JOPLIN AREA
Transportation Study Organization

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Transportation organization seeking citizens' input about future transportation projects

CONTACT: Robert Lolley, Transportation Planner, 417-624-0820, ext. 1514

The Joplin Area Transportation Study Organization (JATSO) is excited to announce the kickoff for updating the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) including the launch of an online community survey.

JATSO is the transportation planning agency for the Joplin metropolitan area, as designated by the federal government, and its goal is to provide for regional mobility. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) identifies long-range plans for how the region intends to improve the transportation system. This plan must be updated every five years.

Survey questions focus on safety perceptions, specific problem areas, and suggestions for improvement. Responses will help JATSO make informed decisions that target the most pressing transportation issues affecting the region.

The survey https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/jatso2025 is open for comments through the end of June 2025.

In addition to the survey, public open houses will be hosted in Joplin, Webb City, and Carl Junction. These open houses will be come-and-go events where community members are encouraged to provide their insights on future aspirations for the regional transportation system. The public open houses will include interactive exercises with maps and graphics, and information about the project. The dates and locations are as follows;

Carl Junction Public Open House	Webb City Public Open House	Joplin Public Open House
Carl Junction Senior Center	Mining Days Community Building	City Hall 5th Floor Council Chambers
Monday, June 16	Tuesday, June 17	Wednesday, June 18
4:30pm-7pm	4:30pm-7pm	4:30PM-7PM

JATSO values community input; it is the only way to create a plan that represents the needs of the entire regional community.

JATSO is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Joplin region. Federal legislation requires an MPO for any urbanized area with a population of over 50,000. MPOs ensure that existing and future transportation projects and program expenditures are based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process.