



Meeting Minutes

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 24, 2023, @ 10:00 AM

Hybrid Meeting: *Online & 271 W. 3rd St, Ste. 203, Wichita, KS 67202*

Meeting Duration: 38 minutes

Voting Members in Attendance		
Russ Kessler, <i>TAC Chair</i> Raven Alexander, <i>Wichita Transit</i> Danielle Gabor, <i>SCAC</i> Jolene Graham, <i>Economist</i> Tom Hein, <i>KDOT</i> Mary Hunt, <i>Urban Land Use Planning & Development Trends</i> Shawn Mellies, <i>Wichita</i>	Lynn Packer, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Tia Raamot, <i>Regional Pathways</i> Allison Smith, <i>KDOT</i> Dan Squires, <i>SCAC</i> Alternates Tonja Howard, <i>Wichita Transit (non-voting)</i>	Emily Jensen, <i>Coordinated Transit District #9 (voting)</i> Moumita Kundu, <i>Urban Land Use Planning & Development Trends (non-voting)</i> Mike Longshaw, <i>KDOT (was present for all votes and voted; TAC member arrived after all votes had been held)</i>
Other Attendees		
Shane Albritton, <i>Garver</i> Ashley Bryers, <i>WAMPO</i> Brent Clark, <i>Valley Center</i> Ronald Colbert, <i>Valley Center</i> Steven Cross, <i>KDOT</i> Slade Engstrom, <i>TranSystems</i> Nick Flanders, <i>WAMPO</i>	Dora Gallo, <i>WAMPO</i> Paul Gunzelman, <i>Wichita</i> Nate Hinkel, <i>Wichita Transit</i> Alan Kailer, <i>Bike Walk Wichita</i> Alex Lane, <i>Derby</i> Brett Letkowski, <i>TranSystems</i> Peter Mohr, <i>WAMPO</i>	ThaiBinh Mursch, <i>MAPD</i> Chad Parasa, <i>WAMPO</i> Marcela Quintanilla, <i>WAMPO</i> Tyler Voth, <i>WSP</i> James Wagner, <i>Wichita</i> Brad Waller, <i>Benesch</i> James Weber, <i>JEO</i>

1. Chair Russ Kessler called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. Regular Business

A. Approval of April 24, 2023, Agenda

Discussion: None

Action: Approve April 24, 2023, agenda, as proposed (10-00).¹

Motion: Chair Kessler

Second: Dan Squires

B. Approval of March 27, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None

Action: Approve March 27, 2023, meeting minutes, as proposed (10-00).

¹ Two (2) voting TAC members (including one designated alternate of an absent TAC member) did not arrive until after the votes to approve the April 2023 agenda and March 2023 minutes had occurred.

WAMPO provides meeting minutes that are not verbatim. TAC and TPB meetings are recorded and hosted on YouTube [@WAMPO Kansas](https://www.youtube.com/@WAMPO_Kansas). To request assistance accessing meeting recordings call – (316) 779-1313 or email – wampo@wampo.org.

Motion: Chair Kessler
Second: Danielle Gabor

C. Director's Report

i. **Federal Certification Review, Happening May 10 – 12, 2023**

Chad Parasa, WAMPO, announced that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) are conducting a joint review of WAMPO's Federal Certification, May 10 to May 12, 2023. This is required once every four years and was last done for WAMPO in 2019.

As part of the review process, there will be a public meeting 4:30-6:30 PM on May 11, 2023, at the Advance Learning Library in Wichita. There is also a survey that members of the public are invited to complete – <https://arcg.is/1jeCPy>.

ii. **Carbon reduction program call for projects closes May 1, 2023**

Nick Flanders, WAMPO, provided a reminder to member jurisdictions to apply for Carbon Reduction Program funding in FFY2024-FFY2025 by 5:00 PM CDT on May 1, 2023.

iii. **MTP 2050 Public Engagement**

Ashley Bryers gave an update that WAMPO is developing a survey for the MTP process and that WAMPO is still looking for places to do pop-up events and public meetings to attend in May-June 2023.

iv. **FFY2023 TIP Projects Status Update**

Mr. Flanders reported that, in accordance with the TIP Policy, WAMPO is requesting bimonthly updates on projects programmed to receive WAMPO-suballocated federal funding in the current FFY or that received such funding in a past FFY but are not yet completed. Please contact WAMPO with any comments or questions about the contents of the most recent bimonthly update. For the next update, project sponsors will be asked to provide information by May 31, 2023, for presentation at the June TAC and July TPB meetings. At those same meetings, in accordance with changes made to the TIP Policy on April 11, 2023, the sponsors of projects programmed to receive WAMPO-suballocated funds in FFY2023 that have not yet obligated will be required to present on their status.

v. **New WAMPO Employee**

Mr. Parasa introduced a new WAMPO employee, Peter Mohr.

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

4. Action

A. 2023 UPWP Amendment 2

Ms. Bryers said the TAC is asked to make a recommendation on proposed Amendment #2 to the 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to consolidate travel line items, adjust the budget to accommodate anticipated expenditures based on planned work, and add the development of bicycle/pedestrian-facility maps for public use using the latest technology, such as mobile apps. The public comment period was 4/5/2023 through 4/20/2023. No public comments were received.

Discussion: None

Action: Recommend the TPB approve 2023 UPWP Amendment 2, as presented (12-00).

Motion: Chair Kessler

Second: Dan Squires

5. Discussion/Updates

A. East Kellogg Project

Steven Cross, KDOT, discussed the project to upgrade and expand US-54/400/Kellogg Avenue in eastern Sedgwick County and western Butler County, between K96 and Prairie Creek Road. It will change from four lanes to six lanes and become a limited-access freeway.

The NEPA boundary is divided into two phases. Phase 1 includes interchanges with K96, 143rd St., and 159th St. For the NEPA environmental assessment process, Phase 1 of the project received a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in January 2023.

Originally KDOT planned to deliver the project using an alternative delivery method called progressive-design-build. KDOT has changed its approach and will deliver the project using the traditional design-bid-build method, on an accelerated schedule. The goal is to begin construction in the summer of 2025 and to maintain traffic through the corridor during construction. KDOT selected the consulting firm TranSystems to complete the final design work. It will take about two years to finalize the design, purchase rights-of-way, and coordinate utility relocations.

The next steps include communication with property owners along the corridor, continuing the design work, continuing utility coordination, coordination with local agencies, right-of-way appraisal work, and meetings with property owners in late summer/early fall.

More information is available at eastkellogg.ksdotike.gov.

Discussion:

Alan Kailer asked if there would be bicycle and pedestrian access. Mr. Cross showed there is planned to be a continuous sidewalk along the corridor, following the frontage and backage roads.

6. Committee & Partnership Updates

A. United Community Transit Coalition

Ms. Bryers presented that the second-ever meeting of the UCTC will be on May 18, 2023. The UCTC is still hosting a logo design contest with gift card prizes.

B. Wichita Transit

Nate Hinkel announced this summer Wichita Transit is extending the free Q-Line route to serve the museum district in central Wichita and the Advance Learning Library, starting on May 26th. During the summer, youth with student I.D.s or free I.D.s obtained from Wichita Transit may ride all routes free of charge. Recently, Wichita Transit held an informational meeting for healthcare professionals at the Sedgwick County Health Department.

Wichita Transit ridership is now 5% greater than it was in 2019, before the Covid-19 pandemic. The Veterans Ride Free program had 5,188 rides in March 2023. 37% of ridership is attributed to students.

Scooters are once again available for rent in downtown Wichita and beyond.

7. Other Business

No other business.

8. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 10:00 AM.