

# Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

Chair: Mr. Jeffrey W. Sleasman

Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority

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East 79<sup>th</sup> Street Green and Blue Line  
Station Reconstruction  
Operational Planning & Infrastructure  
Committee  
April 15, 2025

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# Project Overview

- East 79th Street Light Rail Station was rebuilt in the early 1980's and serves GCRTA's Blue and Green light rail lines and has reached the end of its useful life
- Primary purpose of this project:
  - Rehabilitate the station and bring it into ADA compliance
  - Improve connections into the neighborhood and provide Transit Oriented Development opportunities

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# Opportunity Corridor Investments

Projects	Investment
1 East 79 <sup>th</sup> Street Red Line Station	\$6,726,718
2 Wayside Signal Design – East 79 to Shaker Square	\$250,000
2 East 79 <sup>th</sup> Street Light Rail Station	\$9,984,587
3 Consolidated Train Dispatch System Replacement	\$3,575,474
4 East 75 <sup>th</sup> Light Rail Interlocking Reconstruction	\$3,531,000
5 Redline Fiber Optic Upgrade – East 55 <sup>th</sup>	
1 Redline Fiber Optic Upgrade – East 79 <sup>th</sup>	\$6,115,000
5 Redline Fiber Optic Upgrade – East 105 <sup>th</sup>	
Total:	\$30,182,779



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# Project Site Map



- The station is elevated above the street level, accessed by a single stairway off E. 79<sup>th</sup> St.
- South of the station is Hillside Community Park

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# Design Elements/ Existing Conditions

- The entrance is to serve as waiting environment for the GCRTA No. 2 bus route
- Provide ADA compliant crosswalk
- Provide provisions for the installation of a bus shelter on the east side of E. 79th Street



Existing Steet View:

# Design Elements/ Existing Conditions

- Provided covered access, via stair/ramp, from E. 79th Street to the station's platform
- Provide access between Hillside Community Park and the Station



Existing Station Entrance:



Existing Sidewalk Condition:



Existing Stairs:

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# Design Elements/ Existing Conditions

- Provide two new light rail platforms for the eastbound and westbound tracks
- Provide ADA compliant pedestrian grade crossing for access between platforms
  - Trackwork was replaced as part of the Light Rail Track Rehabilitation Program in 2021



Existing Westbound Platform:



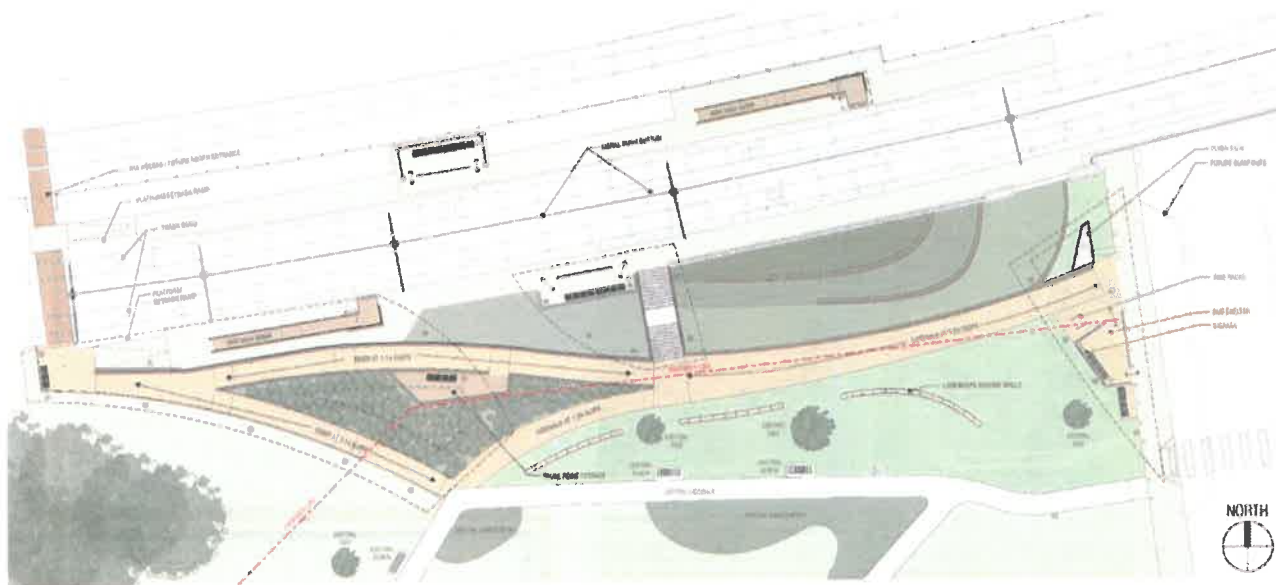
# Overall Site Plan



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# Site Plan



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# Design Rendering



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# Design Rendering



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# Design Rendering



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# Design Rendering



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# Public Art

- Public art requested by City of Cleveland Planning Commission
- GCRTA budgeted \$80,000-local funds
  - Approximately 1% Construction Estimate
- GCRTA used Arts-in-Transit Process

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# Public Art

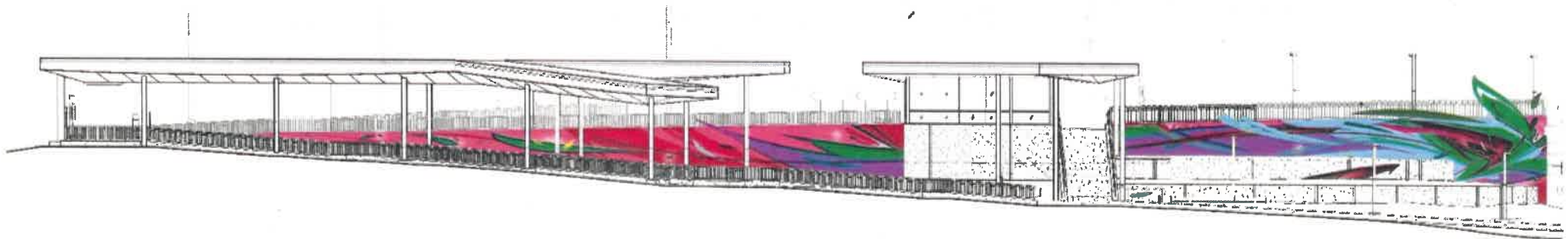
- Call for artists (RFP) publicly advertised
- 16 artists submitted proposals
- Arts-in-Transit committee evaluated submissions
  - Composed of Internal RTA & External Art professionals from Tri-C, GraffitiHeArt, Land-Studio, City of Cleveland, Neighborhood (BBC)
  - Selected Bob Peck

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The linework and colors of this mural bring that boldness to the surface of the walls. The abstract piece was designed to capture the energy and movement of the trains that pass through, as well as the diversity of passengers coming and going from the station.

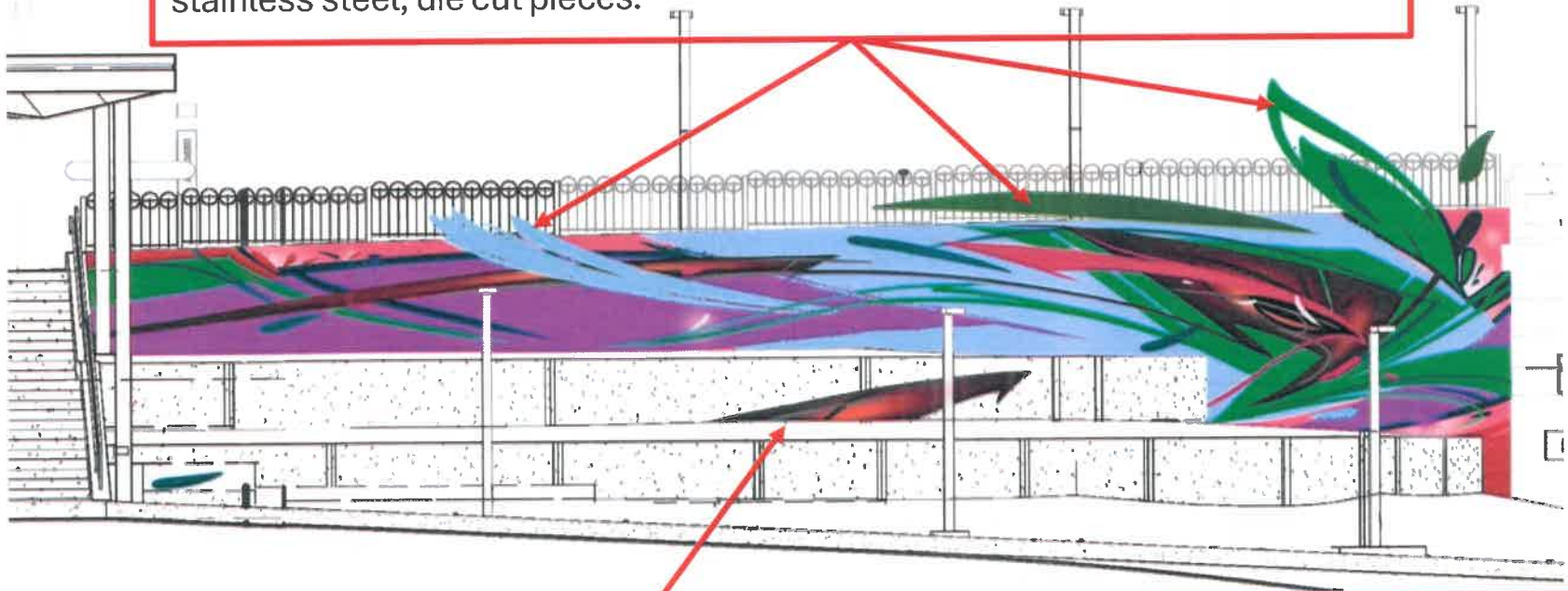


**Bob Peck**

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The artwork extends beyond the limits of the wall using mounted 3/16" stainless steel, die cut pieces.



Landscaping can be placed on either side and should remain cleared to keep this piece visible.

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# Project Schedule

## Anticipated Project Schedule:

- Notice to Proceed: May 2025
  - Station will be closed during construction
- Substantial Completion: June 2026
- Final Completion: August 2026

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# East 79<sup>th</sup> Street Green and Blue Line Station Reconstruction

## Procurement Overview:

- Invitation for Bid (IFB) issued January 19, 2025
- Accessed on the GCRTA website by sixty-seven (67) interested parties
- Three (3) firms submitted bids
- Three (3) bids were responsive

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# East 79<sup>th</sup> Street Green and Blue Line Station Reconstruction

Lowest responsive and responsible vendor:

- R.L. Hill/Platform Contracting Joint Venture
  - A 24% DBE participation goal was assigned to this project and will be met by utilizing:
    - Denise's Flagging
    - Irizar Electric
    - R.L. Hill Management, Inc.

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# East 79<sup>th</sup> Street Green and Blue Line Station Reconstruction

## Firm Experience:

- R.L. Hill Management, Inc. has successfully completed projects for Starbucks, Cleveland Clinic Foundation and Chase Bank, among others.
- Platform Contracting has successfully completed projects for Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland Police, GCRTA, among others.

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# East 79<sup>th</sup> Street Green and Blue Line Station Reconstruction

Staff requests that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award to R.L. Hill/Platform Contracting Joint Venture for the East 79<sup>th</sup> Street Green and Blue Line Station reconstruction. The contract is in an amount not to exceed \$9,984,587.00.

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# Questions?

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# RTA Board of Trustees

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

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# Public Comments – Agenda Items

- In person
- Phone: 440-276-4600
- Web form at [www.riderta.com/events](http://www.riderta.com/events)
  - Click/Select meeting event
  - Scroll to bottom to fill out form
  - Comments will be sent to Board and staff



# New Hires and Promotions

April 2025

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# April New Hires



Ashanti Oliver  
Bus Operator



Desirae Bradford  
Bus Operator



Jiwanda Latten  
Bus Operator



Melanie Monroe  
Bus Operator



Hector Torres  
Bus Operator



Wesley Gresham  
Bus Operator



Ishera Scott  
Bus Operator



De'Naria Allen  
Bus Operator



Marcus Berry  
Bus Operator

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# April New Hires



Jaquella Tucker  
Bus Operator



Ashley Albert  
Bus Operator



Thaddeus Wilson  
Bus Operator



Brianna Mayhew  
Bus Operator



Esteban Rodriguez  
Bus Operator



Nichole Shivers  
Bus Operator (PT)



Ashley Beran  
Bus Operator



Raymell Hill  
Bus Operator



Vincent Bland  
Bus Operator

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# April New Hires



Roleen Harris  
Paratransit Operator



Linda Holly  
Paratransit Operator



Steffon Butler  
Paratransit Operator



Alexandria George  
Paratransit Operator



Christion Oravec  
Rail Operator



Drew Mosby  
Rail Operator



Jessie Edmonds  
Rail Operator



Arimis Milan  
Rail Operator



Daniel Nieberding  
Rail Operator

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# April New Hires



Tracian Wilson  
Rail Operator



Wenda Lamar  
Rail Operator



Artez Binder  
Rail Operator



Paul Busicnki  
Laborer (Non-Safety Sensitive)



Jefferson Battle  
Laborer( Non-Safety Sensitive)



Joey Graham  
Laborer (Non- Safety Sensitive)



Alexander Lucko  
Signal Maintainer



Danelle Heyman  
Worker's Compensation Clerk



Spencer Smith  
Budget Management Analyst

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# April New Hires



Shawn Hueter  
Equipment Servicer



James McKnight  
Equipment Servicer - Rail

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# April Promotions



Grant Kersh  
Resident Engineer I



Richard Pozwick  
Equipment Maintainer

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# Resolutions

# GCRTA – Retirees 1<sup>st</sup> QTR. 2025



Anthony Reed  
Bus Operator



Stacey Prinkleton  
Bus Operator



Roderick Jackson  
Bus Operator



Todd Baldwin  
Bus Operator



Mark Hall  
Bus Operator



Anita Butler  
Bus Operator



Stanley Mosley  
Bus Operator



Michael Carlisle  
Bus Operator



Lamont Wynn  
Paratransit Operator

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# GCRTA- Retirees 1<sup>st</sup> QTR. 2025



Robert Campbell  
Vehicle Maintenance  
Instructor



Steven Alwine  
Rail Air Conditioning  
Mechanic



Kevin Grimm  
Heat/Air Conditioning  
Mechanic



Fernando Sanders  
Equipment Maintainer



Gary Dickow  
Maintainer



Michael Martin  
Mail Truck Driver



Jason Earle  
Electronics Technician



Reginald Lanier  
Transit Ambassador



Cynthia Gordon  
Janitor

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# Resolutions

April 15, 2025

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# Secretary/Treasurer Update

Board of Trustees

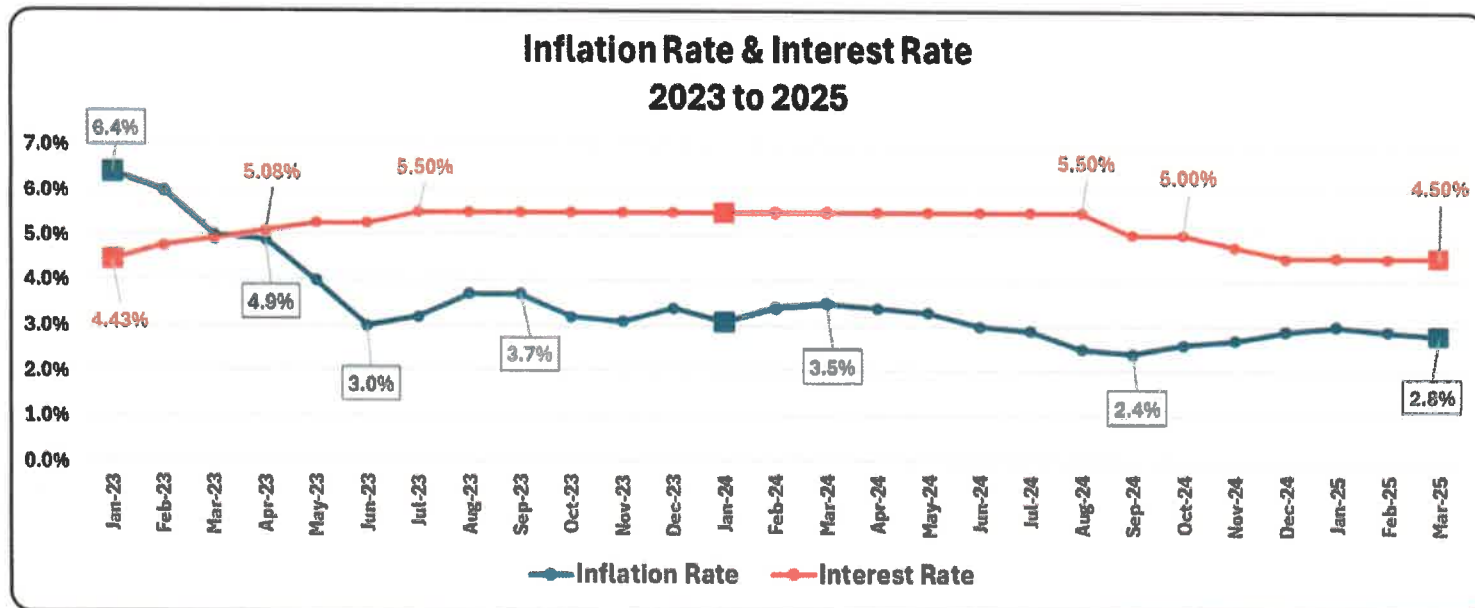
April 15, 2025

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# Economic Conditions



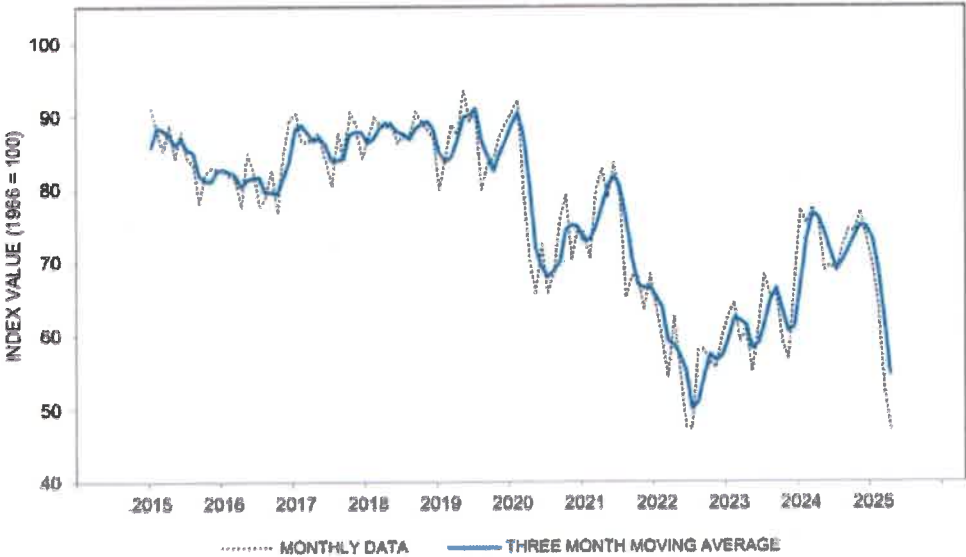
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# Consumer Confidence

## Survey of Consumers – University of Michigan

INDEX OF CONSUMER EXPECTATIONS



University of Michigan, April 11, 2025

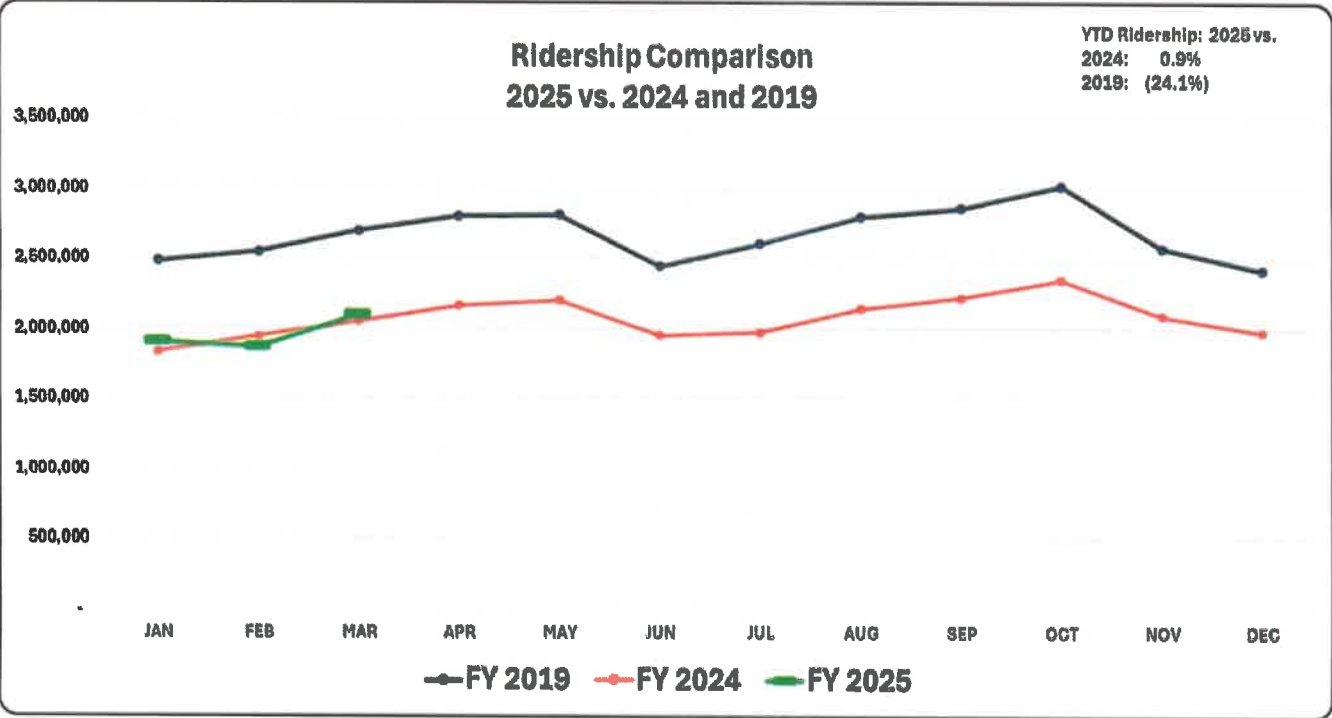
### Preliminary Results for April 2025

	Apr 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2024	M-M Change	Y-Y Change
Index of Consumer Sentiment	50.8	57.0	77.2	-10.9%	-34.2%
Current Economic Conditions	56.5	63.8	79.0	-11.4%	-28.5%
Index of Consumer Expectations	47.2	52.6	76.0	-10.3%	-37.9%

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# Ridership through March 2025



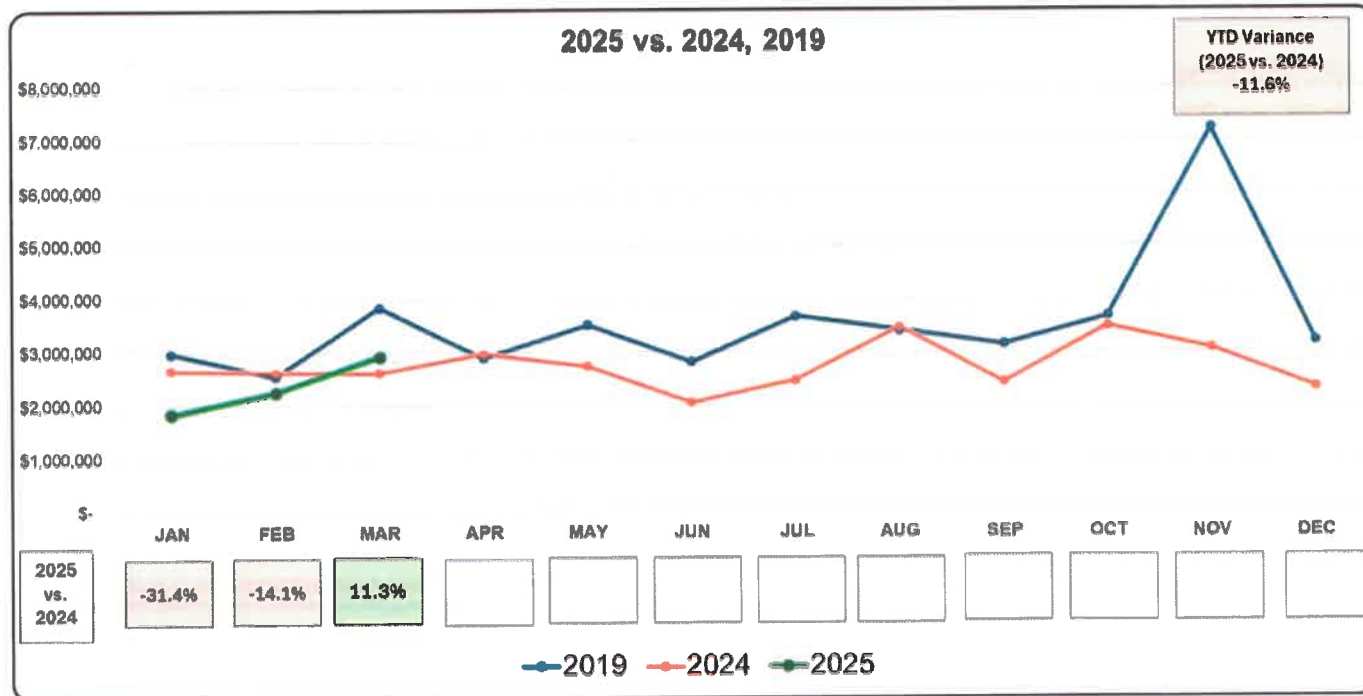
## YTD Ridership (in millions)

2019:	7.7
2024:	5.8
2025:	5.9

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# Passenger Fares



**YTD Passenger Fares**  
(in millions)

2019: \$9.4

2024: \$7.9

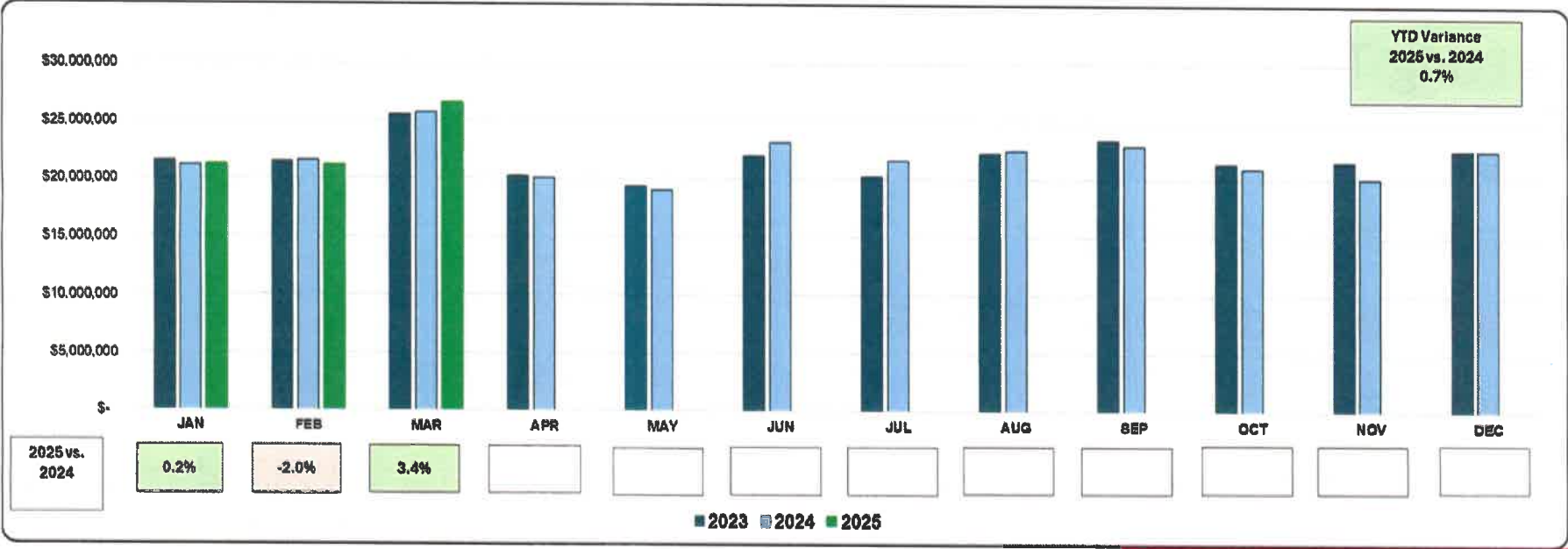
**2025: \$7.0**

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# Sales & Use Tax



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# Selected Data

Total Long-Term Debt – 12/31/2024

\$ 22.3 million

Average Investment Yield – YTD

4.07%

Cash and Investments

Unrestricted (General Fund)

\$ 29.3 million

Restricted

334.1 million

TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS

\$363.4 million

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# Questions

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# General Manager, CEO Report

India L. Birdsong Terry

April 15, 2025

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# St. Patrick's Day Parade 2025



**March 17, 2025 | Downtown Cleveland/Public Square**

- Extra train capacity provided on the Red, Blue & Green Lines
- GCRTA staff and volunteers at the rail stations
- GCRTA Transit Police and Transit Ambassadors patrolled the stations and bus stops
- Parade started at 1:04 p.m. and ended at 2:55 p.m. with no GCRTA transit issues
- Total ridership was 78,047

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# American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Transit CEOs Seminar



Transit CEOs Seminar

**March 21-23, 2025 | San Antonio, TX**

**Speak Your Mind Breakout Discussion:**

**Apprenticeships, Mentoring and Recruitment**

Facilitators:

India Birdsong Terry, General Manager & CEO, GCRTA

Kristin Warsinski, CEO, Riverside Transit Agency

Jennifer Pyrz, Chief Development Officer, Indianapolis Public Transportation (IndyGo)

Focus was on the critical challenges facing the industry:

- Impact of the election on transit funding and zero fleet transition
- State of the industry
- Employee safety
- Board and Labor relations

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# American Public Transportation Foundation (APTF) Ambassadorial Scholarship

March 22, 2025 | San Antonio, TX



**INDIA L. BIRDSONG TERRY**  
**AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Presented by the American Public Transportation Foundation (APTF)*

**EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS  
IN TRANSIT OPERATIONS**

This scholarship is designed to support operations industry professionals who aspire to advance their careers into administrative leadership roles. It provides financial assistance and professional development opportunities for individuals dedicated to public transportation.



**MISSION:** To increase and retain the number of individuals choosing the transit field as a career by providing scholarships and engagement opportunities to deserving students and transit professionals – our future leaders.

**SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA:**  
**QUALIFIED CANDIDATES MUST BE:**

- Currently employed at a public transportation agency with a minimum of five years of experience in the operations division (i.e., bus, rail, paratransit, maintenance, transit police, training, station management, etc.);
- Enrolled in an approved college or university pursuing a degree in Public Administration, Planning, Business, Supply Chain, Business/Organizational Management, Law, Entrepreneurship, or Leadership, with a focus on public transportation;
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA.

**AMBASSADOR TEAM**  
For more information, please contact the Ambassador Team:



**TO APPLY FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP, GO TO [HTTP://WWW.APTF.ORG/AMBASSADOR](http://www.aptf.org/ambassador)**

This scholarship is designed to support operations industry professionals who aspire to advance their careers into administrative leadership roles

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# Amalgamated Transit Union Local 268 (ATU) New Labor Agreement



Clarence King, ATU Local 268 President  
India L. Birdsong Terry, General Manager & CEO

**March 25, 2025 | Main Office Building**

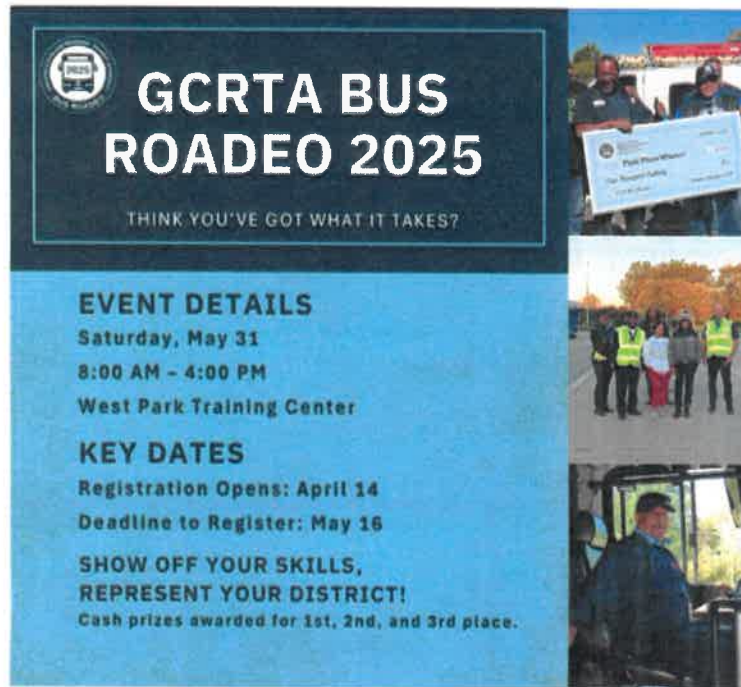
## **3 Year Contract:**

- August 1, 2024-July 31, 2027

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# GCRTA Bus Roadeo 2025



**GCRTA BUS  
ROADEO 2025**

THINK YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

**EVENT DETAILS**  
Saturday, May 31  
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
West Park Training Center

**KEY DATES**  
Registration Opens: April 14  
Deadline to Register: May 16

**SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS,  
REPRESENT YOUR DISTRICT!**  
Cash prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

The graphic includes three small photographs: a person holding a 'First Place Winner' certificate, a group of people in safety vests standing outdoors, and a person operating a bus.

**May 31, 2025 | West Park Training Center**

- 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Bus Operators Skills Competition
- Prizes awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners

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# "She Means Business" Conference Elevating Women Together



**March 28, 2025 | Cleveland Foundation**

A financial conference to empower and educate attendees on building financial skills, and navigating the unique challenges women face in the financial world

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# Sophia Stern-Thank you for your service!



**March 2010 – April 2025**

- 15 years of service
- Executive Assistant, Administration & External Affairs

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# Questions

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# Executive Session

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