

# Public Transit Advisory Council Meeting Agenda

April 8, 2026

2:00 – 3:30

Location: Zoom

<https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/85440778507?pwd=LFMaLLePgX0ezg6Kk1FNbQT8apo6Vn.1>

Agenda Item	Responsibility	Action or Information
1) Call to Order & Quorum	Megan Hannan, Chair	Action
2) Approval of Previous Minutes (5 mins) Appendix 1 – February 11, 2026 Draft Minutes	Megan Hannan, Chair	Action
<b>Council Updates</b> (45 mins)		
3) <b>Guest Speaker:</b> Corrigan Salerno, Policy Manager, T4A Transportation for America report: <a href="#">World-Class American Transit</a> Transit needs a moonshot—an ambitious vision for world-class transit across the country that matches the scale of the nearly 50,000-mile Interstate Highway System. To give Americans the freedom to choose world-class transit options, just like citizens in other highly developed economies do, we would need to nearly triple the number of transit vehicles in service available today. At current costs, realizing that vision could take a total investment of \$4.6 trillion over a twenty-year timeline. That sounds costly, but the U.S. is projected to spend an additional \$6.3 trillion on highways in that time, and since 1956, we have spent 3.4 times more on highways than transit.	Steering Committee	Information and Discussion
4) Committee Updates (refresher timeline for committee work is Appendix 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chairs Quick Report Out<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Steering: Megan Hannan</li><li>State of Transportation: Kirk Bellevance &amp; Aleta Rupert</li><li>Research &amp; Policy: Andrew Clark</li><li>Equity: TBD</li><li>Mobility: TBD</li></ul></li></ul>	Committee Chairs	Information and Discussion

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report Writing: Erin Zwirko</li> <li>• Recurring Dates FYI: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steering: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays @3</li> <li>• State of Transportation: May 6</li> <li>• Research &amp; Policy: 1<sup>st</sup> Friday @ 9am</li> <li>• Equity: TBD</li> <li>• Mobility: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays @ 3</li> <li>• Report Writing: TBD September</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<b>State Updates (20 mins)</b>		
5) Maine Department of Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Updates</li> </ul>	MaineDOT Staff	Information and Discussion
6) Department of Health & Human Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NET and / or other updates</li> </ul>	DHHS Staff	
7) Legislative / Transportation Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LD 1451 <i>Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Establish the Maine Coordinating Working Group on Access and Mobility</i></li> <li>• LD 2062 <i>An Act to Enhance the Safety of Public Transit Bus Operators Through the Installation of Vehicle Security Barriers</i></li> <li>• Infrastructure bills – LDs 2173, 427, others</li> <li>• Other?</li> </ul>	Legislators or Staff	Information and Discussion
<b>Council Business (25 mins)</b>		
8) Discussion Items	Open	Discussion
9) Public Comment	Public	Information
10) New Business	Open	Discussion
11) Future Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A presentation on the vision for a pro-transit, aging friendly Maine, <i>connected to</i></li> <li>• A presentation or discussion on the connection between housing and public transportation</li> <li>• A presentation Vermont’s infrastructure and innovation</li> <li>• GoMaine Updates</li> <li>• A presentation by Chris Ireland on the Commercial Driver’s License process</li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A presentation by Transportation for America on their recent report on America’s public transportation system</li> <li>• A report or presentation on autonomous vehicles</li> <li>• An update from the Coordinating Working Group on Access and Mobility when it has completed its recommendations</li> </ul>		
12) Adjourn (90 mins total)	Megan Hannan, Chair	Action

## Public Transit Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2026 – Held via Zoom

**PTAC Members in attendance:** Ryan Neale, Dean Williams, Larry Allen, Maddie Jensen, Andrew Clark, Jessica Maurer, Aleta Rupert, Thomas O’Boyle, Erin Zwirko, Donna Kelley, Megan Salvin, Jay Kamm, Kirk Bellavance, Catherine Kruglak, Ben Dinsmore, Tom Reinauer (vice chair), Katherine Freund, Zoe Miller, Roger Bondeson, Duane Scott, Amanda Dioszeghy, Sandy Buchanan, Laurie Linscott, Megan Hannan (chair), Omolola Achuba, Cheryl Harkins.

**1. Call to Order and Quorum.** Megan Hannan called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. It was determined that the quorum requirement was met. New member Donna Kelley of Waldo Community Action Partners introduced herself to the group.

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes.** Jessica Maurer moved to approve the December 10, 2025, meeting minutes as presented, and Sandy Buchanan seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. Updates From the Chair.** There were no updates from the chair.

#### 4. Committee Updates.

- **New Committee Membership**
- **Separate to Committee Rooms.** Members joined their respective committee rooms to introduce themselves to each other, elect a chair, and choose a regular meeting date. When finalized, MaineDOT staff will add the committee membership, chair, and meeting dates to the MaineDOT website. Committee chairs, meeting dates, and members are noted below.

##### Steering Committee:

- Chair: Megan Hannan
- Members:
  - Tom Reinauer
  - Ryan Neale
  - Erin Zwirko
  - Maddie Jensen
  - Laurie Linscott

##### State of Transportation Committee:

- Chair: Kirk Bellavance, Aleta Rupert
- Meeting Date: May 6
- Members:
  - Jay Kamm
  - Maddie Jensen
  - Sandy Buchanan
  - Kirk Bellavance
  - Cyr Martin
  - Catherine Kruglak
  - Aleta Rupert

#### Research and Policy Committee:

- Chair: Andrew Clark
- Meeting Date: First Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m., beginning March 6
- Members:
  - Thomas O'Boyle
  - Andrew Clark
  - Amanda Dioszeghy
  - Rep. Lydia Crafts
  - Michael Hallundbaek
  - Dean Williams
  - Josh Caldwell

#### Equity Committee:

- Chair:
- Members:
  - Megan Salvin
  - Jess Maurer
  - Jonathan Labonte
  - Roz O'Reilly

#### Mobility Alternatives Committee:

- Chair: To be determined
- Meeting Date: Third Wednesday of every other month, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Members:
  - Cheryl Harkins
  - Jess Maurer
  - Duane Scott
  - Omolola Achuba
  - Zoe Miller
  - Katherine Freund

#### Report Writing Committee:

- Chair:
- Members:
  - Megan Hannan
  - Ryan Neale
  - Tom Reinauer
  - Erin Zwirko

It was agreed that Megan will follow up with guidance for committee chairs on tasks and expectations. Initial committee meetings will likely focus on members getting to know each other and reviewing expectations, with later meetings focused on specific issues and tasks.

#### 5. Guest Speakers

- **Ryan Neale, MaineDOT**

Ryan walked through the summary presentation which is included in the packet. There were no additional comments or questions.

- **Roger Bondeson, DHHS**

Roger walked through the summary presentation which is included in the packet. Additional comments and questions include:

- The Maine Supreme Court on February 10 upheld DHHS' decision to award Modivcare non-emergency medical transportation contracts in the Waldo Community Action Partners region. A decision is pending for the Penquis Community Action Program region.
- Performance metrics include items such as on-time percentage, missed trip percentage, and complaint rates, including by broker and by region. These are updated quarterly and available on the DHHS website.
- DHHS does not independently verify all numbers, but all data is reviewed by the actuary that sets the rates. DHHS also has an independent tracking system for complaints. As of a few years ago, broker contracts include language that the broker must attest to the accuracy of the data or be subject to perjury.

## 6. MaineDOT Updates

- **MaineDOT Progress Report on Public Transit Advisory Council Recommendations (LD 1359).** MaineDOT presented the progress report on the PTAC's Biennial Report recommendations that is included in the packet to the Transportation Committee on January 22. The PTAC report assigned responsibility for recommendations to MaineDOT and/or other entities. Overall progress is being made on the PTAC's recommendations as time and resources allow. State funding for public transportation has increased in recent years but is not to the recommended level of \$8.9 million.

## 7. Legislative/Transportation Committee

- **LD 2062.** This bill relates to security barriers to protect drivers of public transportation vehicles from physical abuse by passengers. It was noted that the added security could help with driver recruitment and retention. The Maine Transit Association supports requiring barriers for vehicles in urban areas and making them optional for rural areas. The bill would require retrofitting of vehicles that are currently in service. Barriers are available on new vehicles.
- **LD 1451.** Maine Coordinating Working Group on Access and Mobility member Zoe Miller provided a summary. The Working Group is charged with creating a plan for mobility management in Maine. Mobility management would provide support to individuals and communities throughout the state in identifying transportation gaps, assets, and solutions, and improving efficiency in the use of existing resources. The group is also exploring ways to improve coordination across state agencies on transportation services and issues. Consultant AECOM and subconsultant RLS Associates have been brought on to assist with this effort.

## 8. Discussion Items

9. **Public Comment.** There was no public comment.

## 10. New Business

## 11. Future Agenda Items

- **Vision for a Pro-Transit, Aging Friendly Maine**
- **Vermont's Infrastructure and Innovation**
- **GO MAINE Updates**
- The Council identified several potential topics for future meetings:

- An update from the Coordinating Working Group on Access and Mobility when it has completed its recommendations
- A presentation by Chris Ireland on the Commercial Driver's License process
- A presentation by Transportation for America on their recent report on America's public transportation system
- A report or presentation on autonomous vehicles
- A presentation or discussion on the connection between housing and public transportation

**12. Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

The next full PTAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

DRAFT

## PTAC Year-at-a-Glance (Starting 2026–2027 Cycle)

This outline is an effort to stage work across the year so that report writing does not end up being rushed or done by a few people. This way, everyone contributes and the writers have what they need to draft the report, time for all to comment on the report, and to deliver the report on time.

### Committee Work Guidelines

- **Each committee produces at least one deliverable per year** (e.g., data snapshot, policy brief, stakeholder engagement summary).
- **Equity Committee reviews** each committee’s deliverables for representation and inclusion.
- **Report Committee starts assembly in fall of even years** so that by early 2027, the heavy lifting is already done.

### 2025

- December (Full PTAC - Virtual)
  - Discuss and agree to Agenda development
    - Include occasional guest speakers, meetings with other groups, etc.
    - Include time for hearing about what’s new, good news, bad news
  - Discuss and agree to DRAFT Timeline
  - Discuss and agree to DRAFT Committee Charters
    - Check on Committee membership, revise as needed
    - Choose leaders
  - Discuss MaineDOT report to Transportation Committee per LD 1359
  - Discuss LD 1451 progress

### 2026

- January (Steering/Committees – Virtual)
  - Steering develops a PTAC “year roadmap.”
  - Committees set annual work plans.
- February (Full PTAC - Virtual)
  - Discuss and Approve roadmap and annual work plans.
  - Launch committee priorities.
- March (Steering/Committees - Virtual)
  - Committees begin work on assigned areas (e.g., data review, equity, policy scan).
  - Steering checks on progress.
- April (Full PTAC - Hybrid)
  - Committee updates: “what we’re digging into.”
  - Guest spotlight (provider, best practice).
- May (Steering/Committees - Virtual)
  - Committees work on mid-year deliverables (State of Transit snapshot, policy options).

- Steering monitors alignment.
- June (Full PTAC - Hybrid)
  - Mid-year review: progress against work plans.
  - Identify gaps or additional needs.
- July (Steering/Committees - Virtual)
  - Deep dive sessions — e.g., Equity review of other committees, Policy scan of funding models.
- August (Full PTAC - Virtual)
  - Preliminary findings shared from committees.
  - Start discussing framing for 2027 biennial report.
- September (Steering/Committees - Virtual)
  - Committees refine deliverables, prepare draft findings.
  - Steering starts mapping report outline.
- **October (Full PTAC – Best In-Person, also Hybrid)**
  - Review draft committee findings.
  - Agree on themes and priority recommendations.
- November (Steering/Committees - Virtual)
  - Report Committee begins assembling first outline.
  - Equity Committee reviews for integration.
- December (Full PTAC - Virtual)
  - Year-end review: confirm progress, assign report drafting tasks for 2027.

## 2027 – Report Year

- January (Steering/Committees - Virtual)
  - Draft report sections completed.
  - Steering reviews for consistency.
- February (Full PTAC - Virtual)
  - Approve final report.
  - Submit to MaineDOT for their required response.
- **March 1 (Deadline)**
  - Report due to Governor and Legislature.
- **April (Full PTAC – Best In-Person, also Hybrid)**
  - Reflect on report process.
  - Begin setting agenda for next cycle.