

Minutes

RTA Capital Budget Public Hearing

9:33 a.m., May 10, 2022

Committee Members: Moss (Vice Chair), Pellet, Weiss (appointed)

Other Board members: Biasiotta, Koomar, Lucas **Not present:** Duarte, Joyce, McCall

Staff: Becker, Benford, Birdsong, Caver, Coffey, Dangelo, Davidson, Feliciano, Ferraro, Fields, Fleig, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Jenkins, Johnson, Kirkland, Mothes, Schipper, Shaffer, Talley, Tarka, Togher, Ulrich, Walker-Minor, Young

Public: Gibbons, Loh, Pinkney-Butts

In accordance with the Ohio Open Meetings Act and House Bill 51, signed into law on February 17, 2022 and effective immediately through June 30, 2022, this meeting will be live-streamed on RTA's Board Page www.RideRTA.com/board via the meeting date for staff and members of the public. House Bill 51 allows Board members to participate by telephone or video and be considered present as if in person. It also allows Board members to vote and be counted for determining a quorum while attending by telephone or video.

FY 2023 Capital Budget

Carolyn Young, Manager of Budget, read the statement.

This is the official public hearing on the proposed Capital Improvement Budget for the Fiscal Year 2023 for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. As required by the Ohio Revised Code, the information concerning the FY 2023 Capital Improvement Budget is available for public inspection in the Office of Management and Budget of this Authority. Public notice of this hearing was given by publication of a legal advertisement in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* on April 23, 2022, and *Call & Post* on April 27, 2022 as well as by posting of notice in the first-floor lobby of the Authority's Main Office Building, at the Customer Service Center in the Tower City Rotunda, RTA Facebook page, Twitter page, and on the Internet website. The Capital Improvement Plan documents were available for review upon request at least 2 weeks in advance. Notification was 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 FY 2023 Capital Improvement Plan was presented to the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee of the RTA Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 and Tuesday, May 10, 2022 and will request that the FY 2023 Capital Improvement Plan be recommended to the full Board for approval on May 24, 2022.

The Capital Improvement budget process was started in September 2021, where requests were submitted for review. The projects were then reviewed by the Authority's Capital Program Working Group and Capital Program Oversight Committee. The FY 2023 – 2027 Capital Improvement Plan was completed in April 2022 to comply with NOACA's revised Project Planning Review Schedule. This ensures that funding will be aligned with the programmed budget. If any adjustments are needed, they will be made and considered by the Board at the appropriate time.

The FY 2023 – 2027 Capital Improvement Plan totals \$666.2 million, of which \$133.3 million is budgeted for FY 2023. The 3 largest categories for the FY 2023 Budget are: the Bus Improvement Program at \$37.1 million, Rail Car Replacement Program at \$30.6 million, and Rail Projects at \$25.0 million. The Authority's focus continues to be on Rail vehicles and Rail Infrastructure projects.

The FY 2023 – 2027 Capital Improvement Plan includes projects that are not fully funded where funding sources are yet to be determined. Unfunded projects total approximately \$292 million, which includes the Rail Car Replacement Program, where the local match has been reserved, but total Federal Funding has not been identified.

Sales tax is a major funding source for our capital projects for 100% locally funded projects, as well as the local match for Federal and State awards. The Authority's financial goal is to set aside a minimum of 10% of the annual sales tax receipts for the Capital Improvement Program.

Public Comment

1. Rev. Pamela M. Pinkney-Butts – RTA has not collected money on the Red Line for three years. Staff is not at the booths. She has excerpts in her book on public transit. She requested on social media that entities with resources contact RTA. She is concerned that the budget needs to be inclusive but not limited to meeting the needs of the disabled and poor. If we have money to give free rides, then we should not give fare evasion tickets to people who don't have money.

It was stated that no callers or comments were received in the public-comment@gcrta.org email box. It was moved by Ms. Pellot, seconded by Mayor Weiss to close the public hearing.

The public hearing was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.



Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer



Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Secretary