

WINTER 2025

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

MTP 2050 Progress

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. Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050) is planned to be completed by May 2025. On November 12, 2024, the WAMPO Transportation Policy Body (TPB) approved a fiscally constrained list of priority projects and project categories to appear in MTP 2050.

Draft Chapters & Appendices on the WAMPO Website

Drafts of all MTP 2050 chapters and appendices have been posted on the WAMPO website for public review. 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.

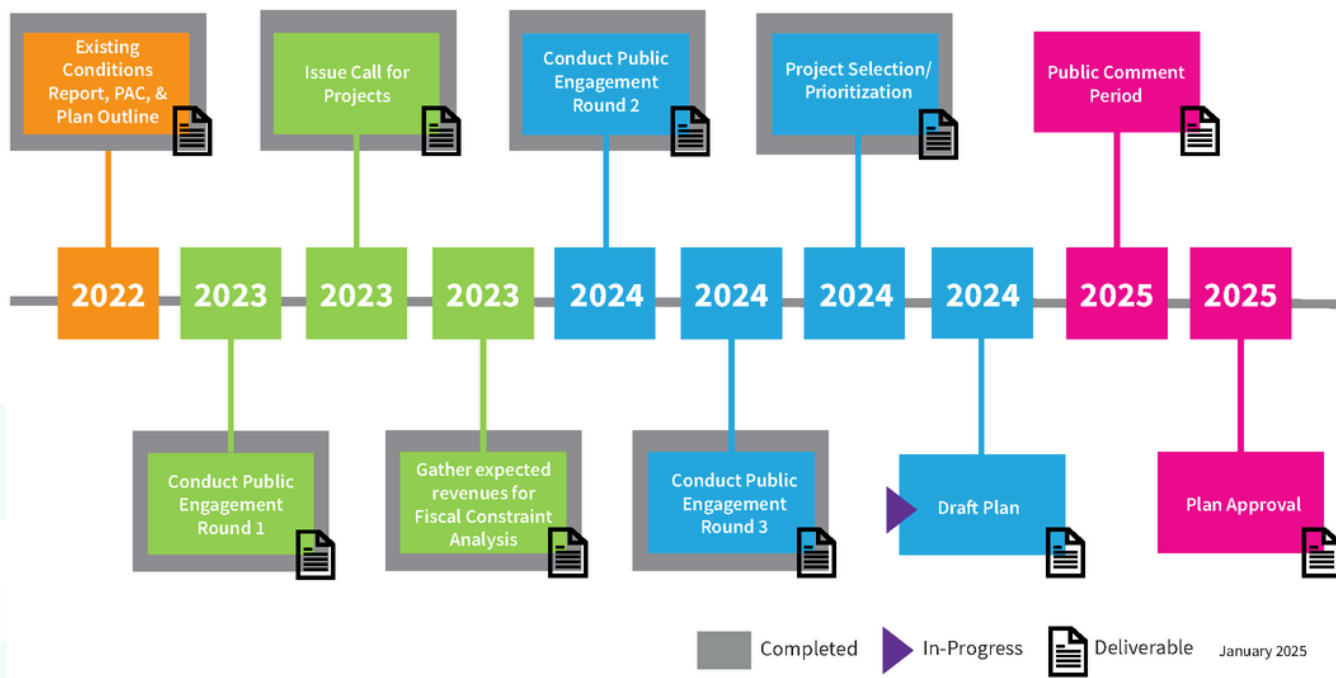
Drafts of all MTP 2050 chapters & appendices are posted for public review on the WAMPO website, at www.wampo.org/mtp2050.

Public Engagement Round 4

WAMPO tentatively plans to open a 30-day public-comment period during March-April 2025, during which the full plan will be available for public review, with opportunities to comment through the WAMPO website, at regularly scheduled board and committee meetings, and at an open house. WAMPO is also seeking additional outreach opportunities to introduce the draft plan to the public and collect feedback to ensure the plan aligns with the regional community's transportation goals for the next 25 years. Please email markey.jonas@wampo.org to invite WAMPO to attend a public meeting or community event, or to suggest other public engagement strategies.

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.

MTP 2050 Timeline



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, traffic-law enforcement, public engagement, and safety education. 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 in Kansas, visit <https://saferoutes.ksdot.gov>.

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 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 February 5, 2025, at 9:30 AM. An agenda and online meeting link can be found at www.wampo.org/ict-safe, usually about a week prior.

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

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KDOT Transportation Safety Conference

The 30th annual KDOT Transportation Safety Conference will be held in Wichita on March 4-5, 2025. The conference will highlight a variety of sessions with the latest data and strategies for reducing crash-related serious injuries and fatalities in your community. Conference attendees include law enforcement, government officials and staff, engineers, safety advocates, EMS workers, educators, and interest-group representatives. The conference registration link, program, times, and location can be found online at <https://hospitality.ku.edu/transportation-safety>.

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)), then amended it again on October 8, 2024.

In-progress and upcoming TIP amendments:

	Amendment #3	Amendment #4	Amendment #5
Call for Changes	12/02/2024-12/13/2024	02/03/2025-02/14/2025	06/02/2025-06/13/2025
Public Comment Period	01/03/2025-01/17/2025	02/28/2025-03/14/2025	06/27/2025-07/11/2025
TAC Recommendation	01/27/2025	03/24/2025	07/28/2025
TPB Vote on Approval	02/11/2025	04/08/2025	08/12/2025
Reflected in STIP*	03/06/2025	05/08/2025	09/04/2025

*State Transportation Improvement Program

For additional details, please visit www.wampo.org/transportation-improvement-program.

Public Transit Updates

FTA Section 5310 Program

The Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) Section 5310 Program funds transportation initiatives that improve mobility for older adults and individuals with disabilities. WAMPO accepted applications for this competitive grant program, inviting eligible organizations to apply for funding to enhance transit accessibility, safety, and inclusion in the region. WAMPO opened the Section 5310 Call for Projects on November 15, 2024, and applications were due January 24, 2025.

For more information, please visit www.wampo.org/wampo-5310.

Regional Transit Implementation Plan

WAMPO is in the final stages of developing a Regional Transit Implementation Plan. The plan evaluates and recommends public transit alternatives that most effectively serve the needs of WAMPO-area residents. Project deliverables include, among other things, a History Technical Report, a Regional Transit Feasibility Report, a Future Conditions and Scenarios Report, Steps to Establishing a Regional Transit Authority, and an Implementation Plan. A partial draft plan is available online and the final plan is expected to be completed by March 2025.

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

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Active Transportation Updates

WAMPO Regional Active Transportation Plan

WAMPO is developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to assist with the development of a Regional Active Transportation Plan to enhance safety and connectivity for walking, biking, and other nonmotorized travel. The RFP will focus on infrastructure, policy, and program improvements, informed by public input to address barriers and opportunities. Important plan elements identified by the Active Transportation Committee include wheelchair accessibility, regulatory updates for motorized devices, destination-oriented bike lanes, thorough public engagement, and clear policies. Wichita's infrastructure tracker will support the plan, aiming to create accessible and sustainable transportation options across the region.

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.

- **February 5, 2025:** ICT Safe: A Regional Transportation Coalition meeting at 9:30 AM
- **February 6, 2025:** Executive Committee meeting at 11:00 AM
- **February 11, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **February 24, 2025:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting at 10:00 AM[NF1]
- **March 11, 2025:** Transportation Policy Body (TPB) meeting at 3:00 PM
- **March 24, 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
- **Thursday, June 19, 2025:** Juneteenth

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

Follow WAMPO on Social Media

- **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](#)

January 30, 2025

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