

Regional Transit Authority 2817 Canal Street New Orleans, LA 70119-6301

504.827.8300

www.norta.com

RESOLUTION NO.	21-036	_				
STATE OF LOUISIANA						
PARISH OF ORLEANS						
APPROVAL OF RETURN TO SERVICE PLAN						

Introduced by Commissioner Sarwar, seconded by Commissioner Neal

WHEREAS, the RTA Board of Commissioners adopted the Internal State of Emergency Policy on March 24, 2020 authorizing the CEO to adjust service levels for the safety and wellbeing of staff and passengers in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, since May 17, 2020 RTA has been running the Saturday schedule six (6) days a week – Monday through Saturday – amounting to an 80% service level on all fixed-route service; and

WHEREAS, with the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines and significant reduction of the virus's spread, the New Orleans region continues ramping up re-opening and expanded capacity of businesses and schools; and

WHEREAS, RTA ridership has steadily been increasing during the last several months of 2021 and is expected to grow even more rapidly as employment opportunities return, particularly in the downtown area hospitality sector; and

WHEREAS, the RTA Board of Commissioners adopted the New Links Redesign Plan and Final Recommendations on March 23, 2021 with the goal for staff to implement to the greatest extent possible; and



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WHEREAS, the staff has developed a Return to Service Plan with a new service pick to start on June 20, 2021 that will 1) restore service to most routes to pre-pandemic levels, 2) improve on-time performance, 3) adjust for known streetcar construction projects, 4) implement several New Links recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the cost of implementing the Return to Service Plan will increase the total operating expenses of the CY2021 budget from \$101,685,036.00 to \$106,924,023.48; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) hereby approves the attached Return to Service Plan and authorizes agency staff to implement.



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CHAIRMAN
RTA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS