

Approved February 27, 1992
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The meeting was called to order by REPRESENTATIVE M. J. JOHNSON at
Chairperson

1:37 ~~a.m.~~ p.m. on FEBRUARY 19, 1992 in room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative George Gomez, excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Heim, Legislative Research Dept.
Connie Smith, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Gary Hayzlett
Representative Robin L. Jennison
Michael Johnston, Secretary of KDOT
Representative Susan Wagle
Representative Carl Holmes
Shannon Barnes, a constituent of Representative Wagle
Terry Humphrey, Kansas Manufactured Housing
E. A. Mosher, League of Kansas Municipalities
Tom Horner, Jr., representing Gaslight Village

The Chair called for a hearing on HB 2897.

HB 2897 - Removal of traffic signals; approval of cities required.

The Chair called on Representative Gary Hayzlett, a chief sponsor of HB 2897, who testified as a proponent and said the League of Municipalities supports this bill. (Attachment 1)

Chair called on Representative Robin L. Jennison, a sponsor of HB 2897, who testified as a proponent. (Attachment 2)

The Chair recognized Michael Johnston, Secretary of KDOT, who said that all of the professional staff that had anything to do with traffic engineering within KDOT strongly object to HB 2897 on the basis that they believe it is simply inconsistent with the history and condition associated with traffic safety from an engineering point of view. The law provides in KSA 8-2003 that the secretary of transportation shall adopt a manual and specifications for a uniform system of traffic-control devices for use upon highways within this state. The manual is a national standard that is used all across the country to provide a basis for states to regulate traffic control. If KDOT and the Secretary are to be taken out of the loop as it relates to provision of traffic control in cities and counties, then he thinks the committee should take a look at questions of liability that KDOT would not want to be in a position to have to defend in a perspective law suit if they don't also have the responsibility to make a provision for whatever kinds of traffic-control devices are on state connected links. He said there are a whole set of issues that are pretty important the committee needs to think about if they want to take the authority from the Secretary, which the law clearly states now, and put it in the hands of the locally elected officials to make whatever decision they think is appropriate in their city related traffic-control devices and thereby create a system in Kansas by definition which would be inconsistent with nationally recognized accepted standards.

The Chair called on committee to ask questions.

The Chair closed the hearing on HB 2897.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
room 521-S, Statehouse, at 1:37 ~~XX~~ p.m. on FEBRUARY 19, 1992

The Chair called for a hearing on HB 2936.

HB 2936 - Storm shelters for mobile home parks.

The Chair recognized Representative Susan Wagle, chief sponsor of HB 2936, who testified as a proponent. (Attachment 3)

The Chair called on Representative Carl Holmes, a sponsor of HB 2936, who testified as a proponent. (Attachment 4)

The Chair recognized Shannon Barnes, a constituent, who testified in support of HB 2936 and said prospective tenants should have to be informed, by law if a park does not have a shelter available. (Attachment 5)

There were no other proponents and the Chair opened it for questioning.

Representative Nancy Brown asked what kind of county emergency preparedness plan Andover had. She said they are required to have it in writing. She said there is an emergency preparedness plan in every county and she would get a list of the people who are on the emergency response committees and their county to all legislators.

The Chair called for opponents to HB 2936.

Terry Humphrey, Kansas Manufactured Housing, supports the concept of HB 2936 but offered suggested amendments. (Attachment 6)

E. A. Mosher, League of Kansas Municipalities, appeared in opposition to HB 2936 in its present form, on the basis of preservation of home rule. (Attachment 7)

Tom Horner, Jr. from Gaslight Village, summarized what he had learned in respect to storms and manufactured homes. He said the single most important thing we need to do is have an evacuation plan, enforce the tie-down law which is already in effect, and make sure there are adequate warning devises so there won't be another Andover in the state of Kansas.

The Chair closed the hearing on HB 2936.

A motion was made by Representative Jess Harder to approve the minutes of February 18, 1992; seconded by Representative Lisa Benlon. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

GARY HAYZLETT
REPRESENTATIVE, 122ND DISTRICT
GREELEY, HAMILTON, KEARNY,
SCOTT, & PARTS OF
WICHITA & FINNEY COUNTIES

P.O. BOX 66
LAKIN, KANSAS 67860
(316) 355-6297

STATE HOUSE-ROOM 446-N
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
913-296-7677



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER LABOR & INDUSTRY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
INSURANCE

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
HOUSE BILL 2897
REPRESENTATIVE GARY HAYZLETT
February 19, 1992**

Thank you Madam Chairperson and Members of the Committee for allowing me to testify on behalf of HB 2897.

First let me make it very clear that this bill is in no way designed to diminish or stagnate existing laws pertaining to safety, in fact, I believe it will improve safety by allowing local traffic patterns to continue as established by many years of use. It is intended, as the bill states, to prevent the secretary of transportation from removing any traffic signals within the corporate limits of any city, without first obtaining the approval of the governing body of such city. Approval shall not be required for the temporary removal of such traffic signals because of maintenance of such traffic signals or because of highway construction, reconstruction or maintenance. If the secretary of transportation has removed traffic signals on or after July 1, 1991, within the corporate limits of a city without obtaining the approval of the governing body of such city, the secretary shall replace such traffic signals or obtain the approval of the governing body of such city.

Let me acknowledge the fact that I know very well the needs

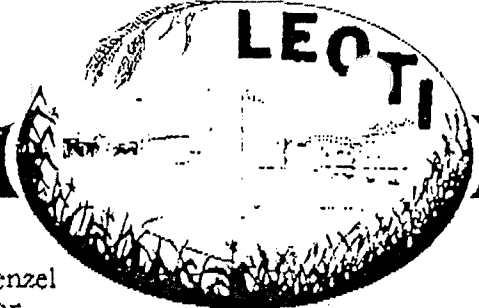
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Attach. 1

for warrants that the DOT uses to erect signs. Likewise, I think there should be some extent of local input within the corporate city limits of a city to provide for their citizens the type of safety and traffic flow they have been used to.

The DOT has expressed their liability fears. As I have stated to the secretary of transportation prior to this test, I believe this would be a welcome law as it would allow the local municipality to share in any decision to replace or remove any signals. I think there are very few, if any, local governing boards that are not very much aware of liability. If indeed a signal or stop sign is the cause of concern and safety is a factor, the local officials will certainly take the side of safety.

In small rural communities there are many warrants that need to be addressed. Emergency medical services, fire departments, school children, heavy feedlot truck traffic, additional farm truck traffic at harvest time and elderly pedestrians and drivers. Another consideration that should not be overlooked is traffic safety records. The city of Leoti had their traffic light replaced with four-way signs after 42 years of no fatalities and very minimal accident rates (six in the last two years).

Finally, Madam Chairperson and members of this committee, this should not be construed to be a local bill, as many small communities, and I am sure some larger ones, have the same concerns.



CITY OF LEOTI

Jess Krenzel
Mayor

Council Meeting
1st & 3rd Monday - 7:00 p.m.

Barbara Wilbur
City Clerk

February 12, 1992

Gary Hayzlett
P.O. Box 66
Lakin, Kansas 67860

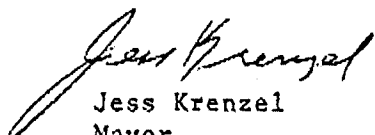
Dear Mr. Hayzlett,

I am writing in support of the legislation introduced to restrict the Kansas Department of Transportation ability to remove traffic signals within the boundaries of municipalities. With the current situation of our City, we feel this legislation is long over due.

I speak for the Governing Body of the City of Leoti and the community when expressing strong support of this legislation. We feel that local voices are no longer heard at the state level, and your introduction of this legislation proves that someone is listening.

We appreciate all you have done concerning this matter. It is nice to know that someone is interested in smaller communities problems.

Sincerely
THE CITY OF LEOTI'S GOVERNING BODY


Jess Krenzel
Mayor

cc:file



Wichita County Schools

Unified District No. 467

P. O. Drawer 967

Leoti, Kansas 67861

February 18, 1992

~~Representative Gary Hayzlett~~ ✓

Room 446-N

State Capitol

Topeka, KS 66612-1591

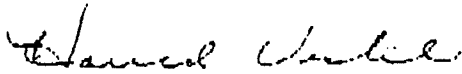
Dear Representative Hayzlett:

This letter is in support of the house bill which would not allow KDOT to remove stoplights within city limits without permission of city government.

Recently stoplights were removed in Leoti at the junction of highways 25 and 96. The city and school district both believed that better control of traffic was achieved with the stoplights. The original stoplights are now flashing and a 4-way stop has been established. It is our understanding that the flashing red lights will be removed.

Local government has had input to KDOT on this matter. KDOT is however under no obligation to consider that opposition. Requiring permission of local government before removing an existing traffic control simply makes good sense.

Sincerely,



Harold Vestal, Superintendent

HVjt

316/375-4677

Fax 316/375-2304

HAROLD VESTAL, SUPERINTENDENT

1-4

Leoti Volunteer Fire Department
P.O. box 1585
Leoti, Kansas 67861

Dear Rep. Hazlett;

This letter is to let you know how the stoplight removal has worked for the Leoti EMS and Leoti Volunteer Fire Department. Twice in the past three months we have responded to an emergency call and have been held up due to traffic buildup at the stop signs. Our equipment is housed three blocks North of the stoplights. On both emergency calls we had to attempt to utilize the stop sign because truck traffic was stacked up and with oncoming traffic and our narrow streets we had to attempt another passage. Therefore lengthen our response time. We would like to see the stoplights put back to use.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hughes,
Fire Chief

ROBIN L. JENNISON
 REPRESENTATIVE, 117TH DISTRICT
 HODGEMAN, NESS, LANE AND FINNEY COUNTIES
 RR1, BOX 132
 HEALY, KANSAS 67850



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
 MEMBER: AGRICULTURE
 EDUCATION
 TRANSPORTATION

TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
 REPRESENTATIVES

February 19, 1992

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

HB 2897

Madam Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to testify on HB 2897. HB 2897 is not the type of legislation I enjoy sponsoring, but the inflexibility of the Department of Transportation makes HB 2897 necessary. To date the Department has been unsympathetic to the desires of the local government in Dighton, Senator Moran or myself.

In a meeting with the Department, their position was an unwavering interpretation of rules and regulations. Even after admitting their studies did not take into consideration pedestrian traffic, the Department was unwilling to grant the City of Dighton their request.

To give you some history, after a traffic study was done on the intersection of Highway 96 and 23, it was decided a two-way stop would be adequate. It is important to realize several things. Currently traffic at this intersection is controlled by a traffic light. The intersection lies in the heart of Dighton with a bank on one corner, a grocery store on another corner, and a convenience store/coffee shop on the other corner. There is considerable pedestrian traffic at this intersection. Located north of Dighton is a 42,000 head feed lot. Lane County Feeder brings in about 70 cattle trucks and 70 grain trucks per week. Feed lot truck traffic predominantly peaks 8:00-10:00AM and 4:00-6:00PM.

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Testimony on HB 2897
February 19, 1992
Page 2

Dighton also has a 1.6 million bushel grain elevator that historically takes in 1 1/2 million bushels of wheat per year. Wheat harvest typically lasts ten days. That would compute to about 400 trucks per day in the area.

Pedestrian traffic, peak times for the cattle industry, and peak harvest season was not considered by the Department. I think it is important that local government be included in these decisions.

Madam Chairman, thank you. I will stand for questions if there are any.

SUSAN WAGLE
 REPRESENTATIVE, 99TH DISTRICT
 BUTLER/SEDGWICK COUNTIES
 14 SANDALWOOD
 WICHITA, KANSAS 67230



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
 REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
 MEMBER LABOR AND INDUSTRY
 PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
 COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL
 INSTITUTIONS

Thank you Madam Chair

I'm here to testify on behalf of H.B. 2936; a bill that requires new mobile home parks in Kansas to provide a storm shelter for residents; requires any expansion of an existing park that accompanies 10 or more mobile homes to provide a storm shelter; and requires existing mobile home parks to disclose at the signing of a lease contract, both verbally and in writing, whether or not there is a shelter available for use.

I don't think I have to describe for you the devastation that occurred in my district last April due to a tornado that was rated at F5 in intensity by the National Severe Storms Forecast Center. According to the Fujita Tornado Scale, F5 tornados can "lift strong frame houses off their foundations and carry them a considerable distance to disintegrate; hurl automobile sized missiles through the air in excess of 100 mph; debark trees; and other incredible phenomena will occur". The winds of the Andover tornado were estimated to be over 261 mph. The destruction that resulted was broadcast for weeks on the National news and prompted calls expressing sympathy and regret from all over the world.

After the tornado, the Center for Disease Control sent a researcher, Scott Lillibridge M.D., into the disaster area to study the health care aspects of the disaster. His research disclosed that of the total 576 residents of the Golden Spur Mobile Home Park, 344 were at home when the tornado warnings went off. That's 60% of the residents. Of these, 44.5% (153 people) left the park seeking shelter, another 44% sought shelter in the shelter provided within the park, and 11% (38 people) were left with no shelter when the tornado struck. 13 people died in the mobile home park area. 11 of them were residents and 2 were non-residents. The 25 survivors that were without cover constituted the bulk of the severe and life-threatening injuries that resulted from the tornado.

I am concerned that we learn from the Andover tornado and take whatever steps are necessary to protect Kansas citizens from future disasters. H.B. 2936 is one of those steps that needs to be taken this legislative session.

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The one thing we learned from the Andover tomado is that each family needs a safety plan in the event of a tornado. I believe the first step to that plan is required in this bill where each mobile home leasee is told whether or not there is a storm shelter available. In addition, I think it is time that we mandate shelter for mobile home parks that are built in the future. Manufactured homes are the fastest growing segment of the housing market, and Kansas has had a reputation from even before the "Wizard of Oz" movie for life-threatening tornado activity. I think that in consideration of the magnitude of the Andover tornado and with the recent popularity of manufactured housing, that we mandate shelters for future Kansas citizens.

My district surrounds the East side of Wichita and has several mobile home parks in it. We were lucky in the Andover torando to have immediately across the street a Pizza Hut with a basement that was open to everyone, and in addition on thre sides surrounding the mobile home park, there existed housing with basements available to those that needed shelter. Other mobile home parks in my district are not as safe as the Golden Spur. Several of them do not have a shelter on the premises and are miles from any known shelter.

I hope that you will give Shannon Barnes who lives in my district and who is here today your full attention when she reads her testimony. She lives in a mobile home park that is near Valley Center and does not have a shelter. In addition, I hope you will give H.B. 2936 expedient attention and that you pass it favorably from this committee.

CARL D. HOLMES
REPRESENTATIVE, 125TH DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 2288
LIBERAL, KANSAS 67905
(316) 624-7361



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER: ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
MEMBER: ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND
REGULATIONS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE
LEGISLATURES—ENERGY COMMITTEE

STATE CAPITOL, RM. 156-E
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(913) 296-7670

Chairman Johnson, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today in regards to House Bill 2936 concerning storm shelters in mobile home parks.

I have probably a closer interest in this issue than most of you in that last spring when the tornadoes hit in the Wichita area and particular in the mobile home park in Andover, my first wife's sister lived in the front row of the Golden Spur mobile home park. I knew the area well. The hours spent on the floor of the House chamber that evening were some of the longest I have spent, maintaining contact with Linda in Plains, the highway patrol in this building, and contacts in Wichita trying to locate Sarah. I knew she feared storms and often went to the shelter which was located a considerable distance from her mobile home. She still has injuries sustained when she was pulled through the floor of her trailer by the storm. Shawn, her teenage son, was at Haysville during the storm and upon leaving shelter, discovered two of the bodies in that area; then was told to get home to Andover to check on his mother. The Golden Spur had a shelter--Andover's storm warning siren did not work.

This bill would do these five things:

1. Requires existing mobile home parks to notify residents in the sales or rental agreement to the existence or nonexistence of storm shelters.
2. Requires existing mobile home parks expanding to 10 or more spaces to provide storm shelters.
3. New mobile home parks would be required to provide storm shelters.
4. Provides for the enforcement of this act.
5. Provides a penalty for violations.

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attach. 4

In discussing this issue with my constituents in Liberal, a potential problem exists if a storm were to hit. Of three mobile home parks located near each other, only one has a shelter. When the storm sirens sound, the residents of the three parks head for the one shelter. Needless to say, there is not enough space. When they are full, the balance of the residents are left standing in the open. In Seward county, there are mobile home parks both within the cities and in the rural areas.

Some people will argue that mobile homes are no more dangerous than conventional built housing. I would like to make these points:

1. Usually mobile home parks have a higher population density than conventionally built homes or individually owned mobile homes outside mobile home parks.
2. Conventionally built homes sometimes have basements to flee to.
3. Conventionally built homes without basements usually, not always, have interior walls withstanding the tornado forces.
4. Any building can be a death trap when a tornado strikes.

When you return home, please encourage your locally elected officials to review their storm warning system, both for proper placement of warning devices and a regular testing program. Push the local officials to identify shelter available to the public in commercial areas of the community.

The pictures I will pass around were taken Sunday afternoon following the tornado in Andover. The black vehicle belonged to Sarah. The various pictures in the Golden Spur mobile home park were of Sarah's mobile home, Shawn, my son Randall, and family. There was only one appliance found from the kitchen, bath, or utility room. Even the furnace was gone. The balance of the pictures were taken across the street to the west of the mobile home park of stick built homes and a church. Since this is an election year, I could not resist including an extra picture on an object I observed.

In closing, please support House Bill 2936. I stand for questions.

I am testifying today in support of House Bill No. 2936.

Four years ago, our family moved to a Mobile Home Park near Valley Center. It did not occur to us to inquire if the park had a shelter, as we had never lived in a Mobile Home before. This was before tornados ravaged Hesston, Valley Center, Andover and Wichita in recent years.

After the Hesston tornado, I asked if our park, which accommodates 53 trailers, had a shelter. The answer was "No" and I was told that the owner had not intention to put one in.

On June 19, 1990, my husband was at work, and my mother called me from Western Kansas to ask me to listen to the weather reports. I switched on the television. Tornado warnings were on all major channels. I went outside. It was hot, humid, and calm. An intense wind suddenly came up and started blowing dust. I went inside to check the weather warnings again, but the stations had gone off the air. Two of our children, ages 22 months, and 4 years, were sleeping. Tree branches started breaking. I could barely see outside through the wind and blowing dust, and was afraid to try and drive away. I truly believed that a tornado was moving into the trailer park, as our trailer was starting to rock.

Whenever you listen to Tornado Warnings, what do they say? They say, "If you are in a mobile home, get out!" That is exactly what we did. I told my 10 year old to get his baby sister, and went and pulled the 4 year old out of bed. My little girl had only a t-shirt and diaper on, and the boy only a light pair of pajama shorts. There was no time to dress them.

Once outside, we could barely see or stand in the wind and rain. It was like a hurricane. We ended up laying down as soon as we got clear of the park, in total blackness broken only by bright flashes of lightening. The wind literally roared and we could hear trees being snapped apart nearby.

After 20 minutes or so, I still wasn't sure what was going on. This was no ordinary storm. We were soaked and freezing, and decided to try and get out of there. We made our way to the car. I got it started, took off, and ran smack into the branches of a large tree that had been uprooted and thrown across the road. Everyone was OK and I backed up, got around it and started off again, only to run into a second tree that had been torn up in likewise fashion and thrown across the road. There was one more tree across the road before we traveled a half mile to the inter-section. We drove one more mile to a house where we stopped and the people there

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let us into their basement.

When the storm died down, we went back home. Our trailer was OK. One had the roof ripped off. Branches, power lines, and debris were everywhere. I put the kids to bed and tried to go to sleep. At one a.m., I got two phone calls that there were more sightings in the area. The wind came up and rain started. Sirens started sounding in the distance from Park City. I gathered up the kids once again and drove to the house that had sheltered us earlier and we spent the night in their basement.

Why is it important that you know all this? Because there ought to be a law mandating Mobile Home parks have shelter available to residents. At an absolute minimum, prospective tenants should have to be informed, by law, of the fact that a park does not have shelter available. We did not know this when we moved in. I spoke with a lot of people there who likewise had been unaware that there wasn't any shelter until they needed one. One lady had apparently run out to an old well encasement near the park, thinking it was a shelter entrance. Another, a retired lady who lives alone, had covered herself up with her couch pillows, as if that would provide some sort of protection if a tornado hit.

Last year, my children were at a neighbor's who has four children of her own while I attended a night class at WSU. Tornado warnings were issued for the area. Her husband was at work, and she had to get seven children (six were under the age of eight) to the car and drive several miles to shelter. (It is 2 1/2 miles to the nearest public shelter). Anyone who has ever tried to get even TWO children going in the same direction, can appreciate the task of herding SEVEN of them, in a threatening storm, into a car and then driving several miles in dangerous weather to get somewhere in a hurry.

This is what we do. . . several times. . . every year.

No one is questioning that Mobile Home Park Owners may have valid financial concerns about putting in shelters. The question that must be asked, however, is: "Is even one human life worth a \$15,000 storm shelter?"

People were walking in the street when a tornado took out an entire Mobile Home Park in Andover last year. It struck THAT suddenly. Most people made it to shelter. If a tornado like that ever hits our park, I expect at least 75 - 100 people will die. Half of those will be children.

We need a shelter.

If Park Owners are unwilling to put one in out of good conscience, then it should be required by law.

KANSAS MANUFACTURED HOUSING ASSOCIATION

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE

HOUSE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

TO: Chairperson Mary Jane Johnson and
Members of the Committee

FROM: Terry Humphrey, Executive Director

DATE: February 19, 1992

RE: House Bill 2936

The Kansas Manufactured Housing Association (KMHA) supports HB 2936 which mandates storm shelters.

KMHA supports the concept of HB 2936 which mandates storm shelters for newly constructed manufactured home parks and as a matter of fact we believe that all new parks provide storm shelters anyway. However, the bill needs the following amendments in order to operate properly:

1. The square footage requirement in HB 2936 Section 2 (a) is too high. Most mobile home park storm shelters provide less than 10 sq. ft. of shelter space per home. Our research indicates that the average mobile home household size is 2.3 persons. Our survey also revealed that typically less than 50% of the residents use storm shelters. Therefore, we recommend 8 square feet of shelter space per home.
2. Section 2 (b) Needs to be rewritten to allow any park that has been permitted by the city or county for a certain number of home spaces to be grandfathered and not subject to the provisions of Section 2 (a). It may be that a park has been approved for 80 home sites, but the last 12 sites are not in.
3. HB 2936 states that a storm shelter shall be built according to the UBC Code if a city does not have a storm shelter code. However, according to the International Conference of Building Officials - authors of the UBC, there is no storm shelter code, so this issue needs to be addressed.

With these amendments our association can support HB 2936, however, we want the Committee to know that this action alone does not necessarily improve storm safety.

Historically, a majority of mobile home parks have offered storm shelters on a voluntary basis and use these features as a marketing tool.

Last summer KMHA surveyed mobile home parks and found that 83% of the respondents offer storm shelters. Also, the City of Wichita surveyed its licensed parks and found that 79% offer storm shelters and four parks planned to build shelters.

On the other hand, the Sedgwick County Manufactured Housing Association surveyed 18 Wichita apartment complexes for storm shelters and found that 16 had no storm shelters and one refused to answer.

Recently the tornado tragedy in Andover, Kansas, has made us all aware of the imminent danger presented by a tornado. Unfortunately, the Andover tragedy pointed out that many people fail to take a tornado warnings seriously. Even when the Andover police warned Silver Spur residents that they were in the direct path of a tornado, some residents failed to go to the storm shelter. It was this unfortunate situation that prompted the Sedgwick County Manufactured Housing Association to co-sponsor with KFDI, a Wichita Radio Station, a Community Emergency Plan booklet that will be distributed to all Sedgwick County mobile home parks and their residents. Also, the KMHA will encourage usage of this booklet on a statewide basis.

It is our opinion that education, pre-planning and community wide emergency preparedness plans and a fail proof warning system are the keys to safe guarding Kansas citizens from this type of tragedy.

It should also be mentioned that according to the National Weather Service no one died as a result of a tornado in Kansas from 1985 to 1989. In 1990, two people died in site built structures. The 1991 data is not yet available.

In closing, I would ask the committee to encourage cities and counties to have an emergency preparedness plan for its citizen that identifies public or private structures that are available as storm shelters during severe weather. There are many people in slab built structures who would benefit from this type of information and planning. Thank you.

Community Emergency Plan



AN EMERGENCY PLANNING GUIDE PROVIDED AS A SERVICE
OF KFDI AND SEDGWICK COUNTY MANUFACTURED HOUSING ASSOCIATION

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6-3

Emergency Numbers

Police: _____

Fire: _____

Ambulance: _____

Hospital: _____

Sheriff's Department: _____

Utilities

Water: _____

Electric: _____

Gas Company: _____

Telephone: _____

Community Manager: _____

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Fire - Emergency Procedures

On discovery of fire, proceed according to plan:

1. Call the fire department: _____
 - Give name of the park.
 - Give location, (lot number) of the fire.
 - Activate alarm system (if existent).
 - Evacuate the area to at least 500 feet.
 - Call manager: _____
2. Implement evacuation if necessary:
 - Consider use of cars in parking lot, for temporary shelter.
 - Be responsible for evacuation of community using previously established routes.

Utility - Emergency Procedures

GAS LINE BREAK – Top Priority. Sound alarm if existent.

- Clear the immediate area.
- Contact: _____ At: _____
- Notify fire department at: _____

TOTAL ELECTRIC POWER FAILURE

- Call: _____ At: _____

WATER MAIN BREAK

- Call water department: _____
- Inform manager: _____

6-5

Severe Thunderstorm

Public Warning
Radio or Television Broadcast of Warning
No Siren Sounded unless Danger of a Tornado.

Monitor local radio stations to be alert for severe thunderstorms. Gather family members and prepare to evacuate to tornado shelter if conditions warrant.

Flash Flood

Flash floods can strike any time and any place with little or no warning. In mountainous or flat terrain, distant rain may be channeled into gullies and ravines, turning a quiet streamside campsite or wash into a rampaging torrent in minutes. City streets can become rivers in seconds. Observe these flash flood safety rules. They could save your life.

Keep alert for signs of heavy rain (thunder and lightning), both where you are and upstream. Watch for rising water levels.

Know where high ground is and get there quickly if you see or hear rapidly rising water.

Be especially cautious at night. It's harder to recognize the danger then.

Do not attempt to cross flowing water which may be more than knee deep. If you have doubts, don't cross.

Don't try to drive through flooded areas.

During threatening weather, listen to commercial radio or TV, or NOAA Weather Radio for Watch and Warning Bulletins.

TORNADO WATCH:

Tornados and severe thunderstorms are possible.

TORNADO WARNING:

Tornado detected: take shelter immediately.

LISTEN TO RADIO OR TELEVISION FOR LATEST NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BULLETINS.

When a tornado threatens, your immediate action can save your life!

ALERT SIGNAL

5-MINUTE STEADY BLAST OF
CIVIL DEFENSE WARNING SIREN,
REPEATED IF NECESSARY

1. Tune in radio or television to local station.

Radio: _____ TV: _____

2. Proceed to pre-designated tornado shelter.

If you are in a vehicle, seek substantial shelter immediately. If you are in the path of the tornado at home with time to evacuate, follow the evacuation route map and seek shelter. If there is not time to flee, seek protection in an interior hallway or closet. If you are caught outdoors, lie flat in the nearest ditch, ravine, or culvert with your hands shielding your head.

3. Refer to "Map-Evacuation Route"

ALL CLEAR SIGNAL

Given by radio or television broadcasts. Sirens are never used to indicate the end of a warning.

BE PREPARED

In a major storm, preparations can assist your family in dealing with an emergency you may face.

Expect a power outage — have flashlights and fresh batteries on hand at all times.

A small fire can get out of hand quickly. The first minutes of a fire often determine if your home can be saved in a fire. Remember — in buying a fire extinguisher, only a Class ABC extinguisher will put out any type of blaze.

In an evacuation — things to take:

- Special foods or medications
- Radio
- Toilet kit
- Clothing
- Bedding

Buy and maintain a first aid kit.

Teach all competent members of the family how to shut off utilities. If forced to leave your home, shut off the utilities as a precautionary measure. However, have the gas company turn back on the gas and relight pilots unless you absolutely know how to do it.

In seeking other shelter, avoid buildings with wide span roofs such as gymnasiums, auditoriums, and large stores.

Source: Just In Case, John Moir 1980

Community Map - Evacuation Route



**THE LEAGUE
OF KANSAS
MUNICIPALITIES**

**Municipal
Legislative
Testimony**

AN INSTRUMENTALITY OF KANSAS CITIES 112 W. 7TH TOPEKA, KS 66603 (913) 354-9565 FAX (913) 354-4186

TO: House Committee on Local Government
FROM: E.A. Mosher, Research Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities
RE: HB 2936--Mobile Home Park Storm Shelters
DATE: February 19, 1992

While the League ~~fully~~ acknowledges the meritorious object of HB 2936, it must appear in opposition to its present form, on the basis of preservation of home rule.

HB 2936 is a state mandate to all city and county governing bodies to enact local laws requiring owners of mobile home parks to construct or otherwise provide storm shelters. HB 2936 is similar, but not identical to, SB 586 which was heard in the Senate Local Government Committee earlier this week. The League has the same position on both bills.

Home Rule. The members of this Committee know the Home Rule argument very well. We consider regulation of mobile home parks to be a matter of "local affairs and government"--properly within the scope of the Constitutional Home Rule Amendment. The League believes that discretionary local authority should not be converted into a uniform, statewide mandate to enact local laws.

League Proposal. The League offers the following approach, consistent with the action of our Finance and Taxation Policy Committee, taken on February 14: If the Legislature concludes that storm shelters must exist in some or all mobile home parks across the state, a state law should be enacted creating such a legal duty upon park owners and operators. This would be similar to the tie down requirements of K.S.A. 75-1226 et seq.. The state law should set clear standards as to where those shelters should be located and how they should be constructed. Like other laws of the State of Kansas, enforcement responsibilities will fall upon local law enforcement personnel, most likely using local building inspectors where those people are available.

Summary. We acknowledge the merits of the objective of HB 2936, protecting the public safety is the responsibility of both State and local government. If the Legislature determines that concerns for public safety require storm shelters to be available to residents of mobile home parks, that duty should be created by a state law requiring park owners and operators to so provide them, eliminating the need for several hundred local ordinances or resolutions.

LL
2-19-92
Attach. 7