

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Donovan at 8:30 A.M. on March 8, 2007 in Room 527-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Peggy Palmer- excused

Committee staff present:
Mike Corrigan, Revisors of Statutes
Maggie Breen, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
R.E. "Tuck" Duncan, Executive Director, Kansas Public Transit Association
Jay Banasiak, General Manager, Wichita Transit

Others attending:
See attached list.

R.E. "Tuck" Duncan, Executive Director, Kansas Public Transit Association, introduced several officers of the organization who were present. Jay Banasiak, Vice Chair, and General Manager of Wichita Transit; Paul Faber, Secretary, with Heartspring of Wichita; Lisa Loeb, Chair, with Reno County Public Transport; Jaylyn Tucker, Treasurer, with Topeka Metro Transit. He also introduced Sharon Joseph who is on the advisory board of Topeka Transit. Members of the association break out into two categories, urban and rural. Public transit impacts everyone. As the price of gas goes up, more people are looking for public transportation. As they are participating in KDOT's long range planning, they are looking at what is called "smart growth"; the way you develop urban areas close to transit. In Colorado, they have just passed a tax increase for a 12 year program to extend light rail out in the Denver area which is to go up to Boulder. They have found, as they design where transit stations are going to be, all of a sudden it creates these new economic development opportunities for mixed use. They have retail and housing because people can get close to the transit to get into the city. A huge issue seen at the federal level is congestion on our highways. We are beginning to max out our roads. Whatever the solutions are going to be for long terms transportation planning, public transit needs to be considered. A number of transit systems now offer a Y5 access. With an aging baby boomer population, there will be more and more public transits usage in order to keep people in their homes. On the federal level, funds are earmarked yearly. In 2007, there were no funds earmarked for public transit but they are aggressively working with the Kansas delegation, who have been very supportive, to have funds earmarked in 2008.

Jay Banasiak, General Manager, Wichita Transit, said they weren't there to ask for money today. He wanted to give the committee a little idea of return on investments. He gave a power point presentation. (Attachment 1)

There were several questions from the committee pertaining to the purchasing and servicing of vans, and the issue of many almost empty buses being seen throughout the day. Also, the differences in the needs and issues of the urban and rural areas were discussed. Regarding the empty buses throughout the day, Jaylyn Tucker likened the public transit system to water lines. Early in the day as people are showering and preparing for work, the lines are extremely busy. Then, throughout the day, while people are at work, the lines are much less busy. The same is true of the transit system. During the hours people are going and returning to work, the buses are filled. Senator Wilson had specific concerns regarding the Jo in the Kansas City area. He said he knows lots of people but doesn't know anyone who rides the Jo and he sees all of the empty buses and questions the wisdom of subsidizing something that isn't being utilized. Jaylyn said the Jo was a commuter system and they do park the buses during the day. She said that the Topeka area's ridership has increased in the last couple of years and she feels sure that it is increasing in the Kansas City area also, as it provides a lot of connection options with Kansas City Transit. Tuck agreed that the Jo has unique bi-state issues. He said they have started with some experimentation relative to fuel usage. He thinks the transit systems are going to be in the forefront in use of E85 or Hydrogen. Public transit is going to be a solution for use of the products on a local level.

Lisa Loeb stressed how important public transit is in smaller rural communities where they don't have cab service or other options.

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 a.m. The date of the next meeting is unknown at this time

Minutes for March 6, 7 and 8th were sent around to committee for any changes or corrections with the understanding they would be considered approved by noon on March 23rd if there were none. There were no changes.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
GUEST LIST

DATE: March 8, 2007

NAME	REPRESENTING
BOBYN HORTON	KB MOTOR CARRIERS ASSOC.
Ken Gudenkauf	KDOT
Janlyn Brumby	Topeka Metro Transit
Sharon Joseph	TILRE
Paul Faber	Heartspring - Wichita & KPTA
Lisa Loeb	Beno County Public Transp.
Jay BANASIAK	WICHITA TRANSIT
Tuck DUNCAN	KPTA

Jay Banasiak
General Manager
Wichita Transit



**SAVING MONEY ON GAS TAKES LITTLE EFFORT.
IN FACT, YOU CAN DO IT SITTING DOWN.**

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
Wherever life takes you



**Kansas
Public Transit
ASSOCIATION**

Kansas Public Transit Association

A Comprehensive Transportation Program Success Story

Snapshot of KPTA

- Network of 182 transit providers
- Annual ridership of over 9,119,045
- Vehicles – 980
- Employment – 1,450 Kansans
- Budget - \$62,769,711

Map of Service Areas

Ridership in 2006

- General Population
5,710,812 Rides
- Disabled Population
2,135,358 Rides
- Senior Population
1,272,875 Rides

Information obtained from Kansas Department of Transportation for rural providers and directly from Urban providers.

Return on Investment Funding Streams

- CTP Funds
\$ 6,000,000
- Federal Funds
\$19,455,751
- Local Funds
\$22,328,758 (public and private)
- Operating Revenue
\$4,079,939

Return on Investment Facilities Built

- Wichita Transit Operation Center
- Wichita Transit Transfer Center
- Johnson County Operation Center
- Hays Operation Center
- Topeka Maintenance Center
- Topeka Transfer Station
- Salina Operation Center
- Southeast Kansas Operation Center
- Future Sites Planned
 - Hutchinson Operation Center
 - Garden City Operation Center
 - Wichita Regional Van Maintenance Center

Return on Investment Kansas Transit Industry

- **Manufacturers**
 - Optima Bus - Wichita
 - El Dorado/National - Salina
 - Diamond Coach - Oswego
 - Sure-Lok - Lawrence
 - Collins/Trans-World - Hutchinson
- **Transit Service Providers**
 - Laidlaw Transit Services - Overland Park
- Plus many consultants and related component manufacturers



Return on Investment Intangibles

- **Safety Programs**
- **Security Enhancements**
- **Efficiency in Software/Technology**
- **Reliability in Vehicle Replacement**
- **Customer Service Improvements**

Return on Investment Stronger Local Economy

- **Statistics show for every \$1 spent on transportation, there is economic impact of \$3.50 - \$4.50.**
- **According to the American Public Transit Association, public transportation can reduce household expenses by \$6,200 per year.**
- **Utilization of public transit has increased by 44% since 1999.**

Conclusion

- **Public transportation benefits all Kansans!**
 - Access to Services and Employment
 - Senior Independence
 - Disabled Mobility
 - SRS/TANF Transportation
 - Economic Development
 - Economic Stability
 - Environmental Efficiencies

KPTA Board & Staff

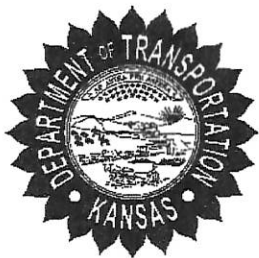
- Tuck Duncan, Executive Director
- Jay Banasiak, Wichita Transit (Wichita), Chair
- Paul Faber, Heartspring (Wichita), Vice Chair
- Janyln Nesbitt-Tucker, Topeka Transit (Topeka), Secretary
- Sarah Horn, Sunflower Diversified (Great Bend), Treasurer
- Lisa Latta, Reno County Public Transportation Dept. (Hutchinson), Past Chair
- Chuck Ferguson, Johnson County Transit (Olathe)
- Lou Banks - Unified Gov't of Wyandotte County/KCK (Kansas City)
- Joan Blabec, Twin Valley Developmental Services (Greenleaf)
- Marjorie Bubola, Lake Mary Center (Paola)
- Mitchell Comforti, ElDorado National (Salina)
- John Duples, TransSystems (Kansas City)
- Cliff Galante, Lawrence Transit (Lawrence)
- Howard Nelson, Mid-American Regional Council (Kansas City)
- Keith Rexroad, Optima Bus (Wichita)
- Penny Rudolph, Marshall County (Marysville)
- Ron Stralight, Developmental Services of NW Kansas (Hays)
- Mark Groppe, Kansas City Area Transit Authority (KCATA)

WHAT IS THE



The Kansas Public Transit Association promotes the general welfare of its members and unites the members of the public transportation industry in Kansas. KPTA promotes the welfare of each member in its individual community; and supports members with state and federal authorities to the end that the people of Kansas may be provided with sound, well managed and well financed public transportation. Additionally, KPTA encourages the exchange of ideas to strengthen the bonds of understanding between members.

KPTA provides a common voice for all transportation providers with our state and federal officials. Each spring KPTA meets with the congressional delegation to discuss the needs of public transportation in Kansas. Our message has been well received and, during the past six years, Kansas has received millions for new and replacement vehicles



**Kansas
Public Transit
ASSOCIATION**

and rural bus facilities for Sections 5310 and 5311 service providers.

KPTA participates in the KDOT long range planning process, and is a member of the Economic Lifelines organization.



KPTA is also a member of CTAA, SWTA, and APTA. KPTA in 2007 is launching an updated and more comprehensive website. KPTA plans to have an active presence at the Kansas State Fair promoting public transportation to the 300,000 attendees. KPTA will continue to keep Kansas legislators informed of industry trends and needs.



KPTA holds an Annual Meeting for its membership each year. This event provides those in attendance the opportunity to receive training and participate in informational opportunities that may not



otherwise be accessible for an agency. Presentations often include current information on public transportation concerning federal legislation, updates by the Kansas Department of Transportation and special programming that is directed to Section 5310 and 5311 agencies.



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