

2025 Community Transportation Academy - Schedule & Topics

NOTE: We ask that all selected participants commit to attending all 10 sessions (barring any last-minute emergencies).

Week 1: History & Context of Transportation in Kansas City

August 26

- Introductions and Course Overview
- How did we get here?
- What's the impact today? (JC Nichols, racial history of KC's physical development and land use)

Week 2: Transportation Insecurity & Walk Audits

September 2

- What is transportation insecurity and who does it impact?
- Statistics, data, demographics, equity
- Vision Zero, High Injury Network
- Street design elements; designing for speed vs. designing for safety
- Walk audit of neighborhood sidewalks and crosswalks
- If we get rained out for the walk audit, we will move this to another week

Week 3: Funding Truths & Myths/The View from Local Government

September 9

- How is transportation funded?
- What pedestrian/bike/transit plans and projects are communities across the region working on?
- Do drivers pay the full cost of the streets they drive and park on?
- Bikeshare, i.e. Bike Backlash
- Finalize class project choices

Week 4: Transit & Types of Facilities

September 23

- Trails; sidewalks; bike lanes (protected or not)
- Basic overview of different services, operators, and funding
- History of transit in KC
- Transit funding, governance, plans, etc.
- Future opportunities (zero fare, regional funding, etc.)

Week 5: Gentrification & Displacement - Issues and concerns related to transportation and land use policies and investments

September 30

- Do bike lanes cause gentrification and displacement?
- What does the data say?
- KCMO displacement mitigation policy

Week 6: Decision Makers & Power Mapping

October 7

- Who makes the decisions and how can you influence them?
- Panel discussion with local decision makers (elected officials, staff, etc.)
- Introduction to power mapping - group activity
- Boards and commissions - how can you become a decision maker?
- Finalize Class 9
- Class Project Check-In #1

Week 7: Selecting Your Campaign & Tactics

October 14

- How to begin changing hearts and mind
- Selecting a winning campaign
- Tactics and escalation
- Class Project Check-In #2

Week 8: Base-building, Making an Ask, & 1-2-1s

October 21

- Base-building and engagement
- Making an ask
- 1-2-1s
- Getting people on your side
- Final check-in for projects

Week 9: Final Projects (Part 1)

October 28

- Final Projects

Week 10: Final Projects (Part 2) & Celebration

November 4

- Final Projects
- Post-Survey
- Celebration