



DENTON COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION
AUTHORITY

**Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.**

The Board of Directors of the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) convened a Regular Board of Directors Meeting with Acting Chair Jaworski presiding on Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 10:00am, located at the DCTA Administrative Offices, 1955 Lakeway Drive, Suite 260, Lewisville, Texas 75057.

Voting Members

Chair Andy Eads, Denton County
Vice-Chair TJ Gilmore, City of Lewisville
Secretary Daniel Jaworski, City of Highland Village
Board Member Cesar Molina, Denton County
Board Member Suzi Rumohr, City of Denton

Alternates

Board Member Jody Gonzalez, Denton County
Board Member Kristin Green, City of Lewisville
Board Member Pat Smith, City of Denton
Board Member Paul Stevens, City of Highland Village

Non-Voting Members

Board Member Dennie Franklin, City of Frisco
Board Member Jeremie Maurina, City of The Colony
Board Member Stephen Christo, Alternate - City of The Colony
Board Member Jared Eutsler, City of Corinth

Legal Counsel

Courtney Morris, Nichols Jackson

DCTA CEO

Paul A. Cristina

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Board Chair Jaworski called the meeting to order at 10:02am. All Board Members were present with the exception of Chair Eads, Vice Chair Gilmore, and Board Member Gonzalez. Board Member Stevens arrived at 10:05am.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Board Member Molina.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Directors recited the pledges to the United States and Texas flags.

INTRODUCTIONS

Acting Chair Jaworski announced that Courtney Morris of Nichols Jackson was attending the meeting in place of Joe Gorfida.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no individuals who wished to speak during the public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes Dated July 23, 2026
2. Consider Approval of Task Order #3 with River North Transit, LLC dba Via Transportation for GoZone Member City Demand Response Service for the Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to exceed \$12,232,863
3. Consider Approval of Task Order #4 with River North Transit, LLC dba Via Transportation for City of Frisco GoZone Demand Response Service for the Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to exceed \$2,900,232
4. Consider Approval of Task Order #4 with zTrip for City of Frisco Demand Response Paratransit Service for the Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$257,500
5. Consider Approval of Task Order #6 with Lyft for City of Frisco Demand Response Paratransit Services for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$11,845
6. Consider Approval of Task Order #7 with Lyft, Inc. for Coppell Mobility Services for On-Demand Rideshare for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$73,000
7. Consider Approval of Task Order #8 with Lyft, Inc. for University of North Texas (UNT) Late Night Service for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$118,450
8. Consider Approval of the Second Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement with the City of Allen for Collin County Rides Transit Services for a Period of Three (3) Years Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2029, with the Option for One (1) Additional Two (2) Year Period Expiring September 30, 2031, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$856,473 and Authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute Such Agreement

9. Consider Approval of the Second Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Fairview for Collin County Rides Transit Services for a Period of Three (3) Years Beginning on October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2029, with the Option for One (1) Additional Two (2) Year Period Expiring September 30, 2031, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$95,164 and Authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute Such Agreement
10. Consider Approval of Task Order #3 with zTrip for Collin County Rides Transit Services for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$360,630
11. Consider Approval of Task Order #5 with Lyft for Collin County Rides Transit Services for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$12,566
12. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute a Renewal of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement (EA) with SHI Government Solutions, Inc. through the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) Cooperative Contract DIR-CPO-5237, for a Period of Three Years Beginning September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2029, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$171,341.64
13. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute an Agreement with Sales Tax Assurance LLC d/b/a HdL Companies for Sales and Use Tax Compliance Review, Recovery, and Consulting Services for a Period of Three (3) years Beginning September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2029, with an Option for Two (2) Additional One (1) Year Terms Through August 31, 2031, in an Amount Not to Exceed a Fixed Cost of \$7,200 Annually, Plus Contingency for Recovered Sales Taxes
14. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute Two (2) Purchase Agreements with Swiftly, Inc. through Vertosoft, LLC utilizing The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Contract #250106 — for Onboard Technology Hardware, Installation, Commissioning, and Licensing for Nine (9) Bus Fleet Vehicles in an Amount of \$160,512.13

Motion by Board Member Rumohr and a second by Board Member Molina to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passes 4-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Discuss and Consider Approval of Monthly Financial Statement, Grants Report and Investment Report for the Period Ending June 30, 2026, and Receive an Update Regarding Finance Operations**

LaKeisha Williams, Senior Manager of Accounting, Jane F., Senior Manager of Budget and Derick Sibley, VP of Finance presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- Monthly Financial Revenue Report
- Monthly Financial Expenditures Report
- Total Revenues and Expenses
- Grants Report for Quarter 3 of Fiscal Year 2026
- Investment Report
- Quarterly Investment Report

Motion by Board Member Molina with a second by Board Member Green to approve Regular Agenda Item 1 as presented. Motion passes 4-0.

2. Conduct a Public Hearing and Consider Approval of a Resolution to Adopt the Proposed Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Operating and Capital Budget, Long-Range Financial Plan, and Budget Contingency Plan Beginning October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027

Acting Chair Jaworski opened the Public Hearing at 10:53am and closed the Public Hearing at 10:53am as there were no comments from the public.

Jane Filarowicz, Senior Manager of Budget, and Derick Sibley, VP of Finance, presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- Next Steps – Public Hearing, Final Steps Preparing Budget, and First day of Fiscal Year 2027
- FY 2027 Budget Updates – Since July Board Meeting
- FY2027 Budget Summary
- FY2027 Recommended Balanced Budget (Revenue, Operating Expenses, Capital, Debit Service)
- Change in Net Position (Net Depreciation)
- Budget Increase (due to purchased transportation FY27 expenses)
- Total FY2027 Adopted Revenue
- Capital Improvement and Major Maintenance Plan
- TRiP Options for FY2027
- Long Range Financial Plan
- Revenue Options vs. Operating Expense
- DCTA Organizational Structure (FY27)
- FY27 Work Plan – Proposed

Board discussion included TRiP funds currently set aside, anticipated large expenditures in the next four to five years, opportunities to control expenses with the possibility of inflation, options of cash funding vs. financing, discussion regarding 15-minute frequencies, taking advantage of advancing projects to obtain more favorable cost savings through financing, A-train extension, costs associated with railroad operations, discussion of the 20 year long range financial plan, operational expenses associated with Downtown Carrollton and the potential use and application of Artificial Intelligence.

Motion by Board Member Molina with a second by Board Member Rumohr to approve a Resolution adopted the proposed Denton County Transportation Authority Fiscal Year 2027 Operating and Capital Budget beginning October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027, and Budget Contingency Plan, excluding the Long-Range Financial Plan which will be brought back at a future meeting. Motion passes 4-0.

3. Discuss and Consider Approval of Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Transportation Reinvestment Program (TRiP) Project Submission

Karina Maldonado, Planning Manager, presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- Definition of TRiP
- TRiP Available Funding Process (2026 Recap)
- FY26 TRiP Schedule
- Current TRiP Program Spending (FY21-25)
- FY26 Available Funding
- FY26 TRiP Application Requests Received
- City of Denton: Woodrow Lane/Trail Improvement

Board discussion regarding reimbursements, application process and how cities get involved in the program.

Motion by Board Member Rumohr with a second by Board Member Green to approve Regular Agenda Item 3 as presented. Motion passes 4-0.

4. Discuss and Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Apply for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Competitive Program with Local Matching Funds in the Amount of \$813,000 to Purchase Three (3) 35' Diesel Transit Buses at a Total Estimated Cost of \$2,913,000

Austin Frith, VP of Planning and Development and Dawn Jones, Revenue and Business Analytics Manager, presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- Peak Vehicle Needs by Route
- 35 Foot Bus Fleet Plan Update
- Program and Financial Summary
- Bus Price Increase: FY25 to FY26
- Evaluation Criteria and Considerations (6 evaluation criteria)
 - ✓ Demonstration of Need
 - ✓ Demonstration of Benefits
 - ✓ Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization
 - ✓ Local Financial Commitment
 - ✓ Project Implementation Strategy
 - ✓ Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity
- Timeline
 - ✓ Application Due – September 21, 2026
 - ✓ FTA Project Evaluations – September – December 2026
 - ✓ FTA Project Selections Announcement – December 2026
 - ✓ Pre-Award Authority – Ineligible unless authorized by FTA in writing
 - ✓ DCTA Obligation Timeline – Within 30 days of project inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Board discussion regarding development/refinement of the 20-year plan that mirrors the fleet plan; whether bus pricing varies based upon vehicle specifications (staff advised that there is no price difference); the timeline between grant application and award, working with other transit agencies to obtain volume discounts and the limited number of bus manufacturers.

Motion by Board Member Molina with a second by Board Member Green to approve Regular Agenda item 4 as presented. Motion passes 4-0.

5. Discuss Update on Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) Marketing and Communications Program

Randy Evans, Marketing and Communications Manager, presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- Focus in Fiscal Year 2026
- Social Media Sentiment (audience, impressions and engagements) – increase in these metrics proves growing public interest in DCTA and absorption of the message
- Increased Video Content (Focus – Value of DCTA, DCTA Employees, DCTA Customers and why and how customers ride)
- External Firm Resource Allocation (hours) – Social Media, Creative Elements, Video Production and Client Services

- Dcta.net Project Update
 - ✓ Crosswalk completed in June
 - ✓ Site Development Phase
 - ✓ Quality Assurance Phase
 - ✓ Beta Site Presentation – Targeted for September
- New Look for Buses and GoZone Vans
- A-train Corridor Study Map Next Step
 - ✓ 1:1 meetings with company contacts
 - ✓ Goal – Economic Development, A-train growth, Promote Employee Pass Promotion and Secure Onsite Tabling Events
- APTA AdWheel Award Winners
 - ✓ Grand Award - Best Marketing and Communications on Workforce Development
 - ✓ Only 3 Awards given in our ridership category
 - ✓ Will be awarded in October 2026 at APTA TRANSform & Expo – APTA's largest flagship event
 - ✓ First Place – Comprehensive Campaign – Presented in February 2026 at APTA MCX Workshop
- DCTA Customer Demographics – Initial Review
- Spring 2026 Customer Experience – Benchmarking Survey
- Net Promoter Score

Board discussion regarding the potential use of social media “influencers” in DCTA’s marketing efforts. Staff indicated that the use of influencers has been explored; however, found greater value featuring individuals who utilize DCTA services and noted that they need to carefully consider influencer costs to ensure a better return on investment. Discussion also included the A-train Corridor Study specifically wondering if cities are being engaged in the appropriate conversations.

The Board acknowledged the strong work being done by the Marketing and Communications team, especially on Social Media, and encouraged staff to continue those efforts.

No Board action required at this time.

6. Discuss Update on the A-train Enhancement Program

Austin Frith, VP of Planning and Development, presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- Upcoming Deliverables
 - ✓ August 2026 – PTC Assessment Update/Recommendations
 - ✓ September 2026 – Delivery Method Assessment
 - ✓ December 2026 – Final Cost Estimates/Funding Opportunities

- Alignment and PTC Decision Framework (Western Alignment and Existing Alignment)
- The 24-Hour Corridor – How The Day Gets Divided
- PTC Update – Evolution since February
- PTC Decision – Two Paths Evaluated
 - ✓ Recommended Options 1 + 2
 - Extend E-ATC now, convert to I-ETMS later
 - ✓ Not Carried Forward - Option 3
 - Dual-equip DGNO Locomotives with E-ATC
- Why Dual Equipping DGNO Locomotives Is Not A Viable Option
- Expanded Service Hours – Interim Options
- Next Steps/Path Forward
 - ✓ Proceed on the Western alignment and extend the existing E-ATC system
 - ✓ Program the I-ETMS conversion as a future, separately authorized phase
 - ✓ Deliver expanded service hours in the interim by bus bridge or GoZone
- Downtown Carrollton Design Update
- Upcoming Briefings
 - ✓ September 2026 – Delivery method assessment
 - ✓ December 2026- Final cost estimates and funding opportunities

Board discussion included a request for a cost comparison of the proposed options, and a preference for Option 2B, utilizing vans. The Board also discussed the potential for increased costs if action is delayed, impacts associated with the International Paper Mill closure, concerns regarding a water line, and ongoing conversations with the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

No Board action required at this time.

7. Discuss Update on McKinney Urban Transit District Demand Response Contract Service Opportunity

Paul Cristina, CEO, presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- McKinney Urban Transit District (MUTD) – Contracted Elderly and Disabled Demand Response Service
 - ✓ Six MUTD Board Members represent the following cities: Celina, Lowry Crossing, McKinney, Melissa, Princeton and Prosper
 - ✓ Service Hours – Weekday from 6am until 6pm
 - ✓ Service Hours – Weekend from 8am until 8pm
 - ✓ Service Eligibility – 65 or older or age 18 with qualifying disability
 - ✓ Currently operated by Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)

- ✓ McKinney issued a "Request for Presentations" with a proposed timeline of September 2 (deadline for requests for information/questions; September 16 (responses provided); September 21 (presentation documents due to City of McKinney); October 5 (presentations delivered to MUTD Board Meeting)
- ✓ Current Service Profile

Staff sought Board feedback on submitting a service plan and presentation in response to request that: provides service and financial proposal to MUTD under terms compliant with DCTA Board policy and is non-binding.

DCTA Board retains authority to approve or reject any Agreement that results from this effort. DCTA staff will keep the Board apprised on status as process moves forward.

The Board provided direction for staff to develop an appropriate response using its best judgment within confines of Board-approved policy in determining how to proceed.

8. Discuss Local and Regional Updates and Legislative Updates

No regional or legislative updates were discussed during this time.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

1. Safety, Service, and Ridership Reports – July 2025
2. Update on Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) Board of Director Terms
3. Update on Federal Legislative Consulting Services
4. Proposed 2027 Board of Directors Meeting Calendar

No Board action required. These items are for informational purposes only.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS

None at this time. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2026.

REPORT ON ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

No items of community interest at this time.

CONVENE EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not convene into Closed Executive Session.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

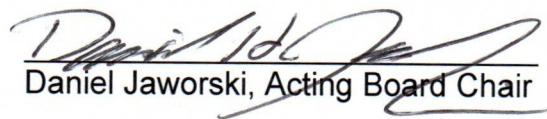
Not applicable.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27pm.



Cesar Molina, Acting Board Secretary



Daniel Jaworski, Acting Board Chair