



SORTA/Metro
Board Meeting
April 23, 2024
6:00 pm-7:00 pm Eastern Time

SORTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD, 2024 – 6:00 P.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 Items:

- 1 Approval of Board Minutes March 26th, 2024

Finance Committee (Sonja Taylor)

Planning & Operations Committee (Blake Ethridge)

Action Item: Procurement Matrix - Consent Agenda

- 2 Proposed Resolution: Approval of Contract Award 040-2024 for Fleetwatch Upgrade for Access (Jeff Mundstock, John Edmondson)
 - 2.1 Action Item:
- 3 Proposed Resolution: Approval of Contract Award 055-2024-SS for FirstNet First Responder Network (Bruce Adams, John Edmondson)
 - 3.1 Action Item:

Briefing Items:

- 4 Financial Results for March 31st, 2024 (Andy Aeillo)
- 5 Metro on the Move (Darryl Haley)
- 6 New Business

Other Items:

Adjournment

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

Tuesday, May 28th, 2024, 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, March 26th 2024, 9:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tony Brice, Dan Driehaus, Trent Emenecker, Blake Ethridge, Neil Kelly, Pete Metz, Briana Moss and Sonja Taylor

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jay Bedi, Amanda Carleski, Chelsea Clark, Rod Hinton, Kreg Keesee, Gwen Robinson, Sara Sheets and KZ Smith

STAFF MEMBERS: Andy Aiello, John Edmondson, Darryl Haley, Adriene Hairston, Brandy Jones, Natalie Krusling, Tenecia Le'Flore, Bradley Mason, Kevin Ruth, August Schweitzer and Mike Weil

LEGAL COUNSEL: Anthony Osterlund (Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP)

GUEST/PUBLIC PRESENT: David Wormald, AECOM; Nan Cahall, COA

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

None

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

None

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 27TH, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Ethridge made a motion that the minutes from the February 27th, 2024, board meeting be approved as previously mailed and Mr. Driehaus seconded the motion.

By voice vote, the SORTA Board approved the minutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Taylor reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on March 19th 2024, and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 17: APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO OHIO TRANSIT RISK POOL (OTRP) BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ms. Taylor moved for adoption and Mr. Brice seconded the motion. The resolution approves Chief of Staff (COS) as an alternate trustee to the Ohio Transit Risk Pool (OTRP) Board of Trustees to serve and vote in the absence of voting trustee, CEO/General Manager/Secretary of State.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO: 18: APPROVAL OF ONE YEAR SPONSORSHIP INVESTMENT FOR RED BIKE

Mr. Metz moved for adoption and Ms. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion approves a (1) year sponsorship with Red Bike, total cost not to exceed the value of \$100,000.

By roll call, the SORTA Board approved the resolution.

PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Ethridge reported on the Planning and Operations Committee meeting held on March 19th 2024 and there were items(s) to present for Board Approval.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AS OF FEBRUARY 29TH, 2024

Mr. Aiello presented the February financial results. Total revenues were \$12.6 million, which was favorable to budget by \$177k. Total expenses were \$12.1 million, which is favorable to budget by 734k. Surplus/Deficit was \$0.6 million, which was favorable to budget by \$881k. Ridership was 1,060k, which is unfavorable to budget by 29k. Mr. Aiello presented the Investment of Funds Reserve Summary

with a total All Securities at \$177,878,272, Net Unrestricted Securities Available at \$4,672,446 and Net Unrestricted Securities and 2024 Operating Budget Surplus at \$7,729,056. Mr. Aiello then reviewed the contributing factors to these variances.

The SORTA Board accepted the report as presented.

METRO ON THE MOVE

Mr. Haley presented the Metro on the Move report. We celebrated the 3rd annual Golden Bus Awards last week at Music Hall, on March 28th all bus services will be free and Metro will be in the Opening Day parade. We were awarded two grants this month. The Ohio EPA awarded us \$3.8 million from their Diesel Emission Reduction grant to replaced four aging diesel buses with Hybrid technology buses and the Ohio Department of Transportation awarded Metro \$1 million to support the Bus Stop Enhancement project that will help us replace 4,000 bus stops throughout our service area. We celebrated 1,100 team members last week for National Employee Appreciation Week and we welcomed 10 new Access vehicles into our fleet donning our new logo wrap. These vehicles have low-floor wheelchair ramps, which are more reliable compared to lifts.

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Ethridge moved and Mr. Brice seconded going into executive session.

“Section 121.22(G)(3) Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action...”

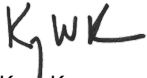
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees has been scheduled for
April 23rd, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.
the SORTA/Metro Board Room, at 525 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

APPROVED:



Kreg Keesee
Chair, SORTA Board

ATTESTED:



Darryl Haley
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Project	Method	Vendor	Award	Term	Funding
040-2024-SS* <i>Fleetwatch Upgrade for Access</i>	Sole Source Award	S&A Systems, Inc.	\$159,185	1 year Apr 2024 – Apr 2025	Budgeted Local Capital
055-2024-SS* <i>First Responder Network</i>	Sole Source Award	AT&T Mobility	\$401,725	5 years Feb 2024 – Jan 2029	Budgeted Local Operating

*denotes non-competitive or non-negotiable award

Supplier Diversity Summary

Total Awards for Month	\$560,910
Total Diversity Spend for Month	\$--
Addressable Awards	\$--
Effective Participation Rate	\$--
2024 Total Spend	\$63,900,501
2024 Diversity Spend	\$5,571,982 (8.7%)
2024 Total Addressable Spend	\$50,672,052
2024 Effective Participation Rate	11.0%

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-xx

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT NO. 040-2024-SS FLEETWATCH UPGRADE

WHEREAS:

1. Metro requires the use of numerous fluid types while maintaining and repairing the fleet vehicles.
2. Fleetwatch is the current system in use by Metro and Fleetwatch contains multiple custom integrations within Maximo.
3. Metro utilizes Fleetwatch as it can be time-consuming to manually maintain and repair the fleet vehicles.
4. Staff recommends a one (1) year contract with S & A. Systems, Inc., at a total cost not to exceed \$159,185.
5. This expenditure will be funded with budgeted local capital funds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

6. The SORTA Board hereby finds the proposal of S & A. Systems, Inc. to be the proposal most advantageous to SORTA, price and other factors considered, and awards it a contract to provide fluid technology services, at a total cost not to exceed \$159,185.
7. The SORTA Board authorizes the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Senior Director of Procurement to execute a contract with S & A. Systems, Inc., on behalf of SORTA.



vendor diversity goal was not established for this modification based on the use of local operating funds and the limited subcontracting opportunities.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Senior Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 040-2024-SS, on behalf of Metro with S&A Systems, Inc., with a not to exceed value of \$159,185.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTION ITEM

DATE: April 18, 2024
FROM: John Edmondson, Sr. Director of Procurement
 Pat Giblin, Sr. Director of IT/Chief Information Officer
PROJECT NO.: 055-2024 FirstNet First Responder Communications Network
REQUEST: Contract Award

BACKGROUND

Metro has the need to communicate wirelessly with revenue service vehicles while in revenue service and support vehicles while en route to provide operator support. Wireless communications systems that carry commercial consumer traffic can be prone to disruptions and service outages.

BUSINESS PURPOSE

The State of Ohio issued a contract with AT&T for FirstNet communications services; only wireless communications network built exclusively for first responders. The network is an ecosystem of mission-centric apps, solutions, and dedicated connectivity that provide reliable communications with all Metro vehicles.

PROJECT FINANCING

The budget for the project is \$401,725, or \$80,345 per year for 5 years. Prior to 2024, Metro purchased service on a year-by-year basis starting in 2022. The annual cost of \$80,345 has remained static and the contract does not include annual price escalators or other adjustments.

The final project cost is \$401,725 and is flat to budget.

PROJECT PROCUREMENT

Based on the available market information, AT&T is the only vendor capable of providing a wireless data communications network for first responder organizations. Metro has been approved by AT&T as meeting the criteria for first responder-level communications, particularly during emergencies. As such, procurement staff determined that a Sole Source award was justified.

Based on the procurement methodology, no vendor outreach was conducted.

PROJECT DIVERSITY

Metro values diverse vendor participation in all contract awards and encourages all proposers to create subcontracting opportunities for disadvantaged businesses when responding to solicitations. However, diverse vendor participation is only required when using Federal financial assistance in third-party contracting. This project is financed using only local Metro funds.



The nature of the work does not require disciplines or specialties not provided by the prime contractors. As a result, subcontracting opportunities for this project are significantly limited. A required vendor diversity goal was not established for this award based on the use of local operating funds and the limited subcontracting opportunities.

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve a resolution authorizing the CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or the Senior Director of Procurement to execute Contract No. 055-2024-SS, on behalf of Metro with AT&T Mobility, with a not to exceed value of \$401,725.



Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority

Financial Summary - March 2024

Report Out Date – April 18, 2024

Agenda – Financial Summary

- Statement of Operations for March '24
 - Revenue Chart
 - Expense Chart
 - Key Drivers
 - Detail Profit & Loss Statement
- Investment Funds Reserve Summary
- Investment Balance Update (separate attachment)



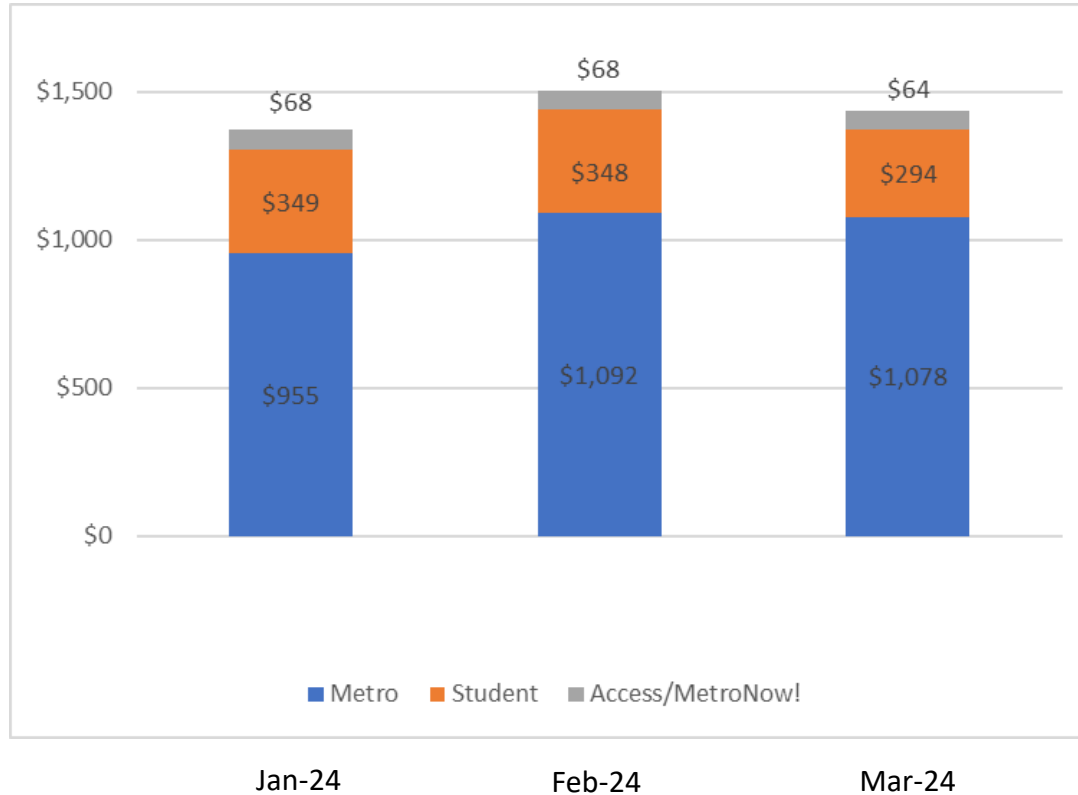
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS



MARCH 2024 – FARE REVENUE SOURCES

3 MONTH TREND – JANUARY 2024 THRU MARCH 2024

In Thousands



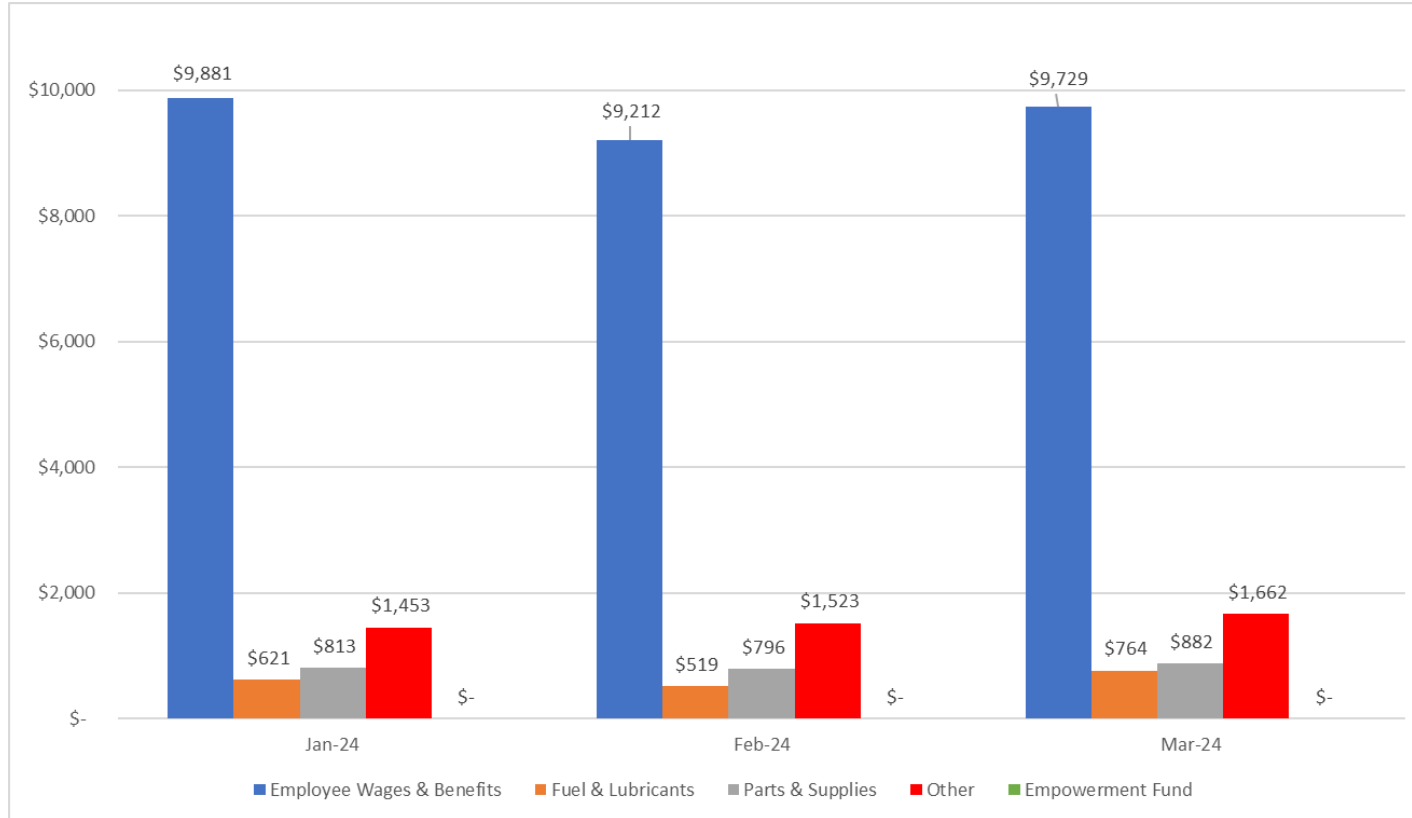
Month	Days per Month	Avg Rev per Day
Jan-24	31	\$31
Feb-24	29	\$38
Mar-24	31	\$35

Note: Number of Weekdays within each corresponding month as follows: Jan 23, Feb 21, Mar 21

MARCH 2024 – OPERATING EXPENSE SOURCES

3 MONTH TREND – JANUARY 2024 THRU MARCH 2024

In Thousands



Summary

- Total Revenue \$14.1M - favorable to Budget \$495k
- Total Expense \$13.0M - favorable to Budget \$670k or 4.9%
- Surplus / (Deficit) \$1.1M - favorable to Budget \$1,165k
- Note: Ridership total is 1,100k – unfavorable to Budget (55k) or (4.8%)

Revenue

- Total Operating Revenue \$1.6M - favorable to Budget \$76k or 4.9%
- Non-Transportation \$1.2M - favorable to Budget \$419k or 53.1%. Root Cause: Interest income on investments
- County Sales Tax \$10.5M – on Budget; actual December receipts recorded to 2023
- Federal Grants \$0.8M - on Budget

Expense

- Wages & Benefits \$9.7M - favorable to budget \$192k or 1.9%
- Fuel and Lubricants \$764k - unfavorable (\$45k) or (6.3%) to Budget. Root Cause: Market Fuel Price per gallon
- Parts & Supplies \$882k - unfavorable (\$28k) to Budget or (3.3%)
- All Other \$1.7M – favorable Budget \$551k. Root Cause: Outsourced Services \$433k due to timing of projects



3 Mo Ending March 31, 2024 (\$ In Thousands)	Month				Year to Date				Prior Year
	Actual	Budget	Fav(Unfav)		Actual	Budget	Fav(Unfav)		
Ridership									
Regular	956,442	984,670	(28,228)	(2.9%)	2,647,658	2,831,084	(183,426)	(6.5%)	2,639,968
CPS	123,113	148,945	(25,832)	(17.3%)	439,437	470,261	(30,824)	(6.6%)	455,040
Subtotal Fixed Route	1,079,555	1,133,615	(54,060)	(4.8%)	3,087,095	3,301,345	(214,250)	(6.5%)	3,095,008
Access	15,160	17,138	(1,978)	(11.5%)	44,702	46,988	(2,286)	(4.9%)	43,895
MetroNow!	5,482	4,485	997	-	15,462	12,431	3,031	-	-
Total Ridership	1,100,197	1,155,238	(55,041)	(4.8%)	3,147,259	3,360,764	(213,505)	(6.4%)	3,138,903
Operating Revenue									
Metro Fares	\$ 1,078	\$ 1,088	\$ (10)	(0.9%)	\$ 3,125	\$ 3,129	\$ (4)	(0.1%)	\$ 2,997
Access Fares	53	65	(12)	(18.5%)	169	177	(8)	(4.5%)	167
MetroNow! Fares	11	9	2	22.2%	31	25	6	24.0%	-
CPS Fares	294	172	122	70.9%	991	619	372	60.1%	1,213
Other	181	207	(26)	(12.6%)	526	612	(86)	(14.1%)	661
Total Operating Revenue	1,617	1,541	76	4.9%	4,842	4,562	280	6.1%	5,038
Non-Operating Revenue									
County Sales Tax	10,479	10,479	-	-	29,793	29,793	-	-	28,065
ARP	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	n/a	6,300
ARP Comp	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	n/a	7,500
Federal Subsidies	843	843	-	-	2,528	2,528	-	-	3,600
Non Transportation	1,208	789	419	53.1%	2,837	2,492	345	13.8%	1,648
Total Non-Operating Revenue	12,530	12,111	419	3.5%	35,158	34,813	345	1.0%	47,113
Total Revenue	14,147	13,652	495	3.6%	40,000	39,375	625	1.6%	52,151
Expenses									
Employee Wages & Benefits	9,729	9,921	192	1.9%	28,822	29,500	678	2.3%	25,557
Fuel & Lubricants	764	719	(45)	(6.3%)	1,904	2,111	207	9.8%	1,863
Parts & Supplies	882	854	(28)	(3.3%)	2,494	2,562	68	2.7%	2,212
Empowerment Fund	-	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	n/a	126
Other	1,662	2,213	551	24.9%	4,638	5,981	1,343	22.5%	4,375
Total Expenses	13,037	13,707	670	4.9%	37,858	40,154	2,296	5.7%	34,133
Surplus(Deficit) Before Adj	\$ 1,110	\$ (55)	\$ 1,165		\$ 2,142	\$ (779)	\$ 2,921		\$ 18,018



Investment Funds Reserve Summary

Overnight Investments	\$31,571,274
Securities & CD's	\$141,801,870

Total All Securities (3/31/2024)	\$173,373,144
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Current Capital Reserve Obligations

<i>BRT Project Development (Hamilton & Reading Corridors)</i>	\$36,000,000
<i>Future BRT Capital Match (Fed 70% & Local 30%)</i>	\$54,000,000
Total BRT	\$90,000,000
Local Match - FTA and ODOT Grants	\$9,976,736
100% Local Projects (<i>Prior Years Open + Current Year</i>)	\$41,755,547
2 Months of Operating Expenses	\$24,000,000
All Other Obligations	\$6,500,000

Total Current Capital Reserve Obligations	\$172,232,283
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Net Unrestricted Securities Available	\$1,140,861
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2024 Remaining Operating Budget Surplus Apr - Dec (Deficit)	\$3,112,104
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Net Unrestricted Securities + '24 Operating Budget Surplus	\$4,252,965
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metro on the MOVE

From Darryl Haley, Metro CEO
& General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



April 2024

April showers bring...Metro Hybrid buses!

New Hybrid buses roll out: In celebration of Earth Day, we launched 10 new Metro Hybrid-electric technology buses into service on Monday. These new buses reflect our continued strategy towards greener and more efficient transit options. We are also testing new technology on these hybrid-electric buses aimed at eliminating emissions in targeted zones where air quality concerns are heightened. Once within these geotargeted areas, the buses transition to full electric mode, removing fuel use and resulting in zero emissions.



FTA comes to Cincinnati: Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Veronica



Vanderpool traveled from Washington, D.C. to hold a press conference in Cincinnati to announce updated regulations to the Public Transit Safety Plan, which focuses on increasing operator and passenger safety. FTA stated that Metro is a model for the country regarding how union members and management can work together to address these issues. Representatives from Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) & American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) National also participated in the press conference, along with ATU Local 627 President Frank Harper.

The Acting Administrator, FTA staff, Councilmen Reggie Harris and a representative from U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown's office joined us following the press conference for a technical tour of the BRT corridor to learn more about potential transit-oriented development and infrastructure needs along the routes.

System of the Year: We are honored to have been named the Transit System of the Year by the Ohio Department of Transportation, Division of Opportunity, Diversity & Inclusion. This award was received in recognition of our outstanding accomplishments in supplier diversity and the support of small and disadvantaged businesses in our community.

Marketing wins two ADDY Awards: We recently received two Addy Award from the American Advertising Association for our “Get Up & Go Metro” marketing campaign and for the partnership and design of the NAACP Cincinnati Chapter’s “Your Voice is Your Vote” resource vehicle. Hats off to our Marketing & Communications team!

Biking & Busing: In recognition of “National Bike to Work Day” on May 17, any rider utilizing the bike racks on the front of our buses get to ride free that trip. Metro will also be participating in biking awareness activities across the county throughout May.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darryl Haley".

Darryl Haley
CEO/General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer