



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

May 12, 2010

Mayor Carl Gerlach
City Hall
8500 Santa Fe Drive
Overland Park, Kansas 66212

Dear Mayor Gerlach:

On May 6, 2010, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Strategic Transit Action Recommendation Taskforce (START) to study the approved Transit Strategic Plan. In addition, the Taskforce will evaluate service options and make recommendations on funding strategies, including long-term financing tools, for a county-wide transit system and related linear amenities.

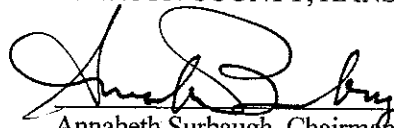
The Johnson County Transportation Council has developed, and the Board of County Commissioners has endorsed, a rolling Strategic Plan to build a comprehensive Transit System to serve Johnson County. Detailing a funding plan that is inclusive of initiation and maintenance of the Johnson County Transit (JCT) Strategic Plan is a critical function of the success of service implementation. In addition, clarity of jurisdictional responsibilities needs to occur, such as who will be responsible for specific system components.

The taskforce will be comprised of twenty-four (24) Johnson County residents. To ensure broad representation of community interests and key stakeholders, each Commissioner will make one (1) district appointment and I will ensure adequate representation by the following groups: convention and visitors bureau, chambers of commerce, environmental interest groups, disabled and elderly populations, development community, financial institutions, civic and professional organizations, representation from the cities of Mission, Overland Park and Prairie Village, three (3) appointments from the Council of Mayors and three (3) appointments from the Johnson County Transportation Council. The Transportation Council Chair will act as Chairman and will be deemed as an "ex officio member".

I estimate that this process will take at least six to seven months to complete and create a final report for the Board of County Commissioners. The meetings will begin June/July, 2010 and end in early January, 2011. START is to submit to the Board a final report outlining its recommendations on short and long-term funding strategies for a comprehensive transit system, transportation infrastructure and linear amenities.

I am requesting that you appoint someone to be the City of Overland Park representative to the Committee. If you can submit your recommendation to me at your earliest convenience, the work of the Taskforce can begin in June. As always, please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS


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