

# City of Lawrence Public Transit

**TO:** Dave Corliss, City Manager

**FROM:** Robert A. Nugent, Public Transit Administrator



**CC:** Diane Stoddard, Assistant City Manager

**Date:** July 21, 2009

**RE:** Agenda Item:

**Authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Lawrence, the Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (LDCMO), the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and the St. Joseph Area Transportation Study Organization (SJATSO) for continued participation in an internet based website called Rideshare that promotes alternative modes of transportation for commuters.**

Please place the following item on the City Commission agenda for consideration at their July 28, 2009 meeting:

## **Background Information:**

The City of Lawrence and the Mid-America Regional Council initially entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in March 2006. This agreement was for the purchase software and the associated costs of operating the regional Rideshare Program. This program has proven to be successful over the last few years. It has become a valuable tool in addressing commuters concerns over escalating costs associated with their daily commute.

Recently, the St. Joseph Area Transportation Study Organization recognized the value of the program and decided to become an active participant. With this participation and the subsequent expansion of the service area the Rideshare Program will become even more valuable to the region.

Due to this change in participating organizations it has become necessary to create a new MOU that completely represents all the participants. This new MOU does not include and does not commit to ante in the program which has made it necessary to create a new MOU.

During that time it has proven to be successful in addressing regional commuters concerns over ever-increasing commute costs. The expansion of the program to include the St. Joseph metropolitan area should ultimately add to this success.

This new MOU does not include any additional resource commitments from the City.

## **Action Request:**

Staff seeks City Commission approval of this agreement and authorizing the Mayor's signature.