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May 2006

Smart Moves Freeway Flyer Services

(See column 4)



Transit Calendar - 2006

May 17: RTA Annual meeting North Kansas City Community Center

May 22: Jaime Lerner presentation



North Kansas City Community Center to host the 2006 RTA Annual Meeting

The 2006 RTA Annual Meeting is Wednesday, May 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Community Rooms at the North Kansas City Community Center located at 1999 Iron Street (southeast corner of Iron and Armour). The theme for this year's meeting is "Over the River", highlighting the effort of Mayor Brun and the City of North Kansas City in executing the first "transit-only" lane in Missouri during the closure of the Paseo Bridge in 2005. It also celebrates the RTA's first Annual Meeting north of the river. The event is free and as usual the location is served by public transit.



Jaime Lerner event

The RTA is very excited to co-sponsor a series of events on May 22-23, 2006 to bring world-class citizen Mr. Jaime Lerner to Kansas City. Jaime Lerner is a visionary architect and urban planner whose ideas and lead-

ership have transformed the City of Curitiba, Brazil into an internationally acclaimed model for sustainability and livability. In three terms as Mayor of Curitiba (population 1.7 million) and two terms as Governor of the Brazilian State of Parana, Lerner implemented programs that have revolutionized thinking about public transit systems, open space preservation, building renovation and reuse, and delivery of public services to residents. Best known of Mr. Lerner's innovations is a bus rapid transit system that achieves performance comparable to light rail systems at a fraction of the construction cost and a fraction of the construction time.

The public event is Wednesday, May 22 at Unity Temple on the Plaza. Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Lerner's presentation starts at 3:30 p.m. A reception catered by Eden Alley follows from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. The presentation and reception are free and open to the public. There will be a cash bar. Reservations are requested. Please contact Karen Boyd at 816-235-6359 or boyd-kp@umkc.edu.

The presentation is "Transforming Curitiba, Transforming Kansas City". What lessons can be found in Curitiba's experiences that point a direction for Kansas City?



Join the RTA Grassroots Regional Advocacy Network

Join the RTA's advocacy network to pass enabling legislation to create a regional funding mechanism for public transit in Kansas and Missouri. Legislators want to hear from their constituents that this issue is important to them.

Go to www.kctransit.org to join and let the RTA know of individuals or groups that we should contact.

Major RTA Corporate Sponsors:

Heros: Commerce Bank

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June Newsletter:

Need a speaker for your organization? What about the RTA Speaker's Bureau? Contact us at www.kctransit.org.



Smart Moves and Your Community

Smart Moves is the proposed Kansas City regional public transit system. Services will be implemented in stages and there will be changes from today's plan. However, the basic structure will be the same. Following are examples of proposed new services. Other communities will be featured in future articles.

Kansas City, KS

Smart Moves will provide a high level Freeway Flyer commuter service in the western I-70 corridor to downtown KCMO as well as a suburb-suburb service on I-435 via Olathe-Shawnee-Kansas Speedway, another on I-435 that goes to KCI and the K-7 from Leavenworth to Village West. Commuters will be able to return to the park and ride lots during the middle of the day using the Local Link.

There are Local Link services on K5, K-32 and Parallel Pwky as well a regional connectors in the eastern part of the city.

The Yellow Line Rapid Rider service extends from Village West to downtown KCMO with intermediate stops at Kansas City Kansas Community College, Indian Springs and downtown Kansas City, Kansas. From downtown KCMO additional Missouri locations can easily be reached.

Transit centers will link Kansas City, KS to the region.

Raytown, MO

Existing commuter service along I-70 and US350 will be expanded to Freeway Flyer service. Mid-day service will be added using a new Local Link.

Local Links will run north/south along Blue Pwky and Blue Ridge Blvd and east/west along 63rd St.. Transit centers provide links to the region.

Additionally a flexible Local Link Circulator, similar to the current service in Lee's Summit, will pick up and deliver passengers curb to curb.

Smart Moves Freeway Flyer Services



Proposed System

Freeway Flyers serve major employment centers, connecting suburbs to each other and to the metropolitan core. They operate every 15 to 30 minutes on main freeways between employment centers. Although *Freeway Flyers* provide commuter service from outer suburban areas, they also provide reverse commute service to residents in the core who work in outlying areas. All *Freeway Flyers* operate only during the weekday rush hours. Off-peak service is provided by *Local Link* and *Rapid Rider* services. Large comfortable coaches will be used. Services are accessed at Park-and-Ride lots and Transit Centers. Proposed routes are:

Suburbs to Downtown

I-35 Corridor

Excelsior Springs Hwy 69 & I-29/I-35

Smithville Hwy 169

Platte City Hwy 29

Stanley K-69

Lee's Summit/Raytown US350/I-70

Belton Hwy 71

Grain Valley I-70 East

West Hub (Wyandotte) I-70 West

Bonner Springs I-70 West

Liberty I-35

Suburb to Suburb

Mission - KCI I-635

Edgerton - Jo Co Hub S 56

Johnson County - Lee's Summit I-470/I-435

Douglas Co Line - Transit Center K-10

Springhill - Jo Co Hub US 169

Jo Co Hub - Wyandotte Hub I-435

East Hub (Independence) -

South Hub (KCMO) - SW Hub (Lenexa)

Liberty - East Hub - Lee's Summit

KCI - Mission Transit Center I-635

Leavenworth - Village West Hub K-7

SW Hub - West Hub (Wyandotte) I-435

West Hub - KCI via I435

Employment centers served include: downtown areas of KCMO and KCK, south Johnson County, Olathe, Shawnee, Platte City, Village West and the KCI Airport.

Regional Investment Fund Legislation

Missouri Senate Bill 825, Regional Investment Fund legislation, has passed the Senate and is working its way through the House with significant support. Buchanan County has been added to the list of Missouri counties covered by the legislation. Hopefully this legislation will pass the Missouri House, pass the Senate again in a new form and be signed by the Governor this session. A significant change is a provision allowing Missouri to move ahead without Kansas if the Kansas Legislature does not act on the issue by the end of the Kansas 2007 session. The Kansas 2006 session is complete and the Kansas House Bill 2751 did not get out of the House Taxation Committee.

This legislation allows voters to decide on dedicated funding for transportation. Regional legislation requires the wording of both bills to match.

A special thanks goes to Missouri Senator Chris Koster and Kansas Representative David Huff for their hard work and support of this initiative.

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TRANSIT NEWS

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