

**DTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES HELD
ON JUNE 25, 2026, AT 4:00 P.M.**

BOARD PRESENT:

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Robert Cramer
Mr. Samuel Krassenstein
Mr. John Naglick
Mr. John Paul Rea

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT:

Mr. Brandon Lockhart
Hon. James Tate

DETROIT TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION:

Ms. Melia Howard, General Manager
Ms. Ericka Alexander
Mr. Kevin Burwell
Ms. Ophelia Crawford
Ms. Pamela Day
Ms. Jela Ellefson
Ms. Karen Foster
Ms. Sarah Gryniewicz
Mr. Cornelius Henry
Mr. Curt Knudsen
Ms. LaTrinda Perry
Ms. Michele Pollock
Mr. Cliff Powell
Mr. Christopher Thomas
Mr. Anthony Vinson
Ms. Gwen Wallace

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Mr. Luke Beinbaum
Mr. Terry Cramer
Mr. Khalil Davis, WSP
Mr. Robert Gorski
Ms. Farai Gundan
Mr. Phillipe McRae
Mr. Weston Miller
Mr. Robert Pawlowski
Mr. Phillip Schauer
Mr. Chris Simmons
Mr. Dan Swiontoniowski
Mr. Perry Sylvester

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 4:06 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Robert Cramer requested a motion to amend the agenda by moving Item #3, Resolution Authorization to renew and increase Excess Liability Insurance Coverage, to Item #6.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Samuel Krassenstein to adopt the amended agenda.

VOTE: All in attendance voted to approve the amended agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes of May 21, 2026

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Samuel Krassenstein and supported by Mr. John Paul Rea to adopt the Minutes for the Board of Directors meeting held on May 21, 2026.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Action Items

3. Resolution Authorization to execute Agreements for the Michigan Central Multimodal Facility (MCMF)

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Samuel Krassenstein that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed by the DTC Board of Directors to enter into agreements for an amount not to exceed Two Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

Discussion: Ms. Jela Ellefson stated that the Michigan Central Multimodal Facility Project is at a very exciting stage as the project team is commencing work to secure environmental clearances that will lead to the obligation of the \$10 million in funding from FTA. She stated that this is still some time ahead, but it is important that we are moving forward in a timely and expedited manner. Ms. Ellefson stated that the resolution is to increase the General Manager's authorization that reduces risk, expedites the environment, and preserves funding pathways. She stated that over the next couple of months, we will be developing concept-level design and determining the method.

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein asked if the funding is sourced from MDOT. Ms. Ellefson answered in the affirmative. Mr. Krassenstein asked about the existing authorization. Ms. Ellefson answered that the existing funding is \$1.5 million.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. Resolution Authorization for a Contract Extension with AECOM for the Downtown Mobility Study

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Samuel Krassenstein that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered and directed by the DTC Board of Directors to enter into a two (2) month contract extension with AECOM for the Downtown Mobility Study.

Discussion: Ms. Sarah Gryniewicz explained that the resolution is to request more time. She also stated that it is within the budget and scope. Mr. Robert Cramer asked if the extension is through September 30, 2026. Ms. Sarah Gryniewicz answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein asked if we are confident about the September 30, 2026, date or if we need to look at extending through the end of the year. Ms. Sarah Gryniewicz answered that the extension is sufficient.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

5. Resolution Authorization to Replace the Neon Art at the Greentown Station

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Samuel Krassenstein that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered and directed by the DTC Board of Directors to enter into an agreement with Spectrum Neon for Turnkey Greentown Station Neon Art Replacement Services for an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Forty-One Thousand Two Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$241,200.00).

Discussion: Mr. Curt Knudsen stated that the agenda item is to award a contract to Spectrum Neon Company, with a cost not to exceed Two Hundred Forty-One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$241,200). He stated that the funding will come from the Downtown Development Authority. He stated that the project is a part of the Greentown streetscape work to make enhancements for the Final Four event in 2027.

Mr. Knudsen thanked the City for selecting us for the project. Mr. Knudsen stated that we had tried to complete this project before, but we weren't able to because of a lack of funding.

Mr. Curt Knudsen stated that we had two bids that we evaluated through our evaluation criteria in the RFP. He said that we contacted nine (9) firms, four (4) of them participated in the walkthrough, and two bids were submitted. He said that the pricing was very close and competitive; however, based on the evaluation criteria, Spectrum Neon won the award.

Mr. Robert Cramer stated that in the past, there had been some evaluation or idea proposals about replacing or rehabilitating the neon, which was in pretty bad shape. He asked about the design of the project, whether it is replacing the neon with neon or something different. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that it is a replacement project with updated and environmentally friendly materials, such as LED lights instead of neon tubes. He added that the materials will also be made from lighter-weight steel framing. Mr. Knudsen also said that it will keep the look.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked if there was any consideration, thought, or future flexibility that there could be animation or changing of the colors added, or if it is intended to be a rigid one-for-one. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that the framing will be rigid, but the LED lights and what is attached to the framing can always be changed. Mr. Cramer asked if these are the type of lights that can be programmed. Mr. Knudsen answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked if the family of the original artist had been consulted. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that the family had been contacted previously, but that the original artist was deceased. He added that there is a group that still responds and is responsible for the display, and that this is what led us to replace it so that it looks the same.

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein inquired about the lifespan of LEDs versus that of neon lights. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that he will look into the lifespan of the LED lighting and report back to the Board. Mr. Krassenstein asked if any of the neon was replaced or if everything was original. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that he will look into it and report back to the Board.

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein noted that there were two bids, Phillips and Spectrum Neon, and that in the scoring section, Phillips scored higher in means and methods, was equal on experience, had a better price, but lost significant points on timeline. He asked for an explanation regarding the timeline component. He asked if

Phillips was unable to deliver the project on the schedule needed for the Final Four. Mr. Curt Knudsen answered that both contractors showed that they intended to meet the deadline; however, Spectrum Neon provided a much more detailed and thoughtful response that gave us much more comfort in scoring points in that important section.

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein noted that the resolution states that the project is funded by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and asked the Board if a stipulation was needed to show that the project is dependent on having a signed agreement with DDA. Mr. John Naglick, who is on the Board of Directors for the DDA, stated that the project was approved by the DDA's Board. He stated that after the Board approves it, their general counsel, Becky Naven, draws up a funding agreement. Mr. Samuel Krassenstein asked whether language making the approval contingent on a funding agreement was needed or if DDA approval was sufficient. Mr. Robert Cramer answered that he believes the approval by the DDA is sufficient, adding that we've said that the funding is through the DDA; therefore, if for some reason that didn't materialize, it would dictate that they couldn't move forward with this.

Mr. Krassenstein inquired about the cost implications and programming differences between RGB and fixed lights. He stated that it would be helpful to know if it would modify the price. He asked if we would make a change if it ended up not being in the scope. Mr. Robert Cramer answered that it could be brought back as a purchase order, a change adjustment item for the Board.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

6. Resolution Authorization to renew and increase Workers' Compensation Insurance Coverage

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea, supported by Mr. Samuel Krassenstein, that the General Manager is hereby authorized, empowered and directed by the Board of Directors on behalf of the Corporation to purchase the workers' compensation insurance with the 12-month term premium (through May 1, 2027) for Sixty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve Dollars and 0/100 (\$68,912.00).

Discussion: Ms. Karen Foster stated that we are seeking approval not for workers' comp insurance, which is a required insurance by employers. She stated that the incumbent insurance organization, Travelers, is the one we chose to get this insurance for a second time. Ms. Foster stated that one thing to note is that the cost for the workers' comp insurance has been drastically modified over the last three years. She said that in our 2026-2027 renewal costs, it realizes a decrease in the premium based on our experience modification rate, which is now one (1). She added that in prior years, it was 1.57 for 2025-2026, and 2.66 for 2024-2025, which means that in those prior years, we had more claims than others in the same business or industry that we are in now. She stated that this caused the premium to go up. Ms. Foster stated that we're now level with a 1.0 total cost of Sixty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve Dollars and 0/100 (\$68,912.00) for a 12-month period.

Mr. Robert Cramer inquired about the premium for the last 12 months. Ms. Foster stated that the premium was higher.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

7. Resolution to approve Detroit Transportation Corporation Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget and Capital Projects

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. John Naglick that the DTC Board of Directors adopts the DTC Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget and Capital Projects

Discussion: Ms. Melia Howard stated that we are proposing our \$18.4 million budget for the 2027 fiscal year.

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein asked what happens with the loss of that \$1.6 million. He asked where it is reflected, if it is in the headcount, and where the cost reduction is reflected. Ms. Karen Foster answered that the cost reduction is expected to happen in all areas, including salaries/fringe and expenses. She stated that a large number of the expenses have been decreased for departmental costs, which are 9.3, down from 9.7 in the prior year. She added that there is more planning and making sure that everyone is on board in terms of the changes we expect to make, and that they are acceptable and approved by not only those who come up with those ideas, but the Board and our HR leadership.

Mr. John Naglick stated that it'll be important to show, over the last several years, a comparison of what has happened to revenue and what has happened to expenses. He added that, from his experience of being on the Board for many years, it's not like expenses have risen dramatically that has caused this funding gap, but that we have relied on one-time revenues that aren't repeating, such as the CARES Act money during COVID, and that we used to run the Transit Police for all of DDOT, which got separate subsidies. He stated that if we can't achieve the savings, we would intend to go back to the city and see if we could get the City or DDA to get more support. He stated that this reflects what the team is saying, and we're going to look at a savings plan. He would fully expect that if we can't achieve the savings plan and still operate the system in accordance with laws and regulations, that it gives us an opportunity to go back to our funding sources and see if we can do more. He believes that the City is also willing to work with helping collect on money owed to DTC by the former sponsor that defaulted on the contract.

Mr. Robert Cramer stated that looking through the savings target is not only about continuing to look for opportunities for savings, but also that this budget is a more conservative as far as the revenue projections compared to previous years, which provides more opportunity with the upcoming Final Four event, to increase some of the revenue from some of the stations and also more, potentially different sponsorship opportunities that helps build towards a healthier balance sheet moving forward.

Mr. John Naglick added that he had noticed the multiple sponsorships on the trains and in the stations while walking downtown.

Mr. John Paul Rea stated that he appreciates the Chair's thoughtfulness with regard to itemizing the upcoming needs with the completion of the People Mover system plan and downtown mobility study, as we look at granting opportunities and the ability to modernize, whether it's some of the capital needs that we have, and the substation upgrades that are critical. He stated that it is a great way of laying out and ensuring that we have the structural elements there as far as the spending plan.

After the Motion, Mr. John Naglick added that we have started a great dialogue with the City and encouraged the staff to do more to educate the City, up to and including the mayor, on our funding sources, how they have changed over the years, what's good, and what hurts us.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

8. General Manager / Staff Reports

Ms. Melia Howard thanked the team for their hard work completing the budget.

Ms. Howard thanked Mr. Tony Vinson for orchestrating and bringing in the ASCE/International Automated People Mover Conference next week. She stated that this is another opportunity to showcase the People Mover and what it can do, along with all the different disparate systems that are around the country for people to see. She stated that we also have people coming in who are on their People Mover 2.0 journey. She stated

that being able to speak to the people to understand better what is required to get for our own personal 2.0 journey will be very helpful.

Mr. Tony Vinson gave remarks on the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) conference that would be coming to Detroit. He stated that the focus is on two (2) tracks: airport pavement and automated people mover systems.

Mr. Vinson stated that he attended the conference in Atlanta, Georgia, made connections, and worked with them to bring the conference to Detroit.

Mr. Vinson stated that there would be an operations and maintenance panel on Sunday evening that he would be a part of. He stated that we would have three (3) presentations throughout the three days and end the conference with a People Mover and QLine tour. He said that they would walk through our maintenance and operations facility, take the train to the QLine, talk about the art in the stations, and the People Mover as an aging system.

Mr. Vinson said that many industry experts are coming into town, and it's a good time for us to showcase our system and get them thinking about how they might be able to partner with us and bring us to the next level.

Mr. Samuel Krassenstein inquired about the expected attendance. Mr. Tony Vinson answered that 700 is the expected attendance.

Mr. Robert Cramer asked about the location. Mr. Tony Vinson answered that the conference would be held at the Renaissance Center Marriott.

9. Public Participation

There was no Public Participation

10. Board Member Comments

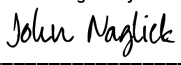
Mr. Samuel Krassenstein asked if the Board Meeting scheduled for July 23, 2026, could be moved to July 30, 2026, due to a conflict. Mr. Robert Cramer stated that Ms. Ophelia Crawford would coordinate the next meeting with the members, and the public would be notified if there would be a change.

Mr. John Naglick stated that yesterday, while riding the People Mover, he noticed that the station announcements weren't working. He stated that there was a Transit Officer who would get out of one car and walk to the other car. Mr. Robert Cramer asked Mr. Naglick to provide staff with the train number so that they could check into it.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Mr. John Paul Rea and supported by Mr. Samuel Krassenstein to adjourn the meeting at approximately 4:42 p.m.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative

Signed by:


 John Naglick, Corporation Secretary