



2817 Canal Street  
New Orleans, LA 70119

## **New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Operations & Administration Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

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**Thursday, February 12, 2026**

**9:00 AM**

**RTA Board Room**

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The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Board of Commissioners will hold an in-person public meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will begin at the scheduled time but may be delayed until a quorum is present and will be live streamed on the RTA website; masks are optional. Written public comments on agenda items may be submitted by completing a speaker card on the day of the meeting, by email to [rtaboard@rtaforward.org](mailto:rtaboard@rtaforward.org) prior to the meeting, or by U.S. mail to RTA, Office of Board Affairs, 2817 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70119. This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities, and accommodation requests must be made at least 72 hours in advance by contacting the Office of Board Affairs at 504-827-8341 or [rtaboard@rtaforward.org](mailto:rtaboard@rtaforward.org).

#### **1. Call To Order**

#### **2. Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Daniels, Commissioner Guidry and Commissioner Sams

#### **- 3. Consideration of Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to approve the Operations and Administration Meeting of January 8, 2026. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

[01.08.26 Ops Minutes]

[26-029](#)

#### **4. Committee Chairman's Report**

The Operations and Administration Committee Agenda keep the system moving such as Service Operations, Asset Management, Workforce Policies, and System Safety. Updates will be given from various departments. These departments deal with safety that plays a

major role during Mardi Gras.

## 5. Chief Executive Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Executive Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Operations and Administration Committee Meeting.

### **Mardi Gras Service for the Sheriff Department**

The RTA has provided transportation service during Mardi Gras to the Sheriff Department. Staff will present the CEA between the RTA and the Sheriff Department at the February Board Meeting.

The RTA's Mardi Gras Guide is available to the public. The Mardi Gras Guide did not include information on the Canal Bus Line when Canal Streetcars stopped running.

### **Ferry Outage**

During the week of February 23, 2026, the RTA has planned an outage of the Algiers Ferry for demolition related to construction and all riders are encouraged to ride Route 103. The outage will take 3-5 days. Staff will do major community outreach to ensure the riders are aware of these changes.

### **Ridership Count**

The RTA 2025 bus ridership exceeded the 2019 ridership data. These numbers are not validated by NTD.

## 6. Chief Transit Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Transit Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Operations and Administration Committee Meeting.

Staff decided to put less service hours on the streetcars and more service hours on the buses in 2022 and that is the only mode of transportation that has not caught up to the 2019 ridership.

During the month of July the ridership for Paratransit was high but dropped during the month of December. Staff have started cleaning up the Paratransit database and that may have played a part in the lower ridership during the month of December.

The SWIFTLY Software will be installed during the month of March and retraining will take place for all users. The SWIFTLY Software is very easy to manage.

## 7. Chief Asset Manager Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Asset Managers Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Operations and Administration Committee Meeting.

The number of spare buses is very limited, and some buses had to be pulled from other

routes to make service for the public.

The major complaints that the RTA receives from the public during Mardi Gras is where are the delays on the lines and what time the vehicles will arrive.

Staff have a plan to replace the aging fleet and are in constant contact with FTA regarding funding for new buses. The long-term goal was to have a total of 140 buses. Staff needs to be honest with the public and make them aware of the dollar amount that the RTA has for the purchase of vehicles.

The Commissioners asked for a one-page summary regarding staff plans for funding the new vehicles and what the agency can and can't afford.

The RTA's overtime budget for festivals and Second Lines need to be included in the budget that the City charges the organizations for these events.

## 8. Chief Safety/Security Officer's Report

The monthly Chief Safety/Security Officer's Report was given and can be found in the PowerPoint Presentation for the Operations and Administration Committee Meeting.

Staff are going to brief Commissioner Guidry regarding the derailments happening on the streetcar lines.

## 9. Authorizations

Adoption of State of Emergency and Disaster Recovery Policy (SAF7) [25-113](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to approve the State of Emergency and Disaster Recovery Policy (SAF7). The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 26-011

Distracted Driving Policy (SAF 2) Amendment #1 [25-163](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to approve Distracted Driving Policy (SAF 2) Amendment #1. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

Jury Duty Policy (HR30) Amendment No.1 [26-007](#)

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to approve Jury Duty Policy (HR 30) Amendment #1. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 26-014

Smoking & Vape Free Workplace Policy (GEN7) Amendment #1

[26-017](#)

Commissioner Sams would like to approve this policy but would like to get more insight regarding vaping near and around the vehicles and ferries.

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to approve Smoking & Vape Free Workplace Policy (GEN 7) Amendment #1. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 26-015

Approval of the 2026 RTA Agency Safety Plan

[26-018](#)

Some of the Safety Matrixes are outlined in the new union contract and both labor and management are at the table communicating about these issues. Labor and Safety Management meet quarterly to discuss safety issues.

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to approve of the 2026 RTA Agency Safety Plan. The motion was approved unanimously.

approved

Enactment No: 26-016

## 10. New Business

None.

## 11. Audience Questions & Comments

adjourned

## 12. Adjournment

Commissioner Daniels moved and Commissioner Guidry seconded to adjourn the Operations Administration Committee Meeting of February 12, 2026. The motion was approved unanimously.