



Board of Directors Special Meeting
Meeting Agenda
August 21, 2014
Tanganyika Wildlife Park
1000 S. Hawkins Lane ~ Goddard, KS 67052
8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions: Commissioner Dave Unruh, Chairman (8:30 a.m.)
2. South Central Kansas Prosperity Planning Summary: John Waltner (8:35 a.m.)
An overview of the planning process will be provided, as well as a "State of the Region" report that will introduce current conditions in the region and the challenges that need to be addressed moving forward.
 - **Preferred Scenario Overview:** Paula Downs
Through the Consortium Leadership Team (CLT), partner/stakeholder, and citizen input, a "great Communities" preferred scenario has been developed as a framework for future decisions around the six planning topics. REAP members will be provided a summary of this framework.
 - **Draft Plan Review:** Paula Downs
REAP members will receive information on the focus areas and issues for all six planning topics. REAP members will be asked to provide feedback on what they see as the most important issues facing the region.
 - **Strategy Feedback:** REAP Board of Directors
 - **Plan Deliverables and Schedule:** Paula Downs
An overview of the planning documents that will be produced and the planning schedule through January 2015 will be discussed.
3. Citizen Survey Results: Misty Bruckner (9:30)
REAP members will be provided an overview of the results of the citizen survey sent out in June.
Recommended action: take appropriate action.
4. Unscheduled Topics: REAP Board of Directors Members (9:50 a.m.)
5. Adjourn: Commissioner Dave Unruh (10:00 a.m.)

The REAP Board of Directors is scheduled to meet at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, September 5, 2014 at the Hutchinson State Fair Grounds in the Cottonwood Court Meeting Room, Cottonwood Court Food Court.

REAP Members are invited to attend the Whitehouse Ribbon Cutting at the State Fair Grounds at 11:00 a.m. on September 5th, following the Board of Directors Meeting.



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Built Environment

- Need to enhance the availability and effectiveness of transportation choices
- Need to enhance the variety of housing and neighborhood choices, particularly in small-town and rural areas
- Need for regulatory flexibility in rehabilitation and infill efforts
- Need to address aging infrastructure

Healthy Community Design

- Continuing to reduce smoking in adults and teens
- Access to healthcare providers by transit-dependent persons
- Need for more mental health and substance abuse services
- Need for built environment to better support physical activity
- Lack of access to fresh food in some communities

Natural Resources

- The lack of land use planning in some areas of the region, which can result in negative impacts to natural resources, including fragmented ecosystems
- The need to manage solid waste, including increasing recycling
- Development in floodplains
- Effects of non-point source runoff on water quality

Transportation

- Need for improved coordination among jurisdictions
- Need for better work-home connectivity
- Need for Alternative Forms of Transportation
- Need to expand freight and passenger rail service
- Cost of maintenance of current infrastructure

Water

- Limited nature of water resources
- Need for drought resiliency planning
- Need for conservation information and improved marketing around conservation education
- Lack of preventative infrastructure maintenance/replacement

Workforce and Business Development

- Need for a regional brand to enhance national competitiveness
- Need to diversify the regional economy
- Need to match workers with companies
- Need to upgrade worker skills
- Need to support entrepreneurial development





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Built Environment

1. Focus Area: Community/Neighborhood Design

Issues:

- Lack of the variety of housing options in existing and new areas
- Planning and design to accommodate multiple uses over the lifetime of infrastructure and buildings
- Availability and effectiveness of transportation choices
- Obstacles related to offering a variety of housing and neighborhood choices

2. Focus Area: Reinvestment/Infill Development

Issues:

- Financing of infill projects/investments
- Need for flexibility in rehabilitation efforts
- Environmental conditions and mitigation requirements
- Blight- vacant land and buildings
- Integration of development into existing areas
- Infrastructure adaptability and aging infrastructure

3. Focus Area: Sustainable Architecture and Design

Issues:

- Need to define energy efficiency and the associated economic benefits
- Educating the public regarding energy efficiency

4. Focus Area: Regional Housing Market

Issues:

- Need to understand what types of housing are needed to support current/future jobs
- Need for communities to develop/implement/sustain viable housing projects and meet market demands and needs

Healthy Community Design

1. Focus Area: Tobacco Use

Issues:

- Leading Cause of Morbidity & Mortality
- Results in High Health Costs
- Pre-Post Natal Care, Clients, Patients

2. Focus Area: Access to Medical Services

Issues:

- Access by gaining population- transportation choices inhibits access
- Affordability
- Access to Providers (primary care and specialists)
- Lack of mental health and substance abuse in-patient services



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3. Focus Area: Physical Inactivity

Issues:

- Lack of environment to support physical activity
- Diminishing access to activity in school

4. Focus Area: Food Quality and Access

Issues:

- Lack of fresh food access/options
- High concentration of fast food
- Food deserts

5. Focus Area: Education (Educational Attainment is linked to health outcomes)

Issues:

- Lower education attainment often results in poor health outcomes
- Need to retain educated population
- Lack of focus on younger population to make better choices

6. Focus Area: Access to Transportation

Issues:

- Lack of Options
- Lack of intra/inter connectivity among cities/counties and options for rural routes

Natural Resources

1. Focus Area: Regional Collaboration

Issues:

- Need for collaborative body to carry the planning work forward and implement strategies
- Need for a system for establishing/maintaining agreements on projects
- Need for diverse interests to be involved in existing regional boards
- Need for proactive regional approach to natural resource issues
- Need for funding from region

2. Focus Area: Land Use Planning

Issues:

- Urban Sprawl
- Lack of land use planning related to natural resources
- Need for use of native plants in landscape plans
- Development in floodplain areas
- Lack of planning creates fragmented ecosystem
- Impact of land use on water quality



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3. Focus Area: Water Quality-Ground and Surface Water

Issues:

- Funding for groundwater and surface water best management practices
- Nutrient, bacteria, sediment management
- Need for chemical/pesticide management

4. Focus Area: Solid Waste Management

Issues:

- Cost of not recycling
- Encouraging people/communities to recycle
- Management of solid waste
- Need for regional collaboration on solid waste issues

5. Focus Area: Air Quality

Issues:

- Need to engage in and promote voluntary measures to avoid stricture mandatory measures that may inhibit economic vitality
- Need for regional education to change behavior

Transportation

1. Focus Area: Connection Between Transportation and Land Use

Issues:

- Improved Coordination
- Work/Residential Connectivity
- Air quality impact considerations

2. Focus Area: Transportation Choices

Issues:

- Need for alternative forms of transportation
- Need to design transportation systems for all users/uses (people and goods)

3. Focus Area: Maintenance

Issues:

- Current infrastructure maintenance

4. Focus Area: Regional Structures

Issues:

- Decision Making Coordination
- Regional Coordination

Water

1. Focus Area: Water Supply

Issues:

- Availability, accessibility, and inventory of water
- Drought resiliency planning





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- Identification of potential long-term regional/collaborative projects
- Advocacy around water policy/issues

2. Focus Area: Conservation and Education

Issues:

- Need for conservation information and improved marketing around conservation
- Need for funding (leverage existing resources)
- Need for improved regional collaboration/advocacy

3. Focus Area: Cost of Water

Issues:

- Conservation strategies that don't create revenue shortfalls
- Lack of funding/incentives for implementing innovation in water system partnerships to reduce costs on new projects
- Lack of South Central Kansas input in state water discussion
- Lack of preventative infrastructure maintenance/replacement
- Lost revenue associated with lower water sales

Workforce and Business Development

1. Focus Area: Workforce Development

Issues:

- Understand and Identify workforce needs of business/industry (match workers with companies)
- Need to assess, recognize, and implement mechanisms to upgrade worker skills
- Fill gaps in workforce support systems

2. Focus Area: Business Development

Issues:

- Gaps in economic development plans to recognize export/trade elements
- Recognizing business climate resource needs
- Need to identify and attract key industry clusters for retention/expansion/recruitment
- Need to support entrepreneurial development
- Regional economic development approach to compliment what is being done and understand regional assets (address leads distribution/protocol system)

3. Focus Area: Regional Image

Issues:

- Need for regional brand/image
- Need to increase influence area in region (expand planning area to 14 county workforce and business development planning area)