

BAY-LAKE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
MARITIME METRO TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP) 2026-2030 REVIEW  
COMMITTEE

November 11th, 2025, 1:00 pm  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Public Hearing Room, Manitowoc City Hall  
(In-Person and Virtual)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Kevin Bottesi (Maritime Metro, Transit Division Manager), Chairperson
- Jerry Schnermetzler (Citizen Representative)
- William DeBaets (City of Manitowoc, Alderman District 5)
- Jenny Schneider (Two Rivers School District, Social Worker)
- Dan Koski (City of Manitowoc, Director of Public Infrastructure)
- Shanna Bratz (Maritime Metro Transit, Operations Supervisor)
- Lee Thennes (Manitowoc School District Superintendent)
- Deanna Genske (Ascend Services)
- Jayme Kouba (Driver, Maritime Metro)
- Matt Kouba (Driver, Maritime Metro)

STAFF PRESENT:

- Heena Bhatt (Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission)
- Bryce Thompson (Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission)

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:07 pm by Kevin Bottesi.
  
2. The meeting Agenda for the November 11, 2025, Maritime Metro Transit Development Plan (TDP) 2026-2030 Review Committee meeting was approved.

**Moved** by Jerry Schermetzler and seconded by Dan Koski.

3. Review Boarding and Alighting Data

Mr. Thompson gave an overview of the boarding and alighting data received from Maritime Metro from 2023 to 2024. Mr. Thompson noted that nearly each route recorded an increase in ridership between 2023 and 2024, reflecting a growing need for public transit in the Manitowoc/Two Rivers area.

Mr. Koski noted a change in the name of the previous “Shopko Plaza”.

Ms. Schneider made note that despite Route 1 – Two Rivers offering rides by the hour, the route still records some of the highest ridership among Maritime Metro routes.

#### 4. Review of Draft Chapter 3: Public Engagement

Mr. Thompson provided a summary of the public engagement efforts conducted. This included community and passenger surveys.

Ms. Bhatt provided a summary of the comments left from the public engagement efforts, noting multiple comments discussed effectively serving the unhoused population, expanding operating times, and increasing frequency on Route 1 – Two Rivers.

Further discussion was held regarding contacting local employers to survey their workforce relating to transportation availability. Additionally, Bay-Lake staff plan to hold discussions with Maritime Metro drivers in December.

#### 5. Discussion on future route modifications/additions

Ms. Bhatt distributed a mapping activity for the committee. This activity was aimed at identifying areas of route modifications/additions. Further discussion continued, noting the growing industrial areas around the city that could use public transportation, in addition to housing developments going up near Route 1 between Manitowoc and Two Rivers.

Mr. Thompson then provided a summary of survey results aimed at the committee identifying the priorities of the plan. Priorities included increasing ridership and working towards serving jobs/employees and low-income population.

#### 6. Next Meeting Date

Mr. Bottesi mentioned that a doodle poll will be sent out in January to determine the next meeting date.

#### 7. Adjournment

**Moved** by Jerry Schnermetzler and seconded by William DeBaets the Maritime Metro Transit Development Plan (TDP) 2026-2030 Review Committee was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Recording secretary,

Bryce Thompson

Transportation Planner