

CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025  
4:00 P.M. – LANSING CENTER, ROOM 201  
333 E. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MI 48933

**PRESENT:** Nathan Triplett, Chair  
Shanna Draheim, Vice Chair  
Phil Deschaine, Secretary/Treasurer  
Mark Grebner  
Chelsea Dowler  
Steven Vagnozzi  
John Prush  
Eric Tans  
Kellie Blackwell  
Ed Rodgers  
Jack Schmitt  
Keith Barber

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Triplett called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Keith Barber, Kellie Blackwell, Phil Deschaine, Chelsea Dowler, Mark Grebner, John Prush, Ed Rodgers, Jack Schmitt, Eric Tans, Nathan Triplett, and Steven Vagnozzi were all present.

**ABSENT:** Derek Melot

**LATE:** Shanna Draheim

Chair Triplett welcomed everyone to the Board meeting. He also mentioned that the meeting is being held on Zoom for those who wish to view the Board meeting virtually.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS:**

Chair Triplett requested a motion to excuse Derek Melot.

**MOTION:**

Steve Vagnozzi motioned to excuse Derek Melot and Ed Rodgers supported the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES:**

Chair Triplett announced the annual committee appointments for FY 2026.

**MOTION:**

Phil Deschaine motioned to approve the appointment of committees for FY 2026 and Ed Rodgers supported the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**Planning Session**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that Chelsea Dowler, Projects Coordinator at Economic Development Corporation's (EDC) and CATA Board member, visited CATA on Monday, October 13, 2025, for a planning session with CATA's Planning Department. Mr. Funkhouser explained that the purpose of the meeting was to look at EDC's role in the city. He noted that CATA was able to find many common areas that CATA will explore and possibly partner with the EDC on future projects.

Shanna Draheim arrived at 4:04 p.m.

**Eaton County**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that on Friday, October 3, 2025, he met with Keith Barber, Eaton County Commissioner, EATRAN Board member, and non-voting CATA Board member, and Chair Triplett, to discuss the future of EATRAN.

**Budget**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that the state budget ended up slightly above what was projected. This will bring approximately \$2 million back into CATA's budget. Mr. Funkhouser noted that there is also talk about an additional \$35 million in supplemental funds and \$65 million in innovation funds for all modes of transportation. He stated that more details will be presented at the January 2026 Board Retreat.

**Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC)**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that he attended the LRCC meeting on Monday, September 15, 2025, along with Nathan Triplett, Board Chair, CATA and Mary Clark, Board Chair, EATRAN. Mr. Funkhouser explained that following the meeting, he received a letter of support from the LRCC for the Delta Township Transportation Millage proposal. He noted that ballots are out in Delta Township and voting will take place on November 4, 2025.

**ACTION ITEMS – PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2025, BOARD MEETING

B. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT FOR AUGUST 2025

1. Interim Income Statement
2. Cash Summary
3. Investments
4. Fifth Third Investment Account Reconciliation

C. MDOT RESOLUTION OF INTENT

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors adopts the Resolution of Intent set forth below:

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**FY 2027 RESOLUTION OF INTENT**

The approved Resolution of Intent to apply for state formula operating assistance for FY 2027 under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended.

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended ("Act 51"), it is necessary for Capital Area Transportation Authority (hereby known as THE APPLICANT), established under 1963 PA 55, to provide a local transportation program for FY 2027 and, therefore, apply for state financial assistance under provisions of Act 51; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the governing body to name an official representative for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to certify that no changes in eligibility documentation have occurred during the past state fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the performance indicators have been reviewed and approved by the governing body; and

**WHEREAS**, THE APPLICANT has reviewed and approved the proposed balance budget, and funding sources for FY 2027 are estimated to include the following: federal funds of \$1,752,750, state funds of \$19,547,775, local funds of \$28,849,650, farebox funds of \$2,981,520, and other funds of \$6,656,760. Total expenses are estimated to be \$73,649,045. THE APPLICANT'S budget for its local transportation program for FY 2027 reflects a deficit of \$13,860,590.

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved that THE APPLICANT hereby makes its intentions known to provide public transportation services and to apply for state financial assistance with this annual plan, in accordance with Act 51; and

**HEREBY**, appoints THE APPLICANT'S Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser or his designee, as the Transportation Coordinator, for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51 for FY 2027.

D. SYSTEMWIDE POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to approve payment by CATA to the City of Lansing Police Department, in the amount of \$137,700 for the period beginning October 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026; and \$47,480, for the period beginning July 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026. The total FY 2025 cost of Systemwide Police and Public Safety Service is projected at \$185,180, which will ensure a continued police presence at the CATA Transportation Center, aboard buses; and throughout the CATA system within LPD's jurisdiction.

Eric Tans requested that Action Item D be moved to discussion.

**MOTION:**

Shanna Draheim motioned to approve the Consent Agenda with Action Item D, Systemwide Police and Public Safety Service, moved to the Discussion Agenda. Jack Schmitt supported the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION ITEM - DISCUSSION AGENDA**

A. SYSTEMWIDE POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE

**PROPOSED MOTION:** That the CATA Board of Directors authorizes Board Chair, Nathan Triplett, and Chief Executive Officer, Bradley T. Funkhouser, to approve payment by CATA to the City of Lansing Police Department, in the amount of \$137,700 for the period beginning October 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026; and \$47,480, for the period beginning July 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026. The total FY 2025 cost of Systemwide Police and Public Safety Service is projected at \$185,180, which will ensure a continued police presence at the CATA Transportation Center, aboard buses; and throughout the CATA system within LPD's jurisdiction.

Eric Tans commented on the statistics report and requested more details pertaining to the increase in incidents.

Bradley Funkhouser deferred to Todd Brooks, Director of Operations, for more details.

Todd Brooks explained that he has been meeting with the Lansing Police Department (LPD) on a regular basis and CATA's partners in the community to find alternate ways to address the issues.

Phil Deschaine inquired about the LPD hours.

Todd Brooks stated that the LPD hours vary.

Shanna Draheim inquired whether other downtown businesses have had similar issues.

Todd Brooks confirmed that other businesses have had similar issues. He stated that CATA has been working to get representatives from the Capital Area District Library (CADL), Lansing School District (LSD), and Child Family Services all together to find some solutions.

Shanna Draheim suggested that CATA reach out to housing advocates as well.

Todd Brooks stated that CATA is looking at all avenues for a better solution.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that this is not just a transit issue, but rather a city issue that keeps getting pushed around. Per the Board's request, CATA has taken a compassionate approach and will continue to work with our partners to find a solution. Mr. Funkhouser noted that safety is an issue everywhere and CATA will do its best to make sure that safety remains a priority.

Steve Vagnozzi surmised that the issues are not limited to CATA's downtown facility and inquired whether CATA has made comparisons with other transit agencies.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that CATA is not the only transit agency having these incidents. He explained that CATA has taken the approach that people will get the services they need.

Ed Rodgers stated that he worked in the prosecutor's office for years and there have always been "hot spots" downtown. He noted that you can try to control the "hot spots", but they will never be eliminated.

Discussion ensued.

Chair Triplett acknowledged the need for a vote.

**VOTE:** The motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Chair Triplett requested a motion for the CATA Board to go into Closed Session.

**MOTION:**

Ed Rodgers motioned that the CATA Board go into Closed Session and Eric Tans supported the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Kellie Blackwell, aye; Phil Deschaine, aye; Chelsea Dowler, aye; Shanna Draheim, aye; Mark Grebner, aye; John Prush, aye; Ed Rodgers, aye; Jack Schmitt, aye; Eric Tans, aye; Nathan Triplett, aye; and Steven Vagnozzi, aye.

11 Ayes

0 Nays

Derek Melot was absent.

The Closed Session began at 4:51 p.m. and adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Triplett adjourned the Board meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phil Deschaine  
Secretary/Treasurer

Tina Orlando  
Recording Secretary