

MINUTES

BAY-LAKE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

MARITIME METRO TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP) 2026-2030 REVIEW COMMITTEE

June 8th, 2026, 11:00 am
1st 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)
- Dan Koski (City of Manitowoc, Director of Public Infrastructure)
- Shanna Bratz (Maritime Metro Transit, Operations Supervisor)
- Deanna Genske (Ascend Services)
- Kyle Kordell (City of Two Rivers)
- Amber Hutchison (Two Rivers Senior Center)
- Linda Grider (City of Manitowoc Mobility Manager)
- Alex Hunt (The Haven of Manitowoc County)

STAFF PRESENT:

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:05 am by Kevin Bottesi.
2. The meeting Agenda for the June 8, 2026, Maritime Metro Transit Development Plan (TDP) 2026-2030 Review Committee meeting was approved.

Moved by Dan Koski and seconded by Jerry Schnermetzler.

3. Public Input – 10 Minutes

During public input, Kyle Kordell opened comments regarding concerns about rising transit operating costs for the City of Two Rivers. Mr. Kordell noted that the service is extremely important to the City of Two Rivers, but that the operational costs are beginning to exceed the general funds to support it.

4. Review and Discussion of On-Demand Service Scenario

Mr. Thompson provided an overview of the on-demand service scenario that the Review Committee had identified for further evaluation at its previous meeting. Mr. Thompson explained that routes 1, 4, 6, 6A, and 6B could transition to an on-demand service model after 5:00 pm on weekdays. Additional analysis determined that routes 4, 5, and 6B could support a full transition to on-demand service on Saturdays. Mr. Thompson overviewed the cost savings associated with these changes.

Alex Hunt questioned what an on-demand service model is. Mr. Thompson explained on-demand service covers the same area as fixed-route service, but that its through a reservation based system, which reduces overall costs.

5. Review and Discussion of Additional Recommendations

Mr. Thompson reviewed the recommended fare policy for the duration of the TDP period. Mr. Thompson noted that Maritime Metro's current fares are the lowest in comparison to peer systems around Wisconsin. A fare increase has been recommended in the plan that would increase the adult fare from \$1.50 to \$2.00 and the monthly pass from \$30 to \$35.

Amber Hutchinson noted that these increases could be a barrier for those who are income restricted. Ms. Bhatt explained that these fare increases don't have to happen right away, and that a public hearing would be required before enacting them.

6. Discussion of Next Steps

Ms. Bhatt explained that the next steps for the plan will be for the review committee to review the document in its entirety. The review committee was given 10 days to submit any corrections or changes to the document. Ms. Bhatt explained that the next steps after corrections are submitted would be a public comment period and an open house. Following the public comment period, the plan would be presented to the transit committee and public works for final approval.

7. Adjournment

Moved by Jerry Schnermetzler and seconded by Amber Hutchinson the Maritime Metro Transit Development Plan (TDP) 2026-2030 Review Committee was adjourned at 11:54 pm.

Recording secretary,

Bryce Thompson

Transportation Planner