

Minutes

RTA Committee of the Whole Meeting

9:43 a.m., October 15, 2024

Committee Members: Koomar (Chair), Welch (Vice Chair) Biasiotta, Elder, Love, McPherson, Pacetti, Sleasman, Weiss

Not present: Lucas

Staff: Becker, Birdsong Terry, Blaze, Burney, Catalusci, Caver, Dangelo, Davidson, Dietrich, Fields, Fleig, Fogliano, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Harris, Kirkland, Laule, Manning, McGervey, Miller, Moore, Schipper, Sutula, Talley, Temming, Tereba, Togher, Young, Walker Minor

Public: Gibbons, Hagar, Loh

The meeting was called to order at 9:43 a.m. There were nine (9) committee members present.

Railcar Update

This presentation was given by Bryan Moore, Railcar Project Lead Manager, Casey Blaze, Manager, Rail Equipment, Floun'say Caver, Chief Operating Officer, Operations and Mike Schipper, Deputy General Manager, Engineering & Project Management.

Railcar Replacement Purchase

Siemens Mobility, Inc. is the contractor for the purchase of new rail cars. The new cars will be the same type for the Red/Blue/Green lines. The base contract for 24 rail cars was exercised April 2023. One option was exercised back in November 2023 for 6 additional vehicles. Options for 30 more vehicles remain. The current contract value is \$195,589,849. A request to exercise options for 18 additional vehicles will be brought to the Board in November. The preliminary design review and final design review meetings have been completed. Siemens will begin fabrication this month.

Key Features of New Vehicle

- First High floor LRV built to RT1-2020 design standards
- Ice cutter pantograph on every train
- Heated windshield and pantograph
- Load leveling system to adjust floor height
- Dedicated HVAC unit for operator cab
- 52 passenger seats, 4 wheelchair areas and 2 bicycle racks (12 seats flip up)
- Passenger Information System

Design & Construction Support Services

The vehicle engineering consulting firm is Hatch. They helped with the rail car Pillar Study and developed the railcar RFP. They provide design review and manufacturing oversight. The Safety & Security Certification consultant is K & J Safety and Security Consulting Services. They keep the job safe. They will work with us through the end of the project.

Infrastructure Modifications:

- Track work design utilizes existing on-call Rail consultant *Parsons*

- RFPs for facility modifications with *Bowen*
- Red Line platform modifications with *Osborn Engineering*
- Construction support services will be performed by GCRTA staff
- Port of Cleveland - Environmental Process- complete
 - Temporary Easement: **Complete**
 - Permanent Easement: Anticipated November 2024
- Port of Cleveland - Track Connection - ongoing
 - *Parsons* (Design) – **Complete**
 - *Kennedy Railroad Services* (Construction)
 - 4/16/2024: Board Award
 - 5/8/2024: Construction NTP issued
- Platform Modifications
 - Red Line - Environmental Process – FTA Review Ongoing
 - Red Line – Design – *Osborn Engineering*
 - 7/30/2024: Board Award
 - 9/18/2024: NTP Issued
 - Design Completion Anticipated July 2025
 - Blue/Green/Waterfront Lines – TBD
 - Issuing RFP Design (1st Qtr 2025)
- Brookpark Rail Shop
 - Track work
 - *Parsons* (Design) – expected completion November 2024
 - Track work – advertise construction bid package (anticipated November 2024)
 - Building Interior
 - *Parsons* (Design) – expected completion October 2024
 - Building Interior – advertise construction (October 2024)
- Central Rail Maintenance Facility
 - *Bowen* (Design) Building Interior
 - expected completion April 2025
 - Construction – advertise bid package – (June 2025)

Owner Furnished Equipment

These items need to be purchased by RTA and provided to the car builder. They will be brought to the Board in the near future:

- Motorola - Radio and associated wiring and equipment
- Cradlepoint - Passenger Wi-Fi and Wayside connectivity
- Vontas - Customer information and Route performance

Other Coordination Activities

They have hired 2 additional trainers. They began “Up-To-Speed” Training – (completed Coupler, Pantograph, Trucks). They are leveraging knowledge from other transit properties. Operational considerations include testing, construction, revenue service implementation and final configuration.

Vehicle Acquisition

The base contract for 24 vehicles was issued at \$5,166,366 per vehicle. The first six options were exercised, with no escalation. The remaining options are escalated, based on the PPI adjustment index. The adjustment is based on the date the vehicle goes into final assembly. The 30th car of the first option goes into final assembly roughly April 2027. Today’s value of that vehicle is \$5.3 million.

The PPI will give us the value into the future. In November 2024 they plan to exercise options for 18 vehicles and spare parts. OMB will present a Capital Appropriation Budget Amendment later today.

Mayor Koomar asked for the per cost of each vehicle. Mr. Moore said it is \$5.3 million but they won't know the final cost until it goes into final assembly and they finish the escalation in two years.

Ms. Pacetti asked if we were on track and why 18 vehicles were chosen. Mr. Moore said 18 was in line with the finances. It is also the number needed to put the Blue/Green Line into service. The project is on track. Manufacturing will begin earlier than projected.

Mayor Weiss asked about the timing of the light rail cars, how that will affect the updates and how many of the LR stops require modifications. Mr. Moore said the plan is to retire the heavy rail vehicles first because of their condition. The Blue/Green Line will be delayed until the next option order. We need enough vehicles to run the existing Red Line service and spares. The same must be done for the Blue/Green Line. Mr. Schipper said every Red Line platform must be widened. The project is in design. The goal is to design, bid and have materials in place so the work can be done quickly. The light rail modifications are not as extensive. Modifications are needed for all ADA stations on the light rail and Waterfront Line.

Mayor Koomar asked what the \$195 million represents and time frame for the 24 vehicles. Mr. Moore said that represents the current contract for the 24 vehicles. Delivery is expected in Spring 2026. The total contract was up to 60 vehicles. Ms. Pacetti asked about ridership projections for the new rail cars. Dr. Caver predicts the new cars and potential for new routes will drive increased ridership since the cars will be more reliable.

Internal Audit Plan

Tony Garofoli, Executive Director, Internal Audit gave the presentation. Today's update is to go over the modifications made to the plan. A redline of the modifications was included in the meeting package.

Conformance with the IIA Global Internal Audit Standards

Standard 9.4 Internal Audit Plan:

- "The chief audit executive must create an internal audit plan that supports the achievement of the organization's objectives."
- "The chief audit executive must review and revise the internal audit plan as necessary and communicate timely to the board and senior management."

Reasons for Adjustments

- Emerging Risks
- Organizational Changes
- Regulatory Requirements
- Audit Findings
- Stakeholder Requests
- Resource Availability

Modifications

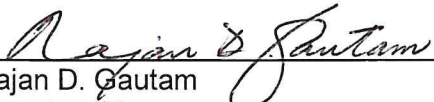
Federal Transit Administration – Buy America Audits

- Railcar Replacement (Second Option)
- Compressed Natural Gas Bus Replacement
- Bus-Rapid Transit Replacement
- Locomotive
- Line Car

These audits need to be done before January 2025.

The remaining adjustments help ensure the internal audit function remains agile and responsive to the GCRTA's evolving needs and risk landscape. This update is informational and doesn't require Board action.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.



Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer



Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Assistant