

Visioneering Wichita Environmental Sustainability Alliance
Designing a Sustainable Future
Community Discussion on Transportation
March 24, 2011

Priorities

Sustainable: Maintaining long-term viability while minimizing impacts on future populations.

What transportation choices do you believe should be available **within the region** to be “sustainable”?

- Special event “spot” transit services
- Employer “spot” transit services
- Red Cross/CPRF – to doctors, shopping, hospitals, medical
- Bike paths/lanes
- More frequent buses on each route
- Extended hours of buses
- Network of elevated mobile walkways
- Special event transit
- More door-to-door paratransit services
- Public transit
- Passenger rail service
- Bike lanes
- Public transit including paratransit
- Convenient transit
- Sidewalks
- Walkability
- Park & ride
- Buses
- Not enough sidewalks
- Greater frequency of buses
- Fast-track cross town or perimeter transit routes with reliable schedule
- Park-n-Ride stations
- Transit – park & ride, bus rapid transit, specific stops
- Subways
- Vans as private transit on specific streets – 3 to 4 minutes frequencies
- Bike-walk
- Streetcars
- Walking to schools
- Sidewalks for new developments
- All of them – a mix , in moderation for petroleum based modes
- Walk to school!
- Private vans which run major routes very often
- Express/fast-track mass transit
- More widely disseminated information about what is available

- “walking school bus” for security, with sidewalks
- Park & Ride
- Carpooling
- Walking, biking, trolley (more convenient & safer)
- Sidewalks are not required in codes
- Park and ride
- Better mass transit system
- Improved bicycle path system
- Long term transportation to suburbs & areas in development as well as accessibility for people with disabilities
- Light rail
- Buses on grid system
- 24/7 public transportation availability
- Longer hours of service during the week & weekends & holidays
- More routes(bus) – more choices of routes to take for shorter periods
- Passenger rail to Newton
- Walking & biking paths increased
- Area busing, i.e. to/from east shopping/dining centers; a downtown route, a west route
- Pedestrian trans
- Carpool
- Drive & ride - carpool
- Park & ride – transit
- Better trails & lanes that are connected for walking & bike paths
- More bus routes
- Drive & ride
- Bike lanes
- Light rail
- Better, more convenient transit
- Park-n-ride on city fringe for bus/trolley service to downtown and other attractions

What transportation choices do you believe should be available **outside the region** (from here to other regions in KS and outside the state) to be “sustainable”?

- Point-to-point mini-bus (accessible)
- Transportation from outside towns to downtown hub
- Rail
- Light rail – KC, Topeka, OKC
- Regional airfares
- More paved shoulders/paths/greenways
- Rail
- Light rail
- Connections to regional areas
- Air, train, bus
- Park & ride
- Carpooling

- Train – Amtrak – convenient
- Cars & trains
- Rail/Northern Flyer
- Train (available sometime/place other than Newton at 3am)
- Amtrak – mono-rail outside & around the outskirts of the city
- Light rail
- More bike path connectivity
- Passenger rail service
- Affordable air fares
- A viable train/transit system that has at least one stop in each major city to interconnect with Wichita
- Train
- Bus
- Because of commuters into the county – transportation services to help with the commuters
- Passenger rail
- High speed rail to/from large municipalities
- Increased air service regionally
- Regional commuting
- Regional bus services
- No rail service
- Carpool
- Buses
- Train
- Rail service – Amtrak or other comparable
- Heartland Flyer is a big positive step

Considering today's presentations and your knowledge, if you could do only one thing to promote community or individual transportation improvements for the purpose of increased efficiency, resource conservation, or pollution prevention, what would it be?

- Carpool
- Expanded bus route & hours
- Education/media blitz (and free token to try out transit)
- Regional plans
- A bus service that has longer hours & more frequent
- Try transit – distribute free passes to employers who give them to an employee to try transit. Maybe a week worth of passes.
- Use trolleys at large shopping areas.
- Expand bus routes & schedules
- More mixed uses
- Walk/bike/transit CLOSE proximity to where I live/work
- Improvements to public transportation
- Increase frequency and convenience of buses
- Frequency, marketing, safety

- Synchronized scheduling of mass transit with set arrival/departure times
- Synchronized scheduling of bus times – higher frequencies
- Longer hours – transit
- Complete streets
- Public education
- Complete streets to enable more walking & biking
- Complete streets
- Longer hours (off “prime time”)
- Ask that our elected officials – city, county & state government, look outside the box...meaning look to other communities & see what they’re doing & what’s working for them as opposed to continuing to do what they’ve always done!
- I would like to see electric rail cars implemented, especially in the downtown area
- Marketing buses as a good transportation for all individuals. Breaking down the negative stigma.
- Improve pedestrian & bicycle paths
- Transferring to a grid system
- Grid system bus routes with increased frequency
- Accessible routes and more buses for persons with disabilities
- Improved sidewalks
- Increase carpooling
- Education/promotion
- Improved access
- Kids walk to schools
- Carpool not just to work but social events
- Increased use of public transportation
- Transit system improvements (hours of service, grid system for routes, better headway times)

What barriers do you believe exist for a better public transit system? For improvement in walking? For biking transportation? For our “preferred future”?

- Money
- No requirements for sidewalks
- Safety, street lights
- Funding & education
- Lack of public awareness of alternatives to automobiles
- Funding
- Cheap parking
- Not so much congestion
- Lack of connections
- Safety considerations
- Public transit funding – public education
- Walking trail connectivity funding
- Biking connectivity funding
- Greater frequency

- More and better sidewalks
- More safe bike trails and lanes
- Funding
- Lack of convenience
- Plan for destination access doesn't exist
- Incentives for employer participation
- Employer participation in encouraging public transportation
- Lack of perception of possibilities for transit
- Public education
- Community was designed for cars
- Convenience/lack of amenities – sidewalks
- Public perception/knowledge
- Sidewalks
- Increased employer participation to encourage walking & biking (showers, etc.)
- Sidewalks – especially to schools
- Community culture
- Connectivity of trails
- Bike lanes on streets
- For biking – a few more links between unconnected but potentially useful trails
- Better tolerance (have WPD do “undercover biking”?) of cyclists by drivers
- Public education
- People in positions of power – we're not all on the same page. They would rather put our money elsewhere
- The need for our elected officials to see the worth and value in putting more funding into expanding bike trails & bike lanes in this community
- Lack of community education
- Public awareness/education
- Revenue
- Money, money, money
- Money
- More sidewalks
- More bike routes
- Funding
- Fiscal limits
- Our community is spread out & not very densely populated
- Bike paths
- Lack of money
- Lack of public will
- Habits
- Sidewalks in all neighborhoods
- Bike paths interconnected
- Transit – stigma, hours of service/frequency
- Bikes – better integration on new street projects, connect missing links
- Future – funding!

Opportunities/Collaboration:

What **should** we all be doing – by working together in new ways:

To increase transportation efficiency in our region?

- Increase pressure for more resources
- More transit service (hours, routes)
- Reduce congestion
- More public transit
- Collaboration between all: WAMPO, government, private, public
- Higher frequencies
- Involvement of smaller communities – park & ride
- Funding a priority for transit
- Better traffic flow on expressways by better education and enforcement of “keep right unless passing”. Look at New York State, such as Buffalo, etc. – fast lane; intermed lane; slower/entry/exit lane; and courtesy in driving
- Go visit other areas of the country...see what works for them & seriously look at implementing some of those ideas
- Advocating
- Sustainable transportation practices
- Increased routes/grid system & frequency
- Collaborate, collaborate, collaborate resources
- Sharing rides
- Community education
- Carpool
- Increased planning
- Car – van pools
- Education more sidewalks
- Support initiative as much as possible
- Utilize transit
- Better bike/sidewalk connections

To reduce air pollution caused by personal vehicle use in our region?

- Carpool – use transit system
- Better public transit system
- Transit
- Get people to live & work close together
- Combine trips
- Keep up vehicle maintenance
- Replace inefficient vehicles
- More use of public transit & bicycle
- Bus
- Hybrid vehicles
- Walk

- Institute “Park and Ride” program with reliable schedule – even if it’s just bike parking in residential/downtown
- Education
- Park & ride
- Public education
- Be an example
- Education
- Park & Ride
- Public education region wide
- Use mass transit
- Bike
- Coming together as a unified group to voice changes in transportation
- Hybrid vehicles/buses
- A reliable bus transportation availability to use which reduces the cars on the road – better air quality
- Efficiently planning trips – shopping/dining in same trip
- Better accommodations for alternate fuel vehicles
- Take bus
- Car-van pools
- Work with local elected folks re: planning and funds
- Keep car in good working order
- Make better use of public transit
- Utilize transit
- Carpooling with co-workers/ride share

To improve air quality in our region through more efficient transportation?

- Improve bus system
- Less idle time, fewer cars
- Use current system to encourage official to increase funding
- Use what we have to justify future improvements
- Availability of increased public transportation
- More bike paths
- Better bus routes
- Make better use of public transit
- Walk or ride more
- Do what is possible to cut vehicle miles traveled – transit, bikes, walking options
- Vehicle emissions improvements

Evaluation

How do you measure success when it comes to transportation issues in our region?

- Bus trips up
- Vehicle miles driven down
- Satisfied customers

- When any member of the public can get to where they want, when they need to be there. We're far from that now.
- Vehicle miles traveled
- Air quality
- Less vehicle congestion downtown
- Much greater use of public transit
- Improved air quality
- Increase ridership
- EPA testing
- Congestion
- Accident rates
- Multiple people at designated transportation stops
- Use of Park & Ride facilities
- Decrease air quality problems
- More walkers & bikers
- Decreased traffic jams
- That folks drive cars only for emergencies
- Better collaboration within all of the entities
- Reduced miles traveled (as population continues to grow) for personal vehicles
- Improved air quality
- Increased ridership of bus system
- Reduced accidents
- How fast with what little resources are available
- When more than 50% of the population uses the public transit system
- On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being the lowest – I would rate it a 4
- For buses – sustainable without federal dollars
- Public transit use
- Decrease in accidents
- Ped space
- Ridership
- Empirical measurements
- Increased numbers of people on bus
- Park and ride lots count
- Public transit use rates
- Air quality
- Decreased vehicle miles
- Increased transit ridership
- Improvements in air quality