



## Age-Friendly Kansas

### Advisory Committee

### Meeting #2 – Age-Friendly Transportation

Sept. 19, 2024

1:00 pm -2:15 pm

## MEETING NOTES

### Action Items

- AFK Advisory committee members: Please select working groups and review the draft vision statement through the link below. **Please submit feedback by October 4.**
  - Form link has been removed. If you are an AFK advisory member, please reference the minutes sent to your email.

### Meeting Materials:

- Agenda
- Slide Decks - Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)
- Draft Domains and Strategy Themes from AFK advisory committee application (see below)

### Resources Mentioned with Links:

#### FTA Resources

- [FTA Mobility Management webpage](#)
- [Bicycle Transportation For Older Adults and People with Disabilities](#)
- [Archived bike sharing programs \(National RTAP\)](#)
- [NADTC Trends Report on Accessible Bike Share](#)
- [Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Formula Grant Program \(Section 5310\)](#)
- [Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grant Program \(ICAM\)](#)
- [Community Transportation Map](#)
- Enrolling in Half Fare – [Manhattan](#), [Wichita](#), [Dodge City](#)

#### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Older Driver Safety Resources

- [Clearinghouse for Older Road User Safety \(ChORUS\)](#)
- [Traffic Safety Marketing](#)
- [NHTSA Older Driver Page](#)
- [Older Population Traffic Safety Fact Sheet](#)
- [Countermeasures That Work](#)
- [NCSA Tools, Publications, and Data](#)



- [NHTSA Image Library](#)

#### ***KDOT Resources***

- [Older Driver's Fatality and Serious Injury dashboard](#)
- [Kansas Mobility Management webpage](#)

#### ***Kansas Department of Revenue Resources***

- [Medical/Vision Review Information](#)

#### **Agenda:**

1:00 pm – **Welcome**

1:05 pm – **Transportation Coordination for Healthy Aging:** Danielle Nelson, Office of Rural and Targeted Programs, Federal Transit Administration; Cathy Monroe, Director, Office of Planning and Program Development, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Region 7

1:20 pm – **Age-Friendly Transportation in Kansas:** Matt Messina, Chief of Multimodal Transportation, Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT); Rene Hart, Program Manager, KDOT; Vanessa Spartan, Chief of Transportation Safety, KDOT

2:10 pm – **Looking Ahead:** Working Group Sign-Up and Vision Statement Drafting; Upcoming Meetings

2:15 pm – **Adjourn**

#### **Meeting Attendees**

Below are advisory and steering committee members that attended the meeting. Title and organization were gathered from survey responses where members self-identified. If this information is not correct, please email [euridge@khi.org](mailto:euridge@khi.org) for correction.

#### ***Age-Friendly Kansas Advisory and Steering Committee Members:***

- **Alice Stoker**, Business Office Manager, Nursing Facility, NE KS
- **Chanda Gross**, Research Analyst, KDHE
- **Dan Duling**, Pittsburg State University
- **Desima Dawdy**, Owner/Pilates Practitioner/Corrective Exercise Specialist, Pilates Performance & Rehab
- **Emilie Rains**, Executive Director, Bluestem PACE
- **Erin Martinez**, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Kansas State University
- **Jackie Halbin**, Director of Community Life & Wellness, Lakeview Village
- **James Stowe**, President and CEO, Center for Practical Bioethics
- **Jamie Gideon**, Kansas Director of Public Policy, Alzheimer's Association
- **Jan Kimbrell**, Senior Representative / Resident Advocate, KSHL / LTCO-V
- **Jean Wilms**, Individual, Individual
- **Jessie Piper**, Assistant Professor, Washburn University
- **Julie Miller**, Clinical Adjunct Instructor MATC, Semi-retired



- **Julie Sergeant**, Deputy Bureau Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- **Kari Baesel**, 50 Plus Department Manager, Johnson County Park & Recreation District
- **Kelly G Loeb**, Community Engagement Coordinator, KU Alzheimer's Disease Research Center
- **Leslie Kraich**, Rural Community Health Worker Project Specialist, Morton County Community Coalition
- **Linda Johnson**, Board Member, Leavenworth
- **Lona Kelly**, Director, Harvey County Dept. on Aging
- **Lorna Jarrett**, Owner, Pneuma Pilates and Wellness
- **Martha Hodgesmith**, Attorney, Citizen of Kansas
- **Mary Calhoun**, Silver-Haired Legislator, Kansas Silver-Haired Legislators
- **Michelle Coats**, Director of Mobility Management, North Central Kansas Coordinated Transit District
- **Stephanie Sherode**, Financial Navigation Program Manager, Masonic Cancer Alliance
- **Sue Schuster, LMSW**, Retired - prior KDADS/LTC ombudsman program
- **Tamara Neff**, DPT, Pilates Performance and Rehab
- **Tyra Quintin**, ADRD Program Manager, KDHE

**KHI Staff:** Emma Uridge, Kari Bruffett, Wen-Chieh Lin, Cynthia Snyder, Shelby Rowell

## **LOOKING AHEAD: UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**Next Meeting:** October 17, 2024 – Addressing Social Isolation and Healthcare Access

**Presenters:** Benjamin Anderson, President and CEO, Hutchinson Regional Medical Center;  
**National speaker still being determined**

## **TRANSPORTATION COORDINATION FOR HEALTHY AGING – FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)**

Danielle Nelson, Office of Rural and Targeted Programs, Federal Transit Administration and Cathy Monroe, Director, Office of Planning and Program Development, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Region 7 presented on federal transportation programs specific to aging.

### **Discussion Topics:**

**Federal Funding for Human Service Transportation:** Federal funding can support human service transportation, including increasing non-emergent healthcare providers. Pilot and planning grants through state agencies present partnership opportunities with transit, announced in January for awarded recipients.

**Adult Trikes and Bike Shares:** Inquiry was made about the use of adult trikes or motorized e-trikes in bike share programs (example from Hawaii). FTA cannot fund individual bikes; they must be part of shared-use transit systems or infrastructure. Accessible bike programs exist but are not FTA-



funded. FHWA (Federal Highway Administration): Funds pedestrian and bike-related programs; federal resources are available to support bike programs.

**Overgrown Bus Stops and Restrooms:** Concerns raised about maintenance and upkeep of bus stops. Accessible bathrooms at transit stops were mentioned as a critical need, with a suggestion to receive payment for bathroom upkeep. Access to clean public restrooms was noted as a valuable amenity for people traveling to healthcare facilities for treatment. It was noted that stop maintenance should be addressed through agreements between transit agencies and cities.

**Public Input on US Rail Line Design:** An opportunity for public input exists regarding future rail line design.

**Community Planning:** Effective transit and public amenities require coordination between city officials and transit systems. Many cities, historically designed for cars, lack considerations for walkability and connectivity.

**Rural School Bus Routes:** There was discussion about whether rural school districts could coordinate with transit to provide food delivery on buses to rural towns, though liability insurance limits such opportunities. Members discussed corporations and schools having similar challenges in offering transportation services due to insurance limitations.

## **AGE-FRIENDLY TRANSPORTATION IN KANSAS – KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (KDOT)**

Matt Messina, Chief of Multimodal Transportation, KDOT; Rene Hart, Program Manager, KDOT; and Vanessa Spartan, Chief of Transportation Safety, KDOT presented on transportation systems and services in Kansas. Vanessa presented on the Drive to Zero (DTZ) program and strategy plan for older adult drivers, who represent a significant portion of those involved in fatal and serious injury crashes in Kansas.

### **Discussion Topics:**

#### **Funding Programs for Specialized Transportation**

- **5310 Program:** Supports transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities.
- **5339 Funding:** Allocated for buses and bus facilities.
- **State Funding:** Available for planning and mobility management.

**Kansas Transit and Mobility Management:** Kansas has 10 coordinated transit districts. Members discussed the role of **mobility managers** who coordinate and optimize transportation services. A mobility manager is a professional who coordinates and optimizes transportation services to improve accessibility and efficiency, particularly for individuals who rely on public or shared transportation. They typically focus on creating seamless travel options by integrating different transportation modes—such as buses, bike-share programs, ride-hailing services, or carpool systems—into a unified network.

### Kansas Mobility Management Resource

**Transportation Needs Assessment:** Members asked if there was a Kansas transportation needs assessment that identifies gaps for seniors? Leveraging existing assessments for the transit districts was discussed as a potential resource.

**Cognitive Impairment and Driver Reporting:** Participants discussed the procedures for reporting cognitively impaired drivers in Kansas. The role of law enforcement, medical professionals, and caregivers in reporting drivers with cognitive issues was highlighted. The importance of having a clear plan for caregivers to manage a loved one's driving decline, rather than just offering suggestions, was noted.

**Modal Choices and Mobility on Demand:** The benefits of mobility on demand services were discussed, particularly in terms of improving safety and providing flexible transportation options for individuals. The difficulty of conversations surrounding "retiring the keys" for older drivers was acknowledged, with concerns raised about the risk of social isolation.

**Vision Standards for Drivers:** Concerns were raised about the adequacy of Kansas' vision standards for drivers, particularly regarding peripheral vision loss in older adults. It was noted that state standards may not fully address these issues.

**Gaps in Transit Services:** It was noted that approximately 20 counties in Kansas do not have transit services, leading to a significant barrier for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Expanding Medicaid and Medicare transportation options was suggested as a potential solution. Additionally, the group discussed the value of volunteer driver programs to fill gaps in service.

**Barriers to Implementing Mobility Managers:** The group discussed potential barriers to implementing mobility managers across the state, acknowledging challenges in making these roles more widely available.

**Bridging Social and Emotional Needs with Transportation:** A suggestion was made to use elder volunteers in senior transportation programs. This would provide both purpose for the volunteers and increase connection and options for seniors using the service.

**Infrastructure Concerns for Senior Housing Developments:** Specific concerns were raised about the infrastructure in certain areas, particularly regarding narrow roads, lack of sidewalks, and poor design around neighborhoods being developed for over-55 housing.

## **REVIEW – DRAFT AFK TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES**

Members reviewed high-level transportation strategies from the AFK advisory committee application. The following strategies were proposed by advisory committee members. These strategies are not final and can be expanded on, combined or removed depending on the group's consensus.

1. **Develop Comprehensive and Coordinated Public Transportation System Across Kansas:** Provide a comprehensive and coordinated public transportation system that is

dependable/available/affordable across all of Kansas, allowing rural senior citizens access to major health facilities and providers for those who choose not to/are unable to drive.

2. **Increase Healthcare Availability and Transportation in Rural Communities:** Expand healthcare services and transportation in rural communities, including increasing the number of healthcare providers and setting up dedicated transportation options for medical visits.
3. **Introduce Senior-Friendly Public Transportation Options:** Develop senior-friendly transportation options with features such as easy access and support for older adults. Explore partnerships with rideshare companies or local transportation providers for tailored services.
4. **Improve Age-Friendly and Community-Minded Infrastructure:** Increase accessibility to age-friendly infrastructure, including public transportation; and affordable and accessible community-minded housing (ex. multigenerational, continuing care retirement communities).
5. **Maintain Walking Trails with Adequate Lighting:** Ensure walking trails are well-maintained and have additional lighting.