



SORTA/Metro
 Planning and Ops Committee
 May 19, 2026
 9:00 am-10:00 am Eastern Time

SORTA PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 19TH, 2026 - 9:00 A.M.

SORTA/METRO AT HUNTINGTON CENTER,

SORTA BOARD ROOM (6th FLOOR)

525 VINE STREET,

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202

General Items:

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

- 1 Approval of Planning and Operations Committee Minutes: April 21st 2026

Briefing Items:

- 2 Good News! (Executive Team)
- 3 Ridership and Service Quality Report as of April 30th, 2026 (Khaled Shammout)
- 4 MetroRapid Update (Khaled Shammout/Bradley Mason/Paul Durham)
- 5 Government Square Update (Executive Team)
 - Action Items Matrix (Tim Walker)
- 6 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 014-2026 Government Square Redesign (Khaled Shammout)
 - 6.1 Action Item:
- 7 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 022-2026 HVAC Maintenance & Repair Services (Jeff Mundstock)
 - 7.1 Action Item:
- 8 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 025-2026 MetroNow! Vehicles (Jeff Mundstock)
 - 8.1 Action Item:
- 9 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 037-2026 Maintenance Uniforms (Jeff Mundstock)
 - 9.1 Action Item:
- 10 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 045-2026 Articulated Buses (Jeff Mundstock)
 - 10.1 Action Item:

11 Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 070-2026 Electronic Fare Payment Validators (Khaled Shammout)

11.1 Action Item:

Other Items:

New Business

The next regular meeting of the Planning & Operations Committee has been scheduled for

Tuesday, June 16th, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, APRIL 21ST, 2026 – 9:00 A.M.
SORTA/METRO AT HUNTINGTON CENTER
6th FLOOR SORTA BOARD ROOM
525 VINE STREET
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202

COMMITTEE MEMEBERS APPOINTED: *Pete Metz (Chair), Tony Brice Jr, Dan Driehaus, Briana Moss, KZ Smith and Greg Simpson*

COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chelsea Clark, Dan Driehaus, Trent Emenecker, Pete Metz, Briana Moss and Sara Sheets

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Tianay Amat, Jay Bedi, Tony Brice, Blake Ethridge, Kala Gibson, Neil Kelly, Greg Simpson, Rickell Smith, Sonja Taylor and KZ Smith

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Andy Aiello, Steve Anderson, Norman Bouwie, Adriene Hairston, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Sharyn Lacombe, Jeff Mundstock, Ken Nienaber, John Ravasio, Jason Roe, Tony Russo, Khaled Shammout, Bill Spraul, Tim Walker and Mike Woulms

OTHERS PRESENT: Matthew Hulme (City of Cincinnati) and Kim Schaefer (Vory's)

1. **Call to Order**

Mr. Metz called the meeting to order.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **Approval of Minutes of February 17th, 2026**

Mr. Metz made a motion and Ms. Sheets seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 17th, 2026, meeting.

By voice vote the committee approved the minutes.

4. **Good News!**

The Executive Team presented the Good News report. Ms. Hairston shared the February Silver Award recipients and Metro Drives Big Impact for NICU Families, Mr. Shammout presented the New Bus Stop Signs Make Their Debut and Service Planning Public Meetings, Ms. Jones shared Access your Voting Poll Location on Metro and Charge Up for What's Next slides.

The Committee accepted the report as presented.

5. **Ridership and Service Quality Report**

Mr. Shammout and Mr. Spraul presented the March 2026 ridership and service quality report. Total ridership for the month of March was 1,140,787 or 2.9% unfavorable to budget.

Access Total ridership for the month of March was 15,966 or 0.9% unfavorable to budget.

MetroNow Total ridership for the month of March was 15,481 or 4.4% unfavorable to budget.

Productivity, On-Time Performance, Customer Service Reports and Fixed-Route Miles Between Mechanical Service Interruptions were shared.

The Q1 2026 Route by Route Metrics that was included in the packet.

The Committee accepted the report as presented.

6. **MetroRapid Update**

Ms. Lacombe presented the MetroRapid Update. She discussed public engagement & outreach, stakeholder advisory group and recent events.

The Committee accepted the report as presented.

7. **Government Square Update**

Mr. Aiello and Mr. Spraul presented the Government Square Update.

The Committee accepted the report as presented.

8. **Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 001-2026 Promotional Items and Apparel**

Mr. Roe requested approval for Contract No. 001-2026 for Promotional Items and Apparel.

The Committee agreed to recommend the resolution to the full Board for approval on the consent agenda.

9. **Proposed Resolution: Contract Award for 016-2026 Bus Replacement Parts**

Mr. Roe requested approval for Contract No. 016-2026 for Bus Replacement Parts.

The Committee agreed to recommend the resolution to the full Board for approval on the consent agenda.

10. **Other Items**

N/A

11. **New Business**

The next regular meeting of the Planning and Operations Committee has been scheduled for **Tuesday, May 19th, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**

12. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 A.M.



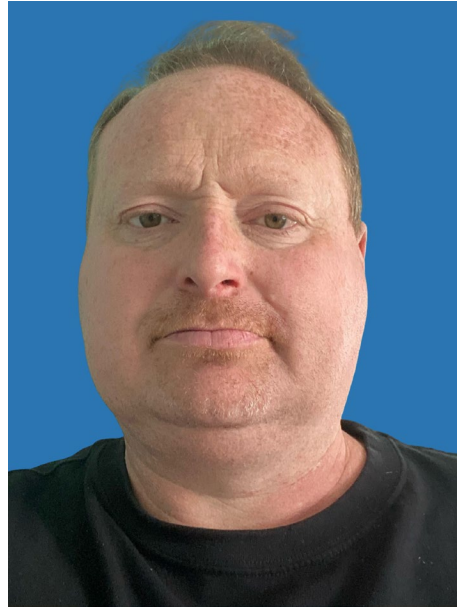
Planning & Operations: Good News

May 19, 2026





March Silver Wheel Award Recipients



Leadership
Employee of the Month
Roger Connors



Administrative & Support
Employee of the Month
Nicole Underwood



March Silver Wheel Award Recipients



Queensgate
Operator of the Month
Bala Niang



Queensgate Maintenance
Employee of the Month
Cody Bulach



March Silver Wheel Award Recipients



Bond Hill
Operator of the Month
JaQuanna Montgomery



Bond Hill Maintenance
Employee of the Month
Cody Bulach



Access
Employee of the Month
Greg Sanders

Bike + Ride During Bike Month

In celebration of National Bike to Work Day, Metro offered a free ride to anyone who brought a bicycle and loaded it onto our bike racks **on May 15.**

Each Metro bus is equipped with a front-mounted rack that could hold up to two bikes at a time.

Join Metro at Breakfast on the Bridge

Metro participated in the Breakfast on the Bridge event hosted by Tri-State Trails on May 15, 7-9 a.m. on the Newport side of the Purple People Bridge. Participants learned how easy their commute could be when they bike and ride.



RedBike X Transit X Metro

RedBike is now in the Transit app. Metro is partnering with RedBike to help solve the first mile/last mile challenge – making transit even more accessible.

Riders using Transit app can see where RedBike stations are located, how many bikes are available, as well as the number of docks at each stop.



Dump the Pump – Ride Metro

Let Metro help you ease the pains at the pump! More customers are discovering how easy and affordable it is to go Metro.

Ridership in April was up **10%** compared to March on commuter routes and up **13%** YOY. Systemwide ridership is up **4%**.

Dump the pump – go Metro!



Leadership Ohio Goes Metro



Leadership OHIO



Metro was the way to go for Leadership Ohio participants, the only statewide leadership program, when they visited Cincinnati last Friday to learn about various projects and initiatives throughout the city. Metro presented on MetroRapid and its TOD opportunities, as well as the role public transit investment is playing in spurring economic development throughout the region.

PigAbilities

Metro was proud to once again support Flying Pig PigAbilities by providing transportation through our fixed-route and Access services! PigAbilities is a movement for inclusion that supports families and friends who live with disabilities. The one-mile event is designed for participants (and supporters of participants) to run, walk or roll at their own pace so they can cross the official Flying Pig Marathon Finish Swine.

"Just wanted to let you know that me, Carly and Hannah rode a Metro bus Saturday to the PigAbilities race. That's the first time I've been on a bus in many, many years. It was a great experience! Our driver, Lavette, was very conscientious about securing Hannah's and another rider's wheelchairs and the bus was spotless. Well done!"

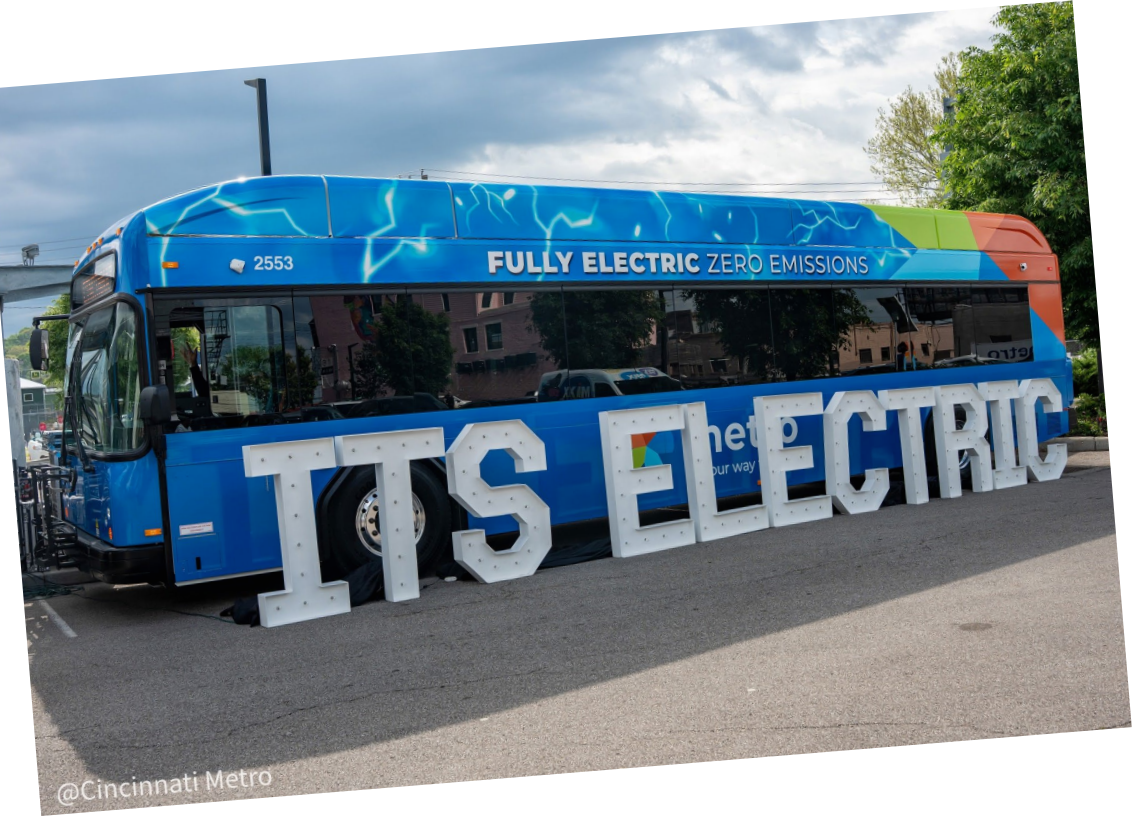
- Jenny Hartman



...And That's the News!



@Cincinnati Metro



@Cincinnati Metro

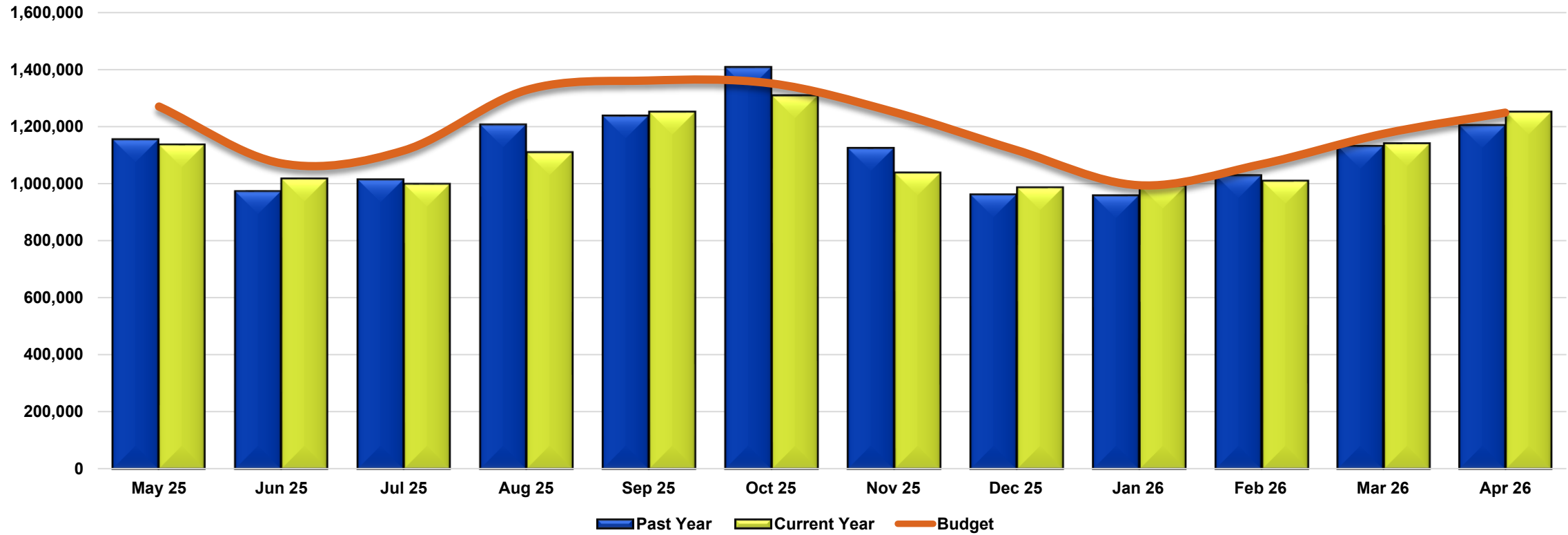


April 2026 Ridership and Service Quality Report

May 19th, 2026 | SPDI

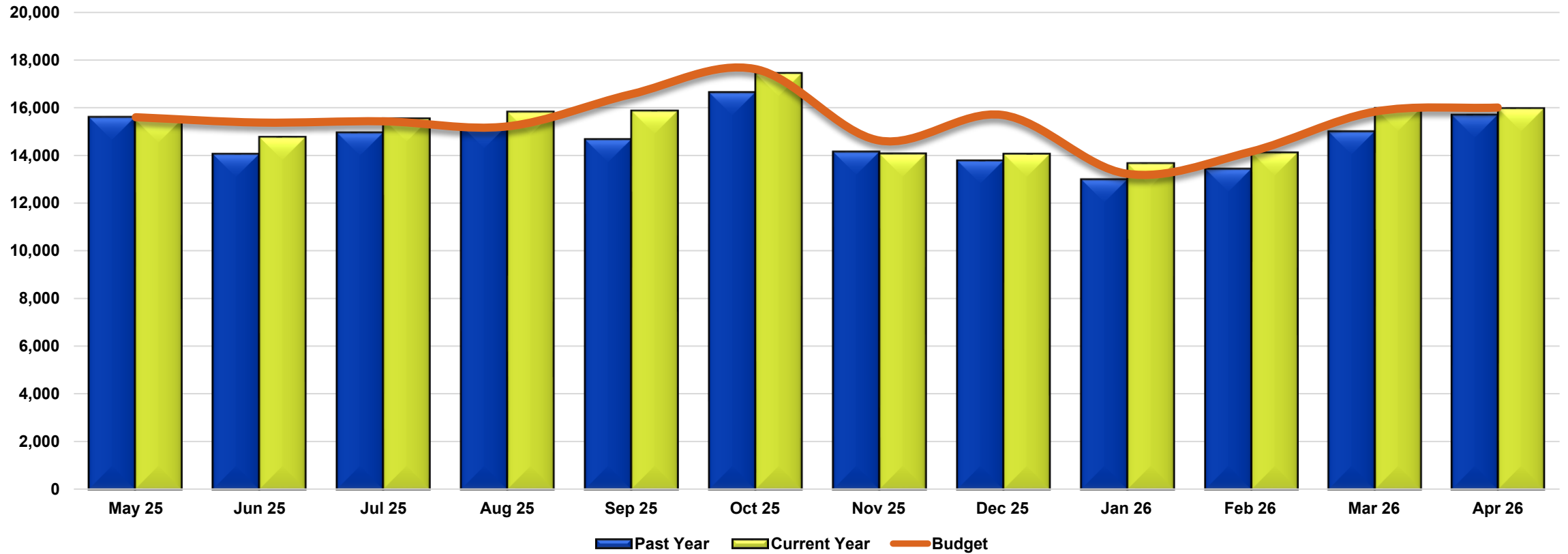


Total Fixed Route Ridership YoY & Budget by Month



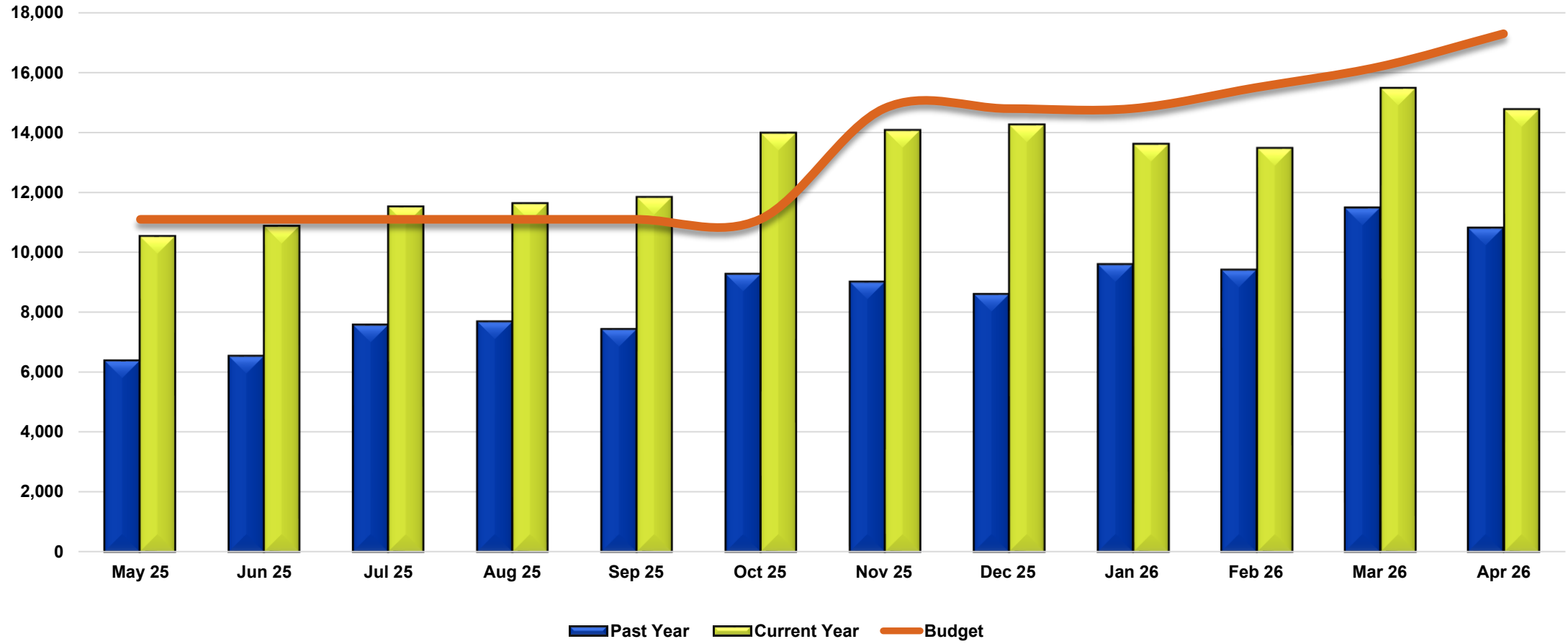
Service	Apr 26 Ridership	Apr 26 Budget	% Budget Variance	Apr 25 Ridership	Apr 26 vs. 25 % Variance
Fixed-Route	1,251,870	1,248,931	0.2%	1,204,438	3.9%
Total (YTD)	4,395,394	4,484,976	-2.0%	4,324,511	1.6%

Total Access Ridership



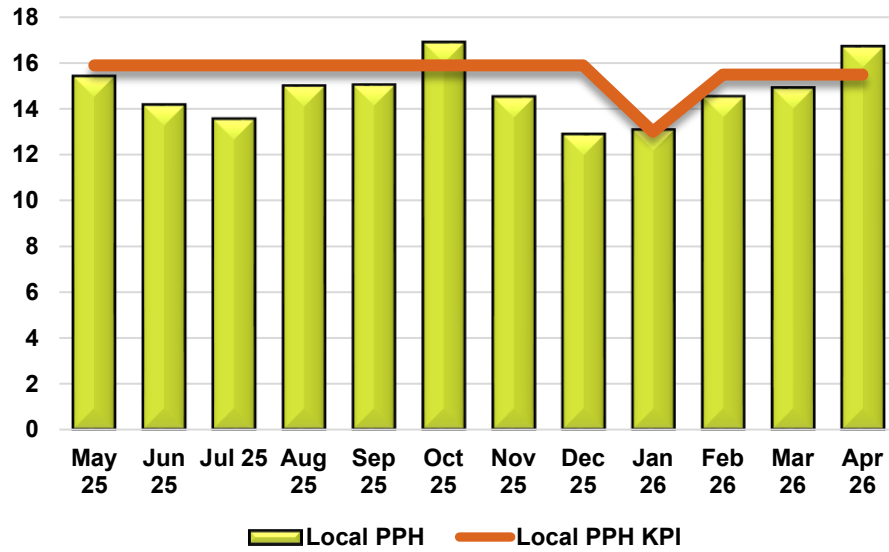
Access	Apr 26 Ridership	Apr 26 Budget	% Budget Variance	Apr 25 Ridership	Apr 26 vs. 25 % Variance
Total	15,959	16,010	-0.3%	15,693	1.7%
Total (YTD)	59,685	59,226	0.8%	57,106	4.5%

Total MetroNow Ridership

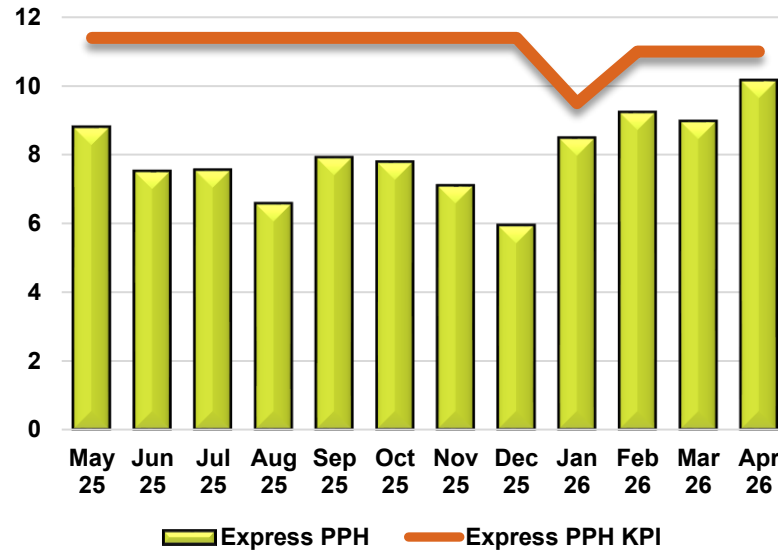


MetroNow	Apr 26 Ridership	Apr 26 Budget	% Budget Variance	Apr 25 Ridership	Apr 26 vs. 25 % Variance
Total	14,771	17,300	-14.6%	10,801	36.8%
Total (YTD)	57,343	65,200	-12.1%	41,285	38.9%

Local Service Productivity



Express Service Productivity



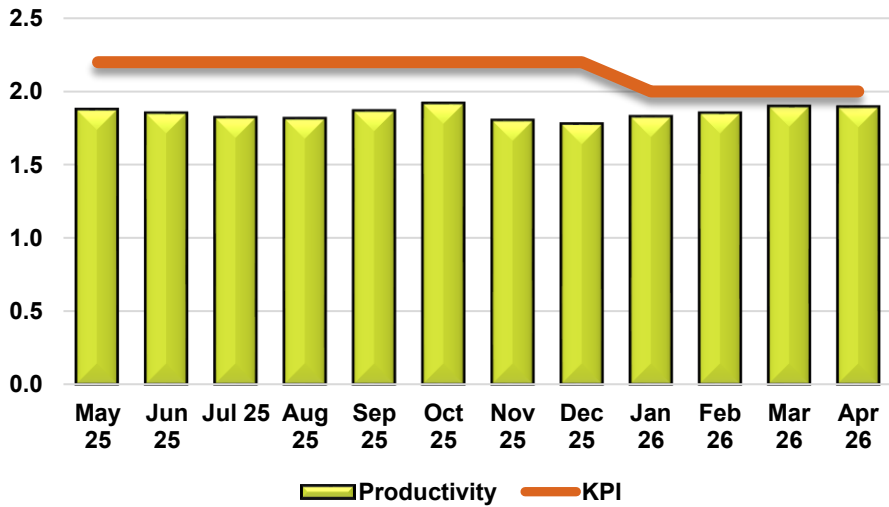
Productivity by Service Type

Service Type	Apr 26 Actual	Apr 26 Budget	Variance
Local Pass/Hour	16.7	15.5	1.2
Express Pass/Hour	10.2	11.0	-0.8
Access Pass/Hour	1.89	2	-0.1
MetroNow Pass/Hour	3.4 *	3.8	-0.4

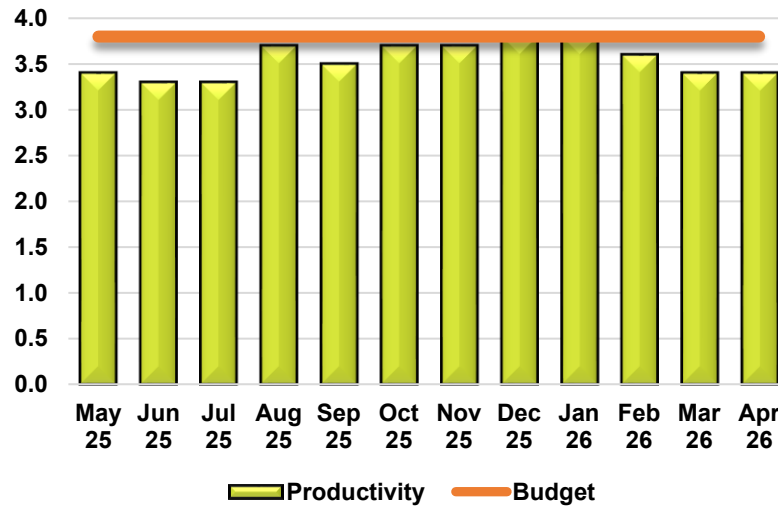
*Mature zones reported

**As of Jan 2026, Express productivity will be expressed as passengers/hour like the other modes

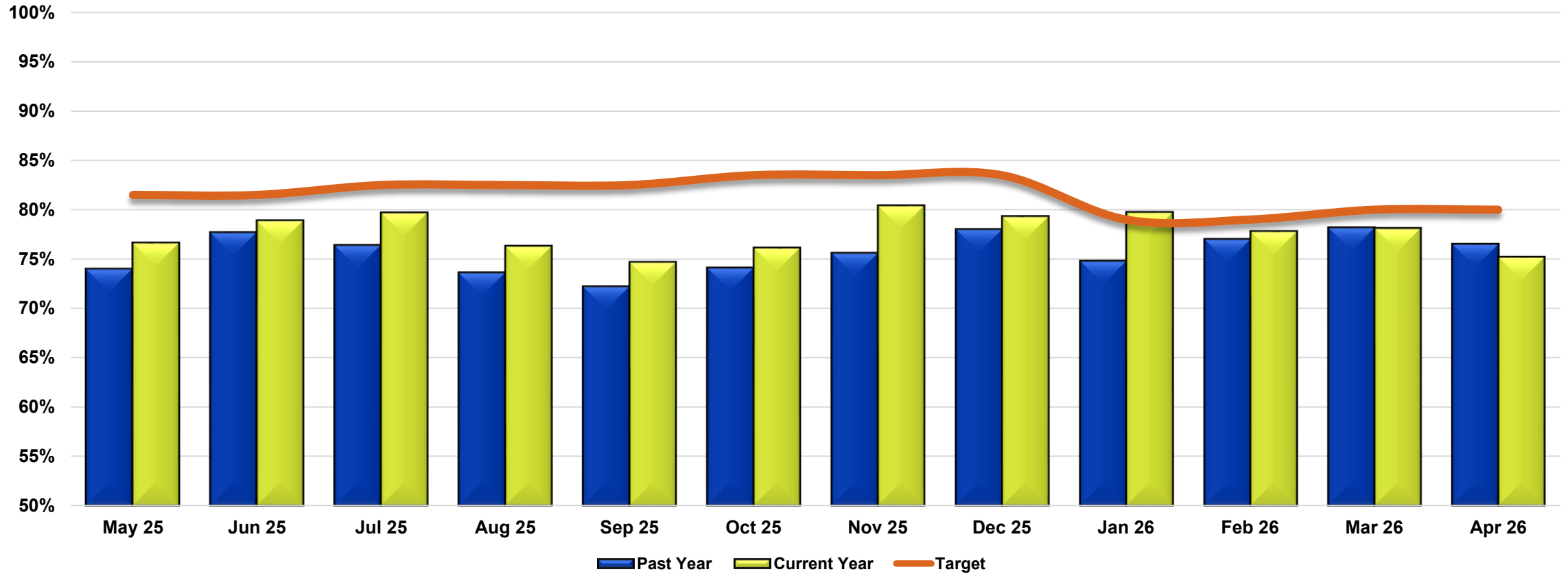
Access Service Productivity



MetroNow Service Productivity



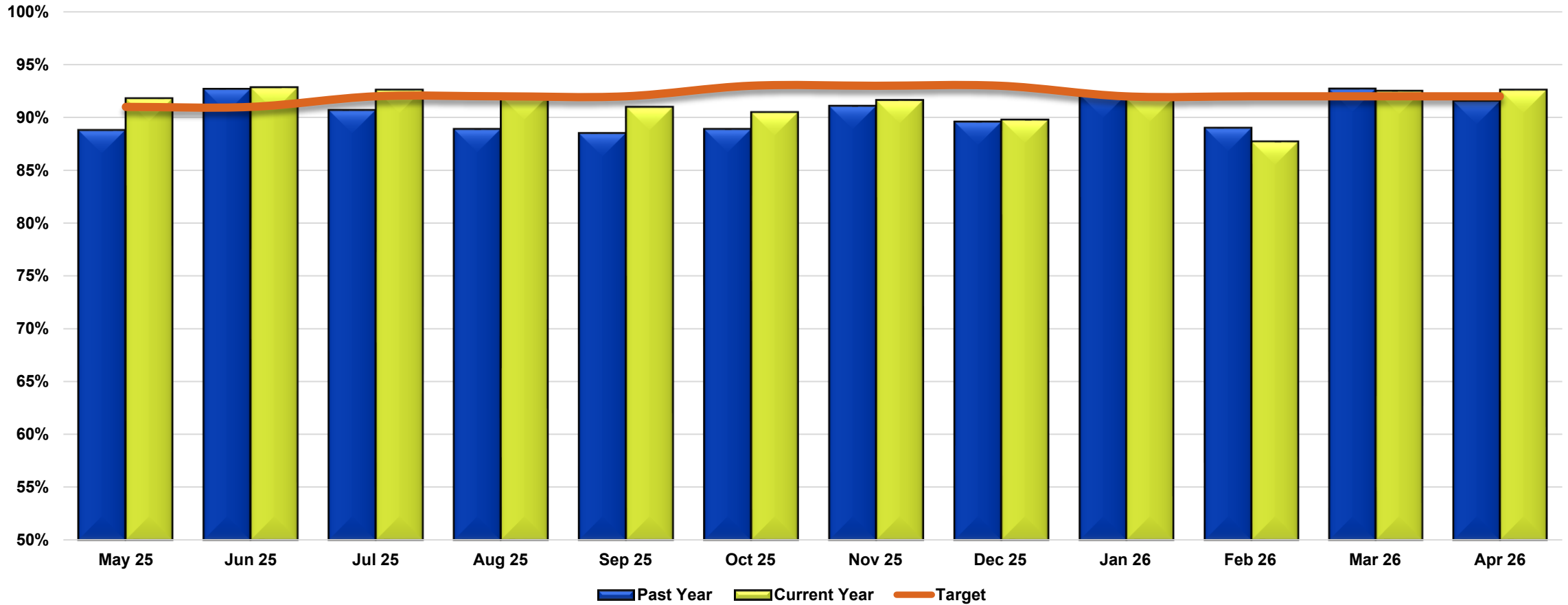
Fixed-Route On-Time Performance



Fixed-Route Service	Apr 26 Actual	Apr 26 KPI Target	Target Variance
On-Time Performance	75.2%	80.0%	-4.8%

**percentage points*

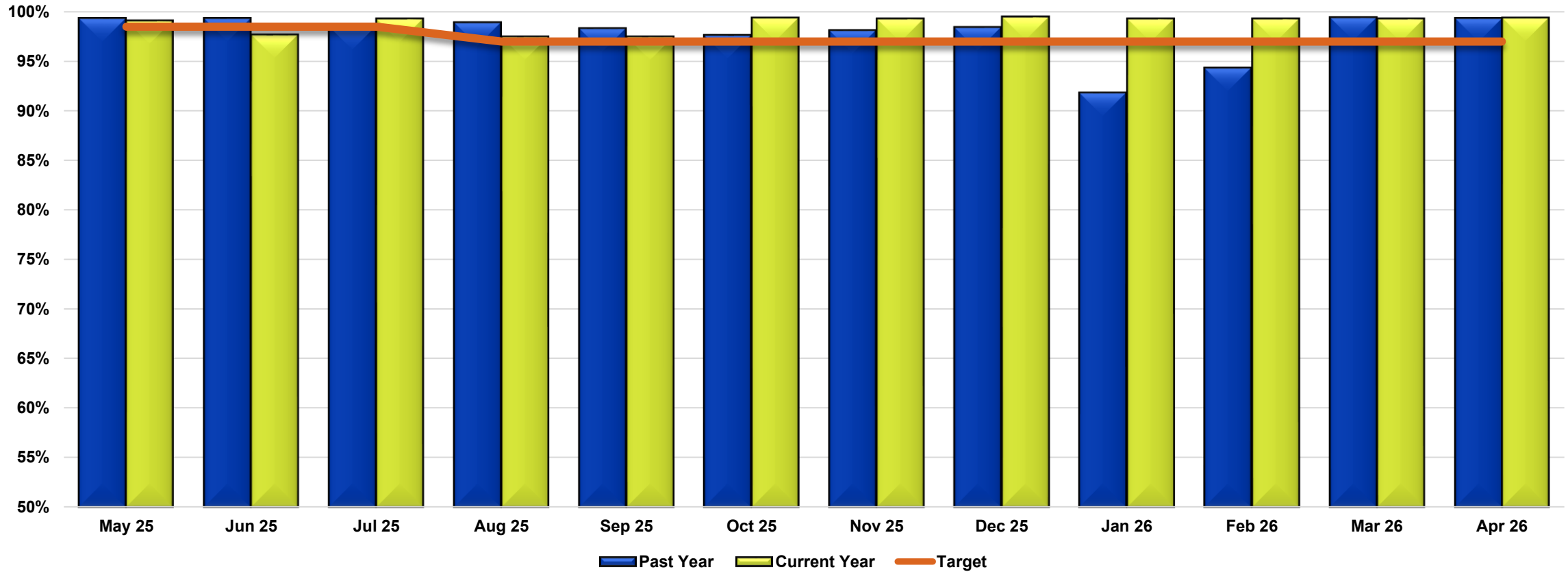
Access On-Time Performance



Access Service	Apr 26 Actual	Apr 26 KPI Target	Target Variance
On-Time Performance	92.6%	92.0%	0.6%

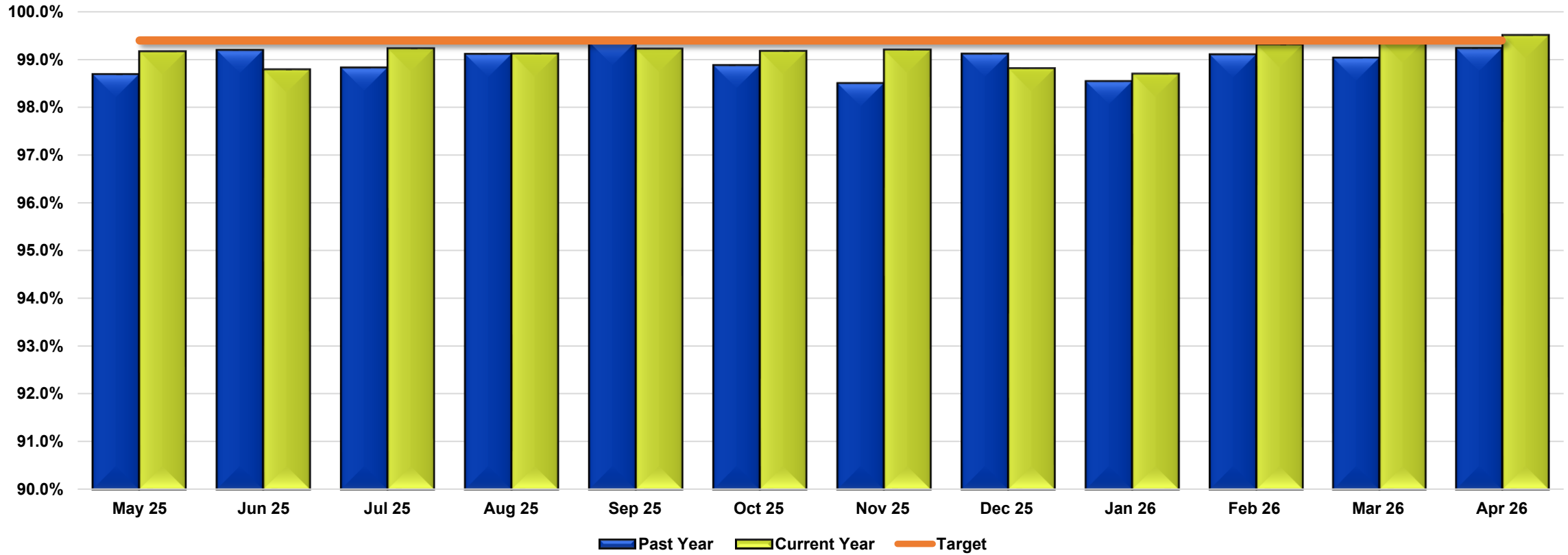
**percentage points*

MetroNow On-Time Performance



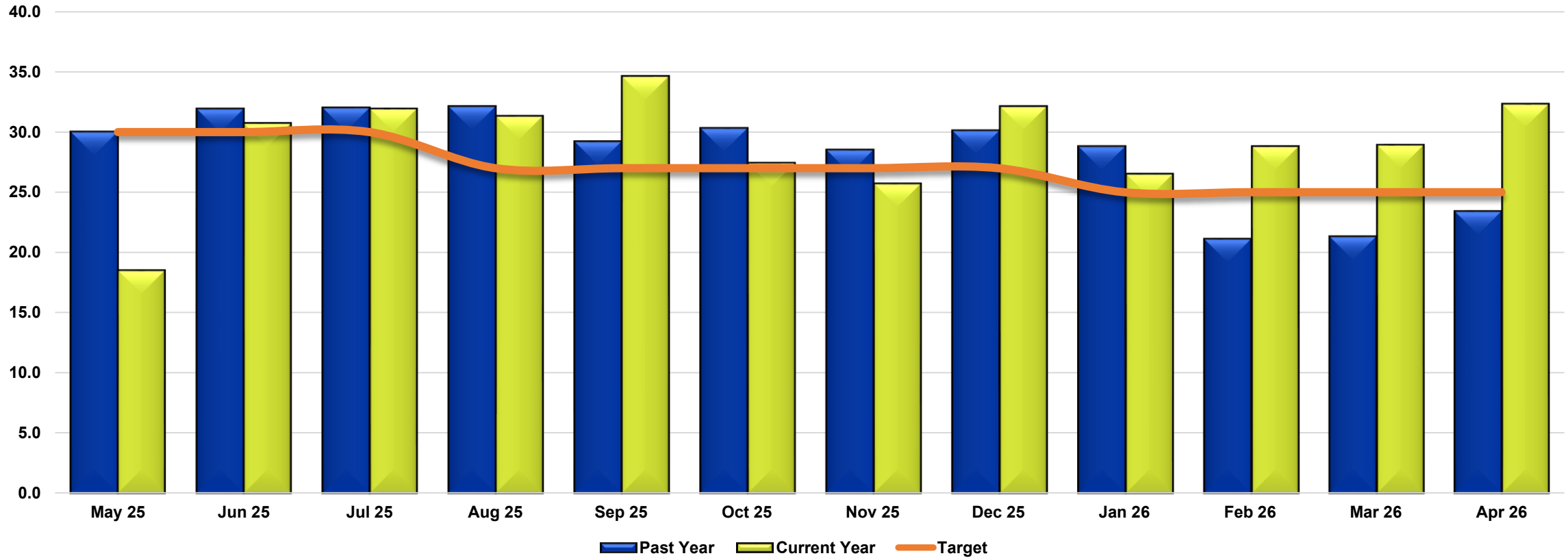
MetroNow Service	Apr 26 Actual	Apr 26 KPI Target	Target Variance
On-Time Performance	99.4%	97.0%	2.4%

Fixed-Route Service Reliability



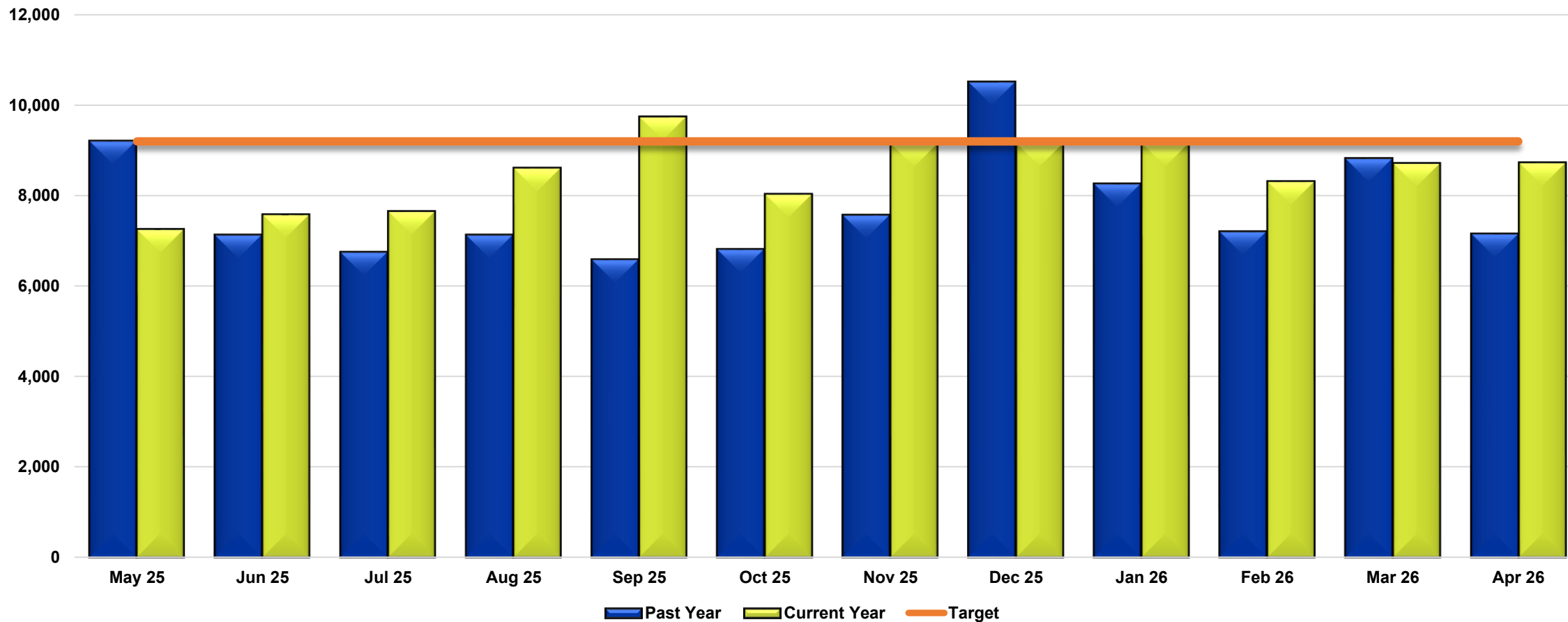
Fixed-Route Service	Apr 26 Actual Missed Trips	Apr 26 Trips Scheduled	% of Trips Operated	Monthly Target	End of Year Target
Missed Trips	375	74,680	99.5%	99.4%	310

Customer Service Reports per 100k Rides



Fixed-Route Service	Apr 26 Reports Per 100k Rides Made	Apr 26 Reports Per 100k Rides Target	Apr 26 Target Per 100k Rides Variance	Apr 25 Reports Per 100k Rides Made	Apr 26 vs 25 Reports Per 100k Rides Variance
Customer Service Reports	32.3	25.0	7.3	23.4	8.9

Fixed-Route Miles between Mechanical Service Interruptions



Fixed-Route Service	Apr 26 MSI Actual	Apr 26 MSI Target	Apr 26 Target Variance	Apr 25 MSI Actual	Apr 26 vs. 25 MSI Variance
Miles Between Mechanical Service Interruptions (MSI)	8,727	9,200	-473	7,154	1,573



MetroRapid Update

Metro Operations Committee | May 19, 2026





PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

WTS (Women's Transportation Seminar) Luncheon

April 14, 2026

Fishbeck Offices

58 attendees

Greater Cincinnati Earth Day

April 19, 2026

Washington Park

359 visitors

Healthy, Wealthy, Wise

May 16, 2026 at 12:00 PM

Clifton Ad Hoc Committee

May 18, 2026



WTS Luncheon Presentation

Upcoming Events

Corryville Community Council

June 9, 2026 at 6:00 PM

North Avondale

Community Council (PENDING)

June 9, 2026

EARTH DAY PUBLIC SENTIMENT

- Over 50% of 359 visitors had heard of BRT and MetroRapid
- Most people wanted to get an update on the project
- Positive, excited responses



Worried about current traffic at Hamilton & Chase and how BRT will affect it.

Suggest having staff at each station for 1st couple of months.

Add to FAQ - "You can be home by dinner!"

Need service from airport to Milford or Madisonville

Have a variety of ways to pay – not just apps.



ENGAGING CLIFTON RESIDENTS, RIDERS & BUSINESSES

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION IN CLIFTON



6 Stakeholder Advisory Group Meetings

7 Meetings between Metro/City and the CTM/CBA Ad-hoc Committee

42 Public and stakeholder comments regarding the Clifton location

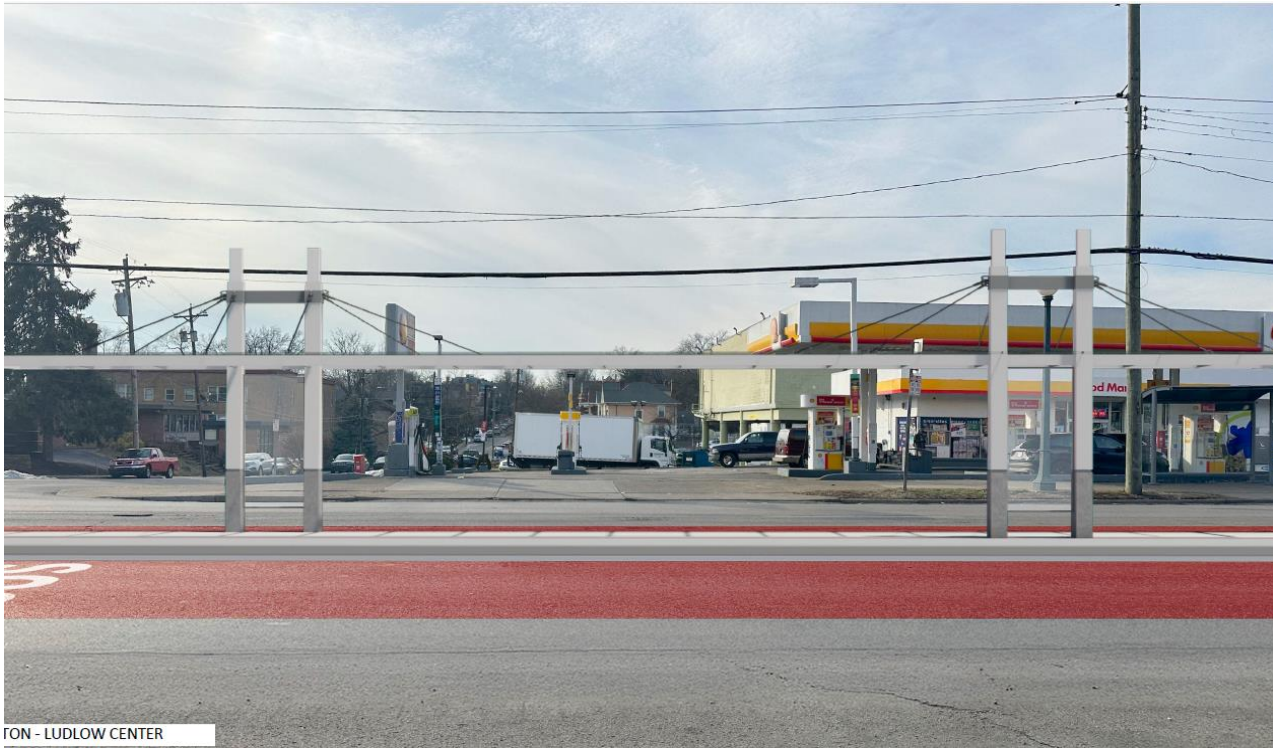
253 Public meetings & events along both BRT routes

3 Clifton Town Meetings Attended
(Presented on February 24)

STATION OPTIONS



**CLIFTON AVENUE STATION - OPTION #1
ON LUDLOW AVENUE**



**CLIFTON AVENUE STATION - OPTION #2
ON CLIFTON AVENUE**

WHAT WE HEARD

- Desire for **convenient BRT access** to neighborhoods and **key community destinations**
- Importance of **safety** – loitering, pedestrian crossing safety, vehicular safety, rider safety
- Blocking storefronts, loading zones, and existing Metro and UC buses
- Concerns regarding **traffic congestion, pedestrian crossings, and parking removal**
- Interest in preserving and improving **traffic calming**
- Concern about BRT **stopping in the street** for Clifton-Ludlow Station Option #1
- Concern about the close **proximity** of - Option #2 and the Good Samaritan Station location



HOW WE HAVE RESPONDED

- **Removed bus lanes** from Ludlow within the business district
- **Shifted** the Ludlow Avenue station away from storefronts
- **Bumped out stations** to preserve sidewalk space, minimize parking space removal, and create a clear transit boarding zone
- **Studied additional alignment and station location options** in coordination with the CTM/CBA Ad-Hoc Committee, refined Option#2
- Performed detailed **engineering and traffic analysis**
- **Reduced the size of the station canopy** from 50 ft to 20 ft
- **Introduced safety measures** to improve pedestrian crossings and calm traffic
- **Evaluated future fixed route changes** to reduce the total number of bus stops along Ludlow Avenue
- **Met with other community partners** like Good Samaritan Hospital and Cincinnati Fire House 34

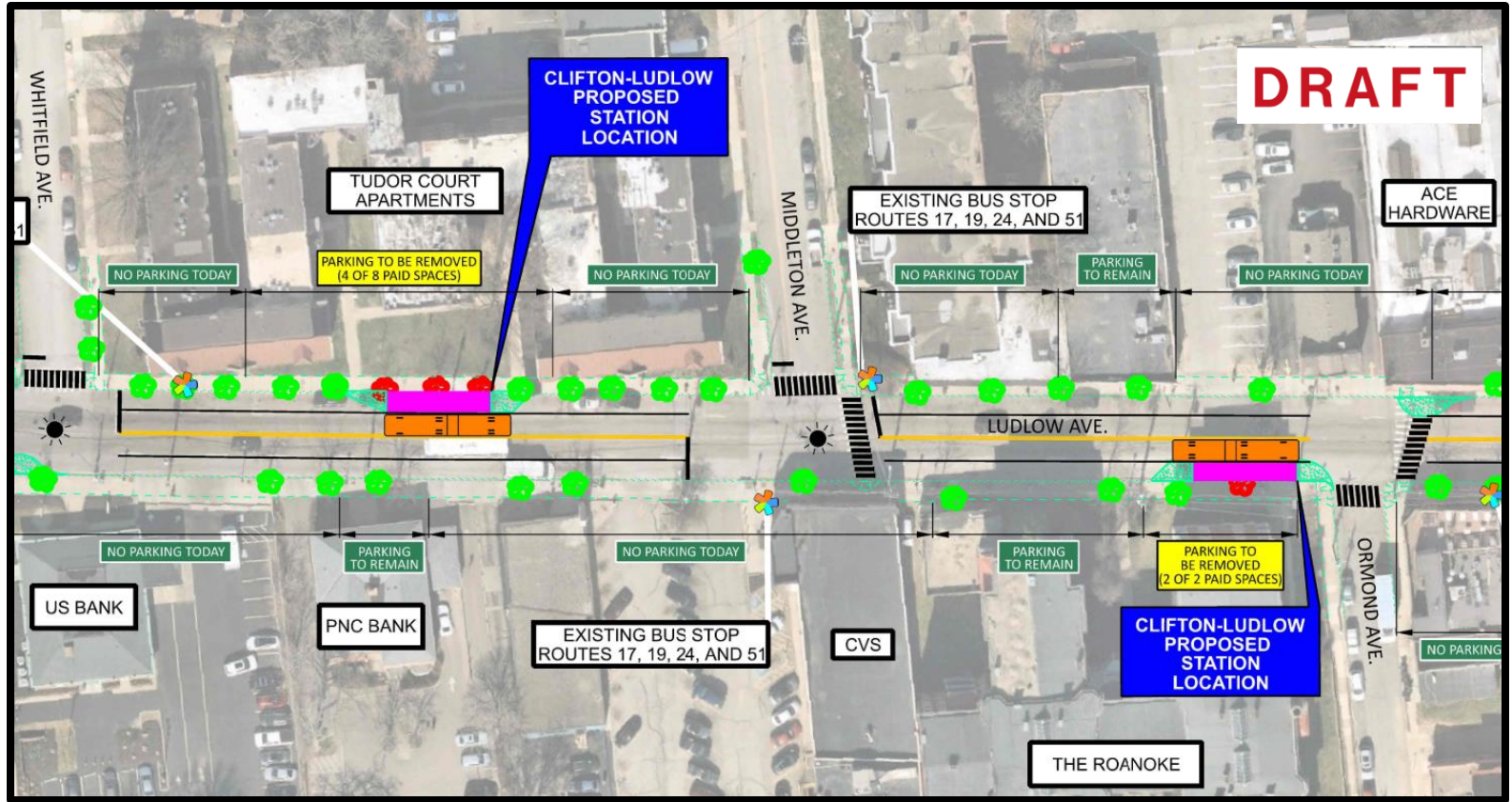




PUBLIC INPUT IN ACTION: TECHNICAL RESULTS & OUTCOMES

LUDLOW STATION AVENUE - OPTION #1

- **Station located in front of sidewalk** to support safe boarding without disrupting pedestrian access
- **Direct access to the Ludlow business district**, including shops, restaurants and services
- **Canopy placement** designed to maintain pedestrian flow and shifted to retain storefront visibility
- **Community-informed design**, with adjustments made to reduce disruption and increase **safety features**
- **Reduced Pedestrian Vulnerability** from lower speed limit, fewer cars, and shorter crossing distance.



25MPH
9,500 CARS
32'-42'



4 Removed & 4 Replaced

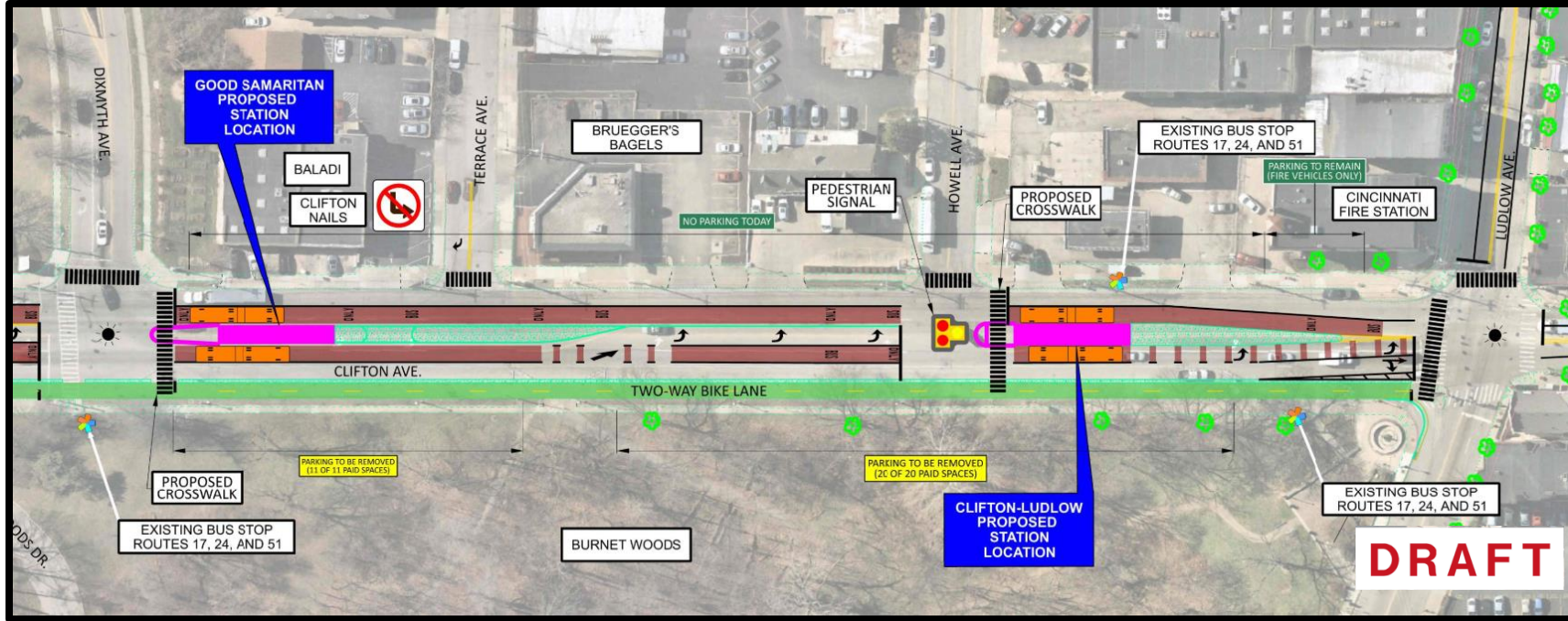


6 Removed
3 Added
NET = 3
Removed




0 Signed Loading
Zones Impacted

CLIFTON AVENUE STATION – OPTION #2




- **Connects** to existing transportation activity along Clifton Avenue, including bike lanes, removes parking
- **Station located within the roadway**, requiring pedestrian crossings in a higher-traffic corridor near fire station
- **Safety features** and traffic considerations were refined with CBA/CTM Ad-Hoc Committee
- **Close proximity** to the Good Samaritan station, which slows down BRT service by 40 seconds
- **Queue length of left turns** from Clifton onto Ludlow are a concern to traffic engineers, which may result in having to move the station further south and eliminating left turns at Howell

 0 Removed & Replaced

 No additional parking for the station needed

 Fire House Loading Zone Unimpacted

 30MPH
15,000 CARS
70'

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS & RESULTS

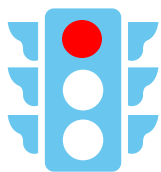
Traffic Analysis Results

1. Traffic signal improvements were incorporated into the design
2. With BRT, vehicular delays remain very similar to today with either option (changes of less than 20 seconds)
3. All traffic signals operate at an acceptable level of service with either option
4. BRT dwell time is less than a regular bus
5. Local buses will stop less often because stops will be removed at Middleton and the 19 Telford stop will move East of Clifton
6. BRT travel time is 40 seconds longer with the Clifton Station - Option #2 (to model future conditions)

Traffic Analysis Process

1. Existing Traffic Counts Collected (weekday morning and afternoon rush during the school year)
2. Existing Traffic Modeled and Calibrated (with field verification)
3. Utilized Multiple Traffic Analysis Software (to model future conditions)
4. Analysis Reviewed by City of Cincinnati DOTE, Traffic Engineering Division

Red Time



20-50 seconds

Local Bus Dwell



20-30 seconds

BRT Dwell



10-15 seconds

Ped Crossing



10-14 seconds

Parking Maneuver



18 seconds

METRO RECOMMENDATION

CLIFTON-LUDLOW STATION OPTION #1

ON LUDLOW AVENUE



Clifton Town Meeting voted to support Option #1 on Ludlow Ave.

- Strong community preference at public engagement sessions Feb 24 & March 2
- Refined through collaboration
- Safety is a top priority

Continued Engagement with Clifton Community

- Coordination with CTM, Businesses, community members, DOTE, CPD, etc.
- Focus on community priorities
- Station refinements along BRT routes
- Incorporated into the Clifton Plan
- Community education

Project	Method	Vendor	Award	Term	Funding
014-2026 <i>Government Square Transit Center Design</i> <i>Connect the Region**</i>	Request for Technical Proposal (RTP)	MSA Design	\$492,361 \$169,849	3 years June 2026 – May 2029	Budgeted Local Capital
022-2026 <i>HVAC PM & Repair Services</i> <i>Highly Effective Organization**</i>	Request for Proposal (RFP)	Peck, Hannaford & Briggs	\$1,169,908	3 years June 2026 – May 2029	Budgeted Local Operating
025-2026 <i>MetroNow! Vehicles</i> <i>Grow Ridership**</i> <i>Connect the Region**</i>	Invitation for Bid (IFB) Coop	Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation	\$3,053,489	1 year June 2026 – May 2027	FTA Grants (80%) Budgeted Local Capital (20%)
037-2026 <i>Maintenance Uniforms</i> <i>Highly Effective Organization**</i>	Request for Proposal (RFP)	Galls, LLC	\$276,900	3 years June 2026 – May 2029	Budgeted Local Operating
045-2026 <i>Articulated Buses</i> <i>Grow Ridership**</i> <i>Connect the Region**</i>	Request for Proposal (RFP) Coop	New Flyer-MCI	\$15,000,000	5 years June 2026 – May 2031	FTA Grants (70%) Budgeted Local Capital (30%)
070-2026 <i>Electronic Fare Payment Validators</i> <i>Grow Ridership**</i>	Request for Proposal (RFP) Coop	Masabi LLC	\$1,071,194	1 year June 2026 – May 2027	Unbudgeted Local Capital

**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 **\$21,063,852**
Total MAX Spend for Month **\$169,849**



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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 014-2026 GOVERNMENT SQUARE TRANSIT CENTER DESIGN

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) has a downtown transit hub, Government Square Transit Center (GSTC), located on Fifth Street between Walnut and Main Streets.
2. The GSTC is the flagship transit center in the central business district downtown.
3. Since the construction, GSTC hasn't had minimal upgrades or renovation work done.
4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Connect the Region SORTA requires the services of an A&E firm to evaluate the current facility and the area around it.
5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 014-2026 on behalf of Metro with MSA Design, with a not to exceed value of \$492,361.
6. The expenditure will be financed using budgeted 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. 014-2026 on behalf of Metro with MSA Design, with a not to exceed value of \$492,361.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: May 19, 2026
FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
 Khaled Shammout, Deputy Innovation and Vision Officer
PROJECT NO.: 014-2026 Government Square Transit Center Design
STRATEGIC: Connect the Region
REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) has a downtown transit hub, Government Square Transit Center (GSTC), located on Fifth Street between Walnut and Main Streets. The GSTC is the flagship transit center in the central business district downtown. Since its construction, GSTC hasn't had minimal upgrades or renovation work done. Over the past 15 years, numerous issues with the facility have started to develop. Issues such as uneven pavements, fading of glass and canopy colors, deterioration of wooden seats, among others are not only aesthetically unappealing, but are also making the facility somewhat unsafe.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

SORTA requires the services of an A&E firm to evaluate the current facility and the area around it, engaging with stakeholders, and developing comprehensive design plans that improve efficiency, passenger comfort, pedestrian accessibility, and safety. The goal is to improve the walkability and safety of the area around the transit center by creating an attractive, welcoming, livable, and safe downtown environment. It is also important to create a connection for pedestrians and cyclists to access business, government services, restaurants, and performing arts events. The redesign shall incorporate sustainable practices, consider the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), and support multimodal transportation connections.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is \$492,361 and is included in the approved FY2026 Capital budget. Local Capital funding will be allocated, and no other funding will be utilized.

The final contract(s) cost is \$492,361 and is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

Based on the complexity of the project and the requirements outlined in the scope of work, the solicitation was issued as a Request for Technical Proposals. Procurement targeted 12 firms identified as being qualified to perform the required scope of work. Firms identified as being able to likely perform subcontracting work as part of the scope of work were also identified and notified of this solicitation.



Five proposals were received and thoroughly evaluated. The results of the evaluation are shown within the table below:

Vendor	Firm Experience and Qualifications (Subjective) Points Based 400 Points (40%)	Staff Qualifications & Experience (Subjective) Points Based 350 Points (35%)	Project Approach (Subjective) Points Based 250 Points (25%)	Total Score (Max Score 1000)
MSA Design	352.5	293.5	203.8	849.75
HOK	336.3	267.3	212.3	815.75
Arcadis	323	245.5	189.5	758
AECOM Services of Ohio, Inc.	312.5	260.5	177.5	750.5
Bialosky + Partners Architects, LLC	298	255	174.3	727.25

Upon completion of the evaluation process, MSA Design was identified as the highest-ranked firm based on a qualifications-based selection method. MSA Design submitted the proposal determined to be the most advantageous to SORTA.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

Vendor Engagement consulted the six directories to identify ready, willing and able registered XBE vendors. 17 unique registered firms were identified in NAICS code 541310 who are in Ohio and Kentucky. Based on the relative availability of registered vendors and requirements of the scope of work, a 14% goal was recommended for this project. All identified vendors were notified of the opportunity and encouraged to participate in the project.

The final award value of \$492,361 includes **awards to XBE subcontractors totaling \$169,849, or 34% of the total award. One subcontractor is new to Metro.**

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 Contract No. 014-2026, on behalf of Metro with MSA Design, with a not to exceed value of \$492,361.



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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 022-2026 HVAC PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE & REPAIR SERVICES

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) requires a certified HVAC Contractor to establish and maintain a continuous, comprehensive preventative maintenance program as well as provide repair services as needed across the facilities.
2. Service locations for this contract include all operating garages, the Riverfront Transit Center and two radio towers.
3. Certified Contractor services are required to ensure all facilities HVAC equipment are properly maintained.
4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Highly Effective Organization this program will ensure the reliable, efficient, and safe operation of critical HVAC equipment, minimize system downtime, extend asset life, support operational continuity and reduce the overall cost of HVAC repair and replacement cost through proactive maintenance and early issue detection.
5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 022-2026 on behalf of Metro with Peck, Hannaford and Briggs, with a not to exceed value of \$1,169,908.
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. 022-2026 on behalf of Metro with Peck, Hannaford and Briggs, with a not to exceed value of \$1,169,908.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: May 19, 2026
FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
 Jeff Mundstock, Director of Fleet & Facilities
PROJECT NO.: 022-2026 HVAC Preventive Maintenance & Repair Services
STRATEGIC: Highly Effective Organization
REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) requires a certified HVAC Contractor to establish and maintain a continuous, comprehensive preventative maintenance program as well as provide repair services as needed across all facilities. Service locations for this contract include all operating garages, the Riverfront Transit Center, and radio towers.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

Certified Contractor services are required to ensure all facilities HVAC equipment are properly maintained. This program will ensure the reliable, efficient, and safe operation of critical HVAC equipment, minimize system downtime, extend asset life, support operational continuity; and reduce overall cost of HVAC repair and replacement cost through proactive maintenance and early issue detection.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this contract is \$1,169,908 allocated over 3 years (\$389,969 per year for FY2026-FY2029). This contract is approved in the FY2026 Operating 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 project is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

Staff determined that several suppliers could meet the requirements of the contract and could supply multiple variations of uniform materials and options. As such, a request for proposals ("RFP") sourcing method was selected. Under this method, responses are evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the solicitation and ranked from highest to lowest. The proposer scoring the highest is considered as proposing the best value to Metro and selected for award.

Staff targeted 14 contractors known to be capable of fulfilling the requirements of the contract in addition to those notified through Metro's e-procurement platform. 34 vendors downloaded solicitation materials and 2 submitted responses. 1 vendor responded that they did not have the current capacity to support the full scope of services but would be interested in spot opportunities if they arise.



Peck, Hannaford & Briggs is determined to have submitted a proposal acceptable to SORTA; it has the capacity to fulfil this contract and is recommended for award. Procurement negotiated a fixed labor rate contract and successfully negotiated a reduction in parts and materials markup from 15% to 12% for a 3% cost savings.

The NTE for Preventive Maintenance is \$406,920. The NTE for Repair Services is \$762,988. Markup for materials and parts is NTE 12% throughout the contract term. The total NTE of this contract will be \$1,169,908

The pricing was determined to be fair and reasonable based on the independent cost estimate, current and historical rates for the same services.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

Staff determined that no supplier diversity goal was required based on the limited number of certified XBE firms capable of performing the requirements of the contract and the limited subcontracting opportunities. As such, no goal was established for this award.

The final award included no small business participation.

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. 022-2026, on behalf of Metro with Peck, Hannaford & Briggs, with a not to exceed value of \$1,169,908.



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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 25-2026 METRONOW! VEHICLES

WHEREAS:

1. The MetroNow! Program is an on-demand transit service.
2. Metro uses a custom built 10-passenger vehicle to deliver MetroNow! Service.
3. The MetroNow! service offerings continue to expand to support improved service delivery across its operating areas.
4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Grow Ridership and Connect the Region to maintain the established implementation timeline for Zones 5 and 6, additional vehicles are required to adequately support operations and ensure seamless coverage of the newly added territories.
5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 25-2026 on behalf of Metro with Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation, with a not to exceed value of \$3,053,489.
6. The expenditure will be financed using a combination of FTA Funding (80%, \$2,442,791) and budgeted local capital (20%, \$610,698).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

7. The board authorized the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 25-2026 on behalf of Metro with Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation, with a not to exceed value of \$3,053,489.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: May 19, 2026
FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
 Jeff Mundstock, Director of Fleet & Facilities
PROJECT NO.: 25-2026 MetroNow! Vehicles
STRATEGIC: Grow Ridership and Connect the Region
REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

The MetroNow! program is an on-demand transit service, designed to serve areas with limited public transportation. Metro uses a custom built 10-passenger vehicle to deliver MetroNow! service. As service hours expand, ridership grows, and new zones are added, additional vehicles are needed to keep pace with demand.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The MetroNow! service offerings continue to expand to support improved service delivery across its operating areas. To maintain the established implementation timeline for Zones 5 and 6, additional vehicles are required to adequately support operations and ensure seamless coverage of the newly added territories.

The purpose of this contract award is to authorize the purchase of seventeen (17) vehicles to support MetroNow!.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is \$3,053,489 (\$179,617 per unit) and will be financed using a combination of FTA funding (80%, \$2,442,791) and budgeted local capital (20%, \$610,698).

The final cost of the project is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

The vehicles will be purchased through Ohio Department of Transportation contract, 252-24. As such, no market competition is required by SORTA.

The Ohio Department of Transportation conducted a competitive Invitation for Bid (IFB) which resulted in 5 vendors being awarded contracts. TESCO is the only awarded vendor supplying vehicles that meet the MetroNow! vehicles specifications.

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

Pricing is determined to be fair and reasonable based on the approved pricing on State of Ohio Contract # 252-24 and the per vehicle unit cost has not increased since our last order in August 2025.

**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. 25-2026, on behalf of Metro with Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation, with a not to exceed value of \$3,053,489.



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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 037-2026 MAINTENANCE UNIFORMS & WORK SHOES

WHEREAS:

1. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) provides uniforms to all new hourly maintenance employees, along with an annual allowance to ensure uniforms are properly maintained.
2. This benefit helps ensure employees consistently wear OSHA-compliant attire, enhancing workplace safety while promoting a professional and uniform appearance across the workforce.
3. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Highly Effective Organization SORTA requires a qualified uniform service provider capable of supplying all required uniform items, including embroidery, patch application, and necessary alterations.
4. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 037-2026 on behalf of Metro with Galls, LLC., with a not to exceed value of \$276,900.
5. The expenditure will be financed using budgeted local operating funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

6. The board authorized the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 037-2026 on behalf of Metro with Galls, LLC., with a not to exceed value of \$276,900.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: May 19, 2026
FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
 Jeff Mundstock, Director of Fleet & Facilities
PROJECT NO.: 037-2026 Maintenance Uniforms & Work Shoes
STRATEGIC: Highly Effective Organization
REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) provides uniforms to all new hourly maintenance employees, along with an annual allowance to ensure uniforms are properly maintained. This benefit helps ensure employees consistently wear OSHA-compliant attire, enhancing workplace safety while promoting a professional and uniform appearance across the workforce.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

SORTA requires a qualified uniform service provider capable of supplying all required uniform items, including embroidery, patch application, and necessary alterations. These services are provided in accordance with the terms outlined in the collective bargaining agreement with the union.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this contract is \$276,900 allocated over 3 years (\$92,300 per year for FY2026-FY2029). This contract is approved in the FY2026 Operating 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 project is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

Staff determined that several suppliers could meet the requirements of the contract and could supply multiple variations of uniform materials and options. As such, a request for proposals ("RFP") sourcing method was selected. Under this method, responses are evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the solicitation and ranked from highest to lowest. The vendor scoring the highest is considered as proposing the best value to Metro and selected for award.

Staff targeted 11 vendors known to be capable of fulfilling the requirements of the contract in addition to those notified through Metro's e-procurement platform. 35 vendors downloaded solicitation materials and 3 submitted responses. 1 vendor was deemed non-responsive due to submission incompleteness as they did not submit pricing for all three years of the contract.



Proposals were evaluated based on the criteria included in the solicitation and ranked from highest to lowest. The highest ranked vendor is considered as proposing the best value to Metro. The outcome of the evaluation process is shown below:

Vendor	Project Approach (Subjective) Points Based 450 Points (45%)	Firm and Staffing Qualifications (Subjective) Points Based 250 Points (25%)	Price (Objective) Reward Low Cost 300 Points (30%)	Total Score (Max Score 1000)
Galls, LLC	406.7	224.7	300	931.33
Ace Uniforms LLC	396.3	221	200.3	817.61

Proposers provided sample pricing within their business proposals. The pricing was determined to be fair and reasonable based on the independent cost estimate, competition and current rates for the same services.

SMALL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

Staff determined that no supplier diversity goal was required based on the limited number of certified XBE firms capable of performing the requirements of the contract and the limited subcontracting opportunities. As such, no goal was established for this award.

Staff targeted 2 certified XBE vendors known to be capable of performing the requirements of the contract. 1 firm submitted a response.

The final award included no small business participation.

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. 037-2026, on behalf of Metro with Galls, LLC, with a not to exceed value of \$276,900.



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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 45-2026 ARTICULATED BUSES

WHEREAS:

1. Metro routinely partners with regional transit providers on joint procurements to leverage collective purchasing.
2. In 2025, Metro and eleven other transit agencies partnered with NEORide to award a 5-year cooperative purchasing agreement for the manufacture of fixed route buses.
3. NEORide as the lead agency conducted a Request for Proposals, facilitated the evaluation of all received vendor submissions, and recommended final award.
4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Grow Ridership and Connect the Region in support of the long-range transit plan and the bus replacement schedule Metro specified a minimum number of twelve (12) and a maximum number of twenty-eight (28) 60' articulated buses for our needs.
5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 45-2026 on behalf of Metro with New Flyer-MCI, with a not to exceed value of \$15,000,000.
6. The expenditure will be financed using a combination of FTA Funding (70%, \$10,500,000) and budgeted local capital (30%, \$4,500,000).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

7. The board authorized the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 45-2026 on behalf of Metro with New Flyer-MCI, with a not to exceed value of \$15,000,000.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: May 19, 2026

FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
 Jeff Mundstock, Director of Fleet & Facilities

PROJECT NO.: 45-2026 Articulated Buses

STRATEGIC: Grow Ridership and Connect the Region

REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

Metro routinely partners with regional transit providers on joint procurements to leverage collective purchasing. In 2025, Metro and eleven other transit agencies partnered with NEORide, to award a 5-year cooperative purchasing agreement for the manufacture of fixed route buses. NEORide as the lead agency conducted a Request for Proposals, facilitated the evaluation of all received vendor submissions, and recommended final award.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The cooperative Master Service Agreement (MSA) contract with NEORide is an indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract. Under such a contract, Metro specifies a minimum and maximum order quantity at the time of award, then issues individual purchase orders as funding is available for the delivery of finished products. In support of the long-range transit plan and the bus replacement schedule Metro specified a minimum number of twelve (12) and a maximum number of twenty-eight (28) 60' articulated vehicles for our needs.

The purpose of this contract is to authorize the purchase of twelve (12) vehicles.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is \$15M (\$1,250,000 per unit) and will be financed using a combination of FTA funding (70%, \$10,500,000) and budgeted local capital (30%, \$4,500,000).

The final cost of the project is flat to budget.

Purchases under the MSA are contingent on the participating agency's ability to proceed. Agencies have the option to not purchase their allocated vehicles due to lack of available funding, cancelation of funding, and/or any unforeseen operational changes.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

The vehicles will be purchased through NEORide MSA contract, 2025-01. As such, no market competition is required by SORTA.

NEORide conducted a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP). The scope of the RFP included a total of 14 distinct vehicle configurations, with each configuration receiving one to four master contract awards, based on vendor submissions and anticipated future procurement volumes. The evaluation of proposals focused on technical compliance, vendor capability, vehicle availability, and alignment with fleet



modernization goals. The RFP resulted in 4 technically capable and compliant vendors being awarded contracts.

New Flyer-MCI is the only awarded vendor supplying 60' articulated diesel vehicles.

Pricing is determined to be fair and reasonable based on the NEORide independent cost estimate and price analysis. The base vehicle cost of the NEORide MSA is less than peer state of Washington's cooperative agreement base vehicle cost.

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. 045-2026, on behalf of Metro with New Flyer-MCI, with a not to exceed value of \$15,000,000.



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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO 070-2026 ELECTRONIC FARE PAYMENT VALIDATORS

WHEREAS:

1. Metro currently has contract 099-2024 with Masabi to provide EZ-Fare, a mobile application that provides passengers with itinerary planning, mobile ticketing, and real-time vehicle location services.
2. The robust SaaS platform provides functions such as mobile-based and web-based fare payments, on-board validation, smartcard integration, account-based ticketing, and other ticketing solutions.
3. The current onboard vehicle electronic validators are beyond their useful life and are considered obsolete.
4. In support of Metro's Strategic Priority Grow Ridership through a cooperative purchasing agreement with NEORide, Metro will be able to purchase the 470 validators needed to upgrade the hardware on all revenue vehicles to new modern equipment.
5. SORTA staff recommends approval to execute Contract No. 070-2026 on behalf of Metro with Masabi, LLC., with a not to exceed value of \$1,071,194.
6. The expenditure will be financed using 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. 070-2026 on behalf of Metro with Masabi, LLC., with a not to exceed value of \$1,071,194.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: May 19, 2026
FROM: Jason Roe, Director of Procurement
 Khaled Shammout, Deputy Innovation and Vision Officer
PROJECT NO.: 070-2026 Electronic Fare Payment Validators
STRATEGIC: Grow Ridership
REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

Metro currently has contract 099-2024 with Masabi to provide EZ-Fare, a mobile application that provides passengers with itinerary planning, mobile ticketing, and real-time vehicle location services. The robust SaaS platform provides functions such as mobile-based and web-based fare payments, on-board validation, smartcard integration, account-based ticketing, and other ticketing solutions.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The current onboard vehicle electronic validators are beyond their useful life and are considered obsolete. Through a cooperative purchasing agreement with NEORide, Metro will be able to purchase the 470 validators needed to upgrade the hardware on all revenue vehicles to new modern equipment. The contract is needed to fulfil the project goals of improving customer experience when purchasing and utilizing fares and improved management of services.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for this project is \$1,071,194 and will be financed using local Capital funds.

The final cost of the project was not included in the FY2026 Capital budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

The electronic fare validators will be purchased through NEORide MSA contract, 099-2024. As such, no market competition is required by SORTA.

Metro routinely partners with regional transit providers on joint procurements to leverage collective purchasing. In 2024, Metro and twenty other transit agencies partnered with NEORide, to award a 5-year cooperative purchasing agreement for mobile, web and electronic fare payment services and solutions. NEORide as the lead agency conducted a Request for Proposals, facilitated the evaluation of all received vendor submissions, and recommended final award to Masabi LLC.

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. 070-2026, on behalf of Metro with Masabi LLC, with a not to exceed value of \$1,071,194.