

Metroplan Board of Directors Meeting

February 12, 2026

10:30 am

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of December 17, 2026
2. Financial Report
3. Metroplan Report
4. Central Arkansas Regional Planning Needs Assessment – Opportunities to enhance
Collaboration between Metroplan and Central Arkansas Planning and Development District
5. Agency Reports
 - Energy and Environment Innovation for the Natural State
6. CPRG
 - a. Green Networks Call for Projects –Land Restoration, Tree Planting
 - b. Central Arkansas PACE
 - Transportation Agenda
7. SMART Streets Plan
8. Call for Projects
 - a. 2026 STBG and 2026 TAP
 - b. 2027 TAP Funding
9. FFY 2026 Obligations
10. Metroplan Board Announcements
11. Citizen Communications
12. Adjourn



ITEM 1. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2025

The minutes of the December 17th, 2025 Metroplan Board meeting are attached for review and adoption.

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to adopt minutes from December 17th, 2025.

ITEM 2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Metroplan staff are preparing financials for the 2025 Audit and will provide a preliminary report to the board in March. The audit is scheduled for June. A report on end-of-year cash will be included in the board packet.

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to accept the Financial Report.

ITEM 3. METROPLAN REPORT

SUMMARY

Metroplan staff will provide an update on agency planning activities and share a preliminary agenda for the Central Arkansas Summit.

ITEM 4. CENTRAL ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

OPPORTUNITIES TO ENHANCE COLLABORATOIN BETWEEN METROPLAN AND CENTRAL ARKANSAS PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

SUMMARY

The Central Arkansas Regional Needs Assessment report has been completed and follows. Lauren Palmer will present an overview of the report and its recommendations.

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to adopt resolution 26-01.



RESOLUTION 26-01

ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CENTRAL ARKANSAS REGIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

WHEREAS, Metroplan is a Council of Local Governments formed under Arkansas Act 26 of 1955 with broad authority to conduct planning within Central Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Metroplan is the officially designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, Metroplan engaged a consultant to evaluate regional planning needs and collaboration opportunities between Metroplan and the Central Arkansas Planning and Development District (CAPDD); and

WHEREAS, board members and stakeholders participated in and provided input for the study, which recommends a consolidation of both organizations' planning and grant activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Metroplan Board of Directors does hereby accept the recommendations of the Central Arkansas Regional Planning Needs Assessment, and, upon concurrence of the CAPDD board, will set up a working team to pursue the recommendations.

Duly recorded this 12th day of February 2026.

Judge Matt Brumley, Secretary/Treasurer

Judge Allen Dodson, President

ITEM 5. AGENCY REPORTS

A. Metroplan Executive Director's Report

B. Arkansas Department of Transportation

C. Rock Region METRO

D. Little Rock Port Authority

E. Bill & Hillary Clinton National Airport

F. Federal Highway Administration

I. Arkansas Department of Economic Development

H. Central Arkansas Planning and Development District

ITEM 6. CPRG

A. Energy and Environment for the Natural State Implementation Grant

The following CPRG activities were completed in December and January.

Green Networks

- Released trail, land restoration, and tree planting funding and provided outreach and technical assistance to prospective applicants
- Evaluated applications
- Worked with EPA to provide contract language and environmental assessment to projects

Transportation Efficiency

- Worked with City of Little Rock to identify vehicles for replacement with EVs
- Central Arkansas Library System (CALS) has installed EV charging stations in 9 total locations
- Provided Quality Assurance training to all streetlight and EV vehicle/charger funding recipients
- Streetlight replacement has begun in Alexander in collaboration with Entergy Arkansas

Building Efficiency

- LIT: 152 of the 710 planned wells have been drilled and grouted
- Board approved funding for City of Ward's building efficiency project. Final contract review is underway.

B. Green Networks Call for Projects

Seven (7) applications for Land Restoration and Tree Planting were received and six (6) trail applications. A list of these applications is below. A recommendation for Land Restoration and Tree Planting applications will be made at the Board meeting.

Project Title	Lead Agency	Total Requested	Funding requested for:
Land Restoration at Four Central Arkansas Natural Areas to Benefit Species and Habitats of Conservation Concern (1 Faulkner Co and 3 Saline Co)	Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (ANHC)	\$256,900	Land Restoration
Central Arkansas Water: Landscape-Scale Restoration for Climate and Ecosystem Resilience	Central Arkansas Water	\$3,706,251	Land Restoration
Native Restoration at Little Rock Zoo	City of Little Rock	\$306,671	Land Restoration
Restoring Rose Creek	Rose Creek Initiative	\$191,419	Land Restoration, Tree Planting
Growing Maumelle: Urban Tree Canopy Expansion Program	City of Maumelle	\$39,616	Tree Planting
Tree Streets - MLK Boulevard	Tree Streets, Inc.	\$10,000	Tree Planting
Central Arkansas Tree Planting Grant	UADA Cooperative Extension Service	\$1,599,977	Tree Planting

TOTAL REQUESTED		\$6,110,834	
TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$6,784,000	
DIFFERENCE		\$673,166	

ACTION NEEDED: Approval of Resolution 26-02

Project Title	Lead Agency	Total Requested	Trail Environment
Southwest Trail Connector Construction Phase 1	City of Bryant	\$ 824,800.00	Sidepath
Clinton Presidential Park Bridge Protection Cell Replacement Project	City of Little Rock	\$ 500,000.00	Sidepath
Overlay of Lake Willastein Phase III	City of Maumelle	\$ 440,000.00	Urban Trail
Powerline Easement Trail (Phase II)	City of Sherwood	\$ 241,585.52	Urban Trail
Sardis Road Trail	City of Shannon Hills	\$ 968,900.00	Sidepath
PC CPRG SE Trail 3	Pulaski County	\$ 1,960,000.00	Sidepath
TOTAL REQUESTED		\$ 4,935,285.52	
TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$ 2,318,400.00	
DIFFERENCE		(\$ 2,616,885.52)	

ACTION NEEDED: None

*Projects remaining under evaluation

C. Arkansas C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Capital Expenditures) Improvement District

The CPRG grant included funding for a regional Commercial Property Assessed Capital Expenditures (C-PACE) program, led by the Arkansas Advanced Energy Foundation (AAEF). This program allows businesses to access low-interest loans for energy efficiency upgrades. Jonathon Rasburry with AAEF will outline this program with a full presentation scheduled at the March meeting.

ACTION NEEDED: Information Only



RESOLUTION 26-02
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT INNOVATION FOR THE NATURAL STATE
CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT
GREEN NETWORK PASS-THROUGH GRANTS

WHEREAS, Metroplan is the lead agency for the Energy and Environment Innovation for the Natural State Implementation Grant through the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program; and

WHEREAS, this grant includes \$15,500,000 for a pass-through grant program for Central Arkansas municipalities, counties, and nonprofit partners to implement Green Network projects to preserve land, restore land, and plant trees, with an average program cost efficiency goal of \$142 per metric ton of CO2 reduced; and

WHEREAS, round 1 projects were awarded funding in May 2026 in the amount of \$8,176,000; and

WHEREAS, Metroplan received Round 2 applications from its members on January 9, 2026; and

WHEREAS, projects were evaluated in accordance with program guidelines and at the direction of the Metroplan Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Metroplan Board of Directors allocates funding in the following amount for Green Network pass-through grants:

Project Sponsor	Description	Funding
To be completed		
TOTAL		\$

Duly recorded this 12th day of February 2026.

Judge Matt Brumley, Secretary/Treasurer

Judge Allen Dodson, President

ITEM 7. SMART STREETS PLAN

SUMMARY

The SMART Streets Plan meeting scheduled for 1/27 has been cancelled and will be rescheduled. An update on the project schedule and status of planning efforts will be provided at the board meeting.

ACTION NEEDED: Information Only

ITEM 8. CALL FOR PROJECTS

SUMMARY

A. 2026 Supplemental Call for Projects

Fifteen (15) applications for FFY 2026 supplemental funding were submitted as part of the recent call for projects. The focus of this call was on projects for which funding could be immediately obligated and expended. Projects were placed into categories based on the priorities listed in the call for projects.

1. Project Under Construction
2. Additional Design
3. Approved to Bid
4. Awaiting Authority to Bid

Recommendations for funding include all projects in priority 1 and 2. Projects in priorities 3 and 4 are recommended for contingency awards, with these projects being reevaluated in July to ensure they are moving to bidding in 2026. Funding adjustments could also be made based on bid amounts and available funding.

2026 STBG Supplemental Call - \$3.25 Million Available					
ARDOT Job #	STBG Project Sponsor	Project Name	Amount Requested	Recommended Award	Project Priority per Application Guidelines
61806	City of Austin	Hwy 38 & N Lincoln Traffic Light	\$233,506	\$233,506	Priority 1
61718	Saline County	Southwest Trail ROW Acquisition	\$235,300	\$188,240	Priority 2
61814	City of Little Rock	Arkansas River Trail Cantrell Rd.	\$366,560	\$366,560	Priority 2
61780	Pulaski County	PC STBG 26 SE Trail	\$500,000	\$500,000	Priority 2
61757	City of Little Rock	Jonesboro Dr. Children's Trail	\$500,000	\$400,000 *	Priority 3
61717	City of Benton	Congo Rd./Shenandoah Rd. Roundabout (Benton) (S)	\$330,000	\$330,000*	Priority 4
61720	City of Cabot	LOCOMUT Phase 1 Construction	\$590,324	\$400,000*	Priority 4
61715	City of Jacksonville	Jacksonville W. Main Street Realignment	\$761,723	\$400,000*	Priority 4
61896	City of Sherwood	Jacksonville-Cato Road Improvements (Phase II)	\$500,000	\$400,000*	Priority 4
			\$4,017,413	\$3,218,306	

Project Priority per Application Guidelines
1 = Under Construction
2 = Additional Design
3 = Approved to Bid
4 = Awaiting Authority to Bid
Award contingent on project bidding in 2026. Projects to be re-evaluated in July. Amounts may be updated based on available funding.

2026 TAP Supplemental Call - \$1.1 Million Available					
ARDOT Job #	TAP Project Sponsor	Project Name	Amount Requested	Recommended Award	Project Priority per Application Guidelines
61884	City of Benton	Saline River Greenway Phase 3, 4, & 5	\$200,000	\$200,000	Priority 2
61720	City of Cabot	LOCOMUT Phase 1 - Design	\$137,262	\$137,262	Priority 2
80723	City of Greenbrier	Hwy. 65 Ped. Bridge Impvts. (Greenbrier) (S)	\$162,388	\$162,388	Priority 2
61713	City of Sherwood	Powerline Easement Trail (Phase I)	\$200,000	\$200,000*	Priority 4
80561	City of Mayflower	Miller St/Highway 89 Sidewalk Project	\$145,138	\$145,138*	Priority 4
61904	Pulaski County	PC TAP 26 Hwy 161	\$200,000	\$200,000*	Priority 4
			\$1,044,788	\$1,044,788	
Project Priority per Application Guidelines					
1 = Under Construction					
2 = Additional Design					
3 = Approved to Bid					
4 = Awaiting Authority to Bid					
Award contingent on project bidding in 2026. Projects to be re-evaluated in July. Amounts may be updated based on available funding.					

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to Approve Resolution 26-03

B. 2027 Transportation Alternative Program Call for projects

Eight (8) applications requesting \$2.575 Million were received for the 2027 TAP call for projects. These projects are being scored and remain under evaluation.

Sponsor	Project Name	Phase	Request
Cabot	Cabot CARG Phase 3 Design	Design	\$65,000.00
Saline County	Southwest Trail Segment S4	Construction	\$335,000.00
Maumelle	Woodland Dr. Trail/Intersection Impvts	Construction	\$335,000.00
Pulaski County	SE Trail Phase 2	Construction	\$500,000.00
Benton	Alcoa Trail Phase 1 and 2	Design	\$335,000.00
Sherwood	Woodruff Creek Trail	Design	\$335,000.00
Bryant	Midland Park to Hwy 5 Trail	Design	\$335,000.00
Ward	Moon Road Improvements/Sidewalks	Design	\$335,000.00
		TOTAL Requests	\$2,575,000
		Available funding 2027	\$1,675,000



RESOLUTION 26-03

FY 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

FY 2026 GROUP PROJECT SELECTION

CARTS VARIOUS ATTRIBUTABLE PROJECTS

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM AND TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Metroplan is the officially designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the MPO is charged with the responsibility of developing and administering the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Central Arkansas Regional Transportation Study; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program includes a group funding category for CARTS Various Attributable Projects; and

WHEREAS, project applications were received January 9, 2026; and

WHEREAS, projects were evaluated in accordance with the policies and at the direction of the Metroplan Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that as the metropolitan planning organization for Central Arkansas, the Metroplan Board of Directors allocates regional funding to the following projects for obligation in federal fiscal year 2026;

Project # & Sponsor	Project Scope	Phase	Awarded Funding
061806 – City of Austin	Hwy 38 & N Lincoln Traffic Light	Construction	\$233,506.00
061718 - Saline County	Southwest Trail ROW Acquisition	ROW	\$188,240.00
061814 – City of Little Rock	Arkansas River Trail Cantrell Rd.	Design	\$366,560.00
061780 – Pulaski County	PC STBG 26 SE Trail	ROW/Construction	\$500,000.00
061884 – Benton	Saline River Greenway Phase 3, 4, & 5	Design	\$200,000.00
061720 – Cabot	LOCOMUT Phase 1 - Design	Design	\$137,262.00
080723 – Greenbrier	Hwy. 65 Ped. Bridge Impvts. (Greenbrier) (S)	Design	\$162,388.00

Duly recorded this 12th day of February 2026.

Judge Matt Brumley, Secretary/Treasurer

Judge Allen Dodson, President

ITEM 9. 2026 PROJECT OBLIGATIONS

SUMMARY

Metroplan staff are preparing an obligation plan with ARDOT for FFY 2026. Projects that have been previously awarded funding and are expected to be obligated are included on the following page.

Metroplan staff estimates \$18.5 million in new federal funding available for 2026 with \$3.451 million carried forward from 2025. Staff anticipate obligations to a new zero balance.