

## OPEN MEETING NOTICE



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There will be a meeting of the MARC Transit Committee, **Wednesday, July 6th, 2011, 9:30 AM**  
Mid-America Regional Council, Board Room, 2nd Floor,  
Rivergate Building, 600 Broadway, Kansas City, Missouri.

### **AGENDA - Revised**

- 1) Welcome/Introductions**
- 2) Approval of May Meeting Minutes\***  
Meeting minutes for May 4, 2011 are attached to this agenda.
- 3) KU Medical Center Area Transit Study Update – John Dobies (15 minutes)**
- 4) Alternatives Analyses Update**
  - a) Downtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis – Tom Gerend (10 minutes)
  - b) Commuter Corridor Alternatives Analysis – Lisa Koch (10 minutes)
- 5) KCATA’s Comprehensive Service Assessment – Draft Service Design Guidelines – Danny O’Connor (20 min)**
- 6) Regional Transit Updates (10 minutes)**
  - a) Special Transportation – Jobs Access Partnership
  - b) Transit agency study/project updates
  - c) Advocacy
  - d) Other
- 7) Other Business**
- 8) Adjourn**
- 9) The Seamless Transit Workgroup will meet after the meeting.**

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**Parking:** Free parking is available when visiting MARC. Visitors and guests should park on the upper level of the garage. To enter this level from Broadway, turn west into the Rivergate Center parking lot. Please use any of the available spaces on the upper level at the top of the ramp.

**Getting to MARC:** For information on transportation options to the MARC offices, including directions, parking, transit, carpooling, and bicycling, visit <http://marc.org/mapandparking.htm>. If driving, visitors and guests should enter the Rivergate Center parking lot from Broadway and park on the upper level of the garage. An entrance directly into the conference area is available from this level.

**Special Accommodations:** Please notify the Mid-America Regional Council at (816) 474-4240 at least 48 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend this meeting (i.e., qualified interpreter, large print, reader, hearing assistance). We will make every effort to meet reasonable requests.

\* Action Items

# TRANSIT COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

July 6, 2011

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## ATTENDANCE

### Members and Alternates:

Mary Hunt, City of Independence	Chuck Adams, WyCO Municip (KS Co-Chair)
Lou Banks, UGT	Jim Courtney, Mr. Goodcents Foundation
Kite Singleton, RTA	Steve Billings, MoDOT
Robbie Makinen, Jackson County	Jake Jacobs, EITAS
Chuck Ferguson, JCT	Ron McLinden, TAN
Carroll Ramseyer, City of Olathe & CTD #1	Mark Huffer, KCATA
Martin Rivarola, City of Mission, KS	Dick Jarrold, KCATA
Dan O'connor, KCATA	Emerick Cross, UG Transit

### Others:

Janet Rogers, TAN	Mark Swope, Olsson Associates
Shawn Strate, JCT	Gunnar Hand, Mock Studio
Evelyn Childers, RTA	Tom Scannell, City of Independence
Sara Davis, Oats, Inc.	Kelly Gilbert, Metropolitan Energy Center
Mark Randall, City of Pleasant Hill	Jared Miller, HNTB
Jared Gulbranson, KCATA	Bill Yord, Louis Berger Group
Jefferson Lewis	Lisa Koch, Parsons Brinkerhoff
Patty Gentrup, Shockey Consulting	Leslie Scott, UMKC Student

### MARC Staff:

Karen Clawson	Tom Gerend
Stewart Nelson	Stephen Lachky
Lisa Pool	Ron Achelpohl
Julie Wittman	Mel Henderson
Mandy Matney	Sara Wilbur

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### 1) Welcome/Introductions

Chair Adams welcomed the committee and introductions were made.

### 2) Approval of May Meeting Minutes\*

Meeting minutes for May 4, 2011 were APPROVED.

### 3) KU Medical Center Area Transit Study

Mr. John Dobies provided the committee with an update of the KU Medical Center Area Transit Study. He said that the partners, including Unified Government Transit, Roeland Park, KS, Johnson County Transit, KCATA, and MARC met prior to the committee meeting. He noted that this project will wrap up in September. Mr. Dobies listed some of the key facts that characterize the study area, including:

- 10,000 employees, students, and staff are at this KU Medical Center location
- 10,000-15,000 estimated daily population, including patients
- 5,500 parking spaces are available
- 350 transit trips/day

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This project demonstrates important interagency cooperation; all three institutes of the KU Medical Center, three transit agencies, and multiple cities are working together. Mr. Dobies showed a zipcode map conveying the residential locations of KU staff and students. The location of residence is dominant on the Kansas side whereas most transit service is on the Missouri side. Current transit service in the area operates 21 hours per day and 7 days per week. The routes that serve this area include routes 39, 47, 107, 667E. Mr. Dobies said that there is opportunity to connect the State Ave. and Metcalf/Shawnee Mission Parkway corridors. The KU Medical Center area could be a transit hub.

Jim Courtney asked if there will be a drop off close to the hospital entrances. Mr. Dobies said that there are two major entrance points and both have special transportation access. The KU Medical Center representatives have acknowledged that this needs to be addressed in the scope of the project.

Mark Huffer asked if this study will include a financial element. Mr. Dobies said that this is a very important part of the study.

Mr. Gunnar Hand asked how this study is interacting with the campus master plan. Mr. Dobies said that a draft is available and the study team will be coordinating with the master plan.

#### **4) Alternatives Analyses Update**

##### Downtown Corridor

Mr. Gerend provided a brief update on the Downtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis project currently underway. Mr. Gerend said that the public meeting held at the downtown library was a success with over one hundred participants including a lot of new faces. The public meeting was soliciting comments on draft alternatives alignments, criteria and the purpose and need statement. He noted that a second public meeting is scheduled for September. The public meeting will focus on first tier screening results of the alternatives. He said that a second tier screening will take place after this public meeting. Mr. Gerend said that information was available on the [project website](#) for those who were not able to attend the meeting.

Ms. Rogers asked how soon a financial plan would be developed. Mr. Gerend said that the consultant has already started to work on this. Gunnar Hand asked when comments from the public meeting would be available and how much the comments will be weighed. Ms. Clawson said that comments were still coming in but would be made available soon on the project website. Mr. Gerend said that the comments would be taken into consideration.

##### Commuter Corridors

Mr. Gerend introduced Lisa Koch, a member of the consultant team from Parsons Brinkerhoff who would provide a project update for the committee. Ms. Koch said the first task of fifteen to be completed under the study was a gap analysis that would look at existing work that has been completed within the last ten years and where the gaps exist. Ms. Koch showed a map of the corridor under study. These include the I-70 Corridor and the Rock Island Corridor. She explained the general process would be to develop a purpose and need statement, hold four public meetings where meaningful input can be gathered, forecast ridership in the corridors, develop a financial plan and complete a final report that can be submitted to the FTA.

Ms. Rogers asked if this study was as implementation focused at the Downtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis. Ms. Koch said it is implementation oriented. Evelyn Childers asked if the success of the northland was dependent upon the success of the two corridors. Mr. Gerend said the more legs the system has the better for all. These two corridors were selected for initial planning but the northland corridor could begin independently but ultimately its connection to these two corridors is important.

#### **5) KCATA's Comprehensive Service Assessment – Draft Service Design Guidelines**

Mr. O'Connor updated the committee on the Draft Service Guidelines which are a key component of the KCATA's ongoing Comprehensive Service Analysis (CSA). He said that transit agencies generally do a CSA

\* Action Items

every 10-15 years to review the fixed-routes, schedules, and performance in depth and how it all functions together. The CSA and the draft service guidelines will be formally adopted by the KCATA Board.

Mr. O'Connor said the guidelines outline how routes should be designed and how the network should be put together. He noted that KCATA strives to serve as many residents, workers, and visitors as it can with the resources that are available. Three areas are covered by the service design guidelines, including service design, level of service, and productivity (route performance standards). A route hierarchy has been established within the guidelines, this includes key corridors, urban local, suburban local, commuter service, and lifeline services. The ten principles that guide service were quickly listed and can be found [here](#).

Mr. O'Connor said that the level of service guidelines include span of service minimums, minimum service frequencies, and maximum passenger loadings. Mr. Gerend asked how well current services match up to these service guidelines. Mr. O'Connor said they currently matchup very well. Mr. O'Connor concluded by outlining the next steps for the CSA.

Ms. Scott said that this information is not user friendly. Mr. O'Connor said that was a good point.

## **6) Regional Transit Updates**

### Special Transportation Job-Access Partnership

Mr. Courtney said last month's meeting, the committee recommended projects for JARC and New Freedom funding. Next month the committee will rank vehicle request for the FTA Section 5310 program. He noted that there is a total request of approximately \$542,000 and only \$400,000 available.

### Johnson County Transit

Mr. Ferguson said that Johnson County Transit is working with cities on station improvements for the I-35 Bus-on-Shoulder project. JCT plans to begin bus-on-shoulder operations in November. In addition, JCT is working on the design of the Mission transit center, working a new strategic plan, and working on service changes, primarily reductions to service due to budget cuts.

### Transit Action Network

Ms. Rogers said that a Transit Action Network meeting was to be held on August 9<sup>th</sup> in the Central Library. She noted that she went to the CTFE Conference in St. Louis and said there was information about how to pass a ballot initiative. She said the 70-72% of transit ballot initiatives are passing right now.

Mr. McLinden said that there was new post in the TAN blog regarding follow up actions related to the Brookings Report. He also said that MARC and the transit agencies should consider what should be done in response.

### Regional Transit Alliance

Ms. McCoy said that she and Kite Singleton participated in the CTFE Conference in St. Louis. The RTA has been working with the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce to define priorities.

### Unified Government Transit

Mr. Cross noted that Unified Government is moving forward on the State Avenue project and is formalizing the design of the two transit centers along that corridor.

## **7) Other Business**

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

## **8) Adjourn**