

OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of the County Board, Committee, Agency,
Corporation or Sub-Unit thereof,

COUNTY OF MARATHON
WAUSAU, WI 54403

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA

**July 14, 2020
2:00 P.M.**

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

Marathon County Mission Statement: *Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business. (Last updated: 12-20-05)*

Commission Purpose: *The Commission shall be concerned with studies and recommendations relating to activities including but not limited to land-use; natural resources; utilities; and transportation systems within the metropolitan planning area. (Commission Bylaws last updated: 05-2018)*

Members: *John Robinson – Chair, George Peterson – Vice Chair, Allan Opall, Betty Hoenisch, Steve Hagman, Katie Rosenberg, Tim Buttke, John Prah, Milton Olson, Chris Voll, Wally Sparks, Brent Jacobson, Kregg Hoehn, Ken Wickham*

The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health directives, Marathon County encourages Metropolitan Planning Commission members and the public to attend this meeting remotely. To this end, instead of attendance in person, Metropolitan Planning Commission members and the public may attend this meeting by **telephone conference**. If Metropolitan Planning Commission members or members of the public cannot attend remotely, Marathon County requests that appropriate safety measures, including adequate social distancing, be utilized by all in-person attendees.

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: 146 808 7017

Password: 1111

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

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. CALL TO ORDER;
2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS;
3. THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE AGENDA HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED, PURSUANT TO MARATHON COUNTY RESOLUTION # R-29-20, DATED APRIL 21, 2020, BECAUSE THE TECHNOLOGY NECESSARY TO AFFORD THE PUBLIC THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE COUNTY BOARD, OR ITS SUBGROUPS, DURING PUBLIC COMMENT IS DIFFICULT TO GUARANTEE, IF A LARGE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS HAVE ELECTED TO CALL IN.

POLICY DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

4. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2020 MEETING;
5. STATUS AND FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE CITIZENS TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE;
6. UPDATE ON FEDERAL INVEST AND MOVING FORWARD ACTS;

7. METRO MUNICIPALITY OPPORTUNITIES – UTILITY COORDINATION;
8. OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN;
9. NEXT MEETING DATE – AUGUST 11, 2020;
10. ADJOURN.

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 or e-mail infomarathon@mail.co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting.

SIGNED 
PRESIDING OFFICER OR DESIGNEE

FAXED TO: Daily Herald (848-9361) City Pages (848-5887)
Midwest Radio Group (848-3158)
CenterState Marketplace (446-2370)
FAXED BY: BI
FAX DATE/TIME: 07/07/2020 1:45 pm

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE:
By: _____
Date: _____
Time: _____

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes
June 9, 2020

Commissioners: John Robinson-Chair, Jared Wehner (for Opall), Katie Rosenberg, Randy Fifrick (for Voll), Tim Buttke, Dave Muerette (for Wickham)

TAC Members: Dave Mack, Andrew Lynch, Greg Seubert, Darryl Landeau, Brian Grefe, Eric Lindman, Megan Zielke

Others Present: Brenda Iczkowski, Tonia Westfall, Kevin Lang

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 Chair Robinson at 2:00 p.m. via WEBEX.

2. Welcome and Introductions

All were welcomed and introductions were made.

3. Public Comment – The Public Comment portion of the agenda has been temporarily suspended, pursuant to Marathon County Resolution # R-29-20, dated April 21, 2020, because the technology necessary to afford the public the opportunity to address the County Board, or its subgroups, during public Comment is difficult to guarantee, if a large number of individuals have elected to call in.

4. Approve Minutes March 10 2020 meeting

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY BUTTKE / FIFRICK APPROVE THE MARCH 10, 2020 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

5. 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment

Discussion: Included in the packet was an Amendment for the 2020-2023 TIP along with a couple tables explaining the amendment. Mack identified the projects and ID numbers which needed correcting.

Action: MOTION / SECOND BY BUTTKE / FIFRICK TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #3-20 ADOPTING THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2020-2023 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE WAUSAU METROPOLITAN AREA INCLUDING THE CORRECTED ID NUMBERS. MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE, NO DISSENT.

Follow Through: Staff will send the resolution to WisDOT and FHWA.

6. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant Update - Rothschild

Discussion: Mack shared with the commission that Tim Vergara contacted him and the Village of Rothschild will be delaying their Volkman Street project that runs behind the old Shopko and across the railroad tracks and into Rothschild a full budget cycle. Construction on the project will begin in July 2022 with completion in Spring/Fall 2023.

Action: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

Follow Through: NONE AT THIS TIME.

7. Metro Municipality Opportunities – Utility Cooperation

Discussion: Robinson shared with the group some opportunities for development with Infrastructure and Dig-Once Policies in the communities. Robinson started a discussion regarding cooperation and coordination along with areas of common interest between communities.

Action: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

Follow Through: NONE AT THIS TIME.

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

June 9, 2020

8. COVID-19 Impacts on Metro Area Transportation Programs

Discussion: Grefe shared with the commission the impact of business at the Central Wisconsin Airport (CWA) since COVID-19 arrived. January-March, CWA had all-time passenger highs and then the pandemic hit causing the passenger numbers to be down by 96% or 10 or less passengers a day. To date the numbers have been slowly rising. The federal government awarded CWA with a \$3.8 million grant from the CARES ACT.

Seubert shared with the commission that Metro Ride is limited to essential travel and that no more than 10 people can ride the busses at a time. For safety measures the passengers are loading and unloading in the rear. The ridership has fallen from 2100/day to 500/ day down approximately 77%. The Metro Ride will be receiving funds from the CARES Act and will be able to spend it over multiple years.

Action: **FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.**

Follow Through: NONE AT THIS TIME.

9. Next Meeting – July 14, 2020

Action: THIS MEETING WILL BE SCHEDULED.

Follow Through: STAFF WILL SCHEDULE THIS MEETING

10. Adjourn

Action: There being no further business to come before the members, **ROBINSON ADJOURNED THE MEETING OF THE MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION AT 2:30 PM.**

Submitted by:

Dave Mack, MPO Director

Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning

DM: BI

July 7, 2020

**MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
RESOLUTION # 6-18
RESOLUTION CREATING THE
CITIZEN'S TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE WAUSAU METROPOLITAN AREA**

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

WHEREAS, the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and the Metro Ride Transit System have a cooperative agreement to provide planning functions for Metro Ride Transit; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with Metropolitan Transportation Planning Regulations by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration, the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Organization has developed the Long Range Transportation Plans for the Wausau Metropolitan Area, and the Transit Development Programs for the Wausau Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Transit Development Program for the Wausau Metropolitan Area recommended the creation of an independent group to advocate for transit and transit related issues in the metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the Citizen's Transit Advisory Committee (CTAC) would provide the Metropolitan Planning Area with a citizen's perspective on needs for transit usage, service opportunities, and overall community awareness of transit issues.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission establishes the creation of the Citizen's Transit Advisory Committee (CTAC) as an advisory committee to the Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission will review and evaluate a 2 year period of effectiveness and potentially reauthorize the committee before December 2020; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission Chairman will appoint the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the Citizen's Transit Advisory Committee; 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.

Dated this 16th day of October 2018.



John Robinson, Commission Chairman



Rebecca J. Frisch, Commission Secretary
Director, Marathon County
Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department



Federal Highway Transportation Bill: INVEST in America Act 2020

The current FAST (Fixing America's Surface Transportation) Act will expire Sept. 30. The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed the \$500 billion INVEST In America Act as part of a larger \$1.5 Trillion Moving Forward Act. Both legislative bodies and the White House have expressed interest in passing a Transportation Bill this year. As often the case with legislation, the House version of the transportation bill is unlikely to pass the Senate as is. MPO committee members are encouraged to learn more about this bill from the links provided below to gain a sense of the direction of transportation planning.

Full Text of HR2 INVEST In America Act

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2/text>

U.S. House Transportation Subcommittee Fact Sheet on INVEST ACT

<https://transportation.house.gov/imo/media/doc/2020%20INVEST%20In%20America%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

The American Society of Civil Engineers has a summary of this bill:

https://www.asce.org/uploadedFiles/Issues_and_Advocacy/Advocacy/Content_Pieces/2020-issue-memo-invest-in-america-act.pdf

Changes of Interest:

Metropolitan Transportation Planning:

"In developing the plans and TIPs, metropolitan planning organizations shall consider direct and indirect emissions of greenhouse gases."

From <<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2/text#toc-H559166DEC8904D9B9513BEB9F177C319>>

Grants available for electric vehicle infrastructure. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2/text#H74DDD1BE2E974657A3724C8EB94FAC2D>

Funding for further studies on alternative funding models (not gas tax).

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2/text#HF94DD795F4A54CB2950B97283E4284E0>

Active Transportation Connectivity Grant Program <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2/text#H7ED00FD7925649B8863D51AABB8C2A90>

Expanded opportunities to use Transportation Alternatives Program funds.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2/text#H4A66D9A4C83A4F2BAD2F7C3BE249A599>

There are requirements and funding to aid the deployment of broadband infrastructure. This includes a Dig Once Requirement for all states and installation of conduit with highway construction.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2/text#HDD016D237EDB4E3AA6A89564B192AC39>

Table 1:
Wausau MPO Public Out Reach Activities and Techniques

Activity/Techniques	Audience	Solicitation	Distribution	Use	Updates	Evaluation
News media	Marathon County Media List		Fax, E-mail	Meeting agendas Public meetings/ Announcements Notices, Public Relatiosn	As media contacts change	Number of Publications
Contact lists	Area public participation list	Mail, E-mail	Mail, E-mail, Fax	Meeting agendas Public meetings/ Announcements Notices	During Update of Committee Memberships; when "contact" Returns	Number fo contacts: number fo non-member attendees at committee meetings
Web Site	All Interested parties	MPO Letterhead, documents, Website	Downloadable files (.pdf, .ppt, .xls, doc)	Paperless distribution of plans and programs; Information Source	monthly	Number of site hits/ month; number of downloads/month
Public Information Meeting (PIM)	Public Participation list, Other interested parties	Flyers E-mails, Mail, Fax, website	Mail, E-mail, Web	Throughout planning process (PPP, LRTP, studies	Prior to each meeting	Number of attendees; How did we do? Surveys
Public Relations Presentations	Civic, business, & educational groups	word of mouth	Powerpoints may be posted to web	public relations and general education	based on evaluation	Number of attendees; Number of requests to present, number of presentations given
Focus Groups	Project-specific; i.e. Freight professionals	direct invitation via mail, E-mail, phone	Mail, E-mail	mode-specific issues identification	based on evaluation	number of attendees, How did we do? Surveys
Surveys	project-specific modal users	project-specific (none to committee level)	Mail, E-mail, Web handouts	model plans, LRTP	based on evaluation of survey reponses	Response Rate
Information Booth/ Kiosks	event/facility patrons	registration	Hand outs	Public relations information	when new materials are produced/ obtained	Refill rate; Requests for materials
Visualization Techniques	All audiences		reproduction of maps; powerpoint slide handouts; web	PIMs; Committee meetings; presentations; plan documents	plan & program updates/ amendments	complaints/ compliments received