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# Transcript of Board Meeting

**Date:** January 15, 2025

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

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BEFORE THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD

BOARD MEETING

Chicago, Illinois

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

11:09 a.m. CT

Job No.: 566098

Pages: 1 - 76

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. BERNARD JAKES

MICHELE A. LEE

ROSA Y. ORTIZ

MICHAEL EADDY

ROBERTO REQUEJO

NEEMA JHA

ALSO PRESENT:

DORVAL J. CARTER, JR., PRESIDENT

KENT RAY, GENERAL COUNSEL

GEORGETTE GREENLEE, SECRETARY

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Good morning. I'd like  
3 to call to order the meeting of the Chicago  
4 Transit Board for January 15th, 2025.

5 Georgette, please call the roll.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jha.

7 DIRECTOR JHA: Here.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

9 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Present.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

11 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Here.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

13 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Here.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

15 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

17 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Here.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, you have  
21 a quorum.

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We've been advised  
23 prior to today's meeting that Director Eaddy would  
24 be unable to attend this meeting in person due to

1 a travel obligation connected to a work  
2 commitment.

3 The Chair will entertain a motion to  
4 permit Director Eaddy to participate in this  
5 meeting remotely.

6 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

7 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

8 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
9 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee that Director  
10 Eaddy be allowed to participate in the regular  
11 Board meeting for the Chicago Transit Authority  
12 Board for January 15th remotely.

13 We'll take a roll call vote.

14 Director Jha.

15 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

17 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

19 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

21 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

23 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

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1           DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

2           MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

3           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Director Eaddy, welcome  
4 to the meeting.

5           DIRECTOR EADDY: And thank you all so very  
6 much.

7           MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, Director  
8 Requejo is standing.

9           DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Chairman Barclay, I  
10 move that we amend the regular agenda for today's  
11 meeting and change the order of said agenda in the  
12 following manner:

13           First, that we move the President's report  
14 to the end of the agenda before new business,  
15 second, that we move the construction report to  
16 the top of the agenda after the public comments,  
17 and, third, that the Finance, Audit, and Budget  
18 Committee meeting report be moved and heard after  
19 agenda item number 5 and before Board matters,  
20 which is agenda item number 6.

21           DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

22           MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
23 Requejo that the meeting agenda be amended and  
24 seconded by Director Lee.

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1 We'll take a roll call vote.  
2 Director Jha.  
3 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.  
4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.  
5 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.  
6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.  
7 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.  
8 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.  
9 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.  
10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.  
11 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.  
12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.  
13 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.  
14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.  
15 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.  
16 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.  
17 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.  
18 Our next order of business is the approval  
19 of the minutes of the regular Board meeting of  
20 December 11th, 2024.  
21 May I have a motion to approve?  
22 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.  
23 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.  
24 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director



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1 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee that the minutes  
2 of the regular Board meeting of December 11th,  
3 2024, be approved.

4 We'll take a roll call vote.

5 Director Jha.

6 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

8 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

10 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

12 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

14 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

16 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

18 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next of order is  
21 public comment. Georgette.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Mr. Chairman, we have -- we  
23 had five registered public comments. I believe we  
24 have three persons registered who are here. And I

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1 will call them now.

2 I will, first of all, say thank you to our  
3 public commentators for coming in today for our  
4 meeting. And I will remind you that you have  
5 three minutes to speak.

6 Trudy Leong from -- is it Rogers Park?

7 MS. LEONG: Rogers Park Chamber of  
8 Commerce.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Rogers Park Chamber of  
10 Commerce.

11 And you may start now.

12 MS. LEONG: Okay. Good morning, Board  
13 members. Again, I am Trudy Leong, administrator  
14 of the Rogers Park Chamber of Commerce. I work  
15 with Bill Morton. He is the president of the  
16 Rogers Park Chamber of Commerce.

17 And we also want to acknowledge one of our  
18 constituents, Adam Mack. He is so happy that the  
19 CTA service has returned to normal after the  
20 pandemic.

21 As for the other business, we have been --  
22 there have been -- there has been a union steward  
23 from Amalgamated Transit Union Local 308 that came  
24 to us. And he can't appear before you because he

1 is working.

2 So there are a couple of issues about the  
3 -- first of all, it's the second chance workers.  
4 He is very concerned and they bring it to him that  
5 they and some other CTA employees, they're not  
6 being well-supported in the training by the CTA.  
7 They have to work with dangerous chemicals and  
8 they are getting injured.

9 Second is that there are not enough  
10 employees to assign to the work. For instance, at  
11 the Howard station and at the end of the line, one  
12 employee has to clean eight cars and they're only  
13 given two minutes to do it. And so that's why  
14 trains are sometimes very dirty.

15 Bill and I ride the CTA all the time. We  
16 love the CTA, but, however, it's very, very hard  
17 to find a good seat, especially on the trains.

18 And then he is very concerned about  
19 arbitrary write-ups that lead to firings because a  
20 certain amount of write-ups and the employees are  
21 fired and we asked him why and then he said that  
22 it's harder to fire because of -- to save money on  
23 pensions.

24 And, in addition, a lot of the CTA

1 workers, they -- half of their paycheck is going  
2 into deductions, so they really don't have enough  
3 money to live on and they have to get second jobs  
4 or third jobs in order to support their families.  
5 A lot of them are homeless and they are living on  
6 the CTA and, also, their families are living on  
7 the CTA, which leads us to three conditions that  
8 we personally saw on the CTA. I have the dates  
9 and the conditions and later --

10 MS. GREENLEE: Ten seconds.

11 MS. LEONG: Ten seconds left?

12 MS. GREENLEE: Mm-hmm.

13 MS. LEONG: Okay. There was a hole in the  
14 bus floor and then some CTA doors -- train doors  
15 were not opening and that led to a lot of -- a lot  
16 of confusion and I had to go to --

17 MS. GREENLEE: Time.

18 MS. LEONG: Okay. Thank you. Any  
19 questions? I will send you -- I could, if you  
20 want, send you a transcript and a recording of our  
21 talk with the union steward.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Ms. Leong, please feel free  
23 to send that to the Board office. We will make  
24 sure it is distributed.

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1 MS. LEONG: Okay.

2 MS. GREENLEE: All right.

3 MS. LEONG: All right. Thank you so much.  
4 No questions? Thank you.

5 MS. GREENLEE: I believe it's Niquy  
6 McMullen. Good morning.

7 MR. MCMULLEN: Good morning, members of  
8 the Board. My name is Niquy McMullen. I live  
9 car-free in Evanston with my wife and my  
10 eight-year-old daughter. We rely mainly on CTA  
11 201 and the Purple Line for transportation. And I  
12 am here today to speak on the topic of the  
13 upcoming retirement of the current CTA president.

14 First, I want to commend President Carter  
15 for his years of service at CTA, especially in his  
16 legacy of securing funding for the Red Line  
17 Extension, which will be transformational for the  
18 far south side; however, under President Carter,  
19 CTA has badly deteriorated and I believe it is  
20 currently in a state of crisis.

21 I fell in love with Chicago when I first  
22 visited a decade ago mainly because of the L. I  
23 grew up in Florida where public transit is  
24 basically nonexistent, so I was it amazing to

1 visit Chicago and be able to get around easily  
2 without a car; however, the CTA of today is not  
3 the CTA I fell in love with a decade ago. CTA  
4 used to be well-renowned for its operational  
5 excellence. Currently, it's very lacking in  
6 speed, reliability, and cleanliness.

7           The Purple Line regularly only runs  
8 between 60 to 70 percent of scheduled trips.  
9 Canceled trips across the system are far too  
10 common. I never once encountered people smoking  
11 on public transit until I moved to Chicago. Now,  
12 it's a regular occurrence on the Red Line.

13           I'm trying to teach my daughter the joys  
14 and freedom of reliable rapid transit. I am a  
15 huge advocate for sustainable transportation;  
16 however, I believe, with the current state of the  
17 trains, she might grow up to have a negative  
18 perception of public transit due to the issues of  
19 cleanliness and smoking and the waits in the  
20 bitter cold that are far too long compared to  
21 scheduled service.

22           The Washington Metro, a decade ago, was  
23 falling apart like the CTA is now, but thanks to  
24 the excellent leadership from their new president,

1 Randy Clark, a leader with a clear passion for  
2 public transit who rides so regularly, Metro now  
3 leads the nation in ridership growth and their  
4 excellent service is widely acclaimed.

5 We can turn the CTA around, but we need a  
6 new leader that rides the system regularly, more  
7 than a few times a year, a leader with significant  
8 experience in transit operations and a passion to  
9 transform CTA into the world-class system it once  
10 was.

11 Chicago's fate is intertwined with the  
12 fate of the CTA. Our great downtown, the economic  
13 center of Chicago, would not exist without the L.  
14 We need a new leader that rides the system  
15 frequently enough to understand the customer  
16 experience to make it right. Please ensure the  
17 next president is someone capable, experienced,  
18 and passionate about transit --

19 MS. GREENLEE: That's time.

20 MR. MCMULLEN: -- so that they can make  
21 the CTA as great as it should be.

22 Thank you so much.

23 DIRECTOR JAKES: Thank you.

24 MS. GREENLEE: I will read into the record

1 a written public comment that was sent from the  
2 Red Line Extension TIF Coalition.

3 Good morning, Chicago Transit Board,  
4 Chairman Lester Barclay, Committee on Finance,  
5 Audit, and Budget, all CTA Board committee  
6 persons, President Dorval R. Carter, Jr., and  
7 operational staff.

8 The Red Line Extension TIF Coalition is a  
9 regional public engagement platform working to  
10 monitor spending and planning programs aligned to  
11 the land development intergovernmental agreements,  
12 environmental protection uniform code compliance,  
13 and railroad operations along the Red Line  
14 Extension Project area.

15 Today, we support all of the ordinance  
16 passed by the Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee  
17 that strengthens CTA's relationship with sister  
18 agencies while simultaneously bringing more riders  
19 to the system.

20 Also, we wish to thank President Dorval  
21 Carter, Jr., for his dedication to public service  
22 and his sense of care to secure full funding  
23 agreements for the CTA Red Line Extension project.  
24 You are a good and faithful servant.



1           Mr. Carter traveled the state of Illinois  
2 and the halls of Congress tirelessly to secure  
3 funding for the Chicago bus and rail system.  
4 Mr. Carter demonstrated great care and attention  
5 to CTA workers and unions to ensure all their  
6 needs were met. President Carter worked to ensure  
7 its riders were protected while riding the system  
8 and was comfortable during the prolonged heat  
9 waves and winter nights.

10           Through it all, President Carter was  
11 steadfast and focused on making CTA number one in  
12 the nation. We thank you. And, yes, we love you.  
13 As you continue your great journey in life, may  
14 God continue to send angels before you like Jacob.

15           Thank you, forevermore. Michael  
16 LaFargue -- and I might have said that wrong --  
17 president of the Greater Far South Halsted Chamber  
18 of Commerce, John Paul Jones, cofounder Red Line  
19 Extension TIF Coalition, and Janet Bell, vice  
20 president Golden Gate Community Organization and  
21 board member of the Red Line Extension TIF  
22 Coalition.

23           Our last public comment is Dr. Kisha  
24 Roberts-Tabb.

1 DR. ROBERTS-TABB: Good morning. And  
2 thank you to the board members for allowing me the  
3 opportunity to address you with a statement  
4 regarding domestic sex trafficking.

5 My name is Dr. Kisha Roberts and I am  
6 currently a community psychologist, human  
7 trafficking consultant, former human trafficking  
8 specialist for Cook County Juvenile Probation and  
9 Court Services and the founder of Girls Night Out  
10 non-for-profit.

11 I would like to ground this conversation  
12 first by giving basic knowledge around what is  
13 human trafficking. Although human trafficking  
14 encompasses both sex and labor, today, I will be  
15 focusing on domestic sex trafficking and  
16 exploitation.

17 Sex trafficking is defined as the  
18 trafficking of which any commercial act is induced  
19 by forced, fraud, or coercion, or in which the  
20 person induced to perform such an act has not  
21 obtained 18 years of age, along with the  
22 recruitment harboring transportation provision in  
23 obtaining a person for the purpose of a commercial  
24 sex act. While commercial sex act does not have a

1 monetary value, it is defined as the exchange of  
2 anything of value, shelter being a valuable source  
3 of trade.

4 Acknowledging that there is a large  
5 population of homelessness within the City of  
6 Chicago, many taking shelter on the rails and  
7 properties of CTA, specifically adolescents,  
8 today, I am here to speak on the frequency of  
9 domestic sexual exploitation engagement on buses  
10 and railways to recruit, harbor, transport, and  
11 trade women and children for the purpose of a  
12 commercial sex trade.

13 Throughout my 16 years of work with human  
14 trafficking advocacy and service provision, a  
15 common theme is the intersection of victims and  
16 public transportation.

17 As the foundation of my advocacy work is  
18 grounded in street outreach, I have observed  
19 thousands of women and men use bus stops such as  
20 Washington and Kostner, Fullerton and Pulaski,  
21 Pulaski and Chicago Avenue, bus stops along Cicero  
22 from Roosevelt to 47th, from Cicero to Damen, 59th  
23 and both Halsted and Ashland, 62nd and Ashland,  
24 76th and Halsted, stops along 79th Street, 95th

1 and the Dan Ryan, and Michigan Avenue from 103rd  
2 to 119th just to name a few.

3 As I have assessed thousands of girls who  
4 have indicated that they have worked trains and  
5 transit stations to meet what they refer to as  
6 their Johns and 16s, which is a term used for  
7 customers and buyers, offering statements like I  
8 just sat next to him and asked if he wanted to  
9 party and he knew what time it was.

10 Girls have told me that their pimps make  
11 them use the bus stops because the police will not  
12 bother them there. I encourage Chicago Transit  
13 Authority to invest in human trafficking  
14 identification training with collaborating with  
15 community-based providers to intersect trafficking  
16 on bus stops and trains while offering valuable  
17 services to marginalized populations.

18 Thank you for your time.

19 Are there any questions?

20 DIRECTOR JAKES: I do. But I'm going to  
21 have somebody get in contact with you.

22 DR. ROBERTS-TABB: Thank you.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you.

24 Chairman Barclay, there are no further

1 public comments.

2 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next order of  
3 business is a construction report from Bill  
4 Mooney, our chief infrastructure officer, and  
5 JuanPablo Prieto, our director of diversity  
6 programs.

7 MR. MOONEY: Good morning. I'm Bill  
8 Mooney, your chief infrastructure officer. And  
9 I'm joined today by --

10 MR. PRIETO: JuanPablo Prieto, director of  
11 diversity programs.

12 MR. MOONEY: We have an abridged version  
13 of your monthly construction update.

14 We'll start where we normally do with our  
15 a Canal, Barry, Damen substation upgrade project.  
16 Most of the focus at both Damen and Canal has been  
17 on the commissioning phases of the equipment  
18 that's been installed. I've showed you pictures  
19 over the last couple of months.

20 Here's a photo of the work going on at  
21 Damen as it prepares to commission this equipment  
22 and bring it online in the upcoming months.

23 At Barry, now that we are weather tight  
24 there, they have started doing most of the

1 interior work, prepping for the equipment, which  
2 will be coming in the next two months. And you'll  
3 start to see photos of that coming -- installed on  
4 site and it will move into its commissioning phase  
5 this spring.

6 At our Brown Line station improvement  
7 project, as we finish up with most of the seasonal  
8 work here, here, you can see the finished work  
9 around the roof edges and some of the final, you  
10 know, restoration of the steel that we've been  
11 working on throughout the summer. As we move kind  
12 of into the later winter months, then we'll start  
13 seeing some of the that station work coming out,  
14 things like paint being done.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Bill, please speak up and  
16 slow down.

17 MR. MOONEY: On our Harlem bus bridge  
18 project, we have been focusing on closing up the  
19 steelwork for the season. Here are a couple  
20 photos of the ironworkers doing the detailed work  
21 on those large steel members we shared the last  
22 couple of months.

23 In March, they are anticipating the big  
24 pour of concrete for this bridge path. It is a

1 bit weather dependent. It becomes a little bit  
2 more challenging with its exposure in the deep  
3 cold temperatures right now.

4 Here's another photo of that finished prep  
5 work. Once this work is kind of ready for that  
6 pour in March, it will move forward into its  
7 finished work and some of the other restoration  
8 that goes around this bridge installation.

9 At our Racine and Morgan improvement  
10 project, we've got a station, so I've shown a lot  
11 of great improvements over the last couple months  
12 here. Here's a south facing view.

13 The station at Racine is being prepped for  
14 the precast panel exterior, so this gets a white  
15 precast panel with a big CTA logo on it as part of  
16 its architectural features. You can also see that  
17 waterfall staircase that we've talked about over  
18 the last couple months.

19 On the inside, we are starting to see the  
20 finishes in the station itself. As now it's water  
21 tight, it's being warmed for the winter months.  
22 Here are the windows being installed in the  
23 station. Those are the windows that will be  
24 receiving that art glass -- the mural around it

1 that we saw last month. And, here, you can see  
2 some of the tile work going in on the interior  
3 finishes.

4 At Morgan, it's being prepped to be fully  
5 watertight at this point. You can see some of the  
6 access panels on the second story being closed up.  
7 And here you can see that framework from the  
8 inside and a lot of the detail work and wiring is  
9 starting to get ready for equipment installation  
10 in the summer months.

11 We came to the conclusion of our 2024  
12 refresh and renew program in December with 29 of  
13 the 29 committed stations completed as well as all  
14 14 of the bus terminals.

15 The last station in our list was Grand on  
16 the Red Line. Here, you can see some before and  
17 afters of our lighting improvements. This is the  
18 upgrade to the LEDs within the station footprint,  
19 a couple different views of that.

20 And then here at Grand and Latrobe, our  
21 last bus turnaround for the season, you can see  
22 the bus turnaround bathroom. This is our  
23 employee-facing facility there to support our  
24 employees that got a facelift as well.



1           This will go onto the internal program.  
2       So over the next couple months, we'll spend most  
3       of our time focusing on our major rail maintenance  
4       facilities and bus maintenance facilities. And  
5       then we will be back in the spring with the  
6       customer-facing program again.

7           The Red/Purple modernization project. We  
8       proceed forward with kind of the last phases  
9       around the Red/Purple bypass. So over the next  
10      month or so, we will be untangling the multi  
11      reroutes that we've created in that corridor and  
12      starting to commission the last sections of the  
13      new track.

14           Here, you can see some of that finished  
15      work going on in the corridor. So, here, they're  
16      installing sound panels around the transition from  
17      the concrete deck that we've recently been pouring  
18      and showing you a lot of work up through the steel  
19      structure as this looks kind of north towards  
20      Addison.

21           And here is some finish work around the  
22      Clark Street substation. We showed some of this  
23      form work over the last couple months. Here is  
24      kind of that finished barrier wall for the

1 courtyard.

2           And up on the farther north portion of the  
3 project, we are continuing to see the stations  
4 advancing. So, here, you see at Bryn Mawr the  
5 grand staircase getting its granite finish. Also  
6 at Bryn Mawr was the restoration of the  
7 streetscape. This is the bus parking pad right  
8 outside the station.

9           Moving further down to Berwyn, it's  
10 getting interior finishes now. And this is the  
11 installation of the granite flooring as they do  
12 the grouting around those granite pavers. It's  
13 also starting to see some of the exterior prep  
14 work for the roofing. It has kind of a grand kind  
15 of canopy that hangs out over the front of the  
16 station, that work here.

17           And all the stations now are seeing the  
18 precast panel installation. So here's an example  
19 at Argyle. We've seen a lot of this work going on  
20 at Bryn Mawr and Berwyn. Here it is at Argyle as  
21 they're putting the platform in place.

22           And at Lawrence, it's starting to see its  
23 enclosures. This is the final concrete pour of  
24 the project here with the staircase. And we're

1 happy to see that go forward.

2 We continue our continuous outreach with  
3 the community. We participated in the Chicago  
4 Department of Planning meeting in the 44th Ward to  
5 talk about the TOD sites not only available  
6 through the end of our project here, but, also,  
7 some of the other sites in the area that are part  
8 of our major planning plan there.

9 We had a very advanced TOD plan associated  
10 with the project. And this was really just  
11 touching base with the community as we're getting  
12 ready to start going out to release those RFPs in  
13 accordance with the plan, making sure we're still  
14 in line with what the expectations of the  
15 community are. So we were glad to be a party to  
16 that.

17 And the last note for me on this would be  
18 I would be remiss to not add the project that  
19 we're regularly reporting on to note that this  
20 past Friday, we did have the historic action taken  
21 with the signing of a Red Line Extension project.

22 So here you can see the official signing  
23 of the contract for the Federal Government's  
24 almost \$2 billion commitment to that project. And

1 here's a picture of the ceremonial signing. I  
2 know many of the Board members were there to  
3 participate and be a party to that as well. It  
4 was a great, exciting event.

5 And, finally, just a bit of the team.  
6 This process has been going on since 2006 when the  
7 Board took that action. We've talked about that.  
8 It has really been an aggressively part of it over  
9 the last three years. There have been hundreds of  
10 people who have worked on the numerous aspects to  
11 secure this funding. This is just a small token  
12 group who was there participating with us.

13 So, with that, I'll pause and turn it over  
14 to JuanPablo.

15 MR. PRIETO: Thanks, Bill.

16 As of the end of November of RPM, 121  
17 unique DBEs have been awarded almost \$292 million  
18 between the design and construction packages. 54  
19 of those are new to CTA. DBEs have been paid more  
20 than \$189 million, which puts the prime  
21 contractors' attainment at 17.5 percent.

22 On the workforce side, as of the end of  
23 November, 2,557 unique workers have logged over  
24 2.1 million labor hours and earned over \$127

1 million. The prime contractor is tracking to meet  
2 their workforce goals.

3 In December, we attended a number of  
4 events to inform small businesses and residents  
5 about contracting and career opportunities on CTA  
6 projects. We also hosted our quarter four DBE and  
7 workforce force event. Our workforce event was  
8 held on December 4th at Truman College where 52  
9 attendees heard a presentation on upcoming  
10 projects and networked with workforce partners,  
11 trade unions, and contractors to talk about career  
12 opportunities.

13 Our DBE event was held on December 11th at  
14 Daley College where 60 attendees heard about  
15 upcoming contracts and networked with prime and  
16 potential prime contractors to discuss how they  
17 can partner on CTA projects.

18 We attended membership meetings for the  
19 Chatham Business Association and the National  
20 Association of Minority Contractors to continue  
21 our Red Line Extension road show where we and  
22 Walsh Vinci discussed how DBEs can compete for the  
23 work on that project.

24 We also held a follow-up session with

1 HACIA's professional services committee to discuss  
2 design opportunities on the Red Line Extension.

3 We also hosted -- just to preview January  
4 a little bit -- on January 10th, the same day as  
5 the signing, a certification drive at Altgeld  
6 Gardens where we had 27 individuals show up to get  
7 their businesses -- their applications started for  
8 DBEs. So we had them do a little bit of prework,  
9 registering as a vendor, bringing all their  
10 documents on the jump drive so that we can guide  
11 them through the application process. So we look  
12 forward to welcoming some new DBEs into the pool.

13 That concludes our report. Happy to  
14 answer any questions.

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I don't have any  
16 questions.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Does any other member of  
18 the Board have a question?

19 Director Jha.

20 DIRECTOR JHA: Yeah. It's more of a  
21 request than a question. Could we start adding  
22 ADA accessible stations list into this report  
23 moving forward where we can see how many are, how  
24 many aren't, and if there's any plan of moving

1 towards that?

2 MR. MOONEY: Sure. I mean, we could  
3 include a slide that shows the current number of  
4 accessible stations to ones currently in planning  
5 and design that have funding associated with them  
6 as well as ones that are under construction and  
7 then what that total will be and you can see that  
8 change going over.

9 Racine is one of the current ones in our  
10 construction. Austin is just starting to get  
11 going. You'll start seeing some reporting on  
12 those. But we do have a bunch of others that are  
13 in the design and the kind of phasing process that  
14 have secured funding.

15 DIRECTOR JHA: Yeah. It would just be  
16 good to know total versus where were we are and  
17 maybe have some goals around year over year.

18 Same request around EVs, if there's any --  
19 electronic buses, if there's any progress.  
20 Because I know we have a goal of 2040, I think.  
21 We haven't really talk about and if we're -- if  
22 that's achievable or not. I think it would be  
23 good to get a summary of where we're at.

24 PRESIDENT CARTER: We can certainly talk

1 to you about that. That's not Bill's area of  
2 responsibility.

3 DIRECTOR JHA: Okay. Well, whoever it is.

4 PRESIDENT CARTER: We can create a report  
5 around that issue.

6 And as Bill indicated, with regards to the  
7 ADA work, there are multiple components to it.  
8 Some of it is how to make the station accessible.  
9 There's also upgrades that we're doing, escalators  
10 and elevators and other things, that are part of  
11 the ongoing effort to improvable accessibility on  
12 our system and we can give you a report that  
13 reflects all of those activities.

14 DIRECTOR JHA: I'm just saying on a month  
15 to month --

16 MR. MOONEY: I would say that, generally  
17 speaking, month to month, there won't be a lot of  
18 changes. Because a project going under  
19 construction, it's under construction for 18  
20 moths, it won't be accessible for that 18 months,  
21 right? And there's not that many projects coming  
22 in. So we can send you a report and that report  
23 will likely be stagnant for many, many months  
24 until something maybe comes out of design and



1 moves toward a bid phase that moves into  
2 construction.

3 DIRECTOR JHA: Which is fine. Just having  
4 -- even if it's an appendix in the construction  
5 report that says this is the plan for this year  
6 and whenever there is change, you report it. If  
7 not --

8 MR. MOONEY: We had a couple graphics in  
9 the All Stations Accessibility Plan briefing we  
10 did with you. We can revisit those that are  
11 pretty common graphics that show the phasing of  
12 this that I think would be useful.

13 DIRECTOR JHA: Thank you. I appreciate  
14 that.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Any other questions from  
16 any of the Board members or comments?

17 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: No questions. Just  
18 congrats on the progress.

19 And just one reminder or request --  
20 repeated request to think about presenting to our  
21 Board at some point in the next year the TOD  
22 strategy as a whole. I love hearing these pieces  
23 here and there, but I think we have now an  
24 opportunity to present all of this as a cohesive

1 strategy with the City, with the different  
2 departments there, and others.

3 And some of us are worried about the Red  
4 Line in that we love to see the construction and  
5 the plans and everything, but we also worry that  
6 some of those areas where the improvements on the  
7 north side are going to gentrify and some of  
8 people who can live now and can afford cannot. So  
9 find those TOD sites and making them equitable,  
10 very important.

11 And at the end of the line, the community  
12 is eager not just to see the Red Line Extension,  
13 but to see the full development of those stations  
14 of the in fill, of the new facilities,  
15 restaurants, housing centers.

16 And so I think we are overdue to get a  
17 sense of what the overall plan is and I would love  
18 if we could have a report to the Board in the  
19 upcoming year.

20 MR. MOONEY: In anticipation of your  
21 ongoing request for this, we have been meeting  
22 proactively with law and planning and  
23 infrastructure and real estate and all those  
24 players that play with this to kind of coalesce

1 that into one conversation. Not only yourself but  
2 many of the Board members are very interested in  
3 that development. Chairman Barclay said it's near  
4 and dear to your heart about getting density  
5 around our stations. I'm sure we can work on  
6 something.

7 PRESIDENT CARTER: Yeah. And, Bill, it  
8 may be worth reaching out to the City's planning  
9 department and talk about maybe having someone  
10 come over as well to talk about some of the  
11 broader plans, particularly around Red Line  
12 Extension, which is, obviously, not just a CTA  
13 conversation, it's a City of Chicago conversation,  
14 but I think it's one which we can get the Board  
15 briefed on what the plans are and how they're  
16 planning to move forward with that.

17 I know the Chairman tends to hear some of  
18 that in his role on the planning commission, but I  
19 know the Board as a whole doesn't necessarily get  
20 the same insight in terms of what bigger  
21 opportunities are and how they're approaching  
22 that. So, yeah, we'll make sure you get that.

23 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Thank you.

24 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: I echo the comments that

1 have been made. So just second everything that's  
2 been shared.

3 I just wanted to note the event last  
4 Friday was an incredible opportunity to come  
5 together and celebrate all of the work that has  
6 been sort of in the process, as mentioned, for  
7 decades, 60 years. So it was just really an  
8 important event to be a part of.

9 Congratulations to all of the team members  
10 who have been so diligently working on this, the  
11 leadership as well in terms of getting that  
12 funding. That absolutely has been no small task.  
13 So even to getting that to full funding is an  
14 incredible milestone that deserves a full  
15 celebration as it did last week.

16 So, congratulations, again, to everyone  
17 for all of the efforts to make that happen.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yeah. I'm always  
20 intrigued about any type of construction projects.  
21 And I had raised it before about having an  
22 opportunity to have access or be taken on any of  
23 the construction projects that are ongoing. So,  
24 tell me, what needs to happen for that to be

1 arranged.

2 PRESIDENT CARTER: We will work with April  
3 and Bill and set up a tour for you of both our  
4 existing major construction projects as well as  
5 give you a tour of the Red Line Extension corridor  
6 and the work we're going to be doing there. We'll  
7 coordinate with the Chairman's office to find a  
8 time to do that.

9 DIRECTOR EADDY: All right. I welcome  
10 that. Thank you.

11 MR. MOONEY: Yeah. I'm more than glad to  
12 do it. Nothing funner in my job than to get out  
13 there. So let's go.

14 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: The next item on the  
15 agenda is executive session. Kent, it's my  
16 understanding that today we have an executive  
17 session.

18 MR. RAY: Yes, Chairman. The Board will  
19 move into closed session pursuant to the Illinois  
20 Open Meetings Act Illinois Statute Section  
21 120/2(c)(1), (2), (11), and (21).

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
23 motion to recess into executive session for the  
24 reasons stated by counsel.

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1           DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.  
2           DIRECTOR LEE: Second.  
3           MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
4 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee that the Board  
5 will recess into executive session.  
6           We'll take a roll call vote.  
7           Director Jha.  
8           DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.  
9           MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.  
10          DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.  
11          MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.  
12          DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.  
13          MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.  
14          CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.  
15          MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.  
16          DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.  
17          MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.  
18          DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.  
19          MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.  
20          DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.  
21          MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, the  
22 motion passes.  
23          (Whereupon, the Board entered into  
24 executive session.)

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1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
2 motion to return to open session.

3 Georgette.

4 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

5 DIRECTOR JAKES: Second.

6 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
7 Requejo, seconded by Director Jakes that the Board  
8 returns to open session.

9 We'll take a roll call vote.

10 Director Jha.

11 DIRECTOR JHA: Here.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

13 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Present.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

15 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Here.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo, do you  
17 vote to return to open session?

18 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: No.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Just say yes.

20 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you.

22 Chairman Barclay.

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

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1 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

3 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

5 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address

8 Board agenda item 5A.

9 Kent.

10 MR. RAY: In item 5A, the Board reviewed  
11 the closed session meeting minutes for December  
12 11th, 2024.

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

16 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

17 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

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

22 We'll take a roll call vote.

23 Director Jha.

24 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.



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1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

2 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

4 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

6 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

8 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

10 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

12 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, the  
14 motion passes.

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
16 Board agenda item 5B.

17 MR. RAY: Chairman, item 5B involves the  
18 proposed amendment of ordinance 024-125 which  
19 authorized execution of collective bargaining  
20 agreements with the Craft Coalition of Trade  
21 Unions in order to attach all applicable side  
22 letters.

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
24 motion to approve an ordinance amending ordinance

1 024-125 authorizing execution of collective  
2 bargaining agreements containing the terms of  
3 tentative agreements with the Craft Coalition of  
4 Trade Unions to attach applicable side letters.

5 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

6 DIRECTOR JHA: Second.

7 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
8 Requejo, seconded by Director Jha to approve the  
9 -- to approve the ordinance amending ordinance  
10 024-125.

11 We will take a roll call vote.

12 Director Jha.

13 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

15 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

17 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

19 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

21 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

23 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

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1           DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

2           MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

3           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
4 Board agenda item 5C. Kent.

5           MR. RAY: Agenda item 5C involves a  
6 recommendation to authorize execution of a  
7 collective bargaining agreement containing the  
8 terms of a tentative agreement with the United  
9 Steelworkers of America Local 9777.

10          CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
11 motion to approve the execution of a collective  
12 bargaining agreement containing the terms of a  
13 tentative agreement with the United Steelworkers  
14 of America Local 9777.

15          DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

16          DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

17          MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
18 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee to approve the  
19 execution of the collective bargaining agreement  
20 containing the terms of the tentative agreement  
21 with the United Steelworkers of America Local  
22 9777.

23                 We will take a roll call vote.

24                 Director Jha.

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1 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

3 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

5 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

9 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

11 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

13 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address

16 Board agenda item 5D. Kent.

17 MR. RAY: Agenda item 5D, the Board --  
18 involves a recommendation to authorize execution  
19 of a collective bargaining agreement containing  
20 the terms of a tentative agreement with the  
21 Amalgamated Transit Union Locals 241 and 308.

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
23 motion to approve the execution of a collective  
24 bargaining agreement containing the terms of a

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1 tentative agreement with the Amalgamated Transit  
2 Union Locals 241 and 308.

3 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

4 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

5 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
6 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee to approve the  
7 execution of the collective bargaining agreement  
8 containing the terms of a tentative agreement with  
9 the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 241 and 308.

10 We'll take a roll call vote.

11 Director Jha.

12 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

14 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

16 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

18 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

20 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

22 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

24 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

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1 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

2 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
3 Board agenda item 5E. Kent.

4 MR. RAY: Chairman, in item 5E, the Board  
5 reviewed a proposed settlement with the Teamsters  
6 Local 700 relating to retroactive payments under  
7 the terms of the previous collective bargaining  
8 agreement in the amount of \$254,234.20.

9 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
10 motion to authorize execution of a settlement  
11 agreement with the Teamsters Local 700 relating to  
12 retroactive payments under the terms of the  
13 previous collective bargaining agreement in the  
14 amount of \$254,234.20.

15 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

16 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

17 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
18 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee to authorize the  
19 execution of a settlement agreement with the  
20 Teamsters Local 700 relating to retroactive  
21 payments under the terms of a previous collective  
22 bargaining agreement in the amount of \$254,234.20.

23 We'll take a roll call vote.

24 Director Jha.

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1 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

3 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

5 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

9 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

11 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

13 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
16 Board agenda item 5F. Kent.

17 MR. RAY: In agenda item 5F, the Board  
18 reviewed a proposed settlement of the lawsuit  
19 captioned Victoria Villanueva v. Chicago Transit  
20 Authority and Wilson Watson. Case No. 2023-L-4773  
21 pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County in the  
22 amount of \$8 million.

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
24 motion to approve a settlement in the amount of

1 \$8 million in the lawsuit entitled Victoria  
2 Villanueva v. Chicago Transit Authority and Wilson  
3 Watson. Case No. 2023-L-4773.

4 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

5 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

6 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
7 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee to approve the  
8 settlement in the amount of \$8 million in the  
9 lawsuit entitled Victoria Villanueva v. The  
10 Chicago Transit Authority and Wilson Watson. Case  
11 No. 2023-L-4773.

12 We'll take a roll call vote.

13 Director Jha.

14 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

16 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

18 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

22 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

24 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.



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1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

2 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

4 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next order of  
5 business is a report from the Committee on  
6 Finance, Audit, and Budget.

7 DIRECTOR JAKES: The Committee met earlier  
8 this morning and approved the December 11th, 2024,  
9 Committee minutes and reviewed the finance report.

10 The Committee reviewed ten ordinances:

11 One, an ordinance authorizing a  
12 copromotional advertising trade agreement with  
13 Bank of America for the 2025 Shamrock Shuffle,  
14 Chicago 13.1, and Chicago Marathon;

15 An ordinance authorizing an IGA with the  
16 City of Chicago through its Office of the City  
17 Clerk for purchase and use of open standards fare  
18 system cards for municipal identification and fare  
19 payment;

20 Third, an ordinance authorizing an  
21 intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois  
22 Department of Children and Family Services for  
23 bulk purchases of Ventra tickets;

24 An ordinance authorizing an

1 intergovernmental agreement with the Cook County  
2 Assessor's Office to access geographic information  
3 system data;

4 An ordinance authorizing an  
5 intergovernmental agreement with the Regional  
6 Transportation Authority for access to an aerial  
7 photography subscription;

8 An ordinance authorizing an  
9 intergovernmental agreement with the general  
10 services administration through its technology  
11 transformation services for consulting services  
12 from Office of 18F;

13 An ordinance authorizing the renewal of an  
14 intergovernmental agreement with the Village of  
15 Oak Park through its department of police for  
16 police security;

17 An ordinance authorizing a renewal of a  
18 governmental -- I'm sorry -- renewal of an  
19 intergovernmental agreement with the Village of  
20 Forest Park through its department of police for  
21 police security;

22 An ordinance authorizing the renewal of an  
23 intergovernmental agreement with the City of  
24 Evanston through its department of police for

1 police security;

2 And, lastly, an ordinance authorizing an  
3 intergovernmental agreement with the City of  
4 Chicago through its department of police for  
5 Federal FY2023 transit security grant funds.

6 The Committee also reviewed two contracts.  
7 The Committee placed the ten ordinances and two of  
8 the contracts on the omnibus. The Committee  
9 approved and recommended for Board approval ten  
10 ordinances and two contracts.

11 This concludes the report of the Finance,  
12 Audit, and Budget Committee.

13 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you. I will now  
14 entertain a motion to approve the omnibus.

15 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

16 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

17 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
18 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee that the omnibus  
19 be approved.

20 We'll take a roll call vote.

21 Director Jha.

22 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

24 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

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1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

2 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

4 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

6 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

8 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

10 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

12 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will now address  
13 Board agenda item 6, Board matters.

14 Georgette, do we have any Board matters  
15 today?

16 MS. GREENLEE: Yes. Mr. Chairman, we have  
17 two Board matters for today.

18 The first is to approve a resolution  
19 changing the date of the January 2025 Chicago  
20 Transit Board regular meeting from January 8th to  
21 January 15th, 2025.

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
23 motion to approve a resolution changing the date  
24 of the January 2025 Chicago Transit Board regular

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1 meeting from January 8th to January 15th, 2025.

2 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

3 DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

4 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
5 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee that the  
6 resolution changing the date of the January 2025  
7 Chicago Transit Board regular meeting from January  
8 8th to January 15th, 2025, be approved.

9 We'll take a roll call vote.

10 Director Jha.

11 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

13 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

15 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

17 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

19 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

21 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

23 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

1           The second Board matter is to approve an  
2 ordinance appointing an acting president of the  
3 Chicago Transit Authority.

4           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a  
5 motion to appoint Nora Leerhsen as acting  
6 president of Chicago Transit Authority and to set  
7 an annual salary of the acting president as  
8 \$278,703.73 for the time serving in such position.

9           DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

10          DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

11          MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
12 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee to appoint Nora  
13 Leerhsen as the acting president of the Chicago  
14 Transit Authority and to set the annual salary of  
15 the acting president at \$278,703.73 for the time  
16 serving in such position.

17          We'll take a roll call vote.

18          Director Jha.

19          DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

20          MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.

21          DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

22          MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.

23          DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

24          MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.

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1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.

3 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

5 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

7 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

9 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next item of  
10 business on the agenda is our President's report,  
11 which will be given by our president, Dorval  
12 Carter.

13 PRESIDENT CARTER: Thank you for this very  
14 short and quick Board meeting today.

15 Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, good  
16 afternoon.

17 I was 27 years old when I first walked  
18 into the Merchandise Mart and began my career as a  
19 staff attorney at the CTA. It was an exciting  
20 time for me. But like most young people, I  
21 honestly had no idea what the future was going to  
22 hold.

23 Even as I found myself quickly enamored  
24 with public service, even as I felt the deepening

1 pride of being a part of an agency that is so  
2 important to Chicago residents and visitors, I  
3 never imagined that I would end up becoming  
4 president of the Chicago Transit Authority.

5 As the years have gone by, an unexpected  
6 career path unfolded before me. I felt a strong  
7 pull towards public transportation and,  
8 ultimately, I made the decision that this industry  
9 would not simply be a professional stop along the  
10 way, but it would be where I would spend the  
11 majority of my life's work.

12 During that time, I've had the privilege  
13 of serving at high level roles at both the local  
14 and federal levels. It has been a rewarding and  
15 fulfilling experience that has exceeded my wildest  
16 dreams.

17 Today, more than 40 years later, looking  
18 back at my years in public transportation, what  
19 has fascinated me about the richness of my  
20 experience has been the people that I've met, the  
21 work I've had the opportunity to do, and the  
22 challenges that I have worked to overcome while  
23 standing shoulder to shoulder with all of my  
24 colleagues.



1           The sum of my experience working at this  
2 agency has been a portfolio of knowledge about  
3 public transit and the resulting respect for the  
4 hard work that it takes to lead a transit system.

5           This job can be very difficult, but the  
6 challenges that I faced have been eclipsed by the  
7 opportunity to work with a group of professionals  
8 who are among the best in our industry. And I am  
9 eternally grateful to the employees and the  
10 management team that have supported me every day  
11 that we have done this work.

12           Of course, so many of the most important,  
13 most vital employees at CTA aren't here today.  
14 They drive the buses, they operate the trains,  
15 they serve our customers without regard to weather  
16 or street conditions. They work in rail stations  
17 and help our customers find their way across the  
18 city. They clean, repair, and maintain our  
19 vehicles and rail stations, and many others spend  
20 long hours managing the people who are doing that  
21 work or supporting their efforts in a number of  
22 different ways.

23           I've spent a combined quarter century  
24 bearing witness to the hard work being done by the

1 men and women of CTA's workforce and it is truly a  
2 humbling experience. I have often noted my  
3 respect and appreciation for the CTA family of  
4 employees. And, today, standing at the end of  
5 this 40-year journey, that admiration has only  
6 grown.

7           Throughout the years, I've had the  
8 opportunity to visit other public transit systems  
9 in other cities domestically and internationally,  
10 all with an eye towards bringing back useful  
11 information, observations regarding best practices  
12 or new technologies that could benefit our  
13 organization.

14           Those experiences have included, for  
15 instance, new ideas on how we provide bus service  
16 and ways to improve our new control center, among  
17 other insights that have, I believe, helped me and  
18 my staff make CTA better, more effective, and more  
19 supportive of the communities that we serve and  
20 have provided insights to help us improve CTA in  
21 the future.

22           I would be remiss if I didn't touch on a  
23 final note before leaving CTA and it's something  
24 that I have talked about for many years, well

1 before the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

2 For years, it has been a central focus of  
3 mine, and I believe it is the most important  
4 challenge facing public transit in Chicago. Above  
5 all else, the future of CTA is about how this  
6 region's public transit systems are funded.

7 Funding is a critical component to support  
8 legacy public transit systems like ours and, to be  
9 frank, no matter how good one's intentions, no  
10 matter how much one truly believes in equitable  
11 transit outcomes, providing the services that are  
12 most transit dependent low income customers need  
13 cost money.

14 The change of CTA's funding formula is a  
15 can that has been kicked down the road for decades  
16 and its shortcomings have exacerbated and were  
17 exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The  
18 unfortunate result is now a political climate  
19 where those who are able to effect that change  
20 that needs to be made are, again, definitely  
21 looking for scapegoats and excuses on which to  
22 blame four decades inaction.

23 That time is over. It won't be easy, but  
24 it has to get done. If we ever hope to achieve a

1 world-class transit system in Chicago, I can  
2 provide you with an example of doing the type of  
3 hard work that will be required to move forward.

4 Last Friday, CTA was joined by local and  
5 federal officials to celebrate a signed  
6 full-funding grant agreement from the Federal  
7 Transit Administration for the Red Line Extension.  
8 And I doubt anyone in this room was happier about  
9 that than I was.

10 What can get lost in that celebration is  
11 the hard work and long history required to  
12 actually get to that day. The focus on actually  
13 making the Red Line Extension a reality began in  
14 earnest in 2016, not long after I began as  
15 president.

16 I worked closer with then Mayor Rahm  
17 Emanuel to create the transit tax increment  
18 financing district, which became known as the  
19 transit TIF, which was a tool for local funding  
20 for both the Red/Purple modernization project on  
21 Chicago's north side, the Red Line Extension  
22 project on the south side, and which has potential  
23 to be used to fund upgrades on the Forest Park  
24 branch of the Blue Line on the City's west side.

1           After the General Assembly approved the  
2 transit TIF in 2016, we worked to gain the Chicago  
3 City Council's approval for the TIF, which was  
4 successful. Thanks to their support in 2022, the  
5 transit TIF is expected to generate \$959 million.  
6 Only then were we able to move forward with FTA's  
7 nearly @2 billion commitment.

8           That, of course, is only the financial  
9 side of this discussion. The extensive work  
10 related to engineering, project development,  
11 contract evaluation, and other vital areas  
12 culminated in last week's celebration at the House  
13 of Hope -- what an appropriate name -- recognizing  
14 our efforts to fulfill a promise that we made  
15 nearly 60 years ago.

16           I'm sharing that timeline with you to  
17 provide some perspective on the hard work that was  
18 required to get us here today and the often slow  
19 pace of progress required to achieve the results  
20 that we want. It took focus, it took time, and,  
21 most important, it required funding, funding that  
22 we worked hard to get because we believed the  
23 people of the far south side deserve the same  
24 access to transit, jobs, and opportunities as the

1 rest of the city.

2 The ability to see the long view, to plan,  
3 strategize, execute over many years has been  
4 central to the successes that I've enjoyed  
5 throughout my career. That is especially true in  
6 the case of the Red Line Extension and  
7 extraordinary results that we achieved, which make  
8 me very proud.

9 I committed nearly ten years of my life to  
10 the CTA presidency, working to achieve goals that  
11 I've shared with 10,000-plus CTA employees, along  
12 with my senior leadership team. We've worked to  
13 drive our Agency's priorities leading to a  
14 confidence that I know have made the city better.  
15 We have created and contributed to a legacy that  
16 will last for many generations to come.

17 As many of you likely know, while I'm  
18 retiring from public transit, I am not at the end  
19 of my professional journey. Instead, I will soon  
20 be taking a new path as the president and chief  
21 executive officer of Saint Anthony's Hospital on  
22 the west side of the city.

23 I have a long relationship with Saint  
24 Anthony's, including a tenure as Board chair, and

1 will follow in the footsteps of my father who was  
2 a doctor at the hospital for 40 years and served  
3 for ten years as chair of the obstetrics and  
4 gynecology department.

5 Today, Saint Anthony's maternity ward  
6 named the Dr. Dorval and Vivian Carter Family  
7 Birthing Center is named in my parents' honor and  
8 I carry them in my spirit into this next  
9 challenge.

10 I cannot be more excited to start the next  
11 chapter of my life, but I want you all to know  
12 that it has been an honor of a lifetime to serve  
13 as CTA president and it is humbling to remember  
14 that this journey began when I was a little boy on  
15 the south side of Chicago discovering our amazing  
16 city while riding buses and trains provided by  
17 this agency that I would one day lead, lead  
18 alongside the people that I would one day serve.

19 I am forever grateful for this opportunity  
20 to serve our customers, the people of the City of  
21 Chicago, and this esteemed Board.

22 Thank you, Chairman Barclay. That  
23 concludes my remarks.

24 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you, President

1 Carter.

2 President Carter, as Chairman of the  
3 Board, I want to express my gratitude to you for  
4 your years of dedicated service and leadership to  
5 the CTA. Over the past ten years as president,  
6 you have guided this agency through moments of  
7 tremendous success and achievement as well as  
8 periods of significant challenge.

9 Through it all, your steadfast commitment  
10 to this agency, to the public we serve, and to  
11 this great city has remained clear and unwavering.

12 You have been a champion for equity,  
13 ensuring that our service and initiatives reflect  
14 the communities we serve. This is exemplified in  
15 CTA's successful DBE program and historic industry  
16 initiatives like the equity and infrastructure  
17 project, which you co-chaired, and, most notably,  
18 the Red Line Extension project.

19 Without your leadership, vision, and  
20 expertise, this project would still be a deferred  
21 promise and not the exciting reality it is with  
22 the signing of the Federal full-funding agreement  
23 last week.

24 You led this agency through a



1 once-in-a-lifetime pandemic, a time of tremendous  
2 loss and uncertainty for everyone and every  
3 industry. And when most transit systems ramped  
4 down or shut down, you kept our system going for  
5 those who relied on it to provide and receive  
6 essential services.

7 There's been a great deal of Monday  
8 morning quarterbacking on decisions. But to the  
9 folks who relied on our system to get them where  
10 they needed to go in those critical times, it was  
11 imperative.

12 The transit industry even recognized and  
13 applauded you and the CTA by awarding the American  
14 Public Transit Association outstanding transit  
15 manager and outstanding transit agency in 2021,  
16 the first time in the Association's history that a  
17 single transit agency was recognized with both  
18 awards and in the same year. That's a result of  
19 your leadership, sir.

20 Personally, I remember when you were  
21 presented with the job of heading up New York  
22 transit and you brought that to me, that you had  
23 been offered that job. And then Boston transit as  
24 well. You turned those down to stay here in

1 Chicago to make sure that the Red Line Extension  
2 project got to where it needed to go.

3           You're a true transportation professional  
4 with a remarkable career spanning decades in the  
5 transit industry. My first encounter with you was  
6 about 39 years ago as young lawyers working on a  
7 transportation project. Earning respect not only  
8 within our organization but across the nation and  
9 the world, your leadership and legacy will leave a  
10 positive and lasting impact on the CTA.

11           On behalf of the Board, I want to express  
12 my deepest gratitude for your years of service,  
13 your leadership, and commitment to advancing the  
14 CTA's mission.

15           While your presence will be deeply missed,  
16 your impact will continue to guide us as we build  
17 upon the foundation which you've laid.

18           I want to wish you nothing but the best as  
19 you step into this next chapter of your life. May  
20 it be filled with happiness, health, and continued  
21 success in all your future endeavors.

22           Thank you for everything you've done for  
23 CTA, the City of Chicago, and the transit  
24 industry. You leave a legacy that will never be

1 forgotten.

2 Thank you very much.

3 I'd like to open it up to other Board  
4 members at this time.

5 DIRECTOR JHA: I'm going to start.

6 I don't think there's any words to express  
7 the gratitude and how lucky I feel to be on this  
8 Board, seeing you, how you lead your team, the  
9 humanity. Countless number of times we've had  
10 wonderful conversation and I look forward to  
11 those. We hope that you continue, as you said, to  
12 help when we need.

13 It's been incredible to see what public  
14 service is like and how to uphold those standards  
15 and raise the bar higher and higher with every  
16 single monthly Board meeting that we come to. So  
17 we're going to miss you. But we also know that  
18 you're not going far. But we're going to miss  
19 you. We're going to miss you a lot.

20 Thank you so much.

21 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: And I don't want to  
22 repeat the things that the Chair has mentioned.  
23 Your professional trajectory is clear, your track  
24 record.

1 I'd rather focus on the personal. And  
2 when you communicated to me your next move, I  
3 expressed that I wanted to thank you on a personal  
4 level as a human being knowing the amount of human  
5 energy and humanity that you have invested in this  
6 organization.

7 There are three values that you carried  
8 forward in my nine months here that I wanted to  
9 make sure are appreciated and acknowledge.

10 Number one, Dorval, is your  
11 responsiveness. Every single time I reach out, I  
12 ask a question in person, by e-mail, by text, you  
13 directly responded and you connected me with  
14 people in your team to respond to those questions,  
15 no exceptions made.

16 Second, your respect. Your respect that  
17 you have shown when sometimes we challenged, you  
18 know, each other and we have come up to this table  
19 and behind scenes with ideas that we were not in  
20 agreement and the utmost respect was always  
21 offered from your end. And your ability to listen  
22 and to incorporate feedback is outstanding.

23 And the third thing is your resilience,  
24 your resilience through perhaps the hardest moment

1 for public transportation and for CTA in the  
2 history of this country, right? And that pandemic  
3 and the human toll it took, you absorbed all of  
4 that and you decided to stay, as the Chair  
5 mentioned. And that is something that will be  
6 appreciated for a very, very long time and honors  
7 you.

8 So I want to congratulate you for your  
9 next move. I also want to congratulate your new  
10 home because they are getting a huge gift with you  
11 at Saint Anthony's Hospital, a transit-oriented  
12 hospital at California station.

13 And, finally, I really hope from a  
14 personal level that you get to turn your phone off  
15 the whole night on December 31st and moving  
16 forward as much as possible because you truly have  
17 earned that, Dorval.

18 Thank you.

19 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yeah. I want to second  
20 everyone's comments. There wasn't much more to  
21 say.

22 But I -- coming into the Board and knowing  
23 the responsibility of this position and taking  
24 that on, right, it's a personal commitment.

1           I just want to thank you for all of what  
2           you've gifted the city and our suburbs because  
3           it's our region that's impacted by the CTA, your  
4           unwavering commitment to do the best thing. And  
5           I've always felt -- again, coming into this role,  
6           I always felt like your heart was in the right  
7           place. You have always meant the good and the  
8           best for our people in the city and in our region.

9           So regardless of the various details or  
10          things or how to get to things or what solution we  
11          come up with, that always gave me peace, knowing  
12          that your heart was in the right place.

13          And so I thank you for that. I thank you  
14          for always thinking about our city and our region  
15          and doing your very best to do right for everyone  
16          here. So thank you for that. And congratulations  
17          again.

18          I second Roberto's comment. Saint Anthony  
19          is getting a gift. I know your personal  
20          connections to the hospital and to the area. I  
21          share them in so many different ways. So I'm  
22          excited for the transformation they're going to  
23          have and all the great things that are going to  
24          come with the hospital, Saint Anthony, and with

1 yourself.

2           DIRECTOR JAKES: Dorval, I want to deal  
3 with it from a different perspective. Because  
4 you, for me, and for a lot of young black boys and  
5 girls, you are the best of who we are. And we  
6 needed to see you. And I am grateful that you  
7 have modeled a life for our community that  
8 encourages us, that gives us someone that we can  
9 look at and hold up to say here's somebody that  
10 you can emulate.

11           When -- and I don't know if you remember  
12 this. But when we had the -- I don't know if they  
13 were in Chicago, wherever they were, the young  
14 people, and they were downstairs and this one  
15 young black man -- young black boy, he asked  
16 you -- he said, what do you do? And you looked at  
17 him and you said, I'm doing what you should be  
18 doing and can do in the next 15, 20 years. And  
19 that meant the world to him and to me.

20           So thank you for being that person that we  
21 can hold up as a model of excellence and  
22 greatness.

23           The other part is there is a poem that is  
24 near and dear to us called the Test of a Man. And

1 you have exemplified the test of a man. Now, for  
2 those that do not know the poem, they can Google  
3 it. I will not say it. But you have, indeed,  
4 exemplified the test of a man because in the seven  
5 years I've had the pleasure of working with you,  
6 you have taken life's numerous bumps and blows and  
7 still continue to have what I call the weeble  
8 wobble spirit. You weebled and you wobbled, but  
9 they didn't knock you down.

10 And so thank you so much for all that  
11 you've done. I wish you well for all that you are  
12 yet to do down the street. And it's still not too  
13 late to rescind your resignation, if you want to.

14 Thank you, Dorval.

15 DIRECTOR LEE: Hard to follow all the  
16 comments. But just from a personal perspective of  
17 a rider, thank you for doing this for the city and  
18 making sure the people like me can get where they  
19 need to go. And it's part of why I love Chicago.  
20 And thank you for being part of this. And your  
21 legacy will never be forgotten. And we're going  
22 to miss you so much.

23 DIRECTOR EADDY: Well, as the newest  
24 member of the Board, I tell you, part of my



1 excitement in coming on to this very distinguished  
2 Board and group was I was going to get a chance to  
3 work with Dorval Carter.

4 I certainly -- like many others, we've  
5 observed you, we've followed you, never had the  
6 opportunity before just a few months ago to  
7 actually work with you, be up close. And I was  
8 really very excited about this opportunity.

9 And so it's certainly bittersweet in many  
10 regards because you represent so much and so much  
11 that is good and you're one that an individual can  
12 glean so much from.

13 When I think about you, it comes to my  
14 mind you're the consummate professional. You're  
15 always professional. You're always on point. And  
16 I admire that about you. And it is for me to just  
17 say, in my opinion, you never appear lost. You  
18 have a sense of direction. You know exactly where  
19 you're going and you know exactly how to get  
20 there.

21 And I join with Reverend Jakes to say --  
22 and I thought about it -- and you are the epitome  
23 and you express ethnic pride. You represent the  
24 best and brightest of who you are, who you're

1 connected to. And just want you to know that  
2 individuals like myself, we're cheering you on all  
3 the time because of what you represent and it's  
4 all good.

5 And I was so happy for you because I've  
6 known of your efforts around the Red Line  
7 Extension. And that is a crowning achievement.  
8 And I'll say this. You really knew how to go out  
9 on top, you know? You know how to go out on top.  
10 And I just want you to know -- and I'll close with  
11 this.

12 You're a very humble man and your  
13 greatness is in your humility. And I want you to  
14 know that we commend you for that. And I just  
15 think that you're the greatest and your transition  
16 to the hospital is just an indicator of your  
17 continued service to humanity. And you are  
18 commendable. And I want you to know that, sir.  
19 Hats off to you.

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

21 We will bring back President Carter at a  
22 future date to recognize him as well.

23 Our final order of business, Georgette, to  
24 -- what? The latest I've ever been here.

1           It's new business. Is there any new  
2 business, Georgette?

3           MS. GREENLEE: Mr. Chairman, technically,  
4 there is no new business, however, there is a  
5 message that came in for Dorval Carter yesterday  
6 that I would be remiss not to give him because the  
7 person who called me will probably call me until I  
8 die and remind me that -- so Garland Armstrong  
9 called from Des Moines, Iowa yesterday and he  
10 wanted to make sure that I said to Dorval Carter  
11 that he and his wife love you, that they are proud  
12 of you, and rock on, black brother, rock on.

13           CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Since there is no  
14 further business to come before the Board, may I  
15 have a motion to adjourn the Chicago Transit Board  
16 meeting of January 15th, 2025?

17           DIRECTOR REQUEJO: So moved.

18           DIRECTOR LEE: Second.

19           MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director  
20 Requejo, seconded by Director Lee that the meeting  
21 be adjourned.

22           We'll take a roll call vote.

23           Director Jha.

24           DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

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1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo.  
2 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.  
3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz.  
4 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.  
5 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay.  
6 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.  
7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes.  
8 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.  
9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.  
10 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.  
11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.  
12 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.  
13 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, the  
14 motion passes.  
15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Meeting is adjourned.  
16 (Off the record at 2:17 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 20th day of January, 2025.



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COURTNEY PETROS, RPR, CSR

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