

Kansas Department of Transportation Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan



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PROMOTING EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION THROUGH COORDINATION

KDOT's Regional Transit Business Model Implementation Plan completed in 2014, provided a business model that promoted more efficient and effective public transportation services throughout the state. The Business Model identified common elements across the regions that provided a consistent framework from which regions could interact with KDOT as well as adjacent CTDs. These elements included Regional Routes, Coordinated Scheduling, Mobility Management, Regional Governance Structure and Branding Elements. The Coordinated Plan continued to build upon this coordination framework, narrowing the focus of strategies to the needs of the targeted population

KDOT Coordinated Plan

IDENTIFYING THE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF SENIORS, DISABLED AND LOW-INCOME CITIZENS

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Coordinated Plan was developed and approved through a process that included local participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and other members of the public utilizing transportation services. In urban areas the Metropolitan Planning Organizations were consulted, and their Coordinated Plans were reviewed to ensure consistency. Further, an eleven-member steering group representing statewide human service organizations provided a high-level assessment of needs and priorities across the state as the plan was developed. During this phase there were common gaps that were realized across all the Coordinated Districts.

- The most consistent input on gaps received across the state was the limited understanding of what is available for public and agency transportation services.
- Concerns exist about meeting future demand, financially as well as availability of drivers and overall agency capacity.
- There is a need expand agency communication to more efficiently provide service.

Business Model Framework

- REGIONAL ROUTES
- COORDINATED SCHEDULING
- MOBILITY MANAGEMENT
- REGIONAL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE
- BRANDING ELEMENTS

Common Areas of Needs Identified

- PUBLIC AWARENESS
- MEETING FUTURE DEMAND
 - FUNDING
 - DRIVER SHORTAGE
- INCREASE IN ENHANCED CARE RIDES
- COMMUNICATION

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Strategies within this theme focus on providing more tools for local agencies and CTD organizations to enhance coordination. Tools may include added personnel through expanding availability of mobility managers, providing material and programs for marketing service, and information on the benefits service provides locally .

ADMINISTRATIVE COLLABORATION

Concepts covered by this theme include a broad range of strategies in which two or more agencies share responsibility for completing daily, weekly, monthly and/or annual tasks common to almost every agency. These tasks may encompass management of the systems, providing service, or facility maintenance.

ENHANCE GOVERNANCE

STRUCTURE

Current CTD meetings offer an opportunity to utilize this time to promote more information sharing between agencies and KDOT staff on various subject areas.



STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND PREVALENT THEMES

Once the needs were identified they were prioritized by the CTDs and categorized by the prevalent themes including: Technical Support, Administrative Collaboration and Enhanced Governance Structure.

STRATEGY SCREENING AND IMPLEMENTATION

During the Strategy Implementation Screening process, the strategies identified to address the gaps were assessed on several factors to determine the feasibility of implementation. Within each theme, strategies were rated according to need, availability, ease of implementation, local support and cost. The top strategies were further ranked within each theme by short, medium or long timeframes. The resulting Implementation Plans will be used by KDOT and the CTDs when making general and specialized transportation funding decisions.

The KDOT Coordinated Plan is a composite of ten Coordinated Plans for each of the CTDs. Statewide the plan showed that coordination and shared resources and experiences are critical to being able to address the transportation needs. For example, providing necessary medical transport, particularly for dialysis and chemotherapy treatment, is very time and resource intensive. In rural areas, meeting this need requires increased coordination and regional routes to medical centers. Mobility Managers can play a key role in advancing this coordination and promoting the benefits of public transportation to meet this need. Overall the following strategies were the most widely supported across the state:

- Expand Mobility Manager Coverage
- Marketing/Branding/Outreach
- Promoting Community Benefits of Service/Coordination
- Service Clearinghouse and Shared Data
- Colleague Experience Sharing



Moving Forward

The 2018 Coordinated Transit Plan is the product of an on-going process that requires active participation by decision-makers at the state and local levels as financial support is required to advance most of the enhanced coordination concepts. Central to aiding participants to be active is advancing recommendations to provide more training and education opportunities at scheduled CTD meetings throughout the year. KDOT will work with the CTDs to make these meaningful time for training and collaboration.

KDOT continues its initiative to have in place a Mobility Manager in each CTD to assist in moving forward the CTD Implementation Plans. In addition, opportunities for new regional routes will be explored and established where feasible and appropriate. KDOT staff will also look for future opportunities to bring new partners on board and expand the knowledge of the availability of resources to meet the transportation needs of Kansas residents.



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