

WBR Virtual Series: Active Transportation Planning Toolkit, Q&A Session

1. What resources are available for working with railroads?
 - a. Matt: We have a unit in KDOT that works with railroads, also have a freight and rail program where we have relationships with railroads. The trick is to let the railroads know about plans and proposals early on. Get shared buy in, coordinate with them. As things progress there will be back-and-forth, KDOT able to help as much as we can.
 - b. Tammy: In the new statewide bike map there is a segment on rails to trails, includes information about converting rails to trails. Does not address railroad crossings.
 - c. Matt: An approved planning document can be beneficial. Include the stakeholder and public involvement process that was done to develop the plan. As priorities are identified in the plan, usually many people are involved early on and people are aware of the priorities.
2. Can you talk more about the engagement recommendations from the document/template?
 - a. In the document there is a list of the groups you will want to reach out to in order to make sure you are hearing from a broad cross section of the community. We also have suggestions for activities at meetings, types of questions to ask, and creative things to do such as walk audits that engage people with disabilities. We also have a series of templates: press release, social media, draft engagement meeting agendas, etc.
 - b. On the KDOT resources page, there are resources for everything from funding to infrastructure to engagement to demonstration projects.
3. Are people from your team planning to partner with specific communities to assist with plan development?
 - a. Jenny: We could, it would be based on communities reaching out to us if additional support is needed. This is something we have explored with Toole and Burns and McDonnell to provide engineering support for communities embarking on this planning process
4. Contact information for Nelda Buckley?
 - a. Nelda.Buckley@ku.edu