



# Meeting Minutes

## Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 26, 2023, at 10:00 AM

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

Meeting Duration: 67 minutes

Voting Members in Attendance		
Russ Kessler, <i>TAC Chair</i> Raven Alexander, <i>Wichita Transit</i> Jack Brown, <i>Public Health</i> Katie Dawes, <i>REAP</i> Danielle Gabor, <i>SCAC</i> Annette Graham, <i>Coordinated Transit District #9</i> Jolene Graham, <i>Economist</i> Paul Gunzelman, <i>Wichita</i> Tom Hein, <i>KDOT</i>	Gary Janzen, <i>Wichita</i> Les Mangus, <i>Butler/Sumner Counties</i> Shawn Mellies, <i>Wichita</i> Lizeth Ortega, <i>Air Quality</i> Lynn Packer, <i>Sedgwick County</i> Tia Raamot, <i>Regional Pathways</i> Justin Shore, <i>SCAC</i> Allison Smith, <i>KDOT</i> Dan Squires, <i>SCAC</i>	<b>Alternates</b> Mike Armour, <i>Wichita (non-voting)</i> Tonja Howard, <i>Wichita Transit (non-voting)</i> Emily Jensen, <i>Coordinated Transit District #9 (non-voting)</i> Moumita Kundu, <i>Urban Land Use Planning &amp; Development Trends (voting)</i> Mike Longshaw, <i>KDOT (non-voting)</i>
Other Attendees		
Ashley Bryers, <i>WAMPO</i> Ronald Colbert, <i>Valley Center</i> Craig Compton, <i>WSU</i> Dylan Cossaart, <i>WAMPO</i> Rodney Eggleston, <i>Valley Center</i> Nick Flanders, <i>WAMPO</i> Dora Gallo, <i>WAMPO</i>	Jessica Hutton, <i>WAMPO</i> Brett Letkowski, <i>TranSystems</i> Peter Mohr, <i>WAMPO</i> ThaiBinh Mursch, <i>MAPD</i> Julian Pando, <i>WAMPO</i> Chad Parasa, <i>WAMPO</i> Logan Pittman, <i>KDOT</i>	Marcela Quintanilla, <i>WAMPO</i> Kendra Schenk, <i>Burgess &amp; Niple</i> Kyle Thomas, <i>WAMPO</i> Tyler Voth, <i>WSP</i> James Wagner, <i>Wichita</i> Brad Waller, <i>Benesch</i> Maggie Wilcox, <i>KDOT</i>

**1. Chair Russ Kessler called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.**

**2. Regular Business**

**A. Approval of June 26, 2023, Agenda**

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** Approve June 26, 2023, agenda, as presented (16-00).<sup>1</sup>

**Motion:** Chair Russ Kessler

**Second:** Mike Armour

<sup>1</sup> Two (2) voting TAC members did not arrive until after the votes to approve the June 2023 agenda and May 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](mailto:wampo@wampo.org).

## B. Approval of May 22, 2023, Meeting Minutes

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** Approve May 22, 2023, meeting minutes, as presented (16-00).

**Motion:** Chair Russ Kessler

**Second:** Danielle Gabor

## C. Director's Report

### i. FFY2023 TIP Projects Status Update

Chad Parasa said the WAMPO TIP Policy includes a Reasonable Progress Policy, under which projects receiving WAMPO-suballocated funding in the current FFY or that received it in a past FFY but are not completed are to have bimonthly progress reports to the TAC/TPB. Nick Flanders, WAMPO, provided the progress report to the TAC.

### ii. Comprehensive Safety Action Plan Update and Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Application

Ashley Bryers said WAMPO and a consultant team are developing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) for the region. In support of that effort, they are putting together a Planning and Demonstration grant application for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary grant program, due on July 10, 2023. Ashley Bryers, WAMPO Transportation Planning Manager, requested letters of support to be emailed to [Ashley.Bryers@wampo.org](mailto:Ashley.Bryers@wampo.org) by 5 pm on June 27, 2023.

Ms. Bryers reported WAMPO will be submitting a grant for \$1,125,000 for two types of projects under the "Planning and Demonstration Grant." The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) will provide a 15% local match.

### iii. MTP 2050 Public Engagement Update

Ms. Bryers said for the first round of public engagement for Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP 2050), a survey about the current state of transportation and the future of transportation needs in the WAMPO region is available at [www.wampo.org/mtp2050](http://www.wampo.org/mtp2050). Ms. Bryers reported that WAMPO staff are attending public meetings and holding pop-up events in May-July 2023 to promote this survey and gather responses. In addition to collecting input through the survey, ten stakeholder listening sessions will be held in June and July 2023.

Ms. Bryers requested that the TAC complete the MTP 2050, Coordinated Public Transit, and Electric Vehicle surveys that are available on the WAMPO website. The MTP 2050 and Coordinated Public Transit surveys are available until July 31, 2023. The Electric Vehicle survey is available until August 31, 2023. Learn more about each survey at [www.wampo.org](http://www.wampo.org).

**iv. Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan Survey**

Ms. Bryers WAMPO, reported that WAMPO is currently in the process of updating its Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan. As part of the plan development, WAMPO has launched a public survey. The survey is available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Access the survey until July 31, 2023, at

[www.wampo.org/public-transit](http://www.wampo.org/public-transit).

**v. Electric Vehicle Plan Survey**

Dora Gallo, WAMPO, reported that WAMPO is developing an Electric Vehicle Plan for the region. The plan-development process is currently in the public engagement phase, for which a public survey will soon be launched that will help WAMPO understand needs and identify potential goals and strategies for this plan. WAMPO has launched a public survey. The survey responses will help WAMPO understand needs and identify potential goals and strategies for this plan. The survey is available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Access the survey until August 31, 2023, at [www.wampo.org/electric-vehicles](http://www.wampo.org/electric-vehicles).

**vi. FFY2023-FFY2026 TIP Administrative Adjustment 3.1**

Mr. Flanders reported that WAMPO enacted an administrative adjustment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) outside the usual amendment cycle at the request of KDOT. The administrative adjustment does not require the approval of the TAC or TPB because it entails relatively minor changes.

The purpose of the amendment is to shift federal funds between projects without changing the overall amount of federal funding for each of them. Two KDOT projects were affected: “KDOT 1R Resurfacing Preservation projects in the WAMPO region” and “Redeck Bridge #113 on US-54 in Sedgwick County”. Two local projects were also affected: “Meridian from Ford (77<sup>th</sup> St. N.) to Seward (69<sup>th</sup> St. N.) and Main to 5<sup>th</sup> (85<sup>th</sup> St. N.)” (Valley Center) and “West St., Harry to Pawnee” (Wichita).

KDOT distributed Surface Transportation Block Grant funds to the two local projects to replace Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) and Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funds that were moved to the KDOT projects.

**Discussion:** Someone asked if the local-match requirements were the same for the replacement funds as for the funds being replaced. Mr. Flanders answered that the CRRSAA funds had no local match requirement, whereas the other funding programs require 20% local funding. However, the project from which CRRSAA funds were removed already had greater than 20% local funding, so replacing the CRRSAA funds with federal funds that require a 20% local match is not an issue.

**vii. Walk Bike Roll Kansas Active Transportation Summit, 9/20-22, McPherson, KS**

Chad Parasa, WAMPO Executive Director, directed the TAC to review the link about the Walk Bike Roll Kansas Active Transportation Summit, 9/20-22, McPherson, KS. Learn more at: [www.walkbikerollks.com](http://www.walkbikerollks.com)

**3. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**4. Action**

**A. Project Selection Committee 6/12/2023 Recommendations**

Ashley Bryers said on June 12, 2023, the WAMPO Project Selection Committee (PSC) met and made project-funding recommendations that the TAC is now asked to decide whether to forward to the TPB for final action. First, in response to submissions for a special Call for Projects (March 1-May 1, 2023), they recommended five (5) specific projects to which to award approximately \$3.9 million (cumulatively) of Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) in FFY2024-FFY2025. Then, they recommended permitting \$131,559 of unused CRRSAA funding from the WAMPO project “WAMPO Travel Demand Model Update” to be placed on a “phase 2” TDM-update project, provided that recent Federal legislative actions allow it. Ms. Bryers explained the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). The primary goal of the CRP is to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from transportation. Six projects were submitted for funding. Peter Mohr, WAMPO, explained the Project Selection Committee’s recommendations for funding and discussed the process for determining how to obligate remaining CRRSAA funds. Contingent on state and federal rules allowing it, WAMPO staff proposed and the PSC recommended that the remaining funds be allowed to be moved to the FFY2024 project “WAMPO Travel Demand Model Update Phase 2”.

The PSC recommended that the following projects be awarded CRP funds:

<i>WAMPO I.D.</i>	<i>Lead Agency</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Anticipated FFY</i>
40-511	Sedgwick County	Maple Street Pathway	\$39,827*	2025
New TIP project	Bel Aire	53rd St Multiuse Path	\$292,242*	2024
New TIP project	Valley Center	Seneca St Multiuse Path	\$417,310*	2025
New TIP project	Wichita	Multimodal Facility (MMF)	\$1,000,000**	2024
40-522	Wichita	Redbud Path, Woodlawn to K-96	Remainder***	2025

\*Brings project up to 80% federal funding on qualifying project phases.

\*\*\$1,000,000 is the amount of funding that was requested; lead-agency staff have vouched that, with that amount of funding, the project will not exceed 80% federal funding (revised project cost estimate unavailable at this time). This will be a separate TIP project from the existing project “Delano Transit Center” (40-570), covering the non-transit aspects of the planned facility (e.g., electric-vehicle charging stations and bicycle storage).

\*\*\*Amount cannot be known for certain until the FFY2024 WAMPO suballocation of CRP funds is announced. Current estimate is \$2,234,019.

**Discussion:** Mr. Mohr presented three action options for the CRP-funds recommendations and three action options for the CRRSAA-funds recommendations. Those options included

recommending that the TPB approve the PSC's funding recommendations as presented, not approve them, or approve them with specific changes.

Someone asked whether the CRRSAA funds need to be used by a certain deadline. Mr. Mohr answered that it remains uncertain whether CRRSAA funds will be taken away if they are deobligated, so the recommendation is to conditionally allow funds to be moved. Tia Raamot asked what the Phase 2 project's scope of work would look like. Mr. Parasa answered that the scope would be to update the model and serve WAMPO member jurisdictions in need of subarea analyses. Allison Smith, KDOT, said this would require a new procurement process, per federal requirements, meaning the Phase 2 project would not necessarily be done with the same consulting firm as the original TDM-update project.

An additional question was asked regarding whether other communities have changed project funding in the manner the PSC has recommended funding on the TDM update project be changed. Mr. Mohr answered this is a novel situation affected by the recent federal debt-ceiling legislation, and it is possible that deobligating the funds may result in them being taken back by the federal government. Ms. Bryers added that to use the excess funds, WAMPO would be required to deobligate them and write a new Request for Proposals (RFP) rather than using the funds on the original project.

**Action:** Recommend the TPB approve the PSC's CRP funding recommendations, as presented (18-00).

**Motion:** Chair Russ Kessler

**Second:** Dan Squires

**Action:** Recommend the TPB approve the PSC's CRRSAA funding recommendations, as presented (18-00).

**Motion:** Chair Russ Kessler

**Second:** Dan Squires

## 5. Discussion/Updates

### A. Projects Not Yet Obligated

Mr. Flanders provided an overview of WAMPO's Reasonable Progress Policy, which requires sponsors of projects programmed to receive WAMPO-suballocated funding in the current FFY that are not yet obligated to present their statuses to the TAC at their first meeting after May 31 and to the TPB at their first meeting after that. The FFY2023 projects affected by this requirement include one Haysville project, one Wichita project, and one Valley Center project.

Chair Russ Kessler spoke on behalf of Haysville to explain the status of the project “Seneca & 63rd Street Bike Ped Pathway”. It is projected to obligate by the end of FFY2023.

James Wagner, City of Wichita, explained the status of the project “West St., Harry to Pawnee” and provided a projected schedule.

Rodney Eggleston, City of Valley Center, explained the status of the project “Meridian, from Ford (77th St. N.) to Seward (69th St. N.) and Main to 5th (85th St. N.)” and showed visuals of the project. Mr. Eggleston reported the letting date will shift from September to October; the precise date is unknown.

**Discussion:** None

## **B. Regional Economic Metrics**

Craig Compton of the Center for Economic Development and Business Research (CEDBR) at Wichita State University (WSU) and Peter Mohr, WAMPO, presented socioeconomic and demographic findings for the WAMPO region, including on housing affordability, employer retention, attraction factors, and key corridors serving the WAMPO area.

**Discussion:** Someone asked what types of healthcare organizations are included in the healthcare map. Mr. Mohr answered it includes long-term care, and long-term acute care, among others. Annette Graham asked if Comcare is included as a healthcare organization on the map. Mr. Mohr answered that the map reflects the location of employers. If they have multiple locations, they will not show up on the map in a concentrated form.

WAMPO Demographic and Socioeconomic Report - <https://bit.ly/3JbJ5ag>

Esri Tapestry Segmentation—Esri Demographics Regional Data | Documentation (arcgis.com) - <https://bit.ly/Esri-Tapestry-Segmentation>

## **C. 5310 Awards**

Dora Gallo, WAMPO, explained the Section 5310 grant awards process. The Section 5310 grant program provides federal funding to enhance transportation options for seniors and individuals with disabilities in the United States. It supports services beyond traditional public transportation and aims to improve access to essential services and community activities. Funding can be used for vehicles, operational costs, training, and transportation plans. Wichita Transit manages the Section 5310 grant program in the region, with funding available this year from 2021 and 2022 allocations totaling \$1,077,144. WAMPO led the call for projects and grant selection process.



**Discussion:** None.

## 6. Committee & Partnership Updates

- Active Transportation Committee: Wednesday, September 6 at 9:30 AM (may be canceled)
- Safety & Health Committee: Wednesday, August 2 at 9:30 AM
- Executive Committee: Thursday, August 3 at 11:00 AM
- United Community Transit Coalition: Thursday, August 17 at 2:00 PM
- Economic Development and Transportation Committee: Monday, August 14 at 10:00 AM

## 7. Other Business

Ms. Bryers presented the idea of moving the TAC meetings to the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10 AM. Many of the TAC members reported the schedule change would not work for them.

Kendra Schenk, Burgess & Niple, presented the Planning and Demonstration SS4A grant that WAMPO is applying for. The application will include behavioral education campaigns targeting schools and various employers, demonstration projects, and before-and-after studies. The application will be submitted by next week.

Ms. Bryers read a comment that Maggie Wilcox, KDOT, left in the Zoom chat: “The SS4A Match Pilot Program supports the Strategic Highway Safety Plan to prioritize safety on all public roads in Kansas, especially since from 2018 to 2022, 61 percent of all severe injuries occurred on local roads. We are very excited for the WAMPO application! Thank you. To find out more, please visit <https://www.ksdot.gov/ss4a/programinformation.asp>.”

## 8. Meeting adjourned at 11:08 AM

**The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 24, at 10:00 AM.**

