

Minutes

RTA Operating Budget Public Hearing

10:22 a.m., November 19, 2024

Committee Members: Welch (Chair), Love, Sleasman

Other Board Members: Biasiotta, Elder, Weiss **Not present:** Koomar, Lucas, McPherson, Pacetti

Staff: Birdsong Terry, Blaze, Burney, Caver, Dangelo, Davidson, Feke, Fields, Fleig, Ford-Marshall, Freilich, Gautam, Gibbons, Hudson, Jones, Jupina, Kirkland, Macko, Meinke, Metcaff, Miller, Mothes, Moore, Rusnov, Schipper, Sutula, Talley, Togher, Walker-Minor, Young, Zimmerman

Public: Bingham, Gibbons, Hagar, Hinkle, Loh, Martin, Rubin, Sopko, Urankar

FY 2025 Operating Budget

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

This is the first of two official public hearings on the proposed 2025 Budgets for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. The 2025 Budget is available for inspection in the Office of Management & Budget and on the Authority's web site and social media pages. Public notice of this hearing has been given by publication in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on October 23 and October 27, 2024 and the Cleveland Urban News on October 25 and October 27, 2024, as well as by posting a notice in the first-floor lobby of the Authority's Main Office Building, and on the Authority's web site and social media pages.

The Proposed 2025 Budget was presented to the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee of the RTA Board of Trustees on November 19, 2024. A second presentation will be made to the Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee on December 3, 2024. The Proposed General Fund Budget estimates revenues at \$364.5 million. The two largest sources of revenue are sales & use tax, budgeted at \$267.5 million, and passenger fares at \$32.0 million.

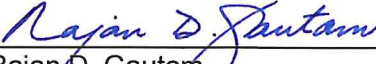
Reimbursed expenditures include reimbursements for preventive maintenance, force account labor, fuel tax and other miscellaneous reimbursements. For 2025, reimbursed expenditures are budgeted at \$5.0 million, of which \$1.0 million is for preventive maintenance. The formula funds normally used for preventive maintenance reimbursement will be used for unfunded or underfunded capital projects. Total expenditures are budgeted at \$364.9 million, which includes \$323.8 million for operating expenditures and \$41.1 million for transfers to other funds to support expenses and maintain the recommended fund balances for the Bond Retirement, Insurance, Supplemental Pension, Capital Improvement, and Reserve Funds.

The 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was adopted by the Board of Trustees on May 21, 2024. The CIP provides for the purchase, maintenance, and improvement of the Authority's capital assets through a programmed allocation of available financial resources.

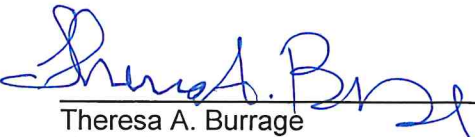
Public Comment

1. Chris Martin – Cleveland, OH – The budget is declining. Federal funds prop up the books. The Board can't count on future federal money. What is the Board doing to ensure a good ATU contract. There is still an operator shortage. The budget doesn't provide more frequent service at night and on weekends.

The public hearing was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.



Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer



Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Assistant