

5.4 Transportation

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Assessment Process	
A.	The assessment of transportation is a mayoral-appointed committee of city staff, elected officials, and citizens.
B.	Surveys related to transportation are conducted through the Community Betterment program and the Chamber of Commerce.
C.	The City secured the services of consulting firm Bucher, Willis, and Ratliff Corporation to prepare a master plan for the Lamar Municipal Airport. This project conducted extensive technical and civic assessments in preparation of the master plan.

Program Standards	
A.	Organization: The primary organization for transportation is the Lamar City Council. Additionally, a public transit system, addressed in Section F below, is operated as a project of Lamar Community Betterment.
B.	Mission Statement: The directive of the transportation program is to develop and maintain a transportation network and service that fills the needs of the motoring public and to improve and development the system as the community grows and develops.
C.	<p>Street Program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Street Plan: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The plan utilizes the City Administrator, a professionally-licensed engineer. b. Technical surveys and citizen input have identified deficiencies and improvement strategies for the current system. c. An ongoing maintenance and improvement program for city streets is officially adopted, implemented, evaluated, and annually updated by the City. d. In 2001, more than 14,000 feet of blacktop streets were resurfaced. e. Improvements to streets connecting the downtown square yielded lower maintenance costs and alleviated damaging water drainage problems. 2. Street Standards: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Streets are measured against adopted city standards for paving. b. A Mayoral-appointed committee surveys streets annually to prioritize and allocate budgeting for resurfacing and repair efforts. c. Developers are required to collaborate closely with the city administrator/engineer to ensure road compatibility with the City's overall transportation plan. d. Specifications are designed so that new roads and improvements to existing roads become a lasting asset to the community. 3. Street Direction: A logical system of street identification is in place and has been favorably rated by new citizens of the community. The system is designed so that new residents of visitors unfamiliar with the community are easily able to identify a given location. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. East/West roads are numbered b. North/South streets on the west side of the City are named after trees c. North/South streets on the east side of the City are named after past presidents d. New streets added to the community are named with Council approval e. All residential and commercial structures are numbered and plotted f. Maps of the street directional system are available from City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce office

	<p>4. Parking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Building codes require new businesses to provide for a certain percentage of parking area in relation to the size of project b. Municipal Square Business District and Lamar School Campus parking areas are striped annually c. A large Municipal Parking Lot near Square was recently put completely under cover thanks to the construction of the Moore Open-Air Pavilion; this parking area allows for overflow parking of local employees during the business day and for residents and visitors during weekends and special events <p>5. Lighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lighting is provided at each intersection b. Lighting has been expanded westward and eastward on U.S. Highway 160 to accommodate for new growth trends c. New ornamental light poles with better arrays of lighting have been installed on the Downtown Square d. Plans call for ornamental lighting to be extended from the Square to the Truman Birthplace State Park westward down 11th Street through a streetscape improvement program for downtown revitalization
D.	<p>Airport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lamar Municipal Airport, a general aviation airport, is located just outside the city limits with convenient access at the junction of two federal highways b. Commuter Air access is available at Joplin, located 35 minutes away c. International Air access is available at Kansas City, located 2 ½ hours away 2. Layout Plan Approval: An approved layout plan is on file at the F.A.A. regional office in Kansas City 3. Favorable Airspace Determination: Lamar Municipal Airport maintains a favorable airspace rating 4. Compliance: The city’s Airport Committee authorizes any known deficiencies to be remedied or scheduled to be remedied, as needed. 5. Master Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A Master Plan has been developed for runway expansions, new runways, technical upgrades, terminal improvements, and hangar expansions b. The Master Plan is on file and applications for state and federal aviation transportation funds are pending c. Widening and resurfacing of the existing runway started in Summer of 2002 d. Additional land was purchased in 2002 for the new runway and other improvements 6. Signs: In addition to prominent visibility from the intersection of two federal highways, additional signage has been placed to allow patrons to easily locate the airport.

E.	<p>Traffic Safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Traffic Study: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The City of Lamar conducts regular traffic flow studies independently and in conjunction with the Missouri Department of Transportation b. Citizens concerns of traffic problems are addressed by a City Committee c. Traffic studies and citizen input have resulted in signalization and street improvements at two busy intersections in Lamar 2. Accident Location Tracking: Annual reports are compiled and presented to the Lamar City Council on geographic trends of accidents. Safety concerns are identified and treated through this manner. 3. Signage/Signalization: Traffic flow and geographic accident analysis, along with citizen input and committee collaboration, allow for placement of traffic signage and automatic signalization as needed. 4. School Guard Program: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Lamar Police Department maintains a regular presence at key school campus street crossings. b. The LPD presence serves as a visual reminder for passing motorists c. The City Street Department maintains a system of adequate signage, school speed zones, and temporary stop signs for safety enhancement
F.	<p>Public Transit: <i>(Local Enrichment to MoCAP Standards)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Truman Area Transportation Service (TATS) is a transportation endeavor organized under Lamar Community Betterment and operated by the City of Lamar 2. Transit service across Lamar is provided free of charge for senior citizens and the handicapped 3. Weekday service is provided from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 4. TATS also provides for local workforce needs of area factories, known for key shift changes at 7:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m. 5. County-wide transit for medical service is coordinated through the local hospital free of charge 6. Cost savings in ADA accessibility for the school system are resolved through coordination with TATS

Program Goals and Planning	
Goal	Lamar Airport Expansion/Master Plan Update
Strategy	Expand local business and leisure use of airport by larger aircraft through expansion of existing runway and addition of new runway. Technical upgrades, terminal improvements, and hangar expansions are also part of the Master Plan
Funding	City funds combined with state and local grant funding to cover \$2.425 Million
Timeline	Exhaustive details of project costs and logistics is on file at Lamar City Hall as part of the Lamar Municipal Airport Master Plan.
Goal Evaluation	Completion of project, positive FAA ratings and certifications, increased business and leisure usage of airport

Program Evaluation
<p>The success of Transportation endeavors for Lamar are addressed through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys and public input at regular meetings of the City Council and the Airport Committee • Annual Citizen Surveys conducted by the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the City