

**Atlanta-region Transit Link Authority
245 Peachtree Center Ave., Suite 2300
Atlanta, GA 30303**

Board Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Brock
Dan Buyers
Ricky Clark
Marlene Fosque
Russell McMurry
Howard Mosby
Marcia Collier Overstreet
Robb Pitts
Paul Radford
Teddy Russell
Todd Ver Steeg
Tom Weyandt

MEMBERS ABSENT

Andy Macke
Michael Thurmond

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steve Brock called the meeting to order at 10:52 a.m. A quorum was confirmed for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Steve Brock called for a motion to approve the minutes for the Board meeting held on February 6, 2025. Mr. Howard Mosby made the motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Ricky Clark seconded. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA

Chairman Steve Brock called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Tom Weyandt moved to approve the agenda and Ms. Marci Collier-Overstreet seconded. The agenda was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Miller initiated her report by inviting Ms. Eve Massie to provide an update on several legislative items. House Bill 164, which initially included a two-year sunset clause for trucks transporting specified agricultural commodities, has had the sunset provision repealed, thereby making the measure permanent. House Bill 75 was introduced as a housekeeping measure and establishes an administrator for the towing and recovery program. This bill is intended to address the growing issue of heavy vehicles being abandoned on state right-of-ways. Additionally, the governor's strong emphasis on tort reform was acknowledged. Two related bills have passed and are expected to have implications for regional implementation and transportation policy in the near future.

Ms. Miller continued her report by providing federal updates highlighting the upcoming Senate confirmation of Mark Molinaro as the Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Mr. Molinaro, who has prior experience as both a county executive and congressional representative, emphasized his commitment to transit safety, innovation, equity, and accessibility. He is expected to play a significant role in administering the \$108 billion allocated for public transit improvements under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The committee also discussed the nomination of Sean McMaster to lead the Federal Highway Administration. His appointment is considered especially relevant due to the increasing integration of transit systems with roadway infrastructure, such as express lanes.

The updates concluded with board members expressing appreciation for the agency's progress. In particular, remarks from Tom Weyandt highlighted gratitude for recent achievements and conveyed optimism for the agency's direction moving forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Biah Dam made public comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Dan Buyers provided the Board with a report summarizing the Administrative Committee meeting held on April 3, 2025. The following resolutions were presented in the Administrative Committee in preparation for Board consideration.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DESIGNATED STAFF TO SUBMIT FTA GRANT APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF ATL

Chairman Steve Brock called for a motion Authorizing Designated Staff to Submit FTA Grant Applications on Behalf of ATL. Mr. Ricky Clark made the motion to approve the resolution, and Ms. Marci Collier-Overstreet seconded. The Board unanimously approved the resolution.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE XPRESS STATE OF GOOD REPAIR 5337 GRANT SUBMITTAL

Chairman Steve Brock called for a motion Authorizing the Xpress State of Good Repair 5337 Grant Submittal. Mr. Robb Pitts made the motion to approve the resolution, and Mr. Dan Buyers seconded. The Board unanimously approved the resolution.

XPRESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Marlene Fosque provided the Board with a report summarizing the Xpress Operations Committee meeting held on April 3, 2025. The following resolutions were presented in the Xpress Operations Committee in preparation for Board consideration.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE REDEFINE THE RIDE: XPRESS 2.0 FINAL SERVICE PLAN

Chairman Steve Brock called for a motion Adopting the Redefine the Ride: Xpress 2.0 Final Service Plan. Mr. Robb Pitts made the motion to approve the resolution, and Ms. Marci Collier-Overstreet seconded. The Board unanimously approved the resolution.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE A 1-YEAR CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH TRANSDEV FOR XPRESS BUS SERVICE

Chairman Steve Brock called for a motion authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate a 1- year Contract Renewal with TransDev for Xpress bus services. Mr. Robb Pitts made the motion to approve the resolution, and Mr. Howard Mosby seconded. The Board unanimously approved the resolution.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE A RENEWAL OF ATL EXPRESS FUEL PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Chairman Steve Brock called for a motion authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate a Renewal of ATL's Xpress fuel purchase contract. Mr. Robb Pitts made the motion to approve the resolution, and Mr. Ricky Clark seconded. The Board unanimously approved the resolution.

TRANSIT TRUST FUND

Ms. Abby Marinelli provided a comprehensive overview of the Transit Trust Fund (TTF) program's current status and the direction moving forward. At present, the program has a remaining balance of approximately \$2 million from FY24, with an additional \$20 million allocated to ATL by the Trustee for FY25. To date, roughly \$10 million of FY 24 has been committed to projects through a staff-driven selection process that aligns with the long-range transportation plan and the funding criteria established by the trustee.

Looking ahead, the ATL plans to implement a more structured and transparent funding approach by introducing a formal application process. A Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will be released at the June 5th board meeting. The NOFO will detail eligible project types, evaluation criteria, timelines, and application requirements, helping potential project sponsors better assess their eligibility and prepare competitive proposals.

TTF funding will prioritize three types of projects: technology projects, which include automation and equipment upgrades; planning projects, focused on regional or county-level transit planning efforts; and regional capital projects, such as vehicle procurements, facility improvements, and microtransit initiatives. The NOFO will also outline expectations related to cost sharing, post-award obligations, and the procedures for reimbursement and progress reporting.

The proposed timeline includes the release of the NOFO on June 5, followed by a 60-day application window extending to early August. An overview of project submissions will be presented in August, with final approvals scheduled for October. Grant Award Contracts are expected to be signed in the fall, and initial progress reports will be due in December.

In closing, Ms. Marinelli noted that if this timeline proves successful, it will serve as a model for future TTF funding rounds, with the flexibility to make adjustments based on practical experience and program requirements.

TRANSIT REPORT

Ms. Abby Marinelli delivered an update on the restructuring of the region's annual transit report, previously referred to as the "annual report audit". She explained that the original reporting process was hindered by a variety of issues, including misaligned fiscal years among transit operators, discrepancies with federal reporting timelines, and general confusion about data submission periods. These challenges created verification difficulties and contributed to significant data bottlenecks.

To address these concerns, the report is being rebranded as the "transit report" and will retain its annual cadence while adopting a more focused and efficient structure. The revised format will be organized around the three core areas defined in statute: transit planning, funding, and operations. Additionally, the report will be more closely tied to the region's strategic objectives as laid out in

the Strategic Blueprint and the ATL Regional Transit Plan (ARTP), with an emphasis on improving cross-county connectivity, enhancing competitiveness, and elevating customer experience.

The updated process will now align with the National Transit Database (NTD) reporting timeline. Transit agencies will submit their data to ATL by June, following the federal submission deadline in April. This submission will include both standard federal data and supplemental region-specific inputs. ATL plans to publish the finalized report annually by October 1st. As a transition, a shortened version of the report will be released in October 2025, with the fully revised and permanent version scheduled for publication in October 2026.

Ms. Marinelli emphasized that this restructured approach is intended to ease the reporting burden on agencies, enhance data quality and consistency, and ultimately support a more effective and streamlined reporting process for the region.

NEW BUSINESS

No New Business

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

APPROVED:



Steve Brock, Chair

ATTEST:



Chris Brunson, Board Secretary



DATE MINUTES APPROVED: