

METRO



planning NEWS



Vol. 4, Issue 4
Winter, 2007

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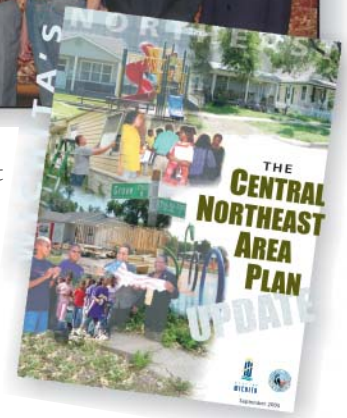
Neighborhood Plan Wins State Award

By Dave Barber AICP

On September 6th, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Planning Department (MAPD) received the 2007 Pioneer Award from the Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association, in recognition of its involvement with the Central Northeast Area Plan Update. This award recognizes an individual or institution that has demonstrated creativity and innovation in using planning to meet a community need or solve a public problem. The solution must be sustainable, have public support, and the ability to be implemented. Dave Barber, Christy Rodriguez and Scott Wadle from MAPD worked with the central northeast Wichita neighborhood associations in the development of this plan, and accepted the award at the annual Kansas APA Chapter conference in Manhattan, Kansas.



At the October 2nd Wichita City Council meeting, Mayor Carl Brewer also recognized the MAPD and the central northeast community for its achievement in developing the award-winning Central Northeast Area Plan Update.



New Stormwater Management Advisory Board

By Christy Rodriguez

On October 31, 2007, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution to create a Stormwater Management Advisory Board (SMAB) for the purpose of protecting lives and property within Sedgwick County by promoting better stormwater management and providing financial, technical and other assistance to all the entities within Sedgwick County that are concerned with stormwater management. The SMAB will serve as an advisory board to the County Commission on all matters related to stormwater management--assisting to coordinate efforts on a regional basis.

The SMAB may undertake, but is not limited to, activities such as master planning of water basins, setting priorities and providing match funding for implementing basin studies, setting standards for facilities, developing standards for new urban development, and promoting public awareness. Municipalities and active watershed or drainage districts that wish to participate have been invited to nominate one representative to be appointed by the County Commission. It is projected that the Board of County Commissioners will make the appointments to the SMAB in January 2008. If you have any questions pertaining to the SMAB, please feel free to call Christy Rodriguez at 316-352-4856.



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New City Administrator in Cheney

By Christy Rodriguez

Zach Mohr is the new City Administrator for the City of Cheney effective this past September. He is a native Kansan, from Colwich, Kansas and graduated from Andale High School. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Kansas State University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Kansas. Zach's career in local government began in Ottawa, Kansas--working on projects for the City Manager while working towards his graduate degree.



Zach Mohr

Prior to his new position in Cheney, Zach worked as the Assistant to the City Manager and Director of the Outlying Resources Department in Arkansas City. As the Assistant to the City Manager, he worked with the Council and City Manager to develop community and economic development policies, write grants, and oversee the administration of several grants. As the Director of Outlying Resources, Zach oversaw the management of the Senior Center, the Community Center, and the Cherokee Strip Museum. Zach said, "I am now very happy to be coming home to enjoy the small town life in western Sedgwick County."

Citizens Get Involved with Planning for Parks

By Scott Wadle

The Dream in Green Charrette was a huge success. Approximately 60 citizens got involved with planning for Wichita parks, recreation, and open spaces at the Dream in Green Charrette, held on October 27th at the Edgemoor Recreation Center. The event included a diverse range of people: Wichita City Council Members, members of Wichita's Park Board, business owners, architects, citizens, students, planners, and community activists. The participants were divided into seven small groups/teams, providing everyone with a hands-on planning experience.

The seven small groups focused on one of five community focus areas: Community Health and Lifetime Recreation; Environmental Sustainability; Youth and Family; Culture and Diversity; Attracting and Retaining Workforce and Business. Teams developed both "big



A Year of Zoning Amendments: McConnell AFB JLUS

By Scott Knebel

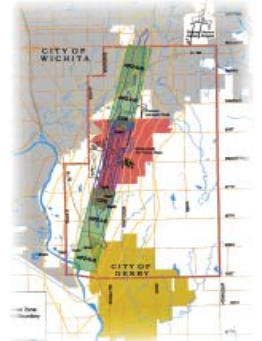
Over the past year, the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department has processed zoning code text and zoning map amendments to implement the recommendations of the McConnell Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). The following amendments have been completed within the past year:

1. The zoning of McConnell Air Force Base has been changed to the newly-created Air Force Base zoning classification.

2. The newly-created Air Force Base Protection Overlay District has been overlaid on the base zoning for most of the properties within one-half mile of the base. The overlay district limits the height of newly constructed buildings to 25 feet.

3. The existing Airport Overlay Districts were amended so that the use regulations and development standards are more consistent with the Federal Land Use Compatibility Guidelines for military installations.

4. The zoning for many vacant and agricultural properties south of the base was changed to the newly-created Industrial Park - Airport zoning classification, which has use regulations and development standards tailored for properties that are most directly impacted by aircraft operations.



picture" concepts, as well as, smaller, more specific ideas, which participants illustrated on maps, flip charts and other materials to show what the ideal park system would look like.

Input from the charrette will be combined with other PROS public input and used to development a draft Wichita PROS Community Needs and Resources Assessment. This assessment will then be used by the PROS Plan Citizen Advisory Committee to guide the development of the draft Wichita PROS Plan. Be sure to check out the website at www.wichitaprosplan.org for the latest information and to see the input from the charrette.

Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization News

Articles by Brent Holper and Scott Dunakey
For more information regarding the Wichita
Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
contact Nancy Harvieux at 268-4391

WAMPO Wins National Award

On October 3, the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) received a national award from the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) for the regional Railroad Crossing Plan. The award for Innovative Project in the Outstanding Overall Achievement category was accepted by Nancy Harvieux, Transportation Planning Manager, at the AMPO annual conference in Little Rock.

The purpose of the plan is to identify and analyze the transportation and safety needs of railroad crossings across the entire Wichita metropolitan area. The plan, adopted by the WAMPO Transportation Policy Body on July 24, 2007, will be used to identify and fund priority railroad crossing projects. Scott Dunakey, Principal Planner, was the project leader for this plan.

Congratulations to WAMPO for earning this prestigious award!



WAMPO Staff Seated in front: Nancy Harvieux, Scott Dunakey
Back from left to right: Ben Finley, Mitch Coffman, Mike Moriarty, Brenton Holper, Vester Adams



Transportation Enhancement Applications Under Review

The Transportation Policy Body and Technical Advisory Committee recently reviewed and ranked a total of eleven Transportation Enhancement applications (nine Pedestrian/Bicycle Facility category applications and two Scenic/Environmental category applications) that were received for the KDOT Transportation Enhancement program. These rankings have been submitted to KDOT for their review process, with the awards expected to be announced in May of 2008. Application rankings may be viewed at www.wampoks.org.

Looking back at 2007

With 2007 coming to an end, take a look at what WAMPO has accomplished during this past year.

- Restructured the Transportation Policy Body (TPB) to consist of elected officials.
- Completed a successful FHWA and FTA certification review of the MPO activities.
- Developed a new MPO website (www.wampoks.org).
- Received a national award for "Innovation in Metropolitan Transportation Planning" from the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) for the Regional Railroad Crossing Plan.
- Completed the Regional Pathway System Plan, Regional Railroad Crossing Plan, the Public Participation Plan, the Unified Planning Work Program, and the Environmental Justice Policy.

As WAMPO looks to the future, we have high expectations for 2008 with the completion of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the South Area Transportation Study (SATS) in the beginning months of 2008. Projects that have been identified to begin in 2008 include: the WAMPO Transportation Safety Plan, a Regional Freight Plan, and various public informational guides. For more information on upcoming projects, events, and activities of WAMPO, go to our website at www.wampoks.org.

Derby Has A New Planner!

By Christy Rodriguez

The City of Derby welcomes Bud Newberry! He fills the City Planner position vacated by Don Losew. Bud was born and raised in Garden City, Kansas and graduated from both Garden City High School and Garden City Community College. He then earned a Bachelor of Science in Human Resources Management from Friends University, had a 15-year career in commercial and industrial construction in the Oklahoma City area, and then took his first city management position in Dighton, Kansas in 1992. Bud has also served as City Administrator/Manager in Clinton, Oklahoma, Elkhart, Kansas, and Ulysses, Kansas. Bud stated, "Although I enjoyed working in smaller cities in Western Kansas and Oklahoma, I decided it was time for my wife and I to move to the Wichita area where we have some close relatives. I am going to thoroughly enjoy working in Derby. Kathy Sexton, the Derby City Manager, and Charlie Brown, the Director of Community Development, are excellent to work with!"



Bud Newberry

Arena Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan Approved

By Scott Knebel

The Arena Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan was recently adopted as an element of the Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan by the Wichita City Council and Sedgwick County Commission. The Plan covers a 32-block area of downtown Wichita that surrounds the future site of the Sedgwick County Arena. The vision for the area is for this portion of downtown to become a vibrant, redeveloped urban place where people want to live, work and visit due to its proximity to existing and proposed downtown assets. The vision will be accomplished through objectives related to land use and development; parking and mobility; and urban design. The adopted Plan is available at: <http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/AP/Comprehensive/ArenaPlan.htm>



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/



PLANNING GREAT COMMUNITIES