



2817 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70119

New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 14, 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, August 14, 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 Walton

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Moore

approved

3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes from June 12, 2025

Commissioner Colin moved and Commissioner Walton second to approve the Meeting Minutes from June 12, 2025. The motion was unanimously approved.

approved

[Finance Committee Meeting - June 12, 2025]

[25-110](#)

4. Committee Chairman's Report

None

5. Chief Executive Officer's Report

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

Highlights from the report:

- Staff will be holding an Open House at the Algiers Regional Library regarding the changes to the Algiers Bus Routes. The CEO stated that staff was conducting Ride-Alongs on the Algiers route to make sure the passengers utilizing these bus routes are informed about the necessary changes. These changes will also include better coordination between the buses and the Ferries. The Park-N-Ride will be utilized in the BRT Study.

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 Baseline for the Farebox Recovery Rate has been between 9-10%. Prior to COVID the Industry Standard for the Baseline Farebox Recovery Rate was 20% of your Operating Cost. The RTA has decreased its average fares which affects Farebox Recovery. Commissioner Colin asked to indicate the RTA's Baseline into the slide presentations.
- The CEO stated that during the summer months the streetcar ridership trends down based on tourism. When the RTA presented the 2026 projection of revenues comes from the City Projections. The CFO stated that during Super Bowl there was only a 1% jump in Sales Tax.
- The RTA has been having Quarterly Meetings with the FTA keeping them abreast of the Capital Projects so they can help move the FTA grants and try to get pre award approval when necessary.

[June Financials]

[25-111](#)

7. DBE Report

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

8. 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 CFO report:

- The Zero Emission Buses are being manufactured by New Flyer and currently there are no issues.

9. Authorizations

A. Procurements:

All Stations Accessibility Program - St. Charles Avenue Streetcar

[25-085](#)

Commissioner Colin moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to approve the All Stations Accessibility Program - St. Charles Avenue Streetcar. The motion was approved unanimously.

referred to Consent Agenda

Enactment No: 25-049

B. Amendments:

LabMar Ferry Contract Extension

[25-081](#)

The CEO stated that this contract will go out to bid in 2026. The original contract was issued in 2020 and was a 5- year contract with the option of 2 One Year Renewals.

Commissioner Colin moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to approve the LabMar Ferry Contract Extension was approved unanimously.

referred to Consent Agenda

Enactment No: 25-048

10. New Business

None.

11. Audience Questions & Comments

Debra Gould stated that the Executive Coaching and Consulting Services was solicited in 2024 and now was cancelled. This item has been delayed for a total of 5-months since her firm was chosen for this project. Her consultant team was very qualified for this solicitation.

For more than a year her firm has worked with the RTA on this contract. This cancellation of this contract under mind the Small Business Community and she would like a clear explanation on why the RTA cancelled this solicitation.

Commissioner Walton stated that he was going to have the CEO explain how this process was going to proceed.

The CEO stated that this solicitation was cancelled due to the fact that the RTA hired a new Chief of Human Resources and these assessments will be made in-house, and she does acknowledge that the process for this solicitation has taken too long to award.

Debra Gould stated that in February 19, 2024, she was told that she was chosen for this project and there was high expectation for her Small Business for this Award, and this was the first time that she has heard that this procurement was cancelled.

Commissioner Walton stated that Management was evaluating their internal processes to get this situation right and the Board respects that decision.

Commissioner Colin stated that he does not want the public to think that this would ever happen again and he would like the consultants to get a timeline of the process in a reasonable amount of time.

Debra Gould stated that Executive Staff should have announced that this solicitation was cancelled a long time ago.

12. Adjournment

Commissioner Colin moved and Commissioner Walton seconded to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting of August 14, 2025. The meeting was adjourned unanimously.

adjourned