



Route Redesign Study
Steering Committee Kick-Off Meeting Agenda
March 23, 2021
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

In-Person Participation Site:
 Parks & Rec Admin Office
 1141 Massachusetts St.
 Lawrence, KS

Online Participation Site:
<https://lawrenceks.zoom.us/j/92121212121>

Introductions

The meeting began with introductions from attendees. Attendees included:

Transit Route Redesign Steering Committee attendance			
Contact	Organization	Email Address	Present
August Rudisell	Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC)	srudisell@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Freddy Gipp	Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC)	fredgipp@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Andrew Moore	KU Transit Commission	a900m368@ku.edu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Max Schieber	KU Transit Commission	m579s940@ku.edu	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carol Bowen	Multimodal Transportation Commission	carol.bowen@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Charlie Bryan	Multimodal Transportation Commission	cwbryan@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Molly Adams	Haskell Indian Nations University	molly.adams@HASKELL.edu	<input type="checkbox"/>
AJ Holder	Haskell Indian Nations University	AJHolder630@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alexander Manygoats Jr.	Haskell Indian Nations University	cheigoatsjr@icloud.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gary Webber	Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods (LAN)	gkwebber@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ron May	Lawrence Public Schools	rkmay@usd497.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kenny Yates	Lawrence Community Shelter	kennethy@lawrenceshelter.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Megan Poindexter	United Way Human Services Coalition/SRC	mpoindexter@YourSRC.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Hugh Carter	The Chamber	hcarter@lawrencechamber.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justin Priest	First Transit Bus Operator	atu1754jrpriest@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chris Tilden	LiveWell Douglas County	christilden@hotmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Staff Team

Subset of Steering Committee

Adam Weigel	Lawrence Transit	aweigel@lawrenceks.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Felice Lavergne	Lawrence Transit	flavergne@lawrenceks.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gary Reinheimer	Municipal Services & Operations	greinheimer@lawrenceks.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Farris Muhammad	City of Lawrence Director of Equity & Inclusion	fmuhammad@lawrenceks.org	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aaron Quisenberry	KU Transportation Services	aquisenberry@ku.edu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Margretta de Vries	KU Transportation Services	mdevries@ku.edu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ginger Doll	First Transit	Ginger.Doll@firstgroup.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tiffany Thorp	First Transit	Tiffany.Thorp@firstgroup.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jon Moore	KDOT	Jon.Moore@ks.gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Eva Steinman	FTA Region VII	eva.steinman@dot.gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jessica Mortinger	L-DC Metropolitan Planning Organization	jmortinger@lawrenceks.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Bryers	L-DC Metropolitan Planning Organization	abryers@lawrenceks.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kim Criner-Ritchie	L-DC Sustainability Office	kcrinerritchie@douglascountyks.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Laura McCulloch	L-DC Public Health	lmcculloch@ldchealth.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Melissa Fisher Isaacs	Lawrence Public Library	mfisherisaacs@lawrence.lib.ks.us	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Consultant Team

Boris Palchik	Foursquare ITP	bpalchik@foursquareitp.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Josh Diamond	Foursquare ITP	jdiamond@foursquareitp.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rebecca Slocum	Foursquare ITP	rslocum@foursquareitp.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ann Frame Hertzog	Shockey Consulting	ann@shockeyconsulting.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Lawrence Transit History and Vision

- Boris Palchik and the City of Lawrence discuss the project catalyst.
 - The main transfer hub has been located near the library since 2013.
 - A new transfer hub location has been identified. The new location currently has no transit activity.



- The system will need to be restructured to serve the new location.
- Boris Palchik asks attendees about agency and community goals, and how a successful outcome will be defined.
 - A. Rudisell – Feels routes are efficient and limited transfers are needed.
 - C. Bowen – Do we reduce vehicle traffic with buses?
 - C. Bryan – Notes that 65.7% of households are within a ½ mile of transit but that more households should have access to high frequency transit.
 - M.F. Isaacs – Recommends looking into the [Community Health Plan to Reduce Poverty](#)
 - K.C. Ritchie – Recommends looking into the [Food System Plan](#) at Objective 3.1 page 24.
- The group discusses service issues and unmet needs.
 - F. Gipp – There is a big food access gap in East Lawrence. Also notes that safe routes for Haskell students should be considered.
 - M. de Vries – North, Pickney, and East Lawrence have food access issues.
 - C. Bowen – We may not be connecting people with destinations
 - M DeVries – Access to elementary and middle schools is limited. The busing distance is 2.5 miles.
 - C. Tilden – Many middle and high school students utilize the system to get to school. How do lower income neighborhoods access destinations?
 - A. Weigel – Sunday service is always requested. We need to explore fare free service.
- The group discusses recent efforts.
 - A. Weigel – They have tried flex service (a fixed-route that can flex into different areas) on Peterson Rd. The ridership was enough that it became a fixed-route.
 - M. de Vries – The west edge of town is not served.
 - M. de Vries – Nightline has been very successful. It first started as two vehicles. Vehicles have been added to meet the demand.
 - G. Doll – Nightline wasn't badly impacted by COVID. It gets people to and from work.
 - A. Quis – KU on Wheels and the City Bus system are funded differently. Can we consolidate efforts at all? During break time routes stop and this impacts people.
 - M. de Vries – The first Monday after classes end there are always a flurry of calls.

Project Overview

- Boris Palchik explains the study process, schedule, and deliverables.
- The group discusses others that should be invited to the table:
 - Christina Haswood
 - ADA representation
 - High School representation
 - Bus Pass Program users
 - Hugh Carter is already on steering committee from the Chamber for business representation



- The Workforce Center or Peaslee Tech
- Just Food (The Food Bank)
- Heartland Community Health center
- Allison Koonce at LMH
- Hispanic population representation
- Bert Nash or agencies like that
- Student apartment complexes
- Boris Palchik explains the Public Engagement Strategy
 - The strategy will include: An Online Public Transit Survey, Public Meetings, and Content for the Lawrence Project page (<https://lawrencetransit.org/transfer-facility/>)
 - The group discussed the surveys.
 - Could there be a non-online version of the survey?
 - Boris Palchik notes that if responses are not representative there can be follow-up in-person surveying as needed.
 - A. Weigel – They have had success with on board surveys.
 - M. F. Isaacs – Giving people an incentive would be good. Also, the library has become an informal survey collection center.
 - The My Bus Lawrence app should send push notifications.
 - M. de Vries – Surveys should be sent out before final exam week.
- The redesign approach will be data driven but informed by the public. The survey and automated passenger counter (APC) data will provide key insight.

Next Steps
Complete Public Engagement Plan – week of April 4th
Develop Draft Transit Survey – week of April 12th
Steering Committee meeting – April 27, 2021, 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM.
Launch Online Transit Survey – week of May 3rd
First Round of Stakeholder Meetings – week of May 16th or 24th (dates TBD)