



REPORT: OCTOBER 2022

TRI-COUNTY TRANSIT WORKSHOP

Prepared by: Jessica Warren, Mobility Manager for South Central Kansas
with input from staff at the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning
Organization



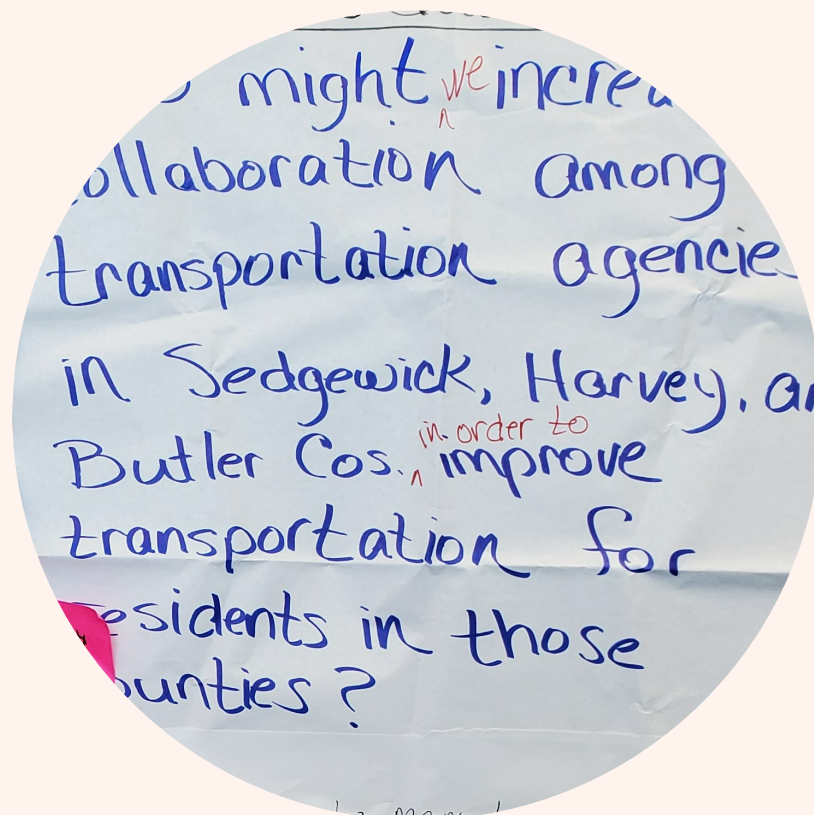
ABOUT THE EVENT

On September 29, 2022 nineteen professionals from Butler, Harvey, and Sedgwick Counties participated in the Tri-County Transit Workshop, facilitated by Amy Conrick, Director of the National Center for Mobility Management. Attendees spent the day diving into the focus question (below).

Focus Question:

How might we increase collaboration among transportation agencies in Sedgwick, Harvey, and Butler Counties in order to improve transportation for residents in those counties?

By the end of the day the participants had determined: 1) a goal for public transit within the region, 2) challenges to meeting said goal, and 3) a means to the goal.



MEETING OBJECTIVES

Create a shared vision and mission for connectivity within Butler, Harvey, and Sedgwick Counties while leaving room for future connections with other regions and systems.

Provide a clear picture of the current connections that exist as well as outline how stronger connections will help residents, communities, and providers.

Discuss and develop draft solutions.

WHY REGIONAL COLLABORATION?



Throughout the day, attendees discussed the value of regional collaboration. It was pointed out that *"cities are built on collaborative wealth"* and that *"jurisdictional boundaries do not reflect travel patterns."*

Two regional coordination plans are in place for the Counties involved:

Coordinated Transit District (CTD) #9, South Central Kansas, 2018:

- Top 3 prioritized needs as indicated by stakeholders:
 - Enhance the perception of transit services
 - Address policy barriers in crossing jurisdictional boundaries
 - Assess fare structures for trips crossing multiple providers/boundaries

Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, 2018:

- Outlines a targeted approach towards area collaboration

MEETING OUTCOMES

Goal for Future Work:

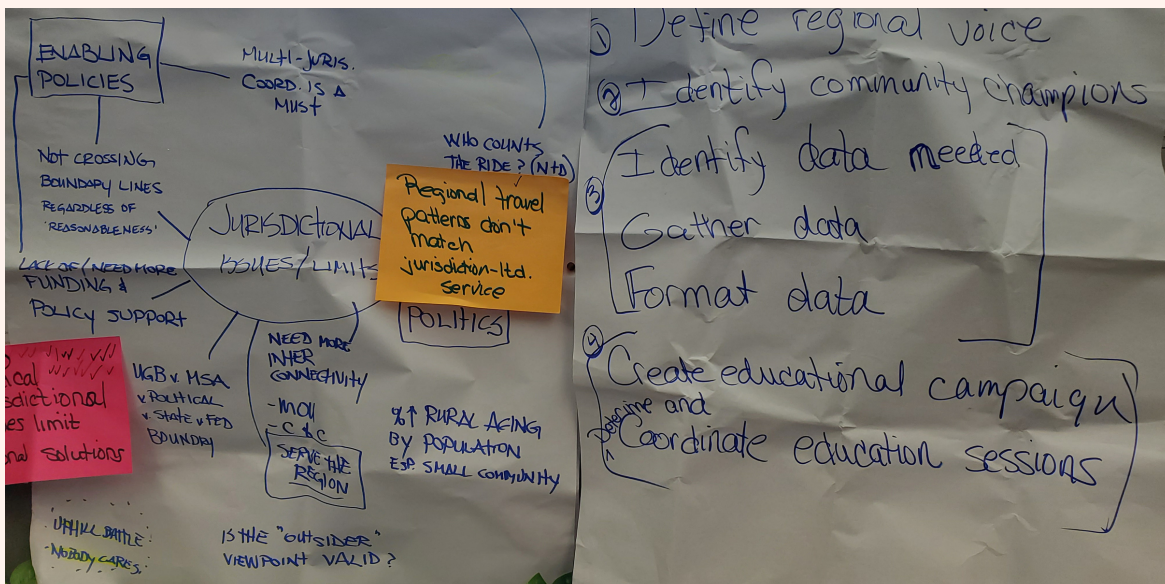
- Increase collaboration between the transportation systems in various jurisdictions within the Tri-County area

Challenge Questions:

1. How do we get people to care about public transportation?
2. Why should we?
3. Who benefits from increased collaboration and how?

Means to the Goal:

- Form a coalition to create a toolkit that will meet three focus areas:
 - a. **Education** - Determine education needs and gaps as well as tools to meet those needs
 - b. **Data** - Identify and gather data that will get others invested in collaboration
 - c. **Replication** - Outline a clear process that can be shared and replicated



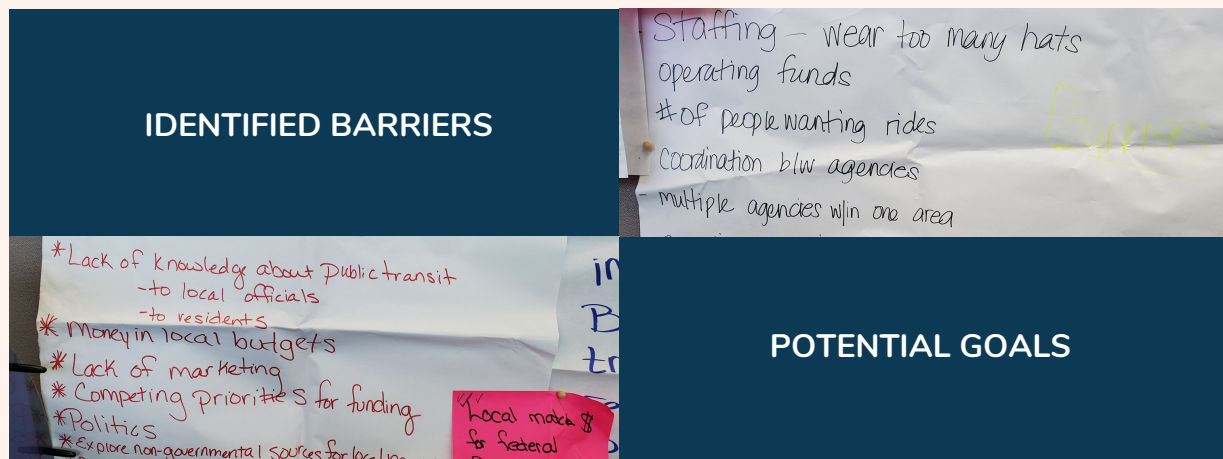
PROPOSED COALITION

The purpose of the proposed coalition is to be a regional champion backed by all of the member agencies. The coalition will become a powerful voice to uplift the goal of collaboration within South Central Kansas.

The coalition will have regular meetings (frequency is yet to be determined) to ensure the work towards collaboration continues to move forward. Identified steps the coalition would like to take include:

1. Define the regional voice
2. Identify community champions
3. Identify data needed
4. Gather data
5. Format data
6. Create educational campaign
7. Determine and coordinate education sessions

Identified goals of the coalition overlap with existing goals of the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization - due to this, WAMPO will act as the guide for the coalition.



STEERING COMMITTEE



To ensure the multi-agency coalition stays on track, a smaller steering committee - guided by the region's Mobility Manger - will be formed. Tasks for the steering committee include:

- Guide the coalition towards the goal of increased collaboration
- Set action steps, member responsibilities, and timelines for each step in the process
- Determine how often the full coalition should meet and thoughtfully plan valuable meeting agendas
- Identify small wins and steps that can be taken throughout the process to ensure project momentum is maintained

PROJECTED TIMELINE/TASKS

An 18 month timeline has tentatively been identified to meet the proposed steps in four categories.

1. Define the regional voice

Hold regular coalition meetings to ensure assigned tasks stay true to the coalition's three focus areas.

2. Identify community champions

Develop a detailed list of potential champions that includes contact information and motivating factors for each.

3. Identify, gather, and format data

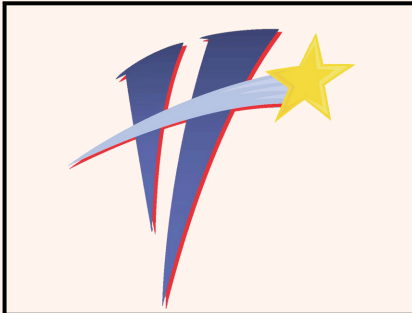
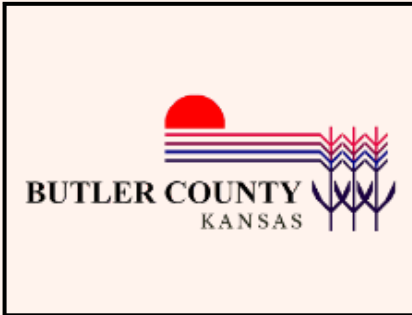
Gather various data points, including the path of a transit dollar. Gather first-person data through interviews.

4 Create educational campaigns, determine and coordinate education sessions

Determine what educational tools will be most appropriate. Identify those who can be the coalition's storytellers.

ATTENDEES - THANK YOU!

This workshop was only the first step towards connecting South Central Kansas in a meaningful way. Thank you to these agencies for participating in the Tri-County Transit Workshop and for your continued dedication to public transit!



FOR MORE INFORMATION



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