



Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 9:00 AM

COTA - WG Porter Boardroom, 33 N High St, Columbus OH

1. Call to Order

Chair Sean Mentel called the September 24, 2025 regular meeting of the COTA Board of Trustees to order at 9 am.

2. Roll Call

Board Members Present

Sean Mentel, Chair
Trudy Bartley, Vice Chair
Erika Clark Jones, Trustee (9:05 am)
Jay Deis, Trustee
Mallory Donaldson, Trustee
Jeff Hunley, Trustee
Marc Reitter, Trustee
Stephen Sayre, Trustee (9:07 am)
Matt Starr, Trustee
Amy Taylor, Trustee
Heather Ulrey, Trustee

Board Member Excused

Pete Bucher, Trustee
Doug McCollough, Trustee

3. Approval of Board of Trustee Minutes

A. July 23, 2025 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair Trudy Bartley moved to approve the July 23, 2025 Board of Trustees regular meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Amy Taylor. Motion carried.

4. Comments or Statements from the Audience

Belinda Spinosi said she witnessed a wheelchair not able to board bus; the ramp didn't work. Ms. Spinosi asked that the Accessible Transportation Advisory Committee report to the COTA Board of Trustees and for the committee to meet more frequently. She requested a meeting with the president to discuss how to make COTA completely accessible and submitted documents for the record.

5. President's Report

COTA President/CEO Monica Téllez-Fowler highlighted items in the LinkUS September

Progress Report, including: ridership is up 10 percent year of year; COTA staff engaged the community about the development of Line 30; approximately 5,000 stakeholders have been engaged in the past four months about bus rapid transit design and COTA is working with stakeholders through construction and operationalization; and 37 projects that will build infrastructure such as sidewalks, bikeways and trails funded by LinkUS will begin January 2026. President Téllez-Fowler introduced COTA Chief LinkUS Program Officer Dorinda McCombs and COTA Chief Financial Officer Earl Jackson. She also noted that with school back in session, COTA's Educational Pass Program continues to grow, and 26 COTA employees are enrolled at Franklin University or DeVry under a professional development program offered through COTA. President Téllez-Fowler said staff are planning for 2026 and beyond, and the final operating and capital budgets will be submitted to the Board for its approval at its December meeting. She also thanked Trustee Doug McCollough for joining the Board, noting his technology background will assist COTA in innovations needed to effectively operationalize bus rapid transit.

6. Governance Committee Report - Sean Mentel, Chair

Governance Committee Chair Sean Mentel reported that this committee met on September 18, 2025, where they heard committee reports, four resolutions for the Innovation and Technology Division were presented for the consent agenda, the committee reviewed the other resolutions that are on today's consent agenda, and a resolution—also for the consent agenda—for the election of officers was presented, naming COTA's newly hired Chief Financial Officer Earl Jackson as Secretary Treasurer.

7. Strategic and Operational Planning Committee Report - Trudy Bartley, Chair

Strategic and Operational Planning Committee Chair Trudy Bartley reported that this committee met on September 9, 2025, where they heard presentations providing the annual Information Technology/Innovation update; a LinkUS update, and the COTA//Plus Service Provider Plan. One resolution, recommended for the consent agenda, was presented.

8. External Stakeholder Relations Committee Report - Erika Clark Jones, Chair

External Stakeholder Relations Committee Chair Erika Clark Jones reported that this committee met on September 11, 2025, where they heard a progress report on the no fare feasibility study; a presentation on the COTA//Plus Service Provider Plan, and an update on LinkUS communications and engagement work.

9. Performance Monitoring/Audit Committee Report - Marc Reitter, Chair

Performance Audit/Monitoring Committee Chair Marc Reitter reported that this committee met on September 11, 2025, where Doug McCollough, appointed by the City of Columbus, was sworn in as trustee; the committee received a financial

update through July 2025, an operational performance update, and a Performance Incentive Compensation mid-year update. Also, the committee heard from the Office of the State Auditor that the three reports that office completed were issued with unmodified opinions. The committee heard 39 resolutions that were recommended for the consent agenda; Chair Reitter noted 31 of these resolutions were the first transit supportive infrastructure grant agreements.

10. Consent Agenda

- A. Resolution 2025-90 Authorizing the Sale of Trillium Park Development Lot-3 to Morse Road Development LLC
- B. Resolution 2025-91 Accepting the Audit Performed by the Auditor of the State of Ohio for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024
- C. Resolution 2025-92 Authorizing a No Fare Day on Election Day, November 4, 2025
- D. Resolution 2025-93 Authorizing a No Fare Day for Veterans in Recognition of Veterans Day on November 11, 2025
- E. Resolution 2025-94 Authorizing Additional Expenditures for the Contract with S and A Cleantech for COTA Standard and BRT Transit Passenger Shelter Cleaning and Snow
- F. Resolution 2025-95 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with Franklin County Engineers Office for the Dublin Road Shared Use Path Project
- G. Resolution 2025-96 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Hilliard for the Leap Road South Improvements Project
- H. Resolution 2025-97 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Village of Minerva Park for the Cleveland Avenue/Minerva Lake Road Project
- I. Resolution 2025-98 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with Washington Township for the Shier Rings Road Shared Use Path Project
- J. Resolution 2025-99 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Westerville for the Brooksedge Mobility Project Phase 1 and 2

- K. Resolution 2025-100 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Worthington for the East Wilson Bridge Road Shared Use Path Project
- L. Resolution 2025-101 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Worthington for the State Route 315 Crossing-Olentangy Trail to State Route 161 Project
- M. Resolution 2025-102 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Dublin for the Blazer Parkway Bike and Pedestrian Improvement Project
- N. Resolution 2025-103 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Columbus for the Big Walnut Trail-Winchester Pike to Refugee Road/Nafzger Park Trail Project
- O. Resolution 2025-104 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Columbus for the Capital Trail Project-Broad Street from Scioto Peninsula to Washington Avenue
- P. Resolution 2025-105 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Columbus for the East Broad Capital Trail–East Project (Washington Avenue to Alum Creek Trail)
- Q. Resolution 2025-106 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Columbus for the Trabue Road-Buckeye Yard to I-270 Project
- R. Resolution 2025-107 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Franklin County Engineer’s Office for the Cooke Road (Karl Road to Cleveland Avenue) Project
- S. Resolution 2025-108 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with Franklin County Engineer’s Office for the Heritage Trail (Arena District to Old Hilliard) Project
- T. Resolution 2025-109 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with Franklin County Engineer’s Office for the Renner Road (Alton Darby Creek to Hilliard Rome Road) Project
- U. Resolution 2025-110 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Franklin County Engineer’s Office for the Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road/Morse Road (Clark State Road to Havant) Project

- V. Resolution 2025-111 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with Franklin County Engineer's Office for the Snouffer Road (Bride Water Boulevard to Smoky Row Road) Project
- W. Resolution 2025-112 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Columbus for the Nelson Road Sidewalks Project
- X. Resolution 2025-113 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Columbus for the West Broad Street Project
- Y. Resolution 2025-114 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Franklin County Engineer's Office for the Galloway Road (Broad Street to O'Harra Road) Project
- Z. Resolution 2025-115 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Franklin County Engineer's Office for the Grener Road Shared Use Path Project
- AA. Resolution 2025-116 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Franklin County Engineer's Office for the Groveport Road Project
- AB. Resolution 2025-117 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Franklin County Engineer's Office for the McComb Road (Sidewalks Over I-270) Project
- AC. Resolution 2025-118 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Franklin County Engineer's Office for the Winchester Pike (Gender Road to Shannon Road) Project
- AD. Resolution 2025-119 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with Franklin Township for the Triangle Area (Brown Road/Harrisburg Pike) Sidewalks Project
- AE. Resolution 2025-120 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Grove City for the Grove City Connection to Camp Chase Trail Project
- AF. Resolution 2025-121 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Grove City for the Hoover Road Pedestrian Bridge Project
- AG. Resolution 2025-122 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Grove City for the McDowell Road Diet Project

- AH. Resolution 2025-123 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Grove City for the Scioto Grove Metro Park to Great Southern Metro Park Project
- AI. Resolution 2025-124 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the City of Groveport for the Groveport-Madison High School Area Sidewalks Project
- AJ. Resolution 2025-125 Authorizing a Transit Supportive Infrastructure Grant Award with the Village of Lockbourne for the Lockbourne Road Shared Use Path (Magnolia Trail to Collings Drive) Project
- AK. Resolution 2025-126 Authorizing a Contract with Xtek Partners, Inc. for the Purchase of Axis Security Cameras
- AL. Resolution 2025-127 Authorizing a Contract with EMC Research, Inc. for Comprehensive Market Research Services
- AM. Resolution 2025-128 Authorizing a Contract with Capitol Citicom, Inc. for Print Services
- AN. Resolution 2025-129 Authorizing a Contract with Cintas Corporation #2 for Rental and Laundry Services for Apparel, Garments, and Facilities Supplies
- AO. Resolution 2025-130 Election of Officers for the Central Ohio Transit Authority
- AP. Resolution 2025-131 Adoption of COTAs 2025-2028 Title VI Program
- AQ. Resolution 2025-132 Authorizing a Contract with Hexagon's Asset Lifecycle Intelligence, a Division of Intergraph Corporation, for EAM Enterprise SaaS Services
- AR. Resolution 2025-133 Authorizing a Contract with Masabi LLC for the Fare Management System
- AS. Resolution 2025-134 Authorizing Additional Expenditures with 9280-0366 Quebec, Inc. (dba Transit App) for the Purchase of Transit Royale and Associated Features in Support of COTAs Fare Management System

Trustee Jeff Hunley moved to approve Resolutions 2025-90 through 2025-134, seconded by Trustee Erika Clark Jones. Motion carried, with abstentions from Trustee Stephen Sayre on resolutions 2025-103, 2025-104, 2025-105, 2025-106, 2025-112, 2025-113.

11. Other Business

No other business was brought before the Board of Trustees.

12. Meeting Schedule

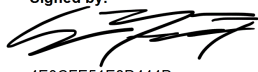
- Strategic and Operational Planning Committee - 10 am, Wednesday, November 5, 2025
- External Stakeholder Relations Committee - 3:30 pm, Wednesday, November 5, 2025
- Performance Monitoring/Audit Committee - 2 pm, Thursday, November 6, 2025
- Governance Committee - 3 pm, Thursday, November 6, 2025
- Board of Trustees Regular Meeting - 9 am, Wednesday, November 12, 2025

13. Adjournment

Trustee Hunley moved to adjourn the September 24, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting, seconded by Trustee Clark Jones. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:21 am.

Adopted: November 12, 2025

Signed:

Signed by:

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Chair, Board of Trustees

Attest:

Signed by:

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President/CEO