



DENTON COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION
AUTHORITY

**Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.**

The Board of Directors of the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) convened a Regular Board of Directors Meeting with Chair Eads presiding on Thursday, September 24, 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

Joe Gorfida, Nichols Jackson

DCTA CEO

Paul A. Cristina

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10am. All Board Members were present with the exception of Vice Chair Gilmore, Board Members Gonzalez, Eutsler and Christo.

INVOCATION

CEO Paul Cristina provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions during this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No individuals wished to address the Board during this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes Dated August 27, 2026
2. Consider Approval of Monthly Financial Statement – July 31, 2026
3. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute a Contract with Optibus, Inc. Using the OMNIA Partners Contract #R240303 with Carahsoft Technology Corporation for Planning, Scheduling, and Operations Software Technology for a Period of Three (3) Years Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2029, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$273,544.36
4. Consider a Resolution Approving an Update to the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) Financial Management Policy
5. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute Task Order 03 with Ruby Media (dba DHD Films) for Marketing and Communications Support for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$300,000
6. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute Task Order 08 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for On-Call Architectural/Engineering Support for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$75,000
7. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Denton County Sheriff's Office for Law Enforcement Services for a Period of One (1) Year Beginning October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$471,760
8. Consider Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Execute a First Amended and Restated Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the University of North Texas (UNT) for Transportation Services for the Period of October 1, 2027, through September 30, 2029, with the Option to Renew for One (1) Two-Year Term Expiring September 30, 2031

Motion by Board Member Rumohr with a second by Board Member Molina to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passes 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Discuss and Consider Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Election of Board Officers

CEO Paul Cristina introduced the item recommending the Board elect a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. The following motions were made:

Motion by Board Member Molina with a second by Secretary Jaworski to elect Andy Eads as Chair. Motion passes 5-0.

Motion by Board Member Molina and a second by Board Member Rumohr to elect Dan Jaworski as Vice Chair. Motion passes 5-0.

Motion by Chair Eads with a second by Vice Chair Jaworski to elect Suzi Rumohr as Secretary. Motion passes 5-0.

The officers for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 are as follows:

***Andy Eads, Chair
Dan Jaworski, Vice Chair
Suzi Rumohr, Secretary***

2. Discuss and Consider Approval of a Resolution to Adopt the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) Transit Fare Policy and Receive an Update on Fare Products and Sales

CEO Paul Cristina advised the Board that this item is for discussion only. No Board action required at this time.

Derick Sibley, Vice President of Finance, presented to the Board highlighting the following:

- Transit Fare Policy – Governance (How fare decisions are made and the fare schedule governs what riders are charged – adopted separately by the Board). The policy does not change fares. Riders pay exactly what they pay today.
- Path: September 2025 (fare strategy study and policy development); March 2026 (fare policy development update); May 2026 (draft policy discussed with the Board); July 2026 (full draft reviewed – Board feedback invited); September 2026 (presented for Board review)
- What the policy delivers: Board-led, Compliant and Sustainable. Fair, Regional and Transparent.
- How fares are decided: Board (exclusive authority over the Fare Schedule, new fare structure types and every fare change). CEO (within the approved schedule; promotions up to 90 days, institutional and employer pass agreements and emergency fare suspension up to 30 days)

- Fare Structures and Affordability – Four Structures, Fare Capping, Reduced Fares and Free & Sponsored
- Managing & Enforcement – Performance, Changing a Fare, Enforcement and Regional
- Board Feedback Addressed
 - Do free fares apply to GoZone? Excluded from free-fare events, except Election Day trips to or from polling locations
 - How often are payment systems reviewed? Added – the list is now reviewed annually
 - Does the ADA Access Fare track the fixed-route fare? Set separately in the Fare Schedule; 2x fixed-route is a maximum
 - Non-profit discount – a set formula? Rate is set in the Fare Schedule, where the percentages are established
 - How is regional fare revenue attributed to DCTA? To be resolved in the DART/Trinity Metro Regional Agreement
 - Fare capping and tap-to-pay? Preserved for future fare schedule and payment technology.
- Where the fares come from and how they are paid
 - VIA/GZone
 - GoPass
 - DDTC
 - TVM
 - Shopify
- Fare Product Portfolio – What is actually selling
 - Local Day Pass
 - Access / 10-Ride
 - Local PM Pass
 - Regional Day Pass
 - Local AM Pass
 - Local Monthly – Reduced
- Fare Products to Review – Low Sales and No Regional Equivalent
- How Our Fares Compare (DCTA, DART and Trinity Metro)
- Next Steps on Fare Schedule
 - Identify opportunities to streamline fare offerings
 - Identify fare revenue recovery targets
 - Identify opportunities to align fare structure regionally
 - Understand opportunities to measure UNT ridership and impact fare revenue
 - Begin formulating fare structure recommendations
 - Timeline
 - ✓ January-March 2027 (Fare product recommendations)
 - ✓ Q3 – Q4 2027 (Public engagement process)
 - ✓ September 2027 (Board adoption of fare schedule)
 - ✓ October 2027 (New fare schedule takes effect)

Board discussion regarding passes/vouchers for GoZone, challenges of online purchases for non-profit organizations, clarification of university versus reduced rate discounts and a way to simply "discount" and ensuring that veterans are included in the discounted rates.

No Board action required at this time.

3. Discuss Update on Intermediate Service Plan (ISP) Phase III

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

- Intermediate Service Plan Overview
- Scenario Recap (Scenario 2 and Scenario 4)
- Fixed Route Recommendation Comparison
- Scenario 2 Cost Curve
- Scenario 2 Recommendation Summary
- GoZone Redeployment Option Summary (Scenario 2)
- Scenario 4 Cost Curve
- UNT Cost Sharing and Scenario 4 Feasibility – Modified CE
- Scenario 4 Concept
- GoZone Redeployment Summary (Scenario 4)
- Scenario 4 Bus Stop Infrastructure
- Scenario 4A – Route 4 + Modification CE Added
- Scenario 4A – Route 4 + Modified CE Recommendation Summary
- GoZone Redeployment Summary (Scenario 4A)
- Fixed Route Recommendation Comparison
- GoZone Recommendation Comparison
- Additional Consideration for LV/HV to Flower Mount Access Zone
- Spring 2027 Scenario Implementation: Alternative 1
- Alternative Scenario Implementation: Alternative 2

Board discussion regarding Scenario 4/4A excess hours, trimming GoZone hours, improving Denton's KPI's, adding seats to satisfy demand, Long Range Financial Plan, addressing intersection challenges with connections, prioritizing available resources and addressing potential resources constraints, and establishing and tracking zone-specific KPI's. Staff informed the Board that the requested calculations for Scenarios 4 and 4A would be provided.

No Board action required at this time.

4. Discuss Update on the A-train Enhancement Program

Austin Frith, Vice President of Planning and Development presented to the Board highlighting the following requesting Board feedback on the A-train Enhancement Program.

- Direction / Narrowing of Options on Expanded Service Hours Update – North of Trinity Mills
- Discussion and preferred direction on station and track alignment for Downtown Carrollton
- PTC Decision drives solution for segments north and south of Trinity Mills
- North of Trinity Mills: Bus Bridge Alternative for Late Night Operations Resolves Positive Train Control Question
- Downtown Carrollton Design Update
- South of Trinity Mills: Downtown Carrollton Alignment Options
- Next Steps
 - Request formal extension of DART corridor lease and receive DART approval
 - Request corridor release (if desired by alternative) south of Downtown Carrollton and receive DART approval
 - Complete the current design phase, including a closer look at underground utility conflicts
 - Develop and compare options for how the project is designed and built
 - Continue coordination with partner agencies

Board discussion indicated a preference for Option 2 (western alignment, easterly station), assuming completion of the International Paper Company scenario. Board members expressed concerns regarding Option 1 (western alignment, westerly station) including the location and aging infrastructure of the water line, as well as anticipated growth pattern.

5. Discuss Local and Regional Updates and Legislative Updates Discussion Item

Board discussed emerging legislative priorities.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

1. Safety, Service, and Ridership Reports – August 2026
2. Update on Task Order 09 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$60,000 for Construction Support Service for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Expanded Level Projects

3. Update on Task Order 14 with AECOM in an Amount Not to Exceed \$50,000 for On-Call Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Support
4. Update on Request for Proposals (RFP) for Bus Transit Engine and Transmission Repower Services
5. Update on Fiscal Year 2027 Expanded Level Projects (ELP) – Vehicle Purchases

No Board action at this time. These items are for informational purposes only.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2026.

REPORT ON ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

The Board advised the public of the upcoming elections this Fall. Election Day is November 3, 2026.

CONVENE EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors will convene into Closed Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074, Personnel Matters, to deliberate the duties and evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer (FY 2026 Annual Performance Evaluation).

Action as a result of Executive Session.

The Board convened into Closed Executive Session at 11:32am.

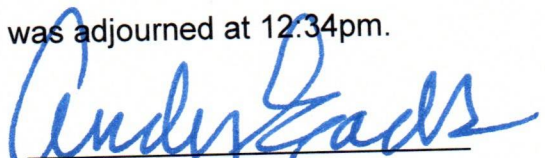
RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

Reconvene and Take Necessary Action on Items Discussed during Executive Session (if applicable).

The Board reconvened from Closed Executive Session at 12:24pm with the following action: **Motion by Board Member Green with a second by Chair Eads to authorize the Chair to negotiate and execute an amended Employment Agreement per the terms discussed in Closed Executive Session. Motion passes 5-0.**

ADJOURN

No further business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:34pm.


Andy Eads, Board Chair


Daniel Jaworski, Board Secretary