



**Johnson County Government
Before the House Transportation Committee
In Support of House Bill 2096
January 31, 2017**

Public transportation in Johnson County has utilized bus-on-shoulder operation since 2012 in designated areas along the I-35 corridor in order to relieve congestion and provide timely service to commuters. Johnson County supports House Bill 2096 and believes that its adoption and implementation in Wyandotte County will improve commuter service along this vital corridor and strengthen our regional transit system.

This legislation proposes to add Wyandotte County because highway congestion is not limited to the section of I-35 where Johnson County public transportation currently operates. This addition will increase the length of the corridor that allows bus on shoulder operations from eight miles to 11.6 miles.

Johnson County worked closely with the Kansas Department of Transportation following the adoption of the current language in 2010 in order to understand the operational details of this service, and to train bus operators in the safe use of the shoulder on one of the state's busiest sections of highway.

Should this legislation pass, Johnson County will work with the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA), with whom the County consolidated its public transportation services in 2015, to implement the design plans to complete bus-on-shoulder operations in the appropriate areas of our commuter routes on I-35.

Bus-on-shoulder operation along the I-35 corridor in Johnson County has provided safe and efficient service to commuters in the region since its adoption, and the implementation of HB 2096 would expand those benefits through the inclusion of Wyandotte County in this program. To that end, Johnson County respectfully asks for your support.

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