

**MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
AGENDA**

**JANUARY 9, 2024
2:00 P.M.**

**LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
210 RIVER DR., WAUSAU, WI**

Members: John Robinson – Chair, George Peterson – Vice Chair, Allan Opall, Betty Hoenisch, Steve Hagman, Katie Rosenberg, Tim Buttke, Matt Lee Baer, Milton Olson, Chris Voll, Mark Maloney, Brent Jacobson, Kregg Hoehn, Matt Bronson

Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the telephone conference beginning **five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number:**

PHONE NUMBER: 1-408-418-9388

ACCESS CODE: 146 513 0623

Please Note: If you are prompted to provide an “Attendee Identification Number” enter the # sign. No other number is required to participate in the telephone conference.

When you enter the telephone conference, PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
3. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 2023, COMMISSION MEETING

POLICY DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

4. 2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT
5. TRANSIT PLANNING WORKGROUP CHARTER
6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING DATE – FEBRUARY 13, 2024
7. ADJOURNMENT

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk’s Office at 715-261-1500 one business day before the meeting.

SIGNED 
PRESIDING OFFICER OR DESIGNEE

EMAILED TO: Courthouse, Daily Herald, TPP Printing, City Pages
Midwest Radio Group, Marshfield News

EMAILED BY: DM
DATE: 1/3/24
EMAIL TIME: 1:00 pm

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE:
By: _____



MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes
November 14, 2023

Meeting Attendance: John Robinson – Chair, Dave Meurett (for Bronson), Darryl Landeau, Dave Mack, Lance Mueller, Michael Wodalski (for Maloney), Ryan Van De Walle, Jared Grande (for Opall), Brad Lenz (for Rosenberg), Andy Lynch, Dave Eckmann, Jeff Gates, Jordan Kelbley, Gaylene Rhoden, Milt Olson, George Peterson

1. Call to Order

In the presence of a quorum, with the agenda being properly signed and posted, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robinson at 2:01 p.m. in the Large Conference Room, 210 River Drive, Wausau and virtually via WebEx.

2. Public Comment – No public comment was made.

Follow Through: None.

3. Approve Minutes September 12, 2023, Commission Meeting

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY / PETERSON/OLSON TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 24, 2023, MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Follow Through: None.

4. Surface Transportation Program (STP-Urban) FF24-29 Project Rankings

Discussion: Mack mentioned it is for FF25-29. Mack explained that there are current projects taking place which reduces the MPO's overall allocation. Our current allocation is approximately \$4.2 million. Mack went over the various funding scenarios developed by staff and the recommendations that came from the Technical Advisory Committee. They were funding the Ross Ave./Kramer Ave. Roundabout project #1 at 70% and the Ross Ave./CTH X Roundabout #2 with the remaining funds.

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY / GATES/RHODEN TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2025-2029 SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM-URBAN PROJECT RANKINGS AND FUNDING AMOUNTS. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Follow Through: Staff will inform WisDOT of the rankings from the TAC.

5. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) FF24-28 Project Rankings

Discussion: Mack went over the projects that were submitted and how they were ranked. There was only one Planning project submitted, it is ranked number one in that category. Both construction projects were submitted by the City of Wausau. The 72nd Ave. Project was # 1 and the East/West Connector was ranked #2.

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY / OLSON/PETERSON TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2024-2028 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM PROJECT RANKINGS. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Follow Through: Staff will inform WisDOT of the rankings from the TAC.

6. Bicycle Pedestrian Committee Restructuring

Discussion: This item was moved to just after approval of the meeting minutes during the meeting (Item 3). Mack explained the MPO Bike and Pedestrian Committee had been in existence for over 10 years. Attendance at recent meeting has been dwindling. Mack proposed moving the bike and pedestrian functions to the TAC. Whenever a bike issue is brought up on the agenda, the old bike and pedestrian committee members will be invited to provide input to the TAC, but they will not retain a voting interest. Rhoden asked if there might just be a standing bike/ped line-item for each meeting.

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

Mack agreed that including a bike/ped line item at each TAC meeting would be fine in order to allow anyone to bring up bike/ped issues.

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY / RHODEN/PETERSON TO MOVE THE BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE TO THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) AND TO INCLUDE A STANDING LINE-ITEM ON THE TAC AGENDA FOR BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ISSUES. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Follow Through: Staff will notify old bike committee members of the change and invite them to the next TAC meeting and include a line-item for Bike and Pedestrian issues.

7. Transit Planning and Expansion Discussion

Discussion: This item was moved ahead of item 4 in the meeting. Mr. Eckmann discussed how businesses and the community are facing two important issues, 1 being available childcare and 2 getting potential employees to place of businesses. There is a demand for public transit that is coming from employers. Rhoden mentioned that the main issue is funding for additional routes. Lenz remarked that STP funds are eligible to be used for transit and that we should not let funding squash the discussion about additional service.

Action: NONE.

Follow Through: Per Chairman's request, put together a scope or charter for a smaller work group to work on potential expanded service needs and issues and bring the charter to the next meeting to be approved by the commission.

8. Agenda Items for the Next Meeting Date

Discussion: Robinson noted the group will continue the discussion on transit planning and expansion. Mack mentioned we will discuss the MPO boundary as well.

Action: NONE.

Follow Through: None.

9. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business to come before the members, MOTION / SECOND BY RHODEN /LENZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION AT 2:31PM. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Follow Through: None.

Submitted by:

Dave Mack, MPO Director

Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning

DM: LM

AMENDMENT
TO THE
2024-2027
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM (TIP)
FOR THE
MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING
COMMISSION/WAUSAU AREA METROPOLITAN
PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

January 9, 2024

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING

COMMISSION RESOLUTION # 1-24

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2024-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE WAUSAU METROPOLITAN AREA

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission was designated the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Wausau Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with Metropolitan Transportation Planning Regulations by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission has developed a four-year transportation improvement program (TIP) for the Wausau Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program identifies transit, pedestrian/bicycle, and highway improvement projects and programs consistent with current transportation plans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission endorses the *Long Range Transportation Plan for the Wausau Metropolitan Area* and the *Transit Development Program for the Wausau Area Transit System*, which will be continually updated and maintained as part of the urban transportation planning process;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission adopts the *Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program* amendments and the attached *2024-2027 TIP Amendment Table 1 and 2 Spreadsheets* as part of the amendment to the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program for the Wausau Metropolitan Area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with 23 CFR 450.336, the Wausau Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Wausau, WI urbanized area hereby certifies that the metropolitan transportation planning process is addressing the major issues facing the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

1. 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this subpart;
2. Sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93;
3. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 USC 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;

4. 49 USC 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
5. Section 1101(b) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST Act) (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR Part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in the US DOT funded projects;
6. 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
7. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.*) and 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, and 38;
8. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
9. Section 324 of title 23, U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
10. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission certifies that the Transportation Improvement Program contains only projects that are consistent with the transportation plan for the urban area and recommends that this document be submitted to the appropriate federal and state agencies for approval.

Dated this 9th day of January 2024

John Robinson, Commission Chairman

David Mack, MPO Director, Marathon County
Metro Planning Commission Secretary

2024 - 2027 TABLE 1 AMENDMENT
TIP PROJECT LISTING (\$)
Amendment 1/9/2024

Red text Indicates changes

| PRIMARY JURISDICTION/ PROJECT LOCATION | PROJECT DESCRIPTION | TYPE OF COST | 2024 | | | | 2025 | | | | 2026 | | | | 2027 | | | | COMMENTS FOS# & Let Date P=preservation E=expansion |
|---|---------------------|--------------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| | | | FED | STATE | LOCAL | TOTAL | FED | STATE | LOCAL | TOTAL | FED | STATE | LOCAL | TOTAL | FED | STATE | LOCAL | TOTAL | |

Transit Section - Project Additions

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| G | Center for Independent Living | 5310 Specialized Transit Projects Mobility Management, Call Center | PE ROW CONST TOTAL | \$126,658 | | \$31,665 | \$158,323 | | | | | | | | | | | Call-Center Mobility Management P |
| | | | | \$126,658 | | \$31,665 | \$158,323 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 373-24-017 | | (5310) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| H | Center for Independent Living | 5310 Specialized Transit Projects Operating Assistance Volunteer Drivers, Travel Coordination | PE ROW CONST TOTAL | \$410,280 | | \$410,280 | \$820,560 | | | | | | | | | | | Operating Assistance P |
| | | | | \$410,280 | | \$410,280 | \$820,560 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 373-24-018 | | (5310) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| I | Opportunity of North Central WI., Inc. | 5310 Specialized Transit Projects Vehicle - Replacement 1 High Roof Rear Entry Transit | PE ROW CONST TOTAL | \$57,128 | | \$24,483 | \$81,611 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 High Roof Rear Entry Transit P |
| | | | | \$57,128 | | \$24,483 | \$81,611 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 373-24-019 | | (5310) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TABLE 2

Assessment of Available Funding for the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program
 Amendment January 9, 2024

| Funding Source | | Programmed Expenditures | | | | Estimated Available Funding | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Agency | Program | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
| Federal Highway | NHPP | \$7,283,235 | \$24,657,229 | \$9,062,109 | \$9,062,109 | \$7,283,235 | \$24,657,229 | \$9,062,109 | \$9,062,109 |
| Administration | STBG | \$3,583,463 | \$0 | \$1,212,247 | \$2,634,977 | \$3,583,463 | \$0 | \$1,212,247 | \$2,634,977 |
| | BR | \$3,830,266 | \$0 | \$2,025,208 | \$0 | \$3,830,266 | \$0 | \$2,025,208 | \$0 |
| | IM | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| | TAP | \$583,257 | \$0 | \$2,033,457 | \$0 | \$583,257 | \$0 | \$2,033,457 | \$0 |
| | CRP | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| | HSIP | \$3,760,459 | \$180,000 | \$180,000 | \$180,000 | \$3,760,459 | \$180,000 | \$180,000 | \$180,000 |
| | OCR | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Totals | | \$19,040,680 | \$24,837,229 | \$14,513,021 | \$11,877,086 | \$19,040,680 | \$24,837,229 | \$14,513,021 | \$11,877,086 |
| Totals | Inflated by 2.0% Annually | \$19,040,680 | \$25,269,397 | \$15,018,074 | \$12,497,070 | \$19,040,680 | \$25,269,397 | \$15,018,074 | \$12,497,070 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Federal Transit Administration | Section 5307 -- Wausau Urbanized Area | \$1,753,678 | \$1,448,551 | \$1,461,107 | \$1,490,329 | \$1,753,678 | \$1,448,551 | \$1,461,107 | \$1,490,329 |
| | Section 5304 | \$24,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$24,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| | Section 5310 | \$1,060,494 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1,060,494 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| | Section 5339 | \$0 | \$3,570,424 | \$2,834,955 | \$0 | \$0 | \$3,570,424 | \$2,834,955 | \$0 |
| | Section 5307 - Other | \$107,530 | \$109,681 | \$111,875 | \$114,112 | \$107,530 | \$109,681 | \$111,875 | \$114,112 |
| Totals | | \$2,945,702 | \$5,128,656 | \$4,407,937 | \$1,604,441 | \$2,945,702 | \$5,128,656 | \$4,407,937 | \$1,604,441 |
| Totals | Inflated by 2.0% Annually | \$2,945,702 | \$5,217,895 | \$4,561,333 | \$1,688,193 | \$2,945,702 | \$5,217,895 | \$4,561,333 | \$1,688,193 |

Wausau CY2024 Section 5310 Specialized Transit Projects

| Subrecipient | Counties Served | Project Type | Project Detail | Award | Local Match | MPO |
|--|---|----------------------|--|------------|-------------|---|
| Center for Independent Living - | Adams, Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Buffalo, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Crawford, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Florence, Forest, Grant, Iowa, Iron, Jackson, La Crosse, Lafayette, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Monroe, Oneida, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Portage, Price, Richland, Rusk, Sauk, Sawyer, St. Croix, Taylor, Trempealeau, Vernon, Vilas, Washburn, Wood | Mobility Management | Call-center; mobility management | \$ 126,658 | \$ 31,665 | Duluth-Superior, Chippewa Falls-Eau Claire, Wausau, La Crosse |
| | | Operating Assistance | Volunteer Drivers; Travel Coordination | \$ 410,280 | \$ 410,280 | |

The Center has grown geographically to one of the largest volunteer driver and voucher program in the nation. The program currently staffs, 1 full time Transportation Director/Regional Mobility Manager, 1 full time Transportation Program Coordinator, 1 Transportation Program Assistant, 5 full time Transportation Specialist who do dispatching and information and referral in a 42 county service area in North Western and Central Wisconsin. The Center's transportation programs operate 7 days a week 24 hours a day. (Which would include weekends and holidays) These hours insure that all riders get their unmet needs taken care of when other programs are closed. The Center has found that the riders need flexible transportation options and provides these services to meet their ever-changing needs. The Center can also provide rides that cross state lines and boundaries that other programs cannot. Over 248,692 trips have been provided since 2008 and over 22,862 riders have been given rides.

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Opportunity of North Central WI., Inc. | Marathon, Wood | Vehicle - Replacement | 1 High Roof Rear Entry Transit | \$ 57,128 | \$ 24,483 | Wausau |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|

Opportunity Inc. provides accessible transportation for individuals with disabilities to and from their homes, to places of employment, to medical/dental appointments, to the pharmacy, to the store so they can purchase their necessities and for socialization and recreational opportunities to prevent isolation and loneliness. Our entire fleet is aging. We have only two vehicles newer than 2015 and the majority of our fleet is made up of vehicles from 2010, 2009, and 2008. We have increased our efficiencies to utilize our current fleet, however, we anticipate that we will have to continue to retire vehicles due to severe rusting problems.

**WAUSAU METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT PLANNING WORK GROUP
TO
CREATE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXPANDING TRANSIT SERVICE IN THE METRO AREA**

Reporting Relationships: Reports to the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission and the participating Communities also the Wausau Transit Commission.

Mission/Purpose: The Transit Planning Work Group (TPWG) are representatives of the communities in the Wausau Metropolitan Area that have the authority and knowledge to discuss the Public Transit System and related components in their community. Through discussion, common issues and concerns will be evaluated and recommendations for goals, objectives, and guidelines for each community will be developed for providing Public Transit in their community and the metro area.

Membership: The TPWG will nominate a chairperson for the group. Membership will include representatives identified by the community from the following:

1. Marathon County
2. City of Wausau
3. City of Schofield
4. Village of Weston
5. Village of Rothschild
6. Village of Rib Mountain
7. Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce
8. Wausau Area Transit System, aka, Metro Ride

Member Terms: TPWG will be sunset on December 31, 2024.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Facilitate and manage communications with municipalities, public and private transit providers, and the business community.
2. Serve as a liaison with their respective community leadership.
3. Develop recommendations that provides specific:
 - Community goals and objectives for obtaining and providing public transit for the area including:
 - Addressing current constraints to service expansion
 - Transit Development Plans
 - Short and long-term system upgrades
 - Potential areas for collaboration
 - Workforce development
 - Policy guidelines
 - Administrative guidelines
 - Public engagement strategies for each community and the Metro area as a whole.
4. Determine consistency of policy recommendations with existing communities strategic and comprehensive plans.
5. Evaluate the fiscal impacts of proposed policy recommendations.

Description of timeline:

1. Begin meeting by February 2024.
2. Review existing issues regarding each community's public transit service. (April 2024)
3. Create community goals and objectives (June 2024)
4. Formulate recommendations relating to policy and administrative guidelines (July 2024)
5. Present goal, objectives, and guidelines to represented communities (Sept 2024)
6. Close-out report to Metropolitan Planning Commission and Communities (Nov 2024)