



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Of Middle Tennessee

BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 | 9:30 a.m.

TN State Library & Archives
1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N.
Nashville, TN 37219

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of the October 18, 2023 meeting minutes**
3. **Public Comments**
4. **Finance Committee Report – Mayor Ken Moore, Chair**
 - Monthly Financial Report Compared to Budget – Ed Oliphant, CFO R-D-23-023 Pg. 4
5. **Operations Committee Report – Mayor Rick Bell, Chair**
 - RTA Monthly Operating Statistics – Andy Burke, COO R-D-23-024 Pg. 7
 - Annual Track Maintenance Program – Andy Burke, COO R-A-23-017 Pg. 15
 - Connect Downtown Plan Update – Felix Castrodad, Director of Planning & Grants, and Marty Sewell, NDOT's Transportation Planning Director and Connect Downtown Project Manager R-D-23-025 Pg. 16
6. **Approval of the 2024 Committee & Board Meeting Schedule – Vince Malone, COSA** R-A-23-018 Pg. 17
7. **CEO's Report – Stephen G. Bland, CEO**
8. **Chair's Report – Mayor Randall Hutto, Chair**
9. **Other Business**
10. **Adjournment**

Note: A meeting of the Executive Committee has been scheduled concurrently with the full Board Meeting. In the event a quorum of the Board cannot be achieved, the Executive Committee will meet to conduct the scheduled business of the Board. If a quorum of the Board is present, there will be no Executive Committee meeting.



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Of Middle Tennessee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 | 9:30 a.m.

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10. **Adjournment**



MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

October 18, 2023

- I. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) Executive Committee was held at the Nashville Downtown Library located at 615 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37219, on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. A quorum of the RTA Executive Committee was established, and the meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Mayor Randall Hutto.

Executive Committee Members in Attendance:

Mayor Randall Hutto – Wilson County, Chair
Mayor Paige Brown – City of Gallatin, Vice-Chair
Mayor Ken Moore – City of Franklin
Mayor Rick Bell – City of Lebanon
Mayor Billy Vogle – Robertson County
Ken Davis – Wilson County (Gov. Appt.)
Kelly Dannenfelser – Williamson County (Gov. Appt.)

Others Present:

Mayor Freddie O’Connell – Davidson County
Mayor Jamie Clary – City of Hendersonville
Matthew White – City of Mt. Juliet (Alt)
Jim Kerr – City of Murfreesboro (Alt.)
Gerald Herman – City of White House

- II. **Approval of Minutes:**
Mayor Ken Moore motioned to approve the September 20, 2023, meeting minutes; Mayor Rick Bell seconded the motion, and the Executive Committee unanimously approved it.
- III. **Public Comments:** The following members of the public gave remarks:
- Jessica Dauphin
- IV. **Audit Committee Report:** There were no items for the Audit committee this month.
- V. **Finance Committee Report:** Committee Chair Mayor Ken Moore presented the following for discussion and action:
- a. **Monthly Financial Report Compared to Budget (R-D-23-020):** Mayor Ken Moore presented the Monthly Financials for the month of August 2023, compared to the budget and a balance sheet as of August 2023. CFO Ed Oliphant was present and available for questions, and there were no questions or further discussions.
- VI. **Operations Committee Report:** Committee Chair Mayor Rick Bell presented the following items for discussion:
- a. **Monthly Operating Statistics (R-D-23-021):** COO Andy Burke reviewed the RTA Monthly Dashboard Report through the month of August 2023 with the Executive Committee and was available for questions, and there were no questions or further discussions.

- b. **RTA Agency Safety & Security Plan Update (R-D-23-022)**: A high-level overview of the expected updates to the Agency Safety/Security Plan was provided by Nick Oldham, Chief Safety and Security Officer.

On July 19, 2018, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Final Rule, which requires certain operators of public transportation systems that receive federal funds under FTA's Urbanized Area Formula Grants to develop plans that include the processes and procedures to implement Safety Management Systems. The plan must include safety performance targets that will be voluntarily shared with the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the local Department of Transportation. The PTASP rule became effective on July 19, 2019. Consequently, FTA published a Dear Colleague letter, on the same day, to alert the transit industry of the July 20, 2020, safety compliance deadline. FTA published a Notice of Enforcement Discretion on April 22, 2020, effectively extending the PTASP compliance deadline to December 31, 2020, due to the global Coronavirus pandemic. RTA published its initial version of the Agency Safety Plan on September 14, 2020.

The new Bipartisan Infrastructure Law amends FTA's safety program at 49 U.S.C. § 5329(d) by adding to the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) requirements. Under this new law, transit agencies that receive Section 5307 funds and serve an urbanized area with a population of 200,000 or more are required to establish a joint labor-management Safety Committee, a risk reduction program, new safety training requirements, and strategies to minimize exposure to infectious diseases consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines or a State health authority.

We formed the required joint labor-management Safety Committee in December of 2022 and have met quarterly to diligently assess our current safety protocols, identify vulnerabilities, and develop an updated plan to address them. A brief high-level overview of the recent activity in our Safety and Security departments, based on some recommendations from the Safety Committee, will be provided by Nick Oldham, Chief Safety and Security Officer, and copies of the update will be made available for Board review.

There was a general discussion.

- c. **RTA Commuter Bus Service Contract Amendment (R-A-23-016)**: Chief Operating Officer Andy Burke presented the following:

RTA Staff requests the Board to provide the Chief Executive Officer the authority to amend the current contract with Gray Line for 12 months, retroactive to July 1, 2023, and expiring on June 30, 2024, for supplying Commuter Bus services. The fiscal impact of this change was incorporated into the FY2023-24 operating budget adopted by the RTA Board. As such, we expect no adverse fiscal impact.

There was a general discussion on the proposed contract and Mayor Clary asked if the proposed contract changes would result in increased assessments to the local funding partners. CFO Ed Oliphant responded that they would not and that the contract changes had been factored into the RTA's FY2023-24 budget and financial projections.

Mayor Ken Moore motioned to approve the RTA Commuter Bus Service Contract Amendment; Mayor Rick Bell seconded the motion, and the Executive Committee unanimously approved it.

VII. CEO's Report: CEO Bland provided the following report:

1. The Sunset Hearing before the Commerce, Labor, Transportation, and Agriculture Joint Subcommittee of the Government Operations Committee has been scheduled for this Thursday, October 19, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m., and will be held in House Hearing Room 1, Cordell Hull Building, Nashville, Tennessee. CEO Bland thanked Mayors Brown and Moore for agreeing to participate with staff.

2. This past Sunday, both the Titans and the WeGo Star performed well. The Titans won in overtime, and the Star carried a total of 926 riders. Let's hope both streaks continue!!! The next Titans Express will be on October 1 for the Bengals game, and tickets for the train are on sale now.
3. WeGo continues to advance the development of a park-and-ride lot in Murfreesboro. WeGo received a final sign-off from the Federal Transit Administration for our environmental process, so we are now moving forward with the acquisition of the land for this project.
4. WeGo began a pilot service to Nashville SC games two weeks ago. About 30 fans rode service from Murfreesboro and Antioch, and everything went off without a hitch. WeGo will continue operating this model for the remainder of this season and any playoff games and will look at potential revisions or expansion for next season. Regular RTA fares are in effect for this service, and information is available now on our website.
5. WeGo met with Mayor O'Connell's Transportation Transition Committee to review a series of transit issues, including several of the pending issues before the RTA.
6. WeGo continues to work with the Nashville Department of Transportation, TDOT, and the Nashville Downtown Partnership on the Connect Downtown Mobility Study. Among many elements is the identification of potential transit priority corridors through downtown Nashville that could include dedicated bus lanes. This would be critically important to the RTA commuter bus service as we need to expand the commuter shed for RTA services.
7. The Star Future Vision Study continues to advance, with various financial and operational modeling activities currently underway. WeGo anticipates a Board briefing in November.

VIII. Chair's Report: Mayor Randall Hutto acknowledged and welcomed Mayor Freddie O'Connell of Nashville to the Regional Transportation Authority. Mayor O'Connell said that he was happy to be at the meeting. He said that he spent seven years on the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority Board and that Board worked very closely with the Regional Transportation Authority. He said that it is great to have CEO Bland and his staff serve both systems and that he is excited to have Nashville be a key partner in the region.

IX. Other Business: There was no further business to come before this Board.

X. Adjournment: With no further business, Mayor Ken Moore motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mayor Rick Bell seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Ed Cole, RTA Secretary & Davidson County
Governor Appointee

Regional Transportation Authority

of Middle Tennessee

- Committee Discussion Item Exec. Committee Discussion Item Board Discussion Item
 Committee Action Item Exec. Committee Action Item

Item Number:	R-D-23-023	Meeting Date:	11/15/2023
Item Title:	Monthly Financial Report Compared to Budget		

BACKGROUND:

Attached is a statement of operations for the month of September 2023 compared to the budget and a balance sheet as of September 30, 2023.

As we wrap up the first quarter of the fiscal year, we continue to see improvement in bus and train fares compared to budget and last year, albeit not where we would like to see it, as fare revenues continue to track at approximately 30% to 35% of pre-pandemic levels. Overall, the year-to-date revenues are tracking favorably compared to the budget because RTA is very grant-dependent and only draws grant funding as expenditures are made. Some patterns are beginning to emerge in operating expenses, contributing to favorable revenues. While Services expenses are favorable, we should see that expense line catch up to budget in the next couple of months as we finalize the amended contract with Gray Line that the Board approved in last month's meeting. However, Fuel, Casualty, and Liability Insurance expenses should continue to trend favorably compared to budget as fuel prices continue to be less than anticipated, and insurance expense is expected to stay favorable as our liability policy for the STAR ended up flat compared to last year when the budget predicted a 5%-10% increase that did not materialize.

As of August 31, 2023, RTA owed Nashville MTA approximately \$264,000 for services provided to and from Rutherford County and management fees and shared costs to MTA for the back-office operating expenses related to the new fare collection system due. RTA also had accounts receivable from Nashville MTA of approximately \$42,000 for fares collected and WeGo Ride revenue sharing due.

CURRENT STATUS:

Chief Financial Officer Ed Oliphant will be available to answer any questions regarding the statements at the committee meeting.

APPROVED:



Chief Financial Officer

11/15/2023

Date

Regional Transportation Authority
Statement of Operations Compared to Budget
For the Period Ending September 30, 2023
UNAUDITED

	Actual Month	Budget Month	Month End Variance	F / U	Prior Year Y-T-D	Actual Y-T-D	Budget Y-T-D	Y-T-D Variance	F / U	Budget
Revenue from Operations:										
Regional Bus Revenues	\$23,330	\$15,370	\$7,960	F	\$58,837	\$66,958	\$42,110	\$24,848	F	\$169,079
Commuter Train Revenues	24,354	20,680	3,674	F	51,758	85,298	56,640	28,658	F	227,449
Special Events	10,795	9,100	1,695	F	30,753	23,001	14,130	8,871	F	78,500
Other Non-Trans Revenue	62,806	37,890	24,916	F	156,190	147,982	138,645	9,337	F	314,467
Total Operating Revenue	121,285	83,040	38,245	F	297,538	323,239	251,525	71,714	F	789,495
Federal/State/Local Income:										
Local Assistance	473,365	0	473,365	F	0	473,365	110,795	362,570	F	1,606,795
Regional Assistance	175,221	100,000	75,221	F	170,730	532,722	369,160	163,562	F	806,588
State Assistance	0	0	0	F	0	0	0	0	F	660,200
Federal Assistance - CMAQ	265,354	168,470	96,884	F	590,428	742,295	461,470	280,825	F	1,853,182
Federal Assistance - CARES Act	145,217	213,390	(68,173)	U	1,115,101	677,591	613,120	64,471	F	2,430,515
Total Assistance Income	1,059,157	481,860	577,297	F	1,876,259	2,425,973	1,554,545	871,428	F	7,357,280
Capital Revenue:										
Capital Operating Reimbursement	221,528	214,600	6,928	F	559,542	597,724	587,840	9,884	F	2,360,745
Total Capital Income	221,528	214,600	6,928	F	559,542	597,724	587,840	9,884	F	2,360,745
Total Revenue	\$1,401,970	\$779,500	\$622,470	F	\$2,733,339	\$3,346,936	\$2,393,910	\$953,026	F	\$10,507,520
Expenses from Operations:										
Management Contract - MTA	\$71,746	\$71,746	\$0	F	\$215,226	\$215,226	\$215,226	\$0	F	\$860,940
Services	600,338	738,844	138,506	F	1,872,805	1,931,899	2,046,273	114,374	F	8,224,590
Fuel	49,129	64,260	15,131	F	185,444	143,351	176,003	32,652	F	699,900
Materials and Supplies	3,630	6,310	2,680	F	4,909	4,015	7,874	3,859	F	22,975
Utilities	12,045	17,113	5,068	F	48,307	39,557	47,009	7,452	F	188,925
Casualty and Liability	33,203	43,363	10,160	F	107,825	106,807	119,784	12,977	F	480,890
Other	0	1,508	1,508	F	12,918	14,961	15,574	613	F	29,300
Total Operating Expenses	770,091	943,144	173,053	F	2,447,434	2,455,816	2,627,743	171,927	F	10,507,520
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$631,879	(\$163,644)	\$795,523	F	\$285,905	\$891,120	(\$233,833)	\$1,124,953	F	\$0
Capital Grant Revenue	0		0	F	42,473	192,110		192,110	F	0
Gain / (Loss) on Sale	0		0	F	0	0		0	F	0
Vanpool Replacement Revenue Fund	0		0	F	0	0		0	F	0
Depreciation	(346,331)		(346,331)	U	(1,081,463)	(1,038,995)		(1,038,995)	U	0
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$285,548	(\$163,644)	\$449,192	F	(\$753,085)	\$44,235	(\$233,833)	\$278,068	F	\$0

Regional Transportation Authority

Comparative Balance Sheets

	Month Ended September 30, 2023	Month Ended June 30, 2023
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,065,146	\$904,389
Receivables from federal, state and local government	1,154,756	871,401
Accounts receivable	62,463	114,686
Materials and supplies	366,439	364,480
Prepaid expense and other	299,757	23,994
Total Current Assets	2,948,561	2,278,950
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Land	3,382,052	3,382,052
Building, shelter and benches	19,407,307	19,407,307
Guideway Improvements	8,586,547	8,586,547
Revenue equipment and parts	30,991,482	30,991,482
Office equipment	556,150	556,150
Work-in-Progress	800,890	601,495
	63,724,428	63,525,033
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(24,434,079)	(23,395,084)
Total Property and equipment, net	39,290,349	40,129,949
OTHER ASSETS		
Cash and investments restricted	8,237,847	7,944,646
TOTAL ASSETS	\$50,476,757	\$50,353,545
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$579,827	\$707,012
Accrued expenses	23,699	25,996
Deferred Revenue	5,659,815	5,433,831
Note Payable	0	0
Total Current Liabilities	6,263,341	6,166,839
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	39,290,349	40,129,949
Restricted - Self Insurance Reserve	1,000,000	1,000,000
Restricted - Administrative Reserve	1,000,000	1,000,000
Restricted - Reserve for van pool replacement	529,473	529,473
Restricted - Regional Bus Reserve	4,073,966	3,780,765
Restricted - Regional Train Reserve	1,634,408	1,634,408
Unrestricted	(3,359,015)	(4,165,957)
Current Year Surplus / (deficit)	44,235	278,068
Total Net Assets	44,213,416	44,186,706
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$50,476,757	\$50,353,545

	Current	> 30 days	> 60 Days	> 90 days	Total
Accounts Receivable	\$62,463 100.0%	\$0 0.0%	\$0 0.0%	\$0 0.0%	\$62,463 100.0%
Accounts Payable	\$576,327 99.4%	\$1,750 0.3%	\$1,750 0.3%	\$0 0.0%	\$579,827 100.0%

Regional Transportation Authority

of Middle Tennessee

- Committee Discussion Item Exec. Committee Discussion Item Board Discussion Item
 Committee Action Item Exec. Committee Action Item

Item Number:	R-D-23-024	Meeting Date:	11/15/2023
Item Title:	Monthly Operating Statistics		

BACKGROUND:

Attached are the monthly operating statistics for September 2023.

Overall, September was a good month for operations, with very few complaints or missed trips on regional bus service and no missed trips or complaints for the WeGo Star in September.

On-time performance continues to be lower year-over-year for bus service, which is unsurprising given the increasing number of events and road closures in Nashville.

This month marked the inaugural pilot of Saturday Nashville Soccer Club service on Route 84 – Murfreesboro. Buses made stops in Murfreesboro at the Old Fort Park-and-Ride and at the Southeast Library and Community Center in Antioch. Approximately two dozen riders used the service to go to and from the game (48 one-way boardings recorded), with service to additional games operating over the remainder of the season.

CURRENT STATUS:

Staff are available to address committee member questions regarding the attached report. Please direct any inquiries to Monica Howse.

APPROVED:



Chief Operating Officer

11/15/2023

Date

RTA Monthly Dashboard Report *

Metric	September 2023	September 2022	Pct. Change
Ridership			
			% Change
Total RTA Bus Passengers	12,608	10,958	15.1%
WeGo Star Passengers	7,668	7,997	-4.1%
Total RTA Passengers	20,276	18,955	7.0%
Percentage of Pre-Pandemic Ridership	39.3%	36.7%	2.6%
Safety			
RTA Bus Total Accidents	0	0	N/A
WeGo Star Total Accidents	0	1	-100.0%
RTA Bus Total Miles btwn Accidents	N/A	N/A	N/A
WGS Total Miles btwn Accidents	N/A	6,335	N/A
Service Quality			
RTA Bus Total Trip Completion %	99.47%	99.19%	0.28%
WeGo Star Total Trip Completion %	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%
RTA Bus Total Miles btwn Service Interruption	4,712.9	3,097.7	52.1%
WGS Total Miles btwn Service Interruption	N/A	N/A	N/A
On-Time Performance ^			
RTA Bus	80.9%	87.1%	-6.2%
WeGo Star	100.0%	97.2%	2.8%
Customer Care			
RTA Bus Total Passengers per Complaint	3,152	996	216.4%
WeGo Star Passengers per Complaint	N/A	7,997	N/A

* RTA Dashboard submitted for discussion and for Committee and Board review.

^ On Time Performance reporting began September 2017.

N/A - metric cannot be calculated due to not being divisible by "0"

RTA Monthly Dashboard Report *

Metric	FY2024 September	FY2023 September	Pct. Change
Ridership			
			% Change
Total RTA Bus Passengers	34,995	31,430	11.3%
WeGo Star Passengers	24,136	23,671	2.0%
Total RTA Passengers	59,131	55,101	7.3%
Percentage of Pre-Pandemic Ridership	36.3%	33.8%	2.5%
Safety			
RTA Bus Total Accidents	0	0	N/A
WeGo Star Total Accidents	1	1	0.0%
RTA Bus Total Miles btwn Accidents	N/A	N/A	N/A
WGS Total Miles btwn Accidents	19,955	20,271	-1.6%
Service Quality			
RTA Bus Total Trip Completion %	99.72%	99.69%	0.03%
WeGo Star Total Trip Completion %	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%
RTA Bus Total Miles btwn Service Interruption	8,936.4	8,163.1	9.5%
WGS Total Miles btwn Service Interruption	N/A	N/A	N/A
On-Time Performance ^			
RTA Bus	80.7%	86.9%	-6.3%
WeGo Star	98.0%	96.9%	1.1%
Customer Care			
RTA Bus Total Passengers per Complaint	2,187	1,209	80.9%
WeGo Star Passengers per Complaint	2,194	5,918	-62.9%

* RTA Dashboard submitted for discussion and for Committee and Board review.
 ^ On Time Performance reporting began September 2017.
 N/A - metric cannot be calculated due to not being divisible by "0"

RTA Operations Dashboard Glossary

Metric	Definitions
Ridership	
Total Passengers	
RTA Bus	Total fixed route passenger boardings on all MTA operated RTA routes (84, 86, 93, 96) and Gray Line operated RTA routes (87, 88, 89, 91, 92, 94, 95)
WeGo Star	Total passenger boardings on WeGo Star Rail Service
Safety	
RTA Bus Accidents	A motor vehicle collision, either preventable or non-preventable, in which the Operator did not do everything reasonable to avoid a collision, committed an error or failed to react to the errors of others. A motor vehicle collision in which the Operator committed no driving error and reacted reasonably to the errors of others. (Gray Line & MTA operated RTA metrics combined)
WeGo Star Accidents	Accident – an unexpected, unforeseen, or unintended event that causes injury, loss, or damage. These events can include any event arising from the operation of the railroad which results in the death of any person; or an injury to any person that requires medical treatment, except suicides or attempted suicides; any collision between railroad on-track equipment and an automobile, bus, truck, motorcycle, occupied bicycle, pedestrian or trespasser at any location on the railroad; any collision, derailment, fire, explosion, failure of equipment or infrastructure, act of nature, or other event involving damage to the railroad’s on-track equipment, signals, track, track structures, and/or roadbed.
Service Quality	
RTA Bus Missed Trips	The total number of Bus revenue trips not completed or departing more than 30 minutes late -vs- scheduled. (Gray Line & MTA operated RTA metrics combined)
WeGo Star Missed Trips	A train that is disabled in transit or cancelled prior to embarking. A missed trip is reported as an annulment and is when the train is cancelled and doesn’t complete the run or make it to its final destination.
RTA Bus Missed Trips	The total number of Bus revenue trips not completed or departing more than 30 minutes late -vs- scheduled. (Gray Line & MTA operated RTA metrics combined)
RTA Bus Trip Completion Percentage	Percentage of one-way fixed route revenue trips completed versus scheduled.
WeGo Star Trip Completion Percentage	Percentage of one-way rail trips completed versus scheduled.

RTA Operations Dashboard Glossary

Metric

Definitions

On-Time Performance

RTA Bus OTP

MTA operated RTA routes - OTP is the Percentage of total scheduled fixed route timepoint departures occurring between 59 seconds early and 5 minutes 59 seconds late obtained from AVL data. Gray Line operated routes - OTP is the Percentage of total scheduled fixed WeGo Central route arrivals and departures occurring no later than 5 minutes 59 seconds late obtained from data provided by Gray Line personnel. (Gray Line & MTA operated RTA metrics combined based on a weighted average of total trips)

WeGo Star OTP

A train is considered on time when the train arrives at the final destination less than 6 minutes from the scheduled time. If a train is held up for 6 minutes or longer it is considered delayed and not on time. Intermediate station times are not included.

Customer Care

Passengers Carried Per Complaint

RTA Bus

Total RTA Bus passengers divided by total RTA Bus customer complaints. (Gray Line & MTA operated RTA metrics combined)

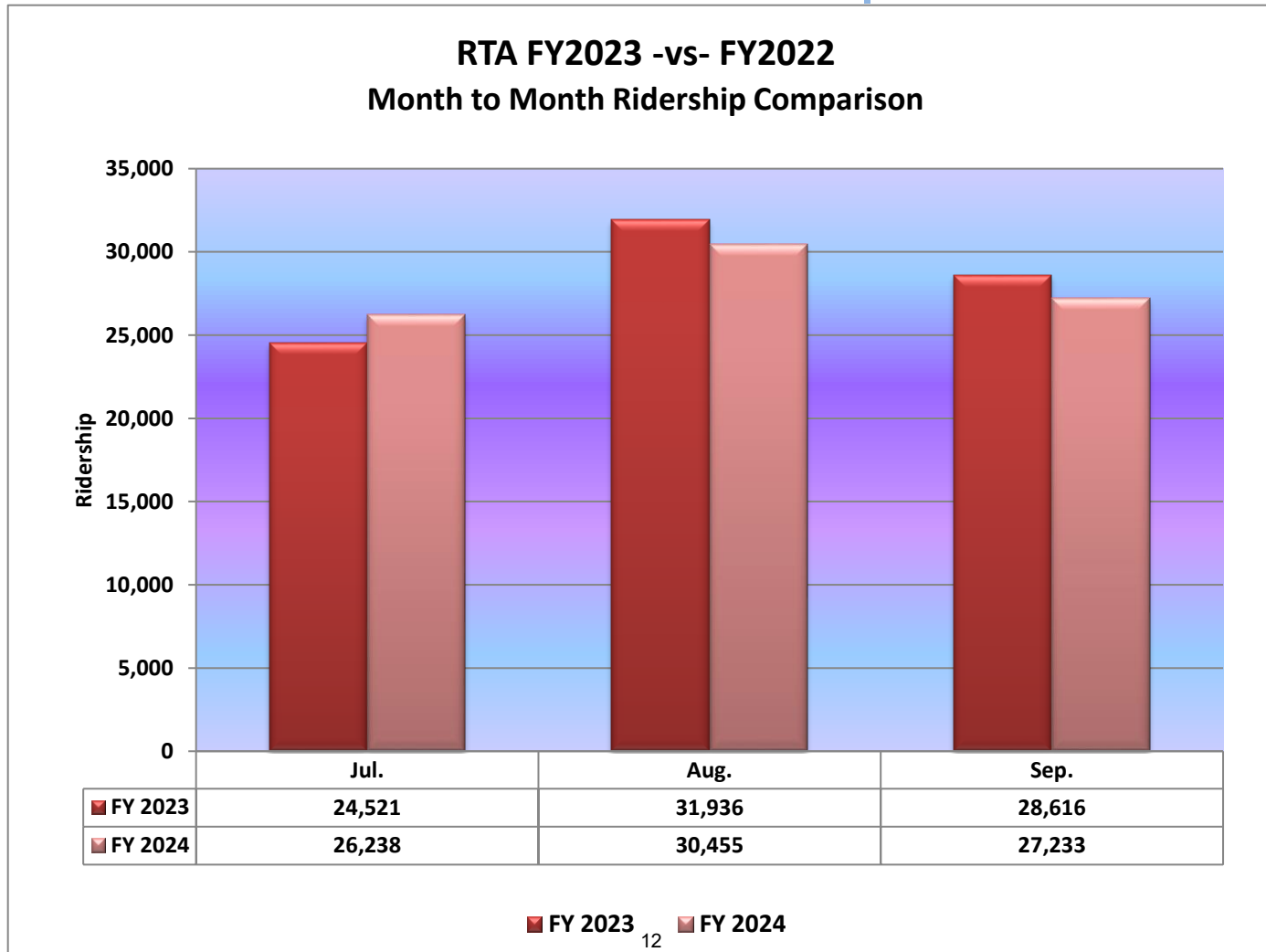
WeGo Star

Total WeGo Star passengers divided by total WeGo Star customer complaints.



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FISCAL YEAR AND MONTH TO MONTH RIDERSHIP COMPARISON - FY 2024 -vs- 2023

	Month to Month Comparison			Fiscal Year Comparison		
	Sep-22	Sep-23	Percentage Change	FY 2023	FY 2024	Percentage Change
WeGo Star	7,997	7,668	-4.1%	23,671	24,136	2.0%
Express Bus & Shuttle Services	10,958	12,608	15.1%	31,430	34,995	11.3%
RTA VanStar Vanpool Service	1,248	868	-30.4%	4,084	3,152	-22.8%
Total RTA Ridership	20,203	21,144	4.7%	59,185	62,283	5.2%





**NASHVILLE AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
FISCAL YEAR AND MONTH TO MONTH RIDERSHIP COMPARISON - FY 2024 -vs- 2023**

	Month to Month Comparison			Fiscal Year		
	Sep-22	Sep-23	Change	FY 2023	FY 2024	Change
MTA Local Bus Service	678,135	731,101	7.8%	1,932,709	2,081,390	7.7%
MTA Local Paratransit Service	30,307	31,689	4.6%	89,333	95,712	7.1%
RTA Regional Bus Service	10,958	12,608	15.1%	31,430	34,995	11.3%
RTA VanStar Vanpool Service	1,248	868	-30.4%	4,084	3,152	-22.8%
RTA Regional Rail Service	7,997	7,668	-4.1%	23,671	24,136	2.0%
* RTA Special Events Rail Service	1,396	905	-35.2%	3,982	2,308	-42.0%
Subtotal RTA Rail Service	9,393	8,573	-8.7%	27,653	26,444	-4.4%
Subtotal MTA & RTA Bus & Rail Service	730,041	784,839	7.5%	2,085,209	2,241,693	7.5%
Williamson County VanStar Vanpool Service	7,017	5,184	-26.1%	21,906	19,335	-11.7%
Murfreesboro ROVER Local Bus Service	9,691	8,965	-7.5%	28,210	26,671	-5.5%
Franklin Transit Local Bus Service	9,199	10,634	15.6%	18,376	19,985	8.8%
Clarksville Transit Local Bus Service	47,314	47,259	-0.1%	134,820	135,103	0.2%
Total Area Ridership	803,262	856,881	6.7%	2,288,521	2,442,787	6.7%



**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
ROUTE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT**

For the Month of: **September-23**

Rte. No.	Route Name	Monthly Ridership	Ridership Change vs Last Year	Revenue Hours Of Service	Average Passengers Per Trip	Per Hour
CORRIDOR SERVICE COMPARISONS - COMMUTER BUS SERVICE						
	North Corridor (Route 87)	1,642	-4.6%	187	10	8.8
	Northwest Corridor (Routes 89 & 94)	2,309	2.0%	327	8	7.1
	South Corridor (Route 95)	991	19.4%	226	6	4.4
	Southeast Corridor (Routes 84 & 86)	3,891	45.6%	818	7	4.8
EXPRESS BUS ROUTE SERVICE						
84	Murfreesboro Express	2,757	30.4%	650	6	4.2
86	Smyrna - LaVergne Express	1,134	103.6%	167	8	6.8
87	Gallatin Express	1,642	-4.6%	187	10	8.8
88	Dickson Express	482	41.3%	94	6	5.1
89	Springfield - Joelton Express	436	-7.0%	111	5	3.9
94	Clarksville Express	1,873	4.4%	216	9	8.7
95	Spring Hill Express	991	19.4%	226	6	4.4
	Express Bus Route Totals	9,315	19.0%	1,652	7	5.6
OTHER ROUTES						
64	Star Downtown Shuttle	339	38.9%	63	1	5.3
93	WeGo Star West End Shuttle	2,954	2.3%	83	25	35.4
	RTA Bus Route Monthly Totals	12,608	15.1%	1,715	13	7.3
COMMUTER RAIL SERVICE						
90	WeGo Star Commuter Rail	7,668	-4.1%	228	32	33.6
	RTA Commuter Rail and Bus Totals	20,276	7.0%	1,944	22	10

Regional Transportation Authority

of Middle Tennessee

Board Action Item

Item Number:	R-A-23-018	Meeting Date:	11/15/2023
Item Title:	WeGo Star Annual Track Maintenance Program		

BACKGROUND:

Annual routine maintenance and rehabilitation work is required to ensure the safety and quality of the WeGo Star service and compliance with Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) requirements for commuter rail operations. The labor and materials routinely include track, ties, ballast, bridges, overall upkeep of at-grade crossings, and signal improvements on the Nashville and Eastern Railroad (NERR) corridor. The railroad has identified critical areas along the corridor where the Star operates daily. To maintain the corridor in a “state of good repair,” these efforts need to be completed within the 2024 fiscal year. As a requirement of the tri-party agreement between the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA), Nashville and Eastern Railroad Authority (NERA), and Nashville and Eastern Railroad Corporation (NERC), the railroad is to perform regular maintenance and repair of the track and infrastructure associated with the rail passenger corridor. Based on the railroad’s annual assessment of conditions, the RTA reviews and evaluates the request for repairs and associated capital costs prior to issuing approval of the work.

The successful completion of this project provides the ability to ensure the continued safe, reliable, and effective service delivery to our customers by our operating personnel. RTA has engaged the engineering services of HDR, Inc., the RTA’s Engineering On-Call consultant. HDR has conducted site visits at all corridor locations and confirmed that the proposed track and rehabilitation work is necessary to maintain the Star in a “state of good repair.” Based on these observational visits and market research, HDR has concluded that the estimated project schedule and construction cost are within reasonable range for all quoted services. Upon execution, this project includes replacing defective wooden ties in various locations throughout the corridor. Surfacing and added ballast are also requirements to improve ride quality along the rail line. In addition, the 2-grade crossing will be rehabilitated to include new rail, ties, fasteners, and asphalt paving. Once approved, the expected project completion is in the Spring of 2024. HDR, Inc. will audit performed work to ensure compliance with standards and the scope of work.

RECOMMENDATION:

RTA staff requests that the Operations Committee recommend the Board of Directors provide the Chief Executive Officer authority to release capital funding to support this year’s track maintenance and rehabilitation needs, as defined within the Tri-party agreement between RTA, NERA, and NERC. The proposed capital project is to be managed with a total amount not to exceed \$1,202,750.00. RTA will fund its portion of \$1,082,475.00(90%) from Federal, State, and local sources. RJ Corman will fund the remaining \$120,275.00 (10%) as agreed to in the Tri-Party Agreement.

APPROVED:

11/15/2023

Board Secretary

Date

Regional Transportation Authority

of Middle Tennessee

- Committee Discussion Item Exec. Committee Discussion Item Board Discussion Item
 Committee Action Item Exec. Committee Action Item

Item Number:	R-D-23-025	Meeting Date:	11/15/2023
Item Title:	Connect Downtown Plan Update		

BACKGROUND:

Connect Downtown is a comprehensive effort to improve overall mobility in and through Downtown Nashville's core. The project is a joint effort led by the Nashville Department of Transportation and Multimodal Infrastructure (NDOT) in partnership with WeGo Public Transit, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), and the Nashville Downtown Partnership.

The study will identify and examine options for improving traffic management, transit access, curbside and parking management, and bicycle and pedestrian safety while supporting the anticipated growth in employment, residential and commercial development, and Nashville's primacy as a tourism destination. The Transit operations study is the primary area of emphasis, recognizing the need to improve transit reliability for the local and regional bus network to make transit more competitive. Downtown traffic is one of the most significant challenges in local and regional transit service reliability, creating frequent service delays and disruptions. Reliable connectivity in and through Downtown is critical for transit to provide fast and consistent access to more places around Nashville and the region.

With respect to regional connectivity, an efficient and reliable approach to transit flow through the downtown core will be absolutely crucial to building ridership on the regional system. In addition to improving overall system reliability with respect to performance metrics like on time performance, an effective transit prioritization strategy through the downtown core will make public transportation a more competitive choice for regional travelers, and will support efforts to connect regional travelers to multiple destinations around and immediately surrounding the downtown core.

CURRENT STATUS:

During the past several months, the Connect Downton team has drafted recommendations based on detailed research, technical analysis, and public and stakeholder outreach feedback. The draft recommendations encompass a variety of modes and solutions with a substantial transit emphasis and include a phased approach for implementation over the next ten years. The next outreach phase to present the Draft Action Plan will launch on November 13, including public open houses, key briefings, and stakeholder meetings, and a Final Plan that will be completed after the final outreach phase.

Marty Sewell, NDOT's Transportation Planning Director and Connect Downtown Project Manager, will provide a presentation on the status of the study and, along with Felix Castrodad, Director of Planning & Grants, will facilitate discussion during the New Initiatives and Community Engagement committee meeting.

APPROVED:



Director of Planning & Grants

11/15/2023

Date

Regional Transportation Authority

of Middle Tennessee

Board Action Item

Item Number:	R-A-23-019	Meeting Date:	11/15/2023
Item Title:	2024 RTA Committee & Board Meeting Schedule		

BACKGROUND:

Under Article 2, Section 3 of the by-laws of the Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (“RTA”), the RTA shall meet at least quarterly at a time and place to be established by the Chair/President of the Board. RTA and may meet more frequently as needed. Additionally, under Article 4, Section 5 of the by-laws, the Executive Committee shall meet monthly except for those months in which the Board shall meet. In order to effectively satisfy the established meeting requirements, a schedule of proposed 2024 meeting dates for both the RTA Board and Executive Committee is herein attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the proposed meeting dates be adopted and approved by the Board.

APPROVED:

Board Secretary

11/15/2023

Date



2024 RTA Board Meetings Schedule

Board Meeting Time: 9:30 a.m.

Quarterly Committee Meetings

(Will only meet as necessary)

Audit Committee 11:00 a.m.		Finance Committee 11:15 a.m.		
Month	Board Meeting (Quarterly)	Executive Committee Meetings	Committee Meetings (Quarterly)	Meeting Location
January	17	17 (If necessary)	* 10	TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
February		21		TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
March		20		TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
April		17		TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
May		15		TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
June	19	19 (If necessary)	* 12	TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
July		17		N/A
August	21	21 (If necessary)	14	TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
September		18		TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
October		16		TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
November	20	20 (If necessary)	13	TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219
December		18		TN Library & Archives 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N. Nashville, TN 37219

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DID NOT MEET IN JULY

* This is the SECOND Wednesday of the month.