



Meeting Minutes

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Summary

Monday, October 24, 2022, @ 10:00 AM

Hybrid Meeting, Online, 271 W. 3RD STREET, STE. 203, WICHITA, KS 67202

Meeting Duration: 55 minutes

Members in Attendance:

Burt Ussery, *TAC Chair*

Raven Alexander, *Wichita Transit*

Mike Armour, *Wichita*

Jack Brown, *Regional Pathways*

Danielle Gabor, *SCAC*

Annette Graham, *Coordinated
Transit District #9*

Jolene Graham, *Economist*

Tom Hein, *KDOT*

Mary Hunt, *Urban Land Use
Planning (Wichita)*

Gary Janzen, *Wichita*

Les Mangus, *Butler/Sumner
Counties*

Shawn Mellies, *Wichita*

Matt Messina, *KDOT*

Nina Rasmussen, *Air Quality*

Justin Shore, *SCAC*

Dan Squires, *SCAC*

Jim Weber, *Sedgwick County*

ALT.

Tonja Howard, *Wichita Transit*

Lynn Packer, *Sedgwick County*

Other Attendees:

Greg Allison, *MKEC*

Stephen Banks, *MAPD*

Ashley Bryers, *WAMPO*

Ron Colbert, *Valley Center*

Nick Flanders, *WAMPO*

Dora Gallo, *WAMPO*

Alicia Hunter, *WAMPO*

Alan Kailer, *Bike Walk Wichita*

Brett Letkowski, *TranSystems*

ThaiBinh Ninh, *MAPD*

Ron Nuessen, *Benesch*

Chad Parasa, *WAMPO*

Marcela Quintanilla, *WAMPO*

Tia Raamot, *Wichita*

Brad Shores, *JEO*

Eldon Taskinen, *WAMPO*

Cailyn Trevaskiss, *WAMPO*

Tyler Voth, *WSP*

James Wagner, *Wichita*

Kristen Zimmerman, *PEC*

1. Chairman Burt Ussery called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

2. Regular Business

A. Approval of October 24, 2022, Agenda

Discussion: None

Action: Approval of October 24, 2022, Agenda. (10-0)¹

Motion: Chairman Burt Ussery

Second: Jim Weber

B. Approval of July 25, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None

Action: Approval of September 26, 2022, Minutes. (10-0)

Motion: Mike Armour

Second: Jim Weber

¹ Seven TAC members did not arrive until after the votes to approve the October 2022 agenda and September 2022 minutes had occurred, but were present the subsequent vote on the 2023 UPWP.

C. Director's Report

i. MTP 2050 Development Phases

Ashley Bryers and Chad Parasa presented key milestones for the development of the 2050 MTP. The formation of a Plan Advisory Committee (PAC) is underway from September to November 2022. A Call for Projects will take place from September 2023 through January 2024, with project selection from February 2024 through June 2024. TPB approval for the 2050 MTP will be sought on May 13th, 2025. WAMPO staff will update the TAC at every meeting on the progress of this project.

ii. RFP Updates

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP)

Ashley Bryers updated the TAC on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan (CSAP) Request for Proposals (RFP). The CSAP RFP closed on September 2nd, 2022, and the selection committee is currently reviewing proposals. This plan will help to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries. By having this plan, WAMPO will then be eligible to apply for a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant from the Federal government, applications for which are due in September 2023. Ashley presented the CSAP timeline, currently, WAMPO is in the consultant selection process. WAMPO will present a contract with a consultant to TPB for approval on November 8, 2022.

Economic Development

Ashley Bryers informed the TAC that the Economic Development Report will help WAMPO create a cost/benefit analysis for transportation projects while identifying objectives of diversifying and growing the economy. WAMPO issued an RFP for the Economic Development Report on September 20, 2022, which will close on November 4, 2022, at 5:00 pm (CT).

iii. Public Participation Plan Development

Ashley Bryers said WAMPO hosted an open house for public comments on the plan on October 20th, 2022. The public comment period is from September 30th to November 14th, 2022. WAMPO will bring the Public Participation Plan to the November TAC and December TPB for approval.

iv. Travel Demand Model Update

Chad Parasa updated the TAC on the Travel Demand Model (TDM), which forecasts travel demand and evaluates the future performance of the transportation network for the MTP process. The contract with JEO Consulting Group Inc. was executed at the September TPB meeting. The Travel Demand Model starts this month and concludes in April 2024. Alicia Hunter mentioned to the TAC that she is collecting and reviewing data while working with the consultants. If any jurisdictions have AADT data, WAMPO would appreciate it if that data was sent to WAMPO.

3. Public Comments

No public comments were received.

4. New Business

A. Action: 2023 UPWP

Ashley Bryers reported on the 2023 UPWP. Every year, WAMPO must adopt a UPWP, which is the primary budgeting document for planning activities WAMPO will undertake in the upcoming fiscal year.

Every summer, WAMPO begins preparing the next year's UPWP by considering existing activities and adding new activities based on federal requirements, budgets, and input from FHWA, FTA, KDOT, Wichita Transit, the TAC, and the TPB. Potential 2023 UPWP tasks were presented and discussed with the TAC on July 25 and the TPB on August 9 and September 13.

Funding for the UPWP comes from various sources, including federal Comprehensive Planning Grant (CPG) funds, which require a 20% local match (i.e., 80% federal funding, 20% local funding). The 2023 UPWP's total expenditures are \$2,115,250.

The WAMPO Public Participation Plan requires a thirty-day public comment period for the UPWP. The public comment period began on September 30 and will close on October 30. Any public comments will be presented to the TPB before they consider the document for approval. So far, no public comments have been received.

Discussion: Gary Janzen, City of Wichita, asked if TIP fees help cover WAMPO's local-match costs. Ms. Bryers and Chad Parasa, both answered yes to the question. Mr. Janzen asked if a table of TIP fee rates by year could be added to the UPWP narrative and Ms. Bryers responded that it could.

Action: Recommend the TPB approve the 2023 Unified Planning Work Program, as proposed (17-0).

Motion: Gary Janzen

Second: Jim Weber

B. Discussion: 2050 MTP Plan Advisory Committee

Ashley Bryers informed the TAC that there are open spots to fill for the MTP Plan Advisory Committee. *REIMAGINED MOVE 2040*, WAMPO's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), was adopted in June 2020. Federal regulations require MPOs to update their MTPs every five years. Thus, it is time to start planning for the 2050 MTP, as the new MTP must be approved by June 2025. WAMPO staff have begun developing a proposed Plan Advisory Committee, based on the committee that was formed to develop *REIMAGINED MOVE 2040*.

WAMPO staff would like to propose a two-tier structure. The first tier would be the Plan Advisory Committee, which would guide the planning process and be comprised of local/state government staff and representatives of professional organizations. The second tier would be a "roundtable" of interested residents. Roundtable meetings would be held in alternating months

with those of the Plan Advisory Committee. WAMPO would ask interested residents to let WAMPO know their priorities, to help ensure a balance of points of view in discussions.

Discussion: A discussion was held on who would and should be on the committee including James Wagner for the City of Wichita, the Sedgwick County Association of Cities (SCAC), the Mobility Manager, and adjusted people due to upcoming retirements.

C. Update: Traffic Counts Map

Alicia Hunter presented about traffic counts. Traffic counts are reported as the number of vehicles expected to pass a given location on an average day of the year. They help transportation planners understand roadway volume and changes in volumes over time.

Traffic counts are reported as Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT). KDOT collects traffic counts across the State, with over 60,000 count locations. Locations are counted on a cycle, so of the over 60,000 locations, KDOT will collect counts for 8,000 to 10,000 of those locations each year. Over the past few years, KDOT has been in the process of contracting out traffic counts for the City of Wichita. For the WAMPO region, traffic counts are also collected by Sedgwick County, the City of Wichita, and WICHway.

WAMPO staff have created conceptual AADT count maps for vehicles and freight. These maps show AADT along segments of the major arterial roads within the WAMPO region.

Discussion: Mike Armour commented about rechecking some of the traffic counts. Jim Weber also mentioned that he feels that some of the traffic counts were high. Dan Squires also thinks the traffic counts near Derby should be around 20-25,000. Ms. Hunter said she would look into the questions.

D. Update: Demographic & Socioeconomic Methodology Forecasting Draft

Alicia Hunter presented on the demographic and socioeconomic forecasting for the region. Population forecasts, or projections, are used for making informed decisions about which investments and growth patterns will bring the greatest benefit to the region and increase opportunities. The Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department (MAPD) develops population projections for the WAMPO region and Sedgwick County. These projections guide and inform future growth, development, and public infrastructure investments. WAMPO staff are coordinating with the MAPD, specifically Stephen Banks, to develop a report outlining the assumptions and methodologies for population projections. This report is a work in progress and will continue to develop as more information is gathered from MAPD and input is received from TAC members and local jurisdictions.

WAMPO will continue its coordination with MAPD to develop and complete an assumption and methodology report for population projections. WAMPO staff are seeking input from TAC members and local jurisdictions on revisions to the population growth rates for their cities. So far, four responses requesting revisions have been received and all such requests and other comments are requested to be submitted by November 4, 2022.

Discussion: Dan Squires, SCAC, asked for clarification on how the projections are done. Stephen Banks, MAPD, explained the process of updating growth rates for individual cities to be more reasonable while still matching control totals for future-year regional population. Both population and economic development data were used to generate population projections for the region. Kristen Zimmerman, PEC, asked what is the current thinking on how these (once finalized) city-level totals will be disaggregated into Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs). Mr. Parasa responded that the goal is to eventually disaggregate the projections to the TAZs in the Travel Demand Model.

E. Update: Bike/Ped Counts Report 2012 - 2021

Cailyn Trevaskiss presented the Bicycle and Pedestrian Projections Data Report. From 2012 to 2020, counts were conducted at 35 locations; in 2021, three new locations were added. Counts were conducted at each location for two hours at midday and two hours in the evening on one of two weekdays, either Wednesday or Thursday and at midday on Saturday. The count locations were either a screenline (a line across a path or road the crossing of which is counted) or an intersection (where passage through the intersection in any direction is counted). WAMPO enlists support from approximately 70 community volunteers each year to collect this information.

This is the first year WAMPO is projecting these counts to represent larger swaths of time and traffic. Calculating projections from daily counts can be used to predict and analyze daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly volumes and averages. These projections and their methodology are based on national standards from the [National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project](#). This methodology allows planners to predict the AADT (Average Annual Daily Traffic) for bicycle and pedestrian counts each year.

WAMPO is developing an accessible online interactive map. The interactive map will allow for public access to past count data and current projections. All the bicycle and pedestrian count data, analysis, and projections are compiled in a comprehensive report, the WAMPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Projections Data Report 2012-2021.

<https://wampo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=098e4737763d4fc485e406c0716e5303>

Discussion: None

F. Update: Advance Construction Graphic

Nick Flanders gave an overview of the Advanced Construction graphic. WAMPO member jurisdictions who have not previously done so have expressed interest in possibly receiving WAMPO-suballocated funding on some of their future transportation projects through an Advance Construction (AC) arrangement. To assist member jurisdictions in determining whether they would like to pursue this option, WAMPO staff have prepared a [graphic summarizing how AC project funding works](#).

The project must first be programmed as an AC project in the WAMPO Transportation Improvement Program. Then, city and county governments must get permission from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) in order to employ an AC arrangement, and the local government must have the financial means to carry the cost of the project until the time when the federal government reimburses them. An AC funding arrangement may allow the cost of a large project to be reimbursed over multiple Federal Fiscal Years (FFYs) when there is not enough federal funding available in any one of those FFYs to adequately fund the project. Also, when some projects are programmed in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to receive WAMPO-suballocated funds through Advance Construction, it provides WAMPO with an important tool for ensuring that, in the event of receiving deobligated funds from completed projects or otherwise having an unexpected change in funding availability, year-end suballocated-funding balances will remain reasonable, by shifting the FFY in which some AC spending is to be reimbursed backward or forward (with the permission of the project's sponsoring jurisdiction).

Discussion: Mary Hunt, MAPD, asked if there is a limit to how many years you can pull money from for this. Mr. Flanders replied that the preferred practice is to not program Advance Construction conversions (which start the process for reimbursement) past the period of the current 4-year TIP. Otherwise, WAMPO would be programming funds that they cannot be confident will be available.

5. Committee & Partnership Updates

A. Active Transportation Committee

Alan Kailer, ATC Co-Chair, informed the TAC that the ATC, at its last meeting, looked at the sidewalk inventory, health maps, and elements of an ideal bike plan. The next meeting is December 7th, 2022, online, at 9:30 A.M.

B. Safety & Health Committee

Jack Brown, SHC Chair, updated the TAC about the projections of the bicycle and pedestrian counts and reported that meeting attendance has been good. The next meeting is November 2nd, 2022, online, at 9:30 A.M.

C. Wichita Transit

Raven Alexander, Wichita Transit, spoke about Wichita Transit ridership. Current ridership numbers have surpassed 2019 ridership numbers. She also mentioned that their Veteran ride-free pilot is now a permanent program.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM. The next TAC meeting will take place on November 28, 2022, at 10 AM.