

Minutes

RTA Capital Budget Public Hearing

10:06 a.m., May 12, 2020

Committee Members: Joyce (Chair), Lucas (Vice Chair), Byrne, Moss, Pellot, Serrano

Other members: Bibb, Clough, McCall, Weiss

Not present: None

Also Present: Anderson, Benford, Birdsong, Bober, Brown, Burney, Caver, Cottrell-Peiffer, Dangelo, Feliciano, Ferraro, Fields, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Goodwin, Kirkland, Lewis, Pickett, Schipper, Sutula, Togher, Wilson, Young

This Public Hearing was conducted by teleconference for members of the Board in accordance with House Bill 197 of the 133rd General Assembly, signed by the Governor of the State of Ohio on March 27, 2020, the March 9, 2020 order of the Governor of the State of Ohio declaring a public health emergency and the April 30, 2020 order of the Director of the Ohio Department of Public Health prohibiting any gathering of ten (10) or more people, the Public Hearing was live-streamed on RTA's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/rideRTA) for staff and members of the public.

FY 2021 Capital Budget

Carolyn Young, manager of budgets, read the public hearing statement:

This is the official public hearing on the proposed Capital Improvement Budget for the Fiscal Year 2021 for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. As required by the Ohio Revised Code, the information concerning the FY 2021 Capital Improvement Budget is available for public inspection in the Office of Management and Budget of this Authority by appointment. Public notice of this hearing has been given by publication of a legal advertisement in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on April 24, 2020 and April 26, 2020, the Call & Post on April 22, 2020, April 24, 2020 and April 29, 2020, as well as by posting of notice in the first floor lobby of the Authority's Main Office Building, at the Customer Service Center in the Tower City Rotunda, RTA Facebook page, RTA Twitter page, and on RTA Internet website. The Capital Improvement Plan documents were available for review on the Authority's internet website, Facebook page and Twitter page at least 2 weeks in advance. Notification was also given on these sites on how to virtually attend (live-streaming) the Committee Meeting, Public Hearing, and Board Meeting and how to submit a comment for the public hearing.

The FY 2021 Capital Improvement Plan was presented to the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee of the RTA Board of Trustees on May 12, 2020 and is expected to request the FY 2021 Capital Improvement Plan to the full Board for approval. The Board of Trustees will vote on adopting the FY 2021 Capital Improvement Budget on May 12, 2020.

The Capital Improvement budget process was started in August 2019, where requests were submitted for review. The projects were then reviewed by the Authority's Capital Program Working Group and Capital Program Oversight Committee. The FY 2021 – 2025 Capital Improvement Plan was completed in April 2020 to comply with NOACA's revised Project Planning Review Schedule. This ensures that funding will be aligned with the programmed budget. If any adjustments are needed, they will be made and considered by the Board at the appropriate time.

The FY 2021 – 2025 Capital Improvement Plan totals \$564 million, of which \$114.0 million is budgeted for FY 2021. The 3 largest categories for the FY 2021 Budget are: the Rail Car Replacement Program at \$31.3 million, Bus Improvement Program, at \$21.3 million, and Rail Projects at \$20.9 million. The Authority's focus continues to be on Rail and Rail Infrastructure projects.

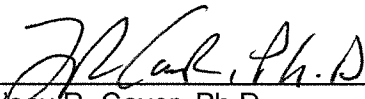
The 2021 – 2025 Capital Improvement Plan includes projects that are not fully funded where funding sources are yet to be determined. Unfunded projects total approximately \$401 million, which includes the Rail Car Replacement Program, where the local match has been reserved, but total Federal Funding has not been identified.

Sales tax is a major funding source for our capital projects for 100% locally funded projects, as well as the local match for Federal and State awards. The Authority's financial goal is to set aside a minimum of 10% of the annual sales tax receipts for the Capital Improvement Program.

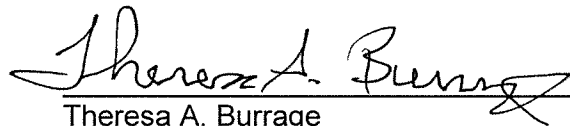
The hearing was open for public comments. The secretary stated that no comments were received in the public-comment@gcrta.org email box.

Mayor Clough said that most of the funds have been allocated for 2021, but he wanted to ensure that if the 10% that RTA is responsible for is not available, what is the plan for 2021. Rajan Gautam said some of the 10% policy of the sales tax has been committed because of the debt service RTA has to contribute to. They will look at other sources of income to continue to comply with that policy. Later in the meeting, they will present on the CARES act grant funding. The grant has been executed and available for draw downs so that will provide a way to meet the 10% requirement if necessary.

The hearing was adjourned at 10:13 a.m.



Flounsay R. Caver, Ph.D.
Interim Secretary/Treasurer



Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Secretary