

Spring 2024

WAMPO Quarterly Newsletter

WAMPO 2024 Meeting Schedule

Meeting Location: ZOOM or 271 W 3rd St, Room 203, Wichita, KS 67202, unless otherwise stated
Meeting times and dates are subject to change at the committee Chair's discretion.

Transportation Policy Body	Technical Advisory Committee	Executive Committee	Active Transportation Committee	ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition*	United Community Transit Coalition
3:00 PM unless otherwise stated	10:00 AM unless otherwise stated	11:00 AM unless otherwise stated	9:30 AM unless otherwise stated	9:30 AM unless otherwise stated	2:00 PM unless otherwise stated
JANUARY 9	JANUARY 22				
FEBRUARY 13	FEBRUARY 26	FEBRUARY 1		FEBRUARY 7	FEBRUARY 15
MARCH 12	MARCH 25				
APRIL 9	APRIL 22				
MAY 14	MAY 20	MAY 2 * 3:00PM		MAY 1	MAY 16
JUNE 11	JUNE 24		JUNE 12		
JULY 9	JULY 22				
AUGUST 13	AUGUST 26	AUGUST 15		AUGUST 7	AUGUST 15
SEPTEMBER 10	SEPTEMBER 23		SEPTEMBER 4		
OCTOBER 8	OCTOBER 28				
NOVEMBER 12	NOVEMBER 25	NOVEMBER 14		NOVEMBER 6	
DECEMBER 10			DECEMBER 4		

*ICT Safe was formerly the Safety and Health Committee

MTP 2050 Progress

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a strategic, long-term document guiding future transportation projects in the WAMPO region. By federal mandate, Metropolitan Planning Organizations must involve the public throughout the planning process. MTP 2050 must be completed by May 2025. WAMPO is in the process of determining what projects will be included MTP 2050 and is conducting the third round of public engagement.

For more information, visit www.wampo.org/mtp2050.

Public Engagement Round 3: May 20 – June 30, 2024

The Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) is excited to have launched the third round of public engagement for the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) that will set the vision and strategy for regional transportation decision-making over the next 25 years. Participation and feedback allow WAMPO to assess the current state of the transportation system and design a future transportation network that aligns with community priorities.

The purpose of the survey is to gather public feedback regarding transportation opinions and to document transportation mode-usage trends within the WAMPO region. We invite you to share your input by taking the survey by June 30, 2024.

Access the MTP 2050 Round 3 survey at www.wampo.org/mtp2050



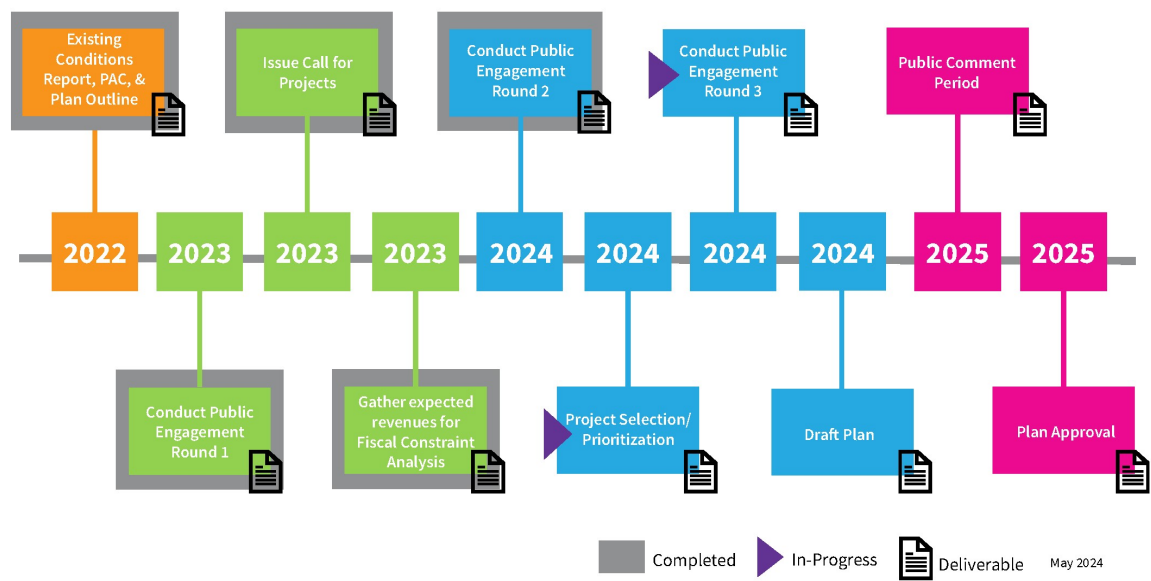
Please share the survey link with your network and encourage friends, family, and colleagues to participate. The more people who participate, the better we can understand the community.

Questions, comments, and requests for hard-copy versions of the survey (in English, Spanish, or Vietnamese) can be emailed to wampo@wampo.org. For more information or to invite WAMPO to attend an event, please reach out to Markey Jonas at markey.jonas@wampo.org.

Planning Timeline

The plan is anticipated to be approved in May 2025. However, there are many steps between now and then. The timeline below shows the high-level deliverables.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan Progress 2050



Transportation Planning Updates

FFY2025-FFY2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Public Comment Period

WAMPO is developing the new FFY2025-FFY2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Prior to official consideration by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Transportation Policy Body (TPB), it will be available for public comment from June 12 through July 11, 2024. All federally funded transportation projects within the WAMPO region, and those projects deemed regionally significant by WAMPO in partnership with key stakeholders, are required to appear in the TIP. These projects are made into a prioritized, four-year list representing funding commitments from local, state, and federal partners that benefit the region. For additional details, please visit: www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program.

Electric Vehicle Network Plan Update

We are thrilled to announce that the survey results for the Electric Vehicle Network Plan have been analyzed, and our detailed report is now available on our website. Visit [WAMPO Electric Vehicles](#) to read the full report. Additionally, WAMPO staff are in the final stages of summarizing the public comments received for the plan. Stay tuned for more updates!

Safety Updates

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program

In June 2023, WAMPO applied for a Federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) demonstration grant. In mid-December 2023, notice was received that WAMPO was awarded a demonstration grant in the amount of \$940,000. The funds can be used for supplemental planning and demonstration activities, such as educational campaigns and before-and-after studies. WAMPO staff are currently working closely with the FHWA to ensure full compliance with grant requirements and funding rules and will inform participating municipalities of additional information as it becomes available. Individual WAMPO jurisdictions have been notified of how much of this funding is available for their respective demonstration projects.

Behavioral Safety Grants

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and WAMPO are jointly conducting a Call for Projects for Behavioral Safety Grants in the WAMPO region. These are reimbursement grants for up to \$30,000 each. Funding for the grants comes from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and will be administered by KDOT. The total amount available for all projects in 2024 is \$50,000. Grant applications need to address the concerns of ICT Safe, the Drive to Zero Coalition, the WAMPO Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP), and/or the Kansas Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Projects should fall under the Safer People element of the USDOT Safe System Approach and all grants under this program must focus on improving road-user behavior; construction projects are not eligible expenses. The application deadline is June 30, 2024. Grant guidelines, an evaluation rubric, and the application are available at www.wampo.org/safety.

ICT Safe Coalition

ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition held its quarterly meeting on May 1, 2024. The mission of ICT Safe is to reduce transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries in the WAMPO region by implementing the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP). ICT Safe includes a diverse range of stakeholders involved in education, engineering, enforcement, and emergency response, and includes several smaller entities under the overarching ICT Safe umbrella. The May 1, 2024, meeting agenda included introductions and updates from all attendees, an update from the Wichita Sports Commission and the Fans with a Plan campaign, a CSAP progress report, a presentation about the services provided by the DUI Victims Center of Kansas, and an announcement about the Behavioral Safety Grant opportunity. The next meeting will be held virtually on August 7, 2024, at 9:30 AM. For more information about the Coalition, please visit www.wampo.org/ict-safe.

Staff are working with several groups/committees that share a similar purpose to create a structure that better supports community engagement. Staff are proposing that ICT Safe serve as the overarching coalition

with the [WAMPO Active Transportation Committee](#) and [Drive Safe Sedgwick](#) workgroup serving as active committees. This will help increase information/resource sharing among all members while reducing the number of quarterly meetings.

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

Safe Routes to School

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program aims to make walking and bicycling to and from school safer for K-12 students in the United States through infrastructure improvements, enforcement, public engagement, and safety education. Passionate about the goals of promoting safety, active transportation, and community engagement while reducing traffic congestion, WAMPO has worked to direct Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding for SRTS planning assistance in the region. WAMPO has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to provide assistance to jurisdictions and schools/school districts in the development of their SRTS plans. Once such plans are in place, 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.

For more information about Safe Routes to School, visit <https://www.kansasrts.org/>. Active RFPs can be viewed at www.wampo.org/wampo-is-hiring.

Regional Transit Implementation Plan

WAMPO is collaborating with SRF Consulting Group, Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, and Shockey Consulting Services to develop a Regional Transit Implementation Plan, building on the 2018 Wichita Area Transit Feasibility Study. The plan's deliverables include, among other things, a History of Transit, Feasibility and Future Conditions Reports, Steps to Establishing a Regional Transit Authority, and an Implementation Plan.

To learn more about the Regional Transit Implementation Plan, please visit www.wampo.org/regional-transit.

2024 Bicycle and Pedestrian Count

Every year, WAMPO conducts a comprehensive count of bicycle and pedestrian activity at 38 different sites across the region, including Valley Center, Goddard, Andover, Mulvane, Wichita, and other cities. These data help to estimate the numbers of people who bicycle, walk, or use other nonmotorized modes, and to identify the most popular areas for those modes. These insights are crucial for planning future bicycle and pedestrian investments.

These efforts are made possible by a dedicated team of volunteers who spend a short period at each site counting bicyclists and pedestrians. **We are now starting to look for volunteers for this year's annual count**, which will be held in September 2024. Please email wampo@wampo.org for more information or to volunteer.

To review the 2023 results and explore an interactive map of count locations, please visit <https://www.wampo.org/bicycle-pedestrian>.

Upcoming Office Closures

WAMPO will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

- **June 19, 2024:** Juneteenth
- **July 4, 2024:** Independence Day
- **September 2, 2024:** Labor Day

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

Upcoming Meetings and Events

WAMPO Meeting Schedule

Members of the public are welcome to join WAMPO meetings on 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 held at the Ronald Reagan Building, 271 W 3rd St., Room 203, Wichita, KS 67202, unless otherwise stated, and Zoom links are available on the WAMPO website at least one week before the scheduled meeting time.

- **June 11:** Transportation Policy Body Meeting at 3:00 PM
- **June 12:** Active Transportation Committee Meeting at 9:30 AM
- **June 24:** Technical Advisory Committee Meeting at 10:00 AM
- **July 9:** Transportation Policy Body Meeting at 3:00 PM
- **July 22:** Technical Advisory Committee Meeting at 10:00 AM
- **August 7:** ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition Meeting at 9:30 AM

For more information about each committee, visit www.wampo.org/boards-and-committees.

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>

June 5, 2024