Minutes

RTA Tax Budget Public Hearing

10:18 a.m., July 9, 2024

Committee Members: Welch (Vice Chair), Love, Sleasman

Other Board Members: Lucas, McPherson, Pacetti, Weiss

Not present: Biasiotta, Koomar, Mersmann

Staff: Agnew, Birdsong Terry, Burney, Capek, Caver, Coffey, Dangelo, Davidson, Dimmick (Drew), Dimmick (Kirk), Fesler, Fields, Flannery, Fleig, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Jupina, Laule, Lawson, Martin, McGervey, Mothes, Neinke, Palmer, Rusnov, Schipper, Schultz, Shaffer, Sutula, Talley, Togher, Walker-Minor, Woodford, Young

Public: Gibbons, Hill

FY 2025 Tax Budget

Kay Sutula, Director, Office of Management & Budget, read the statement.

This is the official public hearing on the proposed FY 2025 Tax Budget for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. The information for the tax budget has been made available for public inspection on the Authority's web site, Twitter page, and Facebook page.

Public notice of this hearing has been given by publication of legal advertisements in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on June 19, 2024 and June 23, 2024, and the Cleveland Urban News on June 21, 2024 and June 23, 2024, as well as by posting of notice in the first-floor lobby of the Authority's Main Office Building, at the Customer Service Center in the Tower City Rotunda, RTA Facebook page, Twitter page, and on the Internet website. Notification was given on these sites on how to virtually attend (live-streaming) the Committee Meeting, Public Hearing, and Board Meeting and how to submit a comment for the public hearing.

The FY 2025 Tax Budget was presented to the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee of the RTA Board of Trustees on July 9, 2024. This is the initial analysis and forward-looking document toward estimated revenues for the next fiscal year. This is the first step and a valuable tool in the budget development process.

The tax budget estimates revenues at \$352.2 million. Sales and Use Tax receipts are projected to increase by 1.8%. Total Passenger Fares are budgeted at \$30.2 million, an increase of 2.5% as growth in ridership continues. Transfers from the Reserve Fund include \$4.5 million for the 27th pay for hourly employees and \$36.5 million for Revenue Stabilization to maintain a 1-month ending balance.

Reimbursed Expenditures includes operating reimbursements for preventive maintenance, force account labor, and other miscellaneous reimbursements. For the 2025 Tax Budget, reimbursed expenditures are projected at \$5 million, \$1.0 million for preventive maintenance, and \$4.0 million each for capital labor and other reimbursements. The Authority continues to keep preventive maintenance reimbursement low so the grant funding could be used for other capital projects.

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Total expenditures for the 2025 Tax Budget are projected at \$350.8 million, which includes \$309.7 million for operating expenditures and \$41.1 million for transfers to other funds. The strategic efforts we have put in place over the past few years have enabled us to maintain a 1-month balance through 2027.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Rajan D. **G**autam

Secretary/Treasurer

Theresa A. Burrage

Executive Assistant