

## Welcome!

Thank you for attending tonight's *Multimodal Planning Studies* open house! At this event, there are three main ways you can provide your input:

- ❖ Fill out a comment card and return it to a project team member
- ❖ Mark-up a map that identifies with your mobility concerns, issues, and solutions
- ❖ Complete the online survey (here tonight, or later at home)



**Commuter Park and Ride Study**



**Transit and Pedestrian Accessibility Study**



**Countywide Bikeway Plan**

## Project Overview

The Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization, in coordination with the City of Lawrence, is conducting the *Multimodal Planning Studies*. The goal of this planning effort is to identify and prioritize transportation needs for commuters, pedestrians, cyclists and transit riders for the next 5 to 10 years and develop a range of short and long-term improvements to support a more multimodal region.

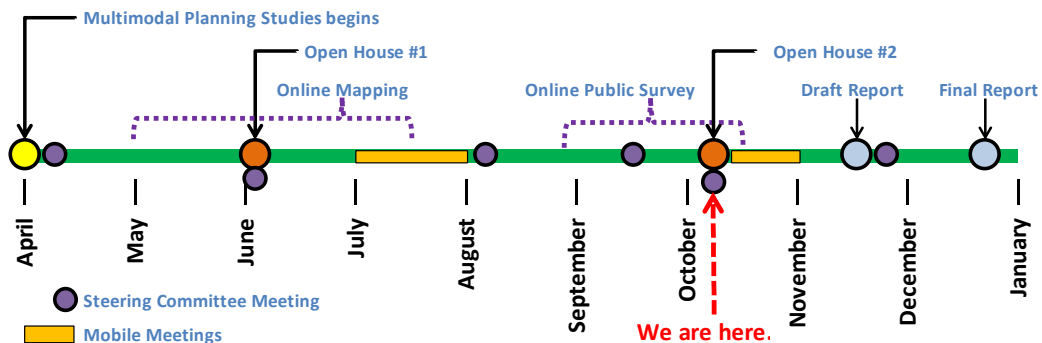
### What is multimodal? And, why is it important?

Multimodal refers to a wide range of mobility options – vehicular traffic, public transportation, walking, bicycling and ridesharing (carpooling and vanpooling). To some degree, this planning effort addresses all of these modes but is primarily focused on improving walking, bicycling, transit riding conditions and developing ridesharing facilities within Lawrence and Douglas County. Developing a truly multimodal transportation system is consistent with the Complete Streets Policy adopted by the Lawrence City Commission on March 27th, 2012. In addition to supporting this policy, a multimodal transportation system has several benefits including reducing travel costs, promoting an active and healthy lifestyle, expanding mobility options for all users, and providing environmental benefits by reducing traffic congestion and helping to improve air quality within the region.



### What is this project's schedule?

The project began in April 2013 and will be complete by December 2013. The project team is currently evaluating multimodal improvements throughout Douglas County that will be included in a draft report that will be available by mid-November. You can participate by completing the online survey that will be available through October 15<sup>th</sup> and by reviewing and commenting on the draft report.



## Why are there 3 studies? And, what is the goal of each one?

The *Multimodal Planning Studies* consists of the Commuter Park and Ride Study, the Transit and Pedestrian Accessibility Study and the Countywide Bikeway Plan. Each study has its own set of issues, project goals and evaluation methodology. However, a number of issues from each of the studies will overlap and impact the selection and prioritization of infrastructure improvements within the region. For example, developing park and ride lots will require close coordination with the transit and pedestrian accessibility study as the project team will be looking for opportunities to expand current transit routes to the lots to provide seamless connections between modes. Along these same lines, the project team will also be looking for opportunities to connect countywide bicycle facilities to park and ride lots and to major transit stops to further promote a well-connected, multimodal transportation network. The study goals are to identify:



### Commuter Park and Ride Study

- Possible locations to plan commuter park & ride lots to serve the needs of Douglas County residents who work in Topeka and Metro Kansas City.
- Feasibility of using the lots to serve shuttle bus needs for special event days in Lawrence.
- Opportunities to encourage carpooling and coordination with regional bus services.
- Opportunities to connect to local transit services and other modes including bicycle facilities.



### Transit and Pedestrian Accessibility Study

- Obstacles transit riders face in accessing the fixed-route system.
- Locations where improvements to the pedestrian environment can be made to improve and/or enable people to access fixed-route transit services.
- Issues with streets/sidewalks that prevent people from accessing the fixed-route system and force them to rely on paratransit.
- Possible locations for bus turnouts that could make the bus boarding and exiting process more convenient and enhance traffic operations.



### Countywide Bikeway Plan

- Opportunities to expand the existing bikeway system network to cover all of Douglas County.
- On-road and off-road bikeway improvements.
- Bikeway connections from Douglas County to other areas including Metro Kansas City and the Topeka Area.
- Improvements at key locations:
  - ✓ 6th and Iowa Interchange Area in Lawrence
  - ✓ Burroughs Creek Trail/Hobbs Park to Riverfront/Constant Park Connector in Lawrence
  - ✓ Eudora Elementary and Middle Schools
  - ✓ Baldwin City Elementary

## Your Input is Important!

Visit the Multimodal Planning Studies project website for a number of opportunities to participate throughout the study. Check back often as we will be adding materials.

[www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/study](http://www.lawrenceks.org/mpo/study)

## Contact Information

Feel free to contact the project team with any questions or comments. You can contact:

- **Jim Meyer, URS Corporation**, at (312)-577-6458 and [jim.meyer@urs.com](mailto:jim.meyer@urs.com)
- **Todd Girdler, Lawrence-Douglas County MPO**, at (785) 832-3155 and [tgirdler@lawrenceks.org](mailto:tgirdler@lawrenceks.org)