



# Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) Board of Trustees Meeting

## MINUTES – Approved

DATE: Wednesday, December 4, 2024  
TIME: 3:00 pm  
PLACE: Illinois Terminal, 45 East University Avenue, Champaign, IL

The video of this meeting can be found at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/CUMTD>

### Trustees:

Present	Absent
Dick Barnes	
Tomas Delgado	
	Paul Debevec
Phil Fiscella	
George Friedman	
Alan Nudo	
	Sharif Ullah

### Advisory Board:

Present	Absent
	Averhy Sanborn
Jamie Singson	
	Christopher Walton

MTD Staff: Karl Gnadt (Managing Director), Amy Snyder (Deputy Managing Director), Katie Good (Executive Assistant and Clerk), Michelle Wright (Finance Director), Josh Berbaum (Maintenance and Facilities Director), Ashlee McLaughlin (External Affairs Director), Ryan Blackman (Technology Services Director), and Alyx Parker (MTD Attorney)

### Others Present:

#### MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present (5) – Barnes, Delgado, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo

Absent (2) – Debevec, Ullah

The Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the agenda as distributed; seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

4. Public Hearing on General Tax Levy Ordinance for 2024

Mr. Barnes asked for public input on the General Tax Levy Ordinance of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District for revenue year 2024 to be paid in calendar year 2025. Notice of the proposed Tax Increase for the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District appeared in a black bordered notice in *The News-Gazette* on November 22, 2024, and the proposed tax levy was posted on the District's website, MTD.org, under Financial Documents for public review on November 20, 2024.

As there were no public comments, Mr. Barnes closed the Public Hearing.

5. Audience Participation  
None

6. Approval of Minutes

Board Meeting (Open Session)– October 30, 2024

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve the open session minutes of the October 30, 2024, MTD Board meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

7. Communications  
None

8. FY2024 MTD Audit Presentation by Baker Tilly US, LLP

Jodi Dobson, CPA, Principal at Baker Tilly US, LLP, summarized MTD's Fiscal Year 2024 audit beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024. The District was in compliance for both the financial audit for FY2024 as well as the Major Federal Program (single) audit for FY2024. Ms. Dobson noted upcoming changes to reporting requirements with GASB 101, 102, 103, and 104. Baker Tilly will work with management to ensure thorough understanding of the reporting requirement changes prior to implementation. Ms. Dobson closed with a statement thanking the management team for providing well reconciled balances and organized information making the audit process seamless.

9. Reports

A. Managing Director

Mr. Gnadt thanked Trustee Tomas Delgado for five years of service noting today's meeting is the last official meeting of Mr. Delgado's term.

Mr. Gnadt reviewed statistics for October 2024. The October 2024 Ridership was up 26.9% from October 2023. Year to date ridership for October 2024 was up 18% compared to October 2023. MTD ridership levels this month surpassed the October 2019 pre-pandemic levels by 0.5%.

October 2024 operating revenue was 1.7% below October 2023. Year to date operating revenue was 3% above FY2024. Mr. Gnadt noted there is no revenue concern stating the lower revenue percentage is due to accrual accounting and lower interest rates on investment income compared to last year. Monthly operating expenses were up 4.5% from FY2024. Year to date operating expenses were up 6.7% from FY2024. October 2024 operating revenue was \$940,506 above budget and operating expenses were \$1,541,559 below budget.

Mr. Gnadt thanked MTD employees and many of the Board of Trustees members who participated in the Champaign County Combined Charities Campaign this year. This year's donations totaled \$38,777, exceeding the \$24,000 goal. The donations came from a total of 79 donors, 32 of whom were first time donors.

B. Architecture & Engineering Services Library

Mr. Gnadt was joined by Ashlee McLaughlin, External Affairs Director, to explain the process for the Architecture & Engineering Services Library. Ms. McLaughlin stated an evaluation committee reviewed Statements of Qualification from ten different architecture and engineering firms. Out of the ten submissions received, nine firms were chosen to form a library that can be utilized on an as needed basis for future projects. All firms were vetted for Federal and State qualifications and compliance with terms and conditions for Federal or State funded projects. This library of services does not replace the formal Request for Proposal process but provides support for smaller projects with ease as the firms' qualifications have been previously reviewed.

C. Royse Witte Downtown, LLC Introduction

Mr. Gnadt invited Collin Carlier, CEO of Royse and Brinkmeyer Apartments, Mike Royse, majority owner of Royse and Brinkmeyer, and Dennis Witte, President of Omni Development Corporation in Colorado, who combined, form the private development team of Royse Witte Downtown, LLC, to introduce themselves and talk about the Illinois Terminal Expansion Project in its current state. Preliminary concept plans were shared along with discussion on how grant funds and private development funds will be utilized in this joint project benefiting all participants.

10. Action Items

A. Ordinance No. 2024-2, General Tax Levy Ordinance for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025 (Revenue Year 2024)

MOTION by Mr. Friedman to approve Ordinance 2024-2, General Tax Levy Ordinance for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025 (Revenue Year 2024), seconded by Mr. Fiscella.

Roll Call:

Aye (5) – Barnes, Delgado, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo

Nay (0)

The MOTION CARRIED.

B. Appointment of District Assistant Secretary

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to appoint Sasha Green, Lead Human Resources Specialist, as the Assistant District Secretary; seconded by Mr. Friedman. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

C. Bylaws Amendment for Remote Participation

Mr. Friedman gave a brief overview of the Open Meetings Act guidelines allowing remote participation by a Trustee.

MOTION by Mr. Friedman to approve the Bylaws Amendment for Remote Participation; seconded by Mr. Nudo. Upon vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

D. Approval of 803 Roof Reinforcement & Solar Expansion Contract

Mr. Gnadt was joined by Ashlee McLaughlin, External Affairs Director, who provided a recap of the 803 Roof Reinforcement and Solar Expansion project and the processes that MTD has gone through with bidders, budgeting, and the Illinois Department of Transportation. Mr. Gnadt noted that roof reinforcement is required to meet current engineering standards before moving forward with the solar expansion.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to amend the approval of the 803 Roof Reinforcement & Solar Expansion project to include direction to staff to apply for tax credits, rebates, and have all incentives lined out and provide monthly summaries on the Board report; seconded by Mr. Nudo.

Roll Call:  
Aye (4) – Barnes, Delgado, Fiscella, Nudo  
Nay (0)  
Abstain (1) – Friedman

The MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to approve 803 Roof Reinforcement & Solar Expansion Contract, as amended; seconded by Mr. Nudo.

Roll Call:  
Aye (5) – Barnes, Delgado, Fiscella, Friedman, Nudo  
Nay (0)

The MOTION CARRIED.


**11. Next Meeting**

- A. Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – Wednesday, January 29, 2025– 3:00 pm – at Illinois Terminal, 45 East University Ave, Champaign.


**12. Adjournment**

MOTION by Mr. Fiscella to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Delgado.

Mr. Barnes adjourned the meeting at 4:28 pm.

  
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Clerk

Approved: 01/29/25

  
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Board of Trustees, Chair