SORTA/Metro
Board Meeting
October 30, 2026
9:00 am-10:00 am Eastern Time

SORTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30th, 2026 – 9:00 A.M.

SORTA BOARD ROOM 6th FLOOR

525 VINE STREET,

CINCINNATI, OHIO, 45202

General Items:

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Hearings from citizens

Chair Update

Action Item:

1 Approval of Board Minutes September 22nd, 2026

Paratransit Committee (Blake Ethridge)

Finance Committee (Chelsea Clark)

Briefing Item:

2 Financial Results for September 30th, 2026 (Tim Walker)

Planning & Operations Committee (Blake Ethridge)

Procurement Consent Agenda:

3 Proposed Resolution: Contract Modification for 49-2020 GIRO Planning Software (Steve Anderson)

3.1 Action Item:

4 Proposed Resolution: Contract Modification for 055-2024 FirstNet Plan (Pat Giblin)

4.1 Action Item:

5 Proposed Resolution: Contract Modification for 067-2024 WHTC Design Services – AT&T (Scott Enns)

5.1 Action Item:

6 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 109-2026 – A/C Compressor and Clutch (Bus Parts) (Jeff Mundstock)

6.1 Action Item:

7 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 120-2026 – DOC/DPF (Bus Parts) (Jeff Mundstock)

7.1 Action Item:

8 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 133-2026 – Paratransit Vans (Jeff Mundstock)

8.1 Action Item:

9 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 136-2026 – Genfare Upgrade and Subscription (Pat Giblin)

9.1 Action Item:

Briefing Items:

10 MetroRapid Update (Khaled Shammout/Sharyn Lacombe)

11 Progress and Priorities (Andy Aiello)

12 New Business

Other Items:

Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees is scheduled for

Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

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, September 22nd 2026, 9:00 a.m.
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Tianay Amat, Chelsea Clark, Dan Driehaus, Trent Emeneker, Blake Ethridge, Pete Metz, Briana Moss, Sara Sheets, KZ Smith and Rickell Smith
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:	Jay Bedi, Tony Brice, Kala Gibson, Neil Kelly, Greg Simpson, and Sonja Taylor
STAFF MEMBERS:	Andy Aiello, Steve Anderson, Vicki Barker, Scott Enns, Pat Giblin, Adriene Hairston, Brandy Jones, Bret Isaacs, Natalie Krusling, Brad Mason, John Ravasio, Khaled Shammout, Bill Spraul and Tim Walker
LEGAL COUNSEL:	Tony Osterlund (Vory's)
GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT:	N/A

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

HEARING FROM CITIZENS

N/A

CHAIR UPDATE

Mr. Ethridge provided an update on several upcoming initiatives and events, including the State of Metro, the APTA Transform Conference, BLINK, major capital projects, and MetroNow!. He also reported that Metro has experienced an increase in ridership.

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Metz made a motion that the minutes of the August 25th, 2026, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION APPROVAL OF 2027 HEALTHCARE PLAN

Mr. Ethridge moved for adoption and Mr. Metz seconded the motion. The contract will approve a one (1) year agreement with United Healthcare, Inc. for healthcare administration services in an amount not to exceed $323,425, a one (1) year agreement with United Healthcare for stop-loss coverage in an amount not to exceed $1,648,278 and a two (2) year agreement with Enrollment Management Services (EMS) in an amount not to exceed $160,000;for a combined amount not to exceed $2,131,703.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF AUGUST 31ST, 2026

Mr. Walker presented the August financial results. Total revenues were $15.3 million, which was favorable to budget by $686K. Total expenses were $15.4 million, which is unfavorable to budget by $864k. Operating Capital Contribution was ($0.1) million, which was unfavorable to budget by $178k. Ridership was 1,258k, which was unfavorable to budget by 69k. Mr. Walker then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 038-2026 BUS STOP ENHANCEMENTS

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Amat seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 038-2026 on behalf of Metro and Landview Services, LLC., with a total not to exceed value of $1,535,181.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 041-2026 RADIO MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Amat seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 041-2026 on behalf of Metro and Black Bear Radio Inc., with a total not to exceed value of $1,171,426.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 064-2026 ON BUS CAMERA REPAIR

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Amat seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 064-2026 on behalf of Metro and Black Bear Radio Inc., with a total not to exceed value of $869,807.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 072-2026 ACCESS CONTROL

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Amat seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 072-2026 on behalf of Metro and Convergint Technologies, with a total not to exceed value of $666,675.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 117-2026 ONROUTE CLOUD MIGRATION

Mr. Driehaus moved for adoption and Ms. Amat seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 117-2026 on behalf of Metro and Trapeze Software Inc., with a total not to exceed value of $896,542.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION APPROVAL OF 2026 TRANSIT INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS

Mr. Metz moved for adoption and Ms. Sheets 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.

PROGRESS AND PRIORITIES

Mr. Aiello presented the progress and priorities report and reviewed Record Ridership, Employee Clubroom Renovations, OKI Conducting CVG Workforce Study, Less Think, More Blink and State of Metro: Transit that Transforms.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION SECTION 121.22(G)(2) TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES …;

Mr. Ethridge made a motion that the Board go into executive session as provided in "Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(2) To Consider the Purchase of Property for Public Purposes…;" and Ms. Clark seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Committee approved the motion and went into executive session at 9:38 a.m.

Mr. Ethridge made a motion that the Board return to regular session and Mr. Metz seconded the motion. The Committee approved the motion and returned to regular session at 10:03 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for
October 27, 2026, 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



Financial Summary

September 2026

metro
your way to go



Agenda – Financial Summary

- Statement of Operations for September ’26
  - Key Drivers
  - Detail Profit & Loss Statement
  - County Sales Tax Trend
- Cashflow and Obligation Report
- Investment Balance Update

Profit & Loss – Summary / Key Drivers

Summary

- Total Revenue $15.7M - favorable to Budget $1,243k or 8.6%
- Total Expense $15.1M - unfavorable to Budget ($1,219k) or (8.8%)
- Operating Capital Contribution $0.7M - favorable to Budget $24k
- Note: Ridership total is 1,434k – favorable to Budget 70k or 5.2%

Revenue

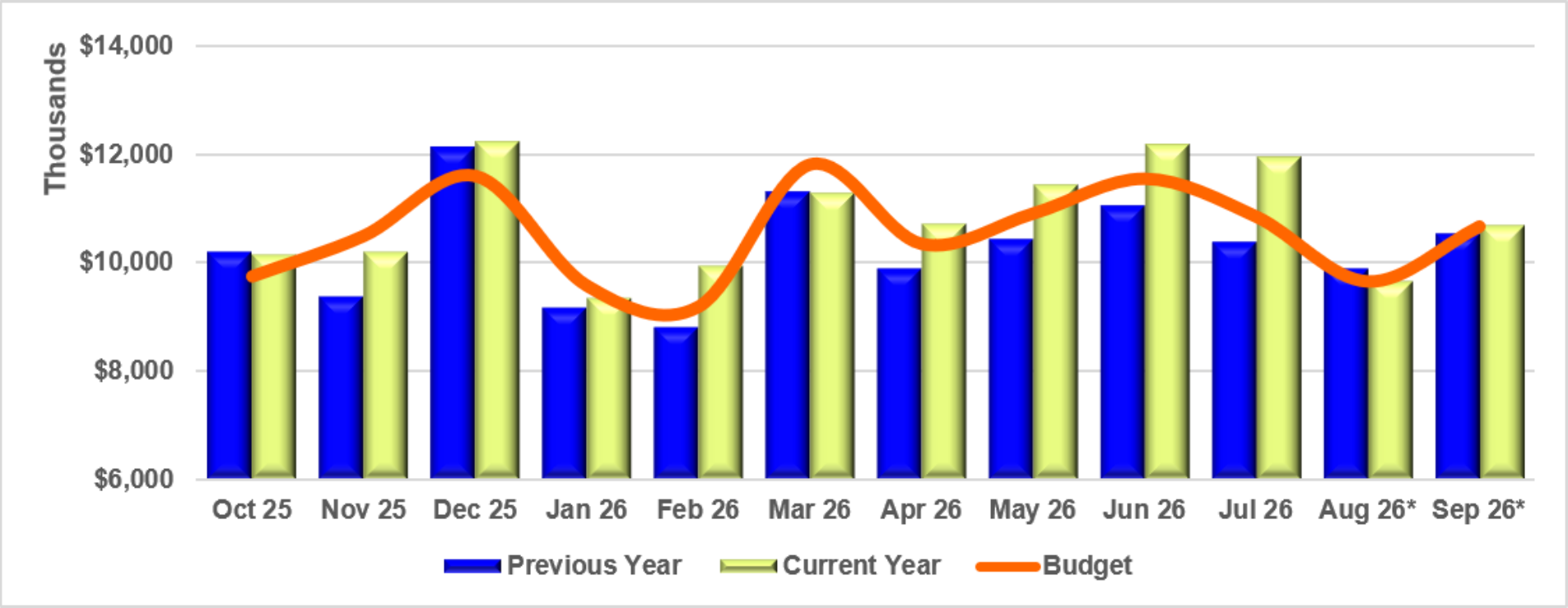
- Total Operating Revenue $2.0M - favorable to budget $147k or 7.9%
- Non-Transportation $0.5M – unfavorable to budget ($7k)
- County Sales Tax $11.8M – favorable to budget $1,103k due to receipt of July actuals
- Federal Grants $1.5M - on Budget

Expense

- Wages & Benefits $10.7M - unfavorable to budget ($498k) or (4.9%)
- Fuel and Lubricants $933k - unfavorable to budget ($290k) or (45.2%)
- Parts & Supplies $1.2M – unfavorable to Budget ($264k) or (29.4%)
- All Other $2.3M – unfavorable to Budget ($177k)

9 Mos Ending Sept 30, 2026 ($ In Thousands)	Month				Year to Date				
	Actual	Budget	Fav(Unfav)		Actual	Budget	Fav(Unfav)		Prior Year
Ridership									
Regular	1,225,991	1,134,920	91,071	8.0%	9,338,636	9,290,701	47,935	0.5%	8,718,976
CPS	174,827	190,000	(15,173)	(8.0%)	1,073,933	1,133,000	(59,067)	(5.2%)	1,121,022
Subtotal Fixed Route	1,400,818	1,324,920	75,898	5.7%	10,412,569	10,423,701	(11,132)	(0.1%)	9,839,998
Access	16,411	15,777	634	4.0%	137,366	137,734	(368)	(0.3%)	134,548
MetroNow!	16,827	23,000	(6,173)	(26.8%)	134,947	167,000	(32,053)	(19.2%)	97,710
Total Ridership	1,434,056	1,363,697	70,359	5.2%	10,684,882	10,728,435	(43,553)	(0.4%)	10,072,256
Operating Revenue									
Metro Fares	$ 1,326	$ 1,285	$ 41	3.2%	$ 10,856	$ 11,041	$ (185)	(1.7%)	$ 10,196
Access Fares	66	70	(4)	(5.8%)	557	535	22	4.1%	486
MetroNow! Fares	42	45	(3)	(6.5%)	342	343	(1)	(0.3%)	210
CPS Fares	348	260	88	33.9%	2,873	2,957	(85)	(2.9%)	2,861
Other Contract Revenue	227	202	25	12.1%	1,960	1,783	177	9.9%	1,864
Total Operating Revenue	2,009	1,862	147	7.9%	16,588	16,659	(71)	(0.4%)	15,617
Non-Operating Revenue									
County Sales Tax	11,777	10,674	1,103	10.3%	97,146	94,608	2,538	2.7%	90,120
Federal Subsidies	1,476	1,476	-	-	13,285	13,285	-	-	13,617
Non Transportation	482	489	(7)	(1.5%)	5,941	6,140	(199)	(3.2%)	7,273
Total Non-Operating Revenue	13,735	12,640	1,096	8.7%	116,372	114,033	2,339	2.1%	111,010
Total Revenue	15,744	14,501	1,243	8.6%	132,960	130,692	2,268	1.7%	126,627
Expenses									
Employee Wages & Benefits	10,702	10,204	(498)	(4.9%)	96,546	93,945	(2,600)	(2.8%)	90,487
Fuel & Lubricants	933	642	(290)	(45.2%)	6,751	5,729	(1,021)	(17.8%)	6,230
Parts & Supplies	1,162	899	(264)	(29.4%)	9,370	8,679	(691)	(8.0%)	8,794
Everybody Rides Metro Fund	25	35	10	29.6%	249	315	66	20.9%	224
Other	2,258	2,081	(177)	(8.5%)	17,914	19,220	1,306	6.8%	18,369
Total Expenses	15,080	13,861	(1,219)	(8.8%)	130,829	127,889	(2,941)	(2.3%)	124,104
Operating Capital Contribution	$ 664	$ 640	$ 24		$ 2,131	$ 2,804	$ (673)		$ 2,523

County Sales Tax – Year to Date



($000's)	Oct 25	Nov 25	Dec 25	Jan 26	Feb 26	Mar 26	Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Jul 26	Aug 26 *	Sep 26 *
Current Year	$10,151	$10,201	$12,230	$9,341	$9,945	$11,270	$10,706	$11,419	$12,170	$11,958	$9,662	$10,674
Budget	$9,756	$10,501	$11,605	$9,584	$9,196	$11,815	$10,354	$10,913	$11,554	$10,855	$9,662	$10,674
Previous Year	$10,205	$9,380	$12,116	$9,159	$8,788	$11,291	$9,895	$10,429	$11,042	$10,384	$9,891	$10,526

* August through September of 2026 are recorded at estimates based on current year trends due to the delay in reporting from State Office

Cashflow and Obligation Report

Overnight Investments		$29,108,626
Securities & CD's		$91,958,063
Total All Securities (9/30/2026)		**$121,066,689**
Current Capital Reserve Obligations		
BRT Project Development (Hamilton & Reading Corridors) - Amts Pd	*$22,428,152*	
Future BRT Capital Match (Fed 70% & Local 30%)	*$40,500,000*	
Total BRT		$62,928,152
Local Match - FTA and ODOT Grants		$5,212,760
100% Local Projects *(Prior Years Open + Current Year)*		$26,945,703
2 Months of Operating Expenses		$26,000,000
All Other Obligations		$3,500,000
Total Current Capital Reserve Obligations		**$124,586,615**
Net Unrestricted Securities Available		**($3,519,926)**
2026 Remaining Operating Budget Surplus (Deficit) Oct-Dec		$4,066,000
Net Unrestricted Securities + '26 Operating Budget Surplus		**$546,074**

Project	Method	Vendor	Award	Term	Funding
049-2020 ***Planning Software Support*** *Highly Effective Organization***	Sole Source Award / Contract Modification	GIRO	*$2,032,588 (O)* *$492,141(M)* *$2,524,729 (T)*	3 Year - Extension Oct. 2026 – Sept. 2029	Budgeted Local Operating
055-2024 ***FirstNet Service Plan*** *Highly Effective Organization***	Sole Source Award / Contract Modification	AT&T Mobility	*$401,724 (O)* *$567,000 (M)* *$968,724 (T)*	5 years - Original Feb. 2024 – Jan. 2029	Budgeted Local Operating
067-2024 ***Walnut Hills Transit Center Design*** *Connect the Region***	Sole Source Award / Contract Modification	Richard Bowen & Associates	*$520,672 (O)* *$379,500 (M)* *$900,172 (T)*	5 years - Original Jan. 2025 – Jan. 2030	FTA Grants (90%) Budgeted Local Capital (10%)
109-2026 ***Bus Climate Control Parts*** *Highly Effective Organization***	Invitation for Bid (IFB)	Transport Specialist, Inc	$457,230	2 Years Oct. 2026 – Sept. 2028	Budgeted Local Operating
120-2026 ***Bus Emissions Parts*** *Highly Effective Organization***	Invitation for Bid (IFB)	Kirks Automotive, Inc	$523,518	2 Years Oct. 2026 – Sept. 2028	Budgeted Local Operating

**denotes non-competitive or non-negotiable award*
***denotes the strategic priority the contract supports*

Project	Method	Vendor	Award	Term	Funding
133-2026 ***Access Vehicles*** *Grow ridership*** *Connect the Region***	Request for Proposal (RFP) Coop	Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation	$1,965,069	1 year Oct 2026 – Nov 2027	FTA Grants (80%) Budgeted Local Capital (20%)
136-2026 ***Genfare Upgrade*** *Highly Effective Organization***	Sole Source Award	Genfare, LLC	$596,542	3 year Oct 2026 – Nov 2029	FTA Grants (75%) Budgeted Local Capital (25%)

**denotes non-competitive or non-negotiable award*
***denotes the strategic priority the contract supports*

Metro MAX Spend Summary (Maximizing Access for XBE's)

Total Awards for Month	***$5,382,697***
Total MAX Spend for Month	***$0***
2026 Total Spend	***$57,374,639***
2026 MAX Spend	***$3,389,489***
2026 MAX Participation Rate	***6%***

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-xx

APPROVAL OF MODIFIED CONTRACT NO 049-2020 PLANNING SOFTWARE

WHEREAS:

1. SORTA currently uses GIRO's Hastus software to support fixed-route service planning and scheduling.

2. The Hastus platform offers an integrated suite of modules that enables SORTA to plan and manage high-quality transit routes while optimizing operational efficiency.

3. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Highly Effective Organization the contract modification increase will support the continuation of essential software maintenance and support services.

4. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Modified Contract No. 049-2020, on behalf of Metro and GIRO, Inc., increasing the total not to exceed value from $2,032,588 to $2,524,729, an increase of $429,141.

5. The expenditures have been budgeted with local operating funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

6. The board authorizes the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Modified Contract No. 049-2020, on behalf of Metro and GIRO, Inc., increasing the total not to exceed value from $2,032,588 to $2,524,729, an increase of $429,141.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: October 20, 2026

FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
Steve Anderson, Sr. Director of Transit Development & Innovation

PROJECT NO.: 049-2020 Planning Software

STRATEGIC: Highly Effective Organization

REQUEST: Contract Modification

BACKGROUND

SORTA currently uses GIRO's Hastus software to support fixed-route service planning and scheduling. The Hastus platform offers an integrated suite of modules that enables SORTA to plan and manage high-quality transit routes while optimizing operational efficiency and schedule performance.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The purpose of this contract modification is to increase the contract value to support the continuation of essential software maintenance and support services. These services are critical to maintaining system reliability, functionality, and operational effectiveness.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this modification is $491,141 and will be financed using local funding and is approved in the FY2026 budget and included in our long-term financial plans. Future allocations will be included in the annual operating budget review and approval process.

The final cost of the modification is favorable to budget, due to a negotiated savings amount of $40,137.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

As this is a sole source contract modification, vendor outreach and competitive processes were not required.

The cost of services has been determined to be fair and reasonable based on the rates established through contract negotiations.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

This is a contract modification. No market competition is available for this award.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute a modification to Contract No. 049-2020, on behalf of Metro with GIRO, Inc., Increasing the total not to exceed value from $2,032,588 to $2,524,729, an increase of $429,141.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-xx

APPROVAL OF MODIFIED CONTRACT NO 055-2024 FIRSTNET PLAN

WHEREAS:

1. SORTA currently uses the AT&T FirstNet Network to support secure, reliable wireless communications.

2. FirstNet delivers a dedicated communications platform designated specifically for public safety agencies and first responders, providing enhance network reliability, security, and priority access when communications are most critical.

3. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Highly Effective Organization the contract modification supports the growing number of devices enrolled in the AT&T FirstNet Plan, including a 5% contingency for additional services and devices.

4. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Modified Contract No. 055-2024, on behalf of Metro and AT&T Mobility, increasing the total not to exceed value from $401,724 to $968,724, an increase of $567,000.

5. The expenditures have been budgeted with local operating funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

6. The board authorizes the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Modified Contract No. 055-2024, on behalf of Metro and AT&T Mobility, increasing the total not to exceed value from $401.724 to $968,724, an increase of $567,000.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: October 20, 2026

FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
Pat Giblin, Sr. Director of Information Technology

PROJECT NO.: 055-2024 FirstNet Plan

STRATEGIC: Highly Effective Organization

REQUEST: Contract Modification

BACKGROUND

SORTA currently uses the AT&T FirstNet Network to support secure, reliable wireless communications. FirstNet delivers a dedicated communications platform designed specifically for public safety agencies and first responders, providing enhanced network reliability, security, and priority access when communications are most critical.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The purpose of this contract modification is to increase the contract value and provide additional funding to support the growing number of devices enrolled in the AT&T FirstNet Service Plan, including a 5% contingency for future device additions and related services. In January 2024, Metro maintained 393 devices on its AT&T FirstNet account. As of September 2026, that number has increased to 812 devices, reflecting the significant expansion of MetroNow and Access services, as well as continued growth in Fixed Route operations. The enrolled devices include internet service lines, cell phones, vehicle tablets, revenue vehicle radios and support vehicle radios. This increase in funding is necessary to support Metro's expanded communication needs and ensure reliable, secure connectivity across all operating divisions.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this modification is $567,000 and will be financed using local funding and is approved in the FY2026 budget and included in our long-term financial plans. Future allocations will be included in the annual operating budget review and approval process.

The final cost of the modification is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

As this is a sole source contract modification, vendor outreach and competitive processes were not required.

The cost of services has been determined to be fair and reasonable based on the rates established through contract negotiations.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

This is a contract modification. No market competition is available for this award.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute a modification to Contract No. 055-2024, on behalf of Metro with AT&T Mobility Increasing the total not to exceed value from $401,724 to $968,724, an increase of $567,000.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-xx

APPROVAL OF MODIFIED CONTRACT NO 067-2024 WALNUT HILLS TRANSIT CENTER DESIGN

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) has contracted with Richard Bowen & Associates to provide architectural and engineering design services for the schematic design, design development, final design, cost estimate, construction plans and specifications, and construction management for the development of a new Walnut Hills Transit Center.

2. The purpose of this contract modification is to increase the contract value to support additional design services required for the completion of the Transit Center project.

3. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Connect the Region the contract modification increase will support the planning design and pre-construction activities that fall outside the existing A/E Scope of Services and are necessary to finalize the design and construction documents and specifications.

4. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Modified Contract No. 067-2024, on behalf of Metro and Richard Bowen & Associates, increasing the total not to exceed value from $520,672 to $900,172, an increase of $379,500.

5. The expenditures have been budgeted with FTA Grants and Budgeted Local Capital.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

6. The board authorizes the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Modified Contract No. 067-2024, on behalf of Metro and Richard Bowen & Associates, increasing the total not to exceed value from $520,672 to $900,172, an increase of $379,500.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: October 20, 2026

FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
Scott Enns, Director of Capital & TOD Projects & Real Estate Development

PROJECT NO.: 067-2024 Walnut Hills Transit Center Design

STRATEGIC: Connect the Region

REQUEST: Contract Modification

BACKGROUND

The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) has contracted with Richard Bowen & Associates to provide architectural and engineering design services for the schematic design, design development, final design, cost estimate, construction plans and specifications, and construction management for the development of a new Walnut Hills Transit Center.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The purpose of this contract modification is to increase the contract value to support additional design services required for the completion of the Transit Center project. These services include planning, design, and pre-construction activities that fall outside the existing A/E Scope of Services and are necessary to finalize the design and construction documents and specifications. The additional scope includes geotechnical engineering services, environmental assessments requested by the City, public utility coordination, and other general planning and design activities.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for the additional consultant services is $379,500 and will be financed using a combination of $341,550 of FTA funding (90%) and $37,950 of local capital funds (10%) and is included in the approved FY2026-2027 Capital budget.

As such, the final project cost of $900,172 is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

As this is a sole source contract modification, vendor outreach and competitive processes were not required.

The cost of services has been determined to be fair and reasonable based on the rates established through contract negotiations. The contract is structured as cost plus fixed fee contract with negotiated fees for hourly rates, overhead percentage and profit percentage. The exact amount of effort required is unknown, the contract value is based on negotiated assumptions.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

This is a contract modification. No market competition is available for this award.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommend the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute a modification to Contract No.067-2024, on behalf of Metro with Richard Bowen & Associates, increasing the total not to exceed value from $520,672 to $900,172 an increase of $379,500.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-xx

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 109-2026 BUS HVAC REPLACEMENT PARTS

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) operates a fleet of approximately 300 buses in revenue service and of them require ongoing preventive maintenance and routine repairs.

2. Replacement parts are needed on a recurring basis to address normal wear and tear, component failures and essential maintenance requirements.

3. Bus air conditioning compressors and clutch replacement parts are essential to the reliable operation of SORTA buses climate control system.

4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Highly Effective Organization, the contractor will supply and deliver SORTA on an as needed basis bus air conditioning compressors and clutch replacement parts identified within the scope of services.

5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 109-2026 on behalf of Metro with Transport Specialist Inc., with a not to exceed value of $457,230.

6. The expenditure will be financed using budgeted local operating funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

7. The board authorized the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 109-2026 on behalf of Metro with Transport Specialist Inc., with a not to exceed value of $457,230.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE:	October 20, 2026
FROM:	Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
	Jeff Mundstock, Director of Maintenance Operations
PROJECT NO.:	109-2026, Bus HVAC Replacement Parts
STRATEGIC:	Highly Effective Organization
REQUEST:	Contract Award

BACKGROUND

The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) operates a fleet of approximately 300 buses in revenue service, all of which require ongoing preventive maintenance and routine repairs. As these vehicles age, replacement parts are needed on a recurring basis to address normal wear and tear, component failures, and essential maintenance requirements.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

Bus air conditioning compressors and clutch replacement parts are essential to the reliable operation of SORTA buses climate control system. The contractor shall supply and deliver to SORTA, on an as-needed basis, bus air conditioning compressors and clutch replacement parts identified within the scope of services.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is $457,230 and is included in the approved FY2026 Operating budget and the contracted prices will be factored into the FY2027 & FY2028 Operating budget review and approval process.

The contract(s) are structured as an indefinite delivery / indefinite quantity (“IDIQ”) with a minimum purchase quantity to be purchased. As such, the final projected cost, $457,230, is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

Based on the exact specifications and limited variables to consider, Procurement staff determined that an Invitation for Bid (“IFB”) was the appropriate method of procurement. Under this method, contracts are line item awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Procurement solicited for 2-year fixed price contracts. The awarded contracts will provide price stabilization for the next 24 months. Fixed item contracts will avoid market variability increases and provide price confidence for maintenance budgeting.

Staff targeted 24 specific vendors known to have the capacity to deliver on the requirements of the contract in addition to those notified through Metro’s e-procurement platform, OpenGov. NAICS codes for vehicle parts manufacturers and wholesalers were utilized to reach a broad range of suppliers within OpenGov.

There were 27 downloads of the solicitation, and 2 responsive bids were submitted. Procurement determined it was most advantageous to SORTA to award the IDIQ contract to one vendor with the lowest overall pricing.

Below is the tabulated table of the lowest aggregate responses for all items bid:

#1 Transport Specialists, Inc	#2 Southern Coach Parts Company
$457,230.00	$624,213.00

Pricing is determined to be fair and reasonable based on independent cost estimates, market research and competition received.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

Staff determined that the nature of the work to be performed did not present ample subcontracting opportunities. As a result, no diverse vendor participation goal was established for the award.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 109-2026, on behalf of Metro with Transport Specialist, Inc., with a not to exceed value of $457,230.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-xx

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 120-2026 BUS EMISSIONS REPLACEMENT PARTS

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) operates a fleet of approximately 300 buses in revenue service and of them require ongoing preventive maintenance and routine repairs.

2. Replacement parts are needed on a recurring basis to address normal wear and tear, component failures and essential maintenance requirements.

3. Bus diesel oxidation catalyst and diesel particulate fillers are essential to the reliable operation of SORTA buses engine emissions and control system.

4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Highly Effective Organization, the contractor will supply and deliver SORTA on an as needed basis engine emissions control system replacement parts identified within the scope of services.

5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 120-2026 on behalf of Metro with Kinks Automotive Inc., with a not to exceed value of $523,518.

6. The expenditure will be financed using budgeted local operating funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

7. The board authorized the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 120-2026 on behalf of Metro with Kinks Automotive Inc., with a not to exceed value of $523,518.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE:	October 20, 2026
FROM:	Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
	Jeff Mundstock, Director of Maintenance Operations
PROJECT NO.:	120-2026, Bus Emissions Replacement Parts
STRATEGIC:	Highly Effective Organization
REQUEST:	Contract Award

BACKGROUND

The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) operates a fleet of approximately 300 buses in revenue service, all of which require ongoing preventive maintenance and routine repairs. As these vehicles age, replacement parts are needed on a recurring basis to address normal wear and tear, component failures, and essential maintenance requirements.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

Bus diesel oxidation catalyst and diesel particulate filters are essential to the reliable operation of SORTA buses engine emissions control systems. The contractor shall supply and deliver to SORTA, on an as-needed basis, engine emissions control systems replacement parts identified within the scope of services.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is $561,000 and is included in the approved FY2026 Operating budget and the contracted prices will be factored into the FY2027 & FY2028 Operating budget review and approval process.

The contract(s) are structured as an indefinite delivery / indefinite quantity (“IDIQ”) with a minimum purchase quantity to be purchased. As such, the final projected cost, $523,518, is favorable to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

Based on the exact specifications and limited variables to consider, Procurement staff determined that an Invitation for Bid (“IFB”) was the appropriate method of procurement. Under this method, contracts are line item awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Procurement solicited for 2-year fixed price contracts. The awarded contracts will provide price stabilization for the next 24 months. Fixed item contracts will avoid market variability increases and provide price confidence for maintenance budgeting.

Staff targeted 24 specific vendors known to have the capacity to deliver on the requirements of the contract in addition to those notified through Metro’s e-procurement platform, OpenGov. NAICS codes for vehicle parts manufacturers and wholesalers were utilized to reach a broad range of suppliers within OpenGov.

There were 31 downloads of the solicitation, and 10 responsive bids were submitted. Procurement determined it was most advantageous to SORTA to award the IDIQ contract to one vendor with the lowest overall pricing.

Below is the tabulated table of the lowest aggregate responses for all items bid:

Vendor	Total
D&W Diesel, Inc.	$516,766.12
Kirks	$523,518.00
Vehicle Maintenance Program, Inc.	$526,627.48
Fleetpride	$548,231.54
RUSH TRUCK CENTERS OF OHIO INC	$583,954.86

Vendor	Total
Natsco Transit Solutions Inc.	$587,958.18
MUNCIE TRANSIT SUPPLY	$620,104.44
Neopart Transit LLC	$652,459.48
J. David White Associates, Inc. dba White Associates	$808,000.00
Cummins Inc	$1,195,663.26

Pricing is determined to be fair and reasonable based on independent cost estimates, market research and competition received.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

Staff determined that the nature of the work to be performed did not present ample subcontracting opportunities. As a result, no diverse vendor participation goal was established for the award.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 120-2026, on behalf of Metro with Kirks Automotive Inc., with a not to exceed value of $523,518.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-xx

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 133-2026 ACCESS VEHICLES

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) operates the Access program, a shared-ride public transportation service providing origin-to-destination transportation for individuals with disabilities who are unable to used fixed-route services.

2. Metro's Access service plays a critical role in supporting mobility, independence, and equal access to public transportation throughout the community.

3. Metro has determined that nine (9) replacement vehicles are required to replace Access fleet vehicles that have exceeded their useful life.

4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priorities Grow Ridership and Connect the Region, the vehicles will be acquired through the Ohio Department of Transportation Contract.

5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 133-2026 on behalf of Metro with Transportation Equipment Sales Corp., with a not to exceed value of $1,965,069.

6. The expenditure will be financed using a combination of FTA and Local Capital Funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

7. The board authorized the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 133-2026 on behalf of Metro with Transportation Equipment Sales Corp., with a not to exceed value of $1,965,069.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: October 20, 2026

FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
Jeff Mundstock, Director of Maintenance Technical Services

PROJECT NO.: 133-2026 Access Vehicles

STRATEGIC: Grow Ridership and Connect the Region

REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

Metro's Access program is a shared-ride public transportation service proving origin-to-destination transportation in small buses for people with disabilities who cannot use the fixed-route service. The service plays a critical role in supporting mobility, independence, and equal access to public transportation for members of SORTA's community.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

In support of Metro's Access Operations, we intend to purchase nine (9) vehicles to replace Access fleet vehicles that are beyond their useful life.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is $1,965,069 and will be financed using a combination of $1,572,055 of FTA funding (80%) and $393,013 of local capital funds (20%).

The final project cost is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

The vehicles will be purchased through Ohio Department of Transportation contract 248-27 LTL. As such, no market competition is required, and no vendor outreach was conducted.

This is a fixed-fee contract with a 1-year period of performance, expiring in November 2027.

Pricing is determined to be fair and reasonable based on the approved pricing on State of Ohio Contract # 248-27 and the per vehicle unit cost has not increased since our last order.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

This project is a sole source award with no subcontracting opportunities. As such, no small business engagement goal has been established.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 133-2026, on

behalf of Metro with Transportation Equipment Sales Corp. (“TESCO”), with a not to exceed value of $1,965,069.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-xx

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 136-2026 GENFARE UPGRADE AND SUBSCRIPTION

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) currently utilizes Genfare fare collection equipment in support of SORTA's revenue operations.

2. Genfare fare collection equipment provides passengers with a secure and efficient method of fare payment while supporting accurate revenue reporting and system management.

3. The existing Genfare system requires upgrades to maintain compatibility with current technology standards, enhance system performance, improve reliability and support ongoing operational needs.

4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Highly Effective Organization, implementing cloud-based support software will provide expanded cash management capabilities and improved integration between fare collection devices, revenue reporting, and back-office functions.

5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 136-2026 on behalf of Metro with Genfare, LLC., with a not to exceed value of $596,542.

6. The expenditure will be financed using FTA Grants and Budgeted Local Capital.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

7. The board authorized the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 136-2026 on behalf of Metro with Genfare, LLC., with a not to exceed value of $596,542.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: October 30, 2026

FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
Pat Giblin, Sr. Director of IT

PROJECT NO.: 136-2026 Genfare Upgrade and Subscription

STRATEGIC: Highly Effective Organization

REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) currently utilizes Genfare fare collection equipment in support of SORTA's revenue operations. Genfare fare collection equipment provides passengers with a secure and efficient method of fare payment while supporting accurate revenue reporting and system management.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The existing Genfare software requires upgrades to maintain compatibility with current technology standards, enhance system performance, improve reliability, and support ongoing operational needs. In addition, implementing cloud-based support software, Genfare Link, will provide expanded cash management capabilities and improved integration between fare collection devices, revenue reporting, and back-office functions. These upgrades will provide improved data management, streamline cash handling processes, and enhance functionality necessary to maintain a secure, effective, and modern fare collection environment for both customers and agency staff.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is $304,968 and will be financed using a combination of $227,807 of FTA funding (74.7%) and $77,161 of local funds (25.3%).

This contract is approved in the FY2026 Capital Budget and included in our long-term financial plans. Future allocations will be included in the annual operating budget review and approval process.

The final project cost is flat to budget; no additional funding will be utilized.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

The contract is a sole source award and is exempt from the competitive process. As such, no vendor outreach was conducted. Procurement has determined that the service costs are fair and reasonable based on the independent cost estimate and reviewing the contract cost of other transit authorities for the same or similar services.

Genfare, LLC is determined to have submitted pricing that is acceptable to SORTA; it has the capacity to fulfill the contract in all aspects and is recommended for award of a three (3) year, fixed fee contract.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

The contract is a sole source procurement. As such, no subcontracting opportunities are available, and no vendor diversity analysis performed.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 136-2026, on behalf of Metro with Genfare, LLC with a not to exceed value of $596,542.



Metro*Rapid* BOARD UPDATE

October 29, 2026

metro RAPID

PROJECT SCOPE

Design Considerations



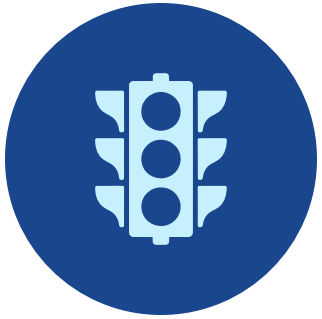
Street Resurfacing



PROWAG and ADA



Sidewalks



Traffic flow



Safety

Infrastructure Improvements

5.82
Miles of resurfaced roads

69
Upgraded pedestrian crossings

124
Upgraded ADA/PROWAG ramps

1.27
Miles of repaired or new sidewalks

2
Miles of replaced curbs

46
Speed cushions replaced

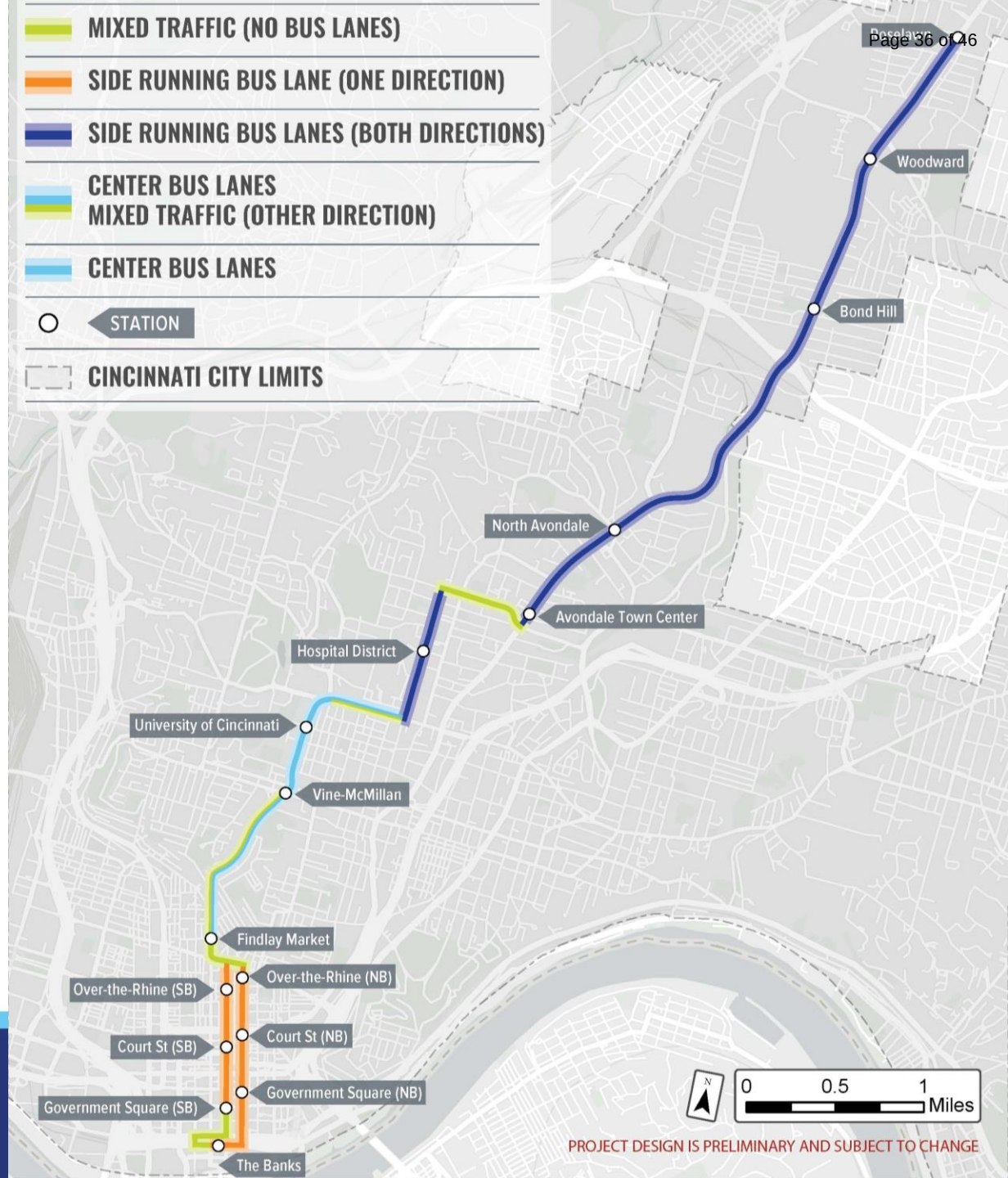
90
Upgraded traffic controllers that allow for TSP

**Based on 60% design*

LANE TYPES

30% Design

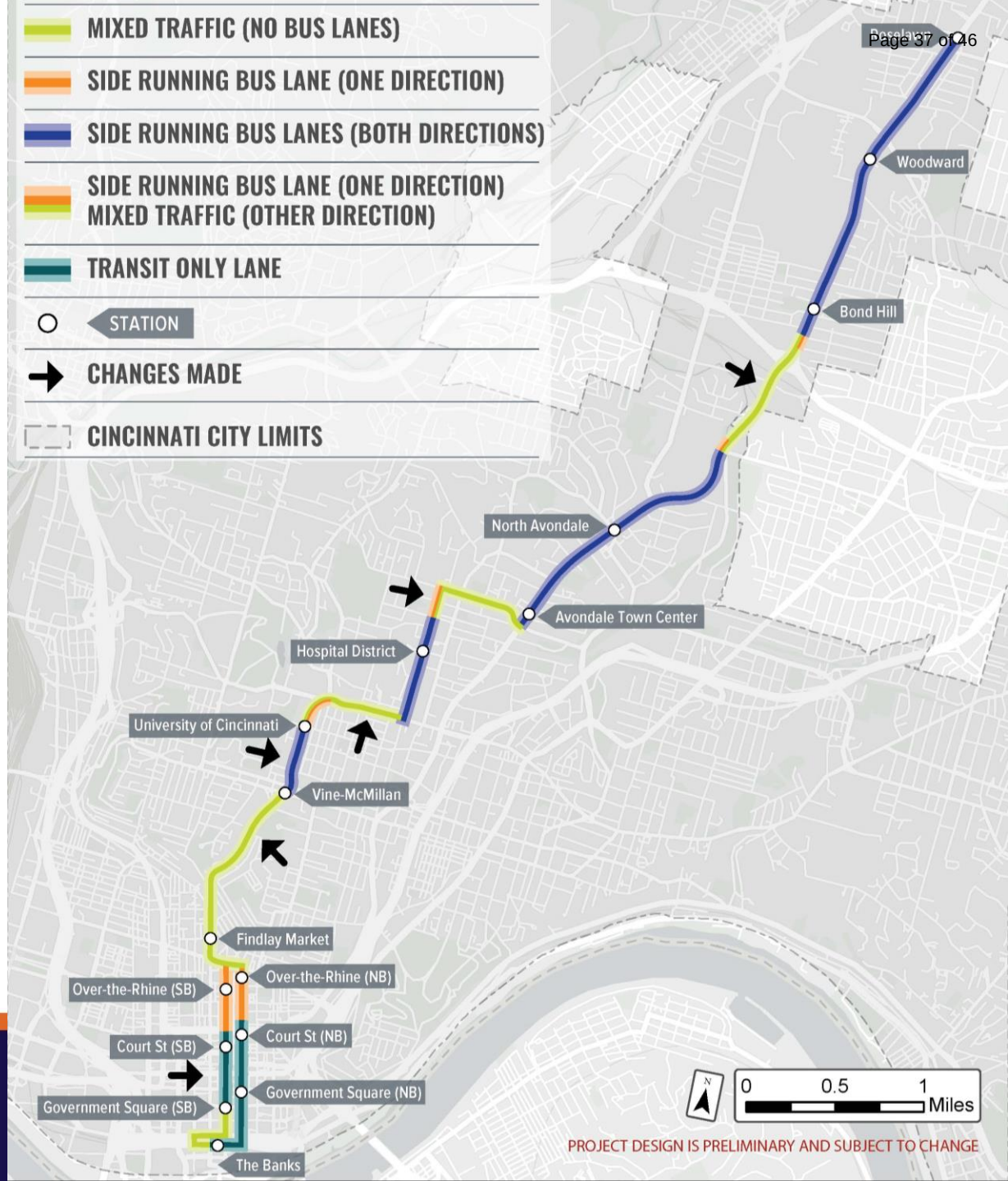
- 9.2 Total Miles
  - 79% of Bus and Bus and Turn Lanes (BAT) at 30% Design
- BAT Lanes in Downtown
- Vine Street Hill Climbing Lane .75 miles
- Center Bus Lanes and Stations on Jefferson between McMillan & MLK
- Westbound bus only lane on MLK
- 5.1 miles of BAT Lanes north of MLK along Burnet Ave. and north of Forest on Reading Rd.



LANE TYPES

60% DESIGN CHANGES

- 9.2 Total Miles
  - 70% of Bus and BAT Lanes at 60% Design
- Adds Transit Only Lane Shared with Streetcar in downtown – 1.25 miles
- Removes Vine Street Hill Climbing - Lane 0.75 miles
- Changed to Side BRT and Bus Only Lanes on Jefferson between Vine-McMillan & MLK
- Adds queue jump at MLK/Jefferson and MLK/Burnet instead of removes westbound bus only lane on MLK
- Replaces all center stations with side stations
- Removes 2 blocks along Burnet Ave. and .8 miles along Reading Rd. between Victory Parkway and the Norwood lateral



metro RAPID

NEXT STEPS

- Compare planning level Transit Travel Times against current design
- Include updated Transit Travel Times in grant cost benefit calculation
- Confirm improvement in Streetcar Travel Times





GOAL - 20%

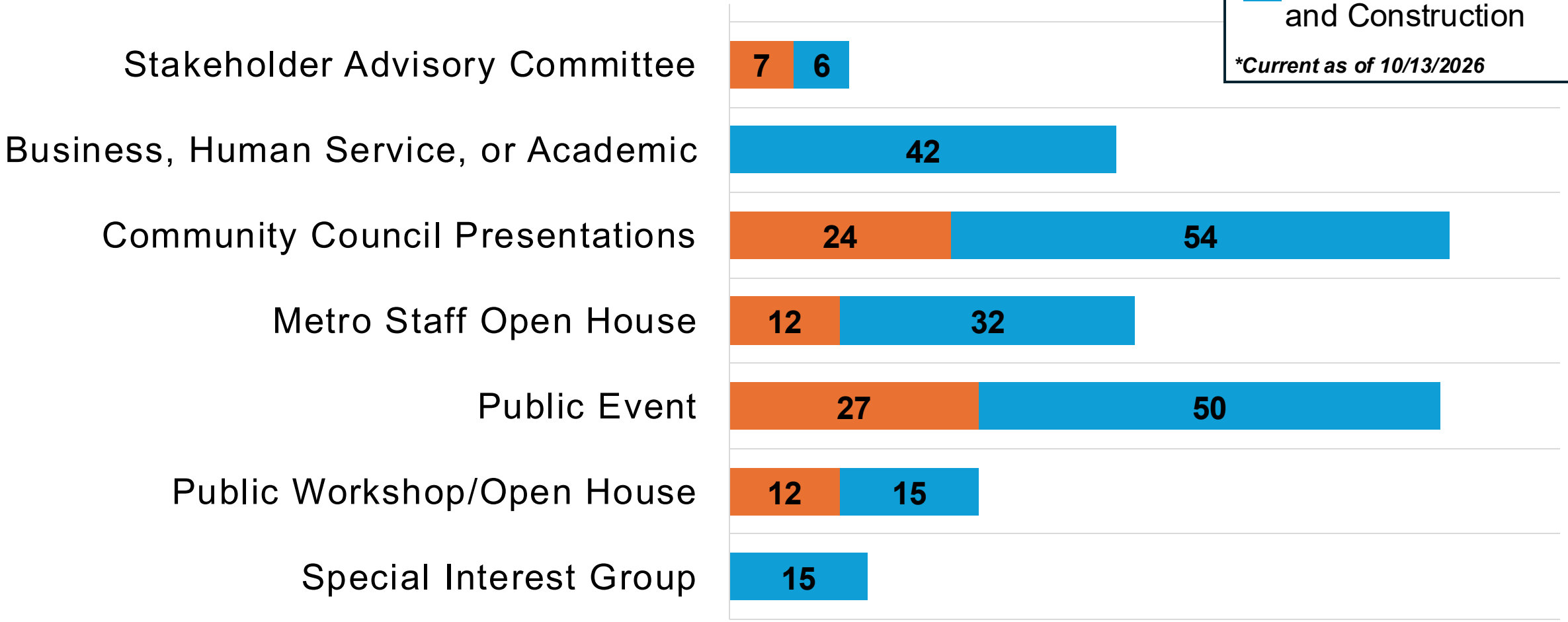
Travel Time Savings over fixed route





OUTREACH

296 METRO*RAPID* EVENTS AND MEETINGS
11,020 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



Building Metro*Rapid*: Small Business Opportunities & Connections

- September 30, 2026, and the Holloman Center for Social Justice
- Information and resources provided to small businesses interested in the Metro*Rapid* construction procurement process









METRO*RAPID* ENGAGEMENT

Fall 2026



STEER Rider Advisory Group
- August 27
- 11 members



North Avondale Neighborhood Association
- September 8
- 22 Community members



State of Metro
- September 22
- 302 Event participants



Cliftonfest
- September 26
- 295 Event participants



Building MetroRapid: Small Business Opportunities & Connections
- September 30
- 20 attendees at MetroRapid Engagement booth



Downtown Residents Council
- October 13
- 60 Community members



Northside Farmers Market
- October 14
- 47 Community members



METRO*RAPID* ENGAGEMENT

October Events

513Relief Bus
- October 21 from 10 am – 12:30 pm
- Urban League in Avondale

Resource Connect at the Downtown Library
- October 22 from 10 am – 12:30 pm
- Downtown Library

Fall Fest at Washington Park
- October 24 & 25 from 11 am - 4 pm
- Washington Park

Business Engagement

- Outreach to businesses to discuss needs during construction and operation – Deliveries, signage, etc.



THANK YOU

Progress & Priorities

Spotlight on the top five

1 2 3 4 5

*From **Andrew C. Aiello**, Metro CEO & General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer*

October 2026

This monthly report provides a high-level overview of several key initiatives currently being advanced by the Metro leadership team. The updates below reflect continued momentum and progress aligned with Metro's long-term priorities.

1. **Service Quality Improvements:** As we track the service quality of our system, September's results highlight a few noteworthy metrics that demonstrate our continued progress:
    - **Ridership:** Metro ridership increased 12% compared with September 2025, while Access ridership grew 3.5%.
    - **Productivity:** Express service delivered 13.8 passengers per hour, exceeding the goal of 12 for the first time this year!
    - **On-time performance**: MetroNow! service continued to exceed its goal, achieving 99.4% OTP in September, compared to the goal of 97%.
    - **Service reliability:** Fixed-route service met its reliability goal, with 99.4% of trips operating as scheduled.
    - **Workforce**: Metro exceeded targets in September for Fixed-Route Operator Headcount, Operator Absenteeism, and Operator Turnover.

    A special thank you to team members across the organization whose attention to detail and commitment to excellence make this progress possible.

2. **Employee Townhall Meetings:** Earlier this month, our Senior Leadership Team led our annual fall Employee Townhall Meetings at each division and every shift. These meetings provided a great opportunity for us to connect directly with team members across the organization, provide updates on strategic priorities and business initiatives, and answer questions team members may have. This dialogue helps keep our teams informed and connected to Metro's goals.

3. **Transit Asset Management Plan (TAM):** We recently updated our Transit Asset Management Plan, which is a requirement for all Federal Transit Administration grantees. The plan describes how Metro manages its capital assets to achieve and maintain a state of good repair. It records what Metro owns, the condition of those assets, the targets Metro has set, the tools and processes used to decide where to invest, and the activities Metro performs each year to keep the plan current. It also serves as an internal management document that connects condition data to the capital budget and to Metro's annual reporting to the National Transit Database (NTD).

4. **Executive Engagement with Riders:** Each month, members of our executive team ride different routes at various times of day to experience our service firsthand and hear directly

Progress & Priorities

Spotlight on the top five

1 2 3 4 5

*From **Andrew C. Aiello**, Metro CEO & General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer*

from customers. These conversations offer opportunities to thank riders, learn what is working well, and identify where we can improve. This regular engagement keeps leadership connected to riders' daily experiences and helps inform our efforts to deliver better service for everyone.

5. **Cincy Hat partnership:** Metro partnered with Cincy Hat and Bengals player Ted Karras to create a special "Metro Cincy Hat" celebrating our Access paratransit team's work in connecting customers with disabilities to jobs, education, healthcare and other essential destinations throughout the county. These hats are available for public purchase.

As always, I welcome your questions and feedback on these initiatives and Metro's continued progress.

All the best,

Andy Aiello