



AGENDA

Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 6, 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 and September 8, 2026
- III. West Park Training Facility Roof Replacement – This is a competitive procurement to remove and replace the roof at the West Park Training Facility

Presenters:

- Norbert Reynolds, Resident Engineer II
- Ann Marie Prebish, Contract Administrator II

- IV. Adjournment

IBT: kg



Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

August 4, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

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

Present: Mr. Sleasman Ms. Pacetti, Mayor Gallo Ms. Harper, Mr. Love

Staff/Other: Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Birdsong-Terry, Muriel Bowen, Janet Burney, Tonina Campbell, Floun'say Caver, Jonathan Ciesla, Nick Davidson, Dan Dietrich, Drew Dimmick, Maribeth Feke, Lynne Finnigan, Bob Fleig, Joel Freilich, Ida Ford-Marshall, Anthony Garofoli, Rajan Gautam, Barbara Goodwin, Kenneth Green, Carl Kirkland, Glenville Manning, Kathleen McGervey, Mandy Metcalf, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Holly Mothes, Ann Marie Prebish, Joe Shaffer, Kay Sutula, John Togher, Hope Williams, Carolyn Young

Public: None

I. Roll Call

Mr. Sleasman called the meeting to order with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes – July 21, 2026

Mr. Sleasman asked for a motion to approve the minutes; Mayor Gallo motioned, Mr. Love seconded. The motion carried.

III. RFP Procurement – a competitive negotiated procurement to develop a TOD plan along the Lorain Road corridor

Presenters:

- Maribeth Feke, Director of Programming & Planning
- Ann Marie Prebish, Contract Administrator II

Maribeth Feke, Director, Programming & Planning, presented a proposed study for the Lorain Road corridor, funded through an FTA pilot Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) planning grant. The 15.7-mile corridor extends from Ohio City through the City of Cleveland, Fairview Park, and North Olmsted to the Lorain County line, making it one of the largest corridor studies undertaken by the Authority. Ms. Feke noted the study follows the same approach used for the Metro Health Line, Clifton, HealthLine, and Broadway corridor studies, and will evaluate potential Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service, transportation and multimodal connections, and land use and market conditions to support development along the corridor.

Ms. Feke reviewed a proposed 15-month schedule beginning with consultant award, followed by community engagement and transportation and market analysis, with draft findings anticipated to return to the Board next summer and additional time thereafter for each city's local adoption process.

Ann Marie Prebish, Contract Administrator, Procurement, presented the procurement overview. The RFP was issued March 9, 2026; six firms submitted proposals and three were interviewed. Evaluation panel consisted of members from Programming & Planning, Administration & External Affairs, Office of Management & Budget, Service Management, Grants Management & Treasury, Procurement, and representatives from the City of Cleveland, Fairview Park, North Olmsted, and Cuyahoga County. Staff recommended award to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., of Akron, Ohio, for the Lorain Road TOD Plan, in an amount not to exceed \$688,774.88.

Board members asked how the study builds on and complements other transit-oriented development planning along the corridor, including Cuyahoga County Planning Commission's TOD and land use planning, Fairview Park's recent zoning updates, and North Olmsted's mall redevelopment plans. Ms. Feke confirmed no prior study has covered the full corridor, though smaller neighborhood plans, a planned Lorain Road bikeway, and Cuyahoga County Metroparks' planning near the Bradley Woods Reservation are complementary efforts. A board member also requested that community engagement include City of Cleveland Council members and Community Development Corporations, particularly in the West Park area.

In response to a question about the County's role, Ms. Feke described the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission as an active partner, noting that the County Executive convened the three communities approximately three and a half years ago and that the County has continued regular coordination since, including serving on the evaluation panel and partnering with GCRTA on a separate TOD planning grant recently submitted for Warrensville Center Road.

Board members noted that, at 15.7 miles, this is the longest TOD study the Authority has undertaken, and asked how a project of this scale would be implemented and funded. Ms. Feke explained that the plan may be advanced in phases through minimum operating segments, and that decisions on specific improvements — such as a full BRT line versus an express bus overlay — would depend on the ridership and cost analysis produced during the study.

Hearing no further questions, Mayor Gallo moved to advance the item to the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Ms. Harper. The motion carried, with all members in favor and none opposed.

IV. RFP Procurement - a competitive negotiated procurement for on-call architectural/engineering services for 2026

Presenters:

- Kathleen McGervey, Engineering Project Manager-Track
- Ann Marie Prebish, Contract Administrator II

Kathleen McGervey, Engineering, presented a proposal to establish an on-call architectural and engineering services contract for 2026 to augment RTA's in-house staff with the preparation of plans and specifications, cost estimates, and construction support, assigned by task order. The contract term is 24 months, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000. Ms. McGervey noted several projects that may utilize the contract, including the Wood Hill Employee Development Center, paratransit vehicle lift replacement, the revenue building and fuel island roof replacement, and the central bus roof and HVAC replacement.

Ann Marie Prebish, Contract Administrator, Procurement, presented the procurement overview. The RFP was issued May 25, 2026, and accessed by 64 interested parties. Three firms submitted proposals, and all three were interviewed. This was a Brooks Act (qualifications-based) procurement; the evaluation panel included representatives from Engineering & Project Development, Safety, Office of Management & Budget, and Procurement. Staff recommended award to DLZ Ohio, Inc., citing the firm's successful completion of past projects for the Authority and other public transportation agencies, for a total amount not to exceed \$500,000 over 24 months.

A committee member asked whether the on-call contract would provide a dedicated point of contact or draw from available specialists as needed. Staff explained that a single in-house project manager will determine the most suitable discipline-specific staff — such as a mechanical or civil engineer — to assign to each task order.

Hearing no further questions, Mr. Love moved to advance the item to the Board of Trustees; Ms. Pacetti seconded. The motion carried, with all members in favor and none opposed.

V. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Sleasman moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Harper. The motion carried, with all members in favor and none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 a.m.

John J. Togher
Interim Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth Green
Interim Board Administrator



Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

September 8, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members:	Mr. Sleasman (Chair), Ms. Pacetti (Vice Chair), Mayor Gallo, Ms. Harper, Mr. Love, Mayor Koomar
Present:	Mr. Sleasman, Ms. Pacetti, Mayor Gallo, Ms. Harper, Mr. Love, Mayor Koomar
Staff/Other:	Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Terry, Janet Burney, Louis Catalusci, Sharon Cottrell-Peffer, Nick Davidson, Scott Ferraro, Michael Fesler, George Fields, Ida Marshall, Anthony Garofoli, Kenneth Green, Sharon Jenkins, Deirdre Jones, Carl Kirkland, Jeffrey Macko, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Ruben Morgan, Holly Mothes, Teresa Muti, Steve Peganoff, Norbert Reynolds, Joe Shaffer, John Togher, Donald Tereba, Chanel Steiner, Drew Dimmick, Beth Pierce, Nadine DeJesus
Visitors/Public:	Loh

Prior to the start of the committee meetings, Board President Mayor Koomar acknowledged the recent passing of Dr. Floun'say Caver, GCRTA's Chief Operating Officer and Deputy General Manager, and asked those present to join in a moment of silence.

I. Roll Call

Mr. Sleasman then called the meeting of the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee to order with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes – August 4, 2026

Approval of August 4, 2026, minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

III. Tower City East Portal Rehabilitation – Memo

Mr. Sleasman noted that an informational memo on the Tower City East Portal rehabilitation project was included in the board packet and did not meet the threshold for a formal presentation. Shawn Becker, Director of Procurement, provided an update, explaining that an emergency procurement was directed to an existing contract following a track break near Track 7 in the vicinity of the Tower City Portals project. The Board President was notified when the emergency occurred and concurred with proceeding; negotiations have since concluded, and a resolution to ratify the emergency procurement will come before the Board this month.

IV. 15583 Brook Park Industrial Hygiene Abatement – Invitation for Bid

Presenters:

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

Mr. Reynolds presented a project to abate asbestos and heavy metal dust discovered throughout the Brook Park facility after employees reported symptoms consistent with exposure. The scope includes replacement of approximately 72 windows found to contain asbestos-laden glazing, replacement of roughly 200 light fixtures, removal of an interior door, replacement of two exterior doors, and removal of a gas-fired heater and four electrical radiant heaters. The building, which houses rail maintenance and transit police staff, has been vacated during the project; a third-party clearance report will confirm the space is free of contaminants before employees return.

Mr. Catalusci reported that the Invitation for Bid was issued July 20, 2026, was accessed by 28 interested parties, and drew two bids. Staff recommended award to Sona Construction LLC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for a total contract not to exceed \$1,048,005.

Questions and Discussion:

- Mr. Sleasman asked whether the employees who complained of nosebleeds were alright and how testing was handled. Ms. Terry requested a response from the Safety Department. Steve Peganoff, Safety Manager, confirmed all employees are fine and were promptly issued respirators, and noted a 2022 asbestos survey found contamination in the floor tile and mastic but not the windows, which were later found after a storm to also contain asbestos, apparently masked by years of reglazing.
- Ms. Pacetti asked where displaced facilities-maintenance staff are working in the meantime and how long the project will take; Mr. Peganoff responded that they have relocated to other districts and Mr. Reynolds confirmed the project will take about five months after notice to proceed.
- Ms. Pacetti questioned whether continued investment in the building still makes sense given the roughly \$1 million cost; Joe Shaffer, Engineering, responded that its proximity to RTA facilities and its cost advantage over new construction still make it worthwhile.
- Ms. Terry asked staff to confirm for the record that the building will be certified safe before employees re-enter; Mr. Peganoff confirmed a third-party clearance report will be required first.
- Ms. Pacetti asked whether affected employees would be rechecked for symptoms in the future; Mr. Peganoff said no formal follow-up is planned, but concerns can be raised at daily supervisor safety briefings.

Hearing no further questions, Mr. Sleasman asked for a motion to advance the item to the Board for approval. Ms. Harper moved to advance the item to the Board of Trustees; Mayor Gallo seconded. The motion carried, with all members in favor and none opposed.

V. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Sleasman moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pacetti. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned.

John J. Togher
Interim Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth Green
Interim Board Administrator



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

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

Date: October 1, 2026

Subject: Project 20.73 – West Park Training Facility Roof Replacement
IFB Procurement

At the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee meeting on October 6, 2026, staff will provide an overview of the forthcoming contract for the replacement of the roof at the West Park Training facility. The presentation will cover the scope of work and staff recommendations for the contract award.

This roof is over 30 years old and is far beyond its useful life. There is significant water intrusion throughout the building, including the driving simulator room. The work includes the tasks listed below:

- Removal of existing single ply roof membrane, insulation, perimeter metal coping and fascia metal.
- Replacement of rusted metal decking
- Installation of new insulation, crickets and coverboard
- Installation of a two-ply modified membrane system.
- Replacement of perimeter metal copings and metal fascias.
- Installation of new roof flashing
- Installation of new drains
- Painting the underside of platform metal canopies

A 3-year warranty provided by the contractor, alongside a 30-year NDL warranty offered by the manufacturer, will be included.

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 the October 20, 2026, Board meeting.

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

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SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AWARD

West Park Training Facility Roof Replacement

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) has a need for the removal and replacement of the West Park Training Facility's roof. The roof is far beyond its useful life and there is significant water intrusion throughout the building because of its degradation, including in the driving simulator room. The waterproofing membrane has come loose from the substrate in multiple places. In addition, many areas lack coping metal and flashing. The scope of work will include complete replacement of the existing membrane roof system, replacement of the corroded metal decking, installation of new insulation, replacement of the roof copings and fascias metal and painting of the canopy's metal underside over the platforms.

PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW:

The Invitation for Bid (IFB) for the West Park Training Facility Roof Replacement was issued on August 10, 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 twenty-five (25) interested parties. Five (5) bids were received on September 10, 2026, as shown below:

Company Name	Total Base Bid
Trumble Construction LLC dba RBT Roofing	\$881,710
5K Commercial Roofing LLC	\$951,500
Warren Roofing and Insulating LLC	\$986,500
Architectural Siding, Trim, and Roofing Inc.	\$993,000
SONA Construction LLC	\$1,349,000

The Basis of Award is the lowest responsive bid from a responsible bidder for the Total Base Bid price. Trumble Construction LLC dba RBT Roofing was determined to be a responsible bidder.

RECOMMENDATION:

Trumble Construction LLC dba RBT Roofing has successfully completed projects for the Medical Examiners Building, (Cleveland, OH), United States Post Office (Phoenix, AZ), the City of Fort Worth, Ashley County Detention Center (AK), among others.

A resolution will request authorization to issue a contract to Trumble Construction LLC dba RBT Roofing for the West Park Training Facility Roof Replacement in an amount not to exceed \$881,710. This bid is 1.67% above the Engineer's Estimate of \$867,202.38.



AGENDA

Committee of the Whole

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

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

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval Minutes – September 8, 2026
- III. Executive Session Requested - to consider the employment, evaluation and compensation of a public employee or official
- IV. Adjournment

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Committee of the Whole

September 8, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

- Committee Members:** Mayor Koomar (Chair), Ms. Pacetti (Vice Chair), Ms. Elder, Mayor Gallo, Ms. Harper, Mr. Love, Ms. McPherson, Mr. Sleasman, Mayor Weiss, Ms. Whigham
- Present:** Mayor Koomar, Ms. Pacetti, Ms. Elder, Mayor Gallo, Ms. Harper, Mr. Love, Ms. McPherson, Mr. Sleasman, Mayor Weiss, Ms. Whigham
- Staff/Other:** Shawn Becker, Nick Biggar, India Terry, Janet Burney, Louis Catalusci, Sharon Cottrell-Peffer, Nick Davidson, Scott Ferraro, Michael Fesler, George Fields, Ida Marshall, Anthony Garofoli, Kenneth Green, Sharon Jenkins, Deirdre Jones, Carl Kirkland, Jeffrey Macko, Sheila Miller, Charles Morgan, Ruben Morgan, Holly Mothes, Teresa Muti, Steve Peganoff, Norbert Reynolds, Joe Shaffer, John Togher, Donald Tereba, Chanel Steiner, Drew Dimmick, Beth Pierce, Nadine DeJesus
- Public/Visitors:** Sarah Hall (Adcom)

I. Roll Call

Mayor Koomar called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order with roll call. A quorum was present.

II. Adcom Financial Strategy and Strategic Approach

Presenters:

- Sarah Hall, Vice President, Account Leader, Adcom
- Chanel Steiner, Manager, Digital & External Marketing

Ms. Terry: Thanked the team. Chanel Steiner will introduce Sarah Hall, from Adcom. With the ballot initiative underway, talent is being recognized from all areas. Thanks to the team for bringing together the Board's, the teams', and now the community's feedback.

Ms. Steiner introduced Ms. Hall of Adcom, GCRTA's communications partner, noting the firm supports the Authority's annual report, brand campaign, and holiday campaign. Ms. Hall presented a communications roadmap intended to build public understanding of how transit is funded and what a modern transit system can look like, organized around a single core message: that GCRTA is critical infrastructure supporting people, opportunity, and Greater Cleveland's growth. She reviewed supporting data (ridership, trip purpose, and regional economic impact

figures), the brand campaign currently in market, six key audience segments (riders, business leaders, non-riders, and the aging population), how messaging will be tailored to each, and a phased activation approach beginning internally with employees before extending to riders and, ultimately, the broader community through public relations, leadership briefings, and paid media.

Questions and Discussion:

- Ms. Elder noted the presentation's articulation of the benefits non-riders receive from public transit and the overall ridership figures as a valuable perspective for the board's own advocacy.
- Ms. Pacetti observed that the "expanding transformation and innovation" slide largely describes work GCRTA is already doing and asked how the plan will make a clear case for why additional levy funding is needed; Ms. Hail agreed and said the team will continue refining the messaging to distinguish current efforts from future benefits.
- Ms. Whigham added that the story should distinguish what GCRTA is doing now from what a successful levy would enable in the future.
- Ms. Pacetti: We've talked before about the strategy refresh, and someone from AECOM asked the board a few months ago for a one- or two-sentence business case for RTA. I hope we keep revisiting that message. It should be something clear and crisp, so that we can all say the same thing consistently. We need a unifying message delivered the same way to the business community, nonprofits, private-sector leaders, and the riders.

III. Service Adjustments

Presenters:

- John Togher, Interim Deputy General Manager, Finance
- Jeff Macko, Manager, Service Planning

Mr. Togher reviewed GCRTA's multi-year financial forecast, including the projected shortfall to reach a one-month operating reserve by 2029 and the plan to help close that gap through approximately \$13 million in administrative expense reductions over 2027–2029, higher-than-budgeted sales tax receipts, and lower healthcare costs under the new benefits contracts. He noted the Board of Trustees will need to decide on the size of a sales tax ballot initiative at its September 22 meeting, with staff recommending a 0.50% increase.

Mr. Macko summarized feedback gathered from three in-person public hearings and other comment channels held in August 2026 regarding proposed service reductions, including concern over cuts to high-ridership routes, the risk of reduced service and ridership loss, and the possibility that fixed-route riders, particularly seniors, could shift to the more costly paratransit service. Based on this feedback, staff recommended delaying the service reductions originally scheduled for December 2026 to August 2027, following the proposed May 2027 ballot initiative.

Mr. Togher stated that even with what we're doing now, we still won't meet a one-month operating reserve by year-end 2029. To help close that gap, we'll continue the administrative expense reductions we outlined — \$13 million over 2027–2029. He noted that either a sales tax initiative or service cuts will still be needed. The Board of Trustees needs to decide on the size

of the sales tax increase at its September 22 meeting. GCRTA management recommends a 0.50% increase.

Questions and Discussion:

- Mayor Koomar raised the question of whether an additional board meeting on the ballot initiative would be needed before September 22, or in addition to that meeting. Ms. Birdsong-Terry asked him to clarify whether he meant an additional meeting between now and the 22nd, or one in addition to the 22nd. The point was noted for follow-up scheduling discussion, without a firm date confirmed at this time.
- Ms. Pacetti commented that the public testimony about riders shifting to paratransit if service is cut was a consideration they hadn't seen raised publicly before, and suggested staff monitor for any uptick in paratransit use as a further cost driver.
- Ms. Whigham stressed the importance of taking public comment seriously and asked that, once a final decision on delaying the cuts is made, GCRTA communicate it widely, and also asked staff to check that outdated digital bus signage for the August hearings has been removed.
- In response to board discussion, General Manager and CEO India Terry clarified that delaying the service cuts would not reduce the urgency of the ballot initiative and, if anything, increases the pressure to communicate GCRTA's funding needs before May 2027; she noted a delay would be a GM decision made with the board's guidance, and that cuts could be implemented more abruptly after May 2027 if the initiative does not pass.
- Ms. Harper: Emphasized that once a decision is made, we need to be as loud as possible about it. If we approve a resolution to delay the service cuts until next year, let's make sure people know — echoing Chanel's comments, we take this feedback seriously and want to build a system that works for our riders. She noted that some digital signage on our buses is still advertising the public hearings on service reductions from mid-August. She requested to make sure those are taken down, so we're not sending mixed or confusing messages to the public.

Ms. Terry thanked the team for leading with empathy for the customer, not just from a business perspective, public comment is taken seriously because it lets us hear voices we might otherwise miss and allows us to see how much public transportation matters to this community. She requested that the team, work through what a service-cut delay would mean: this is not a deterrent to the ballot initiative if anything, it adds pressure. We must help our community understand there is service after May, and what that looks like depends on what voters decide. We're doing everything we can to avoid cuts, but I don't want that to ease the urgency. That's why these materials matter: we are finally being proactive about explaining how we are funded and why, after 51 quiet years at the ballot box. One distinction: if I decide to postpone the cuts, that's a management decision made with the Board's guidance. But if we delay and the initiative doesn't pass, we could end up implementing all the cuts at once after May — a \$30 million hit — rather than the staggered approach we'd prefer, which is easier on our riders. We need the community's support, financially and emotionally. The new healthcare contracts are projected to save close to \$6 million, and we'll keep pursuing administrative savings through union negotiations and cutting "nice to haves." We're not in a freeze, but our customers come first. This delay is an option I'm considering, and I appreciate staff keeping that focus front and center.

Ms. Terry offered additional remarks honoring the late Dr. Floun'say Caver, GCRTA's Chief Operating Officer and Deputy General Manager, noting that a more formal remembrance would follow at the Board's next meeting.

IV. Executive Session

Mayor Koomar moved to enter executive session; on personnel matters, to review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning compensation or other terms and conditions of employment, and to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Ms. Pacetti seconded. Following the roll call vote, the motion carried, and the Committee convened executive sessions with designated staff in attendance.

Following the executive sessions, a motion was made to end the executive session; the motion was seconded, and following a roll call vote, the motion carried.

V. Adjournment

Mayor Koomar made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pacetti seconded it. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned.

John J. Togher
Interim Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth Green
Interim Board Administrator