out the Butler County Commission, Commissioner Will Johnson, and department heads as key decision makers in Butler County, driven by citizen service, funding, and necessity.

Justin Constantino, Andover, identified City Administrator Jennifer McCausland and the Andover City Council, including Mayor Ronnie Price, as key decision makers in Andover, guided by the needs and desires of the residents.

Kaylie Mistretta, Mulvane, mentioned the Mulvane Ministerial Alliance as an additional key decision maker in Mulvane, alongside the existing power structure. Motivations include a focus on low-income individuals, minorities, the Mulvane school system, and residents aged 18 and younger.

Mike Spadafore, Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, identified senior centers and the Topeka City Council as the key decision makers in Topeka.

B. Group Activity – Jessica Warren, WAMPO, CTD #9 Mobility Manager

Jessica Warren, WAMPO, started the group activity by reading the focusing statement: "The goal for the future work of this coalition is to increase collaboration between transportation systems in various jurisdictions within the tri-county area of Butler, Harvey, and Sedgwick County."

i. What components/elements should be included in the toolkit?

Ms. Alexander suggested various elements for the toolkit, including form templates, social media text templates and graphics, talking points, FAQ sheets, and a clear explanation of the toolkit's mission and goals.

Mr. Spadafore proposed incorporating a pre-recorded presentation or speech.

Mr. Spadafore also recommended breaking down the work into subcommittees and maintaining an evolving list of future participants, collaborators, or stakeholders.

Chad Parasa, WAMPO, added that the toolkit should include best practices from other regions and benchmarking information.

Mr. Spadafore shared his previous project experience, focusing on enhancing cross-boundary transportation for senior citizens, older adults, and individuals with disabilities. He highlighted key sections of the toolkit, such as outreach to new contacts, emphasizing public relations and media coverage, and providing a comprehensive list of potential funding sources.

ii. Target Audience

Ms. Mistretta suggested educational videos for the elderly, focusing on fall hazards.

Mr. Spadafore suggested a teaser for a travel training video for public transit, sharing personal stories of locals who ride public transit, using the Facebook polling option, creating a geocache campaign along a bus route, and utilizing Instagram.

Ms. Warren suggested infographics on flyers or social media showcasing the economic benefits of public transit.

Mr. Constantino asked about the availability of the toolkit, and Ms. Warren responded that WAMPO, KDOT, and transit providers could release the information.

Ms. Hart recommended involving local celebrities in promotional TikToks to increase viewership.

Ms. Alexander asked about the goal of the toolkit, and Ms. Warren clarified that it aims to increase collaboration within the region and raise awareness of available services.

iii. Purpose of the Toolkit

The group discussed whether the priority should be promoting the UCTC or the services available in the whole region.

Ms. Alexander suggested prioritizing public education about available services within the tri-county region.

It was decided that creating a database to share information on all services provided within the tri-county area would be a good use of the coalition's time.

Ms. Mistretta added that once the database is established, another goal would be to share information about road safety.

Ms. Warren concluded that KDOT already has a database of services offered in the region, which they are working on making more user-friendly. The resource can be found at www.kutc.ku.edu/Kansas-transit-provider-directory-map.

C. Coordinated Public Transit – Human Service Transportation Plan Progress Update – Ashley Bryers, WAMPO

Ms. Bryers reported that Marcela Quintanilla from WAMPO had updated the data on the Coordinated Public Transit – Human Service Transportation Plan. The group was requested to respond to Ms. Quintanilla's emails regarding public transit and provide WAMPO with information on any other transit providers that are not currently listed in the plan.

Shifting the conversation to the 5310 Scoring rubric changes, Ms. Bryers recommended including UCTC and CTD participation as scoring criteria, with a potential of up to five points each. Ms. Noles suggested considering UCTC and CTD participation as bonus points rather than mandatory requirements.

Ms. Alexander commented on the need for public outreach and community input during the review and update of the scoring criteria summaries.

It was suggested to update the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan survey answers to a numbered scale (e.g., “1 being most frequent, 5 being least frequent”) instead of a worded scale response (e.g., “always, often, sometimes, seldom, never”).

Additionally, it was recommended to include questions about the frequency of public transportation use, the type of transportation utilized, and the reasons for using public transportation in the survey.

To allow for more flexibility in responses, it was advised to add open-ended response options such as "Other, please explain" for multiple-choice questions, and include a final question inquiring, "Do you have anything else to share that we did not cover in this survey?"

D. Next Steps – Jessica Warren, CTD #9 Mobility Manager

Ms. Warren asked the coalition members to think about their vision for transit in the region and how the toolkit will help them achieve their vision. These questions are to be discussed at the following meeting.

IV. Open Discussion

Ms. Bryers presented potential logos to represent UCTC. The committee narrowed the options down to five logos to be voted on during a future meeting.

V. Adjournment

Ms. Warren adjourned the meeting at 3:22 PM.

The next meeting will be on August 17th, at 2:00 PM