



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

504.827.8300

[www.norta.com](http://www.norta.com)

RESOLUTION NO. 21-074

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ORLEANS

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**AUTHORIZATION TO SELECT AREA AROUND THE MAIN LIBRARY AS THE SITE OF  
THE INTERIM DOWNTOWN TRANSIT HUB  
AND ALLOW STAFF TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS**

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Introduced by Commissioner Wegner,  
seconded by Commissioner Raymond.

**WHEREAS**, the New Orleans Central Business District (CBD) and downtown area serves as the focal point for transit services in the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) bus routes, RTA's streetcar network, and various routes operated by Jefferson Parish Transit (JeT) converge on the CBD; and.

**WHEREAS**, the CBD is the region's largest employment and activity center; correspondingly, it is the largest destination for transit riders. Because so many routes and lines converge there, the CBD also functions as the system's primary transfer location; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly routes in the regional system end in the CBD which then turn around to serve the outbound portion of the trip. There are few instances of interlined routes; that is, two segments that are linked in the CBD allowing buses to travel from one end of town to another without requiring a transfer; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no consolidated transfer location or facility in the CBD. Since October 2019 Duncan Plaza has served as an emergency relocation transfer point in response to the Hard Rock Hotel Collapse; and



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**WHEREAS**, RTA staff has worked with riders, City of New Orleans, New Orleans Public Libraries, and other CBD stakeholders to identify an interim site that improves riders needs for comfortable and safe waiting conditions and greater operational efficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, after review of available options that can implemented relatively quickly to address the current temporary and unplanned site, the Main Library alternative has the most significant improvement opportunity. The site alternative includes utilizing the Loyola Avenue adjacent to the Main Library and enhancing existing stops on Tulane Ave. and Elks Place; and

**WHEREAS**, once construction of a new transfer hub is completed existing operations at Duncan Plaza as a transfer point will no longer continue; and

**WHEREAS**, further engagement with riders and all stakeholders will continue during the design phase to address any concerns and work through details in order to maximize rider, operations, and general public benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, the RTA will leverage the existing capital project funds that include local and grant funding to cover the not-to-exceed project amount of \$850,000.00. This project will be funded with LA2018-015.1054.119202, LA2016-011.1054.119302 and local funding to be placed in the 2022 budget as the entire amount will not be spent in 2021; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) that the Chairman of the Board, or his designee, authorize the area around the Main Library as the site of the interim downtown transfer hub and allow staff to design and construct necessary improvements in partnership with City of New Orleans and relevant departments.



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THE FOREGOING WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE  
ADOPTION THEREOF AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:	<u>8</u>
NAYS:	<u>0</u>
ABSTAIN:	<u>0</u>
ABSENT:	<u>0</u>

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED ON THE 28th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Flozell Daniels Jr." in a cursive script.

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FLOZELL DANIELS  
CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS