

# Historic North Topeka

T o p e k a , K a n s a s

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## Revitalization Plan

An Element of the Topeka-Shawnee County, Kansas  
Comprehensive Metropolitan Plan – 2010

*A Collaborative Effort By:*

The Historic North Topeka Community,  
The City of Topeka &  
The State of Kansas

**August, 1999**

Adopted: Topeka-Shawnee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, August 23, 1999

Adopted: Topeka City Council, September 28, 1999

Adopted: Shawnee County Board of Commissioners, October 4, 1999

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Historic North Topeka Stakeholders Committee

BRB Contractors, North Topeka Business Alliance – Mike Welch  
Flowers Electric – Gerald Flowers  
Kaw Valley State Bank and Trust – Gerald Lauber  
M & M Auto Salvage – Vince Melvin III  
Midwest Foundations – Joni Merillat  
North Topeka East NIA – Howard Brandenburg  
North Topeka on the Move Association – David Jackson  
North Topeka West NIA – Betty Artzer, Janet Fisher  
Stevenson Co. – Joseph Pennington  
Topeka Rescue Mission – Eugene Shoemaker, Barry Feaker

Downtown Topeka Inc – Devin Sutherland  
Garfield Gazette – Scott Beck  
Landlord, Resident – Warren Rice  
Metropolitan Planning Commission, Resident - Rowena Horr, Chair  
North Topeka Baptist Church – Jay and Nine Skidmore  
North Topeka Historical Society – John and Betty Chambers  
North Topeka Wesleyan Church – Dean Schmidt  
Robuck Watch & Repair – Jim and Charlene Robuck  
Topeka Railroad Days – Beth Fager  
Whiteley's Pallet and Blocking – Steve Rothrock

*Special Thanks to Barbara Brandenburg and all who helped feed the masses*

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### Topeka-Shawnee County Metropolitan Planning Commission

Greg Bien, Chairman\*  
Kurt Young, Vice-Chairman\*

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Vanessa Hill  
Fran Lee  
James McClinton  
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### Shawnee County Board of Commissioners

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Marice Kane

Michael J. Meier

### *Cover Illustration*

*The background image is a section of a mural painted by John William Bashor, which is displayed in Kaw Valley State Bank in Historic North Topeka. It depicts the history of North Topeka from Papan's Ferry in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to 1900. The following items are illustrated on the mural from left to right:*

- *John Brown (on horseback) studying the Kansas River crossing for use by his Underground Railroad.*
- *Papan's Ferry on the Kansas River with two wagons following the Oregon Trail.*
- *The Inter-Ocean Mills.*
- *The Camp Meeting in Old Garfield Park.*
- *Arthur Capper (seated) as a young reporter for the Topeka Mail and Kansas Breeze.*
- *A Kaw Indian.*
- *A steamboat on Soldier Creek, Garfield Park.*

