

DRAFT MINUTES
BAY-LAKE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
TECHNICAL AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEES JOINT MEETING
FOR SHEBOYGAN MPO
May 14,2025
(In-Person and Virtual)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Vernon Koch, Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson, Presiding

Policy Advisory Committee:

- Tom Holton (Town of Sheboygan)
- George Marthenze (Town of Herman)

Technical Advisory Committee:

- Aaron Brault (Sheboygan County Planning and Conservation Department)
- Nick Weber (WisDOT)
- Taylor Zeinert (City of Sheboygan)
- Mike Kitzerow (Village of Kohler)
- David Bizot (Wisconsin DNR)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

- Jerry Benzschawel (City of Sheboygan Falls Department of Public Works)
- Derek Muench (Shoreline Metro), Technical Advisory Committee Vice-Chair
- Kevin Jump (City of Sheboygan Department of Public Works, Engineering Division)
- Travis Peterson (City of Sheboygan Department of Public Works)
- Chuck Born (Town of Lima)

STAFF PRESENT:

- Heena Bhatt (Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission)

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m. by Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson Vernon Koch.

Members of both committees and staff introduced themselves for the benefit of everyone participating in the meeting.

2. The meeting Agenda for the May 14, 2025, joint Technical Advisory Committee/Policy Advisory Committee meeting was approved.

Moved by Tom Holtan and seconded by Mike Kitzerow

3. The Draft meeting minutes for March 6, 2025, joint Technical Advisory Committee/Policy Advisory Committee meeting was approved.

Moved by Tom Holtan and seconded by Nick Weber

4. Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson Vernon Koch asked if there was any public input.

Ed Proceck raised concern about Shoreland 400 Taril not being continued from North Pennsylvania Avenue towards the south of the city. Mr. Proceck insisted that the trail should be completed as soon as possible. Another project Mr. Proceck mentioned would be valuable to the city is adding an exit ramp on STH 43 at CTH PP near the art preserve to make it easier for visitors to access the city and the Blue Harbor resort (a famous destination).

5. Election of MPO Policy Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee Officers (Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for Each Committee, to take effect at the next meeting)

Heena Bhatt reviewed the membership of the MPO Technical and Policy Advisory Committees for all meeting participants. Ms. Bhatt also mentioned that the position of Bicycle enthusiast is vacant because committee member David Smith passed away recently. Aaron Brault mentioned that Kevin Struck from UW Extension office has retired, and that position is currently vacant as well. David Bizot mentioned that Chris Bovee is planning to retire in one month and Blake Deswarte has assumed his position.

Ms. Bhatt mentioned that Vernon Koch is the current MPO Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson and Charles Born is the current Vice Chairperson. Bryon Olson is the current MPO Technical Advisory Committee Chairperson and Derek Muench is the current Vice Chairperson.

Aaron Brault was nominated to retain the current Policy and Technical Advisory Committee Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons

Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson Vernon Koch called for additional nominations three times; no other nominations were offered.

Moved by Aaron Brault and seconded by Tom Holton to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Vernon Koch as MPO Policy Advisory Committee Chairperson and Charles Born as the Vice Chairperson as well as Bryon Olson as the MPO Technical Advisory Committee Chairperson and Derek Muench as the Vice Chairperson. Motion carried, with all voting aye on a voice vote.

6. Review and Recommendation of Approval of Major and Minor Amendments to the *Sheboygan Metropolitan Planning Area TIP: Calander Years 2025-2028* to the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission.

- a. Public Hearing: Chairperson Vernon Koch opened public hearing. One member of the public provided a comment. Edward Proceck mentioned that he was in the favor of all the projects being amended, especially the replacement of five 35-foot fixed-route buses. **Moved** by Aaron Brault and seconded by Tom Holton to close the public hearing. Motion carried, with all voting aye on a voice vote.
- b. Ms. Bhatt reviewed the amended projects to the 2025-2028 TIP. The following projects were added, deleted, or modified to various tables of the 2025-2028 TIP.

Table 2: Replacement of five 35-foot fixed-route buses was awarded CMAQ funding and is scheduled for the year 2026, the total cost of the project is \$2.6 Million. The project sponsor is Shoreline Metro.

Table 5: New Jersey Avenue Non-motorized trail South Taylor Drive to Riverpark Road. The engineering of the project is scheduled for 2025, and construction is scheduled for 2027. The project is funded by Carbon Reduction Program and the sponsor is City of Sheboygan. The total cost of this project is

Adding a multi-use path parallel to N. Main Street from Willow Drive to Hamann Drive. The engineering of the project is scheduled for 2025, and construction is scheduled for 2026. The project is funded by Carbon Reduction Program and the sponsor is City of Sheboygan Falls.

Table 6: Resurfacing and Preservation of STH 32 from STH 42 to STH 57. The project is scheduled for construction in 2028. The total cost of the project is 5.64 million and the project sponsor is Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

Ms. Bhatt mentioned that the notice of public review and public hearing was published in the legal section of Sheboygan press on May 1, 2025. No public comments were received.

- c. **Moved** by Tom Holton and seconded by Aaron Brault, both committees recommend approval of the Major and Minor Amendments to the *Sheboygan Metropolitan Planning Area TIP: Calander Years 2025-2028* to the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission

7. Update on WisDOT Northeast Region and Other MPO Planning Activities.

Nick Weber reminded the members about the local programs' symposium, on May 22, 2025, and mentioned that the webinar link has been provided to Ms. Bhatt. Mr. Weber mentioned that the Local Program Symposium will be held online which will provide information on local grants and their requirements and applications

Heena Bhatt mentioned that MPO staff have started working on the Transit Development Plan for Shoreline Metro. Ms. Bhatt said that the staff met with the Sheboygan Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan subcommittee and discussed the recommended projects. The committee discussed several criteria to score the projects. The next step is to promote the plan in the summer and

provide an opportunity to the public to review the implementation plan and how the completed network would look after the recommendations are implemented.

Ms. Bhatt also mentioned that they met with the WisDOT and FHWA staff to discuss the mid-year progress of the Sheboygan MPO work program activities and received dates for submission of the draft and completed 2026-2029 TIP and MPO Work Program for 2026, due to that some of the MPO meetings will have to be moved.

8. Chair Vernon Koch announced the next meeting date is June 12, 2025, at 11:00 am.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm.

Moved by Tom Holton and seconded by Mike Kitzerow.

Recording secretary,

Heena Bhatt
Principal Transportation Planner
Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission