

## Minutes

### RTA Tax Budget Public Hearing

9:21 a.m. July 13, 2021

**Committee Members:** Joyce (Chair), Moss (Vice Chair), Pellot, Serrano

**Other Board Members:** Duarte, Koomar, Lucas, McCall

**Not present:** Byrne, Weiss

**Also Present:** Benford, Birdsong, Bitto, Bober, Burney, Caver, Dangelo, Davidson, Fields, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Jones, Kirkland, Petit, Schipper, Sutula, Walker-Minor

The Public Hearing was called to order at 9:21 a.m. This meeting was live-streamed on RTA's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/rideRTA](http://www.facebook.com/rideRTA)) for staff and members of the public.

#### Public Hearing – FY 2022 Tax Budget

This is the official public hearing on the proposed 2022 Tax Budget for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. The information for the 2022 Tax Budget has been made available for public inspection on the Authority's web site, Twitter page, and Facebook page.

Public notice of this hearing has been given by publication of legal advertisements in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on June 18 and June 25, 2021 and the Call & Post on June 16 and June 23, 2021, as well as by posting of notice in the first floor lobby of the Authority's Main Office Building. Notification was also given on these sites on how to virtually attend (live-streaming) the Committee Meeting, Public Hearing, and Board Meeting and how to submit a comment for the public hearing.

The 2022 Tax Budget was presented to the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee of the RTA Board of Trustees on July 13, 2021. The 2022 Tax Budget is the initial analysis and forward-looking document toward estimated revenues for the next fiscal year. This is the first step and a valuable tool in the budget development process. We are requesting that the committee present the 2022 Tax Budget to the full Board for approval on July 27, 2021. The 2022 Tax Budget estimates revenues at \$324.3 million. Sales and Use Tax receipts are projected to increase by 1.5% in 2022, as the economy continues to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic. Total Passenger Fares are projected at \$24.3 million, an increase of 1% as the NextGen system redesign has been fully implemented.

Reimbursed Expenditures includes Federal operating assistance, reimbursements for preventive maintenance, force account labor, fuel tax and other miscellaneous reimbursements. For the 2022 Tax Budget, federal operating assistance through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) is projected at \$68.0 million. Reimbursed expenditures are projected at \$1 million, force account labor and other reimbursed expenditures are estimated at \$2 million each. For the 2022 Tax Budget, we made a strategic decision to keep preventive maintenance reimbursement low so the funding could be used for other capital projects.

The Authority was awarded \$67.4 million of Federal Funding through CRRSAA (Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Act) and \$136.0 million through the American Rescue Plan

(ARP). This funding is designed to help sustain the Authority through the COVID-19 pandemic. Through May 2021, we have drawn down \$36.7 million of CRRSAA funding. The draw down for June is currently being finalized. The ARP drawdowns will begin with July's operating expenses.

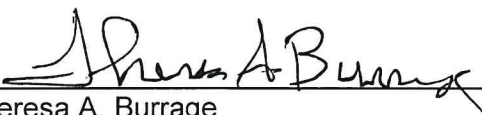
Total expenditures for the 2022 Tax Budget are projected at \$303.2 million, which includes \$262.9 million for operating expenditures and \$40.2 million for transfers to other funds. The awarded ARP funding will help the Authority recover from the loss of passenger fares due to the COVID pandemic and provide a sustainable budget through 2024.

Public Comment

There were no callers on the line and no emails were received.

The hearing was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

  
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Rajan D. Gautam  
Secretary/Treasurer

  
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Theresa A. Burrage  
Executive Assistant