



MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES July 14th, 2026

Meeting Attendance:

Chairperson Duane Gau, Jeff Gates, Brad Lenz, Daryl Landeau NCRPC, Ron Schuenke, Brad Lenz, Mark Thuot (City of Schofield), Dave Muerett, Ryan VanDeWalle, Michael Woldalski, Steph Jaecks (WisDOT), Judith Hase, Laurie Miskimins (Wausau MPO Staff), Aaron Anklam, MaKayla Galecki

1. Call Meeting to Order

In the presence of a quorum, with the agenda being properly signed and posted, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gau at 2:01 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room, 1000 Lake View Drive, Wausau, WI 54403 and virtually via WebEx.

2. Public Comment

Discussion: No public comment given or received.

3. Approval of Minutes: June 9th, 2026, MPO Planning Commission Meeting

Action: Motion/Second by Thuot/VanDeWalle to approve June 9th, 2026, the MPO Planning Commission Minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent.

4. Policy Issues, Discussion, and Possible Commission Action - None

5. Educational Presentations and Commission Discussion

A. 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – Call for Projects

Discussion:

Miskimins distributed a memo outlining prospective TIP projects and requested email updates on ongoing projects by July 24. Discussion was held regarding a potential bridge crossing on Foxglove, with County Highway R currently serving as an alternative route. The group noted that the project could offer benefits to multiple communities, including Rothschild, Rib Mountain, and local EMS services. It was acknowledged that some related projects already appear in the LRTP and its illustrative section. A recommendation was provided to wait for completion of the TDM to identify any system deficiencies before moving forward. Additional comments emphasized the value of another local crossing and the importance of relying on DOT expertise and TDM outcomes to ensure fairness among communities with pending project requests.

B. 2027 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Travel Demand Model (TDM)

Discussion: Anklam noted that the TDM is nearing completion, which will allow for further discussion once updated data is available. A review was provided of current projects included in the LRTP, with plans to continue discussions in August and work toward a more finalized list of upcoming additions for the year. The floor was opened for input regarding new project suggestions or potential removal of existing items. Communities were asked to submit any comments prior to the August meeting.

Next Meeting Date & Time, Announcements, and Agenda Items for Next Meeting Date

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

- A. Next Meeting Date and Time – Tuesday, August 11th, 2026, at 2:00 PM
- B. Future Agenda Items – 2027 UPWP, TIP, LRTP (TDM), City of Wausau NHS changes

6. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business before the members, Motion/Second by VanDeWalle/Gau to adjourn the meeting of the Marathon County Metropolitan Planning Commission at 2:37pm Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent.

Submitted by:

Aaron Anklam, Transportation Planner

Wausau MPO