



1240 West 6th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1302
Phone: 216-566-5100
riderta.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that there will be an education session for the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority on **Tuesday, August 5, 2025** beginning at 9:00 am. The education session will take place in the Caucus Room of the Authority, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, OH 44113. This education session will not be live-streamed, and it will not be open to the public.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'India L. Birdsong Terry', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

IBT:arl

Scan this QR code to access the meeting schedule, live streams and meeting materials.





REVISED MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the following meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will take place on **Tuesday, August 5, 2025** in the Board Room of the Authority, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, OH 44113, for consideration of the listed items and such other items that may properly come before the Board and be acted upon. This meeting will be live streamed on RTA's Board Page www.RideRTA.com/board on the meeting date for staff and members of the public. Members of the public may attend in person.

The meeting package will be posted on RTA's website at (www.riderta.com/board), on RTA's Facebook page, and RTA's Twitter page.

9:00 AM

EDUCATION SESSION (See separate notice)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (Following Education Session)

- Ridership Analysis and Report: The Operations Division will provide the Board with a ridership analysis. The analysis will focus on annual ridership trends through year-end 2024 as well as ridership trends through mid-year 2025.
- Railcar Option – a presentation of a negotiated competitive option for the purchase of additional railcars.
- Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Update – To approve revisions to Policy 400.04: Payroll Deductions.

AUDIT, SAFETY COMPLIANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

- Casualty Insurance Program – To provide an update on the Authority's Casualty Insurance Program.

ORGANIZATIONAL, SERVICES & PERFORMANCE MONITORING COMMITTEE

- Multi-Tenant Hosting Solution Non-Competitive - this is a negotiated sole source procurement from Televic to allow access to new railcar data utilizing a multi-tenant hosting solution.
- Change Order - a presentation of negotiated change orders to the three Contracted Paratransit Services contracts.

OPERATIONAL PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

- RFP Procurement – a presentation of a competitive negotiated procurement for architect/engineer services to supplement internal engineering staff for 24 months.

India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

IBT/al
Attachment

Scan this QR code to access the meeting schedule, live streams and meeting materials.



AGENDA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BOARD

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Committee Members: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, Chair
Ms. Lauren R. Welch, Vice Chair
Ms. Anastasia A. Elder
Mayor Marie Gallo
Mr. Stephen M. Love
Rev. Charles P. Lucas
Ms. Deidre Y. McPherson
Ms. Emily Garr Pacetti
Mr. Jeffrey W. Sleasman
Mayor David E. Weiss

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes – July 1, 2025
- III. Ridership Analysis and Report - to provide a ridership analysis. The analysis will focus on annual ridership trends through year-end 2024 as well as ridership trends through mid-year 2025.
Presenters:
 - Joel Freilich, Director – Service Management
 - Rubén Morgan, Manager of Operations Analysis
- IV. Option to Purchase Up to Twelve (12) Railcars - to approve the execution of the negotiated competitive contract option to purchase additional railcars off Contract No. 2021-125 with Siemens Mobility Inc.
Presenters:
 - Bryan Moore, Railcar Project Lead Manager
 - Shawn Becker, Program Contract Manager
 - Carolyn Young, Director-Grants Management & Treasury
 - Anthony Garofoli, Executive Director Internal Audit
- V. Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual Update – To approve revisions to Policy 400.04: Payroll Deductions
Presenters:
 - Nadine DeJesus, Benefits & Compensation Manager
 - John Sulik, Associate Counsel II
- VI. Adjourn



Committee of the Whole

July 1, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

- Committee Members:** Mayor Koomar (Chair), Mr. Love, Rev. Lucas, Ms. Pacetti, Mr. Sleasman
- Not Present:** Ms. Elder, Mayor Gallo, Ms. McPherson, Mayor Weiss, Ms. Welch (Vice Chair)
- Staff/Other:** Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Janet Burney, Floun'say Caver, Melinda Dangelo, Nick Davidson, Wendy Feinn, Michael Fesler, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam, Anna Hlavacs, Sharon Jenkins, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Jim Reed, Mike Schipper, Michael So, Kay Sutula, Wendy Talley, Dawn Tarka, John Togher, Carolyn Young
- Public:** Brian Gibbons, Loh, Chris Martin

Mayor Koomar called the meeting to order at 9:59 a.m. with a roll call confirming attendance by several board members; however, only five (5) committee members were present, which did not constitute a quorum. As per legal counsel, Janet Burney, the committee was permitted to proceed with the scheduled presentations, but no formal actions could be taken, including referring any recommendations to the full board.

The minutes from the June 17, 2025 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion from Mr. Sleasman and seconded by Ms. Pacetti.

Mayor Koomar called for the presentation for the Code Book Update – Amending Section 410.01 of the Code Book to increase the threshold above which the Board of Trustees must approve contracts. This was presented by Dawn Tarka, Associated Counsel II.

Ms. Tarka proposed updates to the Board's codified rules and regulations. These updates are in response to recent changes in state and federal law, specifically the increase of the contract approval threshold under Ohio Revised Code Section 306.43. Effective June 30, 2025, this threshold increased from \$100,000 to the federally defined "simplified acquisition threshold," currently set at \$250,000. The proposed revisions recommend amending Code Book Sections 410.01(a)(8)A.3. and 410.01(a)(8)B.2. to raise the General Manager/CEO's contract signing authority accordingly. In parallel, proposed changes to the change order authority were presented to align with the new threshold: \$250,000 for contracts under that amount, \$250,000 for contracts up to \$2.5 million, \$500,000 for contracts between \$2.5 and \$5 million, and \$750,000 for contracts exceeding \$5 million. Ms. Tarka clarified that the Change Order Committee would continue reviewing orders exceeding

\$50,000. Board members voiced general support, noting the need to align policy with inflation and legislative updates, with some suggesting future consideration of automatic adjustments linked to statutory thresholds. Ms. Terry expressed caution regarding automatic increases, preferring internal review before adopting such provisions. It was also affirmed that the General Manager/CEO retains discretion to present contracts below the threshold for board awareness if necessary.

With no further questions or motions due to the lack of quorum, a motion to adjourn the meeting was given by Mayor Koomar and seconded by Ms. Pacetti. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Avis R. Lyons
Interim Executive Assistant



Greater Cleveland
Regional Transit Authority

Interoffice Memo

To: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, President,
and Members, Board of Trustees

From: India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager/Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'ILBT', enclosed in a blue oval.

Subject: Spring Service Update


Date: July 31, 2025

At the August 5, 2025, meeting of the Committee of the Whole, the staff will present an analysis of ridership trends from January 2019 through June 2025. The analysis differentiates between weekday and weekend ridership and includes very recent case studies of the effects of service adjustments.

ILBT/JBF



To: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, President
and Members, Board of Trustees

From: India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer 

Date: July 31, 2025

Subject: Exercise of an Option under Contract No. 2021-125 with Siemens Mobility, Inc.
for the Purchase of up to an Additional Twelve (12) High Floor Light Rail Vehicles

This is a request for the exercise of the contract option to provide the Authority with up to an additional twelve (12) of the remaining high floor light rail vehicles. This purchase will bring the total number of vehicles purchased up to a maximum of sixty (60).

At the August 5, 2025, Committee of the Whole meeting, we will make a presentation of the procurement process and staff recommendation for award of this third contract option. We will be requesting that the Committee of the Whole recommend the award of this contract option at a future meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Please call me if you have any questions or require additional information prior to Tuesday's meeting.


IBT/SB



Greater Cleveland
Regional Transit Authority

Interoffice Memo

To: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, President
and Members, Board of Trustees

From: India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer 

Date: August 1, 2025

Subject: Presentation of Revision to Policy 400.04 Payroll Deductions

On August 5, 2025, Board Committee meeting (Committee of the Whole), staff will present revisions to Policy 400.04-Payroll Deductions of the GCRTA Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

Policy 400.04-Payroll Deductions is being revised to more clearly state what are mandatory payroll deductions and voluntary payroll deductions that require GCRTA to gain prior written consent from employees. Additionally, the revisions provide updates to partial day pay deductions for exempt status staff and generalized language for deduction types.

The attachments show the current policy with redline mark ups, and the final policy revision. Upon presentation to the Committee of the Whole, we are requesting approval of this policy revision at the Board of Trustees meeting on August 19, 2025.

Please call me if you have any questions or require additional information prior to the Board Committee meeting on August 5, 2025.

IBT/GFF

400.04 PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

~~The GCRTA shall be authorized to make There are two multiple types of payroll deductions that the Authority GCRTA shall be authorized to make from employee wages, including from regular payroll cycles, supplemental payroll, final payroll checks, and vacation and/or sick lump-sum payouts, and any other payments for wages made by GCRTA. The following are descriptions of the types of payroll deductions, applicable authorizations needed, and adherence to local, state, and federal employment laws.~~

(a) Mandatory Payroll Deductions: Mandatory payroll deductions are made for ~~Federal, State and federal, state, and local~~ local tax withholding; taxes; the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System ("OPERS"); ~~overpayment of previous wages;~~ for Medicare ~~for employees hired after April 1, 1986;~~ and court-mandated deductions.

~~For those employees subject to withholding payments mandated by a Court order or the Child Support Enforcement Agency ("CSEA"), the GCRTA is mandated by law to notify the Court or CSEA of any lump sum payment of ~~One Hundred Fifty dollars (\$150.00) or more. GCRTA is further mandated by law to hold said lump sum payment for thirty (30) days after the payment date and upon order of the Court or CSEA, to pay any specified amount of the lump sum payment to the Division of Child Support.~~~~

(b) Voluntary Payroll Deduction: Employees may authorize wage deductions ~~from wages~~ for such items as ~~hospitalization healthcare (medical, dental, vision)~~ insurance, life insurance, flexible spending accounts, U.S. Savings Bonds, ~~charity choice/employee giving campaign~~ contributions, agency fee/union dues, credit union ~~deductions, and deferred deductions, and deferred~~ compensation contributions, ~~and tuition reimbursement repayments.~~ Voluntary wage deductions may also include deductions to address lost, stolen, or damaged property; improper tuition reimbursement repayments; overpayment of uniform or tool allowances; unauthorized P-Card purchases; and recoupment of improper benefit payments made by GCRTA. In most circumstances, employees must provide the GCRTA with prior authorization/consent to make voluntary deductions.

(c) Salaried Employee Deductions: ~~(c) Other Permitted Deductions – With Prior Employee Authorization (Lost/Stolen/Damaged Employer Issued Equipment – i.e. Computers, Laptops, Cellphones, Keys, Tools, Overpayment of Wages, Overpayment of Compensated Balances, Overpayment of Allowances):~~ The GCRTA may make wage deductions to employees' pay and/or applicable vacation and/or sick time payouts for lost, stolen, or damaged property that is provided for the employer's legitimate business purpose with prior written authorization/consent from the employee. The GCRTA adheres to and follows the restriction on deductions, not reducing the minimum wage and overtime for nonexempt employees. These same wage deductions for exempt employees are not lawful as they violate the "free and clear" requirement for exempt employees' salaries as defined by applicable local, state, and federal laws.

Salaried employees who are exempt from overtime generally enjoy the privilege of a guaranteed salary regardless of the number of hours worked or amount of work performed in a given pay period. The following policies are exceptions that permit deductions from these employees' regularly paid wages. Any wage deductions for lost, stolen, or damaged property provided to an employee as a benefit for personal use is lawful for both nonexempt and exempt employees, provided prior written authorization has been signed by the employee.

~~For those employees subject to withholding payments mandated by the Court or the Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA), the Authority is mandated by law to notify the Court or CSEA of any lump sum payment of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) or more. The Authority is further mandated by law to hold said lump sum payment for thirty (30) days after the payment date and upon order of the Court or CSEA, to pay any specified amount of the lump sum payment to the Division of Child Support.~~

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- (i) ~~The GCRTA may otherwise deduct money wages from a salaried exempt employee's salary for full day absences not covered by other paid leave, taken for personal reasons, or as otherwise permitted by applicable federal, state, and state federal law.~~
- (ii) ~~GCRTA may deduct wages from a salaried employee's salary for partial day absences if all of the following circumstances are met:~~
 - 1) ~~The employee is absent for personal or sick reasons; and~~
 - 2) ~~The employee did not use vacation, personal, sick, or FMLA leave to cover the absence; and~~
 - 3) ~~One or more of the following apply:~~
 - a. ~~The employee did not seek permission for the partial absence;~~
 - b. ~~The employee did seek permission for the partial day absence and the permission was denied; or~~
 - c. ~~The employee's paid leave has been exhausted.~~

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~~The deductions listed in this policy are not exhaustive and GCRTA reserves the right to make other mandatory or voluntary payroll deductions as permitted by federal, state, and local law.~~

~~This policy is established pursuant to principles of public accountability and to ensure responsible handling of public tax dollars.~~

~~Updated November 30, 2023~~

400.04 PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

GCRTA shall be authorized to make multiple types of payroll deductions from employee wages, including from regular payroll cycles, supplemental payroll, final payroll checks, vacation and/or sick lump-sum payouts, and any other payments for wages made by GCRTA.

(a) Mandatory Payroll Deductions: Mandatory payroll deductions are made for federal, state, and local tax withholding; the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System ("OPERS"); overpayment of previous wages; Medicare; and court-mandated deductions.

(b) Voluntary Payroll Deduction: Employees may authorize wage deductions for such items as healthcare (medical, dental, vision) insurance, life insurance, flexible spending accounts, U.S. Savings Bonds, employee giving campaign contributions, agency fee/union dues, credit union deductions, and deferred compensation contributions. Voluntary wage deductions may also include deductions to address lost, stolen, or damaged property; improper tuition reimbursement repayments; overpayment of uniform or tool allowances; unauthorized P-Card purchases; and recoupment of improper benefit payments made by GCRTA. In most circumstances, employees must provide GCRTA with prior authorization/consent to make voluntary deductions.

(c) Salaried Employee Deductions: Salaried employees who are exempt from overtime generally enjoy the privilege of a guaranteed salary regardless of the number of hours worked or amount of work performed in a given pay period. The following policies are exceptions that permit deductions from these employees' regularly paid wages:

(i) GCRTA may deduct wages from a salaried employee's salary for full day absences not covered by other paid leave, taken for personal reasons, or as otherwise permitted by applicable state and federal law.

(ii) GCRTA may deduct wages from a salaried employee's salary for partial day absences if all of the following circumstances are met:

- 1) The employee is absent for personal or sick reasons; and
- 2) The employee did not use vacation, personal, sick, or FMLA leave to cover the absence; and
- 3) One or more of the following apply:
 - a. The employee did not seek permission for the partial day absence;
 - b. The employee did seek permission for the partial day absence and the permission was denied; or
 - c. The employee's paid leave has been exhausted.

The deductions listed in this policy are not exhaustive and GCRTA reserves the right to make other mandatory or voluntary payroll deductions as permitted by federal, state, and local law.

This policy is established pursuant to principles of public accountability and to ensure responsible handling of public tax dollars.

AGENDA

AUDIT, SAFETY COMPLIANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Committee Members: Mayor David E. Weiss, Chair
Ms. Lauren R. Welch, Vice Chair
Ms. Anastasia A. Elder
Ms. Emily Garr Pacetti
Mr. Jeffrey W. Sleasman

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of minutes – July 1, 2025

III. Casualty Insurance Program – to provide an update on the Authority's Casualty Insurance Program.

Presenter(s):

- Lynne Finnigan, Risk Analyst I
- Barbara Goodwin, Senior Vice President/Sales Executive, USI Insurance Services

IV. Adjourn



Audit, Safety Compliance & Real Estate Committee Meeting

July 1, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members: Ms. Elder, Ms. Pacetti, Mr. Sleasman

Not Present: Mayor Weiss (Chair), Ms. Welch (Vice Chair)

Staff/Other: Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Janet Burney, Floun'say Caver, Melinda Dangelo, Nick Davidson, Wendy Feinn, Michael Fesler, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam, Anna Hlavacs, Sharon Jenkins, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Jim Reed, Mike Schipper, Michael So, Kay Sutula, Wendy Talley, Dawn Tarka, John Togher, Carolyn Young

Public: Brian Gibbons, Loh, Chris Martin

Mr. Sleasman called the meeting to order at 9:10 am with a roll call. Three (3) committee members were present representing a quorum.

A motion by Ms. Pacetti, seconded by Ms. Elder to approve the minutes from June 3, 2025, and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sleasman called for the first presentation – Cleveland Metroparks/Viaduct parcels, presented by Jim Reid, GCRTA Property Manager. The agreement seeks board approval for a 10-year license with a 10-year renewal option for three parcels of GCRTA-owned land located near Leonard, French, and British Streets on the Columbus Road Peninsula in Cleveland. The total area of the parcels is approximately 1.3 acres, which Metroparks intends to incorporate into its lakefront reservation as “clean and green” space. This includes minimal improvements such as grass, shrubs, and the addition of all-purpose trails, with no plans for playgrounds or gathering areas.

Under the agreement, Metroparks will be responsible for all development, operations, maintenance, liability, and security costs. GCRTA will retain control of the parcels for maintenance of the viaduct piers and will have joint approval rights for any future public art installations. Either party may terminate the agreement with 90 days' notice. Board members raised questions regarding future improvements and the scope of Metroparks' activities, which were clarified as limited to light landscaping and trail access.

It was moved by Ms. Elder and seconded by Mr. Sleasman and unanimously approved to recommend the agreement to the full Board of Trustees for final approval.

Mr. Sleasman called for the next presentation concerning a proposed real estate exchange with Burten Bell Carr Development, Inc. (BBC) in support of the East 79th Street Rapid Transit Station reconstruction project on the Blue/Green Line, presented by Jim Reed, Property Manager.

The objective of the agreement is to facilitate the acquisition of land necessary to expand and modernize the existing station, which lies just south of the Opportunity Corridor.

As outlined in the presentation, the GCRTA currently owns approximately 2.27 acres at the station site, while BBC owns the adjacent 1.51-acre Hillside Park property. To support the new station footprint, GCRTA will acquire Parcel A (approximately 6,321 square feet) from BBC, which is contiguous with the station. In exchange, GCRTA will convey Parcel B (approximately 6,952 square feet), an unused portion of its property adjacent to Hillside Park. The exchange involves no monetary consideration, as both parcels are deemed to be of equal value.

The transaction is contingent upon the waiver of existing deed restrictions held by the City of Shaker Heights and Cuyahoga County—both of whom have expressed support. GCRTA will cover all closing costs, and the agreement includes a 30-day due diligence period, followed by closing within 30 days.

Mr. Reid emphasized that the exchange is essential for the station's expansion, including ADA-accessible features, and praised the strong partnership with BBC, a nonprofit community development organization deeply involved in the neighborhood. Committee members echoed appreciation for the collaboration and noted the significance of improved transit access for residents.

It was moved by Mr. Sleasman and seconded by Ms. Pacetti and unanimously approved to recommend the agreement to the full Board of Trustees for final approval.

There being no further business to bring before this Committee, a motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Mr. Sleasman and seconded by Ms. Pacetti. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 am.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer


Avis R. Lyons
Interim Executive Assistant



Greater Cleveland
Regional Transit Authority

Interoffice Memo

To: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, President
and Members, Board of Trustees

From: India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer 

Date: July 30, 2025

Subject: Casualty Insurance Program Renewal 9/1/2025

At the August 5, 2025 meeting of the Audit, Safety Compliance and Real Estate Committee, Lynne Finnigan will provide a summary of GCRTA's Casualty Insurance Program.

Please call me if you have any questions or require additional information prior to Tuesday's meeting.

IBT/LAF

AGENDA

ORGANIZATIONAL, SERVICES & PERFORMANCE MONITORING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Committee Members: Ms. Emily Garr Pacetti, Chair
Ms. Lauren R. Welch, Vice Chair
Mayor Marie Gallo
Ms. Deidre Y. McPherson
Mr. Jeffrey W. Sleasman

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes – July 1, 2025
- III. Multi-Tenant Hosting Solution Non-Competitive - this is a negotiated sole source procurement from Televic to allow access to new railcar data utilizing a multi-tenant hosting solution.

Presenters:

- Charles Morgan, Director of Information Technology
- Drew Dimmick, Contract Administrator II

- IV. Change Order - a presentation of negotiated change orders to the three Contracted Paratransit Services contracts.

Presenters:

- Nick Davidson, District Director-Paratransit District
- Sharon Cottrell-Peffer, Procurement Team Manager

- V. Adjourn



Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee

July 1, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members: Ms. Pacetti (Chair), Mr. Sleasman, Ms. Elder, Mr. Love, Rev. Lucas

Not Present: Mayor Gallo, Ms. McPherson, Ms. Welch (Vice Chair)

Staff/Other: Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Janet Burney, Floun'say Caver, Melinda Dangelo, Nick Davidson, Wendy Feinn, Michael Fesler, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam, Anna Hlavacs, Sharon Jenkins, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Jim Reed, Mike Schipper, Michael So, Kay Sutula, Wendy Talley, Dawn Tarka, John Togher, Carolyn Young

Public: Brian Gibbons, Loh, Chris Martin

Ms. Pacetti called the meeting to order at 10:10 am with a roll call. Five (5) committee members were present, representing a quorum.

A motion by Ms. Pacetti, seconded by Mr. Sleasman to approve the minutes from June 3, 2025, and was unanimously approved.

Ms. Pacetti called the first presentation Non-Competitive Procurement – a presentation of a recurring negotiated non-competitive procurement for annual software maintenance and support of the Authority's demand response, customer information and client communications software applications. Charles Morgan, Director of Information Technology, and Sean Becker, Program Contract Manager in Procurement, led the presentation. Mr. Morgan outlined the long-term use of Trapeze software for paratransit scheduling and dispatch, emphasizing its critical role in operations and ADA compliance. The software includes components such as PASS-CT for coordinated dispatch, PASS-Web for online scheduling, DriverMate tablets for real-time communication, and IVR systems for customer interaction. Concerns were raised about long wait times when calling dispatch, to which Nick Davidson, Director of Paratransit, responded that growing demand and limited call capacity were contributing factors. He explained that the upcoming mobile app would help reduce call volume by enabling more customers to book trips online, which currently accounts for only 3.5% of scheduling. Mr. Morgan also noted an upgrade to version 21 of the software was underway, expected to enhance stability and performance. He praised Trapeze for their 24/7 support and productive partnership, especially in handling critical system outages. Mr. Becker provided an overview of the procurement process, explaining that Trapeze is the sole provider due to the proprietary nature of the software. A recent audit tied a nearly 30% cost increase to higher operational metrics like trip volume and vehicle usage. The proposed three-year contract, totaling \$2,542,100, includes a fair 6% year-over-year increase after the first-year adjustment.

Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee

July 1, 2025

Page 2 of 2

It was recommended that the Committee forward the item to the full Board for approval. A motion to do so was made by Mayor Koomar, seconded by Mr. Sleasman, and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to bring before this Committee, a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mayor Koomar, seconded by Mr. Sleasman. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer


Avis R. Lyons
Interim Executive Assistant



Greater Cleveland
Regional Transit Authority

Interoffice Memo

To: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, President
and Members, Board of Trustees

From: India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer 

Date: July 31, 2025

Subject: Summary of Award – Multi-Tenant Hosting Solution

This is a negotiated sole source procurement to provide the Authority with a Multi-Tenant Hosting Solution with Televic US, Corp. to support the new railcar Passenger Information System (PIS) and on-board surveillance system.

At the August 5, 2025, Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting, we will make a presentation of the procurement process and staff recommendation for contract award. Attached is the summary for this contract award. We will be requesting that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend the award of this contract at the August 19, 2025 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Please call me if you have any questions or require additional information prior to Tuesday's meeting.

IBT/SB

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AWARD Multi-Tenant Hosting Solution

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (“GCRTA”) is procuring new rail vehicles from Siemens that have a Televic US, Corp. (“Televic”) Passenger Information System (“PIS”) and on-board surveillance system that will be required to interface with a wayside server to offload data. This system will provide critical operational data. GCRTA needs to procure a hosting solution from Televic, of which they offer three: a GCRTA on-premise datacenter, a cloud hosted solution located in a private-tenant, or a cloud hosted multi-tenant solution. GCRTA has elected to implement a cloud hosted multi-tenant solution.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

GCRTA is under contract with Siemens Mobility, Inc., to provide up to 60 high-floor LRV trains. Siemens uses Televic exclusively, as it’s provider of on-board Passenger Information System. The hosting solution required is proprietary to Televic, therefore, this purchase is deemed a sole source procurement and is exempt from competitive bidding as authorized under Section 306.43(H)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code.

The Procurement Department requested a proposal from Televic on April 18, 2025. A proposal was received on May 7, 2025. The proposal was reviewed by representatives from the Information Technology, Fleet Management, and Procurement Departments, and is deemed to be advantageous, fair, and reasonable to the Authority.

There was a zero percent (0%) DBE goal assigned to this project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Televic has an office at 4620 Northgate Blvd Suite 120, Sacramento, CA 95834. The strengths of Televic include:

- International leader in high-end communication systems across many different markets
- In operation for over 75 years with 40+ years of experience in the rail industry
- 65,000+ vehicles worldwide using their on-board technology
- Global experience and presence with public transit systems


CLIENT BASE:

Televic has worked with San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, Calgary Transit, GVB Amsterdam, CAF Metro Delhi, Montreal Metro, among many others across the globe.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to Televic to provide a Multi-Tenant Hosting Solution in an amount not to exceed \$1,053,723.00 for a period of four years and one month.



To: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, President
and Members, Board of Trustees

From: India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer 

Date: July 31, 2025

Subject: Change Orders to Contracted Paratransit Services

This is a request for the increase to the three Contracted Paratransit Services contracts with Future Age, Inc. dba Provide A Ride, GL Logistics of Mississippi, LLC and Senior Transportation Connection.

At the August 5, 2025, Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting, we will make a presentation of the procurement process and staff recommendation for the increase to these three contracts. We will be requesting that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend these change orders at the August 19, 2025 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Please call me if you have any questions or require additional information prior to Tuesday's meeting.

IBT/SB

AGENDA

OPERATIONAL PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Committee Members: Mr. Jeffrey W. Sleasman, Chair
Ms. Lauren R. Welch, Vice Chair
Mayor Marie Gallo
Mr. Stephen M. Love
Rev. Charles P. Lucas

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of minutes – July 1, 2025
- III. RFP Procurement - a presentation of a competitive negotiated procurement for architect/engineer services to supplement internal engineering staff for 24 months.

Presenters:

- Kathleen McGervey, Engineering Project Manager, Track
- Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager

- IV. Adjourn



Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

July 1, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members:	Mr. Sleasman (Chair), Ms. Elder, Mr. Love, Rev. Lucas
Not Present:	Ms. Welch (Vice Chair), Mayor Gallo
Staff/Other:	Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Janet Burney, Floun'say Caver, Melinda Dangelo, Nick Davidson, Wendy Feinn, Michael Fesler, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam, Anna Hlavacs, Sharon Jenkins, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Jim Reed, Mike Schipper, Michael So, Kay Sutula, Wendy Talley, Dawn Tarka, John Togher, Carolyn Young
Public:	Brian Gibbons, Loh, Chris Martin

Mr. Sleasman called the meeting to order at 9:27 am with a roll call. Four (4) committee members were present, representing a quorum.

A motion by Mr. Sleasman, seconded by Mr. Love to approve the minutes from June 3, 2025, and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Sleasman called the first presentation CMSD Agreement – to discuss the CMSD Intergovernmental Student Transportation Agreement for the 2025-2026 school year. John Togher, Director of Accounting, presented the *Intergovernmental Student Transportation Agreement* between the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) for the 2025–2026 school year. CMSD seeks to continue its long-standing partnership with GCRTA—originally established in 2006—to provide discounted public transportation for students in grades 9–12. The agreement, valued at approximately \$2.5 million, covers the academic year from August 18, 2025, through May 28, 2026.

This year's agreement includes a key update at CMSD's request: student passes will now be valid seven days a week from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., including holidays. This contrasts with the unrestricted access previously granted in the 2024–2025 school year. The change was driven by CMSD's review of ridership data, which indicated student travel at unusually late hours, prompting the district to introduce time restrictions for safety and oversight.

GCRTA will issue 13,500 student picture ID cards, which are magnetically striped and compatible with all fareboxes. These cards serve as the only acceptable proof of payment under the agreement. CMSD will make a 90% lump sum payment of \$2.25 million in September 2025, with final billing based on actual ridership usage calculated at a rate of \$1.67 per ride. Any rides exceeding the

agreement—for instance, for summer school or field trips involving students outside grades 9–12—will be billed separately at the rate of \$1.75 per ride.

During the Q&A, committee members, including Trustee Love and Trustee Elder, asked about the rationale behind the new time restrictions, the impact on overall contract value, and scenarios under which CMSD might purchase additional rides. Mr. Togher explained that while the service window has been limited, CMSD is increasing the number of passes issued, and the financial outcome is expected to remain consistent with last year. He added that a single academic calendar adopted by CMSD for the upcoming year will simplify reconciliation and contract management.

It was recommended that the Committee forward approval to the full Board. A motion by Mr. Sleasman and seconded by Mr. Love and unanimously approved.

Mr. Sleasman called for the next presentation of Tax Budget – discussion of the FY 2026 Tax Budget. Kay Sutula, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, introduced Wendy Feinn, a budget management analyst, who presented the tax budget for the first time. The presentation outlined the initial revenue and expenditure projections for the upcoming fiscal year, along with forward-looking estimates through 2028.

The FY 2026 tax budget serves as a forward-looking financial planning tool and is based on current economic conditions and agency assumptions. Budget development began in May 2025 with the adoption of the Capital Improvement Plan and aligns with NOACA, ODOT, and FTA planning timelines. The full FY 2026 budget, which will include operating budget and transfers to other funds, will be developed through the fall, with public hearings and board review scheduled in November and December. Final adoption is planned for December 16, 2025.

Economic assumptions guiding the budget include continued inflationary pressures, stable interest rates from the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC), and an average investment yield of 4.05% on GCRTA's cash holdings. Ridership and fare revenues are projected to rise modestly, with a 2% increase anticipated for passenger fares. Sales and Use tax revenues are expected to remain stable in 2026, with slight growth in 2027 and 2028. The wage projections reflect current contracts with ATU and FOP bargaining units.

The FY 2026 general fund revenues are estimated at \$342.8 million. The largest revenue sources include Sales and Use tax (78%) and passenger fares (9.5%). The budget also includes \$7 million in reimbursements, with \$6 million allocated for preventive maintenance. To meet operational funding needs and maintain a one-month reserve, a transfer of \$33 million from the Revenue Stabilization Reserve Fund is planned.

Projected expenditures for FY 2026 total \$352.8 million. Personnel costs, the largest expenditure category, are estimated at \$244 million and include salaries, overtime, payroll taxes, and fringe benefits. A temporary spike in fringe costs is expected due to the 27th payroll period affecting the 2026 fiscal year. Other key expenses include \$24 million for services, materials, and supplies; \$16.5 million for purchased transportation; and \$13 million for fuel and utilities. Transfers to other funds total \$34.9 million, supporting insurance, the capital program, debt service, pension, and reserves.

The presentation also emphasized the agency's ongoing compliance with its financial policy to maintain a one-month operating reserve. Estimated ending balances are projected to support this reserve through 2026 and 2027. However, projections show the Revenue Stabilization Fund may be fully depleted by late 2028 if no corrective measures are taken.

Committee members inquired about preparation strategies for the potential reserve shortfall in 2028. Ms. Sutula explained that the agency is actively reviewing controllable expenditures and maintains conservative revenue projections. Any excess revenues or underspending could reduce the need for reserve transfers, preserving funds for future use. Clarifications were also provided on volatility in fuel and utility markets, with current fixed-price contracts offering protection through mid-2026 and 2027.

Following discussion, the committee agreed to proceed with the required public hearing. A motion was made and seconded to suspend the committee for the public hearing, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Chris Martin from the City of Cleveland offered several remarks and suggestions. He recommended that public hearing announcements also be shared on Instagram to broaden community outreach. He also requested that presentation slide decks be reposted on the agency's website, noting they are public records and enhance public accessibility. Mr. Martin inquired about the status of the fare capping policy, which he noted had been added to the agency's codebook but has yet to be implemented. He expressed concern about the agency's financial sustainability, warning that without action, it could face significant budget shortfalls within two to three years. He urged the trustees to begin preparing transparent messaging to the public regarding potential service cuts or fare increases and stressed the importance of prioritizing operational funding over capital projects. Additionally, he asked about the agency's authority to increase sales tax in Cuyahoga County, referencing differing interpretations and expressing hope that up to 0.5% additional sales tax could be levied to support transit funding. He concluded by encouraging the agency to demonstrate urgency in addressing its financial future.

Loh provided public comments emphasizing the challenges of budgeting, particularly in the context of public services like transportation. She acknowledged the progress GCRTA has made but highlighted persistent funding issues caused by limited federal support and the state's reluctance to allocate a fair share to public transit. She noted that while the agency recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, its primary revenue source—sales tax—has remained unchanged for five decades. Loh urged GCRTA to advocate more strongly at the county level, especially when other initiatives, such as proposals for a new county jail, seek to use sales tax revenue. She argued that diverting funds away from transit undermines access and equity, particularly for those who rely on public transportation to visit or support individuals in jail. She called for resistance to budget cuts and fare increases that burden riders and instead encouraged the agency to fight for additional funding, specifically, an increase of 0.5% in sales tax dedicated to transit. Loh concluded by stressing that public transit serves the broader community and deserves a greater share of resources to expand access and avoid service reductions.

There were no public comments received via phone or email.

A motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Mr. Sleasman and seconded by Mr. Love. Following the Public Hearing, a motion was made by Mr. Sleasman and seconded by Mr. Love to reconvene the Committee meeting.

It was recommended that the Committee forward approval to the full Board. A motion to advance the item was made by Mr. Sleasman, seconded by Mr. Love, and unanimously approved.

Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

July 1, 2025

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There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sleasman and seconded by Ms. Elder. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 am.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer


Avis R. Lyons
Interim Executive Assistant



Greater Cleveland
Regional Transit Authority

Interoffice Memo

To: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, President
and Members, Board of Trustees

From: India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer 

Date: July 31, 2025

Subject: On Call Architect / Engineering Services 2025
RFP Procurement

At the August 5, 2025, Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee meeting, staff will provide an overview of the upcoming contract for On Call Architecture/Engineering Services, 2025. A request for proposals was issued on March 31, 2025. The presentation will include the scope of work and staff recommendation of contract award.

The contract will be used to augment GCRTA in-house personnel in providing architectural and engineering services.

Please call me if you have any questions or require additional information prior to Tuesday's meeting.

IBT/KAM

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AWARD
On-Call Architect/Engineer Services - 2025**

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) sought the services of professional consultant(s) to prepare plans, specifications, cost estimates, construction duration estimates, construction support services and Safety Certification. The Architect/Engineer Consultant Design Team should be able to provide the following engineering services as required by the assigned project: Architectural, Civil, Geotechnical, Surveying, Landscape, Structural, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. The specialties of track, signal and catenary design are required, but will be limited to incidental work at train stations and/or within the rail shops. Projects could involve any of the GCRTA's facilities including bus garages, transit centers, rail shops and train stations.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Request for Proposal for Architect/Engineering Services was issued on March 31, 2025. The necessary legal notice was published in the Plain Dealer and Call & Post newspapers. The Request for Proposal was also published on the GCRTA web site.

The Request for Proposal was accessed and/or downloaded from the web site by thirty (30) interested parties. Three (3) proposals were received on May 14, 2025, as shown below:

PROPOSALS (3):

HDR Engineering, Inc.*
DLZ Ohio, Inc..*
RE Warner*

CONFIDENTIAL

* Denotes shortlisted firms

A panel of Authority employees, including representatives from the following departments: Engineering and Project Development, Safety Department, Office of Business Development and Procurement performed an evaluation of the proposals using the following Evaluation Criteria:

- Project Manager
- Assigned Staff
- Past Performance
- Project Approach
- Location of Majority of Work
- DBE Participation

This process was conducted in accordance with established Procurement Department Policies and Procedures. The evaluation panel interviewed three (3) firms. It was determined that the proposal from DLZ Ohio, Inc. was most advantageous to the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION:

DLZ Ohio, Inc. is a multidisciplinary firm with over 900 employees in more than 30 offices. DLZ Ohio, Inc. provides services including, but not limited to, architecture, engineering, planning, surveying, and construction services.

The strengths of DLZ Ohio, Inc. include:

- Multidisciplinary firm
- Extensive industry knowledge.
- Quality deliverables on past projects.

The Office of Business Development has set an 11% DBE goal on this procurement.

CLIENT BASE:

DLZ Ohio, Inc. has successfully completed projects for the Authority, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, ODOT, Central Ohio Transit Authority, and Capital Area Transportation Authority, among others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to DLZ Ohio, Inc. to conduct on-call architectural/engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 for a period of 24 months.