



CITY OF TOPEKA

City Communications
City Hall, 215 SE 7th Street
Topeka, KS 66603-3914

Tel: 785-368-0991
www.topeka.org

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact for further information: Molly Hadfield, Director of Media Relations 368-0991,
mhadfield@topeka.org

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Public Open House Scheduled for MTPO Transportation Safety Plan

The Metropolitan Topeka Planning Organization (MTPO), in coordination with the City of Topeka and Shawnee County, is developing a transportation safety plan focused on local roadways (city streets and county roads) to set priorities toward the goal of reducing serious injury and fatal crashes. An open house will be held to provide information about the study and to give the public a chance to share their ideas about issues concerning transportation safety in the Topeka/Shawnee County area. The open house will be held:

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

and

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Holliday Conference Room at City of Topeka Office Building

620 SE Madison Street

I-70 at Exit 362B (East and West)

Topeka, KS 66607

Between 2010 and 2016, there were 23,591 crashes on city streets and county roads in Topeka/Shawnee County resulting in 5,545 injuries and 68 fatalities. This equates to an average cost to society of \$193 million dollars in lost wages, vehicle repairs, hospital bills and other unintended expenses in Topeka/Shawnee County each year.

Public input is needed early in the project to gain an understanding of transportation users' (drivers, riders, pedestrians and bicyclists) priorities related to transportation safety in Topeka/Shawnee County. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) research (2008), "human error" accounts for between 85% and 95% of the critical reason why crashes occur.

Members of the transportation safety plan team will be on hand with displays to answer questions and to discuss transportation safety issues with the public. A formal presentation

will be given shortly after 11:00 a.m. during the mid-day meeting and at 5:00 p.m. for the evening meeting.

Anyone with questions about the transportation safety plan or the open house may contact Carlton Scroggins, Project Manager, MTPO, (785) 368-3728 or visit the project website: <http://www.topekampo.org/transportation-safety-plan.html>