

Board of Directors Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, October 30, 2024 | 12:00pm
Board Room at 110 Watervliet Ave.

**CDTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, October 30, 2024 | 12:00pm | 110 Watervliet Ave

Item	Responsibility	Page
Call to Order	Jayme Lahut	
Approve Minutes from Wednesday, September 25, 2024		3
Committee Reports: (Action Items Listed)		
Board Operations Committee (10/9/24)	Jayme Lahut	
Performance Monitoring/Audit Committee (10/23/24)	Denise Figueroa	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 30 - Emergency Procurement for Water Line Repair • Resolution 31 - Approve Contract for General/Auto Liability Insurance • Resolution 32 - Approve Contract for Auto Physical Damage Insurance 		9 13 18
Community & Stakeholder Relations Committee (10/24/24)	Patrick Lance	
Strategic & Operational Planning Committee (10/24/24)	Mike Criscione	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution 33 – Approve Budget Adjustment 		23
Chief Executive Officer’s Report	Carm Basile	27
Board Member Comments	All	
Upcoming Meetings		
November 26, 2024, at 12:00 PM via Microsoft Teams and at 110 Watervliet Ave.		
Adjourn	Jayme Lahut	

**CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
(And its Subsidiaries)
110 Watervliet Avenue, Albany, New York**

MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024, BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jayne B. Lahut, Chairman
Denise A. Figueroa, Treasurer
Jackie McDonough

Patrick M. Lance
David M. Stackrow
Peter D. Wohl

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Georgeanna M. Nugent, Secretary
Jaclyn Falotico
Michael J. Criscione, Vice-Chairman

OTHERS PRESENT

Carmino N. Basile, Chief Executive Officer
Amanda Avery, General Counsel
Mike Colins, VP Finance & Administration
Chris Desany, VP Planning & Infrastructure
Lance Zarcone, VP Operations
Jaime Kazlo, Director of Corporate Comms
Gary Guy, Director of Transportation
Dave Williams, Director of Maintenance
Jonathan Scherzer, Director of Business Dev.
Emily DeVito, Communications Manager
Jeremy Smith, Director of Facilities
Stacy Sansky, Director of Procurement

Patricia Cooper, Director of Finance
Richard Cordero, Director of Service Quality
Nicholas Chenard, Superintendent of Schenectady
Mike Williams, Director of Service Planning
Steve Wacksman, Superintendent of Albany
Nelli Kalogridis, Principal Accounting Clerk
Jeanette Stumbaugh, Comptroller
Sarah Matrose, Internal Auditor
Boon Poon, Schenectady Bus Operator
Greg Miller, Albany Bus Operator
Moussa Kouyate, Albany Bus Operator
Zack Stever, ATU President

CALL TO ORDER - At 12:03 PM, Chairman Lahut called the meeting to order and noted a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 13, 2024, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion – Ms. Stackrow
Seconded – Ms. McDonough
Carried Unanimously

RECOGNITIONS

Carm Basile and Chairman Lahut presented the following awards and members offered their congratulations:

- 20 Years - Nelli Kalogridis, Principal Accounting Clerk
- 25 Years - Boon Poon, Schenectady Bus Operator
- 25 Years - Moussa Kouyate, Albany Bus Operator
- 30 Years - Greg Miller, Albany Bus Operator
- 30 Years - Steve Wacksman, Transportation Superintendent

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE - Report from Chairman Lahut

Committee met on Wednesday, September 1, 2024, at 9:15 AM via Microsoft Teams and at 110 Watervliet Ave.

Administrative Discussion Items

- We previewed agendas for the September committee meetings.
- Purchase of the Gazette property in Schenectady was discussed. Everything is moving along, and we expect to close on the property in the next month. We have received a great financing package that will be advanced by the Performance Oversight committee.

- When we add the Gazette property to our portfolio, it will double the size of our footprint in Schenectady (from 8 to 16 acres) and provide us with the infrastructure for our growing fleet, while adding innovations like an advanced body shop and a new training center. It will be zero emissions ready and provide space for expansion. Splendid work by everyone on this.
- Carm provided an update on advocacy and outreach. We are working with our state transit association to develop messaging for the new legislative season. Meetings with legislators and agency staff have already begun. More to follow on this.
- CEO search update. Moving forward – first round of interviews is underway.
- Some modifications to our meeting schedule.
- The October Board Operations committee meeting will be on Wednesday, October 9 (a week earlier than originally scheduled).
- And, because of the holidays, we will probably move the November board meeting to Tuesday, November 26, and move the entire December meeting schedule up a week (so that we aren't meeting on December 25!). Modified calendars to follow.
- Next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 9:15 AM via Microsoft Teams and at 110 Watervliet Avenue.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING COMMITTEE - Report from Peter Wohl

Performance Monitoring Committee met on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 12:00 PM at 110 Watervliet Avenue, Albany and via Microsoft Teams.

Consent Agenda Item

Resolution 22 – 2024 – Approve Electric Bus Purchase

- As part of an FTA grant award in 2023, we will purchase 9 forty-foot electric buses. This will expand our zero-emission fleet to 17 vehicles.
- As part of the grant, we have been upgrading the charging infrastructure in Albany.
- We will replace an equal number of diesel buses.
- We have a contract with New Flyer; delivery is expected in early 2026.
- The Authority hereby approves the purchase of nine, 40' electric buses from New Flyer of America, for an amount not to exceed \$10,564,353.

Motion – Mr. Stackrow

Seconded – Ms. McDonough

Carried Unanimously

Resolution 23 – 2024 – Approve Bus Transfer to TCAT

- Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit (TCAT) is having bus availability challenges and is seeking our help.
- We have five 40-foot Gillig buses that we can transfer to them.
- The Authority hereby approves the transfer of five retired 40-foot Gillig buses to TCAT.

Motion – Ms. McDonough

Seconded – Ms. Figueroa

Carried Unanimously

Resolution 24 – 2024 – Approve Financing for Property Purchase

- We issued a request for proposals to finance the purchase of the Daily Gazette property.

- We received two proposals with JP Morgan Chase providing the best terms and conditions with a non-taxable five-year interest rate of 3.73%.
- Total projected borrowing costs is \$6 million.
- The Authority hereby approves JP Morgan Chase of Albany, to finance the CDTA purchase of the Daily Gazette property at 2345 Maxon Rd Extension, for a total anticipated cost of \$6,037,326.

Motion – Ms. Figueroa
 Seconded – Mr. Stackrow
 Carried Unanimously

Resolution 25 – 2024 – Approve Contract for Maintenance Audit Services

- We issued a request for proposals for maintenance audit and inspection services.
- Two proposals were received, and staff recommends award to the incumbent from the Transit Resource Center. They have provided these services for many years, and we are pleased with their work.
- The Authority hereby approves a three-year contract, with two one-year renewals to Transit Resource Center of Winter Springs, Florida for an amount not to exceed \$375,000.

Motion – Ms. McDonough
 Seconded – Ms. Figueroa
 Carried Unanimously

Resolution 26 – 2024 – Approve Contract for ITMS Equipment

- We need to purchase Intelligent Transportation Management System (ITMS) equipment for Dispatch and Vehicle Location operations in Warren County.
- This technology is installed on all fixed route, trolley, and supervisory vehicles. It monitors on time performance, service interruptions, real time arrival and automatic passenger counting.
- The Authority hereby approves a contract to Innovations in Transportation, Inc. of Chesapeake, Virginia for the purchase of ITMS equipment for an amount not to exceed \$509,793.

Motion – Mr. Stackrow
 Seconded – Ms. Figueroa
 Carried Unanimously

Resolution 27 – 2024 – Approve Contract for Workforce Software

- We want to purchase software that help us communicate with our workforce.
- Most employees do not have company emails. BLINK is a web-based solution that has helped with informational postings, announcements, work schedules, and other CDTA activities.
- We piloted the BLINK application for the past two years and it has been very successful with over 80% of our workforce using it.
- The Authority hereby approves a five-year sole source contract to BLINK Business Technologies of New York City for an amount not to exceed \$215,504.

Motion – Ms. McDonough
 Seconded – Mr. Wohl
 Carried Unanimously

Resolution 28 – 2024 – Approve Contract for Route Scheduling Upgrade

- We need to purchase software licenses to upgrade our scheduling system.
- This impacts existing and new modules to plan work assignments and payroll, and to monitor electric vehicle operation. It will expand peak vehicle service levels to 250 buses.
- The Authority hereby approves a sole source contract to GIRO of Montreal, Quebec, Canada for an amount not to exceed \$1,153,924

Motion – Ms. Figueroa
Seconded – Ms. McDonough
Carried Unanimously

Resolution 29 – 2024 – Approve Contract for Rail Station Camera Replacement

- The camera system at the Joseph L. Bruno Rail Station is almost 25 years old and needs to be upgraded. This will include new conduit, new enclosures throughout the building and parking structure, and replacing cameras.
- Integrated Video Solutions is the provider of our camera systems and staff is satisfied with their work and pricing.
- The Authority hereby approves a sole source contract to Integrated Video Solutions, of Succasunna, NJ for an amount not to exceed \$785,500.

Motion – Ms. McDonough
Seconded – Mr. Stackrow
Carried Unanimously

Administrative Discussion Items

- Amanda Avery provided a quarterly review on the Risk Management and Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Accounts. The Committee determined that both accounts are adequate at this time.
- Mike Collins provided the Monthly Management Report for August. MRT was 4% over budget this month. Customer Fares and Rail Station revenue continue to exceed projections (10% and 8% over budget for the year). Wages are 4% over budget for the year, due to contractual issues and a special maintenance rate to help repair a backlog of buses. Workers' compensation expenses were over budget due to a lump sum payment that will be reimbursed by our excess carrier.
- Chris Desany gave the non-financial report for August. Fixed route ridership was up 15%; STAR ridership was up 2%; on-time performance was at 69%; on-time performance in STAR was 81%. We missed 0.25% of all scheduled trips. There were 15 preventable accidents and 20 non-preventable accidents.
- Next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 10:00 AM via Microsoft Teams and at 110 Watervliet Avenue.

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS COMMITTEE - Report from Dave Stackrow
Community and Stakeholder Relations Committee met on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 11:15 AM at 110 Watervliet Avenue, Albany and via Microsoft Teams.

Administrative Discussion Items

- Jon Scherzer provided results from the second wave of our community satisfaction survey. Results were outstanding with 94% of participants saying CDTA is a value to the community.
- The survey was a random phone sampling of 400 people in our region being asked several questions related to CDTA and its services.
- Community members believe we provide the most value by providing access to jobs and providing safe and reliable transportation services throughout the region.
- The top three areas they would like to see more of are, frequency of service, routes and regional connectors.
- Jaime Kazlo provided the Earned Media and Community Relations report. Last month, we earned 25 placements in television, newspaper, and radio with an estimated value of \$30,000. CDTA sent out 10 press releases.

- Stories included – e-bike charging launched in Amsterdam, construction on the Manning Boulevard Mobility Hub in Albany and Ellis Medicine joined our Universal Access program as our newest partner.
- We participated in community events including transportation for the Schenectady Summer Send Off event, Amsterdam Italia Fest and Wings and Wheels event to support veterans in our region.
- We continue to see increases in followers across our social media channels. Top posts included information about our Lake George Trolley Service and information about CDTA hiring events and employment opportunities.
- Looking ahead, we will cut the ribbon on two new mobility hubs, bring back our two pink buses for the Men Wear Pink campaign on October 1, welcome nearly 400 kids to our property for our annual Fall Festival and accept the American Cancer Society Pillar of Hope Award during the Making Strides Walk in Washington Park on October 20.

STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE - Report from Mike Criscione

The Strategic and Operational Planning Committee met on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 12:00 PM via Microsoft Teams and at 110 Watervliet Avenue.

Administration Discussion Items

Capital Planning Update

- Emily Loughlin provided an update on our capital planning work. Before the Facilities department manages construction of our capital projects (BRTs, intersection improvements, mobility hubs, etc.), the Planning department develops the concepts and designs. We have several initiatives underway.
- Launched in 2011, we are now “refreshing” the Red Line with everything from basic shelter updates to TSP improvements, bus lanes, stop relocations, pedestrian islands, road diets, and bus bulbs.
- We are also improving stations at Church and Kellogg, St. Mary’s, and Exit 27 Park and Ride (Montgomery); 80 Broadway (Albany); and Route 50 (Saratoga). Future projects include Warren County upgrades, mobility hubs, and additional phases of the Red Line upgrades.

West Facility Update

- Carm Basile provided an update on the West Facility. We have executed a purchase agreement with a scheduled closing on or before November 15.
- We are currently working on a management agreement to accommodate building support services (administration, facilities, landscaping) and a new lease for the existing owner. We are also in the process of collecting the supporting documentation required by the FTA.
- The next meeting of this committee will be on October 24, 2024 at 12:00 pm at 110 Watervliet Avenue and via Microsoft Teams.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT – Carm Basile

- The Chief Executive Officer provided his report for September 2024

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Subject to the call of the Chair, Chairman Lahut announced the following meeting date:
 - Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at 12:00pm at 110 Watervliet Avenue.

ADJOURNMENT - 12:46 PM

Motion – Mr. Wohl

Seconded – Mr. Stackrow

Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Criscione, Vice-Chairman

Dated: September 25, 2024

**CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 30 - 2024**

Retroactive Contract Approval for Emergency Water Line Repairs

WHEREAS, the Capital District Transportation Authority (the “Authority”) is charged with the continuance, development, and improvement of transportation facilities within the Capital District Transportation District, and

WHEREAS, the Authority currently owns and operates the Albany transportation facility located at 110 Watervliet Avenue, Albany NY, and

WHEREAS, In March of 2024, the Authority identified water leaching up from underground near our entry gates, and contacted both the Albany Water Department and Taub Heating and Plumbing (“Taub”) to research the issue and develop a course of action, and

WHEREAS, Taub attempted to make repairs but could only implement a temporary fix, and the Authority determined that the water issue stemmed from a leak in the lateral supply to the building, and

WHEREAS, after developing a scope of work, Taub provided an estimate which was in line with historical pricing for this type of project, and was determined to be reasonable, and d

WHEREAS, the repairs needed to be performed as soon as possible, in order to minimize disruption to the traffic flow at and operation of the Albany facility, and

WHEREAS, Taub Heating and Plumbing has extensive knowledge of this type of work, and the estimate of \$112,000 was determined to be fair and reasonable, and

WHEREAS, the Authority entered into an emergency contract with Taub to perform the required repairs, and now seeks retroactive approval of the emergency procurement.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Authority hereby approves a retroactive emergency water line repair contract to Taub Heating and Plumbing of Albany NY, for an amount not to exceed \$112,000, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract documents.
2. The Chief Executive Officer is hereby authorized to execute the contract documents.
3. The source of funds will be from internal capital funds.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting as Secretary of the Capital District Transportation Authority, certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Capital District Transportation Authority held on 30th day of October, 2024.

Dated: October 30, 2024

Michael J. Criscione, Vice-Chairman

Capital District Transportation Authority

Agenda Action Sheet

Subject: Emergency Procurement – Water Lateral Repair in Albany
Committee: Performance Monitoring/Audit
Meeting Date: October 23, 2024

Objective of Purchase or Service:

In March 2024, we identified water leaching up from underground near our entry gates at 110 Watervliet Avenue. The Albany Water department and Taub Heating and Plumbing were contacted to research the issue and develop a course of action.

Taub attempted to make the repairs but were only able to implement a temporary fix (due to weather). In subsequent months, CDTA staff, Taub, and the Albany Water Department met and concluded that the water issue was the responsibility of CDTA, as the leak stemmed from the lateral supply that feeds our building. The City is only responsible for the water mains. It was further determined the valves and the underground chamber the houses the equipment need to be replaced.

Summary of Staff Proposal:

After staff defined a scope of work, Taub provided an estimate which was in line with historical pricing for this type of project. Taub is providing a “wet tap” repair to the lateral line, which allows CDTA uninterrupted access to the supply, rather than having to shut down the water for several days.

This needed to be completed as soon as possible so that the surface can be returned to drivable blacktop. Any delay (or bidding) for this work would not allow for the resurfacing to be completed until April 2025.

Taub heating and plumbing has extensive knowledge of this work, having been the vendor to triage the issue and they have worked directly with the City of Albany Water Department to determine the best course of action for repairs.

Financial Summary/Cost:

The estimate to complete the water lateral repair work at 110 Watervliet Avenue is \$112,000. This will be covered by internal capital funds.

Proposed Action:

I recommend a retroactive approval of a contract to repair the water laterals at 110 Watervliet Avenue with Taub Heating & Plumbing of Albany, NY for an amount not to exceed \$112,000.

Manager:

Jeremy Smith, Director of Facilities

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Staff Contract Award Certification

1. **TYPE OF CONTRACT (check one):**

Construction & Maintenance ___ Goods, Commodities & Supplies ___ Bus Purchase
___ Services & Consultants ___ Transportation & Operational Services

2. **TERMS OF PERFORMANCE (check one):**

One-Shot Deal: Complete scope and fixed value
___ Fixed Fee For Services: Time and materials - open value
___ Exclusive Purchase Contract: Fixed cost for defined commodity with indefinite quantity
___ Open Purchase Contract: Commitment on specifications and price but no obligation to buy
___ Change Order: Add on to existing contract

3. **CONTRACT VALUE:**

\$112,000 (Not to Exceed)

4. **PROCUREMENT METHOD (check one):**

___ Request for Proposals (RFP) ___ Invitation for Bids (IFB) ___ Other

5. **TYPE OF PROCEDURE USED (check one):**

___ Micro Purchases (Purchases up to \$2,499.00) ___ Small Purchases (\$25,000 up to \$100,000)
___ Sealed Bid/Invitation for Bids (IFB) (Over \$100,000) ___ Request for Proposals (RFP)
___ Professional Services (Over \$25,000) Sole or Single Source (Non-Competitive)-(Emergency)

6. **SELECTION CRITERION USED:**

Number of Proposals/Bids Solicited # 1 or **Advertised**
Number of Proposals/Bids Received # 1

Attach Summary of Bids/Proposals

7. **Disadvantaged/Minority Women’s Business Enterprise (D/MWBE) involvement**

Are there known D/MWBEs that provide this good or service?	Yes	<u>No</u>	
Number of D/MWBEs bidding/proposing		<u>0</u>	
D/MWBE Certification on file?	Yes	No	<u>Not Applicable</u>
Was contract awarded to a D/MWBE?	Yes	<u>No</u>	
Number of D/MWBE Subcontractors		_____	

8. **LEGAL NAME and ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR/VENDOR:** **Taub Heating & Plumbing**

388 Elk Street
Albany, NY 12206

8. **SOURCE OF FUNDS:** Capital Plan

9. **COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL RULES:**

Non-Collusion Affidavit of Bidder	(<u>Yes</u> , No, N/A)
Disclosure & Certificate of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations	(<u>Yes</u> , No, N/A)
Disclosure of Contacts (only RFPs)	(Yes, No, <u>N/A</u>)
Certification with FTA’s Bus Testing Requirements	(Yes, No, <u>N/A</u>)

10. **RESPONSIBLE STAFF CERTIFIES THE INTEGRITY OF THIS PROCUREMENT/CONTRACT:**

Stacy Sansky, Director of Procurement DATED: **October 23, 2024**

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION No. 31 - 2024

Approve Purchase of Auto and General Liability Insurance Excess Coverage

WHEREAS, the Capital District Transportation Authority (“Authority”) is exposed to various risks of loss associated with its property and transit operations, and

WHEREAS, New York Public Authorities Law section 1306 (15) empowers the Authority to insure its property or operations as the Authority may deem advisable, and

WHEREAS, the Authority, by Resolution No. 19-2007 has embarked upon a strategy of contracted insurance brokerage services where the broker shops the coverage, and

WHEREAS, the Authority has resolved to self-insure to the extent of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) and to secure Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000) of excess coverage at an annual premium for the coverage that Authority deems necessary and appropriate for its needs; and

WHEREAS, as the result of the efforts to shop the desired coverage levels, only one quote was received and it has been determined that it is in the best interests of the Authority to accept the quote for Eight Million Dollars of excess Automobile and General Liability damage coverage from American Alternative Insurance Corporation of Princeton, NJ, with a proposed annual premium of \$559,880, and the quote for an additional Five Million Dollars of excess Automobile and General Liability damage coverage from Allied World National Assurance Company of New York, NY, with a proposed annual premium of \$176,375, and the Non-Certified Acts of Terrorism coverage from Lloyd’s of London Insurance Company of New York, NY for \$18,467, for a total annual premium cost not to exceed \$754,722, that will take effect November 10, 2024 through November 9, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Authority hereby authorizes the purchase of Eight Million Dollars of Automobile and General Liability excess insurance for the policy period covering November 10, 2024 to November 9, 2025 from American Alternative Insurance Corporation of Princeton, NJ, at a cost of \$559,880, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.
2. The Authority hereby authorizes the purchase of Five Million Dollars of additional Automobile and General Liability excess insurance for the policy period covering November 10, 2024 to November 9, 2025 from Allied World Assurance Company of New York, NY, at a cost of \$176,375, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

3. The Authority hereby authorizes the purchase of Non-Certified Acts of Terrorism coverage from Lloyd's of London Insurance Company for \$18,467, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.
4. The total annual premium for Thirteen Million Dollars of excess Automobile and General Liability coverage, including Non-Certified Acts of Terrorism coverage, shall not exceed \$754,722.
5. Authority Staff is hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents.
6. The source of funds for this insurance shall be FY2025/26 Operating Budgets.
7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting as Secretary of the Capital District Transportation Authority, certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Capital District Transportation Authority held on the 30th day of October, 2024.

Dated: October 30, 2024

Micheal J. Criscione, Vice-Chairman

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Agenda Action Proposal

Subject: Auto & General Liability Insurance
Committee: Performance Monitoring/Audit
Committee Meeting Date: October 23, 2024

Objective: Auto & General Liability provides insurance protection for claims of injury and damage to people and property of others caused by the operation of our business. NFP Corp, our broker, obtained proposals for this insurance. We have a \$2 million self-insured retention (SIR) policy with \$13 million in excess coverage above our SIR. The SIR is like a deductible; we pay the first \$2 million of any claim.

Excess coverage is purchased in two layers above our \$2 million SIR. The first layer is an excess policy of \$8 million and the second layer is a \$5 million policy; total excess coverage is \$13 million.

We are included in the transportation insurance market for pricing, which includes trucking and rail industries. For the past several years, the loss experience in the market has not been good and markets have reflected this experience with large premium increases, or in many cases, they decline to quote altogether.

Summary of Proposal: NFP approached 36 markets but received only one proposal for our primary excess layer (\$8 million) and one proposal for our second excess layer (\$5 million). Although markets expressed interest because of our good loss experience, market underwriters indicate that our price points as too low and they cannot match our incumbent's premium.

American Alternative (incumbent) provided a renewal quote of \$559,880 for the first \$8 million layer of excess insurance. Allied World Assurance (incumbent) quoted on the second \$5 million-layer for \$176,375. We also purchase coverage for Non-Certified Acts of Terrorism with Lloyds of London (incumbent) for \$18,467. This policy covers both the Liability and our Auto Physical Damage insurance program.

Finance Summary and Source of Funds: The cost for Auto & General Liability Insurance is not to exceed \$754,722 and is included in our annual operating budget. The premiums represent an 8% increase and are effective for one-year starting on November 10, 2024.

Proposed Action:

I recommend a contract to American Alternative of Princetown, N.J. for the first \$8 million layer of excess coverage for \$559,880; I recommend a contract for the second layer of excess coverage of \$5 million to Allied World Assurance of New York, N.Y. for \$176,375; and I recommend a contract for Non-Certified Acts of Terrorism coverage to Lloyds of London Insurance of New York, N.Y. at a cost of \$18,467.

Manager:

Jack Grogan, Director of Risk Management

Lead Excess Liability - \$8,000,000:

American Alternative Insurance Corporation
555 College Road East
Princeton, NJ 08543

Excess Liability - \$5,000,000 above the \$8,000,000:

Allied World Assurance Company
199 Water Street
New York, New York 10038

Non-Certified Acts of Terrorism – Excess General Liability and Auto Liability:

Lloyd's of London
520 Madison Avenue 32nd Floor
New York, New York 10022

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION No. 32 - 2024

Approve Purchase of Auto Physical Damage Insurance

WHEREAS, the Capital District Transportation Authority (“Authority”) is exposed to various risks of loss associated with its property and transit operations, and

WHEREAS, New York Public Authorities Law section 1306 (15) empowers the Authority to insure its property or operations as the Authority may deem advisable, and

WHEREAS, the Authority, by Resolution No. 19-2007 has embarked upon a strategy of contracted insurance brokerage services where the broker shops the coverage, and

WHEREAS, the Authority desires to insure its fleet of vehicles at a value of Ninety Five Million Dollars (\$95,000,000.00) with a maximum of Sixty Million Dollars (\$60,000,000.00) per occurrence with deductibles ranging from Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) for service vehicles to Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for buses;

WHEREAS, three quotes were received for three coverage layers providing \$60,000,000 in total coverage, and

WHEREAS, Lexington Insurance Company of Boston, MA proposed for the first \$25,000,000 layer of coverage at a total annual premium of \$316,492, and

WHEREAS, Ascot Insurance Company of New York, NY proposed for \$15,000,000 of excess coverage at a total annual premium of \$103,000, and

WHEREAS, Starr Surplus Lines Insurance Company of New York, NY proposed for an additional \$20,000,000 of excess coverage at a total annual premium of \$74,803, and

WHEREAS, the proposed premiums are all fair and reasonable.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Authority hereby authorizes the purchase of automobile physical damage insurance for the policy period covering November 10, 2024 to November 9, 2025 from Lexington Insurance Company of Boston, MA, for the first \$25 million of coverage, for a total annual premium cost of \$316,492, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.
2. The Authority hereby authorizes the purchase of \$15 million excess automobile physical damage insurance for the policy period covering November 10, 2024 to November 9, 2025 from Ascot Insurance Company of New York, NY for a total annual premium cost of \$103,000 subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

3. The Authority hereby authorizes the purchase of \$20 million excess automobile physical damage insurance for the policy period covering November 10, 2024 to November 9, 2025 from Starr Surplus Lines Insurance Company of New York, NY for a total annual premium cost of \$74,803, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.
4. Authority Staff is authorized to execute all necessary documents.
5. The source of funds for this insurance shall be the FY2025/26 Operating Budgets.
6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting as Secretary of the Capital District Transportation Authority, certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Capital District Transportation Authority held on the 30th day of October, 2024.

Dated: October 30, 2024

Micheal J. Criscione, Vice-Chairman

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Agenda Action Proposal

Subject: Auto Physical Damage Insurance
Committee: Performance Monitoring/Audit
Committee Meeting Date: October 23, 2024

Objective: Auto Physical Damage provides insurance for vehicles in the event of fire, theft, vandalism, collision and natural perils. It is rated and priced based on the dollar value of our fleet. The current value of our fleet is about \$95 million with our fleet garaged at four locations. We have a \$60,000,000 per occurrence limit with deductibles ranging from \$2,500 dollars for service vehicles to \$20,000 for buses.

Summary of Staff Proposal: NFP Corp, our broker, approached several markets and received one proposal from our incumbent, Lexington Insurance, one quote from Ascot Insurance Company (new carrier) and one quote from Star Surplus Lines. Exhibit A summarizes the program components.

We received three proposals with three layers that provide \$60 million in coverage. Lexington Insurance proposed a 4.3% increase to the rate per \$100 of value, from \$0.29 to 0.31. The insurance limit is \$25 million for a premium of \$316,492, and it includes a 1% increase in fleet value. Ascot Insurance Company is a new carrier to us; they are providing a \$15 million excess of \$25 million limit layer for \$103,000. This year Starr Surplus would only quote the excess coverage of a \$40 million limit, hence the need for Ascot Insurance. Starr Surplus quoted the \$20 million excess layer of \$40 million for \$74,803.

Finance Summary and Source of Funds: The one-year cost of the Auto Physical Damage Insurance is \$494,296 and it is included in our annual operating budget. This represents a 7% increase from last year.

Proposed Action:

I recommend the following one-year contracts to:

- 1) Lexington Insurance Company of Boston, MA for the first \$25 million layer for Auto Physical Damage coverage for \$316,492 effective November 10, 2024.
- 2) Ascot Insurance Company of New York, NY for the \$15 million excess of \$25 million layer of Auto Physical Damage coverage for \$103,000 effective November 10, 2024.
- 3) Starr Surplus Lines Insurance Company of New York, NY for the \$20 million excess of \$35 million layer of Auto Physical Damage coverage for \$74,803 effective November 10, 2024.

Project Manager:

Jack Grogan, Director of Risk Management

EXHIBIT A
Auto Physical Damage Insurance

2024-25 Lexington Insurance Program
(Insurance Rating A – Non-Admitted)

Program Components	Insurance Coverage
Per Occurrence Limit	\$25,000,000
Loss per Vehicle	\$980,000
Service Vehicle Deductible	\$2,500
Bus Deductible	\$20,000
Rate per \$100 of Value	\$0.31035
Premium	\$316,492

2024-25 Ascot Insurance Company (Part two)
(Insurance Rating A – Admitted)

Program Components	Insurance Coverage
Excess Auto Property Limit	\$15,000,000 Excess of \$25,000,000
Premium	\$103,000

2024-25 Starr Surplus Lines Insurance Company (Part three)
(Insurance Rating A – Non-Admitted)

Program Components	Insurance Coverage
Excess Auto Property Limit	\$20,000,000 Excess of \$40,000,000
Premium	\$74,803

Total Premium = \$494,296

CAPITAL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION No. 33 - 2024

Approve FY2025 Budget Adjustment

WHEREAS, the Capital District Transportation Authority (the “Authority”) is required by Public Authorities law sections 1305-a and 1306 to prepare and file an annual budget; and

WHEREAS, by way of Resolution 06, the Authority adopted the FY2025 Operating Budget, and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the FY2025 Operating Budget, positive changes in revenue have necessitated modification of the overall budget amount, and

WHEREAS, the Authority now desires to adjust the FY2025 Operating Budget to account for a \$1.5 million increase in STOA, making the following changes:

- Increase the customer revenue line by \$1.6 million to \$21.7 million.
- Increase the STOA line by \$1.5 million to \$65.9 million.
- Increase the Wage line by \$2.9 million to recognize accurate wage projections.
- Increase the facilities line by \$225,000 to \$3.6 million, to reflect increases in parking revenue.
- Increase payroll taxes by \$450,000 to \$4.8 million.

WHEREAS, staff recommends a \$3.4 million budget adjustment to increase the FY2025 operating budget to \$139,100,931

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Authority hereby approves and adopts the adjusted FY2025 Operating Budget of \$139,100,931, as attached.
2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting as Secretary of the Capital District Transportation Authority, certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Capital District Transportation Authority held on 30th day of October, 2024.

Dated: October 30, 2024

Micheal J. Criscione, Vice-Chairman

Capital District Transportation Authority

Agenda Action Sheet

Subject: FY2025 Budget Adjustment
Committee: Strategic and Operational Planning Committee
Meeting Date: October 24, 2024

Objective of Purchase or Service:

Adjust the FY2025 operating budget to recognize additional State Operating Assistance (STOA) approved by the state after the fiscal year began. The adjustment will also increase the wage line based on the results of the first half of the fiscal year.

Summary of Staff Proposal:

The budget that the board approved for fiscal year 2025 is \$135.7 million. After six months of operating results, staff is recommending that we make a mid-year adjustment to the budget. The recommendation comes about because the final state budget provided more state operating assistance (STOA) than we included in our budget. Additionally, we are recommending that we increase the customer and facilities revenue lines based on higher-than-expected results.

We are also recommending an adjustment to the wage line. Recruiting and retention challenges continue to cause significant fluctuations in employment levels; our new labor contract contained considerable wage-related changes that were difficult for us to project, and the addition of Warren County services and the associated service hours was new to us. These elements contributed to a unique set of budget complexities that impacted the wage line. We did not capture all of this, and our forecasts were off significantly. For these reasons we are recommending an increase to the wage line.

We propose to make the following changes to the budget:

- Increase the customer revenue line by \$1.6 million to \$21.7 million; this 8% adjustment recognizes the continuing increases in ridership and revenue, mostly from Universal Access accounts.
- Increase the facilities line by \$225,000 to \$3.6 million; this 6.6% adjustment recognizes increases in parking revenue at the JLB Rail Station.
- Increase the state operating assistance (STOA) line by \$1.5 million to \$65.9 million. STOA now represents 47% of our revenue.
- Increase the wage line by \$2.9 million to \$67.1 million. This 4.6% increase recognizes factors in the wage projections that were not accurate when the board approved the budget in late March.
- Increase payroll taxes by \$450,000 to \$4.8 million.

I have attached a composite document with the recommended changes to the budget plan.

Financial Summary/Cost:

The operating budget will increase by \$3.4 million increase (2.5%). The revised spending plan for FY2025 now totals \$139,199,931, with revenues matching expenses.

Proposed Action:

I recommend a \$3.4 million budget adjustment that will increase the FY2025 operating budget to \$139,100,931.

Manager:

Mike Collins, Vice President of Finance & Administration

**Capital District Transportation Authority
FY2025 Operating Budget Adjustment
September 27, 2024**

Revenue Item	FY2025 Budget	Budget Adjustment	Adjusted Budget	% Change
Mortgage Tax	\$12,650,000	\$0	\$12,650,000	0.0%
Customer Revenue	\$20,117,699	\$1,600,000	\$21,717,699	8.0%
Advertising	\$1,775,000	\$0	\$1,775,000	0.0%
RRS and Facilities Income	\$3,422,908	\$225,000	\$3,647,908	6.6%
Other	\$189,500	\$0	\$189,500	0.0%
Federal Assistance	\$28,905,923	\$0	\$28,905,923	0.0%
State Operating Assistance	\$64,395,100	\$1,580,300	\$65,975,400	2.5%
County Assistance	\$1,917,001	\$0	\$1,917,001	0.0%
Grants	\$2,322,500	\$0	\$2,322,500	0.0%
Total Revenue	\$135,695,631	\$3,405,300	\$139,100,931	2.5%
Expense Item	FY2025 Budget	Budget Adjustment	Adjusted Budget	% Change
Wages	\$64,138,320	\$2,955,300	\$67,093,620	4.6%
Payroll Taxes	\$4,414,100	\$450,000	\$4,864,100	10.2%
Health Benefits	\$13,388,415	\$0	\$13,388,415	0.0%
Workers' Compensation	\$2,986,718	\$0	\$2,986,718	0.0%
Other Benefits	\$5,015,485	\$0	\$5,015,485	0.0%
Professional Services	\$6,975,162	\$0	\$6,975,162	0.0%
Materials and Supplies	\$2,055,023	\$0	\$2,055,023	0.0%
Miscellaneous	\$1,099,883	\$0	\$1,099,883	0.0%
Maintenance Services	\$4,803,631	\$0	\$4,803,631	0.0%
Purchased Transportation	\$12,816,000	\$0	\$12,816,000	0.0%
Utilities	\$1,549,000	\$0	\$1,549,000	0.0%
Fuel	\$7,735,009	\$0	\$7,735,009	0.0%
Parts Tires Oil	\$7,031,025	\$0	\$7,031,025	0.0%
General Insurance	\$1,212,860	\$0	\$1,212,860	0.0%
Claims	\$475,000	\$0	\$475,000	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$135,695,631	\$3,405,300	\$139,100,931	2.5%
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$0	\$0	\$0	



Memorandum

October 30, 2024

To: Chairman of the Board
Board Members

From: Chief Executive Officer

Subject: CEO Report for October

Overview

We are enjoying a beautiful fall with plenty of sunshine and above normal temperatures. The fall season showcases the beauty of the Capital Region, and it reminds us of why this is a great place to live, work and raise a family.

At the same time, the CDTA family continues to work together to push CDTA forward. We are doing things that others are not, and we are leading the way in the development of mobility initiatives that capture people's attention and build awareness and recognition for CDTA. This work is a contributing factor to our company success and financial strength.

A major component of our branding work is the development of a community profile. We work on this constantly, integrating ourselves into the fabric of the Capital Region. This work has made us a valued community partner, a thought leader, and a developer of innovative ideas, programs and services. Everyone at CDTA plays a part in this work and it has been an evolution that has taken nearly 20 years to accomplish. Our success is clearly driven by the CDTA brand, and I am proud to have been a part of this amazing transformation.

Our brand development has many parts but is most evident in our community outreach, which is intentional, thoughtful, and strategic. Examples of this include our support for the American Cancer Society. During October, two pink buses become sought after commodities with appearance schedules that rival any celebrity. The annual CDTA Pink Bus Pull brings out teams and supporters from the business, academic and public safety communities. Lastly and most important – the month of pink is fully supported by CDTA employees who give, volunteer and participate in ACS activities, taking advantage of their services whenever needed.

Our work includes being active members of chambers of commerce, business improvement districts, neighborhood associations and community groups. It involves volunteering our time and expertise on area boards and civic organizations, and it includes meetings and discussions with elected officials, legislative leaders, and agency staff members to highlight the importance of transit systems and the work we do. We do this for CDTA, for our state and national associations and others to highlight the need to connect people and communities. We have had much success in this regard, and it is based on a commitment to telling our story and focusing on the benefits of more and better mobility.

Over the past month, board members and our staff attended the APTA Transform conference in California and the NYPTA conference and trade show in Buffalo. Our board members are executive committee officers at APTA, and we are proud of Jaime Kazlo who was elected as the

Chairwoman of the Marketing, Communications and Customer Service Committee. Jaime will serve a two-year term. Our staff holds officer positions at NYPTA and are regular participants at conferences, on panels and at educational sessions. We view these activities as opportunities to share information, to learn about best practices and to position CDTA in our industry. Thank you to everyone who does this work.

The annual CDTA Fall Festival returned a few weeks ago when we welcomed hundreds of elementary school students from Albany and Watervliet. We choose urban districts because many of their students cannot go on field trips where there is a fee involved (The Fall Festival is free of charge). This was the seventh annual festival which is designed to engage students and help them to understand what CDTA does and how we connect them and their families. It connects us with our first response partners and positions CDTA as a community partner. It was also great to attend our bus and maintenance team rodeo. The pandemic paused the event, and this was the right time to bring back it back. The rodeo showcases the skills and talent of our operators and technicians and gives them a chance to have some friendly competition. Great work by everyone involved and congratulations to the winners – Troy bus operator Brian O’Connell and the maintenance team of Victor Singh, Antonio Dente and Omesh Satdeo.

All this work - the branding, the outreach and the events bolster and sharpen the image of CDTA throughout our community and with hundreds of stakeholders and partners. But it works because of our impressive results – ridership, customer ratings and community value scores. All of these are positive and trending up. For the month of September, there were 1.7 million boardings on our system. That is the highest monthly total that we can confirm. Once we rightsized service after the pandemic, our ridership has risen consistently, with double digit increases for the past 12-18 months. For the first six months of the fiscal year, ridership totaled 9.3 million. That is 19% more than the same time last year and it projects to 18 million for the year. We have recovered all ridership from the pandemic period, with increases across the system and on all our mobility options. Most of the increase is found on our three BRT lines and trunk routes which are the backbone of the system. These routes support our fantastic Universal Access program, with its 60 partners. These services feature outstanding frequencies and wide spans that customers can depend on and build their lives around. This is a staple of CDTA service design, and it is the fuel that drives the system and our results.

Bus Rapid Transit, trunk routes and Universal Access is supported by neighborhood services, an outstanding paratransit service (STAR) and new mobility options, like FLEX on-demand, CDPHP *Cycle!* and DRIVE. Our menu is complimentary and designed to support the system and make travel easy and convenient for customers. I am proud of this unique menu of services and programs, which are generating success and attention from others across New York state.

Our work to modernize and expand our Schenectady facility, is the motivation for acquiring the Daily Gazette building on Maxon Road. We are completing the final checklist, most of which involves requirements with federal partners. A purchase agreement is in place, and we will retain lease agreements with existing tenants. The Gazette staff will stay in the building, and we have finalized a lease agreement with them. We expect to close on the property in the coming weeks.

It was great to cut the ribbon on our Liberty Square Mobility Hub in Troy earlier this week. Lots of interest in what we do to be part of urban development and integrate CDTA into neighborhoods. A bit of a delay with the Hub at St. Peter’s Hospital, mostly due to shelters on back-order. We expect to open that Hub in the coming weeks. The hubs are focal points for CDTA, our customers and communities – providing easy access to our services and programs.

Performance Measures

Key Performance indicators were reviewed at committee meetings. Data for these reports covers the month of September and is compared to September 2023. This marks the halfway point of our fiscal year, and it is a good time to assess our budget projections. We are in good financial shape, and I am pleased that the board will approve a budget adjustment to better focus our financial plan. Ridership continues to surge along with corresponding increases in revenue. We know the wage line needs attention, and our staff is committed to fine-tuning the assumptions we make and better understand how contractual changes drive forecasts for this line.

The operating statistics that we regularly report on continue to be good. This includes safety, on time performance and maintenance indicators. We are investigating a small but steady decrease in on-time performance. At first glance, ridership and capacity loads appear to be pushing this, but we need better answers and the development of ways to make improvements.

Total expenses were 3% under budget in September. Most of this is because of catch-up payments from workers compensation. The wage line was 3% over budget. This should be corrected with the adoption of the budget adjustment. Most of the other expense lines are where they should be at this stage of the year. On the revenue side, Universal Access continues to drive ridership and revenue. More facility revenue is due to parking collections at the JLB Rail Station.

Revenue:

- Total operating revenue was 4% over budget.
- MRT receipts were \$975,000, 7% under budget.
- Customer revenue was \$1.87 million, 11% over budget.
- Facility revenue was \$303,000, 6% over budget.

Expenses:

- Total expenses were 3% under budget.
- Salaries and wages were 3% over budget.
- Claims and Workers Compensation payments were under budget (catch up payments).
- Purchased Transportation was 1% over budget.

Ridership Statistics:

- Total ridership was 1.7 million; 17% more than last September.
- STAR ridership was 30,250; 2% more than last September.
- FLEX ridership was 10,950; 5% less than last September.
- NX ridership was 7,000; 6% more than last September.

Maintenance/Transportation Statistics:

- We missed .35% of all trips (280).
- There were 42 accidents with 21 categorized as preventable.
- Scheduled maintenance work was at 80%.
- On time performance for fixed route service was 67%. STAR operated within our 10-minute scheduling window 74% of the time.

Customer Service:

- Our call center processed 218 comments. There were 61 comments about STAR service.
- There were 821,000 page views at www.cdda.org.

Activity Report

Our work in the community has been on full display for the past month and it will continue through the holiday season. This work connects us to what is important to the Capital Region and the people who live and work here. This work promotes CDTA and engages our employees, customers and partners. Lots of work to make this happen.

- On Wednesday, September 25, I attended a meeting of the CBA Board of Trustees. This was our first meeting of the school year, and we heard reports on enrollment, academic curriculum and institutional advancement. Enrollment is at a 20-year high, and the school is thriving. Many CBA students use CDTA services to travel to and from campus.
- On Thursday, September 26, I joined NYPTA leaders in a meeting with NYS Division of the Budget staff. We talked about the work of our member systems and their financial situation. This was the first of many meetings as we work towards adoption of the state budget for FY 2025-26.
- On Thursday, September 26, I was pleased to attend the CDTA Roadeo at the McCarty Avenue lot in Albany. This was the first time the Roadeo was held since 2019 (paused by the pandemic). Nearly 30 bus operators competed, with Troy Operator Brian O'Connell capturing first place. Twelve technicians participated in the maintenance version of the Roadeo with the team of Victor Singh, Antonio Dente and Omesh Satdeo taking first place. Thanks to our partners in law enforcement who judged the obstacles and two dozen CDTA volunteers who made the event move smoothly. Special thanks to Stacy Sansky who organized the details for the day.
- On Friday, September 27, I was pleased to participate in a panel discussion as part of the Rensselaer Chamber of Commerce Leadership Institute. More than two dozen emerging leaders are enrolled in the program. Our panel talked about management, decision making and leadership.
- On Wednesday, October 2, I was interviewed by a WNYT reporter about our Pink Buses. Two Pink buses travel throughout the region during October, raising awareness about breast cancer and the work that the American Cancer Society does.
- On Thursday, October 3, I was interviewed by several media outlets about our video mirror pilot. We are leading the way in this safety advancement and hope to move towards system-wide adoption.
- On Friday, October 4, we welcomed more than 400 elementary school students to 110 Watervliet Avenue for our 7th annual Fall Festival. This event combines CDTA fun, education about CDTA, and our first response partners. It has morphed into a great day that is anticipated by teachers, students and CDTA employees. Great job by Jaime Kazlo, Emily DeVito and their team for making this a showcase day.
- On Monday, October 7, we welcomed members of the Capital Region Chamber's Leadership Class to CDTA. This group of emerging professionals is interested in advancing their careers and learning more about organizational structure and leadership.

- On Tuesday, October 8, I joined NYPTA leadership in a meeting with staff from the Governor's office. We talked about the work our members are doing and the success of new mobility initiatives. State Operating Assistance and the capital needs of systems was an important part of our discussion. More meetings to follow.
- On Wednesday, October 9, I spent time with Steve Mann and members of Senator Schumer's Washington D.C. staff. We talked about the work we do and some of the innovations we have advanced. The Senator's staff has been helpful to us, and I thanked them for the work they have done on behalf of our projects, most notably BRT.
- On Thursday, October 10, I joined our staff at the Albany Business Review's Women Who Mean Business awards at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy. I was joined by several staff members.
- On Friday, October 11, I joined Troy Mayor Carmella Mantello in the first scooter ride throughout downtown Troy. We piloted scooters in Troy for the weekend as part of our month-long pilot program.
- On Tuesday, October 15, I traveled to Buffalo to attend a meeting of the New York Public Transit Association Board of Directors. The meeting kicked off our annual conference and trade show.
- On Wednesday, October 16, I chaired a joint meeting of NYPTA's Legislative and Communications committees. The intent of this meeting was to begin the development of messaging for our advocacy work. This work will continue for several months.
- On Wednesday, October 16, I attended NYPTA's annual conference and trade show in Buffalo. I visited with vendors, suppliers and consultants who support the work we do at CDTA. Several members of our staff attended the conference, and they participated in committee meetings and educational sessions.
- On Friday, October 18, we held our ninth annual PINK Bus Pull to support the American Cancer Society. It's hard to think that this event can get bigger and better, but it does, thanks to the work of Jaime Kazlo, Emily DeVito and their extended team. We welcomed 15 teams to our Albany garage. Once again, the Albany Fire Department took first place, followed by the Siena Baseball Team and the Albany County Sheriff's Office.
- On Sunday, October 20, Jaime Kazlo and I accepted the Pillar of Hope Award from the American Cancer Society. The award was presented at the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Albany's Washington Park. More than 10,000 people attended the event. I was honored to cut the ribbon to start the walk.
- On Monday, October 21, I welcomed nine bus operator trainees to CDTA. We talked about the work they will do and some of the things they will enjoy at CDTA. Hats off to our Human Resource staff – they are getting people in the door; we continue to look for ways to ensure employee retention.

- On Monday, October 21, Lisa Marrello and I met with NYS Division of the Budget staff. We talked about the work we do at CDTA, our impressive results, along with our operating and capital needs. More meetings to follow.
- On Monday, October 21, I joined my fellow United Way board members at a strategic planning session. This strategic plan will set the mission and vision for the organization over the next three years.
- On Monday, October 21, I attended a meeting of the Colonie IDA and LDC boards. We adopted 2025 budgets for both boards, and we heard a presentation for development near the Albany International Airport.
- On Monday, October 28, I attended a ribbon cutting for our new Mobility Hub at Liberty Square in Troy. Great to have Jayme Lahut and Pat Lance there along with local and state elected leaders.
- On Monday, October 28, Lisa Marello and I met with Assembly members John McDonald and Pat Fahy. We talked about the work we do, specifically our ridership success and expansion of Universal Access. These two members are among our strongest supporters, and they lead the upstate caucus in supporting transit across the I-90 corridor.
- On Tuesday, October 29, we hosted 30 students from an HVCC Business Concepts class at Albany High. They were here to learn about CDTA careers and to understand their opportunities in their future. The visit helps students to be comfortable in a professional environment and to practice soft skills that employers look for, like shaking hands, active listening, and engaging in conversation with adults they are not familiar with.
- Earlier today, I joined NYPTA leaders and staff from the MTA to talk about integrating our capital plan into the MTA capital plan. We will go forward with this and anticipate discussions with legislative leaders and agency officials over the next few months.

Final Thoughts

Our company is evolving, and our efforts are paying off. New programs and services are driving ridership to near-record levels, and we're seizing the opportunities ahead. This work requires time, effort, and a dedication to excellence. Thank you to everyone working hard to make CDTA bigger, better, and bolder!

CDTA Provides Mobility Solutions that Connect the Region's Communities