

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, April 28th 2026, 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tianay Amat, Tony Brice, Chelsea Clark, Blake Ethridge, Kala Gibson, Pete Metz, Briana Moss, Sara Sheets,

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jay Bedi, Dan Driehaus, Trent Emenecker, Neil Kelly, Greg Simpson, Rickell Smith, KZ Smith and Sonja Taylor

STAFF MEMBERS: Andy Aiello, Adriene Hairston, Brett Isaacs, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, John Ravasio, Jason Roe, Khaled Shammout, Bill Spraul, Tim Walker and Mike Weil

LEGAL COUNSEL: Tony Osterlund (Vory's)

GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT: Edith Stoops (Activist), Robert Harris (Previous Board Member), Justin Blumhurst (Capabilities, LLC.) and

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

Ms. Edith Stoops requested that service routes be restored to New Path Child and Family Solutions (East Campus), located at 274 Sutton Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45230, and to Stepping Stones, located at 5650 Givens Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45243. Ms. Stoops also reported a recent experience in which her return trip home, after being picked up by Access (paratransit), required approximately two hours to get home.

Justin Blumhurst requested that service routes be restored to New Path Child and Family Solutions (East Campus), located at 274 Sutton Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45230, and to Stepping Stones, located at 5650 Givens Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45243.

Robert Harris asked the board to consider expanding service.

CHAIR UPDATE

Mr. Ethridge discussed the new bus stop event and electric bus event.

MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Metz made a motion that the minutes of the March 24th, 2026, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF MARCH 31ST, 2026

Mr. Walker presented the March financial results. Total revenues were \$15.3 million, which was unfavorable to budget by \$328K. Total expenses were \$14.2 million, which is favorable to budget by \$185k. Operating Capital Contribution was \$1.2 million, which was unfavorable to budget by \$207k. Ridership was 1,038k,

which was unfavorable to budget by 143k. Mr. Walker then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 73: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR 001-2026 PROMOTIONAL ITEMS AND APPAREL

Mr. Metz moved for adoption and Mr. Brice seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 001-2026 on behalf of Metro and EAC Promos, Inc., with a not to exceed value of \$420,000.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 74: APPROVAL OF 016-2026 BUS REPLACEMENT PARTS

Mr. Metz moved for adoption and Mr. Brice seconded the motion. The contract will approve contract no. 016-2026 on behalf of Metro and Muncie Transit Supply, Cummins, Gillig LLC., MJ Service Industries, Mohawk Mfg., and Vehicle Maintenance Program, Inc., with a total not to exceed value of \$1,071,186.

By roll call, the Board approved the resolution.

PROGRESS AND PRIORITIES

Mr. Aiello presented the progress and priorities report and reviewed the State Legislature Engagement, Federal Funding Update, Workforce Investment, Marketing Metro and Going “Greener.”

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

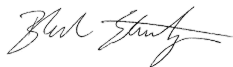
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for **May 26th, 2026, at 9:00 A.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