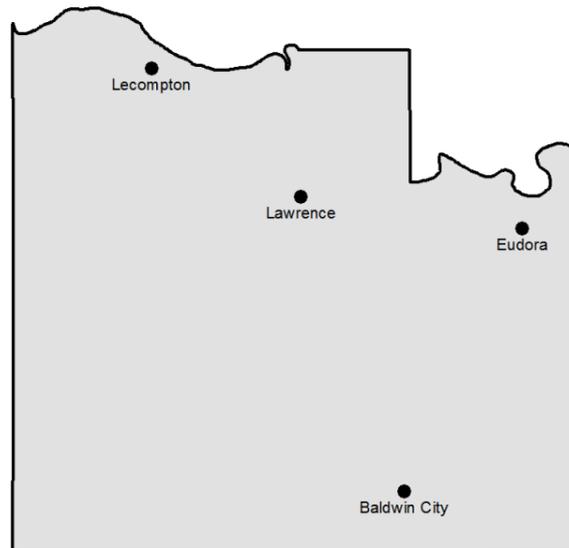


Your Guide to the Lawrence - Douglas County MPO

What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) provide a comprehensive, cooperative and continuous transportation planning process for urbanized areas with a population of 50,000 or greater. The Lawrence-Douglas County MPO serves all of Douglas County including all the municipalities in the County - Baldwin City, Eudora, Lawrence, and Lecompton - because we know that transportation issues don't stop at city limits.

The MPO brings together residents, local governments, state and federal departments of transportation and other interested persons and organizations to assist in creating transportation policy and developing comprehensive plans that reflect our transportation vision for the future.



How is the MPO organized?

The MPO consists of a Policy Board, Technical Advisory Committee, and planning staff.

The **Policy Board** is the governing body for the MPO. The Policy Board guides staff planning efforts, developing plans, and makes the final decisions on key documents and amendments. The Policy Board consists of a seven-person board with representatives from the local and regional elected officials and the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT).

- <https://lawrenceks.civicweb.net/portal/members.aspx?id=60>
- Meetings are typically held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 3 pm via Zoom.

The **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** provides recommendations on technical issues, critiques documents and plans, and suggests revisions. The committee is made up of staff representatives from cities, county, Lawrence Transit, KU on Wheels, and Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). Three additional members, one each from the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and the Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health, serve in an ex-officio capacity.

- <https://lawrenceks.civicweb.net/portal/members.aspx?id=62>
- Meetings are typically held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm via Zoom.

MPO Planning Staff is comprised of planners that are responsible for the day to day operations of the planning process. The staff provides assistance and support to the Policy Board and TAC, and organizes public participation activities.

What does the MPO do?

The MPO performs its mission through four primary activities and documents — the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and Public Participation Plan (PPP). Additional non-required plans are developed.



Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/t2050

The MTP is the blueprint for our future transportation system; it is a vision for a healthy, safe, and efficient transportation system which will adequately serve the region into the future. The plan identifies future transportation needs, investments, and system improvement recommendations for all modes of transportation (automobile, public transit, bicycle, pedestrian, etc.). The plan is updated every 5 years.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/tip

The TIP is a four year listing of federally funded and/or regionally significant improvements to the region's transportation system. This document is developed in cooperation with FHWA, FTA, KDOT, local governments, and affected transit operators. The TIP is updated every two years with amendments processed quarterly. The TIP must include all projects that are anticipated to receive any federal funds, as well as all other regionally significant transportation projects. All federally funded projects listed in the TIP must be consistent with the MTP.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/UPWP

The UPWP describes how the federal planning funds allocated to the Lawrence-Douglas County MPO will be used and what planning activities the MPO staff and consultants will undertake each year. The UPWP is developed by the MPO staff with input from local governments, area transit providers, and the KDOT staff. A new UPWP is produced each year.

Public Participation Plan (PPP)

www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/public_participation

The Public Participation Plan outlines how the MPO works to achieve essential public participation in all planning activities. It also recommends methods to engage the public during the regional transportation planning decision making process. Moreover, it states how members of the public can be involved in the transportation planning process. The MPO also maintains a Title VI Program Manual and a Limited English Proficiency Plan found on the [public participation webpage](http://www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/public_participation_webpage).

Other Transportation Plans

- Lawrence Bikes and Countywide Bike Plan - www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/bicycle_planning
- Regional Pedestrian Plan (updated in 2021) - www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/pedplan
- Safe Routes to School Plans for Lawrence, Eudora, and Baldwin City - www.lawrenceks.org/safe-routes
- Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan - www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/transit
- Transit Comprehensive Operations Analysis (COA) - www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/transit
- Lawrence-Douglas County Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Plan - www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/its

What is the planning process?

Transportation projects are only implemented after a long, thoughtful, and comprehensive process, which includes the consideration of land use, population, employment, freight movement, future development and traffic flow trends, and public input. Public input is provided through discussion at meetings, written comments, and participation in surveys.

You are an important element in the transportation planning efforts in the MPO region. Without your input and ideas, the MPO and our planning partners cannot have a true understanding of your community's needs. Your input will help determine what projects transportation projects are funded.

What is the Transportation Disadvantaged Population?

People who are transportation disadvantaged experience challenges achieving basic access to services, employment, and/or education. Not only do socio-demographic characteristics factor into being transportation disadvantaged, but also where people live and what travel options are available to them. Find out more information at:

www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/transportation-disadvantaged.



How can I participate in the planning process?



Attend and contribute to open public meetings (committees and community outreach events)



Take a Survey on the Tell Us Portal at: www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/tellus



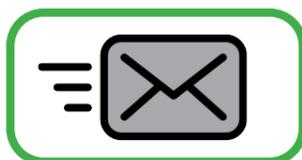
Call us at 785-832-3155
8:00 am- 5:00 pm Monday - Friday



Write to us: Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization, PO Box 708, Lawrence, KS 66044



Review documents at: Baldwin City Public Library, Eudora Public Library, Lawrence Public Library, Lecompton City Hall.



Email us at: mpo@lawrenceks.org



Visit our website at: www.lawrenceks.org/mpo

Special Accommodations: Please notify the Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (L-DC MPO) at (785) 832-7700 at least 72 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend this meeting (i.e., qualified interpreter, large print, reader, hearing assistance). We will make every effort to meet reasonable requests.

The L-DC MPO programs do not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap/disability, according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/title6 or call (785) 832-7700.

Updated: August 2023

