



Transcript of Board Meeting

Date: May 13, 2026

Case: Chicago Transit Authority Board Meeting, In Re:

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BEFORE THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD

Board Meeting
Chicago, Illinois
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
10:22 a.m. CT

Job Number: 613729
Pages 1 - 78
Transcribed by Lisa R. Erickson

1 The meeting was 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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21 Pursuant to notice, before Cary Davidow, Notary

22 Public in and for the State of Illinois.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

BOARD MEETING:

- Georgette L. Greenlee Esquire- Board Secretary
- April J. Morgan - Chief of Staff - Chairmans Office
- Lily Diego-Johnson-Board Member
- Michael Eaddy - Board Member
- Rev. Dr. Bernard Jakes - Vice Chairman
- Lester L. Barclay- Chairman
- Rosa Y. Ortiz - Board Member
- Neema Jha - Board Member
- Nora Leerhsen- Acting President
- Sisavanh Baker - Acting General Counsel
- Leslie Gonzales
- Patricia Puente
- Adam Mack - Speaker
- Monica Cooper - Speaker via phone
- Albert Oseguer
- Bob Israel
- Sam Smith
- April Morgan
- Laura Saltzman
- Jasmine Perez

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PROCEEDINGS

DIRECTOR JAKES: I'd like to call to order the meeting of the Chicago Transit Board for May 13, 2026.

Georgette, please call the role.

MS. GREENLEE: Sure. Director Jha?

DIRECTOR JHA: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Good morning. Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

DIRECTOR JAKES: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

DIRECTOR EADDY: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?

DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, we've been advised that Director Roberto Requejo needs to attend the meeting remotely due to a travel commitment connected with work. We'd ask for a motion to admit him into the meeting remotely.

DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

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1 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
2 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy, that Director Roberto
3 Requejo be admitted into the meeting remotely.

4 We'll take a role call vote.

5 Director Jha?

6 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

8 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

10 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

12 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

14 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?

16 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, you do have
18 a quorum.

19 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

20 Before we proceed with board business, I'd
21 like to take a moment to acknowledge and welcome a new
22 member to our board, Lily Diego-Johnson, who was
23 appointed by Mayor Johnson.

24 Director Diego-Johnson is a licensed clinical

1 therapist with a focus on disability affirming care,
2 where she helps individuals navigate the complexities
3 of our mental health system. Ms. Diego-Johnson extends
4 that work outside of her profession as a disability
5 justice advocate, raising accessibility, awareness, and
6 equity within all systems in our city, including public
7 transit, which she uses regularly.

8 Director Diego-Johnson is a co-creator of the
9 University of Illinois Chicago Disability Cultural
10 Center, one of the first of its kind in the country.

11 On behalf of the board, welcome, and we look
12 forward to working with you, Director Diego-Johnson.
13 Would you like to have a few words this morning?

14 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Sure. Thank you for
15 having me here. I am grateful to serve and be on this
16 board. I am also disabled myself, so I very much
17 appreciate being able to share my own lived experience
18 and those of my communities.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you. You're very
21 welcome.

22 Our next order of business is public comment.
23 Georgette?

24 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, we do have

1 public comments for today. We have five registered
2 speakers.

3 Our first speaker that registered for today
4 is Ms. Patricia Puente. I do not see her in the
5 audience. Our next public speaker who registered for
6 today is Leslie Gonzales.

7 I do not see Leslie Gonzales in the audience.

8 Our next registered speaker for today is Adam
9 Mack.

10 Hi. How are you, Adam Mack?

11 MR. MACK: Good.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Welcome. It will be just
13 like -- you can have a seat.

14 MR. MACK: Thank you.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Just be advised that you have
16 three minutes to make your comment, and your three
17 minutes starts now.

18 MR. MACK: Okay. I would like to see Red
19 Line's train services to operate every 2 minutes during
20 the rush hour on weekdays, both a.m. and p.m., plus
21 every 36 minutes during the midday, late evening hours,
22 and also 10 to 15 minutes during the overnight hours,
23 nightly.

24 And then, also, I would like to see

1 live-streaming videos to be everywhere on the public
2 transportation system. And then -- oh, yeah. I would
3 like to see a parking facility next to the 95th Street
4 Red Line train station with a four-story building that
5 is part of the Red Line Extension Project, and part of
6 the accessibility program, and also part of the new
7 Chicago Initiative.

8 Thank you very much.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you. Thank you very
10 much.

11 DIRECTOR JAKES: Thank you for coming.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you, Mr. Mack, for
13 coming. And I know you regularly attend meetings.
14 Appreciate your comments.

15 MR. MACK: Thank you very much.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Our next registered speaker is
17 Monica Cooper.

18 Our last public comment speaker for today is
19 Bob Israel.

20 MR. ISRAEL: Appreciate you all. Thank you.
21 Just don't know how much I appreciate this. I'd be
22 late signing up, but in third grade, I was told I'd be
23 late for my own funeral.

24 DIRECTOR JAKES: Bro, just don't die here.

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1 MR. ISRAEL: No problem.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Before you start, you have
3 three minutes, and your time starts now.

4 MR. ISRAEL: Thank you.

5 I've been coming here regularly for years. I
6 just started back in December of '25, and there were
7 some issues out in the south. There were still some
8 issues.

9 But I really came today to thank Steve
10 Mulberry for asking Mr. Sam Smith to reach out to me.
11 And I want to thank Mr. Juan Pablo. We don't see eye
12 to eye all the time, but he made the introduction. So
13 I just want to thank him.

14 Welcome to the new board member. And I just
15 want to know who can we -- first of all, I've been
16 trying to meet with you, too. So is it impossible to
17 meet with you? I've tried to meet with you. It's been
18 five, six, seven months. So I mean, if it's possible,
19 I'd love to just meet you. That's all.

20 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Sure.

21 MR. ISRAEL: And I just want to thank you
22 guys. Whatever you're all are doing, whatever's going
23 on, but there still is some discrepancies out there
24 with this Red Line, essentially.

1 And I'm going to just say, I met with Walsh
2 the other day. I've been knowing him 20-some years. I
3 just want to know if we can just make sure that local
4 community residents work on that site. That's all I'm
5 asking.

6 Did I ask too much of the board? Yes? No?
7 Maybe? Well, I might find out if they're going to do
8 it. I just want to make sure the guys are working,
9 man. Because they need jobs. And I think finance
10 needs jobs.

11 I'll just leave it at that. Thank you.

12 DIRECTOR JAKES: Let me just ask a quick
13 question.

14 MR. ISRAEL: Yes, sir?

15 DIRECTOR JAKES: Because you've been coming
16 for a while, and I appreciate that. Are any of these
17 things in writing?

18 MR. ISRAEL: What?

19 DIRECTOR JAKES: Like, anything you're
20 talking about, is it in writing so that we can actually
21 have it? I want to be able to take a look at what the
22 ask is and see what we're satisfying. What we cannot
23 satisfy. What we can work on satisfying.

24 Because to say that I'm going to commit all

1 of it to memory, sometimes I forget to shave my head in
2 the morning. But if I have it in writing --

3 MR. ISRAEL: I'm the same.

4 DIRECTOR JAKES: We go to the same bar.

5 So if that's in writing, I don't know if --

6 MR. ISRAEL: Are you requesting me put
7 something in writing? Because I don't have no problem
8 with it.

9 DIRECTOR JAKES: Please. Can you do that for
10 me?

11 MR. ISRAEL: Addressed to who?

12 DIRECTOR JAKES: Just send it to April
13 Morning.

14 MR. ISRAEL: Can I get April's business card?
15 And every time I try to catch it, she might go out the
16 back door. I'm teasing. I'm just kidding --

17 (Cross-talk.)

18 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yeah, I might say, no.

19 MR. ISRAEL: I don't want to push him out the
20 way.

21 DIRECTOR JAKES: But we'll make sure you get
22 the proper information.

23 MR. ISRAEL: And I'll make sure you get
24 something in writing, my man.

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1 DIRECTOR JAKES: My man.

2 MR. ISRAEL: Anything else?

3 DIRECTOR JAKES: No, that's it.

4 MR. ISRAEL: Welcome aboard, I'm talking to
5 you.

6 Thank y'all.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, did you also
8 have anyone else that he should follow up with, if
9 anything?

10 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yeah. He's been working
11 very closely with my chief of staff, Steve Mayberry.
12 So he'll continue to talk and hear out his concerns.
13 And then we will connect.

14 MS. GREENLEE: All right, thank you.

15 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Chairman Barclay.

16 MR. ISRAEL: I have a question for you. Are
17 you still scared to get on the TTA? Last time I was
18 here, you were hanging back there on the bus stop.

19 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Excuse me.

20 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Wait, wait.

21 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Oh, sorry.

22 MS. GREENLEE: No, Mr. Israel. Thank you for
23 your comment.

24 MR. ISRAEL: I'll put it on Facebook and ask

1 them.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Mr. Chairman, we have one more
3 public comment speaker.

4 And I was incorrect. Monica Cooper is
5 actually on the phone line.

6 Monica Cooper is not on the phone line.
7 She's not on the phone line.

8 We have no more public comment speakers.

9 Acting President Leerhsen?

10 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: I just wanted to
11 recognize, as a follow-up to your question, Director
12 Ortiz, the commenters and the questions that they
13 raised leading up to comment.

14 Staff has reached out to them. We've also
15 spoken with Mr. Mack. We've spoken and reached out to
16 Ms. Gonzalez about the issue that she wanted to talk
17 about today to make sure people are having their
18 concerns discussed.

19 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

21 Our next item of business on the agenda is
22 our ADA Advisory Committee report, which will be given
23 by our ADA Committee Chairperson, Laura Saltzman. Our
24 next item of business on the agenda is our ADA Advisory

1 Committee report, which will be given by our ADA
2 Committee Chairperson, Laura Saltzman.

3 CHAIRPERSON SALTZMAN: Hello. I am Laura
4 Saltzman, the Chair of the ADA Advisory Committee and
5 Senior Policy Analyst for Access Living. I'll be
6 providing a summary of the ADA Advisory Committee
7 meeting held last month on April 13. Randolph
8 Williams, General Manager of Bus Operations, and
9 Richard Porter, Vice President for Rail Station
10 Management, presented CTA operations' step-by-step
11 process for handling ADA-related complaints.

12 Complaints are received and entered in the
13 customer service database and forwarded to relevant
14 operating location and management team. The committee
15 discussed systemic complaint patterns and current
16 analysis.

17 While we appreciated the presentation, I feel
18 that there were areas or questions that could help the
19 committee understand areas for improvement were not
20 clearly addressed.

21 I understand the department has a hard job
22 with numerous employees and countless opportunities for
23 interaction with riders. You can't know everything.
24 That is why it is so important to have a good complaint

1 process.

2 There are times where complaints have
3 required outside intervention to be addressed. On more
4 than one occasion, there has been an accessibility
5 issue flagged by multiple people with no resulting
6 changes until I got involved using my official title,
7 at which point, those issues were suddenly attended to.
8 That is not an equitable or effective system.

9 It is not clear to riders, nor the vast
10 majority of employees, who are doing what they should
11 be doing or who would improve given the opportunity.
12 This is a longstanding issue and disabled riders need
13 progress.

14 Given that, I sincerely appreciate the
15 program for planning the innovation department is
16 developing and that Acting President Pearson and their
17 advisors are taking the need to improve this seriously.

18 The next presentation was an innovation
19 studio updating us on three of their violence. The
20 first was on right-of-way intrusion.

21 The first was on a right-of-way intrusion
22 detection pilot. One method uses eight AI cameras
23 piloted at Ashland and Cicero stations. And another
24 uses fiber optic vibration sensing on a test segment of

1 the Forest Park blue line branch between Racine and
2 Western.

3 We then learned about 20 solar and
4 battery-powered e-paper bus stop signs with
5 text-to-speech capability that were deployed across the
6 city. The preliminary rider feedback has been very
7 positive with over 90 percent of surveyed riders
8 considering them a must-have at more stops.

9 The committee recommended proactive outreach
10 to organizations serving blind and low-vision riders
11 about the audio feature. The last pilot was on
12 mitigating smoke smell on trains by installing
13 activated carbon filters on eight red-line railcars
14 along with real-time sensors.

15 The committee then received an update on the
16 automated bus lane enforcement pilot. Since
17 enforcement began in October 2025 on the 36 Broadway
18 and 66 Chicago routes, six camera-equipped buses have
19 reported 13,106 warnings and violations. An analysis
20 of the 15 highest ramp-deployment stops in the original
21 pilot area showed an 18 percent decrease in violations
22 from December to February.

23 The pilot area has expanded to 19 square
24 miles, covering an additional 500 bus stops. Next

1 steps include expanding cameras to 94 buses and
2 presenting outcomes to City Council and presenting
3 outcomes to City Council ahead of the December 2026
4 pilot expiration. Vice Chair Sarah Luna reported on
5 topics discussed in the Way-finding Subcommittee in
6 March 2026.

7 The subcommittee discussed accessibility
8 concerns with CTA's recap audit website,
9 disability-inclusive language and digital tools, and
10 the lack of audible announcements on certain railcars.
11 The committee is prioritizing feedback on the paper
12 signs and identifying concrete goals for improving
13 station accessibility.

14 Finally, the ADA Compliance Program Manager
15 reported the following quarter one highlights. CTA
16 conducted 23 ADA trainings for frontline staff,
17 participated at Nexans Civic Design Lab and the MLPD
18 Summer Jobs Month.

19 CTA also partnered for a second year with the
20 Autism Transit Project to have locally reported public
21 announcements now playing across all eight rail lines.
22 A new tactile bus stop sign contract was approved,
23 covering 7,000 remaining tactile signs to be installed
24 in the next two years.

1 CTA also installed 50 additional decal
2 tactile signs with rapid indirection rail information
3 at bus stops. And of course, there was the
4 groundbreaking for the Red Line Extension, a long
5 overdue project that will bring new accessible train
6 service to communities with some of the highest
7 percentages of people with mobility disabilities in the
8 city.

9 Finally, the 2026 People with Disabilities
10 Survey was launched in April and will remain open
11 through the end of May. If you have a disability or
12 are a PA or caregiver, please share your thoughts at
13 www.research.net/r/ctaada. There's also a link for it
14 on CTA's front page. This is accessible for screen
15 readers and there's also a version in Spanish.

16 We're excited to learn that the Accessibility
17 Services Coordinator position was filled with Jasmine
18 Perez starting just this week. The committee looks
19 forward to working with her.

20 Also, I'd like to welcome Director Diego
21 Johnson. Look forward to working with him as well.

22 And the next ADA Advisory Committee meeting
23 is Monday, July 13, 2026.

24 We appreciate the board's continued support.

1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you. Any questions
2 arising out of Ms. Oswald's report?

3 DIRECTOR JHA: I can go first.

4 Thank you so much. This is very, very
5 helpful. No questions. But I do think that as a team,
6 maybe it's time that we start using the feedback that
7 you're providing and some of these concerns that are
8 top 10 things that we want to address and make that
9 part of our monthly briefing so we know if there's a
10 timeline associated with it.

11 If we can do something or we can't do
12 something, let's make that transparent and have that
13 feedback loop back and forth so it's not a one-way and
14 goes into something that we don't know what happened
15 next.

16 So that would be my request moving forward.
17 Like, at least part of my briefing, I'd like to hear
18 what those are and a timeline of what we're doing about
19 it.

20 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yeah, that's a great
21 idea. I work with Ms. Saltzman directly on a lot of
22 these subjects. And she mentioned some work happening
23 directly from my office around the complaints issue
24 that she's talking about that came out of our

1 discussions. And we should regularly report on the
2 work and the outcomes of everything she's raising here
3 so that you understand the work being done.

4 CHAIRPERSON SALTZMAN: Thank you.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

6 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No, thank you.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

8 DIRECTOR JAKES: I have no questions.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

10 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?

12 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Just more comments.

13 I plan to attend the July 13th meeting. And I would
14 feel really grateful to be able too if you could let
15 the ADA Advisory Committee know that I will be in
16 attendance. And I will follow up with any further
17 information based on the survey of the automated bus --
18 I'm losing track of the name.

19 CHAIRPERSON SALTZMAN: Automated bus lane
20 enforcement?

21 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Yes, automated bus
22 lane enforcement.

23 I know one of the things that I discussed in
24 one of my briefings was just making sure that it's

1 super important to be able to not block or have anyone
2 park there on the bus stops, especially where ramps are
3 being let out.

4 And also making sure that people who are
5 being fined aren't part of the wrap-and-tap system who
6 are possibly assisting other passengers with
7 disabilities.

8 So just making sure that there is a pretty
9 good way to kind of be able to either appeal a fine if
10 they were helping someone with a disability, if they
11 did happen to quickly park there to let someone off
12 within, that might be more -- it's harder to be able to
13 tell if it's from a wrap or a tap program if it's a
14 driver that's kind of assisting somebody, as opposed to
15 like a para-transit, right? It's pretty clear that
16 they would not be fined or have any kind of violations
17 given to them.

18 So I guess what I'm saying is I will follow
19 up on that just to make sure. And I do think that that
20 is really great to be able -- I mean, that's pretty
21 significant.

22 13 -- you said 13,000 violations or
23 something? Yeah, that's a lot. So -- yeah -- so I'm
24 really grateful for that, for just having that

1 information.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON SALTZMAN: And really welcome
4 your attending. I'll make sure to reach out to the
5 committee, and folks can kind of either -- afterwards
6 talk with you and introduce themselves. I know they
7 look forward to meeting you as well.

8 Related to the able enforcement, I'm
9 wondering either if that is also a space for the
10 customer with disabilities working group or if maybe we
11 can work on and help facilitate this, but obviously you
12 have your own connections to the mayor's office.

13 But meeting with the BACP, with the
14 department that also receives wrap top from the city
15 side, because it seems like -- or the Department of
16 Finance, because I think that conversation is gonna
17 help involve that as well.

18 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yeah, okay. Awesome. Thank
19 you.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo?

21 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yeah. I just wanted to
22 thank Laura for the report, and I am worried about this
23 constantly being brought to our attention. And I feel
24 that we have not responded fully to these concerns.

1 I am wondering, as I listen to this issue of
2 how people with disabilities experience our system and
3 our customer service, what is that we need to do? And
4 I hear there are ADA trainings, and I'm wondering if
5 the trainings alone are not being effective, if
6 something else needs to happen, if this is more of a
7 culture change.

8 And I wanted just to maybe ask, starting with
9 Laura, based on your experience and that of your
10 committee members, do you all have recommendations,
11 ideas, on how to strengthen or modify that training, or
12 onboarding, or how to create that culture of equity,
13 including equity towards people with disabilities.

14 CHAIRPERSON SALTZMAN: So I think that's one
15 of the things that we need to address, is how
16 complaints are handled and managed. And, particularly
17 with systemic issues, and particularly also with issues
18 that people will deal with all the time, but won't
19 necessarily always file complaints about.

20 But I think that that is where we have run
21 into some, like where I am most concerned about there
22 being repeated issues. And I will note, like, CTA --
23 this is not unique to CTA, to do this with the other
24 training agencies as well, but -- yeah.

1 I think that that's one of the reasons I
2 wanted to address that, is because it's not just about
3 the original training, if there's something that didn't
4 land with that training, or if someone just needs a
5 retraining, or if there's some other issue.

6 Like, if we do not have a complaint process
7 that is always dealing with that, or whether there is
8 being, whether the proper intervention is done --
9 sorry, my brain is -- working -- is not great.

10 But, like, if we don't deal with that at that
11 time, that is where I think we have significant
12 problems, because at least if people know if they file
13 a complaint, they won't be dealt with, they are more
14 likely to file complaints, and it's more likely to be
15 dealt with, right?

16 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes, thanks. And that
17 worries me too, right, like, the fact that it sounded
18 like people had to go through you in order to get a
19 proper response. And that is, as you mentioned, not an
20 equitable way of doing things.

21 I can only imagine how much harder it is
22 sometimes for a person with disabilities to actually
23 even file -- present a complaint itself. So it's an
24 additional layer of barriers that we are creating.

1 And if we want to be world-class in
2 transportation, we want to be world-class also in how
3 we treat people who rely on our system, and sometimes
4 are dependent.

5 So just curious as to what's in the pipeline
6 to address this. And I'm talking not only how to
7 address when the issue has already happened, which is
8 the complaint portion, which I agree needs to be more
9 of a feedback loop-type of thing.

10 But I'm also worried, how do we not even get
11 there, and how do we create a culture in our customer
12 experiences where everybody who has a disability knows
13 that they want to have as close as an experience
14 somebody without a disability as possible.

15 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yeah. And, Director, I
16 can jump in here. Certainly, the expansion of the
17 ADA-dedicated staff that we have in the 2026 budget was
18 very much with this exact issue in mind, the analysis
19 of training and the building up, and strengthening of
20 our training around ADA issues that is informed by what
21 we're seeing by complaints.

22 But that is broader and more effective than
23 what we currently have in place. We hear the same
24 thing you're hearing, that this is an issue that needs

1 to be more deeply addressed.

2 And in partnership with Laura and the ADA
3 Advisory Committee, that's what's going to be happening
4 with the additional staff and the attention directly
5 from my office on this issue, particularly with
6 complaints. There will be concrete review and outcome
7 of this process that we'll be able to report out to the
8 board in the coming months.

9 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Great. Will it be
10 possible to get that summary by the time we get the
11 next report?

12 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yes.

13 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Great, thank you.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Okay. I think that's all for
15 the questions.

16 DIRECTOR JAKES: Thank you very much.

17 I want to break the protocol a little bit. I
18 understand that Ms. Cooper, one of our public
19 commenters, was unable to get through because of a
20 technicality, and so she's on the phone. Is she still
21 holding?

22 MS. GREENLEE: She is holding.

23 And, Ms. Cooper, can you hear us? Can you
24 hear me? Monica Cooper?

1 MS. COOPER: Hello?

2 MS. GREENLEE: Hi. Welcome to the CTA Board
3 Meeting.

4 MS. COOPER: Hello?

5 MS. GREENLEE: Hi. Can you hear me?

6 MS. COOPER: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Okay. You have three minutes
8 to make your comment. Welcome to the meeting, and your
9 three minutes starts now.

10 MS. COOPER: Okay. I was -- I applied for my
11 spouse's -- I was denied my wife Caroline's late
12 mother's pension. I filed an appeal to the
13 Administrative Board on January 29, 2005, and still
14 haven't received a response. And I'd like a written
15 response to my appeal.

16 I know Ms. Brown told me that I'm at the
17 wrong board. I thought this was the right board. She
18 said it's the CTA board. I'm supposed to be at the
19 Pension Administrative Board.

20 But she said I could still address my
21 question to this board, and that the acting president
22 would be there at the board meeting, too. So I would
23 like to have a written response to my appeal because
24 it's been, like, over a year. It was, like I said,

1 January 29, 2025, and I filed an appeal.

2 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Thank you, Ms. Cooper.

3 I know you've been in communication with our board
4 office to make sure that we get you to the appropriate
5 entity to respond and address to your concern.

6 So those communications will continue to
7 ensure that the right entity finds out about the issue
8 that you're raising and can respond to you directly.

9 MS. COOPER: Yes, okay. Yeah, she said
10 that -- Ms. Brown said that somebody from the pension
11 department will contact me, you know. But I wanted the
12 president to know what's going on with the situation,
13 too.

14 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Absolutely. I
15 appreciate you raising the issue here so that we can
16 all hear it. And we will follow it closely to make
17 sure you're getting coordinated with the appropriate
18 resource.

19 MS. COOPER: Okay. I appreciate that.

20 DIRECTOR JAKES: Thank you, Ms. Cooper.

21 MS. COOPER: Okay, thank you. God bless you.

22 DIRECTOR JAKES: Our next item of business on
23 the agenda is our president's report, which will be
24 given by our acting president, Nora Leerhsen.

1 Thank you, Chairman.

2 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: The focus of my remarks
3 today will be on the incredibly important topic of
4 safety and security of our riders and employees. I
5 know you asked last meeting, Chairman, to get regular
6 updates on the implementation of our security plan, and
7 that's certainly the intent here today.

8 Our investments and work in that area have
9 been a major focus for the past year, and today what I
10 want the public, the board, and our employees to know
11 is that there's an unprecedented amount of work
12 occurring in this area, and we are seeing some positive
13 trends that I want to take a few moments to highlight.

14 Before I do that, I want to state the
15 obvious. A positive trend or a statistic is no comfort
16 to someone that feels uncomfortable or is a victim of a
17 crime, and the intention of highlighting these trends
18 is not to suggest that. But I do think it is
19 important, given the massive investment and the focus
20 in this area, that you receive a report on what is
21 occurring in terms of the data on our system.

22 As someone who's been engaged on the issues
23 regarding CTA and security for over a decade at CTA, I
24 can tell you that the outcomes of the work over the

1 past year as leader of this agency are the most notable
2 I have seen in that time.

3 The increased and meaningful deployment of
4 security resources began over a year ago, as I've been
5 reporting to you. We've worked in close coordination
6 with the Chicago Police Department in a mission-based
7 strategy that began in the spring of 2025 across the
8 entire system, but focused specifically on the Red Line
9 in the overnight hours, on the blue line in code of
10 conduct missions, and across the system in a targeted
11 way based on the data that we were seeing.

12 And you'll recall that over the past year,
13 I've mentioned notable drops, particularly on the red
14 and blue line, and the Chicago Police Department has
15 also publicized, beginning in the middle of last year,
16 double-digit drops across the system as well.

17 But what I'm here to tell you today is that
18 the most recent numbers have indicated those positive
19 trends have continued to notably deepen. In March, CTA
20 committed a 75 percent increase in law enforcement
21 hours on CTA. We have fulfilled that commitment
22 already.

23 Through our primary and foundational
24 partnership with the Chicago Police Department, with

1 Superintendent Snelling [phonetic] with the commander
2 of the Public Transportation Unit in Albert O. Segura
3 [phonetic], and with the support of the Cook County
4 Sheriff's Police, riders and employees are seeing
5 increased police presence across the bus and rail
6 system.

7 Those missions I've mentioned, the Transit
8 Rider Interaction Program missions on the rail side,
9 and the bus missions on our bus side, year to date,
10 they've taken place in over 400 missions from Chicago
11 Police Department. Just last month, there were 84
12 conducted across the system.

13 And in March, the Cook County Sheriff's
14 Police began deploying in the afternoon to evening
15 hours on the system as well.

16 Throughout 2026 so far, the positive trends
17 we saw in 2025 have continued and deepened. We are
18 seeing a notable downward trend across overall crime in
19 CTA, including significant decreases in serious and
20 violent crime, and notably, the positive trends are
21 concentrated in areas where we are specifically sending
22 resources in a targeted, data-informed way.

23 So I want to walk through a few specific
24 numbers that were reported publicly by the Chicago

1 Police Department in their most recent press release on
2 crime across the city.

3 Last month on CTA, serious crime across the
4 system fell 47 percent when compared to the same time
5 last year. Violent crime, which dropped 30 percent in
6 March, as I told to you last month, has maintained that
7 reduction in April, dropping 33 percent when compared
8 with the same time last year.

9 Specifically on the bus system, violent crime
10 has reduced 64 percent in April when compared with last
11 year. And what we are very intentional about is
12 looking specifically at the impact where we're sending
13 our targeted resources. I've mentioned the Red Line.

14 We know that the Red Line has been a focus
15 for the past year. We hear from employees specifically
16 in the overnight hours, the request for support, and we
17 have been deploying with the Chicago Police Department
18 and our K-9 units on the Red Line you've heard me talk
19 about from Roosevelt to 95th in the overnight hours for
20 the past year. That attention has deepened in the
21 increased law enforcement and also being supported by
22 the Cook County Sheriff's Police.

23 And just as an example of how we know the
24 work is having an impact, what I want to highlight is

1 that, from Roosevelt to 95th Street on the Red Line in
2 April, serious crime has decreased over 70 percent when
3 you compare it to the same time last year.

4 This impact is what riders and employees
5 deserve. We will continue to stay focused on this.
6 This is a slice of April when compared to last year,
7 but it's good news. It's good news for our riders and
8 it's good news for our employees. I want to express
9 gratitude to the law enforcement entities that are
10 committed to this work.

11 We know we're headed into summer and we need
12 to stay very focused and continue these resources, but
13 I really want to make sure the board and the public
14 understand this work is real. And this work is not
15 just an increase in numbers. This is true dynamic
16 partnership and conversation between the law
17 enforcement entities, the Chicago Police Department at
18 the foundation of that work. And I want to thank them
19 for their commitment to CTA and invite the continued
20 support into the summer.

21 What's so meaningful about the impact of this
22 law enforcement, as you all know, as a board, is that
23 it is against the backdrop of unprecedented historic
24 investment in alternative resources as well. So we

1 have established and are continuing to establish the
2 foundation of our law enforcement partnerships right at
3 the time when we are about to embark in a historic
4 launching of alternative non-law enforcement resources
5 on CTA.

6 So in the coming months, as you know, as a
7 board, which you have authorized and approved, and we
8 thank you for your support, we are going to be bringing
9 pilots that are involving violence intervention
10 specialists and crisis intervention specialists on the
11 system. Right now, we are refining the location of
12 those resources. We are refining exactly which firms
13 we are working with on those resources.

14 And that's going to be truly a new vision for
15 riders that they will see on the system at the end of
16 the summer this year. So that's layered on top of our
17 law enforcement resources. You're going to see new
18 resources that are designed specifically to address the
19 dynamic and complex issues that we sometimes encounter
20 on the system as well.

21 And I want to just put that investment in
22 context. Three years ago, CTA spent less than a
23 million dollars annually on outreach and social service
24 support on the system. This year, we have nearly \$13

1 million laid out in our budget for this effort. And we
2 intend to have this continue to grow in partnership
3 with the region and with NEDA.

4 But I want to lay that out so that you
5 understand this is happening across several different
6 levels of approach at CTA. And this is very
7 intentional. And we will continue to follow the data
8 and the feedback from riders.

9 We won't just look at data either. We are
10 currently developing a variety of surveys that will go
11 out to riders and people on the system that were
12 encountering these resources to get feedback about
13 their experience and what else they would like to see
14 from CTA across all of this information.

15 And we invite riders to seek out those
16 surveys, to respond thoughtfully. We will take all
17 that information as we continue to develop our
18 programs.

19 We expect all of this is just the beginning
20 and we are continuing to engage new partners and signal
21 that our doors are open to new approaches that will
22 bring specialized services to the system.

23 And the final layer I'll mention there that
24 is not just really for fun is the arts and culture and

1 welcoming spaces layer that we're also talking about.
2 You have to first lay a foundation of very
3 sophisticated resources.

4 But once you've done that, what that does is
5 also allow you to invite people onto the system in a
6 more welcoming and open way. And that's why I want to
7 thank all the staff that's put in the work to develop
8 the welcoming spaces performance program.

9 I am ecstatic to see it launch this summer in
10 a new way. And thank you also for bringing the Mandala
11 Group to the lobby today for my request because I
12 wanted people to also see and feel what the riders will
13 see and feel on the system in the coming months.

14 A few final points on ridership as I know
15 everyone's interested in tracking those numbers.
16 System-wide ridership has already crossed 108 million
17 rides over the first four months of the year through
18 April, which is a nearly 3 percent increase over last
19 year. The rail system has led ridership growth with
20 4.3 percent ridership growth this year.

21 And our routes in the frequent network are
22 averaging more than a 7 percent growth year over year.
23 So continuing to send that message that where we
24 invest, ridership is following.

1 And of course, all of these things are
2 intricately related in terms of creating a stronger
3 perception of safety and security on the system, we
4 know will also continue to invite ridership to
5 increase.

6 We've also seen the impacts of rising gas
7 prices with growth in short-term fare products growing
8 6 percent in the past few weeks compared to six weeks
9 ago. And I know that's of interest to people, given
10 the rising gas prices that we're looking to have people
11 encouraged to come back onto transit in light of those
12 costs.

13 In closing, I want to recognize the
14 incredible achievement of the groundbreaking of the Red
15 Line Extension, which occurred since our last meeting.
16 We'll have a great video as part of our construction
17 report that will chronicle that absolutely joyous day.

18 But I want to take a moment to thank the
19 board for their support throughout the years of funding
20 for that project, but also over the past several months
21 of uncertain times that we navigated and together we
22 navigated successfully. So thank you.

23 Thank you for your support of that project in
24 an ongoing way. And we're excited to celebrate that

1 further here today.

2 And thank you and welcome to our new board
3 member, Mrs. Diego Johnson. We're so happy to have you
4 on the board and look forward to your expertise and
5 contribution over the coming months.

6 So thank you so much. And, with that, that
7 concludes my report, Chairman.

8 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

9 I want to acknowledge the continued efforts
10 of the team and our partner agencies to address
11 security across the board. The increased coordination
12 and focused attention on the issue demonstrate a
13 serious commitment to improving conditions for both our
14 riders and our employees. It appears things are
15 trending in the right direction. For that, I'm
16 pleased.

17 At the same time, we have to recognize that
18 safety is not measured by statistics alone. The system
19 can be safer statistically, but if the public does not
20 feel safe, then we still have quite a bit of work to
21 do.

22 As I mentioned in briefing, while it is
23 encouraging to see this progress in certain areas, we
24 also understand that the very real challenge around

1 public perception and public confidence is real. The
2 true sign of progress is when riders see it, feel it,
3 and trust it.

4 Building that confidence is essential to
5 growing ridership and strengthening trust in the
6 system. And, so, I encourage the team to continue your
7 efforts and your work. Changing public perception
8 takes sustained effort, visible improvements, and
9 strong collaborations across agencies.

10 So thank you to your team. At the same time,
11 I want to acknowledge the efforts of the groundbreaking
12 ceremonies for the Red Line, which was extraordinary.
13 Your team did an excellent job of pulling that
14 together.

15 I also want to thank the board members that
16 were there, that attended, and saw it in real time, the
17 challenge that we're about to undertake and the
18 momentum from the community that they were excited
19 about what we're about to do. So thank you very much
20 for your report.

21 At this time, I will open it up to the rest
22 of the board for comments.

23 DIRECTOR JAKES: Thank you for your report.

24 I have a couple of things I want to address

1 very quickly. Had to be, maybe two years ago, I
2 believe, under the immediate past president, we asked
3 for a shift in the budget for \$3 million going to -- so
4 is that \$3 million still baked into the budget, into
5 the -- what did you say? The \$33 million?

6 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yes, that's part of the
7 \$13 million I referenced. That's being spent and used
8 in the budget, yes.

9 DIRECTOR JAKES: Okay. Do we have any -- and
10 I don't know if you can answer this right now. But
11 even if it has to be sent to me, what have we been
12 using that \$3 million for the past couple of years?

13 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yeah, we can break that
14 down for you. Or, Tom, I know we talked about this in
15 briefings as well. So happy to share details on that
16 for you.

17 MR. MCKOME: Yeah, happy to. And, right, we
18 shifted that funding, I think, heading into 2025,
19 right, the 2025 budget.

20 So we have it in a couple of areas. Most
21 notably, we have the Homeless Outreach Program, right?
22 So that's funded -- it was initially funded, at a lower
23 level, up to \$2 million. And now it's funded higher
24 than that because, not only are we doing outreach, but

1 we've designated shelter beds as a part of that as
2 well.

3 As Acting President Leerhsen referenced, we
4 put some initial funding. This year was shifted into
5 alternative sources for the Safe Ride Specialists and
6 the Crisis Intervention Specialists, initially as a
7 pilot program.

8 We're going to bring forward a budget
9 amendment to this board in June, which would provide
10 additional funding for that program so that we could
11 expand it as well. And then a set of initiatives that
12 range from consulting projects, some sort of what are
13 best practices and what are other things that we can
14 look to that may have been tried in other cities, such
15 as Philadelphia, San Francisco, New York, experiencing
16 similar issues, and then implementation for some of
17 those, such as the Open Elevator Program.

18 So that's an example of some of the bigger
19 items that have been a part of some of those
20 alternative security investments as Acting President
21 Leerhsen said, happy to get you a full comprehensive
22 list.

23 DIRECTOR JAKES: Okay. Thank you, Tom. And
24 I ask because I've -- and all of that is great. All

1 that's great.

2 But I'm still concerned over hearing for the
3 past year, especially bus operators not feeling safe.
4 And understanding that, now, the numbers are trending
5 downward, which I believe is due to a lot of the things
6 going into the pots during the gumbo. But it sounds as
7 if it's trending downward recently -- more recently,
8 because of more law enforcement.

9 That concerns me -- not the law enforcement
10 piece -- because that's what people have been calling
11 for. It concerns me because if we know that crime
12 tends to trend upward during the summer, which of
13 course we hope it doesn't.

14 But if it does -- and we also know that the
15 city does not have enough law enforcement officers --
16 will law enforcement officers -- and I'm not asking you
17 to answer this. I'm just kind of trying to talk it
18 through and wonder how that looks for bus and rail, if
19 those law enforcement officers will be pulled off of
20 transit to be spread around the city because we don't
21 have enough, or if the county will say, We need you
22 somewhere else.

23 And then what's the plan then? What's the
24 plan moving forward? Because I just don't believe that

1 law enforcement is a Band-Aid on a gunshot wound. Like
2 I said, the data -- and you said it in your report.
3 The data is great now. But I also realize that for
4 those who are heavily impacted by it, those numbers
5 don't mean a thing.

6 So I was just kind of talking out loud and
7 wondering, will that impact the summer with law
8 enforcement, and you answered my question, and, Tom,
9 you answered my question about the three million, so
10 that's like a common question-type of deal.

11 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Sure. What I can tell
12 you -- and a lot of the reason I'm focused on the
13 relationship and the partnership is to make sure that
14 all the commitments are made that have been committed
15 to. They have been to date.

16 And that comes a lot from the work of the
17 actual people that are working with these entities.
18 We're giving them a plan, telling them where the
19 strategy is, the best place to go.

20 Those relationships are very strong,
21 Director, is what I can tell you. And, so, I have
22 confidence that those commitments will maintain
23 throughout the summer. I could not agree more that law
24 enforcement is one component of this aspect, but it is

1 a foundational component. And, so, it is something
2 that remains a key focus.

3 I would also just mention in the regional
4 transition to NEDA, public safety is a primary part of
5 the conversation, so that is another aspect here, where
6 I have always believed that attention on this issue is
7 going to be a positive thing for our riders and our
8 employees.

9 So what you see happening from the Governor's
10 Office and from the transition to NEDA are
11 conversations that are new and bringing together
12 entities across government, entities, and agencies
13 around public safety on transit. And I also think that
14 will inform things moving and maintaining in a positive
15 direction in a dynamic way.

16 So there's a lot of work being done across
17 the board, and we'll continue to keep you updated to
18 make sure we're sustaining any achievement we have on
19 this front.

20 DIRECTOR JAKES: Thank you. And, also, you
21 mentioned -- and I'm glad you mentioned it -- violence
22 interrupters, because I think they are important.

23 I appreciate seeing the unofficial
24 journalists on the Red Line that use their phones to

1 record. And there's a lot of footage out there where
2 violence interrupters have done a marvelous job being
3 present in partnership with law enforcement.

4 So I'm happy to hear that we're not ignoring
5 them, and I'd like to see how we're going to utilize
6 them even more, especially financially, because they're
7 not free. So thank you for that.

8 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Absolutely. And you'll
9 be hearing just next month, really, the concrete plan
10 around violence intervention and crisis intervention
11 specialists that will be coming to the board for
12 approval. So you're going to see the amount of work
13 that's gone into designing those programs in a really
14 intentional way, and it's brand new for CTA.

15 We've never had this work before at CTA.
16 We've never run it ourselves, so I'm really proud of
17 the team and the work that's gone into it, and it's a
18 big step for our agency.

19 DIRECTOR JAKES: Will there be RFPs for them,
20 or are we, how is that going to --

21 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: That occurred already,
22 that process. So Molly could speak a little bit to the
23 process that's been underway.

24 MS. POPPE: Molly Poppe, chief planning and

1 innovation officer.

2 So we're leveraging Innovation Studio for
3 this, so it's not a full RFP, which can take up to 18
4 months. So we started a process for both the community
5 violence intervention and the crisis intervention
6 through Innovation Studio.

7 It started in winter, and we are going
8 through negotiations right now, and so we do anticipate
9 being able to have some of those on this summer.

10 We're also looking at some -- as Tom
11 mentioned, we're looking at some of our existing
12 contracts that we have for outreach workers and seeing
13 how we might also be able to augment those to continue
14 to do more support on the system.

15 DIRECTOR JAKES: Okay. So you're going in a
16 vow that you've had?

17 MS. POPPE: So the way Innovation Studio
18 works is we put out a challenge statement, and
19 companies or organizations respond to -- so that's what
20 we did for the community violence intervention and the
21 crisis intervention.

22 So it allows us to not have super strict
23 guidelines in the sense of this is exactly how we
24 believe you should respond, it allows us to go to the

1 experts and say, We have a challenge of security on the
2 system, how do you -- a non-profit that's in these
3 communities, how do you want to address it? How do you
4 think this works?

5 And, so, it actually gives us a lot of
6 flexibility and a lot of diversity in response to how
7 we may start to address some of these crisis challenges
8 and some of these violence -- the need for violence
9 intervention. A lot of the organizations that
10 responded, some of them have a lot of work in working
11 with unhoused, others have experience working with
12 mental illness. Others have drug addiction support.

13 And, so, I think that's really interesting
14 that it gives us a lot of different ways to try to
15 tackle and make sure that we're also bringing different
16 resources because writers need different things, you
17 know. And s.o. that's really why we used Innovation
18 Studio and leveraged it in that way.

19 DIRECTOR JAKES: And, President, do we have a
20 relationship with the Chicago Department of Public
21 Health? Because it seems like a lot of what we're
22 talking about, the Chicago Department of Public Health
23 is doing. So do we shake hands with them, or do we hug
24 and kiss?

1 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yes, we work with the
2 Chicago Department of Public Health in various ways. I
3 mean, I think we built off of knowledge that they had
4 in this area in designing this program and what we've
5 seen occur throughout the city and how we approach
6 this, as to not reinvent the wheel.

7 But, certainly, it was our own independent
8 outreach process. We got a really strong response, and
9 a lot of people, a lot of groups offering up their
10 services, so we got a robust response and learned a lot
11 from other agencies' work in this area.

12 DIRECTOR JAKES: Good, all right. Thank you.

13 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Thank you.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Other questions or comments
15 from the board? Director Eaddy?

16 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yeah. First of all, we're
17 always glad to hear, and we've all observed about the
18 trending in terms of the violence and all of that going
19 in a positive direction. We're very happy about that.
20 And I'm very happy to know that there's going to be a
21 greater emphasis utilizing the Safe Ride Specialists
22 and the Crisis Intervention Specialists as well,
23 because they do -- they're very familiar, many of them,
24 and I've had opportunity to interact with many of them.

1 You mentioned one group, the violence
2 interrupters. They have that level of experience.
3 They know how to engage the public, especially in those
4 settings on the trains, on the platforms, and you talk
5 about giving people a greater sense of security.

6 I think when people see those kind of
7 interactions in real time, it does give them to feel a
8 little better about it. And then we were dealing with
9 those areas of mental health, homelessness, and even
10 gang intervention, all of that.

11 I think that will contribute greatly to that
12 greater sense of security and safety. So I'm very
13 happy, and I'm certain we're going to be getting
14 feedback directly from them. And that will help to
15 frame what the next steps can be moving in a positive
16 direction.

17 So we're just keeping our fingers crossed and
18 saying this is the direction we need to go for right
19 now, and I'm glad that you are embracing that.

20 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Thanks, Director.
21 Absolutely, presence is key. And having the visibility
22 of a dynamic set of resources is what really gives
23 riders a sense of security.

24 And to your point about feedback, I mentioned

1 it, but just want to highlight again, we are
2 implementing and designing surveys in different ways to
3 make sure we're hearing directly from riders who may
4 have just passed through an area with the resource that
5 we saw to assess what they thought of it and any other
6 feedback they have for us.

7 DIRECTOR EADDY: And feedback from the safe
8 ride specialist.

9 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Yes, absolutely.

10 DIRECTOR EADDY: Having that feedback as
11 well?

12 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Uh-huh.

13 DIRECTOR EADDY: But thank you.

14 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Absolutely.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?

16 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Yeah. So I know a
17 lot has been done already before me being appointed to
18 the board. And, so, I'm grateful for all that work
19 that has gone in to the board.

20 And of course, Acting President Leerhsen,
21 very happy to hear that there is more investment in
22 alternative sources for intervention.

23 I wonder -- kind of along with Director Eaddy
24 mentioned, for crisis intervention and violence

1 intervention specialists and these pilot programs, I
2 wonder how robust the ability to manage tracking and
3 being able to have that data from them, because I think
4 a lot of that work goes unnoticed.

5 Oftentimes, I think statistics are really,
6 really helpful. And also we need more statistics from
7 other sources. And I'm speaking from a very systemic
8 standpoint.

9 I do think that being able to see trends of
10 crime decreasing is really important, and that's why I
11 also think we need statistics to be able to show how
12 all these other alternative sources are also working.

13 And from a systemic standpoint, I do have
14 concerns over also systemically what happens when
15 people's interactions are not working cooperatively
16 with policing, because oftentimes, we have found that
17 police, from a systemic standpoint, can create more
18 trauma and more -- just the way to have crisis
19 intervention. The skills are possibly not there.

20 So in the ways that it would be for someone
21 who directly works within that area. So I do kind of
22 want to voice that perspective, too, that I guess what
23 recourses are out there, too, for people who are
24 feeling over-policed or have experienced traumatic

1 situations with law enforcement.

2 I think that's also really important because
3 of the increase that is also happening within CTA
4 causes feelings of security from some people and then
5 causes maybe feelings of uncertainty and un-safety from
6 other people. And so just keeping both perspectives in
7 mind, I think is going to be really important.

8 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Absolutely. I
9 appreciate that contribution so much. And, certainly,
10 the thought of designing my update here to make sure
11 there's some balance between the two topics is with
12 that in mind.

13 And both you and Director Eaddy are raising a
14 really important aspect, which is the information we're
15 going to get from these pilots that we've never had
16 before about the individuals on our system, their
17 needs, their experiences, and how we can better support
18 them.

19 And, so, when we bring these contracts to you
20 over the next few months, we'll make sure that's a key
21 area that we explain to you how data and information
22 will be obtained from these providers to make sure we
23 are using that to make thoughtful policy decisions
24 around security on CTA.

1 And I think that's a huge part of not just
2 the actual resource, being delivered to people, but the
3 information we are going to get. And I really want to
4 highlight that CTA is a leader in the region in this
5 area. The NEDA bill lays out a Transit Ambassador
6 Program that will be coming in the coming years, but we
7 did not want to wait. So the need is critical on CTA
8 for these dynamic resources.

9 So while they are smaller-scale pilots,
10 that's by design, to make sure we're careful and
11 thoughtful in how this is executed. But we wanted to
12 make sure we were full steam ahead on this and didn't
13 want to wait for any other program. So we're going to
14 be gathering that information, informing the larger
15 Transit Ambassador Program for the region with this
16 information.

17 And that's absolutely the vision of all of
18 this work. And I think we're going to have some really
19 good discussions in the coming months as we lay out for
20 you the actual firms we'll be working with, the
21 information they'll be providing, and how we're going
22 to be using it, and get your feedback on all of that.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo?

24 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes. I just wanted to

1 start by congratulating you, Nora and the team, on the
2 numbers.

3 I agree that statistics do not tell the whole
4 story. And also, I want to acknowledge how hard it was
5 for a very long time to bring down that trend, and how
6 that trend went up for a very, very unacceptable amount
7 of time, and it's now coming down.

8 And every number that is going down is
9 somebody's life and somebody's body that hasn't been
10 harmed. So I want to start with the acknowledgement of
11 that success and that progress.

12 And also, I want to share the concerns that
13 I've heard from my fellow board members around the fact
14 that we -- so it's not only that we are changing what
15 we do, right? Because for a long time -- it's almost
16 like a 180. For a long time, the problem was that you
17 would show up at a train station that was almost
18 deserted, and there was folks operating that had some
19 intention of, in some cases, criminal and harming
20 people.

21 So from that more, liked, desolate, kind of
22 empty space, we're now bringing a lot of people into
23 our spaces, which is great, and it's a very diverse
24 amount of people.

1 And now, I'm expecting in a few months,
2 you're going to be interacting with a violence
3 interrupter and or a safe ride ambassador or a security
4 person or a customer service assistance, a driver, a
5 train operator, an artist, all of these folks are going
6 to be surrounding or inside our spaces.

7 And, again, this is great. And I applaud the
8 bringing more people and more community into our space.
9 And there will be also police too, interacting with all
10 of these elements.

11 So to me, the question I wanted to put front
12 and center is how are we going to make sure, as we were
13 discussing, that not only we're adding all these
14 resources, but these resources share a culture, a
15 culture that is CPA's culture, right?

16 Once you cross that door, these are the
17 principles, these are the values, whether you are a
18 police officer or an artist or a violence interrupter,
19 what's our common language? What is that interaction
20 going to look like?

21 And, again, diversity is positive. Diversity
22 is to be celebrated and to be increased. But we know
23 that diversity not properly managed and inclusion not
24 being part of this may generate conflict instead of

1 production.

2 So, to me, the question is how are we
3 starting early to work on creating that culture of
4 coordination of all these new people, faces, styles,
5 conflict resolution styles that are going to collide.
6 Point away. Cooperate in our stations. And that's one
7 question we don't need to answer today, of course, but
8 I wanted to put it in here as we prepare for that.

9 The other issue I wanted to bring to the
10 table in response to your report is, again, it was an
11 amazing celebration of the Red Line extension, 60 years
12 waiting, lots of speeches from people who acknowledge
13 many times the deep reasons and the racial reasons
14 behind that wait.

15 And also I want to bring the attention not
16 only to the celebration but to the risk. And the risk
17 is that while CTA has a tradition and a long history of
18 delivering on budget and on time, what we don't want to
19 happen four years from now is for us to be celebrating
20 the opening of the stations surrounded by vacant land
21 and vacant buildings, which in many cases is the
22 situation today, right?

23 So there's another layer here, which is the
24 investment around the stations that I am worried

1 because one of the locations, the very location where
2 we celebrated the groundbreaking has been awarded a big
3 one of the ETOD sites and, yet, for a month, they
4 haven't received a single dollar, and that is really
5 expensive to hold as a site for a long time. And I'm
6 worried that if we don't get that going, the
7 development timeline of the bricks and mortar is not
8 going to match the development timeline of the
9 infrastructure. So I wanted to bring this to the
10 table.

11 I know it's not just CTA responsibility to
12 provide that funding, but I think there is an urgent
13 need to start yesterday on providing capital, even
14 activation capital, pre-development dollars for the
15 different parcels, that are going to be around those
16 stations and that currently in many cases are
17 underutilized or vacant.

18 So just those two things for consideration,
19 and I look forward to hearing more on those next time
20 we meet.

21 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: Thanks, Director.
22 Absolutely, those are two very important points.

23 With regards to the more resources on the
24 system and coordinating those, certainly the intention

1 also of having these pilots in these programs at a
2 smaller scale is what you're talking about from a
3 practical logistical standpoint, but also a cultural
4 standpoint in terms of all staff understanding what
5 these resources are. Where they are in the system.
6 Getting practice informing people in the field about
7 them in a way that is meaningful and that they
8 understand it.

9 And there's a huge opportunity to have all of
10 our resources, when I think about our customer service
11 assistants out in the field, our operators, people in
12 the field that can be burdened with tasks that are
13 beyond what really their job duties call for. A lot of
14 the design here is to more appropriately right-size
15 people's duties when you have the appropriate resources
16 on the system and that you can see people lean more
17 into their customer service duties. Lean more into
18 making sure they're looking at the safety of operating
19 their vehicles and not as concerned with issues that
20 can be dealt with by other more expert resources on
21 those topics.

22 So that is absolutely what we're focused on
23 in rolling this out in a really thoughtful way, and
24 there's a huge opportunity to set a different cultural

1 tone that we will continue to keep you updated on that
2 work and with Red Line Extension. Absolutely, the time
3 is now and yesterday to make sure we're full steam
4 ahead on making sure that we're facilitating and
5 supporting with our partners the development of the
6 areas around those stations.

7 I've already begun those conversations since
8 groundbreaking in a way that I feel has a different
9 tone now that people are awakened to the reality of the
10 true construction underway and rapidly moving. And we
11 will continue to develop and strengthen those
12 partnerships.

13 I think I'd welcome giving you all regular
14 updates on the ETOD components of that project around
15 it beyond just the construction and that can be a way
16 to make sure we're all focused and supporting all the
17 entities involved in that way.

18 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: I welcome that.
19 Thanks.

20 DIRECTOR JAKES: Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Oh, there's two of us waiting.

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Oh, I'm sorry.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Oh, I'm sorry.

1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Go right ahead.

2 DIRECTOR JHA: I'm not going to repeat all of
3 this. Again, agreeing to everything.

4 The only additional stuff that would be very
5 helpful is a view into the journey of your pilot
6 programs to a system-wide implementation. And I think
7 without having -- I think a lot of times when we're
8 looking at things, we're very looking at a single --
9 one single view, like, almost like tunnel vision of,
10 like, this pilot is going to do this.

11 And I think kind of like bringing a single
12 source of truth in terms of how the pilot actually fits
13 into the overall strategy would be super helpful, which
14 is missing right now. And then I think somebody talked
15 about metrics and being able to understand the
16 contributing value.

17 I think that's another thing is like, how are
18 we going to measure the effectiveness of the program?
19 And what are the metrics that is going to show the
20 contributing value? The percentages that you talked
21 about today, it was like very into having more security
22 in the system. But would that 47 percent or the 77
23 percent grow to 85 when you have intervention in there?

24 And, so, how do you separate the value with

1 the pilots? I think that is another one. And so the
2 last thing I would say is having a holistic view of the
3 program under consideration.

4 And also seeing the journey, like, for
5 example, the open elevator program. It was very
6 exciting when we saw, but I don't know if I've seen
7 what came out of that. Is there a plan for enterprise
8 wide rollout? What does the cost look like for that?

9 And the realities of the dollars we have
10 versus where's the fund going to go if you have 10
11 pilots and if you like all 10, how are you going to
12 prioritize what we will implement and what will not
13 based on what? So I know that's a lot.

14 PRESIDENT LEERHSEN: It all makes sense. And
15 I think as we bring the pilots forth in the next few
16 months, I think that can be something we begin to lay
17 out is kind of reminder of everything that's out there,
18 the work we're doing as we do it to consider
19 scalability, and cost and priority in a realistic
20 environment.

21 So I think that's a great point to make sure
22 we're not just kind of doing one offs. I think also in
23 terms of public perception and confidence, having
24 people understand the effectiveness and where the

1 investments are going is part of that too.

2 DIRECTOR JHA: Yeah. And just one other
3 thing. I think just moving forward with security
4 briefings, it'll be good to have, like, a one-pager
5 that says, These are the decisions being made against
6 the pilots. Yes, no, maybe. And if it's a yes, just
7 so we have, like, a clear picture where we can see,
8 like, all of these things are happening, right, there's
9 a timeline and cost associated with it.

10 I think that's the view that's missing in
11 terms of, like, the effectiveness of what we're doing.
12 Because we want to make sure every dollar that we're
13 spending is with the right intention. And, like, it's
14 not because it's a shiny bright idea that we want to
15 experiment on. If there is no -- you know, if you
16 don't see a future of that idea of being holding up, we
17 would like to know that beforehand.

18 But thank you so much.

19 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yeah. Thank you for all
20 that. I echo a lot of the comments that have been
21 already shared. So I'll consolidate mine.

22 I consider myself a nerd. So I value data.
23 I know it's really hard to get data. To find the data
24 that is accurate and really tells the story. So I

1 appreciate the concept of qualitative and quantitative
2 data, right? Data -- hardcore data that we can look at
3 that are numbers and then the stories that go behind
4 it.

5 And I really do think we're in the right
6 direction. So I just want to encourage that and know
7 that it's really hard to know what you prevented. And
8 that's honestly what we're trying to solve for. So I
9 get that. But I do appreciate the numbers. I think we
10 continue to look at them further.

11 And I think we also are in the right path to
12 looking at the stories that go along with the data to
13 really tell a full story about the kinds of efforts
14 that we're taking on.

15 The second point that I wanted to make is
16 really about the importance of culture and how we're
17 coordinating across the different methods that we're
18 using. And I think just really thinking through,
19 creating a culture of being welcoming will be one that
20 could resonate very well with everyone.

21 And just really bringing our law enforcement
22 into that space with our violence prevention and
23 intervention partners and having them really work
24 together on that.

1 It's not only the interventionists that need
2 to understand it. It's everyone that is involved in
3 this process. So I really want to second that. Lily,
4 thank you for noticing that.

5 I think so many of us feel sort of what
6 history has done in the past and the difference that
7 law enforcement has on different people as a whole,
8 whether people of color, women of color, and otherwise.

9 So I really want to focus on that concept of
10 creating a culture that everyone is on board with
11 regardless of who they're coming from. They're coming
12 from Cook, our sheriff departments, our city, law
13 enforcement, and otherwise.

14 The other piece that I wanted to share also
15 is that to really thinking about transit-oriented
16 development and being able to start early. We all know
17 that development takes a number of years to get that
18 going.

19 I think DOH could be a really good partner,
20 so the city as a whole, as well as our CDFI partners,
21 Community Development Finance Institutions. They could
22 probably be -- we don't have to do everything. We
23 don't have to fund everything. We could probably
24 kick-start a lot of things and be a good partner.

1 And, so, I think our CDFI partners could
2 really start being intentional about looking at these
3 sites and development around these areas.

4 And, so, I think we have a chance to really
5 maximize our impact. We're doing the transit. Let's
6 help other people do the development. So at the end of
7 the day, it's a win-win for everyone.

8 I'm so really happy I was there at the
9 groundbreaking and just happy to see all the stories
10 that we've created to really make that happen.

11 And like we said, it hasn't just been us.
12 It's been six years in the making. So to everyone that
13 has contributed along this timeframe, I really want to
14 recognize all their efforts.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

17 Our next order of business is the approval of
18 the correction to the minutes of the regular board
19 meeting of March 11, 2026. May I have a motion to
20 approve?

21 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

22 DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

23 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
24 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy to approve the

1 corrected minutes for March 11, 2026.
2 We'll take a role call vote.
3 Director Jha?
4 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.
5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?
6 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.
7 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?
8 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.
9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?
10 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.
11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?
12 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.
13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?
14 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Can I abstain?
15 (Cross-talk.)
16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo?
17 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.
18 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.
19 I'm sorry, Director Jha. I didn't hear you
20 say yes. That's all.
21 DIRECTOR JHA: Oh, that's okay.
22 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman.
23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.
24 Our next order of business is the approval of

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1 the correction to the minutes of the regular board
2 meeting of April 8, 2026.

3 May I have a motion to approve?

4 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

5 DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

6 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
7 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy that the board approve
8 the regular board meeting minutes of April 8, 2026.

9 We'll take a role call vote.

10 Director Jha?

11 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

13 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

17 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo?

21 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our next item on the
24 agenda is executive sessions.

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1 Sisavanh Baker, It's my understanding that
2 today we do have an executive session.

3 MS. BAKER: Yes, we do. Pursuant to the
4 Illinois Open Meeting backed by ILCS 122C21-1N3.

5 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a
6 motion to recess into executive sessions for the
7 reasons stated by counsel.

8 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

9 DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

10 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
11 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy that the board recess
12 into executive session.

13 We'll take a role call vote.

14 Director Jha?

15 DIRECTOR JHA: 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 Eaddy?

23 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Requejo?

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1 DIRECTOR REQUEJO: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay, the motion
3 passes.

4 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

5 (Recess from 11:39 a.m. to 1:01 p.m.)

6 MS. GREENLEE: We're ready.

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I will now entertain a
8 motion to return to open session.

9 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

10 DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

11 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
12 Jha, and seconded by Director Eaddy that the board
13 reconvene from open session.

14 We'll take a role call vote.

15 Director Jha?

16 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

18 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

22 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: I will note for the record
24 that Director Jakes is returning. Director Jakes,

1 you're returning to open session?

2 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Is that your vote?

4 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yeah, yeah, absolutely.

5 MS. GREENLEE: I'll note for the record that
6 Director Requejo has left the meeting and will not be
7 rejoining.

8 And the motion passes.

9 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

10 We will now address board agenda item number
11 7, board matters.

12 Ms. Georgette, do we have any board matters
13 today?

14 MS. GREENLEE: Mr. Chairman, there is one
15 board matter for consideration today. To approve an
16 ordinance fixing the salary of Lily Diego-Johnson as a
17 member of the Chicago Transit Board and appointing her
18 to the Finance, Audit and Budget Committee.

19 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

20 DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

21 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
22 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy to approve the
23 ordinance fixing the salary of Lily Diego-Johnson as a
24 member of the Chicago Transit Board and appointing her

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1 to the Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee.

2 We'll take a role call vote.

3 Director Jha?

4 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

6 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

8 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

10 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

12 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

14 Congratulations.

15 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Thank you.

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

19 You waiting for me, aren't you?

20 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

21 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Okay, I'm sorry. This is
22 my wife sitting and texting me. I'm like, I'm in a
23 meeting. She don't care. I should have known that 28
24 years later, shouldn't I?

1 UNKNOWN: I'm a divorce lawyer.

2 (Cross-talk.)

3 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yeah, yeah, I'm like, Wait a
4 minute. No, man, she gets half. No, no, no, no, no,
5 no.

6 The committee met earlier this morning and
7 approved the May 13, 2026, committee minutes and
8 reviewed the finance report. The committee reviewed
9 the following three ordinances:

10 Review of an ordinance authorizing
11 introduction of a bulk discount rate for seven
12 park-and-ride facilities.

13 Two, review of an ordinance authorizing an
14 amendment of a lease with Pullman Gateway LLC, a
15 property located at 11203 South Corliss Avenue, Chicago
16 for the RLE project.

17 Three, review of an ordinance amending
18 Ordinance 006-75, which governs rules regarding public
19 performances on CTA property.

20 The committee also reviewed eight contracts.
21 The committee placed three ordinances and eight
22 contracts on the omnibus. The committee approved and
23 recommended for board approval three ordinances and
24 eight contracts.

1 This concludes the report of the Finance,
2 Audit, and Budget Committee.

3 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you, Director Jakes.
4 I will now entertain a motion to approve the omnibus.

5 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

6 DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

7 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
8 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy to approve the omnibus.

9 We'll take a role call vote.

10 Director Jha?

11 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

13 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

17 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?

21 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: We will be deferring the
24 construction report, and we apologize because we know

1 you guys work hard on this, but we're just -- we have a
2 time crunch right now.

3 So we'll make sure, even if we have to move
4 them up to the agenda next time so they're not last.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Will do. We need a motion to
6 defer.

7 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

8 DIRECTOR EADDY: Second.

9 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
10 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy to defer the
11 construction report.

12 We'll take a role call vote.

13 Director Jha?

14 DIRECTOR JHA: 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 Eaddy?

22 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?

24 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Yes.

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1 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

2 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Our final order of
3 business is new business. Georgette, is there any new
4 business?

5 MS. GREENLEE: Mr. Chairman, there is no new
6 business.

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Since there's no further
8 business to come before the board, may I have a motion
9 to adjourn the Chicago Transit Board meeting of May 13,
10 2026?

11 DIRECTOR JHA: So moved.

12 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Second.

13 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by Director
14 Jha, seconded by Director Eaddy to adjourn the May 13,
15 2026 meeting of the Chicago Transit Board.

16 We'll take a roll call vote.

17 Director Jha?

18 DIRECTOR JHA: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

20 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

24 DIRECTOR JAKES: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

2 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Diego-Johnson?

4 DIRECTOR DIEGO-JOHNSON: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

6 It's 1:06 p.m. Thank you, everyone.

7 (Off the record at 1:06 p.m.)

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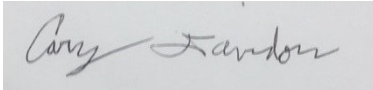
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I, Cary Davidow, the officer before whom the foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify that any witness(es) in the foregoing proceedings were fully sworn; that the proceedings were recorded by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting by a qualified transcriptionist; that said digital audio recording of said proceedings are a true and accurate record to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability; 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.



CARY DAVIDOW
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

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I, Lisa R. Erickson, do hereby certify that this transcript was prepared from the digital audio of the foregoing proceeding; that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the case and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

Lisa Erickson

/s/ Lisa R. Erickson

LISA R. ERICKSON

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