



MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the following meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) will take place on **Tuesday, May 5, 2026**, 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 GCRTA'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 GCRTA's website at (www.riderta.com/board), on GCRTA's Facebook page and GCRTA's Twitter page.

8:15 a.m. **Governance Committee**

- Agenda attached.

9:00 a.m. **Committee of the Whole**

- Agenda attached.

Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee

- Agenda attached.

Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

- Agenda attached.

Compensation Committee

- Executive Session – to consider the employment, evaluation and compensation of a public employee or official.

India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

IBT:bc
Attachment

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





AGENDA

Board Governance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, Chair
Emily Garr Pacetti, Vice Chair
Deidre McPherson
Jeffrey Sleasman
Mayor David Weiss

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes – January 20, 2026
- III. Review of Board of Trustees Committees
- IV. Retreat Follow-Up
 - Board Communications
 - Strategic Plan
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjourn



Board of Trustees
Standing Committee Structure and Responsibilities

1) Board Governance Committee: (President, VP and Committee Chairs)

*President: Mayor Koomar | Members: Pacetti (VP), McPherson, Sleasman, Weiss
Staff Liaisons: India L. Birdsong and Janet E. Burney*

- Develop the Board Governing Mission and recommend its adoption by full Board.
- Oversee how the Board functions & Board self-management.
- Develop plan and budget for Board member governing skills development.
- Nominating a slate of board officers to the full board
- Coordinate and monitor Standing Committees
- Prepare Board Meeting Agendas.
- Recommend revisions to the By-Laws.
- Manage the Board/CEO and Board/Internal Audit working relationship, annual evaluation and succession planning.

2) Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee: (Future-Oriented)

*Chair: Jeffrey Sleasman | Members: Pacetti (Vice Chair), Gallo, Love
Primary Staff Liaison: Mike Schipper | Secondary Staff Liaison: Rajan Gautam*

- Development of the annual Operating and Capital Plan & Budget and Service Plan
- Approval of Infrastructure/buses projects supported by the Plan
- Development of the annual Tax Budget
- Development/Approval of fare structure and other revenue sources
- Monitor and Update the Values, Vision and Mission Statements
- Review all environmental and Title VI updates
- Monitor Fuel Hedging Program

3) Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring: (Now-Oriented)

*Chair: Emily Garr Pacetti | Members: Gallo, McPherson, Sleasman
Primary Staff Liaison: Floun'say Caver | Secondary Staff Liaisons: Rajan Gautam and George Fields*

- Approval of service agreements that support RTA's day-to-day mission.
- Design the operational and financial reporting and monitoring plan re:
 - Affirmative Action / DBE goals
 - Budget Adherence and Financial Performance
 - Operating Policies
 - Productivity
 - Quarterly Management Report
 - Review operational policies meriting the Board's attention.
 - Review performance reports and report to full Board
 - Ridership
 - Service Planning updates/Adjustments
- Provide input on major internal administrative system upgrades (Acct., IT).
- Present an overall assessment of annual financial and operational performance at an annual strategic planning working session with the full Board.

4) Audit, Safety Compliance and Real Estate Committee:

*Chair: David Weiss | Members: Pacetti (Vice Chair), Elder, Sleasman, Whigham
Primary Staff Liaisons: Rajan Gautam and Tony Garofoli | Secondary Staff Liaison: Janet Burney*

- Safety plan monitoring and compliance
- Security plan monitoring and compliance
- External and Internal Audit Functions
 - Review and approve audit firm, reports and corrective actions, brief full Board on Audits and monitor Audit Corrective Actions
- Review and approve real estate transactions
- Property and liability insurance

5) External and Stakeholder Relations and Advocacy Committee:

*Chair: Deidre McPherson | Members: Pacetti (Vice Chair), Elder, Love, Whigham
Primary Staff Liaison: Natoya Walker-Minor | Secondary Staff Liaison: Mike Schipper*

- Oversee the development of strategies for image building.
- Oversee the Boards Speakers Bureau
- Oversee the development and implementation of GCRTA legislative/governmental relations policies and strategies.
- Advocate for Public Transit and Public Transit funding.
- Advocate for Partners and Stakeholders to enhance Public Transit
- Develop strategies and plans for non-Board volunteer involvement (CAC)
- Oversee interagency agreements

*Brent Charnigo - support staff for all committees



MEETING MINUTES

Board Governance Committee Meeting

January 20, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor Koomar (Chair), Ms. Pacetti (Vice Chair), Ms. McPherson, Mr. Sleasman, Mayor Weiss

Staff/Other: Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Felicia Brooks-Williams, Janet Burney, Floun'say Caver, Brent Charnigo, Jonathan Ciesla, Nick Davidson, Nadine DeJesus, Wendy Feinn, Michael Fesler, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Joel Freilich, Catherine Galla, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam, Fiona Gibbons, Chief Deirdre Jones, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Jeff Macko, Ida Marshall, Sheila Miller, Joshua Miranda, Charles Morgan, Ruben Morgan, Mike Schipper, Kay Sutula, John Togher

Public: Ehren Bingaman, Tracie Collins, Travis Ducuruen, Kesley Finucan, Alex Johnson, Mustafa Shaikhan, Carren Woods

New Board Trustee Shanelle Smith Whigham was administered the oath of office.

I. Roll Call

Mayor Koomar called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Review Committee Assignments

Mayor Koomar discussed the importance of making the Governance Committee more active and reviewed current Committee assignments. He noted that there is one vacancy on the Board and assignments will be revisited once the position is filled. The Committee aims to balance assignments and make mid-year adjustments as needed, considering members' interests and skill sets.

The Committee plans to integrate new members at the start of the goal-setting cycle for continuity.

The Committee emphasized the importance of timely evaluations for the Executive Director of Internal Audit and the CEO. Recent improvements include establishing protocols and schedules for evaluations and internal audits, informed by management retreats and input from Tony and his team. These changes aim to ensure that planning and audit cycles are well-coordinated and not rushed.

The value of communication between Committee members, chairs, and staff liaisons was stressed. Pre-meetings on presentations and agenda items help ensure clarity and preparedness. Committee members are encouraged to communicate questions in advance, allowing for more thorough responses during meetings. Informal communication with management is seen as beneficial for clarifying issues, such as contract approvals.

Timely distribution of board packets was discussed, with a preference for at least a two-day lead time to allow members to review materials and submit questions. Staff were thanked for their efforts to provide updated materials promptly, noting that last-minute changes are sometimes unavoidable.

The Committee discussed the value of brief committee reports during board meetings to keep all members informed of activities and discussions. Enhanced communication among committee members, including sharing questions and updates, was encouraged to foster inclusivity and transparency.

III. Discussion of Future Governance Topics

Committee liaisons have been carefully selected to align with committee work, but members are reminded that additional leadership and resources are available if needed. Members are encouraged to use their liaisons as primary contacts but to reach out to others as necessary for information or support.

The Committee expressed interest in meeting quarterly to discuss ongoing assignments and governance topics.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business to bring before the Committee, Mayor Koomar moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Mr. Sleasman. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Charnigo
Board Administrator



AGENDA

Committee of the Whole

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor Paul A. Koomar, Chair
Emily Garr Pacetti, Vice Chair
Anastasia A. Elder
Mayor Marie Gallo
Stephen M. Love
Deidre Y. McPherson
Jeffrey W. Sleasman
Mayor David E. Weiss
Shanelle Smith Whigham

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes – April 7, 2026

III. FY 2026 Bond Issuance -- Bond Issuance Paying A Portion of Capital Improvements in a Principal Amount of \$35,000,000

Presenter:

- Carolyn Young, Director, Grants Management & Treasury

IV. Code Book Update – Amending Chapter 852: Protection of Transit System Assets, Employees, and Passengers

Presenter:

- Anna Hlavacs, Senior Counsel – Contracts, Real Estate and Administrative Law

V. Planned Service Adjustments

Presenter:

- Joel Freilich, Director, Service Management

VI. Adjourn



MEETING MINUTES

Committee of the Whole

April 7, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor Koomar (Chair), Ms. Pacetti (Vice Chair), Ms. Elder, Mayor Gallo, Mr. Love, Ms. McPherson, Mr. Sleasman, Mayor Weiss

Not Present: Ms. Smith Whigham

Staff/Other: Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Janet Burney, Louis Catalusci, Floun'say Caver, Brent Charnigo, Nick Davidson, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Joel Freilich, Rajan Gautam, Chief Deirdre Jones, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Holly Mothes, Norbert Reynolds, Mike Schipper, Kay Sutula, Wendy Talley, John Togher, Carolyn Young, Steven Zimmerman

Public: Brian Gibbons, Loh

I. Roll Call

Mayor Koomar called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 24, 2026

Mr. Sleasman moved, and Mr. Love seconded to approve the minutes; the motion carried.

III. Financial Overview

Rajan Gautam, Deputy General Manager, Finance, presented a comprehensive financial overview aimed at balancing the authority's operating and capital needs through 2028. Proposed strategies would allow the Board and management enough time to evaluate additional sources of revenue. He explained that a structural funding gap exists following the depletion of federal stimulus funds received in 2020 and 2021. Mr. Gautam referenced a presentation he made to the Board in May 2021 that addressed using those stimulus funds in a strategic manner that would ensure stability for the Authority.

Historically, these funds were used strategically to support the operating budget, unfunded capital projects, and reduction of debt. Mr. Gautam highlighted that while the Authority previously relied on federal preventive maintenance reimbursements to support operations and those were suspended during this period to retain funds for the benefit of the Capital Program.. The stimulus funds were a reserve to mitigate economic risks through 2026. However, projections for 2028 developed around the time of the 2026 budget development show a potential deficit of \$48.3 million, which represents a \$78.3 million shortfall to get back to the Board policy which mandates a one-month operating reserve. The Authority's outstanding debt has decreased from \$170 million in 2012 to \$13.9 million in 2025, which provides the capacity to meet the capital needs if debt is utilized judiciously.

Mr. Gautam advised that the Authority has never issued debt to meet operating needs. The debt issuances are specifically for capital projects. The Authority's outstanding debt has been reduced from \$170 million in 2012 to \$13.9 million in 2025, providing capacity to issue the proposed \$35

million in new debt to mitigate the reduced capital transfers without negatively impacting the capital program. No debt has been issued since 2019.

To address this financial challenge and to ensure stabilization of operations through the end of 2028, management proposed several cost-saving measures totaling approximately \$68.3 million over three years. Key recommendations include a temporary reduction in the transfer from the General Fund to capital projects from 10% to 5%, which is expected to save \$42.7 million. Other measures involve suspending transfers to the rolling stock reserve fund, implementing a 3% credit card convenience fee, consolidating positions for a \$6.2 million savings, renegotiating paratransit contracts for \$6.5 million in savings, and hiring part-time operators rather than full-time. The savings amounted to almost \$18 million in cash flow on the 2026 budget. Further recommendations were made to provide stability through the end of 2028.

Mr. Gautam stated that additional recommendations made to the management include evaluating a potential sales tax levy, which could be in the amount of one-quarter percent or one-half percent, and would generate \$70 million or \$140 million per year, respectively, if successful.

Upcoming Board actions include a code book revision changing the transfer requirements from 10% to 5%, which the Committee of the Whole has already advanced and a resolution will be presented on May 19. Additionally, a detailed overview of the bond issuance process will be presented to committee on May 5 before an expected resolution to the Board on May 19.

Mr. Gautam advised that questions have arisen regarding the impact of the reduction from 10% to 5% would have on the capital program. Per Board policy, staff is required to transfer \$28 million to the capital program to meet the needs of capital projects with a 20% local match, with the recommendation to reduce that amount temporarily for the next three years by 50%. He explained that it will not be negatively impacted due to the issuance of \$35 million debt.

Concluding his report, Mr. Gautam stated that staff was tasked with minimizing service reductions to the extent possible, to not negatively impact customers. The initial recommendation in December 2025 was a significant 12% service reduction. The potential service reductions were minimized through other cost savings. The Finance Division has put together a strategic plan to provide sustainability for the next three years, during which options for additional revenue sources may be contemplated. All other recommendations, once adopted, will ensure that the Authority will end 2028 with close to the one-month operating reserve. He advocated acting now because if these recommendations are not adopted, in 2028 it would be nearly impossible to cut \$78 million in expenses in one year without significant employee and service reductions.

Mayor Weiss inquired whether the agency has a position if a levy were to pass. Mr. Gautam stated that he can offer better insight when a levy is pursued and comes through successfully. He advised that the projections presented assumed no additional revenues from a levy; it is largely a result of cost reductions.

Joel Freilich, Service Manager, clarified that currently proposed service reductions would save \$6 million over three years and are factored into the stability plan through 2028. This set of financial projections are based on an assumption that no further service reductions would be put into effect.

CEO Terry noted that staff a high-level document with a breakdown of money saved by route was distributed to the Board.

Mr. Love questioned whether there had been an internal discussion about alternative sources of revenue. Mr. Gautam stated that several measures are being reviewed -- including sale of land, long-term leases of land and transit-oriented development.

Ms. Pacetti inquired about the possibility of corporate or municipal sponsorships for specific routes, such as the downtown trolley. CEO Terry reported that such efforts have seen limited success as partners often prefer funding transformational capital projects over operations. Certain potential partners are also facing financial challenges of their own.

Ms. Pacetti noted the historical context of route adjustments and that this is a healthy reset of which routes are working after COVID changed commuting patterns. She hoped that aspect is not lost in the story about trying to get to a number threshold.

Regarding the debt, Mayor Weiss expressed interest in structuring it in a way to prepay to achieve flexibility. Mr. Gautam explained that the three series of remaining debt will roll off by the end of 2030. The way we've structured bonds is to make our tax-exempt bonds more attractive to the investing public. The new debt is projected to be a 20-year bond and staff will look at prepaying as time goes on.

Additionally, the Board discussed the decision to purchase 54 railcars instead of the originally planned 60. While this saves \$36 million, staff will monitor if this reduction affects future state grant eligibility.

Mayor Koomar questioned whether the Authority had pursued external funding to help with the purchase of the six additional railcars and whether that would affect the reimbursement on the capital side. Mr. Schipper stated that that reduction would not impact any grants in hand, but it could impact the ability to get the last piece of grant funding in the funding stack.

Mr. Gautam stated that the decision not to exercise the purchase option on the final six cars was not taken lightly because staff wanted to make sure that service needs were met.

CEO Terry stated that the original intent was to purchase 60 railcars but the different financial situation necessitated holding at 54. Questions regarding whether there are stipulations within the grant program need to be answered.

Mr. Love asked whether there had been projections on the long-term impact to service with 54 cars rather than 60. Mr. Freilich explained that the number of cars will not affect service frequency for the first ten years. GCRTA currently has 58 cars and on an average day far fewer than that are in service. Spare cars are necessary to support maintenance.

CEO Terry asked staff to prepare an update showing ridership projections with a capacity analysis for rail. We want to make sure we're providing enough Service capacity for future generations.

Upon questioning by Mr. Sleasman, Mr. Gautam explained that refinancing the \$13.9 million outstanding debt would not yield savings as significant as letting it retire.

Mayor Koomar stated that he would like to hold a Board Governance meeting in the near future.

I. Adjournment

There being no further business to bring before the Committee, Mayor Koomar moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ms. Pacetti. The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Charnigo
Board Administrator



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

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

Date: April 28, 2026

Subject: Issuance of Long Term Debt

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

At May 5, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting staff will give a presentation on the proposed debt issuance to support capital improvement projects. The presentation will include information on the proposed \$35,000,000 debt issuance.

The resolution will request the authorization to issue new debt, and the possible refunding of outstanding series of Bonds Series 2015, 2016 and Series 2019; if the savings are determined to be substantial. This issuance is part of an overall strategy to stabilize the General Fund and the Capital Improvement Funds through the end of 2028.

The projected transaction will:

- New debt of \$35,000,000 to pay the local portion of projects in the capital improvement program. Major projects include the Paratransit Lift replacements, bus replacement program, Viaduct Phase 2 and Flyover Bridge improvements, HVAC and Roofing replacements at various facilities, Light Rail track and station rehabilitation, the Overhead Catenary and Signal Systems, substation Improvement Program, Fare Collection equipment acquisition and Metrohealth BRT construction projects.
- Possible refunding of an amount not to exceed \$14,000,000 based on current market conditions. The refunding will allow the Authority to decrease its current level of debt service. The amount of the refunding will be determined at the time of the pricing of the new debt. The refunding will occur only if the savings are determined to be beneficial to the Authority.


After closing, an official statement will be mailed to each Board member. If you have any questions or require additional information prior to Tuesday's meeting, please contact me at 216-356-3100 or Rajan Gautam at 216-356-3108.



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: April 30, 2026

Subject: Code Book Update: Chapter 852: Protection of Transit System Assets,
Employees, and Passengers

At the May 5, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting, staff will present a proposed addition to the Codified Rules and Regulations as follows:

- Part Eight Vehicles and Operation Code
 - Allowing for protection of transit system assets, employees, and passengers

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

Attachment: A. Proposed new Chapter 852 Protection of Transit System Assets, Employees, and Passengers

IBT/ah

CHAPTER 852
PROTECTION OF TRANSIT SYSTEM ASSETS,
EMPLOYEES, AND PASSENGERS

(a) It is the policy of the Authority to provide for the safety and protection of its employees and customers, as well as its property and facilities. To best serve the public, the Authority will promote an environment that is safe, secure, and respectful by facilitating proper use of its transit assets and by affirming the Authority's commitment to fostering a safe and comfortable experience for all members of the public that use the transit system, including Authority employees.

(b) The Authority is committed to setting clear expectations for behavior, while discouraging disruptive or illegal activities on or around Authority vehicles, property, and transit facilities. The Authority will establish guidelines that promote safety and security, enhance customer experience, and facilitate efficiency and fair usage of the transit system, while outlining enforcement standards. The enactment of policies and procedures that clearly define and address inappropriate and/or illegal behavior throughout the transit system will provide more comfortable conditions, thereby increasing ridership.

(c) For preservation of good order within or on transit vehicles, transit property, and transit facilities, to provide for protection and preservation of all property and life within the transit system, and to regulate and enforce the collection of fares, the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer will adopt regulations and procedures that protect transit system assets, employees, and passengers, and advance the terms of this policy.



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: Proposed Service Adjustments

Date: May 1, 2026

At the May 5, 2026, meeting of the Committee of the Whole, the staff will summarize the public comments received about service adjustments and will update the board on the remaining steps toward a final decision by the CEO/General Manager on May 7.

ILBT/JBF



Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

AGENDA

Committee Members: Emily Garr Pacetti, Chair
 Mayor Marie Gallo
 Deidre Y. McPherson
 Jeffrey W. Sleasman

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2026

III. Elevator & Escalator Maintenance & Repair – a presentation of a competitive negotiated procurement for the maintenance and repair of the Authority’s vertical transportation equipment for a period of three years with two, one-year options.

 Presenters:

- Dave Basso, Director, Central Facilities
- Jenn Martin, Program Contract Manager

IV. EZFare Renewal – a presentation of a renewal of services to continue providing a comprehensive mobile fare collection solution.

 Presenters:

- Josh Miranda, Director of Management Information Services
- Drew Dimmick, Contract Administrator II

V. Paratransit Cutaway Vehicles (26) – a presentation of a competitive procurement off of the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program for twenty-six (26) replacement Paratransit coaches.

 Presenters:

- Dan Dietrich, Director, Fleet Management
- Glenville Manning, Contract Administrator II

VI. Swiftly Transit Data System – a presentation of a non-competitive negotiated procurement for a new transit data system, for a period up to five years

 Presenters:

- Nick Biggar, Sr. Director, Customer Experience
- Drew Dimmick, Contract Administrator II

VII. Ticket Vending Machines – a presentation of a competitive negotiated procurement for new Ticket Vending Machines.

Presenters:

- Jonathan Ciesla, Project Resource Manager
- Drew Dimmick, Contract Administrator II

VIII. Adjourn



Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee

March 3, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members: Ms. Pacetti (Chair), Mayor Gallo, Ms. McPherson, Mr. Sleasman

Present: Mayor Koomar, Ms. Elder, Mayor Weiss, Ms. Whigham

Staff/Other: Numen Abdul-Mujeeb, Tom Allen, Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Muriel Bowen, Janet Burney, Louis Catalusci, Floun'say Caver, Brent Charnigo, Nick Davidson, Maribeth Feke, Jose Feliciano, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Joel Freilich, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam, Sharon Jenkins, Chief Deirdre Jones, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Glenville Manning, Jennifer Martin, Mandy Metcalf, Nicholas Miller, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Holly Mothes, Norbert Reynolds, Mike Schipper, Heather Schnear, Karen Smith, Wendy Talley, John Togher, Miles Varga, Kimberly Wright, Carolyn Young

Public: Michelle Bandy-Zalatoris, Brian Gibbons, Loh, Nancy Lyon-Stadler, Krysta Pesarchick, Tim Rosenberger, Shauna Sanders

I. Roll Call

Ms. Pacetti called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes – February 17, 2026

Ms. Pacetti noted several edits to the minutes, including a reference to a discussion regarding performance and perception.

Mr. Sleasman moved, and Ms. McPherson seconded to approve the minutes as amended; the motion carried.

III. RFP Procurement – a presentation of a sole-source procurement for ProTracker Armband and Right of Way (ROW) vehicle detection units which are used by Power & Way, Engineering, and Facilities Maintenance as secondary protection for work performed on or near the ROW.

Miles Varga, Supervisor of Traction Power, Power & Way District, stated that the ProTracker right-of-way vehicle detections units provide secondary protection for workers and train operators by utilizing a proprietary early warning system. While primary protection is still provided by flaggers, this technology allows for increased situational awareness through audible alerts and a new feedback feature that confirms acknowledgement between vehicle operators and work crews.

The procurement is necessary because the equipment would be used daily and current on-property equipment is incompatible with the new ranging technology being installed on the new Siemens light rail vehicles. The procurement includes 165 personal alert devices, 20 high-rail vehicle units, and various testers and chargers.

Glenville Manning, Contract Administrator II, Procurement, stated that the procurement qualifies as a sole-source because Harsco Rail is the original provider and no other firm can provide the proprietary technology required for compatibility with existing systems.

Staff requested the Committee recommend awarding a contract to Harsco Rail in an amount not to exceed \$516,532.50, which is approximately 12% above independent cost estimates.

Mr. Sleasman moved and Ms. McPherson seconded to advance the item to the Board of Trustees; the motion carried.

- IV. Contract Increase – a request to authorize an increase to the natural gas contract spending authority. This request does not increase the Natural Gas or CNG budget for 2026. Instead, it provides the authorization under this contract to spend the budget that has already been established and approved by the Board of Trustees on December 16, 2025.

Tom Allen, Energy Manager, stated that the Authority utilizes natural gas to fuel CNG coaches and heat facilities and water. This request would increase the spending authority for the natural gas supply contract with Direct Energy Business Marketing LLC by \$3 million, bringing the new total to \$12 million. This increase is necessary to cover higher-than-expected consumption and elevated market rates, though it does not require an increase in the already approved 2026 budget.

Mr. Allen reported that natural gas consumption is forecasted at 3.2 million units, significantly higher than the original 2.5 million unit estimate from 2021. This rise is attributed to schedule changes following the system redesign and the transition of the Triskett facility to CNG coaches. He explained that in January 2022 coaches were nearly split between CNG and diesel today they are about 83% CNG coaches. Diesel consumption has decreased during this time.

The current estimate for this contract is about \$11.6 million, which is 35% higher than that original estimate. This is not a request to increase the budget for CNG or natural gas costs in 2026. This is a request to increase the contract ceiling to expense the budget that has already been approved.

Mr. Allen explained that staff will solicit a new natural gas supply agreement which is expected to be brought before the Board in June, which would be effective August 2027, followed by an electricity supply agreement in October, to be effective May 2027. Both agreements are critical for the continued operation of the CNG fleet, as they factor into the costs of fuel, compressor electricity, and maintenance.

Jenn Martin, Program Contract Manager, Procurement, stated that on August 24, 2021, the Board authorized a five-year contract with Direct Energy Business Marketing LLC to furnish natural gas for a period of three years, with two one-year options in annual amounts not to exceed \$1.8 million per year. This change order has been reviewed and approved by the Change Order Committee, which is an internal process for any change order over \$50,000.

Staff requests that the Committee recommend to the Board approval of an increase in the contract with Direct Energy Business Marketing LLC in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000, resulting in a new contract amount not to exceed \$12 million.

Responding to Committee questions regarding the fixed portion of the contract, Mr. Allen explained that the natural gas contract is a partially fixed rate. The basis cost, which can be a discount or premium depending on the market. The rest is against a market rate. Future prices are locked, allowing cost forecasts. That aspect is part of the contract and functions similar to hedging, as staff can monitor market fluctuations and choose an advantageous point for future costs.

Mayor Koomar requested clarity regarding how much of the contract is fixed and variable. Mr. Allen stated that GCRTA will pay the fixed portion that is the basis price. When the contract begins, there has been no natural gas commodity purchased and there was no price. Staff must either accept the average price for that month or choose to lock in a certain rate for a future month.

Ms. Pacetti requested clarity regarding the upcoming related procurement opportunities this year.

Dr. Caver explained that staff has chosen to contract with natural gas and electricity suppliers with the hope of paying a lower cost than what the market would bear. Both of those contracts expire in 2027. The Authority's energy consultant advises going out to the market for natural gas more than a year in advance, which is why June is targeted to bring a natural gas supply contract to the Board that takes effect in 2027. However, the consultant advises a shorter time for electricity between securing a new contract and the effective date. That supply agreement will be brought to the Board in October for an effective date of May 2027.

Mr. Sleasman moved and Ms. McPherson seconded to advance the item to the Board of Trustees; the motion carried.

V. Adjournment


There being no further business to bring before this Committee, Mr. Sleasman moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ms. McPherson. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Charnigo
Board Administrator



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

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

Date: April 30, 2026

Subject: Elevator and Escalator Maintenance and Repair – RFP Procurement, 2026-006

This is a Request for Proposal procurement to award a contract to a qualified firm to provide the Authority elevator and escalator maintenance and repair services for a period of three years with two, one-year options.

At the May 5, 2026, Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting, staff will make a presentation on the scope of work, background, procurement process and recommendation for contract award. Attached is the summary for this contract award. Staff will be requesting that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend the award of this contract at the May 19, 2026 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
Elevator & Escalator Maintenance & Repair Services

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority is seeking the services of a qualified vendor for the maintenance and repair of its elevators, escalators, and platform lifts. The Authority currently has 33 elevators, 12 escalators, and 3 platform lifts and the selected vendor shall provide all parts, labor, and all other resources required to ensure the units are available at all times.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Request for Proposal (“RFP”) for Elevator & Escalator Maintenance & Repair Services was issued on January 16, 2026. The necessary legal notices were published in the Plain Dealer and Call & Post newspapers. The Request for Proposal was also published on the GCRTA website.

The RFP were accessed and/or downloaded from the website by eight (8) interested parties. Three (3) proposals were received on February 25, 2026 as shown below:

PROPOSERS: (3)

KONE Inc. *
Industrial Commercial Elevator
TK Elevator *

CONFIDENTIAL

*Denotes shortlisted firm

A panel of Authority employees, including representatives from Engineering & Project Development, Administration & External Affairs, Central Facilities, Rail Facilities, Office of Management and Budget, and Procurement performed an evaluation of the proposals using the following Evaluation Criteria:

- Technical Expertise, Experience & Track Record
- Scope & Methodology
- Timeliness & Responsiveness
- Pricing & Cost Effectiveness
- Reporting & Documentation

This process was in accordance with established Procurement Department Policies and Procedures. The evaluation team reviewed the proposals and invited two (2) proposers to participate in the interviews to clarify aspects of their proposal. After interviews, each short-listed proposer was asked to submit a best and final offer. Based upon the initial proposals, interviews, and the best and final offers, the offer of TK Elevator was selected, as negotiated. It was determined that the proposal of TK Elevator was the most advantageous to the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION:

TK Elevator has been in the elevator industry for over 70 years, providing years of experience in the industry. They have over 1,000 branches with over 25,000 employees, serving 100+ countries. TK Elevator is a full-service maintenance company providing new constructions, modernization, repair, and maintenance services. TK Elevator has the capability to provide technical assistance, troubleshooting, board repair, and replacement where needed from their ITS facility in Atlanta, Georgia.

Locally, TK Elevator has a regional office in Broadview Heights, Ohio. They employ approximately 24 maintenance mechanics from Local 17, the area's International Union of Elevator Constructors. TK Elevator operates multiple service routes downtown and throughout Northeast Ohio, providing outstanding coverage and redundancy. They have experience in serving large agencies with similar stringent requirements to the Authority.

In addition, TK Elevators provides their technicians with 24/7 Customer Contact Center support, experts in OEM equipment, equipment training, board repair, and service manual knowledge to help significantly reduce downtimes. TK Elevator also provides a customer portal website along with mobile applications for a comprehensive account of all service requests and maintenance call history.

As a result of the USDOT Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register and made effective October 3, 2025, there are no DBE goals set on GCRTA projects until further notice.


CLIENT BASE:

TK Elevator has vast experience, including clients with similar requirements to the Authority. TK Elevator's clients include Baldwin Wallace University, Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority, John Carroll University, Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse, and Southwest General Hospital, among others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract for elevator and escalator maintenance and repair services to TK Elevator in an amount NTE \$3,120,000 for the three-year base period, with two, one-year options NTE \$1,100,000 and \$1,120,000 respectively, for a total contract amount NTE \$5,340,000. This negotiated total contract amount is approximately 4.2% below the project estimate of \$5,575,019.26.



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

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

Date: April 30, 2026

Subject: EZFare Renewal – Cooperative Procurement, 2026-063

This is a renewal of a cooperative procurement made available through the NEORide Council of Governments to award a contract renewal to Masabi LLC to continue providing the Authority with a its mobile ticketing solution, branded "EZFAre".

At the May 5, 2026, Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting, staff will make a presentation on the scope of work, background, procurement process and recommendation for contract award. Attached is the summary for this contract award. Staff will be requesting that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend the award of this contract at the May 19, 2026 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 EZfare Renewal – Two Years and Ten Months

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority is seeking a renewal of services to continue providing a comprehensive mobile fare collection solution for its riders. GCRTA, through its intergovernmental agency agreement with the NEORide Council of Governments, is seeking to renew its agreement and continue having the vendor (Masabi LLC) provide backend cloud-based software, cloud based customer portal, and a mobile application that provides both visual and electronic validation authentication for ticketing services on all RTA vehicles for a period of two years and ten months.

GCRTA initially entered into an agreement for a two-year term from 2024-2026. This is an extension of that commitment to the end of the NEORide/Masabi agreement term of five (5) years ending March 13, 2029.

Account-Based Ticketing and Fare Capping is anticipated to be enabled June 1, 2026. Single Sign-On (SSO) and Open Payment is anticipated to begin development at the end of May 2026. Extending this agreement is critical to ensure ABT, fare capping, SSO, and open payment can be enabled, tracked, and evaluated for effectiveness and impact on GCRTA riders and revenue.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Authority currently maintains membership through the NEORide Council of Governments. Through this membership, the Authority has also participated in participation on the EZfare platform. This transit consortium currently consists of 19 agencies across Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Indiana, Michigan & Pennsylvania. Of the 19 agencies, Laketrans, SARTA, PARTA, COTA, Medina County & Akron Metro are all interlinking agencies. The current vendor providing these mobile ticketing services via the NEORide interagency agreement is Masabi LLC. Per Ohio Revised Code, Section 306.43(H)(4), competitive bidding is not required when an expenditure is made from another political subdivision, public agency, public transit system, regional transit authority, the state, or the federal government, or as a beneficiary under a state or federal procurement contract, or as a participant in a department of administrative services contract under (B) of section 125.04 of the Revised Code. Due to these reasons, this project is deemed exempt from competitive bidding as authorized under Section 306.43(H)(4) of the Ohio Revised Code.

The Procurement Department originally received a proposal from Masabi on April 4, 2024, for an initial two-year term. Discussions were held to clarify aspects of the proposal based on the NEORide EZfare agreement. That proposal was discussed and reviewed by representatives from Management and Information Services and Procurement Departments, and deemed it to be advantageous, fair and reasonable to the Authority. The pricing for this extension is in alignment with the original GCRTA-executed participation agreement based off of the NEORide / Masabi LLC Master Service Agreement (“MSA”).

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the offer from Masabi LLC, with an office at 1330 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 23A, New York, New York 10019, to provide EZFare Renewal Services for a period of two years and ten months, via NEORide's EZfare interagency agreement, to the Authority.

The strengths of Masabi include:

- Launched first ever UK mobile ticketing application with Chiltern Railways in 2007
- Launched first ever deployment for US transit agency in 2012 with their Fare Payment-as-a-Service platform, Justride
- 150+ Agencies
- 4 Continents
- 80 Mobility as a Service (MaaS) deployments
- Scalable fare collection solution


CLIENT BASE

Masabi has also worked with Laketran, SARTA, SORTA, PARTA, Medina County & Akron Metro, MTA, Boston MBTA, Los Angeles' Metrolink, Southern Nevada's RTC, Colorado RTD, among many others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to Masabi LLC to provide EZFare renewal services for a two-year and ten-month (May 2026 – March 2029) period in an amount not to exceed \$3,342,740. Staff will share their recommendation with the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee on May 5, 2026 and present the resolution to the Board of Trustees for approval at the May 19, 2026, meeting.



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

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

Date: April 30, 2026

Subject: Paratransit Vehicles – Cooperative Procurement, 2026-056

This is a purchase under the State of Ohio Department of Transportation's cooperative purchasing program to award a contract for twenty-six (26) replacement Paratransit vehicles.

At the May 5, 2026, Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting, staff will make a presentation on the scope of work, background, procurement process and recommendation for contract award. Attached is the summary for this contract award. Staff will be requesting that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend the award of this contract at the May 19, 2026 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 AWARD Paratransit Vehicles

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority has a need to replace 26 Paratransit vehicles. The Authority presently has an aging fleet of Paratransit vehicles that are used for fixed route service, some of which are showing signs of wear and inefficiency. The vehicles are used to provide Paratransit demand service. The new vehicles will provide for a more safe, reliable, and cost effective service.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

In Chapter 410 of the Codified Rules and Regulations of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority ("Code Book"), the Board of Trustees has authorized the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer to utilize the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program. R.C. 5513.01(B) provides political subdivisions within the State of Ohio the opportunity to participate in contracts executed by the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation, for the purchase of equipment, materials, supplies, or other tangible assets.

GCRTA will purchase twenty-six (26) Endera Paratransit vehicles from American Bus & Accessories, Inc. under State Contract No. 248-24. The State of Ohio awarded this contract as a result of a competitive solicitation.

CLIENT BASE:


Current customers include, but are not limited to:

- Medina County Transit
- Pickaway County Transit
- Marion Transit
- Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority

A resolution will be brought the the May 19, 2026 Board of Trustees to request authorization to purchase twenty six (26), wheelchair equipped, American Bus Endera Paratransit vehicles at a unit price of \$153,453.50, for a total contract price not to exceed \$3,989,791.00.



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

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

Date: April 30, 2026

Subject: Swiftly Transit Data System – Cooperative Procurement, 2025-135

This is a cooperative procurement made available through the NEORide Council of Governments to award a contract to Swiftly to provide the Authority with a transit data system, allowing for improved real-time operations, enhanced service reliability and an elevated customer experience.

At the May 5, 2026, Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting, staff will make a presentation on the scope of work, background, procurement process and recommendation for contract award. Attached is the summary for this contract award. Staff will be requesting that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend the award of this contract at the May 19, 2026 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 **Swiftly Transit Data System**

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) is advancing its technology modernization efforts through the procurement of a new Transit Data System designed to improve real-time operations, enhance service reliability, and elevate the rider experience across the network. This initiative aligns with GCRTA's broader commitment to leveraging innovative, data-driven tools that support efficient service delivery and informed decision making.

As an active member of the NEORide Council of Governments, GCRTA has access to competitively procured cooperative purchasing agreements that offer cost-effective technology solutions supporting regional mobility goals. Through this partnership, GCRTA will implement the Swiftly Transit Data System, an industry-leading platform that unifies operational data, improves real-time vehicle prediction accuracy, and streamlines communication for service adjustments. Swiftly's suite of tools, including real-time passenger predictions and live operations, service adjustments, and GPS playback, will provide staff with actionable insights that strengthen day-to-day operations and long-term planning.

By adopting the Swiftly platform, GCRTA is investing in a proven, modern Transit Data System that strengthens operational performance today while positioning the agency for continued innovation in the years ahead.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) maintains an active membership in the NEORide Council of Governments, which provides access to competitively procured cooperative purchasing opportunities that include cost-effective technology solutions to support regional mobility and operational efficiencies. Through this membership, GCRTA is eligible to participate in NEORide-established contracts, including the cooperative purchasing agreement for the Swiftly Transit Data System.

Per Ohio Revised Code Section 306.43(H)(4), competitive bidding is not required when an expenditure is made through another political subdivision, public agency, public transit system, regional transit authority, the state, or the federal government, or when participating as a beneficiary under a state or federal procurement contract. Due to these reasons, this procurement is deemed exempt from competitive bidding as authorized under Section 306.43(H)(4) of the Ohio Revised Code.

The Procurement Department received a proposal from Swiftly on April 24, 2026. The proposal was discussed and reviewed by representatives from Management and Information Services, Information Technology, and Procurement Departments, and deemed it to be advantageous, fair and reasonable to the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

The offer of Swiftly, Inc., with an office at 2261 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, to provide their Transit Data System to the GCRTA through the NEORide participation agreement is recommended to the Board of Trustees.

Swiftly's strengths include:

- Industry's leading Transit Data System, improving the rider experience for more than 2 billion passenger trips per year across 12 countries and over 200 transit agencies.
- Over the past 13 years, Swiftly has helped agencies increase on-time performance by up to 40%, improve arrival predictions by up to 50%, and complete planning projects up to 90% faster — driving increased ridership, fewer customer complaints, and more efficient operations.
- Built a reputation in the transit industry for consistently exceeding contract expectations and improving the passenger experience in the cities they support.


CLIENT BASE

Swiftly has also worked with MDOT MTA, Boston's MBTA, San Antonio's VIA, Kansas City's KCATA, LBT (Long Beach), SunTran (Tucson), CapMetro, SMART (Detroit), among many others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to Swiftly, Inc. to provide a Transit Data System in an amount not to exceed \$1,330,259.66 for the base three-year period, with a one-year option in an amount not to exceed \$469,821.71, and an 81-day option in an amount not to exceed \$109,474.89, for a total contract price not to exceed \$1,909,556.26. Staff will share their recommendation with the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee on May 5, 2026, and present the resolution to the Board of Trustees for approval at the May 19, 2026, meeting.



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

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

Date: April 30, 2026

Subject: Ticket Vending Machines – RFP Procurement, 2025-135

This is a Request for Proposal procurement to award a contract to a qualified firm to provide the Authority with new ticket vending machines (“TVM’s”) to replace the Authority’s aging units.

At the May 5, 2026, Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting, staff will make a presentation on the scope of work, background, procurement process and recommendation for contract award. Attached is the summary for this contract award. Staff will be requesting that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend the award of this contract at the May 19, 2026 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

Ticket Vending Machines

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) is seeking qualified vendors to submit proposals for a modern Ticket Vending Machine (TVM) system. This initiative is part of GCRTA's ongoing commitment to enhancing customer experience, improving operational efficiency, and embracing innovative technologies that support seamless fare collection across our transit network.

As part of our strategic modernization efforts, GCRTA seeks to replace its aging TVM infrastructure with a robust, user-friendly, and secure system. We are looking for vendors with proven experience in deploying scalable fare collection solutions in transit environments, and who can partner with us to deliver a system that meets the needs of today's riders while preparing for tomorrow's mobility innovations.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the Procurement website on September 28, 2025. The necessary legal notice was published in the Plain Dealer and Call & Post newspapers. Request for Proposals were accessed and/or downloaded from the GCRTA Procurement website by 47 interested parties. Seven (7) proposals were received on December 9, 2025, as shown below:

PROPOSERS: (7)

Arrive (Flowbird America, Inc.) *
BEA Transit Technologies, Inc.
Genfare, LLC *
INIT Innovations in Transportation, Inc. *
Scheidt & Bachmann USA, Inc.
SIGMA USA CORP *
VenTek International

CONFIDENTIAL

* Indicates shortlisted vendor

A panel of Authority employees, including representatives from the following departments: Revenue Collection, Electronic Repair, Information Technology, Management Information Services, Service Management, and Procurement performed an evaluation of the proposals using the following Evaluation Criteria:

- Technical Qualifications and Experience
- System Design and Technical Approach
- Project Management and Implementation
- Operations & Maintenance Capabilities
- Cost

This process was in accordance with established Procurement Department Policies and Procedures. The evaluation team reviewed the proposals and invited four (4) of them to

participate in the interview process to clarify aspects of their proposals. Additionally, each of the four (4) shortlisted proposers were offered an opportunity to bring a demo unit of their proposed TVM to display to the panel. A Best and final offer was requested from each of the four shortlisted proposerers. After negotiations, an award to SIGMA USA CORP ("SIGMA") was deemed to be in the best interest of the Authority, all factors considered.

RECOMMENDATION:

SIGMA is an Italian technology manufacturer founded in 1983, with more than four decades of continuous operation in banking automation, self-service ticketing, fare collection, and tolling systems. The company designs, manufactures, delivers, and maintains its own hardware and software solutions, giving it full control over product quality and lifecycle support. Headquartered in Monterubbiano, Italy, SIGMA has grown into an international organization with offices across France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Portugal, and the United States, supporting a global customer base. The company employs approximately 1,000 employees, including a large in-house engineering and R&D workforce.

The strengths of this partnership include:

- Decades of experience in mission-critical self-service systems: banking, tolling, and transportation, demonstrate SIGMA's ability to deliver secure, high-availability equipment.
- SIGMA designs, manufactures, and maintains its own systems, ensuring consistent quality and long-term support.
- Their technical assistance network provides responsive maintenance and lifecycle management, reducing operational risk for transit agencies.
- A strong R&D culture ensures that SIGMA's TVMs remain compliant with evolving standards (payment technologies, accessibility requirements, and digital ticketing ecosystems).

CLIENT BASE:

Clients of SIGMA include: Metrolinx (GO), Trenitalia, Rome Metro, Athens Metro, Comboios de Portugal, Nuovo Trasporto Viaggiatori (ITALO), among others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to SIGMA USA CORP to provide Ticket Vending Machines for a total contract amount not to exceed \$6,589,767.



Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

AGENDA

Committee Members: Jeffrey W. Sleasman, Chair
Emily Garr Pacetti, Vice Chair
Mayor Marie Gallo
Stephen M. Love

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes – April 7, 2026
- III. IFB Procurement – a competitive procurement to replace the existing rail crossing, including crossing panels, brick pavers, rail, ties, and undercutting ballast at the Waterfront Transit Line - Overlook.

Presenters:

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

- IV. IFB Procurement – a competitive procurement to rehabilitate the Shaker Square Substation building's exterior veneer system due to water infiltration issues. The new substation brick will match the refaced brick veneer guard walls at road level along Shaker Blvd.

Presenters:

- Matthew Marotta, Resident Engineer II
- Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager

- V. IFB Procurement – a competitive procurement for a contractor to install fiber optic cable infrastructure for the GCRTA Trunk Line.

Presenters:

- Andrew Korman, Engineer Project Manager, Electrical
- Lou Catalusci, Contract Administrator II

- VI. 2027 – 2031 Capital Improvement Plan Presentation

Presenters:

- Eric Vukmanic, OMB Manager of Budgets
- Mike Schipper, Deputy General Manager, Engineering & Project Management
- Carolyn Young, Director, Grants Management & Treasury

- VII. Adjourn



MEETING MINUTES

Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

April 7, 2026

Committee Members: Mr. Sleasman (Chair), Ms. Pacetti (Vice Chair), Mayor Gallo, Mr. Love

Also Present: Mayor Koomar, Ms. Elder, Ms. McPherson, Mayor Weiss

Staff/Other: Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong Terry, Janet Burney, Louis Catalusci, Floun'say Caver, Brent Charnigo, Nick Davidson, George Fields, Bob Fleig, Joel Freilich, Rajan Gautam, Chief Deirdre Jones, Lawrence Jupina, Carl Kirkland, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Holly Mothes, Norbert Reynolds, Mike Schipper, Kay Sutula, Wendy Talley, John Togher, Carolyn Young, Steven Zimmerman

Public: Brian Gibbons, Loh

I. Roll Call

Mr. Sleasman called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 24, 2026

Mr. Sleasman moved, and Mayor Gallo seconded to approve the minutes; the motion carried.

III. Hayden Garage Lift Replacement Phase 3 – Mobile Wireless Column Lifts -- a competitive procurement to replace two parallelogram lifts with two sets of six battery operated wireless column lifts, with an additional set included to be used as a spare.

Norbert Reynolds, Resident Engineer II, Engineering & Project Development, stated that the scope of work includes the removal and disposal of two in-ground, existing advantage parallel parallelogram lifts, filling existing pits with concrete and provides twenty-two (22) new battery-powered wireless column lifts that can be coupled in sets of four (4) or six (6).

The project also includes the installation of multiple overhead retractable outlets which will be used for charging the new lifts. The new lifts will be fully tested and certified before they are placed into service. The contractor is required to provide training to GCRTA staff on how to maintain and operate these lifts.

Mr. Reynolds explained that the new mobile column lift provides better access for workers and is safer. Other advantages include improved layout, a cleaner work environment and simplified operation and setup.

Lou Catalusci, Contract Administrator II, Procurement, stated that this invitation for bid was issued February 9, 2026, and two firms submitted a bid.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is Standard Contracting & Engineering Inc. This vendor successfully completed Phase One of the Hayden Garage Lift Replacement Project. Staff requests that the Committee recommend the Board award a contract to Standard Contracting & Engineering

Inc. for the Hayden Garage Lift Replacement Project -- Phase Three in an amount not to exceed \$799,689.00.

Mr. Love moved to advance the item to the Board of Trustees; Mayor Gallo seconded. The motion carried.

I. Adjournment

There being no further business to bring before the Committee, Mr. Sleasman moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Mayor Gallo. The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer


Brent Charnigo
Board Administrator



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: May 1, 2026

Subject: Project 52Z – Reconstruction of the Waterfront Transit Line - Overlook
IFB Procurement, 2026-010

At the May 5, 2026 Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee meeting, staff will provide an overview of the upcoming construction contract for the Reconstruction of the Waterfront Transit Line - Overlook. An invitation for bids was issued on February 23, 2026. The presentation will include the scope of work, procurement overview, and staff recommendation of contract award.

The work to be performed consists of removal and replacement of existing track, ballast, crossing panels, and brick pavers. This work is needed to bring the track into conformance with the requirements of the new railcars.

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

IBT/KAM

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AWARD
Rehabilitation of the Waterfront Transit Line - Overlook

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

This project consists of replacing the existing rail crossing, including crossing panels, brick pavers, rail, ties, and undercutting ballast at the Waterfront Transit Line Overlook. The work is required because the new Siemens rail vehicles must have a top of rail to the underside of equipment clearance of 1 ½". The existing conditions exceed this dimension and create a condition for damage to occur to the new railcars.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Invitation for Bid ("IFB") for the Rehabilitation of the Waterfront Transit Line - Overlook solicitation was issued on February 23, 2026. The necessary legal notice was published in the Plain Dealer and Call & Post newspapers. The Invitation for Bid was also published on the GCRTA Procurement website.

The Invitation for Bid was accessed and/or downloaded from the website by eleven (11) interested parties. Three (3) bids were received on April 9, 2026, as shown below:

Bidder	Total Base Bid
RailWorks Track Services, LLC	\$1,192,000
Delta Railroad Construction, Inc.	\$1,334,008
John Burns Construction Company, LLC	\$3,440,000

The Basis of Award is the lowest responsive bid from a responsible bidder for the Total Base Bid/Lump Sum Price. The Total Base Bid price of \$1,192,000 from RailWorks Track Services, LLC is 5.32% lower than the Engineer's Estimate of \$1,259,000. RailWorks Track Services, LLC was determined to be a responsible bidder.

RECOMMENDATION:

RailWorks Track Services, LLC has successfully completed projects for GCRTA, Chicago Transit Authority, Amtrak, Joliet Bulk and Barge, and CSX, among others.


A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to RailWorks Track Services, LLC for the Rehabilitation of the Waterfront Transit Line - Overlook in an amount not to exceed \$1,192,000.



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: May 1, 2026

Subject: Project 19.79 – Shaker Substation S4 Building Repairs
IFB Procurement, 2026-020

At the May 5, 2026 Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee meeting, staff will provide an overview of the upcoming construction contract for the Shaker Substation S4 Building Repairs. An invitation for bids was issued on March 9, 2026. The presentation will include the scope of work, procurement overview, and staff recommendation of contract award.

The GCRTA substation provides power to serve both the Green & Blue Light Rail Lines. The work to be performed consists of rehabilitating the building's exterior veneer system due to water infiltration issues. The new substation brick veneer will match the refaced brick veneer guard walls at road level along Shaker Blvd.

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

IBT/MJS

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AWARD
Shaker Square Substation S4 Building Repairs

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

This project consists of rehabilitating the building’s exterior veneer system due to water infiltration issues. The new substation brick veneer will match the refaced brick veneer guard walls at road level along Shaker Blvd.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Invitation for Bid (“IFB”) for the Shaker Square Substation S4 Building Repairs solicitation was issued on March 9, 2026. The necessary legal notice was published in the Plain Dealer and Call & Post newspapers. The Invitation for Bid was also published on the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority’s (“GCRTA”) Procurement website.

The Invitation for Bid was accessed and/or downloaded from the GCRTA Procurement website by eleven (11) interested parties. Two (2) bids were received on April 8, 2026, as shown below:

Company Name	Total Base Bid
Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc.	\$715,000
SONA Construction, LLC	\$998,000

The Basis of Award is the lowest responsive bid from a responsible bidder for the Total Base/Bid Lump Sum price. The Total Base Bid price of \$715,000 from Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc. (NEOTS) is 19% higher than the Engineer’s Estimate of \$600,000. NEOTS was determined to be a responsible bidder.


RECOMMENDATION:

NEOTS has successfully completed projects for the GCRTA, the cities of Chagrin Falls, Maple Heights, Wadsworth, among others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc. for the Shaker Square Substation S4 Building Repairs in a negotiated amount not to exceed \$715,000. This is approximately 19.2% above the Engineer’s Estimate of \$600,000.



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

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

Date: May 1, 2026

Subject: Project 59D – Trunk Line Fiber Optic Network Construction
IFB Procurement, 2026-022

At the May 5, 2026, Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee meeting, staff will provide an overview of the upcoming construction contract for the Trunk Line Fiber Optic Network Construction. An invitation for bids was issued on March 15, 2026. The presentation will include the scope of work, procurement overview, and staff recommendation of contract award.

A 96 strand all-dielectric self-supporting single mode fiber optic cable will be installed along the GCRTA Trunk Line from the Kinsman bungalow to the Shaker Square junction. The fiber optic cable being installed is identical to the cable previously installed on the GCRTA Red Line. The contractor will test the entire fiber optic plant prior to commissioning.

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

IBT/MJS

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AWARD
Trunk Line Fiber Optic Network Construction

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) has the need to install fiber optic cable infrastructure for the GCRTA Trunk Line. The Authority will furnish the fiber optic cable and drop cables. The contractor shall furnish all hardware to install the cable. The contractor shall commission the installed system.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Invitation for Bid (“IFB”) for Project 59D – Trunk Line Fiber Optic Network Construction was issued on March 15, 2026. The necessary legal notice was published in the Plain Dealer and Call & Post newspapers. The IFB was also published on the GCRTA Procurement website.

The IFB was accessed and/or downloaded from the website by forty-three (43) interested parties. Three (3) bids were received and opened on April 20, 2026.

Company Name	Total Base Bid
Edgar Trent Construction Company, LLC	\$848,605.00
DRS Enterprises, Inc.	\$894,925.90
Wolf Line Construction Company	\$1,174,194.60

The basis of award is the lowest responsive bid from a responsible bidder for the total base bid price. Edgar Trent Construction Company, LLC was determined to be a responsive and responsible bidder.


RECOMMENDATION:

Edgar Trent Construction Company, LLC has successfully completed projects for First Energy, Columbia Gas, AT&T, and American Electric Power, among others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to Edgar Trent Construction Company, LLC for the Trunk Line Fiber Optic Network Construction project in an amount not to exceed \$848,605.00. This bid is 30.30% lower than the Engineer’s Estimate of \$1,147,340.88.



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

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

Date: April 30, 2026

Subject: Proposed FY 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

On May 5, 2026, the Office of Management & Budget (OMB), Grants Management & Treasury, and Engineering & Project Management will present to the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), including the pertinent fund statements, project categories, and a list of unfunded projects.

The presentation of the proposed FY 2027-2031 CIP has been advanced in the calendar year to align with the fiscal years of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), State of Ohio, and Federal Transit Administration.

To provide an opportunity for the public to comment, a formal hearing will also be held in the Board Room of the Authority on May 5, 2026. It is expected that the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee will then recommend the proposed FY 2027-2031 CIP to the full Board for discussion and approval at the May 19, 2026 Board Meeting.

If any changes are needed to the proposed CIP, they will be brought back to the Board for approval.

IBT/ev



AGENDA

AD-HOC COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor David E. Weiss, Chair
Emily Garr Pacetti
Anastasia A. Elder
Mayor Marie Gallo

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2026
March 4, 2026
April 7, 2026
- III. Executive Session Requested - to consider the employment, evaluation and compensation of a public employee or official.
- IV. Adjourn



MEETING MINUTES

Compensation Committee Meeting

March 3, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor Weiss, Ms. Elder, Ms. Pacetti

Staff/Other: India Birdsong Terry, George Fields, Anthony Garofoli

Public: None

Mayor Weiss called the meeting to order at 11:22 a.m.

I. Roll Call

There were three (3) Committee members present, representing a quorum.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mayor Weiss moved, and Ms. Pacetti seconded to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2026, Ad-Hoc Compensation Committee Meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Weiss noted that Mr. Garofoli circulated a reminder for the fraud risk assessment questionnaire for purposes of completing the annual report.

III. Executive Session

Mayor Weiss moved, and Ms. Pacetti seconded to go into Executive Session to consider the employment, evaluation and compensation of a public employee or official. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Committee was in Executive Session from 11:25 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Mayor Weiss moved, and Ms. Pacetti seconded to resume the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Weiss moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Ms. Pacetti. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Charnigo
Board Administrator



MEETING MINUTES

Compensation Committee Meeting

March 4, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor Weiss (Chair), Ms. Elder, Ms. Pacetti

Staff/Other: India Birdsong Terry, George Fields, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam

Public: None

Mayor Weiss called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

I. Roll Call

The meeting was held at Shaker Heights City Hall. There were three (3) Committee members present, representing a quorum.

II. Executive Session

Mayor Weiss moved, and Ms. Pacetti seconded to go into Executive Session to consider the employment, evaluation and compensation of a public employee or official. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Committee was in Executive Session from 5:46 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

Mayor Weiss moved, and Ms. Pacetti seconded to resume the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Pacetti moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Ms. Elder. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Charnigo
Board Administrator



MEETING MINUTES

Compensation Committee Meeting

April 7, 2026

Committee Members: Mayor Weiss (Chair), Ms. Pacetti (Vice Chair), Ms. Elder, Mayor Gallo

Also Present: Mayor Koomar, Mr. Love, Ms. McPherson, Mr. Sleasman

Staff/Other: India Birdsong Terry, George Fields

Public: None

I. Roll Call

Mayor Weiss called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m. with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Executive Session

Mayor Weiss moved, and Ms. Elder seconded to go into Executive Session to consider the employment, evaluation and compensation of a public employee or official. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Committee was in Executive Session from 10:17 a.m. to 11:19 a.m.

Mayor Weiss moved, and Mayor Gallo seconded to resume the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Weiss moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Ms. Elder. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Charnigo
Board Administrator