



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, September 8, 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.

9:00 A.M.

Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

- Tower City East Portal Rehabilitation – This change order to ratify actions taken to correct an emergency on Track 7
- 15583 Brookpark Industrial Hygiene Abatement - Invitation for Bid – (IFB) -
This is a competitive procurement to remove and replace exterior windows

Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee

- RFP Procurement – Health Care Benefits - This is a competitive negotiated procurement to provide health care benefits to GCRTA employees.

Committee of the Whole

- Adcom Financial Strategy and Strategic Approach
- Service Adjustments Update
- Executive Session
 - To review the negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment
 - To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, compensation of a public employee or official


India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

IBT: md

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





AGENDA

Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

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

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes – August 4, 2026
- III. Tower City East Portal Rehabilitation – Memo provided
- IV. 15583 Brookpark Industrial Hygiene Abatement – Invitation for Bid
This is a competitive procurement to remove and replace exterior windows containing hazardous materials as well as abate other hazardous materials throughout the building

Presenter(s):

- Norbert Reynolds, Engineering Project Manager-Track
- Louis Catalusci, Contract Administrator II

- V. Adjournment

IBT: md



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: September 3, 2026

Subject: Change Order for Emergency Replacement of Track 7 at the Auxiliary Platform
Project 52N Tower City East Portals Rehabilitation

At the September 22, 2026, Board meeting, the Board will consider a change order for the Emergency Track 7 Replacement at the Auxiliary Platform.

An emergency PCO was issued to Great Lakes Construction under Project 52N Tower City East Portals Rehabilitation on April 7, 2026. The work was deemed an emergency due to the number of rail breaks which occurred in this location while using the Auxiliary Platform during the execution of the Tower City East Portals Rehabilitation. The total cost of this change is \$417,329.95.

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

IBT/KAM



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: September 3, 2026

Subject: Project 20.75 – 15583 Brookpark Shop Industrial Hygiene Abatement
IFB Procurement

At the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee meeting on September 8, 2026, staff will provide an overview of the forthcoming contract for the removal of asbestos and heavy metals from the building at 15583 Brookpark Road. The presentation will cover the scope of work and staff recommendations for the contract award.

Workers complained about nose bleeding. An environmental analysis revealed the presence of heavy metals and asbestos dust in the building. For worker safety, the building is not currently in use. The work includes the tasks listed below:

- Abatement of asbestos & heavy metals throughout the entire building, including the warehouse, Transit Police offices, above bathrooms, ventilation ducts, electrical boxes, closets and raceways.
- Replacement of seventy-two (72) windows.
- Replacement of two hundred (200) light fixtures.
- Removal of one (1) interior roll-up door.
- Replacement of two (2) exterior roll-up doors.
- Replacement of one (1) overhead gas fired space heater.
- Removal of four (4) electrical radiant heaters
- Third party inspection & testing.

The Summary of Proposed Award is attached.

Staff will request that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award of the contract to the full Board for approval at September 22, 2026, Board meeting.

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

IBT/NAR

SUMMARY OF AWARD
15583 Brookpark Industrial Hygiene Abatement

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) has performed environmental testing and confirmed the presence of contaminants in the building. This project will remove the contaminants and perform other modifications to improve the conditions within the building.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Invitation for Bid ("IFB") for Project 20.75 – 15583 Brookpark Industrial Hygiene Abatement was issued on July 20, 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 ("IFB") was accessed and/or downloaded from the website by twenty-eight (28) interested parties. Two (2) bids were received and opened on August 20, 2026. The responsive bids were as follows:

Company Name	Total Base Bid
SONA Construction, LLC	\$1,048,000
Hatzel and Buehler, Inc.	\$1,264,562

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

RECOMMENDATION:

SONA Construction, LLC has successfully completed projects for the GCRTA, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Cuyahoga County, and the City of Cleveland, among others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to SONA Construction, LLC for the 15583 Brookpark Industrial Hygiene Abatement in an amount not to exceed \$1,048,000. This bid amount is 2.12% lower than the Engineer's Estimate of \$1,070,660.



AGENDA

Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Committee Members: Ms. Emily Garr Pacetti, Chair
 Mayor Marie Gallo
 Mr. Stephen M. Love
 Ms. Deidre Y. McPherson
 Mr. Jeffrey W. Sleasman

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes – August 4, 2026
- III. RFP Procurement - This is a competitive negotiated procurement to provide Health Care Benefits to GCRTA employees. Lines of coverage include Medical, Prescription, Dental, Life, Flexible Spending (including dependent care and commuter) and COBRA. The number of awards is pending negotiations.

Presenter(s):

- Nadine DeJesus, Benefits & Compensation Manager
- Sharon Cottrell Pepper, Procurement Team Manager

- IV. Adjournment

IBT: md



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: September 3, 2026

Subject: Healthcare Benefits – RFP Procurement, 2026-051

This is a Request for Proposal procurement to award a contract to a qualified firm to provide the Authority with healthcare benefits for a one-year period, with three one - year options.

At the September 8, 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 September 22, 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

Health Care Benefits Program

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) sought proposals from qualified healthcare insurance providers for medical, dental, vision, prescription, life, COBRA Administration, and flexible spending account benefits for Authority employees. Proposers were asked to propose on any or all specific lines of coverage. Oswald Companies, the Authority's Benefits Consultant, participated in the proposal process.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Request for Proposals for Health Care Benefits was issued on May 11, 2026. The necessary legal notice was published in the Plain Dealer and Call & Post newspapers. The Request for Proposals was also published on the RTA Procurement department website. Requests for Proposals were accessed by 49 potential proposers. Twenty-three (23) proposals were received for various lines of coverage on June 16, 2026, as shown below:

The following is a **CONFIDENTIAL** list of firms that proposed on each line of coverage:

Medical: (5)

Aetna*
Anthem*
Meritain*
Medical Mutual of Ohio*
United Healthcare*

Prescription Drug: (10)

Aetna*
Anthem*
Employers Health – CVS*
Health Action Council – CVS
Health Action Council – Optum Rx
MedOne*
Meritain
Medical Mutual of Ohio
True Rx
United Healthcare

Dental: (7)

Aetna*
Anthem*
Delta Dental*
Guardian
MetLife
Medical Mutual of Ohio
United Healthcare

Vision: (5)

Aetna
Anthem
Guardian
MetLife
National Vision Administrators*

Life: (6)

Guardian*
MetLife
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Prudential
Securian Financial
Voya

COBRA Administration (9)

Aetna
Ameriflex
Inspira
MetLife
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Surency*
TASC
United Healthcare
Voya*

Flexible Spending (FSA) (5)

Aetna*
Ameriflex*
Anthem*
HealthEquity
Inspira
MetLife
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Surency*
TASC
United Healthcare*
Voya*

*Denotes shortlisted firm

A panel of Authority employees, including representatives from the following departments: Human Resources, Internal Audit, Legal, Accounting, Office of Management and Budget, Office of Business Development, and Procurement, along with the GCRTA Health Care Benefits Consultant Oswald Companies, performed an evaluation of the proposals using the following Evaluation Criteria:

- Customer Service Organization
- Provider/Network Composition Relationships
- Financial Considerations and Cost Effectiveness
- Management and Innovation
- Stability and Financial Strength of Organization
- Response to the Request for Proposal

This process is in accordance with established Procurement Department Policies and Procedures. Interviews were held with shortlisted firms and requests for Best and Final Offers were requested. Based on the Best and Final Offers, the evaluation panel selected vendors for each line of coverage as listed below.

As a result of the USDOT Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register and made effective October 3, 2025, DBE goal setting has been suspended on the Authority's projects until further notice.

RECOMMENDATION:

The resolutions will request authorization to issue one-year contracts, with three one-year options, to the following providers in the amounts listed below based on estimated enrollments for the base year of each contract.

Medical: Aetna Life Insurance Company.: Estimated Amount \$35,668,713

Prescription Drug Services: MedOne, L.C.: Estimated Amount \$12,244,285

Vision: National Vision Administrators: Estimated Amount \$112,327

Dental: Delta Dental Plan of Ohio, Inc.: Estimated Amount \$1,505,145

Life: The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America: Estimated Amount \$318,412

COBRA Administration: Voya Benefits Company, LLC: Estimated Amount \$11,400

FSA: Voya Benefits Company, LLC: Estimated Amount \$18,044



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

Subject: Adcom Financial Marketing Strategy and Approach

Date: September 3, 2026

At the September 8, 2026, meeting of the Committee of the Whole, Sarah Hall, Vice President and Account Leader from Adcom, will present the marketing and communications strategy and approach supporting the financial future of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. Ms. Hall will outline the strategic roadmap to build public understanding around upcoming financial considerations, detailing how GCRTA will educate stakeholders on its funding model, define the vision for a modern transit system, and engage diverse audiences; from employees and riders to regional business and civic leaders - through targeted, informative communications.

ILBT/JBF



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 and Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Financial Update and Public Comments on the Potential Service Reduction

Date: September 3, 2026

At the September 8, 2026, meeting of the Committee of the Whole, the Finance and Operations staff will present the latest financial forecast and will summarize the community's comments on the potential second service reduction that was presented at public hearings in mid-August. The staff will explain how the information presented supports a staff recommendation that the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer delay the potential service reduction to August 2027, following a ballot initiative in May 2027.

ILBT/JBF