

The Board of Trustees of the Sangamon Mass Transit District met in a regular session on August 24, 2026, in the Training Room of the Sangamon Mass Transit District located at 928 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois. The Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM by Brian Brewer, Chairperson.

I. ROLL CALLPresent:

Brian Brewer	Chairperson
Sue Davsko	Vice Chairperson
Leslie McCarthy	Secretary
Karen Hasara	Treasurer
Sandra Douglas	Trustee
Jerry Doss	Trustee

Absent:

Charlie Stratton	Trustee
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II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee McCarthy made a motion to approve the minutes of July 27, 2026, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, and Trustee Davsko seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. DIRECTORS REPORTS

Managing Director Steve Schoeffel highlighted that contractors met with SMTD last week about installing elevators in the transfer center and are working on timelines for those to be added to the facility. He also advised that the East Yard project will kick off next week and is moving forward. Other items were included in his written report and as always Managing Director Steve Schoeffel advised the Board of Trustee members to reach out to him with any other questions.

Director of Finance and Administration, Michelle Alexander, advised at this time the Finance team is working on preliminary and final fieldwork for the FY2026 audit with Sikich. Also, the SMTD Finance team has had a lot of planning meetings and has done a lot of work this month to get ready for the competitive grant applications for CVP and 5339B, which are both underway. There is also going to be an upcoming call for projects with the state and requires planning for the 5307-grant application and funds. Manager of Grants and Procurement, Hadley Markiewiecz, will release a Request for Quotes or RFQ for our SMTD Mobile Lifts Replacement Project in the next few weeks and she has been spending time planning for that as well.

Director of Operations, Melissa Ashford, advised in July fixed routes had an increase of 4.8% in ridership as compared to last year. Access/Paratransit held steady on ridership numbers as well this month. The 2026 Illinois State Fair has now ended, and the weather cooperated this year. SMTD received one request for assistance on Saturday August 15 for a cooling bus to be sent to the fairgrounds. It was also reported that the week of August 10 Operations held a week-long safety refresher training for drivers it provided time to discuss and refresh drivers on safety and customer service, have questions and specific scenarios addressed, and for the organization to get feedback for the staff and it was very successful. In other areas, Operations will see data collection forms arrive in preparation for NTD reporting which is due by the end of October.

Chairperson Brewer asked if SMTD holds trainings like this regularly in an open forum format, to which Director of Operations Melissa Ashford advised that YES, usually SMTD will have training opportunities like this for staff 2-3 times a year.

IV. REPORTS

A. Approval of June 2026 Financial Statements and Cash Disbursements

Trustee McCarthy made a motion to approve the June 2026 Financial Statements and Accounts Payable Disbursements, seconded by Trustee Davsko and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Board Committee Reports

Finance: No report

Operations: No report.

Administration: No report.

IT Steering: Trustee Douglas advised the committee met about the need of upgrading equipment and vehicle software/technology.

Planning Commission Report: Jason Sass, of SSCRPC, advised the application process has been closed for the SATS transportation block grant, there were 17 applications submitted this time and the committee will begin consideration for grant assignments and complete that by September 10. The last time applications were considered there were only 5 submitted. Directing Manager Steve Schoeffel advised that this shows a lot of effort of encouragement from SSCRPC to local communities for local municipalities to apply, with villages of Grandview, Chatham, Rochester, and Sherman applying.

SMTD ADA Advisory Committee Report: No report

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider FY27 Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Application (CVP)

Grants and Procurement Manager, Hadley Markiewicz advised that IDOT makes grants to SMTD for ramp and lift equipped paratransit vehicles with no acquisition cost to SMTD. The grant is funded through multiple sources including FTA 5310, 5311, and 5339 programs. SMTD currently has 17 medium duty vehicles that have exceeded 120,000 miles and are now due for replacement as required in the CVP application. In addition, due to the significant growth in Access, SMTD seeks to apply for 6 medium duty expansion vehicles as well to accommodate growing ridership needs within the community we serve. In total, the application is just under 3 million dollars for all 23 vehicles to be replaced. There is a public hearing scheduled for September 3 at noon in the conference room and application for the grant is due September 21st.

Chairperson Brewer asked what percent of the Access Fleet is being replaced in percentage or total? Director of Operations Melissa Ashford advised there are currently 30 access vehicles, so over 50% of the Access fleet will be replaced and then the addition of the 6 new vehicles for purpose of expansion.

Trustee Doss made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the application for the consolidated vehicle procurement program for seventeen (17) replacement and six (6) expansion paratransit

vehicles. Trustee Hasara seconded. **ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED.** The motion passed unanimously.

B. Adopt General Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2027

Director of Finance and Administration, Michelle Alexander advised that SMTD posted the Tax Levy in June and has not met the requirement of having it posted on display to the public for 30 days. There has been no changes to the information since it was originally posted in June of 2026. Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy will be \$3.396 million dollars total for an overall increase of 3.5%.

Trustee Douglas made a motion to adopt the General Tax Levy Ordinance Trustee Hasara Seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Authorize Resolution for 5339(b) Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Application

Grants and Procurement Manager Hadley Markiewicz advised that the 5339 application is a grant funded by FTA used for buses and bus facilities. Last year we were awarded funding for the CNG station overhaul and this year we are asking for funds to construct an employee parking lot so that employees don't have to cross 9th Street to get to the building. SMTD will use Transportation Development Credits as a part of our local match.

Trustee Davsko made a motion to approve an Authorizing resolution for Federal Fiscal Year 2026 5339 Competitive Funding Opportunity. Trustee McCarthy seconded. **Roll Call Vote Required** and it passed unanimously

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

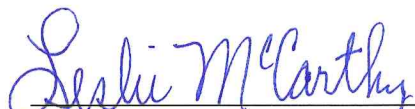
NONE

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the board, Trustee McCarthy made a motion to adjourn. Second, by Trustee Davsko. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Approved:


Sue Davsko, Vice Chairperson


Leslie McCarthy, Secretary