



2817 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70119

New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 13, 2025

11:00 AM

RTA Board Room

The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) hereby declares that, in accordance with La. R.S. 42:17.1 (A)(2)(a)-(c), a meeting will be held in person on Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. Meetings start at the scheduled time, but may be delayed until a quorum of the Commissioners is present. The agency's website will stream the in-person meeting live, and wearing masks in the boardroom is optional.

Written comments on any matter included on the agenda will be accepted in the following ways: 1) Submission of a Speaker Card on meeting day; 2) Electronically by email sent to: rtaboard@rtaforward.org prior to the meeting; or 3) By U.S. Mail send to 2817 Canal Street, Attention: Office of Board Affairs, New Orleans, LA 70119.

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. To help assure availability, modifications or accommodations linked to a disability must be requested 72 hours before the meeting or hearing. Please direct requests for public meeting accommodations to the Office of Board Affairs, 2817 Canal Street, NOLA 70119, or call 504-827-8341 or by email (rtaboard@rtaforward.org).

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Colin and Commissioner Moore

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Walton

Other Commissioners Present: Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Neal and Commissioner Sams

3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to approve the Finance Committee Meeting of November 13, 2025. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

[Finance Committee Meeting - October 9, 2025]

[25-152](#)

4. Committee Chairman's Report

None

5. Chief Executive Officer's Report

None

6. Chief Financial Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Financial Officer's Report was presented. This report can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Report.

Highlights from the CFO Report:

- The RTA has submitted an extension of the CEA with the City of New Orleans for the Youth Opportunity Pass and was awaiting approval. Last year at this time Fare Revenue was \$7.5M and during the same time this year it was \$7.8 M. This year the RTA had more free fare days than usual.
- The Chief Financial Officer stated that staff were looking into Fare Capping the Fare Free Days and the Opportunity Youth Passes. Commissioner Moore stated that staff should be aware of how these things will affect the rider's experience.
- Staff need to think of creative ways for riders to invest in the system. The RTA has a system that tracks the money that is given to passengers on the change fare cards.
- Commissioner Colin asked that the Procurement Items presented to the Board be placed in categories.

[September 2025 Financials]

[25-153](#)

7. CY 2026 Operating & Capital Budget Report

The CY 2026 Operating & Capital Budget Report was presented. This report can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Report.

Commissioner Colin stated that the public should be made aware of all RTA's Capital Projects. The Chief Financial Officer stated that staff should know by the December Board Meeting if the funding is available for the Ferry. The CEO met with the Secretary of Labor to discuss creative ways to fund transportation and to ask to increase the State allocation for the ferry.

Commissioner Colin suggested that staff should include the ferry in the BRT Study. The RTA will use its Reserve Account to balance the 2026 Budget, and this will keep service at the

current level. This Reserve was only going to be used once to fill in the gaps and staff were working on cost saving measures and looking into generating other Revenue Sources. The Capital Projects are in line with the 2026 Budget.

The maintenance repair for the buses is included in the 2026 Budget.

Management is still conducting Labor negotiations regarding part-time operators.

[CY 2026 Draft Budget]

[25-155](#)

8. CY 2024 Single & Financial Audit Acceptance Report

The CY 2024 Single & Financial Audit Acceptance Report was presented. This report can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Report.

Opinion

Independent Auditor's Report - **Unmodified Opinion ("clean")** on the financial statements.

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in *Accordance with Government Auditing Standards* - **Several deficiencies in internal control and compliance findings noted.**

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for the Major Program and on Internal Controls Over Compliance Required by the Uniformed Guidance - **No deficiencies in internal control or compliance findings noted.**

Findings

2024-001 - Material Weakness: Material Adjustments

2024-002 - Significant Deficiency: Internal Control Over Self-Insurance Case Reserves and Structured Settlements

2024-003 - Noncompliance: Timely Submission of Audit Report to Legislative auditor

9. DBE Report

The monthly DBE Report was presented. This report can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Report.

Highlights from the DBE Report:

- Any projects that is currently on the street, the DBE Goals, must be removed and anything that has already been awarded and in place, the DBE Office must check to make sure that the DBE's are getting paid.
- The RTA has sent out notifications to its DBE's informing them of the new rules and no one can be decertified and anyone that sends their personal narrative will be evaluated. The RTA was working with the Department of Transportation in Baton Rouge. The SBA's qualifications will remain the same. The DBE report that the agency sends to the FTA has changed.

10. Chief Planning and Capital Project Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Planning and Capital Project Officer's Report was presented. This report can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Finance Committee Report.

Highlights from the DBE Report:

- The Accessibility Stops Study was looking at different Vehicle Designs and what should be considered as the basis for the stops. Also, this study will give the agency an opportunity to reduce the number of stops along the St. Charles Streetcar Line.

11. Procurements

A. Authorizations:

Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City of
New Orleans and The New Orleans Regional Transit
Authority for Supporting Unhoused Individuals

[25-016](#)

Commissioner Colin stated that he would like to make sure that the homeless people are being treated fairly.

Commissioner Moore does not care for some of the language used in the CEA. She feels that the language should be more specific. She would like to make sure that the homeless are not being incarcerated and dealt with in a disrespectful way. She would also like to make sure that nothing harmful will happen to them. She has witnessed many homeless people being disrespected. She suggested that this CEA be put off until the December meeting so that staff can present more information to the Board.

Commissioner Neal recommends that this agenda item goes on to the December Agenda while staff bring back more information regarding this CEA to the Board.

The RTA currently has someone on staff that has the correct training to deal with the homeless and makes the correct recommendations for them with other agencies.

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to defer this item to the December Finance Committee Meeting.

withdrawn

Award Contract for East-West Bank Bus Rapid Transit
(BRT) 30% Preliminary Engineering and NEPA Clearance

[25-131](#)

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to approve the Award of a Contract for East West Bank Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) 30% Preliminary Engineering and NEPA Clearance. The motion

was approved unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-064

Warranty Extension of Hybrid Transmissions

[25-140](#)

No Audio

The warranty was for a total of 6 years. Purchasing this warranty was like purchasing insurance because the transmissions would have to be sent out to be repaired without the warranty.

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to approve the Warranty Extension of Hybrid Transmissions. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-067

Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with Audubon Nature Institute, Inc (ANII) for French Market Streetcar Station Improvements

[25-144](#)

There will be other stops upgraded along the route and the improvements are within the RTA guidelines.

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to approve the CEA with Audubon Nature Institute, INC (ANII) for French Market Streetcar Station Improvements. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 25-068

B. Amendments:

Fare Policy Amendment No.1 (GEN 11)

[25-142](#)

An example of a Fare Cap is when the riders purchase a prepaid fare and reach the allotted amount on the card that was purchased.

Commissioner Moore suggested that some of the free rides that the RTA offers to the public can be combined to save the agency some money. This could be done until the budget issues are resolved.

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Louis deferred the Fare Policy Amendment No. 1 (GEN11) until the December Meeting to clarify the language in the report. The motion was moved unanimously.

12. New Business

None

13. Audience Questions & Comments

Bob Danton stated that the Youth Opportunity Fare Passes were paid in full by the City of New Orleans and not a discounted fare unless the riders reach the allotted amount.

The CFO stated that the RTA does lose revenue with the Youth Opportunity Fare Passes. The Board would like to know on average the amount that the RTA is losing in revenue from this pass.

14. Adjournment

Commissioner Moore moved and Commissioner Colin seconded to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting on November 13, 2025. The motion was adjourned unanimously.

adjourned