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# Transcript of Board Meeting

**Date:** October 9, 2024

**Case:** Chicago Transit Authority Board Meeting, In Re:

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BEFORE THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD

BOARD MEETING

Chicago, Illinois

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

11:09 a.m.

Job No.: 554781

Pages: 1 - 68

Reported By: Courtney Petros, RPR, CSR

1 Board Meeting, held at:

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4 CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

5 567 West Lake Street

6 Chicago, Illinois 60661

7 312.681.3137

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12 Before Courtney Petros, a Certified Shorthand

13 Reporter and Registered Professional Reporter in

14 and for the State of Illinois.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

BOARD MEMBERS:

- LESTER L. BARCLAY, CHAIRMAN
- REV. DR. L. BERNARD JAKES, VICE CHAIRMAN
- ROSA Y. ORTIZ
- MICHAEL EADDY
- MICHELE A. LEE
- ROBERTO REQUEJO
- NEEMA JHA

ALSO PRESENT:

- NORA LEERHSEN, CHIEF OF STAFF
- KENT RAY, GENERAL COUNSEL
- GEORGETTE GREENLEE, SECRETARY

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P R O C E E D I N G S

CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Good morning. I'd like to call to order the meeting of the Chicago Transit Board for October 9th, 2024.

Georgette, please call the roll.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

DIRECTOR JHA: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Present.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

DIRECTOR LEE: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

DIRECTOR EADDY: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, you have a quorum and a full Board.

CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next order of business is the approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting of September 11th, 2024.

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1 May I have a motion it to approve?

2 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

3 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

4 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
5 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that minutes from  
6 September 11th, 2024 with be approved.

7 We'll take a roll call vote.

8 Director Eaddy.

9 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

11 DIRECTOR LEE: Abstain because I wasn't  
12 here.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

14 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

16 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

18 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

20 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

22 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, the  
24 motion passes.

1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next item of  
2 business on the agenda will be the ADA Advisory  
3 Board report given by Laura Saltzman, who is the  
4 chair of the ADA Advisory Board.

5 MS. SALTZMAN: Thank you for having me.  
6 Sorry. I know I speak quietly, so I want you to  
7 hear.

8 Hello. My name is Laura Saltzman. I am  
9 the chair of the ADA Advisory Committee and a  
10 senior policy analyst at Access Living.

11 The Committee met this past Monday on  
12 October 7th, 2024. We welcomed the new ADA  
13 Advisory Committee Vice Chairman Lincoln Edwards  
14 and thank Cindy Fosco for her past work as vice  
15 chair. We also want to chair Chairman Lester  
16 Barclay for moving this process through so  
17 quickly. We had public comment.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Ms. Saltzman, thank you so  
19 much for being here. So we're just going to level  
20 set. Please do pull the mic closer and maybe Veda  
21 can help you. Please slow down. Your words are  
22 being transcribed and I want to make sure that our  
23 court reporter gets all of the names and the words  
24 as you're giving your report.

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1 Thank you very much.

2 MS. SALTZMAN: Thank you so much. I'm so  
3 sorry. Do you want me to start --

4 MS. GREENLEE: You can keep going from  
5 where you just left off.

6 MS. SALTZMAN: Sorry. I'm also losing my  
7 voice.

8 We had the public comment encouraging CTA  
9 to consider which standards it follows related to  
10 elevator design and whether those current designs  
11 follow best practices.

12 We then had three presentations discussing  
13 infrastructure improvements on the CTA, which were  
14 an update to the All Stations Accessibility  
15 Program, the Red Line Extension, RLE, and future  
16 phases of the Red/Purple Modernization project.

17 Bill Mooney, chief infrastructure officer,  
18 presented on ASAP and RLE. During his  
19 presentations, the Committee brought up concerns  
20 regarding the decision of having one escalator  
21 that goes only one direction particularly in areas  
22 with wide staircases. Mr. Mooney stated it is due  
23 to budget and area constraints as some stations  
24 can only fit one escalator.



1           The Committee also brought up the cost  
2 difference between outsourcing versus in-house  
3 workers for various infrastructure projects and  
4 whether there are times where in-house would save  
5 money long time. Mr. Mooney said that it depends  
6 on the project. Some engineering is internal, but  
7 something like elevator replacement CTA currently  
8 outsources and that works well, however, that  
9 there were some kinds of elevator repairs that the  
10 agency handles in-house.

11           In addition, the Committee stated that  
12 accessing the surrounding area to the stations is  
13 just as important. The Committee asked whether  
14 the pathway to the station would also be improved.  
15 As the Board may recall, pathway of travel is of  
16 particular concern for this Committee. Mr. Mooney  
17 stated that CTA collaborates with CDOT and is a  
18 part of ASAP to look at the surrounding area for  
19 accessibility updates.

20           For the Red Line Extension, the Committee  
21 asked whether CTA had plans to increase bus  
22 service for the areas that the extension will be  
23 targeting ahead of when it -- decisions to be  
24 built, whether there were environment concerns

1 with the noise levels of the Red Line Extension  
2 stations, and asked if CTA will help advocate for  
3 accessible housing in developments around these  
4 new accessible Red Line Extension stations as this  
5 is something that CTA desperately lacks and as  
6 promoting the need in general for developments  
7 around the stations is something that CTA is  
8 doing.

9 Christina Bader, the project manager in  
10 strategic planning, presented the future phases of  
11 the Red/Purple Modernization project. The  
12 Committee expressed gratitude of RPM's public  
13 engagement efforts and expressed a desire to have  
14 more projects have the same level of public  
15 engagement. I genuinely think this would benefit  
16 everyone.

17 There are a number of people who  
18 effectively to a committee of mostly  
19 nontransportation professional and explain why  
20 various decisions related to accessibility are  
21 made. That is something for the CTA to take  
22 advantage of.

23 The Committee asked to prioritize  
24 accessibility at the Central Purple Line station

1 because there is a hospital within close proximity  
2 to the station.

3 Furthermore, Irma Gomez, ADA manager, will  
4 be recruiting new ADA Advisory Committee members  
5 as two of our longstanding members, Doreen Bogus  
6 and Mary Abramson, will complete a four-year term  
7 in January. The application can be found online  
8 and the deadline is November 8th.

9 In addition, the Committee was made aware  
10 that today MOPD will be hosting and employment  
11 networking event for people with disabilities in  
12 which the CTA will be present. The event will  
13 take place at the MOPD's Central West Community  
14 Center located at 2102 West Ogden from 1:30 to  
15 4:00. I appreciate that the CTA is doing this and  
16 encourage other agencies to also seek out disabled  
17 employees. In a tight labor market, this is a  
18 labor pool getting overlooking.

19 Additionally, we raised the issue of BRT,  
20 a continuation of our last presentation to this  
21 Board, which we appreciated the response to. This  
22 is also due to a conversation I had with  
23 Rep. Eva-Dina Delgado at another time in which she  
24 expressed a willingness to press the State or

1 IDOT. This is a response to a conversation I had  
2 with Rep. Delgado in which she expressed a  
3 willingness to press the State or IDOT  
4 specifically on BRT but that CTA needs to have an  
5 explicit plan for BRT.

6 Molly Poppe said plans are in the works to  
7 explore this beyond the Better Streets for Buses  
8 project on Western specifically. I think we  
9 should take advantage of state legislators who are  
10 eager to support transit projects. We also  
11 discussed the need for career CSRs and CSAs at  
12 stations and crisis response teams.

13 Infrastructure cannot solve all disability  
14 concerns, but we sincerely appreciate the  
15 commitment to infrastructure that CTA has made  
16 both locally and in making Federal ASAP happen. I  
17 do want to thank CTA for not only showing up at a  
18 recent meeting that Access Living held on crisis  
19 response teams but having by far the best  
20 representation of any agency, state or local,  
21 including those that were mandated to attend.

22 I encourage it to further progress on  
23 plans for careers CSAs and CSRs and, finally,  
24 crisis response.

1           Finally, we ask for a process that would  
2           flag if certain garages or stations consistently  
3           have more complaints as that would point to a more  
4           systemic issue that would need to be resolved  
5           beyond the infrastructure level.

6           Our next meeting is January 13th. Thank  
7           you.

8           MS. GREENLEE: Thank you, Mrs. Saltzman.

9           Are there any questions of the Board for  
10          the chairperson of the ADA Advisory Committee?

11          DIRECTOR JHA: Can I go first?

12          MS. GREENLEE: Absolutely, Director Jha.

13          DIRECTOR JHA: Are there any immediate  
14          action items that the CTA has agreed to take on  
15          based on your recommendations? And you may not  
16          know the answer. But do we have anything from the  
17          CTA team based off of what we've heard? Were  
18          there actionable things that we can take on that  
19          was not in the plan before?

20          MS. SALTZMAN: Specifically related to  
21          what I just talked about?

22          DIRECTOR JHA: Mm-hmm.

23          MS. SALTZMAN: Our meeting was Monday.

24          DIRECTOR JHA: Was there any agreement to

1 -- was there any response from the team in terms  
2 of if there are any projects that they can take on  
3 that was not in the plan -- we don't have to  
4 answer that question now. But I'd like the team  
5 to come back with that.

6 And then second is how are we  
7 incorporating some of what we've heard in the  
8 upcoming budget ask that is going to happen in  
9 November?

10 MS. SALTZMAN: Yeah. That is I think for  
11 the --

12 DIRECTOR JHA: Yeah. So that would be the  
13 two questions back to the CTA team in terms of  
14 what we've heard if we can get some response to  
15 that.

16 MS. LEERHSEN: We'd be happy to provide  
17 that.

18 DIRECTOR JHA: Awesome. Thank you.

19 MS. SALTZMAN: Yeah. Thank you.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

21 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Similar point. Similar  
22 point around taking advantage of the budget season  
23 to take on some of these issues. Also, curious as  
24 to whenever we run into this whole we don't have

1 the budget situation, how do we break that wall?  
2 This is very expensive work and we need to figure  
3 out a way, state legislators, what would help us  
4 with this.

5 And then, more specifically, Laura, has  
6 the team thought about identifying some of the, I  
7 don't know, top ten locations that are the hardest  
8 to access for people with disabilities that we can  
9 use as a first step to start addressing those  
10 issues that affect, as you have very well educated  
11 all of us, not only the disability community but  
12 people who are trying to cross the street who will  
13 benefit probably tremendously from those  
14 collaborations between CDOT and CTA?

15 MS. SALTZMAN: So I know that -- and I  
16 think I discussed this before -- that CTA has  
17 handed CDOT the list of the most in need bus stops  
18 in regards to CTA stations. Again, I gather that  
19 there is specific focus especially around ASAP and  
20 I know CTA sometimes lays down new sidewalk for  
21 the RPM project.

22 But I think that -- but in terms of the  
23 top ten -- I mean, the thing is, is how do we  
24 evaluate the top ten, is it the area that doesn't

1 already have accessibility? I mean, we can  
2 prioritize where they are -- and it's how far are  
3 we going for path of travel. But I think there  
4 could be further discussions. But especially I  
5 would want a commitment if CTA could help get a  
6 commitment from CDOT that if that work is done,  
7 there will be follow through on that because I  
8 think that that has sometimes been one of the  
9 issues.

10 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Right. Yeah. And I  
11 acknowledge there are many factors. So I was  
12 curious as to whether the Committee has identified  
13 how would you prioritize, are these areas with the  
14 most disabilities that live there, are these areas  
15 that have the most traffic violence, whatever that  
16 is?

17 To me, what would be helpful -- I've seen  
18 really great, by the way, examples of improvements  
19 in walkability happening around some stations,  
20 especially on the north side. I don't see that  
21 happening equitably. And it feels like one-offs  
22 that happen when there is pressure from the  
23 alderman and a number of things that can be  
24 orchestrated.



1           So, to me, the question is how can we  
2 build on those lessons learned. And congrats to  
3 those folks who have created walkability, but then  
4 can we develop a pipeline of stations that then go  
5 next that doesn't end up just benefitting one area  
6 that looks at places with traffic violence and  
7 seniors or people with disabilities living nearby.  
8 I don't know. Just curious as to whether you'll  
9 have a conversation on that.

10           MS. SALTZMAN: I think it would be a good  
11 conversation to have and add it to our agenda to  
12 discuss -- have the full Committee discuss it.  
13 Our next meeting is January.

14           But we've had those discussions in terms  
15 of prioritizing whether or not you consider a bus  
16 stop accessible because there is various metrics  
17 for that. So there was just a discussion for  
18 that. So I think that would be good.

19           But, yes, for instance, on Cermak, they  
20 fixed all the sidewalks east of it but not west.  
21 You have sidewalks that have stairs, so it's not  
22 accessible. So I agree with you.

23           I think -- yeah. I think while we've had  
24 one-off discussions, having a full discussion

1 would be good. We meet quarterly, so the next one  
2 will be January, but I think that that would be  
3 something to put on the agenda and ask CTA to help  
4 us kind of think about the evaluation in terms of  
5 -- in the same ways that ASAP was considered.

6 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Great. Yeah. Because  
7 I've seen the pipeline for the transformation of  
8 stations into accessible stations and I applaud  
9 the efforts of the infrastructure team to do this,  
10 but I haven't seen the same type of pipeline on  
11 prioritization of the actual walkability and  
12 mobility of stations.

13 MS. SALTZMAN: The other thing, I think,  
14 that it would be worth thinking about is there are  
15 still some parts of the city that don't have  
16 sidewalks where there are buses and don't have  
17 sidewalks.

18 And, I know, again, this gets into the  
19 issue of what CTA can do versus what other  
20 agencies can do, but, certainly, if CTA can help  
21 push for that. I think it's unacceptable that  
22 there are areas not just where the sidewalk is  
23 broken but where there's no sidewalk or there's no  
24 curb ramps or sidewalks, sometimes. Would that

1 also kind of be in line with what you're looking  
2 at, too?

3 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yeah. And it kind of  
4 brings it into the whole CDOT/CTA partnership,  
5 which I know is in the works to have something  
6 more coordinated, but I would welcome also an  
7 update on how is our partnership with CDOT being  
8 reinforced and more strategic things like  
9 pipelines on projects, things like that.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

11 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Thank you.

12 These analyses take time and thought  
13 process and I know sometimes capacity can be an  
14 issue. So leaning on the partners, I think, would  
15 be a really good ask of just how do we even do an  
16 analysis of the stations or the investments.

17 And I would further that into a return on  
18 investment analysis, right? If you're investing  
19 in this route or if you're investing in this other  
20 piece, how much and how much better can an  
21 investment on buses might have a better return  
22 versus one station and one location and all of the  
23 logistics that go into building permits and costs.

24 So I would just encourage and provide that

1 as another piece of support, coordination to think  
2 through this.

3 MS. SALTZMAN: I agree. It's very  
4 important. And there are some folks that do that.  
5 That would be a necessary part of the  
6 conversation. I appreciate it.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

8 DIRECTOR JAKES: No questions.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

10 DIRECTOR LEE: Hi, Laura. Thanks for the  
11 report and the summary. I guess I'm wondering --  
12 is this a question for Nora. Can we hold a spot  
13 for CDOT at their committee, like an invitation?  
14 It sounds like there's a lot of, you know,  
15 disconnect.

16 MS. LEERHSEN: Yeah. I don't think  
17 there's anything precluding that. You mean just  
18 having them visit to speak to the committee?

19 DIRECTOR LEE: Just a standing invitation  
20 where they should probably show up. Is there that  
21 possibility?

22 MS. LEERHSEN: I'm sure that's a  
23 possibility.

24 DIRECTOR LEE: Because I would encourage

1 that. It sounds like there's a lot of overlap.  
2 It just keeps getting brought up, not really  
3 solved. Otherwise, I mean, I commend the work  
4 that you all are doing. Keep it up.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

6 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you, Ms. Saltzman.

8 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next order of  
9 business is public comment. Georgette.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, we had  
11 five registered citizens for public comments  
12 today. Four have actually shown up. And we will  
13 call them in order.

14 Thank you for coming to make public  
15 comments. I would advise that your comments must  
16 be kept at three minutes. And we will advise you  
17 if you are going over or approaching that  
18 three-minute mark.

19 Our first public commentator is Pennie  
20 McCoach. Welcome. Please speak loudly. Pull the  
21 microphone up.

22 MS. MCCOACH: Good morning, everyone. My  
23 name is Pennie McCoach. I'm the president and  
24 business agent for ATU Local 308 and I represent

1 the rail side of the employees for the Chicago  
2 Transit Authority.

3 I'm here today on behalf of the members of  
4 ATU Local 308, the hardworking people who operate  
5 CTA rail system 365 days a year. Unlike the  
6 transit system in many major cities who have  
7 dedicated transit police, the CTA system is  
8 patrolled by unarmed private security companies.

9 As recent events show, that is not an  
10 effective deterrent to crime on the CTA. In just  
11 the last few weeks, our members have endured a  
12 series of violent incidents for passengers shot on  
13 the Blue Line, one of our local 308 members shot  
14 and wounded in a drive-by shooting at the Howard  
15 Station, and just this past week, a customer was  
16 shot on the Red Line. And not to mention, I think  
17 think just this week there was an incident with a  
18 shooting on the buses where a passenger was shot  
19 in the leg.

20 And these are just the latest incidents  
21 that has occurred on the system. These things are  
22 unacceptable. CTA must take steps to provide  
23 meaningful deterrents to crime on the system such  
24 as working with the City to institute a dedicated

1 transit police force.

2 I heard you guys speaking about that  
3 today. I appreciate you bringing that into  
4 conversation today. CTA must also take meaningful  
5 steps to improve the quality of life for our  
6 members because not only do our members face  
7 unacceptable danger at work, but they also face  
8 unacceptable working conditions.

9 CTA often says that it places their  
10 highest priority on providing a safe and healthy  
11 environment for their employees and the riding  
12 public. We don't feel that way. Those are nice  
13 words, but our members expect action, not words  
14 from CTA. And it's time for CTA to take action on  
15 behalf of the members of Local 308, 241, and the  
16 riding public.

17 That's all I have. Thank you.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you, Ms. McCoach.

19 Our next public comment is from Bill  
20 Morton of the Rogers Park Chamber of Commerce.

21 MR. MORTON: Thank you, Board, vice  
22 president, and staff for giving me the opportunity  
23 to represent our constituents in Rogers Park and  
24 the City of Chicago.

1           We met with Infrastructure Officer Bill  
2 Mooney and RPM Jeff Wilson on several occasions  
3 about two different things. One is filling the  
4 empty storefronts at the CTA properties over in  
5 the Rogers Park area and also on Howard Street,  
6 the Evanston side. There are about 13 to 15  
7 different empty storefronts there.

8           And as was mentioned before, there's a lot  
9 of violence going on on Morse and Howard right  
10 now. And we feel that filling these empty  
11 storefronts will really help on that end. Having  
12 more people there to do actually business and to  
13 shop would really help our community. And this is  
14 what our constituents really want and need and  
15 that's why we had that meeting.

16           Also, another meeting -- we also got to  
17 tour -- tour the storefronts. And our action plan  
18 is to contact business owners throughout the City  
19 of Chicago and suburbs to become new Rogers Park  
20 business owners at these locations. We understand  
21 that they're in poor shape and that they need a  
22 lot of renovation. We took a look in there. But  
23 we're working with Bill Mooney and Jeff Wilson on  
24 that. And that's where we're at with that.



1           Next, I stated it before, we will always  
2 advocate for making Morse and Jarvis Red Line  
3 Stations ADA accessible. Don't have elevators.  
4 We don't have escalators. And if we're going to  
5 pick some, I would suggest you pick Morse and  
6 Jarvis stations. I'd be happy to meet with the  
7 ADA Committee. I haven't yet. But now that I  
8 know it exists, I'll come over. I will go out  
9 there and do what it takes to advocate for people  
10 with disabilities and also to advocate for  
11 families with strollers because that's just  
12 dangerous. I see it happen on Jarvis all the  
13 time. And people with groceries. So that's the  
14 top of our list.

15           Also, one of our constituents who is  
16 present in the council chambers right now is Adam  
17 Mack. And he calls us all the time. He's always  
18 messaging us with all of these different issues.

19           I just want to focus on public health and  
20 public safety while I have a little bit of time  
21 left. There are people who are treating the CTA  
22 trains, particularly the Red and Blue Line, as a  
23 domicile. And I feel that this is a public health  
24 and a public safety issue. Now, we must be

1 compassionate, of course. But I don't believe  
2 I've seen in the CTA mission statement that you  
3 guys supply housing.

4 I would like to see the CTA -- and maybe  
5 you already have, but I'd like to see the CTA work  
6 with the homeless shelters within the City of  
7 Chicago and surrounding suburbs, including  
8 connections with the homeless and others to get  
9 these people temporary housing so they don't have  
10 to be on the train --

11 MS. GREENLEE: That's time.

12 MR. MORTON: So they know that have that  
13 option.

14 Thank you very much. Thank you.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Our next public commentator  
16 is Keith Kysel. Mr. Kysel, you have three  
17 minutes. Welcome.

18 MR. KYSEL: Welcome. Good morning. I  
19 haven't been to a Board meeting in years. I don't  
20 recognize but one face.

21 My name is Keith Kysel, retired bus  
22 operator. I know they mentioned earlier in the  
23 other meeting about the transit trackers on the  
24 bus stop. I was the one in 2008 who came before

1 the Board and suggested that the bus stops get bus  
2 trackers, which later came in 2011 after I saw it  
3 in London. So never got a thank you, but, anyway.

4 I've been riding the transit a lot this  
5 summer when my car has been down, so I just want  
6 to say a few things, some things that have been  
7 said already. But the Red Line, I shouldn't have  
8 to get a contact high every time I get on the Red  
9 Line. And there is always somebody smoking weed,  
10 somebody selling weed like it's a regular business  
11 without any kind of fear.

12 When I used to be high school as a bad  
13 kid, we always feared doing anything on the  
14 trains. But now they operate with no fear. I  
15 suggested before this Board years ago after  
16 attending a convention in St. Louis involving  
17 transportation -- they had an armed security guard  
18 on every train that went into the city. Not  
19 security guards that can't do nothing without  
20 being armed. They had armed security. We need  
21 armed security on these trains. And they had it  
22 on every train that I rode into St. Louis.

23 Also, shields. I was the one who  
24 originally suggested putting the shields on the

1 buses. But they need to protect the bus driver  
2 totally like they do in South Africa and London.  
3 Totally in a cage with the side door that the  
4 operators can use.

5 Also, turnstiles. I've been told from  
6 operators telling they don't come back. People  
7 are just riding the buses not paying, groups of  
8 teens taking over the trains, taking over because  
9 you can't get them off for not paying their  
10 bus fare anymore from what I've been told.

11 But in Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, I think I  
12 brought this up before in 2016, they have  
13 turnstiles. You're not going to get on the bus  
14 for free because you have to get past the  
15 turnstile in Rio de Janeiro. They might want to  
16 look at that.

17 Another one more thing -- two more things.  
18 Two-sided bus stops at four-way intersection. If  
19 I'm catching the bus, I shouldn't have to wait  
20 till the bus makes the far side stop just to walk  
21 four lanes back to catch another bus. There  
22 should be a bus on both sides of the street such  
23 as on Garfield and Ashland.

24 Also, for the newcomers, one of my parent

1 -- I work with a lot of newcomer kids, I'm also in  
2 CPS, one parent is scared for their kids to get  
3 ride transit. They're scared they'll get lost and  
4 lose communications. Please allow the operators  
5 to be able to use their Google Translate if they  
6 chose to without worried about getting fired for  
7 pulling out a cell phone in case they need  
8 somebody to talk to.

9 And the last thing. I know they've got  
10 special part-timers. But special part-timers have  
11 to work on Sundays. Some of us would come back if  
12 we didn't have to work on Sundays. That's  
13 something you might want to bring in as well. And  
14 that's it.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you, Mr. Kysel. And  
16 our last public comment is from Keith Hill from  
17 Union 241.

18 MR. HILL: Good morning, everyone. My  
19 name is Keith Hill. I actually want to thank you  
20 for the opportunity to give public comments, but  
21 I'm looking for engagement. So I hope after my  
22 comment that I will have the opportunity to meet  
23 with the Board and express with the concerns of my  
24 members, the safety and the overall job. I'm

1 looking -- this is an olive branch.

2 My name is Keith Hill. I am president of  
3 ATU Local 241. More than being a president of  
4 Local 241, I have been an employee for the CTA for  
5 the past 27 years working as a driver out of  
6 Chicago, Forest Glenn, North Park, Archer, and  
7 74th Street Garage.

8 More over, the CTA has not just been an  
9 employer providing me a job, it's been an integral  
10 of my upbringing, the culture, with my mother  
11 having worked at CTA for 32 years and me having  
12 aunts, uncles, and cousins working at the CTA.  
13 When I retire, I will be the 27th member of my  
14 family to retire from CTA.

15 I grew up at the dinner table hearing  
16 about transit issues and the importance of transit  
17 in my community. Also, that working for CTA was  
18 more than a job, but it was a profession that  
19 provided necessary services to the community as an  
20 important -- as any professional.

21 It was also mentioned that without an  
22 effective massive transit system, people in the  
23 community would suffer because -- and be unable to  
24 provide for their daily needs. The majority of

1 the people living in the city are entirely  
2 dependent upon the system to get to work as well  
3 as to get to shopping and hospitals and other  
4 areas as it's their only means of transportation.

5 I grew up hearing that people who work for  
6 the system are responsible for making this a  
7 first-class transit system, as it is the employees  
8 who interact with the everyday riding public.

9 It's from this perspective I'm addressing  
10 you today. Today's system is facing a huge  
11 problem, not are there only funding problems, but  
12 there are everyday operational issues and a huge  
13 issue affecting my members, your employees, who  
14 are facing rising violence directed towards them  
15 each and every day. And I am advised by my  
16 members that someone with a gun approaches them on  
17 a bus on the regular each and every day.

18 I learned of an incident or accident  
19 committed by an employee who should have been  
20 trained properly to avoid the issue but was not.  
21 We have more and more people who are new to the  
22 City of Chicago expect and demand a free ride on  
23 the transit system. These are the confrontations  
24 on the system, yet, as a recurrent, these issues

1 are -- and as much as they are directed to  
2 management, if they are not considered important  
3 by the individual manager, they are ignored.

4 I have attempted to take the cooperative  
5 approach to the CTA by recognizing the interests  
6 of my members are the talent and success of CTA,  
7 however, I fear this is a one-way street with the  
8 input of the employees who have been in the system  
9 for years being ignored.

10 Much of management have taken that they  
11 run the world, that they are untouchable, and they  
12 are protected no matter how they act. That's  
13 their solution. Their decisions and their  
14 approaches are only the correct ones while  
15 ignoring any suggestions who deal with the issues  
16 on a daily basis.

17 I have worked and operated a bus for  
18 decades. I have instructed employees for decades.  
19 And I know the right approach to train and how to  
20 avoid and address issues, concerns of the public.  
21 The fact that incidents keep growing, new  
22 employees going through the system keep making the  
23 same mistakes which the past employees did not  
24 make.



1           The fact -- the passenger dissatisfaction  
2           is growing. The fact -- the violence on the  
3           system against operators keeps growing. And most  
4           importantly, some of the most significant issues  
5           my members or your employees face has not been  
6           addressed. This shows that this one-way street  
7           approach is not working.

8           When incidents occur, there are training  
9           deficiencies, which are obviously -- or where  
10          there are complaints from passengers is no longer  
11          the answers. Why do not new employees not stay?  
12          Why do new employees have accidents and not follow  
13          basic protocols in driving a bus? What are the  
14          problems and instructions? How to improve the  
15          customer employee satisfaction?

16          These are issues that can be resolved, but  
17          it takes a two-way street. The Union has already  
18          committed to management to help address the  
19          funding problem, but even finding solutions of the  
20          problems does not address some of the most  
21          significant underlying issues that must be cured  
22          to make CTA a world-class transportation system.

23          It has been -- it has the potential to be  
24          -- it is no longer time for lip service. It's

1 time for actions. We are at a critical. We can  
2 either approach these problems as partners or as  
3 adversaries. And to simply say, it is not the  
4 fault of the employee. The underlying cause must  
5 be examined. Unless the approach changes, the  
6 problems will not be resolved.

7 The only way to address current issues is  
8 to develop a partnership with the Union to address  
9 these issues, which, in my mind, means that  
10 management should recognize that management does  
11 not have all the solutions and it's not always the  
12 fault of the employees.

13 It is time for management to recognize  
14 those who interact on the daily basis with the  
15 public, drive and maintain these buses, teach new  
16 employees, coach current employees, and those who  
17 keep the system moving care about their jobs and  
18 have answers to solutions. Many of the problems  
19 the system faces should be listened to. Their  
20 input is important.

21 The Union prefers a partnership. It is  
22 not the question whether the person at the top or  
23 at the same page but whether it is understood at  
24 all levels that not one person at one other level

1 of management believes that they are immune. It  
2 is time for the Board to recognize that the direct  
3 -- that directing a partnership be forged. It is  
4 important issues --

5 MS. GREENLEE: Mr. Hill, could you please  
6 begin wrapping up your comments? Thank you.

7 MR. HILL: -- I will -- as they ensure the  
8 CTA achieves what it is capable of.

9 It is time for the Board to issue a  
10 directive so no one at any level of management  
11 believe that they are exempt. Only in this way  
12 are the issues, concerns to the Union and CTA  
13 truly will be truly addressed.

14 Action is required and needed to support  
15 the Board. The issues are important and we must  
16 find solutions together or there will be -- or  
17 there will not be solutions and the transit system  
18 that we represent will continue to burn and  
19 crumble. I'm asking the Board to have a meeting  
20 with the Union and let's see if we can help get us  
21 back on track.

22 Before I leave, Director Lee, I -- on  
23 behalf of my members, I understand that you take  
24 the bus on the regular. I understand that you

1 have been left numerous times. That is a direct  
2 conversation of what I'm talking about. The  
3 training, the attitude has to change. But when I  
4 go to make these suggestions, it falls on deaf  
5 ears and nothing gets done or retaliation goes  
6 back on the Union. So I'm asking everyone, come  
7 join us, come partner with us, take the system.

8 The safety you heard today is a joke, is a  
9 joke. There is no safety for us. And I'm  
10 disappointed that all I heard was the rails.  
11 Because for the last 50 years of my data, it's the  
12 buses that kept this system running. During  
13 COVID, it was the buses that kept this system  
14 running.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you, Mr. Hill.

16 MR. HILL: Don't disrespect the buses.  
17 Acknowledge us, pay attention, come talk to us.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you.

19 MR. HILL: Thank you.

20 DIRECTOR JAKES: Mr. Hill, one, it was  
21 great meeting you last month. Question. Do you  
22 have a list of everything you talked about?

23 MR. HILL: Yes.

24 DIRECTOR JAKES: Is there any way you can

1 get that to the Board Office so that we can have a  
2 copy of it? If we can start there as well as Ms.  
3 McCoach, right? Same thing. I want to lay eyes  
4 on it.

5 MR. HILL: It would be an honor and  
6 pleasure. Thank you.

7 MS. MCCOACH: No problem. We'll get that  
8 to you.

9 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you to our public  
10 comment. Thank you very much.

11 Our next item of business on the agenda is  
12 our president's report. As you know, President  
13 Carter is ill, under the weather today and so  
14 Chief of Staff Nora Leerhsen is sitting in for  
15 him.

16 Thank you, Nora. She'll give his report.  
17 Thank you.

18 MS. LEERHSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
19 members of the Board. Good morning.

20 We are excited to announce the launch of  
21 the planning process for CTA's first ever  
22 agency-wide strategic plan. This initiative is  
23 entitled Powering Our Transit Future and it will  
24 provide CTA with a detailed vision and roadmap

1 towards establishing the world-class transit  
2 system our customers deserve.

3 Our planning process, which will be guided  
4 by community and rider input, has three central  
5 goals. First, we want to develop a coordinated  
6 proactive framework for decision making, policy  
7 development, and strategic investments.

8 Second, we want to articulate a clear,  
9 direct vision for our riders, employees, elected  
10 officials, and other stakeholders on future  
11 investments and objectives for transit in the  
12 region. And, finally, we want to establish  
13 specific outcomes and metrics for progress guided  
14 by principles of equity, sustainability,  
15 accessibility, and rider and employee experience.

16 But we don't do this alone. The most  
17 critical component of this process will be the  
18 input and feedback from the communities we serve,  
19 the customers who ride our system, and other  
20 stakeholders from across the city who want to  
21 engage with us and provide their thoughts  
22 regarding CTA's operational and funding  
23 priorities.

24 You may wonder why CTA is developing this

1 type of plan at this moment. President Carter  
2 believes that as we drive progress on CTA's  
3 immediate priorities for frequent, reliable, and  
4 safe transit service, we must also lay the  
5 groundwork for the agency's long term future.

6 To fulfill our commitment to this great  
7 city, CTA must remain a customer-focused  
8 organization, an agency that works closely with  
9 the community and an employer that makes  
10 investments in its workers.

11 We are excited to collaborate with all of  
12 our stakeholders to create a comprehensive,  
13 equitable plan that will allow us to provide  
14 world-class transit service for all Chicagoans.

15 And I apologize for my voice. But you do  
16 see that our strategic plan is aimed at much of  
17 the spirit that was discussed today in terms of  
18 input across the Board and these issues.

19 Lastly, President Carter also asked that I  
20 provide a brief note about CTA's fiscal year 2025  
21 proposed budget recommendation, which will be  
22 unveiled for your consideration this Friday.

23 While the proposed budget specifics will  
24 be made specific at that time, he has asked me to

1 advise the Board that it is a balanced spending  
2 plan that puts our customers, improved service,  
3 and transit equity first.

4 Notably, this budget will maintain fares  
5 and enhance service. Each new budget year  
6 warrants a look back at the year that has passed  
7 and we are very proud of CTA's performance in  
8 2024. Of particular note is that CTA is already  
9 either approaching, meeting, or, in some cases,  
10 exceeding 2019 levels across key metrics including  
11 workforce and service performance.

12 This summer, the number of full-time CTA  
13 bus operators employed by CTA reached 2019 levels  
14 and today it exceeds that level. That has allowed  
15 us to, again, put the kind of bus service our  
16 customers deserve first.

17 In addition, we are making great strides  
18 toward President Carter's promised goal of  
19 training 200 new rail operators this year, which  
20 will ensure that we turn to 2019 service levels  
21 for rail as well.

22 Chief among the proposed 2025 budget  
23 priorities is an increased investment that will  
24 help us provide service levels that exceed



1 prepandemic levels. This will be made possible  
2 primarily through the system investments outlined  
3 in our Bus Vision Plan, which is helping us to  
4 reimagine our bus network.

5 We are also focused on making investments  
6 that will provide a clean and welcoming  
7 environment throughout our system. To achieve  
8 that goal, the budget will provide the funding  
9 necessary to retain additional workers hired this  
10 year to help clean our buses, trains, and  
11 facilities.

12 As always, the safety and security of our  
13 customers and employees is our primary concern and  
14 this proposed budget allocates significant funding  
15 for those efforts. Of course, our greatest  
16 resources are the hardworking men and women of the  
17 CTA. And in 2025, we will continue to invest in  
18 them. In the coming year, we will provide  
19 additional training resources for our employees  
20 along with expanded investment in employee  
21 engagement and facilities.

22 We look forward to introducing the  
23 proposed 2025 budget on Friday and look forward to  
24 your thoughts and feedback.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you,  
3 Ms. Leerhsen.

4 I want to commend President Carter. Last  
5 month, I attended the City Club address where he  
6 laid out a strategy for CTA becoming a world-class  
7 transit system where he challenged many of the  
8 business and political elected officials as to how  
9 we get this done to address some of the inequities  
10 in funding our system here at CTA and in the  
11 region as well and how it disproportionately  
12 impacts certain customers in certain areas who  
13 deserve and need public transportation.

14 I fully support this effort in bringing  
15 attention to this issue and encourage my Board  
16 colleagues to do the same. It's essential that we  
17 continue to advocate for fair and equitable  
18 funding that allows for us to meet the growing  
19 demands of our service and deliver on our  
20 commitments to the communities that we represent.

21 I'd like to also thank the strategic plan  
22 team, Molly's team, for informing the Board,  
23 briefing the Board members on the strategic plan  
24 and seeking input from all of us on the Board as

1 well. And I'm encouraged by the thoughtfulness  
2 and the effort that has gone into this process so  
3 far and hoping that staff and Board members will  
4 continue to collaborate on how to take the next  
5 steps for moving CTA forward today and in the  
6 future.

7           Regarding the upcoming budget proposal,  
8 the Board received a preview of the proposed  
9 budget in briefings and I appreciate the detailed  
10 work that has gone into that process as well.

11           We must continue to show our stakeholders,  
12 partners, and customers that we're making  
13 strategic decisions with their needs in mind and  
14 exploring every avenue to enhance the experience  
15 of our customers.

16           It is crucial that the budget reflect our  
17 commitment to innovation. I am pleased to see  
18 that we're using it not only to address our  
19 immediate needs but also to explore new and  
20 creative solutions to problems that we have as  
21 well like security issues that has come up this  
22 morning and that is of great concern to this  
23 Board.

24           So, at this point, I'd like to open the

1 floor up to any other board members who might like  
2 to respond to President Carter's report at this  
3 time.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Okay. We'll take responses  
5 from the Board members.

6 Director Jha.

7 DIRECTOR JHA: Thank you for the report.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

9 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: I want to start by  
10 thanking you, Nora, for the preview of the  
11 strategic plan and the budget. I was very  
12 surprised when I joined CTA to hear that we have  
13 never done a strategic plan. As a planner, it was  
14 pretty shocking that an agency of this size and  
15 with this trajectory had never done something like  
16 that.

17 And after the surprise, I thought, well,  
18 let's take the opportunity to make this really  
19 significant and set an example of what planning  
20 should be.

21 I align with President Carter in making --  
22 in wanting to make CTA a world-class agency. And  
23 I know that for us to be a world-class agency,  
24 we're going to need a world-class strategic plan.

1           And so we should be looking at what other  
2 agencies are doing in that front. We should not  
3 be repeating and rehashing. And the most  
4 important thing, it cannot be internally driven.  
5 It has to be an open plan.

6           I was encouraged today -- although there  
7 was a lot of conversation and conflict and  
8 grievances -- but I was encouraged to see that  
9 everyone who came in here with a grievance and an  
10 issue and a problem came also an olive branch,  
11 with an offer to help. People are eager to work  
12 with CTA in solving these problems.

13           And so I've been pleasantly surprised  
14 throughout my tenure here as to how responsive you  
15 all are. One thing that I noticed is that you are  
16 not great at asking for help. So I encourage you  
17 all to ask for help because those folks are  
18 banging the doors and have great ideas and  
19 solutions, they have resources, and you don't have  
20 to do this on your own.

21           And then as the chair mentioned, there's a  
22 number of issues that have come up today that are  
23 really important. From my perspective,  
24 definitely, security and having a security plan

1 that is comprehensive, open, multilayered is  
2 really important.

3 The other two things that I would love to  
4 see through the budget process to demonstrate that  
5 we are reallocating resources is, one, customer  
6 experience and engagement. And I feel, many  
7 times, we have a one-way street communication with  
8 passengers where we don't kind of hear from them  
9 or engage them in decision-making solutions.

10 And the other thing that came up today too  
11 is we have a great opportunity to set up resources  
12 to better staff equitable transit-oriented  
13 development. I think CTA should be proud of some  
14 examples that have taken place around town on  
15 building near transit, affordable housing,  
16 community centers, health clinics.

17 I don't think we're staffed yet and  
18 resourced yet to the point that we can tackle a  
19 full agenda of how do we make our transit  
20 equitable as it relates to development nearby.

21 So those three things I would encourage  
22 you all to consider and make prominent in the  
23 budget, again, security, ETOD, and customer  
24 experience and engagement.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

2 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes. Thank you.

3 I mentioned earlier that I have been and  
4 always have been excited about the strategic plan.  
5 I've offered support. I've offered time. And I  
6 also don't like surprises. And so, often, I am  
7 surprised with, hey, this is everything that we've  
8 been working on and here's the period on it  
9 because we're done with it.

10 And I think there's a lot of support  
11 available, there's a lot of different perspective,  
12 there's a lot of great resources. And specific on  
13 the strategic plan, I feel like there's a lot more  
14 that can be done and being inclusive and being  
15 thoughtful.

16 You know, I -- honestly, I feel like  
17 there's been minimal briefings on that and not  
18 just briefings but involvement of that work. I  
19 feel often that we're just told, again, this is  
20 what it is.

21 And so I really want to encourage,  
22 specifically, to the strategic plan, that it be  
23 fully vetted, thought out with different voices at  
24 the table to be really, as we've talked about, a

1 world-class approach, plan, and overall  
2 implementation plan to doing that work.

3 So I just wanted to note that and really  
4 encourage a more thorough assessment, process, and  
5 inclusivity specific to that because it's so  
6 important.

7 The last -- not as high, but definitely  
8 high is communications, not just with the riders,  
9 but across our agency. We've talked about just  
10 being able to connect directly with our staff and  
11 not just putting stuff at State -- you know, at  
12 the locations where they're at. And I've heard we  
13 just post things and people -- that's how we know  
14 or that's how people know.

15 I understand there's, under innovation, I  
16 think, ways that we want to connect and I really  
17 want to emphasize that we're looking at two-way  
18 communications, again, across our customers but  
19 also across our staff.

20 So I just want to highlight those two  
21 pieces and hope that we can continue to work  
22 through that together.

23 MS. LEERHSEN: Absolutely. And we  
24 appreciate that feedback. I think a fundamental



1 component of the strategic plan is to have that  
2 input and to make people feel that they are a part  
3 of its formation. So we'll continue to keep that  
4 aim and hear you on that feedback so far.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

6 DIRECTOR JAKES: No question.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

8 DIRECTOR LEE: Just echoing the sentiment  
9 of collaborative efforts and offer my support.

10 Thanks, Nora.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

12 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes. I would concur with  
13 what I've heard already. And just want to frame  
14 it this way, that, certainly, there needs to be  
15 possibly some sort of a forum or a town hall or  
16 something to be conceived to receive that kind of  
17 community input. The optics of it is also very  
18 good as well to even know that CTA is interested  
19 to hear from the broader community.

20 And I think for me one of the persons that  
21 came forward, Mr. Morton from Rogers Park, with  
22 the fact that the CTA trains often are sources for  
23 those who are homeless, I do think that that needs  
24 to be taken in as a part of the strategic plan of

1 what can CTA do to address that, to collaborate in  
2 some way.

3 Because we know that the trains are often  
4 that resource for that population. Well, let's  
5 try to aid and address that problem. And so I  
6 think that that was a legitimate concern for me as  
7 I heard it and I would certainly suggest that that  
8 be incorporated into a plan.

9 MS. LEERHSEN: Certainly. And with  
10 regards to that comment -- and we can always  
11 provide you more information -- we do have  
12 partnerships with social service agencies with the  
13 exact aim of housing as many people as possible  
14 off of the CTA and providing them services. So  
15 that is in place. Always a fundamental thing to  
16 look to grow and understand more of the  
17 opportunity there. But that's been a  
18 long-standing partnership with those agencies.

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Which is just the fact  
20 that I'm getting up to speed with some things.  
21 But that just struck me in that way. But I'm glad  
22 to know that something is already in place.

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you. Thank you,  
24 Nora. I appreciate it. Hope Dorval feels better.

1           Our next item on the agenda is No. 6,  
2 executive session. Kent Ray, our chief general  
3 counsel, is there executive session today?

4           MR. RAY: Yes, Chairman. We will have an  
5 executive session invoking the Illinois Open  
6 Meetings Act Section 2C, subsections 1, 2, 8, 11,  
7 and 21.

8           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
9 motion to recess into executive session for  
10 reasons stated by counsel.

11          DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

12          DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

13          MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
14 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the Board  
15 will move into executive session.

16          We'll take a roll call vote.

17          Director Jha.

18          DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

19          MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

20          DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

21          MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

22          DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

23          MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

24          CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

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Conducted on October 9, 2024

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1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

2 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

4 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

6 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

8 (Whereupon, the Board moved into executive  
9 session.)

10 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
11 motion to return to open session.

12 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

13 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

14 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
15 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the Transit  
16 Board return to open session.

17 We'll take a roll call vote.

18 Director Eaddy.

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

21 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

23 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

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Conducted on October 9, 2024

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1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

3 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

5 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

7 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

9 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
10 Board agenda item 6A. Kent.

11 MR. RAY: In item 6A, Chairman, the Board  
12 reviewed the closed session meeting minutes for  
13 September 11th, 2024.

14 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: May I have a motion to  
15 approve the closed session minutes for September  
16 11th, 2024?

17 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

18 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

19 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
20 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the Board  
21 approve the closed session minutes from September  
22 11th, 2024.

23 We'll take a roll call vote.

24 Director Eaddy.

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1           DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

2           MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

3           DIRECTOR LEE: Abstained.

4           MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

5           DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

6           MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

7           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

8           MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

9           DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

10          MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

11          DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

12          MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

13          DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

14          MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

15          MR. RAY: With respect to Board agenda

16 item 6B, the Board reviewed the recommendation to

17 adopt an ordinance authorizing execution of

18 collective bargaining agreements -- let me

19 rephrase that.

20                 The Board considered a recommendation to

21 authorize execution of collective bargaining

22 agreements containing the terms of tentative

23 agreements with the Craft Coalition of Trade

24 Unions.

1           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you. May I have  
2 a motion to adopt an ordinance authorizing  
3 execution of a collective bargaining agreements  
4 containing terms of tentative agreements with the  
5 Craft Coalition of Trade Unions.

6           DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

7           DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

8           MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
9 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the Board  
10 adopt the ordinance authorizing the execution of  
11 collective bargaining agreements containing terms  
12 of a tentative agreement with the Craft Coalition  
13 of Trade Unions.

14           We'll take a roll call vote.

15           Director Eaddy.

16           DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

17           MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

18           DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

19           MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

20           DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

21           MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

22           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

23           MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

24           DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

2 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

4 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

6 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
7 agenda item 6C.

8 MR. RAY: Chairman Barclay, in connection  
9 with Board agenda item 6C, the Board reviewed the  
10 recommendation to adopt an ordinance authorizing  
11 execution of a collective bargaining agreement  
12 containing the terms of a tentative agreement with  
13 the International Union of Operating Engineers,  
14 Local 399.

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you. May I have  
16 a motion to adopt an ordinance authorizing  
17 execution of a collective bargaining agreement  
18 containing the terms of a tentative agreement with  
19 the International Union of Operating Engineers  
20 Local 399?

21 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

22 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

23 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
24 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the Board



1 adopt an ordinance authorizing the execution of a  
2 collective bargaining agreement containing the  
3 term of a tentative agreement with the  
4 International Union of Operating Engineers, Local  
5 399.

6 We'll take a roll call vote.

7 Director Eaddy.

8 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

10 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

12 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

14 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

16 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

18 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

20 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you, Kent. May I  
23 have a motion to --

24 MR. RAY: In connection with item 6D,

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1 Chairman, the Board reviewed the recommended  
2 findings and decision of the hearing committee  
3 appointed in connection with the review of the  
4 discharge of CTA employee Michael Huff under  
5 Section 8 of the Metropolitan Transit Authority  
6 Act.

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you, Kent. May I  
8 have a motion to sustain the discharge of Michael  
9 Huff?

10 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

11 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

12 MS. GREENLEE: It's moved by Director Lee,  
13 seconded by Director Ortiz that the Board sustain  
14 the discharge of Michael Huff.

15 We'll take roll call vote.

16 Director Eaddy.

17 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

19 DIRECTOR LEE: Just to clarify, we're  
20 sustaining, meaning upholding the findings of the  
21 panel?

22 MR. RAY: Upholding the discharge.

23 DIRECTOR LEE: Okay. So, yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

1 DIRECTOR JAKES: No.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

3 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

5 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

7 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: No.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

9 DIRECTOR JHA: No.

10 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes with four  
11 voting to sustain the discharge and three voting  
12 in opposition of sustaining.

13 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
14 Board agenda item 7, Board matters. Georgette, do  
15 we have any Board matters?

16 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, we do  
17 have one Board matter. And that is a resolution  
18 of appreciation for the dedicated employees of the  
19 Chicago Transit Authority for their efforts during  
20 the 2024 Democratic National Convention.

21 I'll read the resolution.

22 Whereas the Democratic National  
23 Convention, the formal nominating event for the  
24 presidential candidate of the Democratic party was

1 hosted in the City of Chicago August 19th through  
2 the 22nd, 2024;

3 And, whereas, approximately 50,000  
4 visitors, comprised of dignitaries, national  
5 delegates, convention attendees, and tourists  
6 traveled to Chicago to attend the DNC;

7 And, whereas, the DNC was a complete  
8 success for the City of Chicago and highlighted  
9 its many attributes;

10 And, whereas, the Chicago Transit  
11 Authority played a key role in supporting the city  
12 during the DNC providing transportation services  
13 that contributed to the success of the event;

14 And, whereas, the employees of the Chicago  
15 Transit Authority demonstrated exceptional  
16 dedication, commitment, and professionalism in  
17 providing dedicated bus shuttle transportation to  
18 dignitaries and national delegates while still  
19 delivering regular transit service to event  
20 attendees, visitors, and everyday commuters during  
21 the week of the event;

22 And, whereas, in addition to  
23 transportation services, employees from  
24 departments across the agency volunteered to serve

1 as information specialists, greeting and providing  
2 assistance to visitors using CTA during the DNC;

3 And, whereas, the complex logistical  
4 transportation demands during the DNC were  
5 successfully met through the collective efforts of  
6 CTA employees ensuring smooth operations and  
7 minimizing disruptions to regular service;

8 And, whereas, the contributions of these  
9 employees reflect positively on the CTA and its  
10 longstanding expertise in delivering transit  
11 service for special events enhancing the  
12 reputation of the company and the city as an  
13 outstanding host for major national events.

14 Now, therefore be it resolved that the  
15 Chicago Transit Board hereby acknowledges and  
16 commends CTA employees from all departments for  
17 their hard work, dedication, and the successful  
18 execution of their responsibilities during the  
19 Democratic National Convention.

20 Be it further resolved that the Board  
21 extends its deepest appreciation for the  
22 employees' efforts in maintaining high quality  
23 service and contributing significantly to the  
24 overall success of this historic event.

1           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you, Georgette.  
2     Before we place this motion and before we vote,  
3     Mr. Bonds is here in the audience and I just want  
4     to thank you on behalf of the Board to your crew  
5     for doing a splendid job for the DNC and making us  
6     all look good and the city as well.

7           Pass along the Board sentiments along with  
8     this resolution and our sincere appreciation for  
9     their efforts.

10          MR. BONDS: Will do. Thank you.

11          CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: May I have a motion to  
12     adopt the resolution of appreciation for the  
13     dedicated employees of the Chicago Transit  
14     Authority for their efforts during the 2024  
15     Democratic National Convention?

16          DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

17          DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

18          MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
19     Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the  
20     resolution be adopted.

21          We'll take a roll call vote.

22          Director Jha.

23          DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

24          MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

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1 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

3 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

5 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

7 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

9 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

11 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: The motion to adopt the  
13 resolution passes.

14 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next order of  
15 business is a report from the Committee on  
16 Finance, Audit, and Budget.

17 Director Jakes.

18 DIRECTOR JAKES: Mr. Chairman, the  
19 Committee met earlier this morning and approved  
20 the September 11th, 2024, Committee minutes and  
21 review of the finance report.

22 The Committee reviewed six ordinances:

23 Review of an ordinance authorizing the use  
24 of capital revenue funds to meet the Chicago

1 Transit Authority's local share commitment for the  
2 Red Line Extension in fiscal years 2030 and '32.

3 Review of an ordinance authorizing a  
4 second amendment of a lease of property located at  
5 350 North Orleans Street, Chicago.

6 No. 3, review of an ordinance authorizing  
7 an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois  
8 Department of Transportation and the Chicago  
9 Metropolitan Agency for Planning for the I-290  
10 Blue Line Corridor Project.

11 Four, review of an ordinance authorizing  
12 the purchase of blanket railroad protective  
13 liability insurance for policy year November 1st,  
14 2024 through October 31st, 2025.

15 Five, review of an ordinance authorizing  
16 the purchase of cybersecurity insurance coverage  
17 for policy year November 1st, 2024 through October  
18 31st, 2025.

19 Review of an ordinance authorizing pilot  
20 program agreements with Global Display Solutions,  
21 Inc. and Papercast North America for digital bus  
22 stop sign pilots under the CTA's Innovation Studio  
23 program.

24 The Committee also reviewed eight



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1 contracts. The Committee placed the six  
2 ordinances and eight of the contracts on the  
3 omnibus. The Committee approved and recommended  
4 for Board approval six ordinances and eight  
5 contracts.

6 This concludes the report of the Finance,  
7 Audit, and Budget Committee.

8 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you, Director  
9 Jakes. I will now entertain a motion to approve  
10 the omnibus.

11 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

12 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

13 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
14 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz to approve the  
15 omnibus.

16 We'll take a roll call vote.

17 Director Jha.

18 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

20 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

22 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

24 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

2 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

4 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

6 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

8 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our apologies to the  
9 construction report, Mr. Mooney, Mr. Prieto, we're  
10 running short on time. We're going to ask to  
11 defer that to next month. Does that require a  
12 motion?

13 MS. GREENLEE: May we have a motion to  
14 amend the agenda to defer the construction report  
15 to the November Board meeting?

16 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

17 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

18 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
19 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the  
20 construction report be deferred to the November  
21 Board meeting.

22 We'll take a roll call vote.

23 Director Eaddy.

24 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

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1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

2 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

4 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

6 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

8 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

10 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

12 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

14 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our final order of  
15 business is new business. Georgette, is there any  
16 new business?

17 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, there is  
18 no new business.

19 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Since there is no  
20 further business to come before the Board, may I  
21 have a motion adjourn the Chicago Transit  
22 Authority meeting for October 9th, 2024?

23 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

24 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Second.

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1 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
2 Lee, seconded by Director Ortiz that the meeting  
3 be adjourned.

4 We'll take a roll call vote.

5 Director Eaddy.

6 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

8 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

10 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

12 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

14 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

16 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

18 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Meeting is adjourned.

21 Thank you.

22 (Off the record at 12:50 p.m.)  
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CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER

I, Courtney Petros, Registered Professional Reporter and Certified Shorthand Reporter, the officer before whom the foregoing proceeding was taken, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct record of the testimony given; that said testimony was taken by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that reading and signing was not requested; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed this 15th day of October, 2024.



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COURTNEY PETROS, RPR, CSR

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| <p><b>290</b><br/>63:9<br/><b>2c</b><br/>50:6</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>30</b><br/>10:14<br/><b>308</b><br/>20:24, 21:4,<br/>21:13, 22:15<br/><b>31</b><br/>63:14, 63:18<br/><b>312.681</b><br/>2:7<br/><b>32</b><br/>29:11, 63:2<br/><b>350</b><br/>63:5<br/><b>365</b><br/>21:5<br/><b>399</b><br/>55:14, 55:20,<br/>56:5</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>4</b><br/>10:15</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>50</b><br/>35:11, 67:22<br/><b>50,000</b><br/>59:3<br/><b>554781</b><br/>1:22<br/><b>567</b><br/>2:5</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>60661</b><br/>2:6<br/><b>68</b><br/>1:23<br/><b>6a</b><br/>52:10, 52:11<br/><b>6b</b><br/>53:16</p> | <p><b>6c</b><br/>55:7, 55:9<br/><b>6d</b><br/>56:24</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>7</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>74</b><br/>29:7<br/><b>7th</b><br/>6:12</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>8</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>8th</b><br/>10:8</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>9</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>9th</b><br/>4:4, 66:22</p> |  |
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