

LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025  
3:30 P.M. - CATA BOARD ROOM

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Deb Wiese, Chair  
J. Caleb Adams  
Gill Lemonde  
Geneva Smith  
Gloria Johnson-Cannon  
Doug Lecato  
Diana Paiz

**MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM:** Leah March-Pons

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Erin Shannon, Vice Chair, Jeffrey Allshouse, Darrin Fowler and George Hanley

**CATA BOARD MEMBER:** Kellie Blackwell

**CATA PERSONNEL:** Bradley Funkhouser, Craig Frazier, Victoria Joseph, and Darren Horn

**TRANSDEV PERSONNEL:** Simone Moore

**GUESTS:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Wiese called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER AGENDA**

**MOTION:**

A motion to approve the October 2025 agenda was moved by Geneva Smith and supported by Gill Lemonde.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES**

**MOTION:**

A motion to approve August 2025 minutes was moved by Geneva Smith and supported by Gloria Johnson-Cannon.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

### **LAC CHAIR COMMENTS – Deb Wiese**

None

### **BOARD LIAISON REPORT – Kellie Blackwell**

See attached report.

### **CATA CEO REPORT – Bradley Funkhouser**

#### **Budget**

Bradley Funkhouser gave an update on the state budget. He stated that while there has been improvement, the state is considering requiring transit agencies to meet a 10% farebox recovery rate in the current budget language. Mr. Funkhouser noted that this is being opposed by transit agencies across the state.

#### **Delta Township**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that support for the Delta Township millage has been strong, and absentee ballots have been delivered. He also stated that there are three (3) Delta Township meetings scheduled before the public will be able to vote on the transit millage on November 4, 2025. Delta Township Board meetings will be held on October 6, October 20, and November 3.

#### **EATRAN**

Bradley Funkhouser stated that the CATA Board approved his employment contract extension with EATRAN through December 31, 2025.

Gloria Johnson-Cannon inquired about the average number of Lansing School District (LSD) students riding on CATA's buses.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that the LSD buys bus passes from CATA and hands them out to students in need. He noted that there are a couple hundred moving through the system.

Doug Lecato inquired about the expectations from the federal and state government over funding in the next three (3) years.

Bradley Funkhouser expressed his opinion that service is not sustainable at the current funding levels.

Chair Wiese inquired about the future of EATRAN once his contract ends this December.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that EATRAN's future will depend on whether the millage in Eaton County renews and the passing of the Delta Township's public transit millage.

Diana Paiz inquired whether CATA will raise fares on fixed-route and paratransit services.

Bradley Funkhouser stated that raising fares is a last resort.

Diana Paiz inquired whether the 10% farebox return rate is based on fixed-route and paratransit services.

Bradley Funkhouser stated the 10% farebox return will come from all services.

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS – Todd Brooks**

Absent

**PARATRANSIT OPERATIONS MANAGER – Craig Frazier**

**New Website**

Craig Frazier stated CATA has been working on a new website. He noted that the first page has been reviewed and it is a huge improvement. Mr. Frazier explained that testing will begin in December and the marketing team will attend the next LAC meeting for input. The new website is anticipated to go live in January 2026. He further noted that the new “MySpecTran” website is active. He stated that it was a seamless transition and the old website will remain operational for only a short period of time.

**Ridership**

Craig Frazier stated that paratransit ridership is running strong and October and March are traditionally the busiest months. He also stated that CATA has received three (3) electric ADA vans, and they will be going into service once all the required equipment has been installed.

Diana Paiz inquired about visually-impaired clients being able to know when their electric vehicle ride has arrived.

Craig Frazier stated the operators will sound their horn during the 15-minute time window.

Diana Paiz inquired about October and March being Paratransit’s busiest months.

Simone Moore explained that October and March may be the busiest months for Paratransit due to longer months and no holidays.

Diana Paiz inquired about when scanners will be installed in Transdev vehicles for contactless payment.

Craig Frazier stated he will check with IT and get back to her.

Chair Wiese inquired whether the 5310 Call for Projects has been issued.

Craig Frazier stated that the 5310 Call for Projects will be released after the first of the year.

**TRANSDEV – Simone Moore**

Simone Moore stated that safety at Transdev remains to be a top priority. She also stated that their recruitment efforts have been paying off. Ms. Moore shared that Transdev successfully completed the ratification of their ATU agreement last month. This outcome has positively impacted employee morale and is contributing to improved retention across the operations team.

Doug Lecato inquired about the length of the contract.

Simone Moore stated that the contract is for three (3) years.

**SERVICE QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE (SQS) – Erin Shannon**

See attached report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Election of Officers**

Nominating Chair, Gloria Johnson-Cannon stated that she received nominations for Deb Wiese as Chair and Erin Shannon as Vice Chair.

Gloria Johnson-Cannon received Erin Shannon as the nominee for Vice-Chair and called for a vote to elect Erin Shannon as Vice Chair after there were no additional nominations from the floor.

Erin Shannon was elected unanimously.

Gloria Johnson-Cannon received Deb Wiese as the nominee for Chair and called for the vote to elect Deb Wiese after there were no additional nominations from the floor.

Deb Wiese was reelected unanimously.

**MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Geneva Smith thanked Clark Milton, Transdev operator, who went above and beyond to help her.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:**

A motion to adjourn was moved by Diana Paiz and seconded by Gloria Johnson-Cannon.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Wiese adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darren Horn  
Paratransit Operations Supervisor

Victoria Joseph  
Operations Administrative Assistant