

**DTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES HELD
ON FEBRUARY 26, 2026, AT 4:00 P.M.**

BOARD PRESENT:

Chairperson
Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Robert Cramer
Mr. John Naglick
Mr. Brandon Lockhart
Mr. John Paul Rea

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT:

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein
Hon. James Tate

DETROIT TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION:

Ms. Melia Howard, General Manager
Mr. Ernest Latham, Deputy Gen. Mgr.
Mr. Kevin Burwell
Ms. Ophelia Crawford
Ms. Pamela Day
Ms. Karen Foster
Ms. Sarah Gryniewicz
Mr. Cornelius Henry
Mr. Curt Knudsen
Ms. LaTrinda Perry
Ms. Michele Pollock
Mr. Cliffawn Powell
Ms. Leeya Sutter
Mr. Christopher Thomas
Ms. Madonna VanFossen
Mr. Tony Vinson
Ms. Gwen Wallace
Mr. Michael Walter
Mr. James Zills

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Ms. Dorian Ballard
Mr. Khalil Davis, WSP
Ms. Swapna Diwekar (Alan C. Young)
Mr. Bob Gorski
Ms. Farai Gundan (Bhadaza)
Mr. Lucas Lasecki
Mr. Rajeev Shah (Alan C. Young)

Meeting Called to Order/Opening Remarks

Chairperson Mr. Robert Cramer called the meeting of the Detroit Transportation Corporation Board of Directors to order at approximately 4:05 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Brandon Lockhart to adopt the agenda.

VOTE: All in attendance voted to approve the agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes of January 22, 2026

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Brandon Lockhart to adopt the Minutes for the Board of Directors meeting held on January 22, 2026.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Action Items

3. Alan C. Young DTC Audit Presentation

Mr. Rajeev Shah presented the DTC 2025 Audit to the Board of Directors.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Naglick and supported by Mr. John Paul to receive and file the DTC Audit as presented by Mr. Rajeev Shah of Alan. C. Young.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 UNDER ACT 51 OF THE PUBLIC ACT OF 1951, AS AMENDED

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Brandon Lockhart and supported by Mr. John Naglick re: adoption of the amended resolution removing the \$300,000.00 intended for the Agency-Wide Technology Plan project and that THE APPLICANT/DTC hereby makes its intentions known to provide public transportation services and to apply for state financial assistance with this annual plan, in accordance with Act 51; and that the DTC Board of Directors hereby appoints Melia Howard, DTC's General Manager, as the Transportation Coordinator, for all public transportation matters on behalf of the Detroit Transportation Corporation, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51 for FY 2027

Discussion: Ms. LaTrinda Perry stated that each year we must apply for our federal funding and that our budget was a total of \$9,500,000.00. She stated that \$3,987,771.00 was the total amount of federal grants we applied for. Ms. Perry also stated that our total application request was \$9,578,698.00. Ms. Perry explained that the resolution is necessary to present the estimates to the Board for approval.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked if the projects related to the 5304 grants were two separate projects. Ms. LaTrinda Perry stated that they are unrelated; two separate projects that were sent to MDOT. Ms. Perry stated that there were years when we've done multiple projects. She also said that if MDOT rejects the projects, then we would agree that the corridor study would be the only one. Ms. Perry stated that she had spoken with Ms. Melia Howard, who decided to make the corridor the priority, but that we had already applied for the other project. Ms. Perry said that she contacted MDOT today to let them know that our priority is the corridor, but to give her guidance on whether they would consider a second one. If so, then the Agency-wide Technology Plan would be the second one.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked if the resolution should be amended to remove the second 5304 request. Ms. LaTrinda Perry answered that these are estimates and doesn't believe that the request should be removed because it matches what is on the application.

Mr. Cramer expressed his concern that even if we say we only want one or the other, MDOT feels that the lesser value of \$300,000.00 would be a better choice.

Mr. Brandon Lockhart asked for clarification on zeroing out an existing percentage of local match that's on there as a project. He stated that he understood the concern of the Board of not receiving funding for the highest priority project, and that there are overtures that we're only getting one project. He asked whether we would be foregoing the opportunity to potentially get \$300,000 for the agency-wide technology plan if we do not pass the resolution or submit it like this. Ms. LaTrinda Perry answered in the affirmative.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

5. RESOLUTION TO AMEND AND RESTATE DETROIT TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Naglick and supported by Mr. John Paul Rea that the amended and restated Articles of Incorporation set forth in Attachment A appended hereto are approved and that the corporation Board Chair and Secretary are authorized and directed to file the amended and restated Articles with the state of Michigan.

Discussion: Mr. Robert Cramer stated that as part of the vision that the strategic plan, which was another 5304-funded project, is to update DTC's vision as the leading mobility partner; adopt Elevate Detroit as the mantra, revise the mission, and look at how DTC might be able to affect and really implement that vision. He stated that staff performed a review with assistance from counsel, to look at some precise restating of the Corporation Articles. He stated that the changes on the first page would be to add an end of the sentence after the purpose to relate to the CATS system, which is what we called the People Mover, along with public transportation services, including but not limited to buses, trains, and last-mile mobility options that connect with CATS or any part thereof. He stated that this is something that has been discussed previously and that the opinion is that this wouldn't require any other action other than the Board because this is a minor revision.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

6. Resolution: Authorization to update Owner's Representative Services for the Michigan Central Multimodal Facility (MCMF)

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Brandon Lockhart and supported by Mr. John Paul Rea that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered and directed by the DTC Board of Directors to enter into an agreement with Michigan Central Innovation District for consulting services and with a pre-approved A&E firm for owner's representative services for an amount not to exceed One Million and Five Hundred Thousand 00/100 Dollars (\$1,500,000.00). The contract shall end on August 31, 2030.

Discussion: Ms. Jela Ellefson introduced herself as joining DTC as the Deputy Director of Special Projects. She stated that she comes from Michigan Central Innovation District (MCID), which is the arm of her former company responsible for managing, designing, and programming the Michigan Central District, where she had been for six (6) years. Ms. Ellefson led several economic developments, real estate developments, and

placemaking strategies, of which one was the future Michigan Central Multimodal Facility, a combined passenger rail and inner-city bus, plus other modes (as the multi-intermodal indicates) - a facility that is estimated at \$40 million. She stated that funding for this facility is from the State of Michigan as well as the FTA.

Ms. Ellefson stated that this project was originally thought out to be led by Michigan Central, and it was her responsibility to do this, with her moving onto a public transit agency to lead this public transit project. She stated that the role has been revised in the last three weeks and that she was able to finalize the contract and the scope of work with Michigan Central to reflect this reduction of scope.

Ms. Ellefson stated that of the original \$1,500,000.00 dollars that MDOT has awarded for third-party project management, the Michigan Central scope is going to be reduced by about 2/3 to the tune of about \$420,000. She stated that the remaining \$1,080,000.00 is now available to DTC to secure an owner's representative to act hand in hand with her as a project lead. Ms. Ellefson added that it provides an added layer of protection to DTC and also provides the additional expertise needed for such a complex facility.

Ms. Jela Ellefson stated that the request here is to authorize Ms. Melia Howard as the General Manager to execute these contracts. She noted that the last one was executed in October when Mr. Robert Cramer was CEO. Therefore, we want to make sure that the line of authority is clear and to let you know that DTC will be leading this project in a more prominent role, and that we will use the balance of that fund to add the capacity to our team.

Mr. Robert Cramer inquired about a contract with MCID for the reduced amount, given that we're taking on a lot of those responsibilities, and for the pre-approved A&E firm signaling if we can use some of the A&E services that we had previously competitively bid here at DTC to satisfy these. Ms. Jela Ellefson answered in the affirmative, stating that she had explored the best path forward in terms of procurement for this, and those A&E firms possess the skill set and the experience. She added that many of the firms have managed international projects at the different crossing points between the US and Canada, and they already have the existing FTA clauses and requirements in place, which will help us expedite this significantly.

She also stated that we would still issue a public request for proposals for the design and engineering firm, but this owner's rep would be from this inventory of consultants available to us as of today.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

7. Resolution: Authorization into a Purchase Agreement with Mid-American Group to Harvest Parts from Seven (7) TTC Vehicles

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Naglick and supported by Mr. Brandon Lockhart that the General Manager shall be and is hereby authorized, empowered and directed by the DTC Board of Directors on behalf of the Corporation to enter into an agreement with Mid-American Group to remove parts from seven stored TTC vehicles for a cost of **Two Hundred Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars and Fifty Cents. (\$218,497.50).**

Discussion: Mr. Ernest Latham stated that we have seven (7) vehicles stored in Monroe from the TTC fleet that we acquired. He stated that we will begin deconstructing the vehicles. He stated that the Mid-America group would remove all the parts and dismantle the vehicles. Those parts will come to our facility in Detroit and be stored as spare parts. We will then be out of our lease with Mid-America Group in Monroe, which will save us approximately \$4,000.00.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked if Mid-America would be doing the work. Mr. Ernest Latham answered in the affirmative.

Mr. John Naglick asked if the vehicles intended to be used on the system are stored in a different location out east. Mr. Latham answered in the affirmative, adding that the vehicles are in Pennsylvania.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

8. Resolution: Authorization to amend the Purchase Order for Cyber Security Application/Software

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. John Naglick that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed by the DTC Board of Directors on behalf of the Corporation to amend the Purchase Agreement with Auxiom LLC for SEIM and Vulnerability software to cover years 2026 through August 2028 for an amount not to exceed Sixty-Five Thousand and Six Hundred dollars. (\$65,600.00).

Discussion: Mr. Ernest Latham stated that we have a very robust cybersecurity platform here at DPM and that two very important tools are the Security Information Event Management (SIEM) tool and the Vulnerability tool. He stated that these two work together in the background daily and constantly to analyze the system, looking for credible threats. Mr. Latham said that one of the biggest vulnerabilities is that it looks for password changes as hackers may try to infiltrate somebody's e-mail, a file, or a server, and that we physically log monthly how many times that has happened, and we can drill down into all those computers and see things such as a forgotten password or a bad actor.

Mr. Latham explained that the \$65,000.00 will cover us for the next two years for these tools.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

9. Resolution: Authorization to award a Contract for Times Square Platform Tile Replacement and Stairwell

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Naglick and supported by Mr. John Paul Rea that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed by the DTC Board of Directors to enter into an agreement for Times Square platform tile replacement and stairwell service for an amount not-to-exceed **Three Hundred Forty-Six Thousand and One Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Dollars and 50/100 (\$346,188.50)**.

Discussion: Mr. Curt Knudsen stated that the quarry tile on the platform of the Times Square station has been repaired multiple times over the years. He stated that we had to close the station due to many slip or trip hazards. Mr. Knudsen stated that a Request for Proposal was put out through the national website Bidnet Direct. He stated that we conducted two (2) walkthroughs with six (6) companies and received one (1) bid from Mid-American Group.

Mr. Curt Knudsen stated that we had an independent cost estimate done before the RFP went out and that Mid-American's bid was just 6 percent off the independent cost estimate. He stated that we would like to award this as a sole-source bid.

Mr. Robert Cramer inquired about the other bid, asking if it was disqualified. Mr. Knudson answered that they were non-responsive.

Mr. John Naglick asked if tile work is something that they do routinely. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked if there was an estimated time frame once the contract is awarded. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that Mid-American is ready to start and that we will need to secure parking spots along Grand River, which should take approximately one to two weeks. He stated that there is a purchase of the tile, an off-the-shelf color that would be ready immediately, and submitted to see if it's close enough to the remaining tile that's near the escalator. However, if it isn't, or if we don't think it's close enough, it would be approximately two or three weeks away to get the exact color match.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked when we can expect the station to be ready once the tile is received. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that it could be four to six weeks upon starting.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

10. WALK-ON Resolution: Authorization to award a Contract to Accurate Networks for ITS Network Services to include CCTV, PA Systems, Kiosks, Emergency Phones, and other Ancillary Equipment PM & Repair Services

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Brandon Lockhart that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered and directed by the DTC Board of Directors to enter into an agreement with Accurate Networks for intelligent transportation systems (ITS) infrastructure, network, to include the CCTV system, Public Address (PA) system, kiosks, emergency phones, switches/Storage Area Network (SAN)/Network Management System (NMS), fiber network, video wall and other ancillary equipment for a three year contract for an amount not-to-exceed **Five Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Hundred and 82/100 Dollars (\$524,200.82).**

Discussion: Mr. Curt Knudsen stated that we installed a lot of new equipment a few years ago with the CCTV and network upgrade project that we successfully completed. Mr. Knudsen stated that this preventive maintenance contract is to complete the preventative maintenance for these new items. He said that this is a rebid and that for this bid, we had three companies attend: Johnson Controls, Accurate Network, and Infinite Technologies. He stated that we also received a single bid for this RFP as well from Accurate Network, which came in 24 percent lower than our independent cost estimate. He also stated that Accurate Network was the major installer for the CCTV and network upgrade project.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked why there were no other bids. Ms. Michele Pollock answered that the individual who attended the walkthrough for Johnson Controls did not know why the corporate headquarters did not bid on the project. Mr. Curt Knudsen stated that it was not Infinite Technologies' portion of expertise.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

11. WALK-ON Resolution: Authorization to enter into a Purchase Agreement with Easton Rail Services to Harvest parts from four (4) TTC Vehicles

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. John Naglick, that the General Manager shall be and is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed by the DTC Board of Directors on behalf of the Corporation to enter into an agreement with Easton Rail Services to remove parts from four stored TTC vehicles for a cost of **Three Hundred Thousand Dollars and Fifty Cents. (\$300,000.00).**

Discussion: Mr. Ernest Latham stated that this is for the second set of vehicles that we have, which are at Tipton, PA, and the vendor will be our vehicle conversion team specialist to convert the TTC vehicles for use here at DPM. He stated that we want to deconstruct four (4) vehicles and that the parts from these vehicles will remain at Tipton and be used for float or as we go into refurbishments and conversions.

Mr. John Naglick asked if we would be taking parts off four (4) vehicles to be used in the renovation of the ones that you're ultimately going to have shipped here to go on our system. Mr. Latham answered in the affirmative.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked to revisit the agenda item for the Articles of Incorporation to review the revised final version.

Ms. Sarah Gryniwicz stated that the slightly different Articles were included in the packet, but to make sure that the Board has made a fair decision. She stated that slight changes are the correct legal wording for the beginning amendment, and then one parenthesis moves to the end of a sentence.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Brandon Lockhart and supported by Mr. John Paul Rea to approve the resolution with the updated Attachment A.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

General Manager / Staff Reports

- **Track Geometry – Mr. Ernest Latham**
- **The Detroit Shoppe (Ms. Madonna Van Fossen)**
- **New Hires (Ms. Leeya Sutter)**

Track Geometry

Mr. Ernest Latham stated that track geometry is a digital measurement system that measures running rail, limb rail, and power rail for all of the elements on the guideway. He stated that these are currently done by a person walking out with different gauges and measurement tools, but now we'll have a digital company that will come in with a digital device, tow it around the guideway, and take an inch-by-inch snapshot of the entire guideway. He stated that we bring those back, plug our parameters in, and it will tell us to the edge where the defects are, where we need to be, what's on, what's off. He stated that it'll be exportable to Excel, Google Maps, and Google Earth, so we can plot out where the problem spots are. He said that this usually requires a lot of man-hours on the midnight shift as the crews walk around and do it. He stated that we will now be able to download the information, send crews where they need to be instead of hunting for defects, and be able to see them in real time.

Mr. Latham stated that we have been working on this for about 3-4 years to find a company and get a machine that could do this for us.

Mr. Robert Cramer inquired about the technology used, asking if it is Lidar. Mr. Ernest Latham answered that it is a combination of Lidar and a straight laser.

Mr. John Naglick asked if this is something we are looking to purchase or something we've already acquired. Mr. Ernest Latham answered in the negative. He stated that we tried to build one about 15 years ago, but we were getting close to \$1,000,000. He stated that we started working with them approximately 3-4 years ago, and in the interim, they perfected their machine. He stated that they modeled it out to BC Transit, honed it, and got it dialed in. He stated that we're going to rent the machine, and we're looking to do it every year, as it will be part of our assessment program for continual improvement as we move forward.

The Detroit Shoppe

Ms. Madonna Van Fossen stated that in January, a group of staff went to the Detroit Shoppe's location in Somerset Mall and met with Ms. Erin Berline to talk about the potential of them offering our merchandise in their store. Ms. Van Fossen stated that they came up with a plan where Tony Vinson is checking with My Locker to set up an account where Ms. Berline can order items and put them in the store. She stated that Ms. Berline will give us a monthly report regarding what she ordered and what the sales were.

Ms. Van Fossen stated that we are not going to start in the Somerset location, but will start in the Detroit Shoppe downtown location, which is located inside the Metropolitan Building at 33 John R Street near Comerica Park and the Detroit Opera House. She stated that hopefully we'll get that going within the next couple of months, if not sooner.

Ms. Madonna Van Fossen stated that Ms. Berline will carry T-shirts with custom designs that we've come up with, and that Ms. Berline will start with about half a dozen.

New Hires

Ms. Leeya Sutter introduced Mr. Kevin Burwell as the Supply Chain Manager starting on February 16, 2026. She stated that Mr. Burwell brings over 25 years of experience in supply chain logistics and warehousing, including more than 20 years in a leadership role. She said that his background zone is extensive in barcoding systems, managing audit and inventories, and developing SLP's to improve efficiency and safety.

Ms. Melia Howard asked that we take a moment to remember Mr. Steven Hawring, who she recognized as a transit warrior not just for transit, but for Detroit. She stated that he moved to Miami, but was still someone who championed us.

12. Public Participation

Ms. Dorian Ballard stated that she was elected by the residents of the City of Detroit to the District 5 Community Advisory Council (CAC). She stated that the People Mover is essential to many of the things that the Detroit District 5 residents, such as how they get around, and how they access services. She expressed excitement about exploring partnerships with DTC when it comes to the NACS and the CBO requirements.

Ms. Ballard explained that the CAC members are elected by the residents of Detroit. She stated that the charter-mandated function is to raise the voice of residents in city departments and city services. She stated that they have a policy aspect where they work closely with the council and the mayor's office. Ms. Ballard stated that when it comes to the People Mover, the CAC had two public meetings this year, and transportation constantly comes up, and as they want it to come up as a positive thing, but it is constantly coming up as a

barrier for accessibility to services for our residents. She stated that she looks forward to working with DTC on an ongoing basis and attending these meetings in the future.

Ms. Ballard mentioned that the meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month.

13. Board Member Comments

There were no comments from the Board of Directors members.

14. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Brandon Lockhart Rea to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:09 p.m.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

DocuSigned by:

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John Naglick, Corporation Secretary