

Smart Moves

Regional Transit Plan Update

<http://www.KCSmartMoves.org/>

Background

- Smart Moves 3.0 adopted in 2017 by MARC and KCATA Boards.
- The plan outlined strategies and recommendations for improving transit and mobility in the Kansas City region.

Smart Moves 3.0 Recap

Strategies



High Demand Corridors



Partnerships



Mobility Innovations

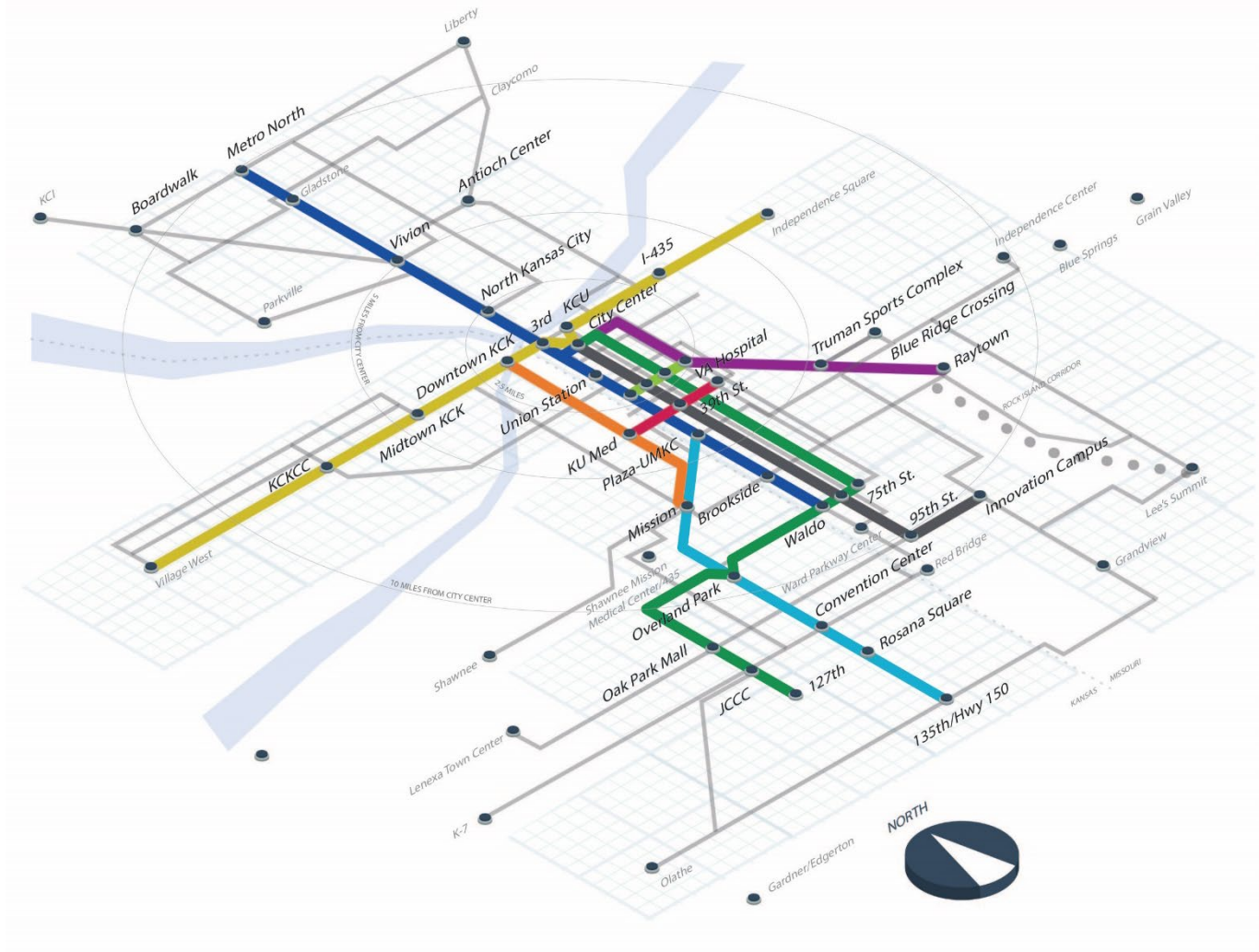
Mobility Hubs



Vibrant Places



Focus on High Demand Corridors



Implementation to date

Successes

- New services.
 - KC Streetcar expansion.
 - Prospect & Troost MAX deployment.
 - New Microtransit services (IRIS and Others).
 - New & enhanced services in some local routes.
- Transit Oriented Development.
- Multiple programs contemplate new or expanded transit services.
 - Northrail Study across the Missouri River.
 - East-West Corridor (31st/39th Street) streetcar corridor.
 - Bistate Sustainable Reinvestment Corridor.
 - KCI Airport Service Action Plan.
 - Johnson County Transit Strategic Planning process, among others.
 - Also.... World Cup related mobility planning efforts.

Implementation to date

Setbacks

- Reduction or elimination of some fixed route services.

Regional Routes Summary	
Active Fixed Routes 2017	76
Active Fixed Routes 2025	57
<i>Change</i>	<i>-19</i>
Average Peak Frequency 2017	40 min
Average Peak Frequency 2025	51 min
<i>Change</i>	<i>+11 min</i>

- Services recommended by completed planning work have failed to secure funding to advance.
- Much of this due to lack of dedicated funding for operation of services.

Challenges

- Loss of one-time COVID relief funds.
- Need to offset “0”-fare programs with sustained funds.
- Declining levels of local/state funding.
- Increasing O & M cost.
- Low job access by transit.

Opportunities

- Political and civic community interest.
- Major events (such as World Cup) which highlight need and opportunity.

Update Considerations

- Post-pandemic Trends and Impacts.
- Service Models.
- Fares, funding and governance models.

Plan Update - Purpose and Need

- Why now?
 - There is a **sense of urgency** due to rising needs and declining services.
 - This initiative will produce an **implementation strategy**, not merely a plan update.
 - This strategy will be rooted in **local priorities** served by variable service types that are **regionally connected**.
 - This initiative will build civic **awareness and support** as it is developed.

Objectives

- Focus on opportunities to deploy **enhanced transit services** at a (regionally connected) **local or county-based level** .
- Identify **priority routes and services/programs for each of the subject counties**, building from prior planning work.
- Identify annual/long-term **capital and operating costs** for enhanced transit services and programs.
- Explore **statutory requirements** and identify **potential funding and governance mechanisms**.
- Build **consensus around action steps** to be taken towards **implementation** of enhanced transit services.

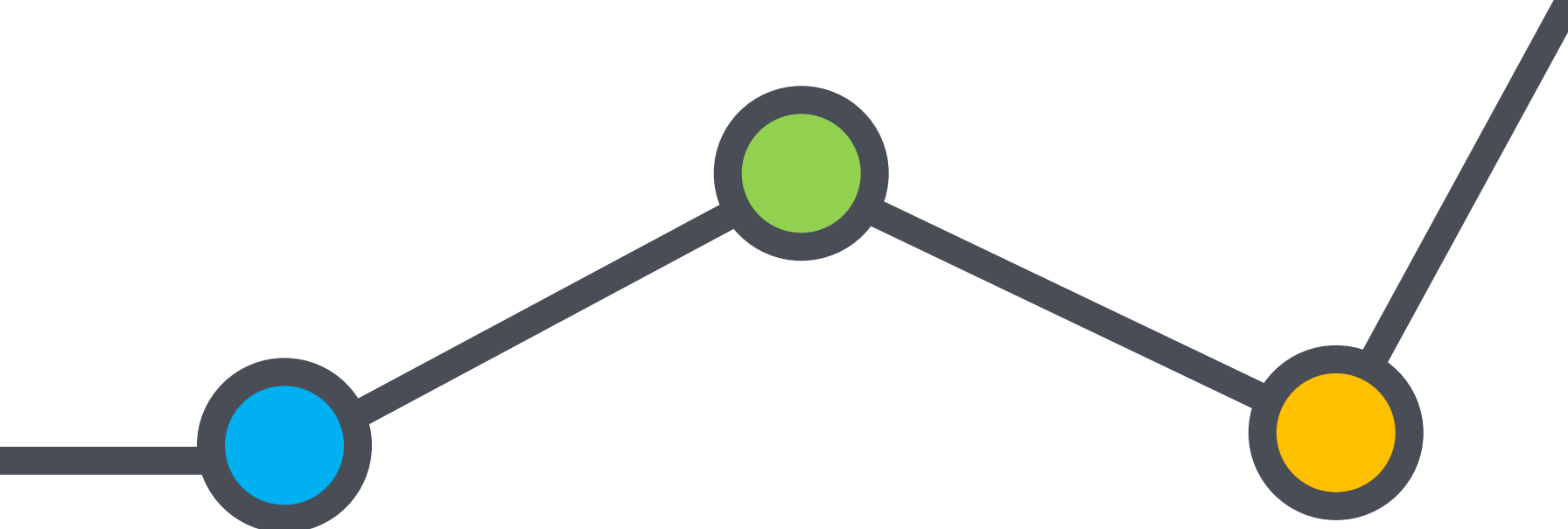
Scope of Work & Tasks

- Stakeholder & regional leadership outreach.
- Technical Tasks.
 - Smart Moves 3.0 Implementation Scorecard and existing conditions analysis.
 - Funding mechanisms legal review.
 - Update of costs for priority routes, services and programs.
 - Development of funding and governance alternatives.
 - Benefit/Cost Analysis.
- Literature review of how other peer regions fund their transit
Identify success stories to share and emulate.
- Public facing reports and presentation of findings.

Planning work outputs

Transit Enhancement Implementation Strategy:

- Fast and Frequent Routes (by mode and vehicle type), supporting services and programs, annual and long-term capital, and operating costs organized by County.
- Implementation of priority matrix.
- Potential funding and associated governance mechanisms.
- Action steps for key partners and stakeholders.
- Benefit/cost Analysis. Peer region (lessons learned) review.
- Communication materials: written materials, reports, press releases and PowerPoint presentations.



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