



Update

Dear Friends,

REVIEW OF RALLY LOGISTICS

1. KPERS Day at the Capitol is scheduled for 8:00 am to 12 noon on Thursday, February 22, 2023. The reserved 'staging area' will be located on the 2nd Floor Rotunda. Representatives of KCPR and KARSP will be available in the area until 3:00 pm. (This is a reserved 'staging area' with no formal gathering planned.)
2. There is now a circle drive into the Capitol off SW 8th Street, with the only entrance to the building on the north side of the building at ground level. This, of course, means there are no more stairs to enter the building! 😊
3. Ample parking is available at the Topeka Expo Center at 19th & Topeka Avenue. This lot is on the East Side of the Expo Center. The pick-up point is in the SE portion of the parking lot which will likely have "0" cars prior to our arrival. It is a huge lot. A shuttle (van) will run from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm from this location. (This shuttle is provided courtesy of the Topeka Fire Fighters.) It will be equipped with a sign indicating it is from the fire fighter's union. Parking in the immediate area of the Capitol is limited to the Capitol underground parking, which is free, **BUT** will fill up very early on the 8th. Very limited handicap parking may be available in the Capitol parking garage. Past these two options, metered parking on the streets is about the only other option available, but it is also very limited. We cannot over emphasize the challenge you will face if you are not bussed or carpooled to the Capitol, and then the drivers "shuttled" to the Capitol from the Expo Center. Ernie has used this service in the past and found it very satisfactory and easy to use. The driver of the van will be **Dennis Weikel**. He is now one of us. He is now retired. He has been driving for us for several years. He keeps track of the cars and the names of the people he takes to the Capitol so that no one is left behind!
4. The Good News and Bad News: There is also plenty of free parking across the street from the Capitol and South of the Docking Building which is being worked on. The good news is that there is plenty of free parking there, however, it is a city block to the present Capitol entrance. We believe that entrances to the building using the steps is no longer available for security reasons. This parking lot may have time limits. Check the signs.
5. We suggest that for those carpooling to have your driver deliver you to the north entrance off the circle drive, then take the carpool vehicle to the shuttle area (see above) and have the shuttle return you to the Capitol. Buses may park or wait here also.
6. If you are lucky enough to park on the street, choose the parking meters with the yellow post. They allow for longer parking at a cheaper price. To use these meters you would need a 'Passport Parking Mobile App.' This is why we suggest using the Expo Center parking and the shuttle.
7. The entry, which we have described above, is truly beautiful. You enter the building, and past the security check point is a Visitors Center, and then there are some 30 yards of

exhibits as you move toward the elevators. This path will lead you to an office referred to as "The Document Room." To gain access to the elevators, you move straight ahead until you come to a T (The Document Room). Turn right a few steps for the elevator. This elevator will take you to all five floors! You will also find an elevator to your left. There are steps in this area leading to the first floor. You may want to take those if you are able bodied. Our gathering area is on the second floor Rotunda.

8. **We suggest you plan to wear black.** While it would be nice to give everyone a free t-shirt, our budget does not allow for this type of expenditure. (If your organization has matching t-shirts which identify you as a group, wear them!!)
 9. Our friends at security have once again emphasized, no signs or banners are allowed in the Capitol!
 10. **The matter of security:** There will be two metal detectors at the one entrance. In order to pass through this entrance, it is in everyone's best interest to bring a minimum of items that may set the "alarm" off and require delays for all. It is suggested that you have all items that will "set off the bells" in one container so that all will pass through the scanner at once. Anything metal will set off the machine! Some of the items which are a problem are cell phones, other electric equipment and of course keys. Since the law no longer prohibits guns in the building, passing through the detectors is much less complicated.
- Remember to send me your updated email address...also if for any reason you should no longer wish to receive this update, let me know at the address listed at the end of this "update," and I will contact you and remove you from the official mailing lists.
 - Just a reminder, that this email is an official report of the Kansas Coalition of Public Retirees. If I editorialize, I will indicate that fact.
 - Remember that I want you to forward this to other retirees and the "working" who will benefit from this information.
 - The KCPR website is www.ksretirees.org

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