

Minutes

RTA Committee of the Whole Meeting

9:50 a.m., March 4, 2025

Committee Members: Koomar (Chair), Welch (Vice Chair), Elder, Gallo, Love, McPherson, Sleasman, Mayor David Weiss

Not present: Lucas, Pacetti (left early), Weiss

Staff/Other: Biggar, Birdsong Terry, Caver, Dangelo, Feke, Fesler, Fields, Fleig, Fogliano, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Harris, Hlavacs, Jones, Jupina, Kirkland, Maddox, Marotta, Martin, Miller, Miranda, Mothes, Polly, Reed, Schipper, Sutula, Tarka, Wright, Young

Public: Gibbons, Loh, Wilkins, Sustarsic, Ronaldson, Gibson

The meeting was called to order at 9:44 a.m. Seven (7) committee members were present.

Mayor Koomar called for the Code Book Update, presented by Dawn Tarka, Associate Counsel II.

Ms. Tarka provided an overview of proposed updates to the Board's codified policies, which were originally adopted in 1989. These policies are subject to review and revision every three (3) years with assistance from the Legal Department to ensure alignment with current operations.

Ms. Tarka mentioned that a presentation was previously given by Josh Miranda outlining proposed changes related to fare policy. The proposed revisions include the following key provisions:

1. Fare Capping Provision
 - Authorizes the General Manager to implement a fare capping policy.
 - Ensures riders receive the lowest available fare in three categories: daily, rolling seven-day, and monthly.
 - To participate in fare capping, customers must use the Authority's transit app with the "tap and ride" function or a smart card.
2. Open Payments Provision
 - Allow customers to pay fares using a credit card or smartphone for added convenience.
 - Open payment transactions will not be eligible for fare capping.

In conjunction with the implementation of fare capping, staff reviewed the fare structure and identified two fare categories proposed for elimination to streamline operations:

- Park and Ride Fare: \$0.25 surcharge, generating approximately \$1,000 per month in revenue.
- Out-of-County Fare: \$1.00 surcharge per ride, generating approximately \$300 per month in revenue.

These changes are intended to support a more efficient and equitable fare policy. Ms. Tarka requests the Committee of the Whole recommend the proposed policy revisions, including the fare capping and open payments provisions, and the elimination of the identified fare categories, to the Board for approval.

It was moved by Mayor Koomar, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move to the full Board.

Mayor Koomar publicly thanked Theresa for her many years of dedicated service to the Board. He recognized her as the Board's liaison, executive assistant, calendar coordinator, and keeper of resolutions—emphasizing her role as the backbone of Board operations. In appreciation, the Board presented Theresa with cupcakes and balloons, and a group photo was taken as a keepsake. Theresa expressed her gratitude for the kind words and well wishes as she prepares to begin her next chapter.

Mayor Koomar also provided a summary of the recent Board Retreat held the previous week. The retreat offered an opportunity to revisit the 10-year strategic plan and ensure all members—particularly new ones—are aligned with the plan's goals. The session also included in-depth discussions on key projects, emphasizing the importance of moving forward ethically, in accordance with legal standards and Robert's Rules, to maintain momentum and progress.

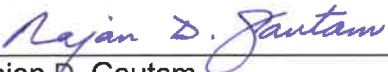
Executive Session Requested

Mayor Koomar asked for a motion and second to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, compensation of a public employee or official. It was moved by Mayor Koomar and seconded by Ms. Welch. The motion was approved to enter Executive Session at 10:11 with seven (7) ayes and none opposed.

It was moved by Mayor Koomar, seconded by Ms. Welch to exit the Executive Session at 10:30 a.m. The motion was approved with seven (7) ayes and none opposed.

There being no further business to bring before this Committee, a motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Ms. Welch and seconded by Mayor Koomar.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.



Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer

/s/ Theresa A. Burrage

Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Assistant