



***National Association of the Advancement of Colored People
New Orleans Branch #6071-B
P. O. Box 871450, New Orleans, LA 70187
naacpnola.com
Ronald Coleman, President***

September 25, 2025

To: New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Commissioner Board "NORTA",

I, Valerie Jefferson attended NORTA Commissioner Board meeting on September 23, 2025. During the audience questions and comments period, I asked questions and requested response for each question. Mr. Fred Neal, Jr., NORTA Commissioner Chair requested for these questions to be sent to the Board and the Staff will answer. I requested for the Commissioners to answer these questions because, these questions are vital to the environment of NORTA workplace, safety of workers and riders of the NORTA and evaluation of NORTA management from employees including labor union employees. The NORTA Commissioner Board is the governing body of The NORTA holding the management team responsible of the daily operations of the New Orleans transit agency and the treatment of NORTA employees.

Per the request of the NORTA Commissioner Chair Fred Neal, Jr., The NAACP Labor-Industry Committee is submitting questions in writing to be answered by the NORTA Commissioner Board:

1. Have NORTA Commissioner Board had meeting/s with RTA Advisory Board?
2. If so, when? NORTA Commissioner Board has minutes of this meeting? If so, I am requesting copies of these meetings.
3. If not, Why? Have NORTA Commissioner Board requested a meeting with The NORTA Advisory Board?
4. Have NORTA Commissioner Board do surveys with the employees including labor union employees for years 2024 and 2025 on workplace environment and management?



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5. Have NORTA Commissioner Board compared relationships between labor unions and management from private to public since the transitioning of NORTA from private to public in 2020, compared relationship with other transit properties in Louisiana and with other similar transit properties (the same size and public agency) of New Orleans Region Transit Authority in reference to labor union members and management team?
6. Have NORTA Commissioner Board done a survey/s on Executive, Management, Directors and Supervisors with experience vs. non-experience in transit employed at the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority?
7. Have NORTA Commissioner Board done a survey/s on Executive, Management, Directors and Supervisors on their performance at the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (management evaluation)?
8. Have NORTA Commissioner Board scheduled public meetings in the evenings and made them employees, labor union members and riders friendly?

Respectfully,

Valerie M. Jefferson,
Labor-Industry Committee Chair
NAACP-Louisiana Conference

Cc: Ronald Coleman, President, NAACP New Orleans

Michael McClanahan, President, NAACP-Louisiana Conference

From: [Rodriguez, Yolanda](#)
To: [Valerie Jefferson](#)
Cc: [Michael McClanahan NAACP President Louisiana](#); [Coleman](#); [Valerie Jefferson](#)
Bcc: [RTA Board](#)
Subject: RE: NAACP Labor-Industry Committee Questions to The NORTA CommissionerBoard
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 3:33:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Valerie,

Thank you for attending the Sept 23rd board meeting and for your follow up letter. Please find the answers you requested below and let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Rodriguez
Chief of Board Affairs
New Orleans Regional Transit Authority



2817 Canal Street | New Orleans, LA 70119
Office: 504-827-8341
Email: yrodriguez@rtaforward.org

Inquiries made in the letter:

1. Have NORTA Commissioner Board had meeting/s with RTA Advisory Board?
No.
2. If so, when? NORTA Commissioner Board has minutes of this meeting? If so, I am requesting copies of these meetings. **N/A.**
3. If not, Why? Have NORTA Commissioner Board requested a meeting with The NORTA Advisory Board? **No, neither board has requested a meeting.**
4. Have NORTA Commissioner Board do surveys with the employees including labor union employees for years 2024 and 2025 on workplace environment and management? **No.**
5. Have NORTA Commissioner Board compared relationships between labor unions and management from private to public since the transitioning of NORTA from private to public in 2020, compared relationship with other transit properties in Louisiana and with other similar transit properties (the

same size and public agency) of New Orleans Region Transit Authority in reference to labor union members and management team? **No.**

6. Have NORTA Commissioner Board done a survey/s on Executive, Management, Directors and Supervisors with experience vs. non-experience in transit employed at the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority? **No.**
7. Have NORTA Commissioner Board done a survey/s on Executive, Management, Directors and Supervisors on their performance at the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (management evaluation)? **Board-appointed employees are presently undergoing performance evaluations by the board.**
8. Have NORTA Commissioner Board scheduled public meetings in the evenings and made them employees, labor union members and riders friendly? **No, only the Riders Advisory Committee (RAC) meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.**

From: Valerie Jefferson <valeriehrv40@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 1:28 PM

To: RTA Board <rtaboard@rtaforward.org>

Cc: Michael McClanahan NAACP President Louisiana <mwmccclanahan@yahoo.com>; Coleman <coleman7coleman@gmail.com>; Valerie Jefferson <laborandindustry.naACP@gmail.com>

Subject: NAACP Labor-Industry Committee Questions to The NORTA CommissionerBoard

To: NORTA Commissioner Board,

Per the request from the September 23, 2025 NORTA Commissioner Board Chair, Fred Neal, Jr. at the NORTA Commissioner Board public meeting.

The NAACP Labor-Industry Committee is submitting questions via email.

please see attachment

Joy,
Valerie V.M. Jefferson
504-261-9692

JOY is a characteristic not a feeling or emotion. JOY is the opposite of weak.

"JOY of the Lord is our strength" Neh.8:10