

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

The Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority met in public session on **Thursday, September 10, 2015** in Suite 1650, 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois pursuant to notice.

Chairman Dillard called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ROLL CALL

Board members present (15): Anderson, Buchanan (phone), Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang (phone), Ross, Totten, Troiani (phone), and Chairman Dillard

Approval of minutes from the meetings held on August 20, 2015

Director Hobson moved, and Director Melvin seconded that the minutes from the meetings held on August 20, 2015 be approved as submitted. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

16 Ayes: Anderson, Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Redden began by reporting the state owes the RTA \$287.1 million as of September.

The budget impasse in Springfield continues as the state is without a budget for fiscal year 2016. The RTA continues to receive its PTF state match money. Ms. Redden then moved on to the federal front and relayed that US House committee staff has been working all August on a long-term surface transportation bill. The hope is to get a bill ready for release on the federal level by mid- to-late September.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for RTA's Comprehensive Annual Finance Report (CAFR) for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Ms. Redden also updated the Board on the joint projects with CMAP for Community Planning Grants. The RTA received 17 applications and is recommending 10 projects for a total program amount of approximately \$880,000. These projects are funded by a combination of existing RTA funds, federal UWP funds and local match funding. The public comment period is currently open through October 2 and final projects will be brought to the Board in October.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OCTOBER 15, 2015**

Next, Mr. Barry Taylor, chair of the RTA Transit Access Advisory Committee (RTAAC) and vice president of Equip for Equality Civil Rights Team, provided the RTAAC Quarterly Report update to the Board. The most recent RTAAC meeting was held July 20, 2015 and the written Quarterly Report meeting summary was included in the Board meeting packet. Mr. Taylor thanked the RTA staff and Board members for their support of the ADA 25 Chicago initiative. He also congratulated the RTA on the new Travel Training Video series, which premiered this summer. He said he was especially pleased that the first video included captioning for people who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as video descriptions for people with vision disabilities. Mr. Taylor said that he was pleased to see the thought and effort that went into producing the video to ensure it would be accessible for everyone and looks forward to seeing the rest of the videos that will be produced. The next RTAAC quarterly meeting will be October 19, 2015.

Special Action Item

2015-39 This ordinance establishes the RTA Transit Access Citizens Advisory Board (RTACAB). The new 18-member committee will combine the activities of the current RTA Citizens Advisory Board (RCAB) and the RTA Transit Access Advisory Committee (RTAAC) into a single committee. Under the proposed RTACAB, there will be a total of 18 members. The 12 voting members will include the nine current RTAAC voting member positions plus the three chairs of the Service Boards' Citizens Advisory Boards (CABs). The remaining six non-voting members will include the Commissioner of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD), the chairs of each of the four Service Board ADA Advisory Committees and one RTA staff representative who will manage the activities of the committee. We expect the new RTACAB to take effect in January of 2016.

Director Fuentes moved, and Director Ross seconded that the ordinance be adopted as amended. The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

16 Ayes: Anderson, Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

Consent Items

Director Lewis moved, and Director Anderson seconded that the item below be adopted as submitted.

2015-40 This ordinance will amend the 2015 budget to reflect capital program changes relative to both funding and expenses. The ordinance also approves budget revisions for CTA, Metra, and Pace capital projects that are discussed in greater detail below. CTA is proposing new funding through a Transit Security Grant, sales tax funds, capital grant bond refinance, and insurance settlement proceeds.

Metra's proposed revisions include an increase to the amount of capital funding by including Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) pass-through funds, municipal matching funds, and additional Metra capital funds. Pace's proposed revisions include the addition of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program pass-through funds.

The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

16 Ayes: Anderson, Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

Contract Items

As part of the Executive Director report, Ms. Redden touched on the Interagency Signage Program, which has an ordinance authorizing a contract for Interagency Signage - Engineering and Construction Management Support. This item was deferred in August as additional information was requested by the Board.

Mr. Staniel then explained that the estimates that approximately 635 signs and products will be required at the 19 locations. According to RTA's recent Customer Satisfaction Survey, over 60% of the respondents indicated that they transfer one or more times, over one-third reported transferring 2 or more times. This indicates that many of the destinations in the region require more than a "one-seat" ride. Customers are also confronted with some legacy signage that causes confusion.

To address these problems the RTA and Service Boards developed a modular wayfinding system in which signs and informational products are designed to work together, to help our passengers make connections. The program uses consistent colors, and symbols. It is also designed to complement and re-enforce existing Service Board signage installed within stations or facilities.

This program was endorsed by the Board with the approval of the Pilot Project in August 2010 and again with the approval of expansion to 19 locations at the May 2014 meeting. In total, the 19 sites in this phase include: 39 rail stations, 23 Metra commuter rail stations and 16 CTA rapid transit stations, with 172 connecting CTA and Pace bus routes.

Even though the interagency signage program is a modular system, there are site specific engineering challenges that staff are confronted with. The engineering of each location is unique because each station was constructed differently. Even simple municipal sidewalk construction varies from decorative pavers, concrete sidewalks, to asphalt pathways. Many Metra and CTA stations have historic designations so that alternative mounting solutions needed to be devised. Next step is for the RTA to engage a contractor to provide engineering and construction management support to oversee the fabrication and installation of signs at the nineteen expansion locations.

Director Fuentes asked if the cost of the signage could be offset by advertising. Mr. Staniel replied that staff would look into it.

Director Magalis asked if we are planning to stay within the current budget for the federal grant. Ms. Redden responded that is this intent at this time.

Director Hobson asked if we have considered variable message signs for areas in which signage changes often. Mr. Staniel responded that it more economical to provide static signs.

Director Totten moved, and Director DeWitte seconded that the item below be adopted as submitted.

2015-41 This ordinance authorizes the Executive Director to execute a three-year contract with T.Y. Lin International (TY Lin) to provide engineering and construction management support services for the RTA's interagency signage program. The total contract amount is not-to-exceed \$792,276. In addition, TY Lin will exceed the 20% DBE goal established for this contract by retaining two certified DBE sub-consultants.

The motion carried on the following leave for last unanimous roll call vote:

16 Ayes: Anderson, Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the public portion of the meeting of the Board of Directors, Director Durante moved, and Director Frega seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried on the following voice vote:

16 Ayes: Anderson, Buchanan, Coulson, DeWitte, Durante, Frega, Fuentes, Hobson, Lewis, Magalis, Melvin, Pang, Ross, Totten, Troiani, and Chairman Dillard

The meeting ended at 10:10 a.m.

Audrey MacLennan

AUDREY MACLENNAN

Secretary of the Authority