



2017 Annual Report

Enhancing the economic viability and improving the quality of life through regional collaboration in the Flint Hills

Flint Hills Regional Council Area

Membership Update

- The City of Ogden became a member of the Flint Hills Regional Council
- Wabaunsee County Renewed Membership
- Chase County Dropped Membership

Grants

Flint Hills Regional Council is pursuing an Arts Asset Map Grant with the National Endowment for the Arts. The grant is due September and awarded in 2018. Flint Hills has identified over 58 arts organizations. The City of Council Grove will be the lead partner and the Manhattan Arts Center will be the primary arts organization.

OEA Grant

Completed the Force Reduction Economic Impact Analysis. 45% of the \$10 Billion regional economy is direct from Fort Riley and Veterans living in the region.

EDA Grant

Planning Partnership Grant of \$165,000 over 2 and a half years.

Currently, FHRC is assisting both the City of Junction City and the City of Wamego with grant writing.



Flint Hills Regional Institute

Working with a grant received from the Minnesota Housing Partnership, The Flint Hills Regional Institute will conduct a series of five to six workshops over eighteen months. The workshops include three teams from the cities of Onaga, Council Grove and Clay Center. The goal of the Regional Institute Program is to provide technical assistance in achieving a project specified in the comprehensive plan of each city.



Comprehensive Plan Update

FHRC Completed Comprehensive Plan for Onaga and was adopted by Onaga City Council.

The City of Westmoreland has asked the Flint Hills Regional Council to create a Comprehensive Plan for the City. The process began in June with data collection and map creation. The processes will heavily rely on public participation.

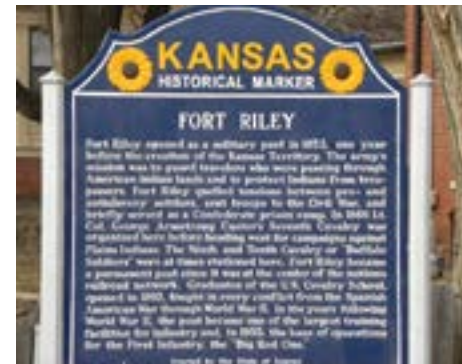


Fair Play for All

FHRC is working with Fair Play for All of Junction City. Deb Ohlde is pursuing a CDBG grant for playground equipment. Currently, the group is sending out a citywide survey to see if they qualify for the low to moderate income requirements of the grant. FHRC will assist with the door to door phase of the survey to achieve a 100% response rate.

Joint Land Use Study

FHRC has been selected by the local communities to serve as a grantee and lead organization for the Flint Hills Fort Riley Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) project. FHRC will be working with the JLUS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which is a committee focused on the planning and economic development for Geary County, Junction City, Riley County, Manhattan, Ogden, Clay County, and Clay Center. Recommendations coming in September



Flint Hills Regional Council, Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Flint Hills Regional Transit Administration brought in \$1,543,829.63 in Federal and State funds

This was leveraged by \$170,886.13 in local match.

For every \$1 in local match, we brought in \$9.03 in State and Federal funds.

Economic Development

Began quarterly meetings of the Economic Development organizations in the seven-county Flint Hills Economic Development District. Working to identify opportunities to coordinate and work together on common goals. Coordinate with the Knowledge Based Economic Development, NBAF Community Liaison Group, Flint Hills Leaders Retreat, Fort Riley Community Partnerships and the Greater Manhattan Partnership.



Flint Hills



MPO



Provide a regional forum to coordinate, encourage, and promote a safe, efficient, affordable, and integrated transportation system for all users; in support of livable communities and economic competitiveness.

Boundary Expansion

In April, the Wamego City Commission and Pottawatomie County Commission both voted to become members of the MPO. In May, the MPO Policy Board unanimously approved the expansion of the boundary. Wamego will officially become a voting member of the MPO in January of 2018. After the expansion, the population of the MPO's planning boundary will be 110,441 people.

Junction City Bicycle Master Plan

The MPO strives to facilitate a cohesive, multimodal network for bicyclists, transit users, and pedestrians. Creating guiding documents the Junction City Bicycle Master Plan meets this vision by utilizing a three-phased approach for incorporating shared bicycle lanes, separated bicycle lanes, and multi-use paths within the city.

Green Apple Bikes (GAB)

The MPO, Green Apple Bikes and Kansas State University joined forces to better understand the usage of Manhattan's free bikeshare system. One bike traveled 147 miles in one month. If all GABs traveled 147 miles in a month, that would total 51,345 miles each month.

Safe Routes to School

The City of Ogden adopted its first Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Plan in April. The City of Ogden has become eligible to pursue funding through the federal SRTS program. If granted, the City will begin to implement identified projects.



- ### Other Key Moments
- Bike & Pedestrian Counts
 - Interactive Trails & Parks Map
 - Regional Connections Plan
 - Revitalizing Riley Avenue-Ogden
 - New Manhattan Fixed-Route Transit System
 - Bluetooth Project-US 24



The MPO received \$310,536 in Federal Funds between June 2017-December 2017. For every \$3.99 contributed by the Federal Government, local governments matched 1 dollar.



The Regional Transit and Mobility Manager is responsible for the management of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds coming to the Manhattan Urbanized Area and implementation of the Kansas Business Model in a seven county area.

Flint Hills Regional Transit Administration



FHRTA received \$517,902 in Federal and State Funds between August 2016-August 2017, local match was \$6,420.

Flint Hills Coordinated Transit District



Accomplishments

Increased public outreach by giving presentations in community throughout the region.

Developed a Title VI Program that will be used statewide.

Development of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program for 2018, 2019, and 2020.

Established quarterly newsletter for transit providers and partners.

Developed policies and procedures to comply with federal regulations.

Overseeing four FTA Section 5307 contracts.

Overseeing contracts for transportation services throughout the region.

Wrote many grants to obtain local match.

