SORTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
SORTA/METRO AT HUNTINGTON CENTER
SORTA BOARD ROOM-6th FLOOR
525 VINE STREET, CINCINNATI OHIO 45202

MINUTES OF:	Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees
DATE:	Tuesday, August 26th 2025, 6:00 p.m.
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Tianay Amat, Tony Brice, Dan Driehaus, Blake Ethridge, Kala Gibson, Pete Metz, Briana Moss, Sara Sheets and Rickell Smith
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:	Jay Bedi, Chelsea Clark, Trent Emeneker, Neil Kelly, Greg Simpson, KZ Smith and Sonja Taylor
STAFF MEMBERS:	Andy Aiello, John Edmondson, Adriene Hairston, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Bre Rahe, Jason Roe, Khaled Shammout, Bill Spraul and Tim Walker
LEGAL COUNSEL:	Kim Schaefer (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP)
GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT:	Andrew Honious (Convergient)

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ethridge SORTA Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OATH OF OFFICE: RICKELL HOWARD SMITH

Rickell Howard Smith took their Oath of Office, and were sworn into the SORTA Board of Trustees.

HEARING FROM CITIZENS

N/A

CHAIR UPDATE

Blake spoke about Philadelphia's 20% transit service cut.

He also shared how proud he is of Khaled's team as 2 metro employee's recently presented at the APTA Sustainability conference.

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Ethridge made a motion that the minutes from the July 22nd, 2025, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Brice seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ethridge reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on August 19th 2025, and there were no items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PLANNING AND OPS COMMITTEE

Mr. Metz reported on the Planning and Ops Committee meeting held on August 19th 2025, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 33: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT MODIFICATION 100-2022 RIGHT OF WAY APPRAISAL SERVICES

Ms. Sheets moved for adoption and Mr. Brice seconded the motion. The contract modification will approve modified contract no. 100-2022 on behalf of Metro and Aecome Technical Services, Inc. increasing the total not to exceed value from $466,203 to $766,206, an increase of $300,000.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 34: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD 093-2025 EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO RTC ELEVATOR

Ms. Sheets moved for adoption and Mr. Brice seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 093-2025 on behalf of Metro and American Elevators, Inc., at a total cost of $366,410.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 35: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD 094-2025 EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO RTC SWITCH GEAR EQUIPMENT

Ms. Sheets moved for adoption and Mr. Brice seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 094-2025 on behalf of Metro and Adkins & Stang, Inc., at a total cost of $545,500.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

INFRASTRUCTURE, BIKE AND ROW COMMITTEE

Mr. Driehaus reported on the Infrastructure, Bike and ROW Committee meeting held on July 17th 2025, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

MTIF PRESENTATION

Mr. Shammout and Mr. Roe presented the MTIF Presentation.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 36: APPROVAL OF AWARD 2025 INFRASTRUCTURE FUND PROJECTS

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Mr. Metz seconded the motion. The resolution approves the award of grant funded projects as shown upon attached presentation.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 37: APPROVAL OF WESTERN HILLS VIADUCT – FIRST AMENDMENT

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Mr. Metz seconded the motion. The resolution approves the revised Western Hills Viaduct contract.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF JULY 31ST, 2025

Mr. Walker presented the July financial results. Total revenues were $13.9 million, which was unfavorable to budget by $6k. Total expenses were $13.8 million, which is unfavorable to budget by $181k. Operating Capital Contribution was ($0.1) million, which was unfavorable to budget by $187k. Ridership was 1,026k, which is unfavorable to budget by 117k. Mr. Walker presented the Cashflow and Obligation Report with a total All Securities at $161,167,981, Net Unrestricted Securities Available at ($2,286,613) and Net Unrestricted Securities and 2025 Operating Budget Surplus at $2,280,387. Mr. Walker then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

PROGRESS AND PRIORITIES

Mr. Aiello presented the progress and priorities report and reviewed the Ask Andy Coffee Chats, Advancing a Zero-Emissions Fleet, Facility Upgrades, Bus Stop Sign Modernization and Expanding University Partnerships.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for
August 26th, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.
the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:

Blake Ethridge
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:

Andy Aiello
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer