

MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

AIR QUALITY FORUM

August 13, 2024

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

MARC Board Room (Hybrid)

1. Introductions and Determination of Quorum

2. Approval of June Meeting Summary*

The meeting minutes were APPROVED with modifications.

3. Transportation Emission Committee*

a. Committee Role

- Karen Clawson shared about a new MARC Transportation Emissions Committee. The committee is looking for an AQF member to serve on the committee. The committee role is responsible for reviewing project applications, and provide funding recommendation to TTPC for:
 - Carbon Reduction Program
 - Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ)
- The role would also assist with ongoing monitoring, program management, and reporting of progress of projects funded through these programs.

b. Policy Guidance

- Clawson shared that the Transportation Emission Committee will consider goals, strategies and priorities of MARC's metropolitan plan and Connected KC 2050 plan. Additionally, the committee considers priorities and input from MARC's modal planning and policy committees, including the Air Quality Forum, Climate and Environment Council, and the Sustainable Places Policy Committee. Program Funds for projects/programs designed to help meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the federal transportation authorizing legislation to reduce transportation emissions from on-road sources

c. Eligible Projects and Activities

- Projects and activities identified as eligible for funding through the Carbon Reduction (CRP) Program and/or Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ). Examples include public transportation, alternative fuels, energy-efficiency alternatives and travel demand models.
- Additional guidance related to CRP and CMAQ sponsor, project, and activity eligibility:
 - **CRP:** https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/crp_fact_sheet.cfm

- **CMAQ:** <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/cmaq.cfm>

d. Designate an AQF member to serve on TEC

- Kelly Gilbert, MEC
 - Alternate/Proxy for Kelly – Andy Savastino
- Motion: Rollin Sach
 - Second: Richard Rocha
 - APPROVED

4. 2024 Peer Regions Transit Report

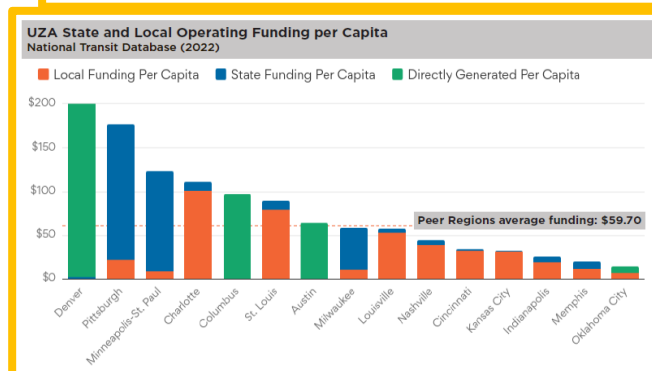
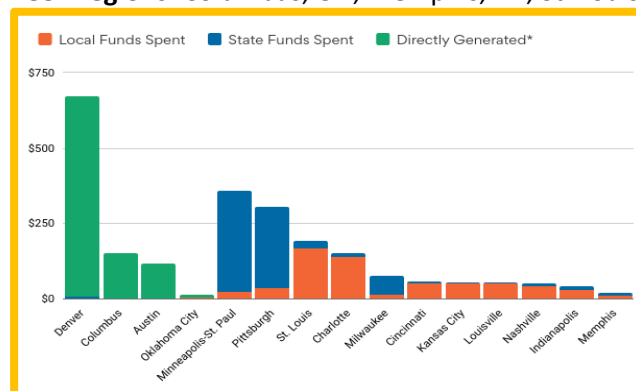
Martin Rivarola from MARC joined the forum to present the Peer Region Transit Report. The Peer Regions Transit Report was created in 2011 to support work by Johnson County’s Transit Funding Task Force (START), and aid in ongoing discussions regarding the development of a strategy for regional transit investment in Kansas City. The report was updated in 2014, 2018, and 2024.

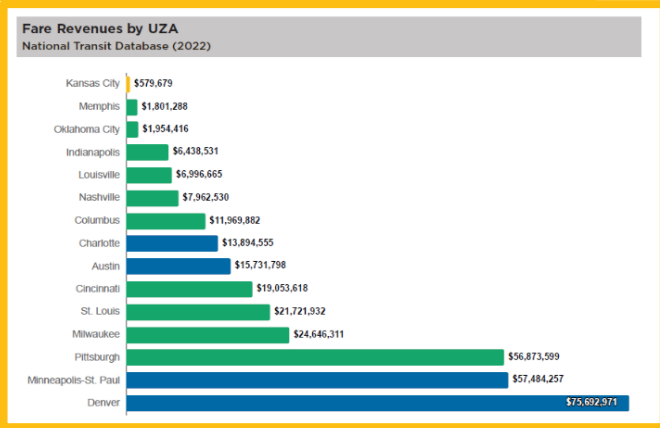
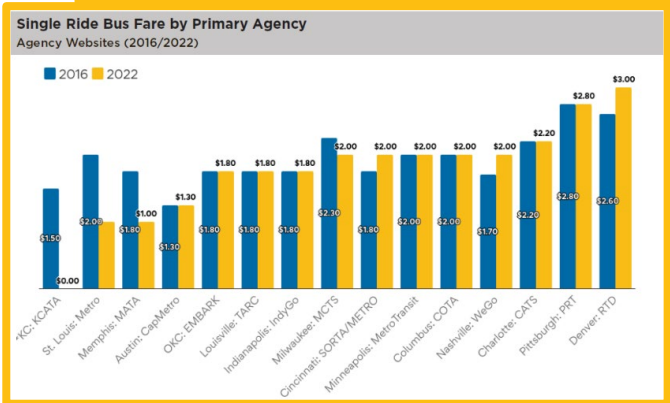
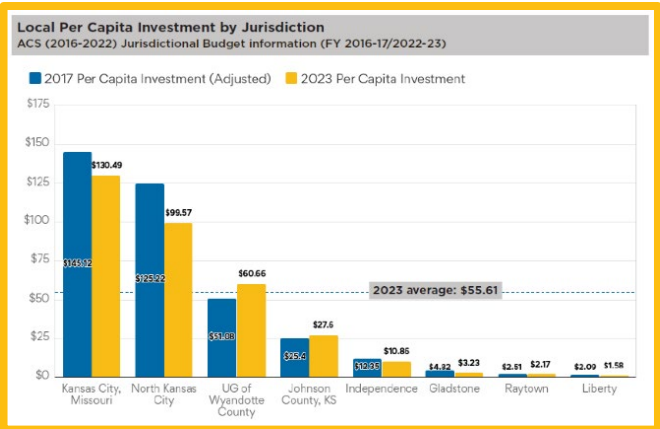
One focus of this update was to measure pandemic-related effects on transit operations and compare those impacts on our region against others. Data sources include National Transit Database (NTD), American Community Survey (ACS), peer transit agencies survey, local government budget information and transit agency websites.

In 2022, Kansas City transit agencies spent \$46.53 per person in operating funds generated from state and local sources, ranking 12th out of 15 UZAs. In 2021, the Kansas City UZA spent \$1.39 million in state operating funding, ranking 10 out of 15 peer and aspirational UZAs. Kansas agencies spent \$986,182 of this total, while Missouri spent \$403,312. Which is below the median of peer cities of \$8.7 million, while aspirational cities on average received \$148 million.

In 2023, the contributing jurisdictions in the Kansas City region averaged \$55.61 per capita on transit services. Locally, Kansas City, Missouri, had the highest contribution with \$130.49 in local investment per capita. KCATA was the 5th-highest transit system ridden out of 11 peer primary agencies, and 8th out of all 15 agencies. While ridership decreased 26 percent since 2018, this decrease in ridership is among the smallest decreases compared to other agencies. The median decrease amongst all peer and aspirational primary agencies was 52.8 percent.

a. Peer Regions: Columbus, OH, Memphis, TN, St. Louis, MO, Cincinnati, OH





Annual Ridership by Primary Agency

UZA	2016	2022	% change
Austin	31,048,807	20,417,077	-34
Charlotte	26,248,940	12,640,017	-52
Cincinnati	15,566,731	9,847,273	-37
Columbus	18,827,815	10,275,316	-45
Denver	103,340,797	61,284,680	-41
Indianapolis	9,494,784	5,751,302	-39
Kansas City	14,220,399	10,572,362	-26
Louisville	14,087,286	5,341,409	-62
Memphis	7,762,476	2,976,709	-62
Milwaukee	40,709,350	18,849,230	-54
Minneapolis-St. Paul	82,624,619	38,794,641	-53
Nashville	9,915,984	6,370,413	-36
Oklahoma City	3,265,299	2,512,635	-23
Pittsburgh	63,823,513	32,328,532	-49
St. Louis	44,046,960	18,508,770	-58

- b. Final report**
- The final report will break the data and information in the summary down by mode and in some cases smaller local agencies.
 - Executive Summary here:

- www.marc.org/transportation/plans-and-studies/peer-regions-transit-report

5. 2024 Green Commute Challenge

WAY TO GO's 16th annual event encourages commuters around the region to take greener ways to and from work. Participants compete as part of their employer or a community team. Commuters log their commute trips on the WAY TO GO KC app. Points can be earned for carpooling, biking, walking, scooting, taking the bus, or riding the streetcar. WAY TO GO will give our weekly prizes to people who log trips based on weekly themes (bike week, transit week, etc.)

- Individual Competition:
 - Grand prize: Voya E+ E-bike
 - Second place: \$200
- Team Competition:
 - Grand prize: \$300
 - Second place: \$150
- New! Local Government Challenge
 - Grand prize: \$300 charity donation

6. Regional Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan Update

Karen Clawson shared how MARC is currently working to update the Regional Electric Readiness Plan. The final KC Regional EV Readiness Plan will respect the need to accomplish four main components. First, decrease Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. Second, complete the electrification strategies in the regional Climate Action Plan, Clean Air Action Plan, Connected KC 2050, and other local plans. Third, leverage the region's position as an electrification hub. Lastly, support EV use as a mode of clean transportation.

The deliverables of the EV Readiness Plan is to identify locations for new charging infrastructure. Prioritize recommendations for policies/programs to lower barriers. Develop a roadmap to help municipalities deploy EV charging infrastructure, pursue funding options, and support grant applications with data and information. The intended Audience for the Plan is Municipalities, Counties, school districts and institutional uses, multifamily development, utility providers, commercial and industrial areas and the public.

7. State Rules in Progress

The next MACC meeting will be in late August in Blue Springs. There are five rules in progress in Missouri including interstate transport and SO₂. The DERA program is open ; it closes December 31st.

8. Other Business

9. Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

10. Adjourn

**Action item*