

METRO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Culture & Planning Committee

JULY 16, 2026
9:00 AM

CHAIR: MR. ROBERT DEJOURNETT
VICE CHAIR: MR. DAVID PRENTICE



**METRO RTA
CULTURE AND PLANNING
COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARD ROOM
THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2026**

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE MEETING

ITEM 3: SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT:

Planning Report | Tatia Harris

- KPIs (Pages 5 & 6)

ITEM 4: RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Resolution 2026-21 | Tatia Harris

A resolution authorizing the award of a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) services contract. (Page 7).

Resolution 2026-22 | Tatia Harris

A resolution authorizing the award of a contract to provide bus shelters and solar lighting systems. (Page 8).

ITEM 5: OTHER BUSINESS:

ITEM 6: CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT

**METRO RTA
CULTURE AND PLANNING
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
ROBERT K. PFAFF TRANSIT CENTER BOARD ROOM
THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2026**

Trustees Present: Dana LaGarde, Robert DeJournett, Christine Marshall, Bob Konstand, Nicole Squire, Chuck Rector, Gary Spring and John Valle

Trustees Excused: Mark Derrig and Renee Greene

Trustees Absent: Donald Christian and Dave Prentice

METRO Team

Members Present: Dawn Distler, Angie Neeley, Tatia Harris, Gert Wilms, Jarrod Hampshire, Jay Hunter, Eric Scott, Shawn Metcalf, Kyle Stewart, Jamie Saylor, Laura Adkins, Zach Smith, Quentin Wyatt, Grace Doyle, Alja Austin, Olivia Balazy, Brynn Overly-Nguyen, Lane Evans and Leslie Rashid

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Robert DeJournett called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY MEETING

Mr. John Valle made a motion to approve minutes from the May meeting.

Ms. Dana LaGarde 2nd the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Report | Tatia Harris

KPIs were reviewed.

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

OTHER BUSINESS

Public Announcement | Tatia Harris

METRO will participate in a regional virtual public hearing on June 30th with SARTA, PARTA and Akron-Canton Airport to provide outreach to small businesses regarding upcoming contracting opportunities and transportation investments in the region.

Rail Update | Gert Wilms

The appraisals were accepted by the FTA and reflected reduction of approximately \$100,000 from the previous valuation. Discussion continued regarding repayment of the remaining federal interest to provide greater flexibility in future asset disposition. Ms. Wilms noted ongoing discussion with Summit County regarding the potential transfer of the Freedom Secondary and Akron Secondary corridors. Conversations also continue with multiple stakeholders regarding the Sandyville corridor, which remains an active rail line and presents additional complexities.

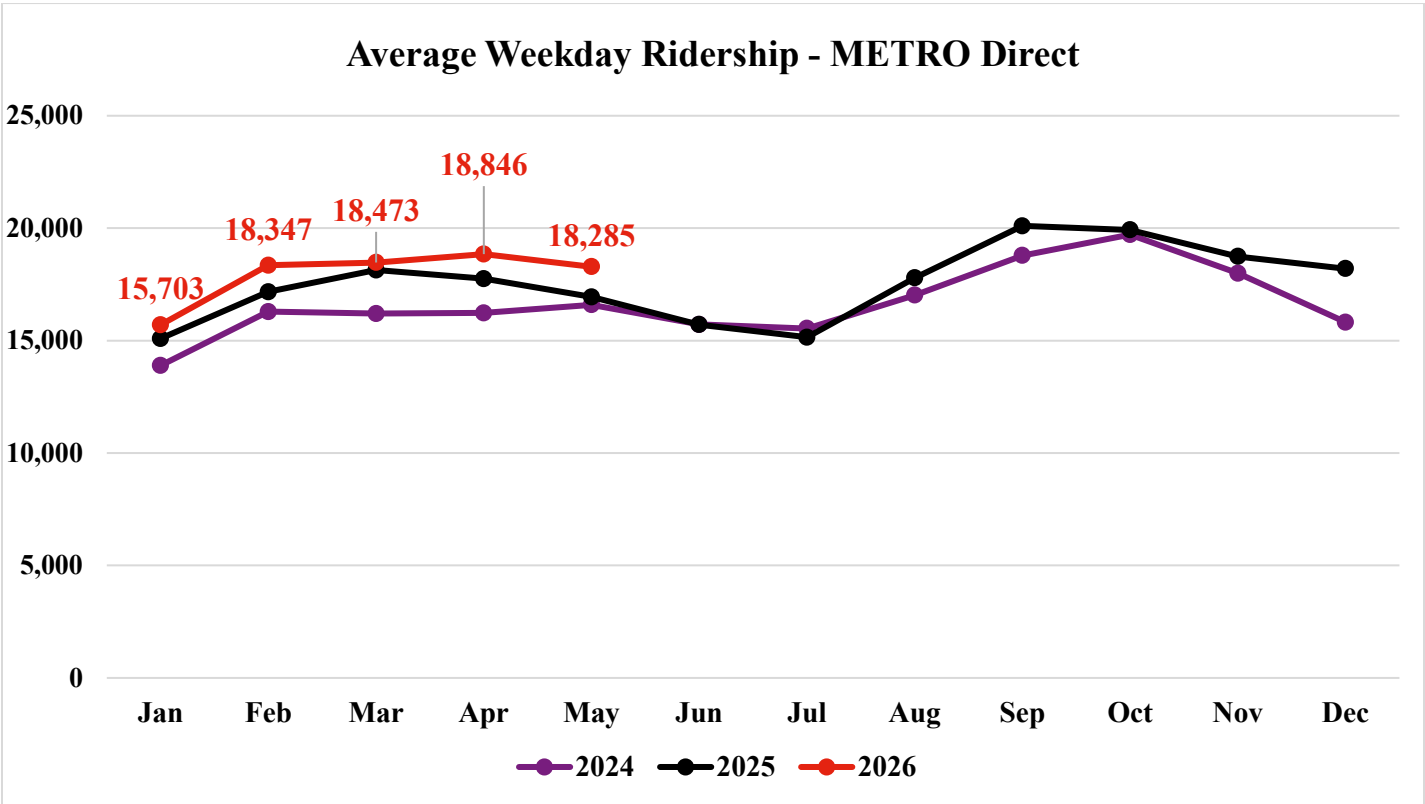
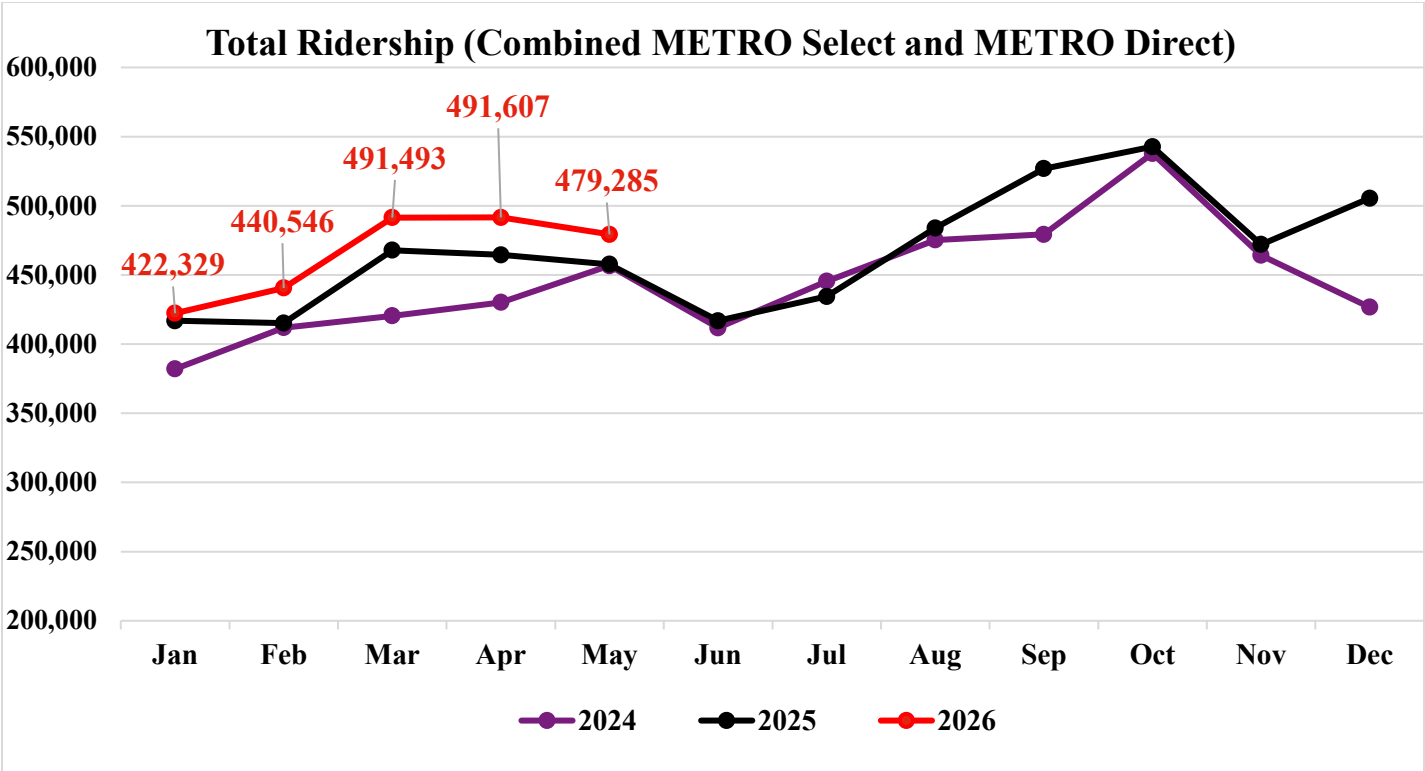
If no government entity agrees to acquire the remaining rail corridors, the properties will be offered for public sale. The Board will be asked to consider a resolution authorizing repayment of the remaining federal obligation of approximately \$6.7 million, followed by resolutions regarding the sale and disposition of the properties. She noted that the federal repayment deadline is September 2027 and that federal officials declined requests for reductions or credits related to legal, transfer, or sale expenses.

CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT

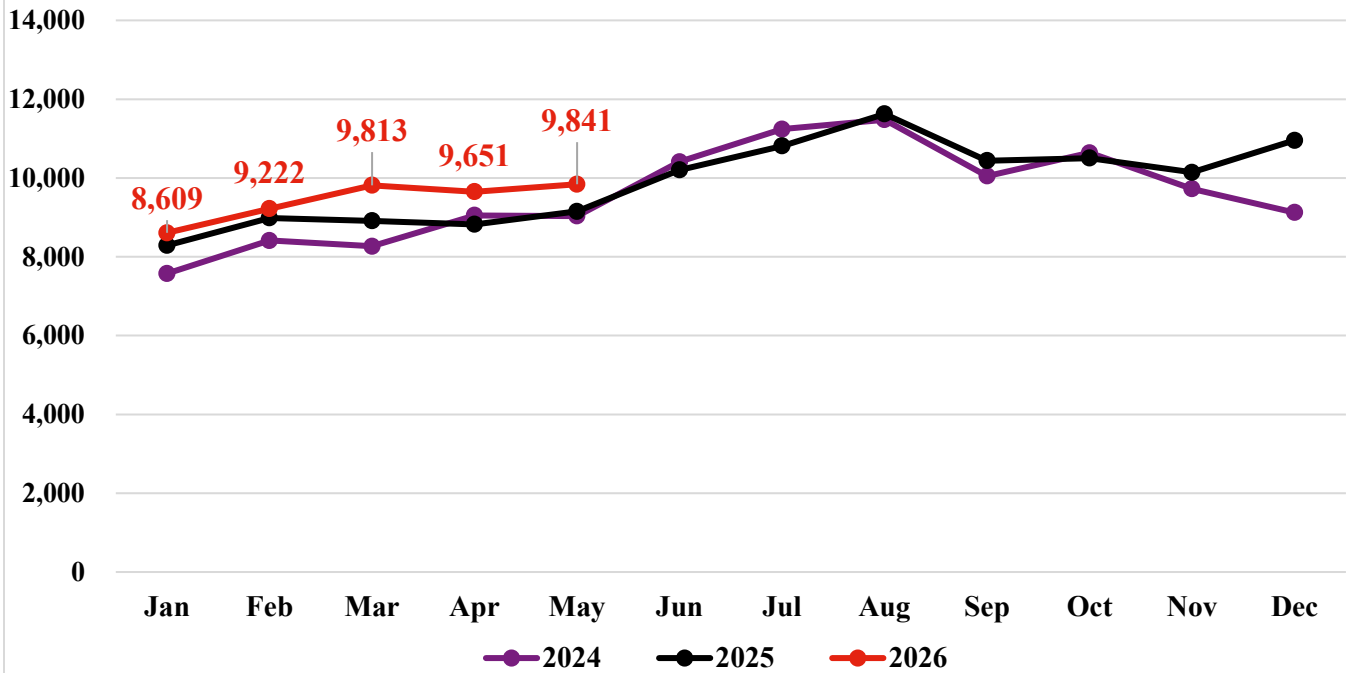
Adjourned at 9:47 am

**DAWN S. DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER**

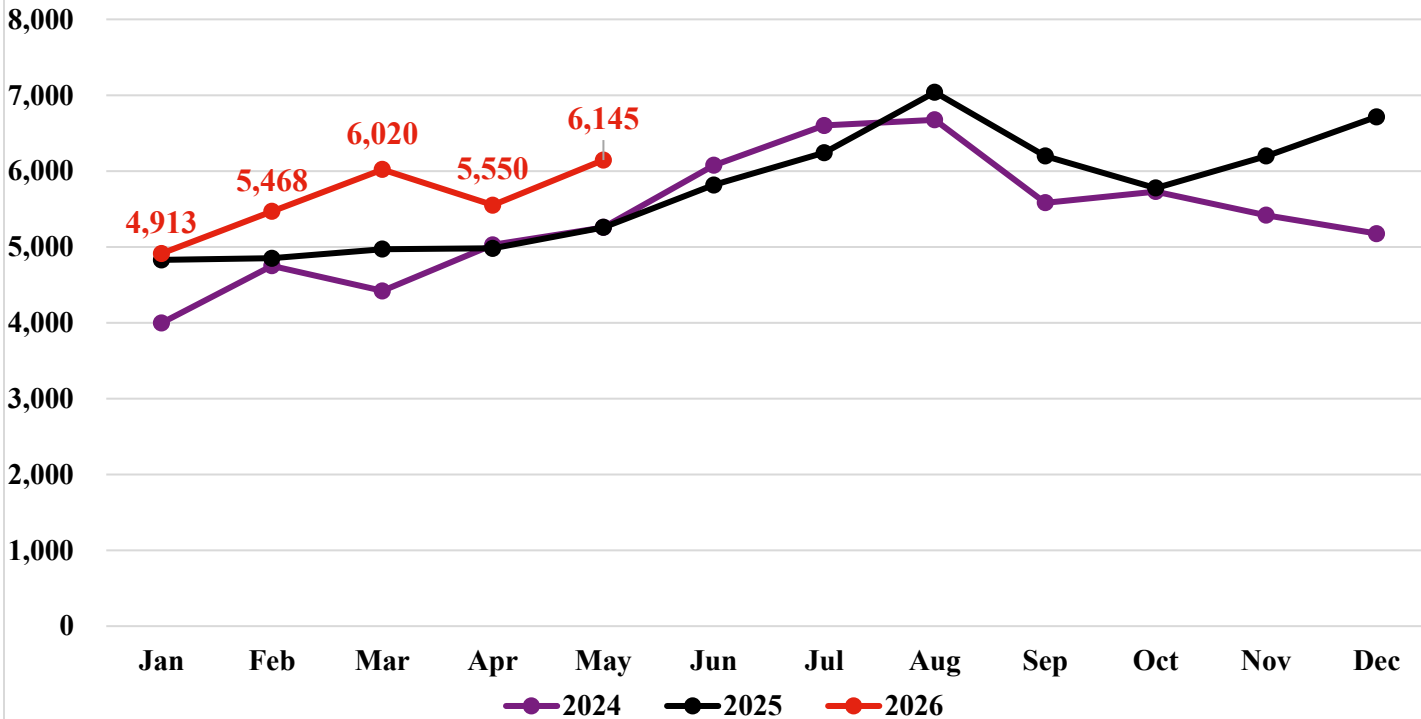
Date (MM/DD/YYYY)



Average Saturday Ridership - METRO Direct



Average Sunday Ridership - METRO Direct



**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
CULTURE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-21

A resolution authorizing the award of a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) services contract.

WHEREAS, METRO RTA will be undertaking a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) study to evaluate potential Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridors across Summit County. This study will be a critical next step in advancing METRO's long-term vision of building a more connected and efficient transit network; and

WHEREAS, the LPA will identify where BRT investments will have the greatest impact in improving travel times, reliability, and access to opportunities for riders; and

WHEREAS, legal notices were advertised February 26, 2026, and March 5, 2026, in the Akron Beacon Journal; and

WHEREAS, proposals were due on April 9, 2026, with the formal following proposals received:

- AECOM
- Kimley-Horn; and

WHEREAS, the Evaluation Committee reviewed the proposals, conducted interviews and is recommending that AECOM be awarded the contract for the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) services contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute the contract with AECOM in the amount not to exceed \$978,615.00.
2. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: July 28, 2026

**MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT**

**DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER**

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:
CULTURE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-22

A resolution authorizing the award of a contract to provide bus shelters and solar lighting systems.

WHEREAS, METRO is seeking to provide bus shelters and related amenities such as anti-vagrancy benches and solar powered lighting systems to enhance rider safety, comfort and sustainability across the transit network; and

WHEREAS, Legal notices were advertised April 30, 2026, and May 7, 2026, in the Akron Beacon Journal; and

WHEREAS, proposals were due June 11, 2026, with the following proposals received:

- SELS USA, LLC
- Tolar Manufacturing
- Brasco International
- LNI Custom Manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, the Evaluation Committee reviewed the proposals and is recommending that Brasco International be awarded the contract for bus shelters and solar lighting systems; and

WHEREAS, METRO was awarded a grant in the amount of \$66,400.00 towards bus shelters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of METRO Regional Transit Authority that:

1. The Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute the contract with Brasco in the amount not to exceed \$110,000.00.
2. All formal actions of this Board of Trustees related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

DATE ADOPTED: July 28, 2026

**MARK DERRIG,
PRESIDENT**

**DAWN DISTLER,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
SECRETARY-TREASURER**