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