

## **MINUTES**

### **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**August 2, 2018**

The Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority held a meeting on August 2, 2018 at 2:04 p.m. in the Board Room on the 6th Floor of the MARTA Headquarters Building, 2424 Piedmont Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

#### **Board Members Present**

Roberta Abdul-Salaam  
Robert L. Ashe III  
Robert F. Dallas  
Frederick L. Daniels, Jr.  
Jim Durrett  
Roderick E. Edmond  
William 'Bill' Floyd  
Ryan Carter Glover  
Jerry Griffin  
Freda B. Hardage  
Alicia M. Ivey  
Russell McMurry, P.E.\*  
John "Al" Pond  
Christopher S. Tomlinson\*  
W. Thomas Worthy

MARTA officials in attendance were: General Manager/CEO Jeffrey A. Parker; Deputy General Manager A. Robert Troup; C-Suite Team Members – Chief of Police & Emergency Management Wanda Dunham, Chief Financial Officer Gordon L. Hutchinson, Chief of Staff Melissa Mullinax, Chief Counsel Elizabeth O'Neill; AGMs Elayne Berry, LaShanda Dawkins, Victor Hall, Benjamin Limmer, David Springstead, Emil Tzanov and Tom Young (Interim); Chief Information Security Officer Dean Mallis; Executive Director Shelton Goode; Sr. Directors Debbie Frank (Acting), Lyle Harris (Contract), Jennifer Jinadu-Wright, Amanda Rhein and Donald Williams; Directors Rhonda Allen, Onyinye Akujuo and Joseph Dorsey; Managers Davis Allen, John Cochran, Stephany Fisher and Satyn Geary; Manager Executive Office Administration Tyrene Huff; Sr. Executive Administrator Ashanti Boothe, Sr. Executive Administrator Board of Directors Tonya Gantt (Contract); Sr. Executive Administrator-Finance Keri Lee. Others in attendance Hunter Abel, Carentin Auguin,

\* Christopher Tomlinson is Executive Director of Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA); Russell R. McMurry, P.E. is GDOT Commissioner, and are therefore non-voting members of the MARTA Board of Directors

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Jonathan Braithwaite, Chandler Diffie (Intern), Abebe Girmay, Cedric Griffin, Louis Grisoglio, Dryan Hobbs, Tamara Hunte, Courte Middlebrooks, LaTonya Pope, Ryan Sagar, Christopher Silveira, Nicholas Waters.

Also in attendance were Robert S. Highsmith, Jr. and LaToya Brisbane of Holland & Knight LLP; Barbara Antonoplos; Heather Aquino of SRТА; John Ashe; Melissa Brasel of Deloitte; Eric Burton and Jim Schmidt of HNTB; Scott Caleb; Susan Cobb and Joanne Rhone of WEND; Timothy Cook of Grove Park Residents; McKenna Crick of Berkeley Park; Jeff Delp; Eric DeVolder; Patty Durand; Vincent Fort; Jairo Garcia of Black Latino Council; Leslie Grant of Grant Park APS; Ryan Gravel of BRN; Scott Haggard of ATL/SRTA; Loven Heyns of Atlanta Riders.org; Alexander Hoke; Rick Hudson of Grant Park; Jill Johnson of Atlanta Beltline; Paul Jones; Ilene Lakin of Comcast; Maggie Lee of *Saporta Report*; Edward Leidelmeyer of Fulton County; John Macauley; Charles McKinney; Hugh Milkin; Bill Miller and Kay Stephenson of BRN; Jessica Morehead and Ted Terry of Sierra Club; Jason Morgan City of Atlanta Department of Planning; Jeremiah Olney of Paramount Consulting; Marci Overstreet of City of Atlanta City Council District 11; Charles Paine of Inman Park; Keith Parker of CCAG; Adrienne Proeller of Capital View Manor Neighborhood Association; Keith Quarles of A2D; Don Rey of ATL/SRTA; Peter Ryan; Richard Simonetta of Burns Engineering; Lisa Springs of NPU-T; Robert Stovall; Odetta White of TransFormation Alliance; David Wickert of *The AJC*; Curt Yeomans of *Gwinnett Daily Post*;

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## **Public Comment**

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Ms. Patty Durand. Asked the MARTA Board to fully fund Beltline transit. There are important job centers that are not served by the proposed More MARTA project list, including Piedmont Hospital. There are many technical and professional positions in the north part of the city. There are over five NPUs in the South side of the city and over 30% residents living there have no vehicles. The More MARTA project list has undervalued the benefits of transit. The project list does not connect where people live. Please reconsider the More MARTA project list to fully fund Beltline transit. Stop offering free parking and offer discounts to take MARTA.

Mr. Jeff Delp. I live, work and parent along the south side. My concern is More MARTA will address very little of the transportation needs in my neighborhood. It does nothing to address transportation for my employees. Four people got off at Lindbergh MARTA station today. Get me and my kids off the road and the city will be transformed.

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Ms. Adrienne Proeller. My association is a 325-home neighborhood, just south of Pittsburg in southwest Atlanta. Please bring light rail to the entire Beltline. Please make it a priority. According to the report, Changing the Odds, 30-38% of households in NPU-V and X do not have a car. Yet the vast majority of jobs are north of I-20. Bringing rail to the Beltline will make jobs more assessable. As I age, having a car may not be an option. Please bring rail to the Beltline.

Atlanta City Councilmember Marci Collier Overstreet, District 11. Want to ensure District 11 remains on the Project list. It is important to stick to the list that has been promised to the District. Heard there was a problem with two line items for Campbellton Road – BRT and light rail. I want to ensure Campbellton Road stays on the list and stay on task. Would like to make sure that the Atlanta City Design Guide is used. Southwest Atlanta has the highest ridership in Atlanta – we must be good stewards for these residents. Additionally, southwest Atlanta have a swarm of educated professionals that do not take MARTA. Please give us the option to ride MARTA.

APS School Board Ms. Leslie Grant. Here today as a resident of Grant Park. My community would like to see light rail going around the Beltline. Please make this a beautiful, connected, complete project. It would be a good thing to put kids on MARTA in high school. Having a complete inner city loop of light rail will help address inequities.

Clarkston Mayor Ted Terry. Here today representing the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club. Would like to give support of the proposed Clayton County commuter rail investment idea. Back in 2014, the Sierra Club, along with a broader coalition of community and labor groups worked to lobby the Clayton County Commission for the passage of this one penny sales tax referendum. The Beltline is a great idea. It will reduce air pollution, CO2 emissions and fight global warming. We want to support efforts as the commuter rail discussion continues.

Former State Senator Vincent Fort. Board members need to stay and listen to public commenters. I live in the Campbellton Road area. There is a ½ mile stretch of Campbellton Road that does not have sidewalks. Children cannot walk to the library. If you're going to put in light rail, there needs to be sidewalks. Building the west line to Fulton Industrial was on the drawing board. If southwest Atlanta is going to get equity, extending the west line to Fulton Industrial is critical. I have advocated a long time for light rail on the Beltline. It should not be done until the Beltline makes specific commitment to affordable housing. In this way, you can build equity.

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Ms. Barbara Antonoplos. The Beltline was designed to flesh out a broad and noble vision to connect, serve and enhance the diversity of neighborhoods that make up our city by providing equitable access to functional public transit and thus, better access to opportunity. Before the vote on the sales tax, city and MARTA leaders voiced adamant commitment to finishing Beltline transit as a top priority. With the promise of Beltline rail for over a decade, neighborhoods like Grant Park have achieved high density and skyrocketed taxes. Please don't jump ship. You have a golden opportunity to fund a visionary model that will mitigate a host of troubling trends in our city.

Ms. Lisa Stines. Represent the NPU-T. Wanted to address the policy for station name changes, specifically West End. We would like to know if the community has any input and when those policy changes will take effect. Secondly, is the communication for riders for train and rail delays. We would like notification before we get into the station. Lindbergh has a great model with a visible info-board. There is a need for shelters and trash cans in our community.

### **Minutes of the July 11, 2018 Meeting of the MARTA Board of Directors**

On motion by Dr. Edmond seconded by Mr. Pond, the minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 12 to 0, with 14\* members present.

### **Planning & External Relations Committee Report**

Mr. Griffin reported that the Planning & External Relations Committee met on July 11, 2018 and approved the following resolution:

- a. Resolution Authorizing the Approval of Service Modifications for August 18, 2018 on Routes 6, 9, 15, 16, 21, 25, 27, 30, 32, 36, 49, 74, 107, 110, 133 (replaces 33), 195, 809 (replaces 109), 825 (new), 832 (new) and 899 (replaces 99)

On motion by Mr. Griffin seconded by Mr. Pond, the resolution was unanimously approved by a vote of 12 to 0, with 14\* members present. A copy of the resolution, **AS APPROVED, IS ATTACHED TO AND MADE PART OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD COPY OF THESE MINUTES.**

### **Audit Committee Report**

Mrs. Hardage reported that the Audit Committee met on July 20, 2018 and received the following briefings:

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- a) Review of Audit Activity
- b) Other Matters
  - Staffing
  - Review of the Preliminary FY 19 Goals of the Department of Internal Audit

**Business Management Committee Report**

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Mr. Daniels reported that the Business Management Committee met on July 26, 2018 and approved the following resolutions:

- a. Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Small AC Motor Overhaul and Repair Services, IFB B41130
- b. Resolution – Authorization to Enter Into Negotiations with RD Management LLC and Kelco/FB Winecoff LLC for the Joint Development of Parcel D3210 at Peachtree Center Station, Entrance #2, Request for Proposals P40628
- c. Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Desktop Equipment and Deployment Services, RFP P38567-A
- e. Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Colocation of Technology Data Center and Services, RFP P40188
- f. Resolution Authorizing Award of a Contract for the Procurement of Diverse Fiber Routing for Network Infrastructure Request for Proposals P40186
- g. Resolution Amending the MARTA Non-Represented Pension Plan

On motion by Mr. Daniels seconded by Mr. Durrett, resolutions 'a, b, c, e, f, g' was unanimously approved by a vote of 12 to 0, with 14\* members present. A copy of the resolutions, **AS APPROVED, IS ATTACHED TO AND MADE PART OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD COPY OF THESE MINUTES.**

Resolution "d" Resolution Authorizing a Letter Agreement for Professional Services for the Redesign of MARTA's On the Go Application, LOA L42210 was pulled due to unreadiness.

**Public Comment (con't)**

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Mr. Bill Miller. A native Atlantan. Voted on the MARTA sales tax referendum. In graduate school, wrote thesis on the impact of low and moderate income housing around MARTA stations. Remember when Mr. Gravel came up with the incredible idea of the Beltline. I now see that vision coming true. The next great movement will be on the west and south side of Atlanta and they will be depending on light rail transit.

Dr. Jairo Garcia. Executive Director of the Black & Latina Council. The Atlanta Beltline is the heart of the solution. Encouraged the Board to be true to the promise of the Beltline.

Mr. Rick Hudson. Representing the Grant Park Neighborhood Association. Mr. Limmer has helped me understand the More MARTA tax is generating approximately \$67M per year. Thank all of you for getting MARTA finances fine-tuned so more of these capacity project will come on line. I am advocating for the full Beltline loop.

Mr. Loren Heyns. Resident of Grant Park. Want to talk about two direct connections to MARTA rail stations from the full Beltline rail loop – MLK Station and Reynoldstown. An eloquent solution for the near term would be to use Chicago's modern European tramway train style, which is complete separation of car traffic – this would be the Beltline rail loop. For street traffic, we would use the streetcar. connected at Auburn thru Irwin Park over by the Krog Street Market. In the future, it can be taken to Memorial and to the State Capitol. From the north we would use shuttles, controlling lights at Krog Street Tunnel.

Mr. Paul Jones. Welcomed Mr. Parker back to MARTA. When Board members make decisions based on comments from the public, remember MARTA has compiled all 14 rapid transit contract amendments. He encouraged Board members to look at Amendment #9 moving forward. The last Board meeting was adjourned without addressing my question: Why spend \$1B to replace its entire 300+ rail fleet and at the same time not extend MARTA out I-20. He asked the Board to look at the document because the Board will need the jurisdictions to sign off on the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Ms. Odetta MacLeish-White. Managing Director of Transformation Alliance, a 30-member collaborative whose mission is to strengthen communities through transit. Housing and transit are complimentary forms of infrastructure. We call on MARTA and City of Atlanta to be creative and dedicated to protecting neighborhoods. Strongly urge MARTA to extend the community engagement timeline.

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Mr. Timothy Cook. Resident of the west side. Voiced concern about lack of investment and development on the west side. Some of the most vulnerable communities in Atlanta are on the west side.

Dr. Joanne Rhone. Attended Board meeting two months ago concerning the renaming of West End station. There has been no feedback to the community's request not to rename the West End station. The West End community would like your feedback.

Ms. Susan Cobb. A resident of West End. Please reconsider changing the name of the West End MARTA station. West End is a designation. It is the oldest community in Atlanta. West End fought this battle 17 years ago. We won. Do we need to fight it again? The West End residents were not polled on a name change. At a recent meeting of West End, most residents voiced their opinion that the name of the station should remain West End.

Mr. Hugh Malkin. Resident of Grant Park. I would love to see light rail around the Beltline.

Mr. John Macauley. When the City was asked to vote for a self-imposed tax, we voted with you to support light rail on Campbellton and the entire Beltline. We did not vote for light rail in Emory. If we do not get light rail on the Beltline, we will remember your broker promise.

Mr. John Ashe. Native of Chamblee/Brookhaven. I support Beltline rail. I support the speakers that say housing and transit are interlinked. The Campbellton Road corridor is super important. We should do BRT and do it right – dedicated stations, dedicated lanes, not competing with street traffic. Money saved on Campbellton rail can be used for the Beltline.

Ms. Sherry B. Williams. Atlanta native. Georgia Stand Up, work with transit equity initiatives. I ride MARTA. We want all the projects done on the project list, however, we know there is only \$2.5B. We were first in line, especially Oakland #83 is one of the heaviest routes in the system and should be at the top of your list. We think the Beltline should be done, but we were first in line. We need sidewalks and equity that goes to those who use the system each and every day.

McKenna Crick. (Written comments):

- Closest MARTA stop is Arts Center Station – a 48- minute walk
- I-75 corridor entering city is always gridlocked which congests side streets Northside Drive and Howell Mill as alternate routes
- West Midtown has a large expected population growth with undergoing developments that will add to congestion
- Would like to see Beltline rail completed to get surface street congestion alleviated

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**Adjournment**

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The meeting of the MARTA Board of Directors adjourned at 3:00 p.m.