

Minutes

RTA Organizational, Services and Performance Monitoring Committee Meeting

10:42 a.m., August 24, 2021

Committee Members: Byrne (Chair), Moss (Vice Chair), Duarte, Weiss

Other members: Joyce, Koomar, Lucas, McCall, Pellot **Not present:** Serrano

Staff: Benford, Birdsong, Burney, Castelucci, Caver, Coffey, Dangelo, Davidson, Fields, Ghanem, Johnson, Jones, Kirkland, Lincoln, Miller, Mothes, Petit, Schnear, Sutula, Talley, Togher, Walker-Minor,

Public: Gibbons, Loh, Rodriguez

The meeting was called to order at 10:42 a.m. There were four (4) committee members present.

This meeting was live-streamed on RTA's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/rideRTA) for staff and members of the public. Members of the public were allowed to attend in-person.

Based on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance to continue to avoid large events and gatherings and Ohio Department of Public Health advice that businesses and other entities may continue to require mitigation measures, as well as RTA's interest in protecting community and employee health and safety, several measures were put in place for in-person attendance, which are spelled out on the meeting notice.

Quarterly Management Report – 2nd Quarter 2021

India Birdsong, General Manager, CEO gave the update. For July ridership, we are up 5.4% compared to 2020. There are significant dips throughout the year in response to the Pandemic. They have been monitoring this for all modes and enticed members of the public for new ridership in June with a week of free rides in response to the NextGen System Redesign. YTD we are down 21.8%. With that being 23.4% year over year and compared to budget we are down 22.2%. There is an anomaly in July with the holidays. YTD we are down 21.8%.

Revenues from CRRSAA (\$56.7 million) resulted in the General Fund being 4.5% higher than budget. Operating expenses are 3.5% lower than budget. There are certain operating rules we have to be able to spend the funding. Total personnel cost is 1.1% lower than budget. Fuel hedging helps to stabilize cost this year. Bond defeasance in the 3rd quarter has assisted with our in the black financial situation. That is unprecedented to pay down bonds in 10 and 15 year increments. We have demonstrated good stewardship.

Capital expenditures show an increased investment in preventative maintenance and operating reimbursement. That comes through some of the definition of spend down from CRRSAA and other relief packages for the Pandemic. However, we have made a conscious decision to pour into preventative maintenance to get services and resources up to a good state of repair. Trailing behind that is rail projects, transit centers and bus improvements, etc. Highlights regarding equity hires, promotion, capital projects, investments in bus improvement plans and DEI recruitment with an emphasis on equity and inclusion for 2021 is included in the report.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.


Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer


Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Assistant