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Regular Meeting of the Regional Metropolitan Transit Authority of Omaha (dba Metro Transit) Transit Advisory Committee

This regular meeting of Metro Transit's Transit Advisory Committee (TAC) was held on May 13, 2026 from 6:34 p.m. to 7:14 p.m. and was open to the public online and in-person at the Metro Transit Administrative Building (2222 Cuming Street). Notice of the meeting was published in the Omaha Daily Record on May 11, 2026, in advance of the meeting. For the benefit of the public in attendance, a copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted in the meeting room, and the agenda was on display in the facility lobby.

Attendance

The following were in attendance at the meeting:

Transit Advisory Committee Members

- Joichiro Yamada, TAC Chair
- Clyde Anderson, TAC Vice Chair
- Ray Williams
- Marshall Maurer
- Gab Rima
- Rondae Hill
- Rose Krekelberg (online)

- Alex Mendoza (online)
- Brian Neely (online)

Metro Transit Staff

- Bridget Battafarano, Community Mobility Coordinator
- Alicia Johnson, Director of Civil Rights and Inclusion

Others Present:

- Rob Sembrat
- Owen Fuesel
- Kane Ballard

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order

Chair Joey Yamada called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the April 2026 meeting were sent to all committee members in advance and are available at ometro.com/tac. No corrections were made to the minutes and the minutes were approved.

Agenda Item #3 – General Public Comment Period

Rob Sembrat: Saw Metro bus signs on both sides of 6th & Broadway in CB. Has not seen signs other places in Council Bluffs. The main stop at 4th & Broadway appears on the schedule map for Routes Blue and Yellow. It is a bit confusing the signs were at 6th and not 4th, but it is nice to see them.

Kane Ballard: Route 30 changes have been very helpful and make a smoother trip.

Agenda Item #4 – Committee Report on Public Feedback

Clyde Anderson: At Pro-Rail Nebraska meeting, Sen. Juarez shared about rail proposals and legislative bills, asked about this year's CWS Metro Transit service plan. Expressed frustration over last year's service.

Rondae Hill: Fellow MOBY riders have reported improved customer service experience.

Gab Rima: Appreciate the restoration of the 15-minute Route 13 service.

Agenda Item #5 – Committee Report on Metro Transit Board of Directors

Vice Chair Clyde Anderson:

- March bus ridership was the highest it has been since 2016, completely recovered from Covid.
- Ridership in the West microtransit zone surpassed the North Zone for the first time in March. The South Zone still has the lowest ridership.
- The Board approved the building improvement plan and a contract for boiler replacement.
- Independent reviewer presented results of financial audit. No issues were identified in the audit.
- Board member Clarice Dombeck introduced the idea of occasional joint meetings between the Board and TAC. The board discussed but made no decisions. This will be on the June TAC meeting agenda.

Agenda Item #6 – Metro Transit Staff Report

- The We Make Omaha Future Lab exhibit is open through May 31 in Aksarben and available online at https://wemake.omaha.gov/futurelab/. Organizers are seeking feedback and transit is a major component.
- Microtransit
    - Metro's microtransit service is now called Micro Flex // Driven by Metro. Vehicles and outreach materials are being updated.
    - The North and West Zones have been extended. The system map has been updated here: ometro.com/maps-schedules/map.
- No Metro services will run on Memorial Day
- Basic plans for special College World Series service include: an extension of the Green Route, a North Zone Micro Flex stop, and a MOBY and Micro Flex ADA stop by the ADA entrance to the stadium. Detailed maps and plans for the service will be posted online.
- Four Metro drivers participated in the CTAA Roadeo on May 10
- Metro will hold an internal Roadeo and celebrate staff commitment to safety on Memorial Day
- Metro will offer special Memorial Park Concert ORBT services like previous years. Updates will be at ometro.com.
- Metro will participate in these upcoming events:
    - Juneteenth Parade and Freedom Festival on June 13
    - World Refugee Day on June 20
- Comments:

- Rob Sembrat: Would like to hear about user experience on Micro Flex.
    - Committee: Recommend using the app, which is intuitive to request your ride. If you need both bus and Micro Flex, Umo will track your use and not charge you over $3 for the trip.
    - Micro Flex tutorial scheduled for July TAC meeting.
- Clyde Anderson: How much are high diesel prices affecting the operations budget?
    - Staff: It is having a large impact, but no service is being reduced at this time. We can invite our Finance Director to TAC to present on the 2027 budget. The Board of Directors approves it in September.

Agenda Item #7 – Date, Time and Place of Next TAC Meeting

June 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Metro Transit Administrative Building and Online

Agenda Item #8 – Adjournment at 7:14 p.m.

Motioned by Clyde Anderson; Seconded by Rondae Hill

Chair Yamada announced that the motion was adopted and declared the meeting adjourned.