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Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting

Date: June 11, 2025

Case: Chicago Transit Authority Board Meeting, In Re:

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BEFORE THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD

FINANCE, AUDIT, AND BUDGET MEETING

Chicago, Illinois

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

10:18 a.m. CDT

Job No.: 582102

Pages 1 - 99

Reported by: Kristine Wesner, CVR

1 CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING, held
2 at:

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4 CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY
5 567 West Lake Street
6 Chicago, Illinois 60661
7 312.681.3137

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Pursuant to agreement, before Kristine
Wesner, Certified Verbatim Reporter, and Notary
Public in and for the State of Illinois.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

PRESENT:

- LESTER L. BARCLAY, Chairman
- REV. DR. BERNARD JAKES, Vice Chair
- ROSA Y. ORTIZ, Director
- MICHELE A. LEE, Director
- MICHAEL EADDY, Director
- ROBERTO ROQUEJO, Director

ALSO PRESENT:

- Nora Leerhsen, Acting CTA President
- Georgette L. Greenlee, Board Secretary
- Kent Ray, General Counsel

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P R O C E E D I N G S

MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

VICE CHAIR JAKES: All right. Good morning. I would like to call to order the June 11, 2025, meeting of the Committee on Finance, Audit, and Budget.

Georgette, would you please call the roll.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Present.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

DIRECTOR LEE: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

DIRECTOR EADDY: Here.

MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, you do have a quorum. I will note for the record that Director Neema Jha is absent.

VICE CHAIR JAKES: Thank you.

1 Our next order of business is the
2 approval of the committee minutes of May 14th,
3 2025.

4 May I have a motion to approve?

5 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

6 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

7 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
8 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
9 the committee meeting minutes from May 14, 2025,
10 be approved.

11 We'll take a roll call vote.

12 Director Eaddy?

13 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

15 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

17 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director --

19 Chairman Barclay?

20 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

22 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

24 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

2 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Our next order of
3 business is the finance report. Tom McKone.

4 MR. MCKONE: Good morning, Chairman and
5 Directors.

6 (Chorus of good mornings.)

7 All right. Give me a moment here to
8 pull up the report, and then I'm going to take you
9 through the actuals for April, and then we've got
10 a couple of other items on the agenda, so --

11 All right. Great.

12 So we're going to start with the
13 monthly results here for April, starting with
14 system-generated revenues. So on the top half,
15 you'll see here, fare and pass revenues coming in
16 slightly under budget for the month. So a little
17 bit softer in the month of April than we had
18 anticipated, also versus the prior year as well.

19 We have had a chance to take a look at
20 some of the preliminary May revenues, so we do
21 think there's a bit of timing here as those May
22 revenues have improved over these April results,
23 but we'll have more to come on that next month.

24 On the bottom half here, non-farebox

1 revenue continues to be positive to budget into
2 last year. That's directly as a result of that
3 additional investment income that we're earning
4 this year due to additional balances on hand,
5 along with the maintained higher rates of interest
6 that we're seeing as well.

7 So overall revenue total for the month,
8 just slightly under budget. We roll that into the
9 year-to-date, you can see those two trends playing
10 forward here, so a little bit under on total fare
11 and pass revenue for the year. Ahead of where we
12 intended to be on the non-farebox side, so a total
13 of 2.9 million positive to budget for the year,
14 7 1/2 million than where we were last year on the
15 system-generated revenue side.

16 On the expenses side, you can see here
17 the monthly results -- I'll focus on the one item
18 there that's got negative variance. That's the
19 labor category. So we're kind of at the -- where
20 we anticipated in terms the amount of workforce
21 that we want to have on-hand. We have seen
22 slightly higher expenses in some of our fringe
23 rate, so we're incorporating those here. You can
24 see that it is less than 1 percent in total, and

1 it's more than offset by some of the smaller
2 categories as well. So we're keeping an eye on
3 it. We're not too worried about it in total on
4 the expenses side of things.

5 The other item I'll note, since the
6 board has focused on this side, which is the
7 security services line, that continues to be
8 positive to budget. So we've got a couple months
9 that have positive variance here, so we'll put
10 that in the bank moving forward here. As some of
11 those additional contracts come into play, we may
12 see some additional expenses in the second half of
13 the year.

14 So you can see here a year-to-date.
15 Like I said, labor is within a fraction of its
16 total budgeted amount, more than offset by those
17 other categories -- material, fuel, and power,
18 which we do anticipate seeing continued positive
19 variances in those categories, along with other
20 expenses as well. So total year-to-date operating
21 expenses, 20 million positive to budget.

22 On the public funding side of things,
23 here's our monthly results. So the most recent
24 results we have are from February for our sales

1 tax collections. You can see there that they are
2 between 5 and 10 percent positive to budget for
3 the month. That is also matched by those PTF
4 funds as well, which also have that positive
5 variance.

6 We do anticipate that that positive
7 variance is going to continue throughout the year.
8 We are looking to get some estimates from the RTA
9 about sort of what level that's going to -- that's
10 going to be at, but good news on some of the
11 structural changes there that are going to deliver
12 that positive additional public funding through
13 the rest of this year, again assuming economic
14 conditions remain as they are. So year-to-date
15 here, you can see we're 23.7 million favorable to
16 budget, which, again, is a result of that improved
17 sales tax returns coming in better than budget.

18 On the commodities side, no change. So
19 we do have the RFP out for the power purchase, so
20 that's one that we're looking forward to getting
21 those bids in and locking in that power price,
22 hopefully, in the month of July, in which case
23 we'll update this with that price and have price
24 certainty at least going into 2026 around our

1 power purchase.

2 That concludes my report. I'm open for
3 any questions.

4 VICE CHAIR JAKES: I have no questions,
5 Tom. Thank you.

6 MS. GREENLEE: We'll take questions
7 from other members of the board.

8 Director Roquejo?

9 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

11 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No questions.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

13 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

15 DIRECTOR LEE: No questions. Thanks.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

17 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
19 are no further questions. You may now proceed to
20 Agenda Item No. 4.

21 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 4 is the
22 report of our independent auditor for fiscal year
23 2024.

24 Tom.

1 MR. MCKONE: Thank you.

2 I would like to invite up to the desk
3 here our independent auditors. So we have Crowe
4 and Adelfia, who conducted our annual audit, so
5 let me slide over. I'll let them introduce
6 themselves, and then take you through the results
7 of the 2024 audit.

8 MS. TORRES: All right. Thank you,
9 Tom.

10 Good morning, Directors. I am
11 Christine Torres, partner at Crowe, and I am here
12 with Ana Ausan, partner from Adelfia, our DBE
13 subcontractor, as well as our senior manager on
14 the account, Hollis Hanson-Pollack. And we are
15 here to talk about our completed audit of the
16 CTA's financial statements for the year ended
17 December 31st, 2024.

18 We were engaged to audit the financial
19 statements to determine that they were reasonably
20 stated in all material respects, as well as the
21 audit the federal grant funds in accordance with
22 guidelines as they're set by the federal
23 government for compliance with laws, regulations,
24 statutes, and the different grant agreements.

1 In regards to the financial statements,
2 we have completed the audit and issued our
3 auditor's opinion, which was unmodified, or clean,
4 that notes that all of the amounts presented in
5 the financial statements are materially correct
6 with all of our testing.

7 We cover both the financial statements
8 and the notes to the financial statements during
9 that and, as required by government auditing
10 standards, due to your single audit, we also look
11 at the internal controls over reporting and test
12 those to make sure that they are working as they
13 should be.

14 We do not have any findings to report
15 under government auditing standards. And I'm
16 going to have Ana present the update on the
17 federal part of the audit.

18 MS. AUSAN: Good morning, everyone. My
19 name is Ana Ausan. I'm partnered with Adelfia and
20 representing the DBE subcontractor for this audit
21 engagement. I'm happy to report that Crowe was
22 able to issue an unmodified opinion and compliance
23 over federal programs for the year ended
24 December 31st, 2024.

1 So CTA receives a number of federal
2 grant programs. However, due to the federal
3 guidelines, we focused our testing on two major
4 programs this year. So these programs were the
5 Federal Transit Cluster and the Transportation
6 Infrastructure, Finance, and Innovation Act
7 program. So due to the size of these programs, we
8 were able to obtain 99 percent coverage for the
9 federal expenditures spent because the Federal
10 Transit Cluster is, like, the largest federal
11 program that CTA expends from.

12 And also as part of the audit process,
13 we evaluated the internal controls over compliance
14 for those programs, and based on the results of
15 our testing, I'm happy to report that we do not
16 have any findings to report.

17 So Christine?

18 MS. TORRES: Thank you.

19 So that is a summary of both our
20 financial and federal audit for the fiscal year.
21 I'd like to thank everybody in the finance
22 department for working with us in a very
23 professional manner and providing us with all the
24 information required as we go through the audit

1 process and ask a lot of information and a lot of
2 questions to issue these audit opinions.

3 And at this point, if there's any
4 questions, I'm happy to take those.

5 VICE CHAIR JAKES: I wouldn't dare ask
6 a question on a clean audit.

7 MS. GREENLEE: We'll take questions
8 from other members of the board.

9 Director Lee?

10 DIRECTOR LEE: No questions.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

12 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I just want to
13 commend our team, as well as to you guys and your
14 team, for the hard work. I know we've met several
15 times, leading up to this to get to this point,
16 but, you know, this is good news and we're just
17 pleased.

18 So I want to commend our team for the
19 hard work that they do.

20 Thank you very much.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

22 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: I echo the sentiments
23 there. Thank you.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

1 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

2 Thanks.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
4 are no further questions.

5 MR. MCKONE: So if you may, can I just
6 call a few members of the team to thank them, so
7 you can put a few faces --

8 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Absolutely.

9 MR. MCKONE: -- some of the team
10 members.

11 So we have in the back Sharon, Emily,
12 and Murka (phonetic), so if you guys could just
13 raise your hands. There they are. That's our
14 accounting team. They work directly with the
15 auditors.

16 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Wait. I can't see.
17 I can't see.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Stand up, please.

19 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yeah. I need to
20 see --

21 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. MCKONE: Shannon, Emily, and Murka.
24 Thank you. They're going to give me a hard time

1 about that.

2 And then, of course, we're supported as
3 always by our internal auditor, right, working
4 throughout the year to make sure that things are
5 addressed throughout the year so that we do have
6 this clean audit at the end as well. So thanks to
7 Andrew and his interim audit team as well.

8 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Thank you. Thank
9 you. Thank you so much, everyone. Thank you.
10 Clean is good.

11 All right. Let's go to Agenda
12 Item No. 5. It's the review of an ordinance,
13 amending ordinance 024-143, approving the fiscal
14 years 2025 through 2029 Capital Improvement
15 Program.

16 Tom?

17 MR. MCKONE: Okay. Thank you.

18 This ordinance amends our current
19 five-year capital plan, or our CIP, to incorporate
20 CTA's full share of the regional fiscal year 2025
21 formula section funds that are due to the CTA.
22 The net increase to the 2025 plan is
23 \$3.35 million. This is the final true-up of the
24 fiscal year 2025 FTA formula budget that now

1 totals \$444.4 million.

2 The timing of this CIP amendment is
3 critical so that we can submit the grant
4 application by mid-June to complete all FTA
5 reviews and execute the grant prior to the fiscal
6 year closing in mid-September. The FTA grant
7 agreement in total provides for the purchase and
8 overall of bus and rail revenue fleet, purchase of
9 non-revenue fleet vehicles, continued funding for
10 the All Stations Accessibility Program, station
11 improvements, refresh and renew facilities
12 initiative, phase replacement of security camera
13 systems, and meeting the capital financing
14 obligations.

15 With this amendment, the total value of
16 our five-year CIP will be \$6.986 billion. Upon
17 approval, this will be submitted to the RTA for
18 inclusion in the regional capital plan.

19 I'm open for any questions.

20 VICE CHAIR JAKES: I have no questions,
21 Tom.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

23 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

1 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: None.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

3 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

4 MR. MCKONE: Director Lee?

5 DIRECTOR LEE: No questions.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

7 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
9 are no questions.

10 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
11 to place this item on the omnibus for board
12 approval?

13 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

14 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

15 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
16 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo. We'll
17 take a role call vote.

18 Director Eaddy?

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

21 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

23 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Barclay?

1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

3 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

5 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

7 Director Jakes, you may now proceed to
8 Agenda Item No. 6.

9 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 6 is the
10 review of an ordinance authorizing a first
11 amendment to a license agreement with Pace for the
12 use of parking spaces at the Rosemont Park and
13 Ride lot for Pace VanGo vehicle program.

14 Tom?

15 MR. MCKONE: Thank you. My final item.

16 2023, the CTA Board authorized an
17 agreement with Pace for the use of two parking
18 spaces at CTA's Rosemont Park and Ride for Pace's
19 VanGo pilot program. This program allows
20 registered users to access a designated VanGo
21 vehicle to complete their trip and is a valuable
22 first mile-last mile connection.

23 All the users at this location get on
24 or off the Blue Line at Rosemont. This location

1 has seen an increase in demand, and Pace has
2 requested the use of two additional spaces for
3 additional VanGo vehicles. This agreement will
4 provide those two spaces at no cost to Pace. This
5 agreement is subject to an annual renewal.

6 Let me know if you have any questions.

7 VICE CHAIR JAKES: No questions, Tom.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

9 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

11 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No questions. Thank
12 you.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

14 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

16 DIRECTOR LEE: I think I asked this
17 question previously, but do we know if these
18 vehicles are accessible for wheelchair users, or
19 are they just standard vehicles?

20 MR. MCKONE: I will get back to you on
21 the exact make and type, not only of the two that
22 are there, but of the two additional ones that are
23 there.

24 DIRECTOR LEE: If not, we should

1 probably consider, you know, suggestion. Thank
2 you.

3 MR. MCKONE: Definitely. Thank you.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

5 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
7 are no questions.

8 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
9 to place this item on the omnibus for board
10 approval?

11 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

12 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

13 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
14 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
15 this item be placed on the omnibus for board
16 approval. We'll take a roll call vote.

17 Director Roquejo?

18 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

20 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

24 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

2 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

4 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

6 Director Jakes, you may proceed to

7 Agenda Item No. 7.

8 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 7 is the

9 review of an ordinance authorizing payment of

10 relocation expenses arising from the acquisition

11 of property located at 119th and Cottage Grove --

12 the exact address is 11900 -- for the Red Line

13 Extension project.

14 Bill Mooney?

15 MR. MOONEY: Good morning, Directors.

16 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Good morning.

17 MR. MOONEY: Bill Mooney, your Chief

18 Infrastructure Officer.

19 Staff recommends approval of an

20 ordinance authorizing the payment of relocation

21 expenses related to the acquisition of property

22 located at 11900 South Cottage Grove.

23 In October 2022, transit board, under

24 Ordinance 022-118, authorized the acquisition of

1 certain parcels in support of the Red Line
2 Extension project, including a property at
3 11900 South Cottage Grove. CTA has acquired the
4 parcel and has confirmed relocation expenses owed
5 to the owner pursuant to the Uniform Relocation
6 Act in the sum of \$5,573,470.

7 Pursuant to the ordinance, the Chief
8 Infrastructure Officer, with the approval of the
9 general counsel, has been authorized to pay
10 relocation expenses up to \$100,000 to any owner or
11 tenant of a designated parcel without prior board
12 approval. Board approval is required for expenses
13 in excess of \$100,000. All costs associated with
14 this expense have been accounted for within the
15 existing project budget.

16 I'm happy to take any questions on this
17 item.

18 VICE CHAIR JAKES: No questions, Bill.
19 Thank you.

20 MS. GREENLEE: We'll take questions
21 from other members of the board.

22 Director Eaddy?

23 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

1 DIRECTOR LEE: No questions.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

3 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

5 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: None.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

7 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: I have a question,
8 but I wonder if it's best that I ask at the end
9 when all these real estate transactions are --

10 MR. MOONEY: We got a couple years,
11 so --

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
13 are no further questions.

14 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
15 to place this item on the omnibus for board
16 approval?

17 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

18 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

19 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved
20 by Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
21 this be placed on the omnibus for board approval.
22 We'll take a roll call vote.

23 Director Eaddy?

24 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

2 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

4 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

6 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

8 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

10 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, the
12 motion passes.

13 You may now proceed to Agenda
14 Item No. 8.

15 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 8 is the
16 review of an ordinance authorizing the purchase of
17 real property located at 411-413 West
18 105th Street, Chicago, for the RLE project.

19 Bill?

20 MR. MOONEY: Thank you.

21 Staff recommends approval of an
22 ordinance to authorize the purchase of real
23 property located at 411-413 West 105th Street. In
24 October of 2022, under Ordinance 022-118, the

1 transit board authorized the acquisition of
2 certain parcels in support of RLE and the payment
3 required of applicable relocation expenses,
4 including the property mentioned.

5 Pursuant to the ordinance, the Chief
6 Infrastructure Officer, with the approval of
7 general counsel, has been authorized to acquire
8 properties with a purchase price of up to
9 \$1 million and pay for relocation expenses under
10 \$100,000 without additional board approval. A
11 separate board approval is required if the costs
12 exceed those values.

13 Staff has negotiated a purchase price
14 for the subject property of \$1,175,000 and has
15 determined that the owner is owed up to and not to
16 exceed \$580,000 in relocation expenses, requiring
17 additional board approvals. All costs associated
18 with this acquisition are within the existing
19 project budget.

20 I'll be happy to take any questions on
21 this item.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: No questions, Bill.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

24 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

2 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: None.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

4 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

6 DIRECTOR LEE: None.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

8 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
10 are no further questions.

11 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
12 to place this item on the omnibus for board
13 approval?

14 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

15 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

16 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
17 Director Lee and seconded by Director Roquejo that
18 this be placed on the omnibus for board approval.

19 We'll take a roll call vote.

20 Director Eaddy?

21 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

23 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

1 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

3 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

5 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

7 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, the

9 motion passes. You may now proceed to Agenda

10 Item No. 9.

11 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 9 is the

12 review of an ordinance authorizing the purchase of

13 real property located at 12200-12256 South Cottage

14 Grove Avenue for RLE project.

15 Bill?

16 MR. MOONEY: Staff recommends approval

17 of an ordinance to authorize the purchase of real

18 property located at 12200-12256 South Cottage

19 Grove under the prior authority of ordinance

20 022-118, authorized by the transit board in

21 October of '22.

22 Pursuant to the ordinance, Chief

23 Infrastructure Officer, with the approval of

24 general counsel, has been authorized to acquire

1 properties with a purchase price of up to a
2 million dollars. Staff negotiated a purchase
3 price for the subject property of \$5,600,000,
4 which requires additional board approval. Costs
5 with this acquisition have been accounted for
6 within the existing project budget.

7 I'm happy to take any questions on this
8 item.

9 VICE CHAIR JAKES: No questions, Bill.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

11 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

13 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No questions.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

17 DIRECTOR LEE: None.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
21 are no questions.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
23 to place this item on the omnibus for board
24 approval?

1 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

2 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

3 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
4 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo. We'll
5 take a roll call vote.

6 Director Eaddy?

7 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

9 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

11 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

13 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

15 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

17 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

19 Director Jakes, you may now proceed To
20 Agenda Item No. 10.

21 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 10 is
22 the review of an ordinance authorizing the
23 purchase of real property located at 401-407 West
24 104th Street for the RLE project.

1 Bill, you're popping.

2 MR. MOONEY: I am. I got a whole lot
3 today, so --

4 Staff recommends approval of an
5 ordinance to authorize the purchase of real
6 property located at 401-407 West 104th Street,
7 which was previously authorized under Ordinance
8 022-18 for acquisition.

9 Pursuant to the ordinance, the Chief
10 Infrastructure Officer has approval to acquire
11 properties that do not exceed a million dollars.
12 Staff has negotiated a purchase price for the
13 subject property of \$1,400,000, requiring
14 additional board approval.

15 The owner will maintain a possession --
16 a post-possession agreement until June 1st, 2026,
17 and will indemnify the CTA during this period.
18 All costs associated with this acquisition are
19 within the existing project budget.

20 VICE CHAIR JAKES: No questions.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

22 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

24 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No questions.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

2 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

4 DIRECTOR LEE: None.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

6 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
8 are no questions.

9 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
10 to place this item on the omnibus for board
11 approval?

12 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

13 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

14 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
15 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
16 this be placed on the omnibus for board approval.
17 We'll take a roll call vote.

18 Director Eaddy?

19 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

21 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

23 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

3 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

5 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

7 Director Jakes, you may now proceed to
8 Agenda Item No. 11.

9 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 11 is
10 the review of an ordinance authorizing an
11 intergovernmental agreement with the Metropolitan
12 Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago for
13 RLE project.

14 Bill?

15 MR. MOONEY: Thank you, Director. This
16 is my last RLE item for you today.

17 VICE CHAIR JAKES: We're going to miss
18 you.

19 MR. MOONEY: I've got one more, so
20 don't kick me out yet.

21 Staff recommends approval of an
22 ordinance authorizing an intergovernmental
23 agreement with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation
24 District of Greater Chicago in support of the Red

1 Line extension project. The establishment of the
2 proposed alignment and associated record of
3 decision, CTA was obligated to make commitments as
4 part of the federal NEPA process to maintain
5 access between MWRD properties that are on the
6 east and west side of the alignment.

7 Separately, acquisition and access to
8 MWRD property was identified as being necessary to
9 facilitate the construction and operations of the
10 extension. These costs were budgeted for as part
11 of the project budget at that time.

12 The proposed IGA provides for the
13 acquisition of the fee property to CTA with a
14 reserved easement for MWRD: The temporary
15 easement to MWRD property required for
16 construction, the permanent perpetual easement
17 from MWRD to CTA for access to the Kensington
18 Marsh, a permanent perpetual easement from CTA to
19 MWRD for access to the relocated access road.
20 Costs associated with this acquisition is
21 \$4,490,000.

22 Separately, the IGA calls for the CTA
23 to reimburse MWRD for an agreed-upon portion of
24 the costs to construct a new pumping station and

1 pipeline connection between MWRD's Calumet Water
2 Reclamation Plant, East and West campuses, to
3 relocate an existing gatehouse at the east
4 entrance to MWRD's Calumet plant, and reinstalling
5 new permanent site security fencing along the
6 perimeter of the property impacted by our taking.

7 The not to exceed value of the
8 reimbursements for these mitigations is
9 \$45,510,000. To be eligible for reimbursement,
10 all costs must have occurred and been submitted
11 prior to December 1st, 2029. Separately, MWRD and
12 CTA will provide reciprocal indemnification for
13 their various operations and construction projects
14 as they occur.

15 Happy to take any questions on this
16 item.

17 VICE CHAIR JAKES: I have no questions,
18 Bill.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

20 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

22 DIRECTOR LEE: No questions.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

24 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

2 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No questions.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

4 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yeah. I wanted to
5 stop here now because we're about to approve six
6 pretty sizable transactions, over \$60 million in
7 real estate and other costs, and I wanted to hear
8 from you, Bill, how this process is going, what
9 are we learning about the real estate acquisition,
10 what can we tell the community around these
11 transactions, the overall picture, and the pace of
12 the project. And I wanted to preface that by
13 saying that I'm really pleased to see that this
14 Red Line Extension project is moving forward, and
15 getting phase after phase and getting us to a
16 place where we can start celebrating, you know,
17 some important milestones.

18 But I wanted to, again, stop here
19 because this is an important moment -- number of
20 transactions, and as it relates, again, to the
21 purchase of real estate, what are we learning?
22 How is that going? Are we meeting budget? Are we
23 exceeding? Are we under? And how will you tell
24 you the community the progress that we're making

1 here?

2 MR. MOONEY: Absolutely, Director. So
3 I have referenced 022-118 ordinance and that
4 ordinance we passed in 2022 to authorize staff to
5 start the acquisitions for the project and
6 identify just over 200 parcels.

7 In the end, with the refinement of
8 design as we've gone forward, we've been able to
9 reduce that impact to about 193 total parcels, of
10 which, with the approval of these ordinances, we
11 are pretty much entirely bought out. There's one
12 parcel that we -- we have kind of -- you will
13 likely not see. It's below the authorization that
14 we're finalizing the agreement to, and that --
15 that unlocks a phase of contingency in this
16 project, and so that's a pretty huge milestone.

17 And when you think about the
18 brother-sister projects of RPM and RLE, RPM was a
19 dozen parcels in taking. This is over 200, right?
20 So we saw this as a huge risk to the project, and
21 as part of the federal process, was identified on
22 the risk registry, and there was required
23 contingency that was tied to the project, overall
24 budget that was tied to this. So being able to

1 reach this milestone on the contingency curve
2 unlocks the availability of some of that
3 contingency for other things and being able to do
4 that.

5 We've been able to maintain the budget
6 overall for both acquisitions and relocations.
7 Relocations become a little more variable because
8 they get into exact items a person owns, and until
9 you really get into that acquisition process, it's
10 harder to refine that. We can take typical budget
11 line items, like a single-family home. This is
12 typically what it costs to relocate.

13 One of the biggest challenges we
14 entered into when we looked at this is
15 generational wealth for any family mostly comes
16 through ownership of real estate. It's really
17 common, especially in Chicago. And so in an
18 underserved community, such as the one that we're
19 looking to, you know, create opportunity for with
20 RLE, not hurting the generational wealth of a
21 family here was really important. That becomes
22 challenging because of the rules that come with
23 acquisitions and how property value is appraised.

24 So we had to be very thoughtful in how

1 we acquired properties, how we worked with the
2 owners of those properties. In some cases, we had
3 to even end up in eminent domain court to get
4 favorable rulings to clear title and lease of
5 things so that we could move forward so the
6 property owners weren't harm by those rules, and I
7 would broadly say is, the success of acquisition
8 has been that fact that even though we may have
9 agreed-upon rulings and settlement in an eminent
10 domain proceeding, we have not had to take
11 anything by force.

12 And, you know, while we may have
13 postured in a position, some of these parcels
14 you're seeing lagging because they were -- they
15 were lawyer -- they were parcels that had lawyers
16 that were more aggressive. They were business
17 entities. And so we ended up in a path of eminent
18 domain that kept the negotiations going and
19 supportive in their -- we have not had to get a
20 ruling that required us to take property.

21 You've often heard me talk about my
22 experience 20-plus years ago on the Brown Line
23 Expansion project and the lessons learned I still
24 hold from that, and we took a lot of property by

1 eminent domain then. There was a very contentious
2 property-taking, and it still reflects in my mind
3 around those things. So I think our success has
4 been that we've been able to favorably negotiate.
5 We've been able to stay within budget. We've been
6 able to deal with the community responsibly and
7 respectfully in here and kind of come to the end
8 of the process. That's a huge one. This was a
9 huge milestone for us.

10 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yeah.

11 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Great to hear.

12 And so you mentioned how many more of
13 these parcels are to be purchased?

14 MR. MOONEY: I don't expect you to see
15 any more parcels at Board. There is one parcel we
16 are finalizing -- we have an agreement on that we
17 just need to finalize the signatures on. There's
18 a couple pieces of transaction that we've had to
19 work around to be able to make it work for
20 everybody, but that one should be under the
21 values, so -- but we are there, so --

22 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: So we are about to
23 celebrate a milestone here, closing that real
24 estate transactions?

1 MR. MOONEY: Assuming the support of
2 the Board goes through, yeah. It will be -- we
3 are anxiously waiting to be able to report this to
4 the federal government that we've met this whole
5 point on the curve.

6 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Great. Thanks.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
8 are no further questions.

9 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Great question,
10 Director. I was thinking that.

11 No, I wasn't.

12 May I now have leave to place this item
13 on the omnibus for board approval?

14 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

15 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

16 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
17 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo. We'll
18 take a roll call vote.

19 Director Eaddy?

20 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

22 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

24 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

2 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

4 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

6 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

8 Director Jakes, you may now move to
9 Agenda Item No. 12.

10 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 12 is
11 the review of an ordinance declaring surplus and
12 authorizing the sale of real property located at
13 5426-5446 South Calumet Avenue, Chicago, Illinois,
14 to City Colleges of Chicago.

15 Welcome back, Bill.

16 MR. MOONEY: Thank you, sir. This is
17 my last item for you this morning, so --

18 Staff recommends approval of an
19 ordinance declaring surplus and authorizing the
20 sale of CTA-owned property located at
21 5426-5446 South Calumet Avenue, adjacent to the
22 CTA's Garfield Green Line station. The property
23 is no longer necessary for transit operations and
24 has been identified as an ideal location for the

1 new Malcolm X College Learning Center for the City
2 Colleges of Chicago.

3 The property is approximately 38,768
4 square feet and has an appraised value of
5 \$370,000. CTA and City Colleges have agreed to
6 the sale of the property for the value of
7 \$370,000, which will be distributed through a
8 class participation agreement, which must be
9 executed prior to the closing of the property.
10 The class participation agreement will call out
11 terms for allowing CTA employees access to enroll
12 and earn college or education credits offered
13 through the City Colleges.

14 Finally, City Colleges has also agreed
15 to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, the
16 authority with the sale of this property.

17 I'll glad to answer any questions on
18 this item.

19 VICE CHAIR JAKES: That's good. That's
20 good.

21 No questions, Bill.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

23 DIRECTOR EADDY: No, no questions.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

1 DIRECTOR LEE: No questions.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

3 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Just a comment. I'm
4 pleased to see us moving forward on the 55th
5 Street parcel. I know we've been holding on that
6 for a long time. But more importantly, I'm glad
7 to see that we're working with sister agencies on
8 transit-oriented development projects like this.
9 I think this is going to enhance the community,
10 and it's also going to provide an anchor for our
11 riders as well, too.

12 MR. MCKONE: I agree with you, sir.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

14 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: I share the same
15 comments. Again, thank you.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

17 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Congratulations.

18 I also wanted to highlight the
19 importance of those partnerships that the chairman
20 has mentioned and also the fact that this
21 particular station has been, for over eight years,
22 an ETOD site that CMAP/RTA have invested in their
23 planning around with community partners, and now
24 we're seeing the results of what happens when you

1 really work with community to make sure that the
2 development around certain train stations makes
3 sense from the perspective of equity.

4 And so congrats on that. Congrats on
5 the creative agreement between CTA and City
6 Colleges and receiving those credits for our --
7 our workers. And then just could you provide a
8 quick update on the adjacent parcels and what
9 could happen with those two, because City Colleges
10 is great to have there, but we have other needs in
11 that community --

12 MR. MOONEY: Absolutely --

13 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: -- to address.

14 MR. MOONEY: So we have -- as you've
15 mentioned, we've had ongoing relationships in this
16 area about how we would look to develop the
17 property in this -- we have -- what I'll call --
18 the east parcel that we're under consideration for
19 today. We have two parcels on the west side. One
20 is the underdeveloped frontage right on the
21 corner. That parcel is an active procurement
22 cycle right now for RFP in line with support of
23 the goals of the ETOD ordinance. And so I can't
24 comment much more deeper than that at this point,

1 otherwise Ellen will come running up here.

2 Then there is our park-and-ride lot,
3 which is recessed kind of from the frontage there.
4 That is a fairly large parcel that was developed
5 around the -- around kind of the midpoint of the
6 Green Line renovations, post kind of full
7 renovation, pre-Garfield renovation as a way of
8 trying to help draw some attention to that station
9 and open it.

10 It is an underutilized asset that we
11 have been having ongoing conversations about, and
12 the goal, ultimately, is as we start to support
13 greater development in this area, it would
14 potentially be another site that could support
15 affordable housing in the community. It fits in
16 the footprint there. The City owns some
17 additional property around there that they would
18 look to support. They've had some proactive
19 conversations with their alder about how to be
20 advanced on zoning and kind of a more global
21 thought plan about how to support development in
22 that area.

23 So that one kind of tails on the
24 backside of those first two. There is a kind of a

1 longer plan of strategy about how we phase in some
2 development to support. It's an amazing gateway
3 station, so, like, we certainly see a benefit to
4 bringing commuters to that community and
5 supporting it. You, you know, mentioned
6 development kind of broadly on the south side of
7 63rd there. Theaster Gates owns a bunch of
8 property, has been really instrumental in
9 supporting it. There's a great restaurant
10 there -- Peach's. If you have an opportunity, go
11 visit it.

12 We did a partnership with the
13 University of Chicago. One of the first things we
14 did there, right, where we actually lease out the
15 old retail concession space that we renovated as
16 part of the project and made it available for
17 community use. They do kind of a rotating artist
18 kind of pop-up station there, so they -- you
19 often -- if you go in there, and you can get
20 jewelry or other kind of development made from
21 self -- self-incubating businesses, which is
22 pretty interesting there. And then they also have
23 some under-L activation space behind there that
24 they use for rotating events and art exhibits and

1 stuff.

2 So I think there's a whole lot going on
3 there. It's really exciting, and I think it's
4 exciting for us to be able to be a part of it and
5 support it, so --

6 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes. There's a
7 whole lot going on there in that station and
8 around other stations. And so my -- my takeaway
9 is, one agreement today with City Colleges; two
10 more parcel sites in the pipeline for that
11 station; and then this being one of the potential
12 sites for a larger ETOD agenda for CTA.

13 MR. MOONEY: Yes, sir.

14 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: All right. Thank
15 you.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
17 are no further questions.

18 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
19 to place this item on the omnibus for board
20 approval?

21 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

22 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

23 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
24 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo. We'll

1 take a roll call vote.

2 Director Roquejo?

3 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Oh, yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

5 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

9 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

11 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

13 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

15 Director Jakes, you may now proceed to
16 Agenda Item No. 13.

17 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 13 is
18 the review of an ordinance authorizing
19 intergovernmental license agreement for CTA's use
20 of Metra's bathroom facilities at 504 East
21 115th Street in Chicago for the Frequent Network
22 project.

23 Molly.

24 MS. POPPE: Good morning, Directors.

1 Okay. Oh, no. One second. There we
2 go.

3 Good afternoon -- or good morning
4 still, I guess. CTA is seeking board approval of
5 a cost-sharing and use agreement between the CTA
6 and Metra. With CTA's Frequent Bus Network, more
7 service on the No. 4, Cottage Grove, will be
8 extended to 115th and Kensington, reaching the
9 Metra station at that location.

10 Typically, what happens on the No. 4
11 Cottage Grove is we short-turn -- is what the term
12 is called -- where you, basically, don't serve the
13 entire extent of the route. We short-turn at 95th
14 and head back -- head back north, but with the
15 Frequent Bus Network, we are serving -- serving
16 the entire route with 10 minutes or better
17 service. And so based on this additional service,
18 it does necessitate the need for bathroom access
19 at the Metra station for CTA bus operators, both
20 on the No. 4 and there'd also be opportunity for
21 operators of the 111A to utilize the bathroom as
22 well.

23 It is estimated that up to a hundred
24 operators a day will utilize this restroom just

1 based on the normal service that we have on those
2 two routes. So this is a cost-sharing and use
3 agreement that we have, covering the cost of
4 supplies, cleaning, and maintenance, which will
5 all be provided by Metra. And so the cost is up
6 to \$10,000 for a year, paid in two installments,
7 the first \$5,000, and then as we continue to go
8 through this program, we'll assess the cost, and
9 then determine if we are adequately covering the
10 cost of Metra's work to maintain and supply this
11 bathroom.

12 Any questions?

13 VICE CHAIR JAKES: No. No.

14 MS. GREENLEE: We'll take questions
15 from other members of the board.

16 Director Roquejo?

17 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

19 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: None.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

21 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Just a comment.

22 This is a common sense, makes -- which, you know,
23 this is what we should be doing, working with
24 other agencies and working together. This is what

1 they want to see in Springfield, and this is a
2 good example of just working together.

3 Thank you.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

5 DIRECTOR LEE: Just glad that we're
6 prioritizing our bus operators and their access to
7 bathroom needs, so just thank you.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

9 DIRECTOR EADDY: No question.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there no
11 further questions.

12 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
13 to place this item on the omnibus for board
14 approval?

15 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

16 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

17 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
18 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo. We'll
19 take a roll call vote.

20 Director Roquejo?

21 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

23 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

1 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

2 THE WITNESS: Director Jakes?

3 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

5 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

7 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

9 Director Jakes, you may now proceed to

10 Agenda Item No. 14.

11 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 14 is
12 the review of an ordinance authorizing a pilot
13 program agreement with Sensonic US, Incorporated,
14 for a safety pilot through the CTA Innovation
15 Studio program.

16 Molly?

17 MS. POPPE: I apologize, Director.

18 Vita (phonetic), it was the wrong deck
19 that's loaded.

20 Is Vita in there?

21 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Do you need the deck
22 to start the report?

23 MS. POPPE: No. It's an old one, which
24 is fine. We'll go with this. It has all the

1 right information. There's just a couple
2 additional pieces of information I was going to
3 add. It's not -- it is not the end of the world.

4 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Okay.

5 (A discussion was held off the record.)

6 MS. POPPE: So today we are here -- and
7 as a reminder, I'm Chief Planning and Innovation
8 Officer, Molly Poppe. I'm joined by Cara Bader,
9 the Vice President of Planning and Strategy -- or
10 Innovation and Strategy. Excuse me. I gave you a
11 different title.

12 So we're here to present on,
13 specifically, a safety pilot that we are seeking
14 approval on. As a reminder, this safety pilot is
15 part of our Innovation Studio program, which was
16 launched back in late '23, early '24. The goal of
17 Innovation Studio is we put out problem statements
18 to the private sector, to the public, and say:
19 Here's some of the challenges that we're having.
20 Please help us pilot different solutions in kind
21 of a lab-type environment, where we can compare
22 and contrast different types of solutions, and we
23 can see how the sort of changing technology
24 ecosystem, or even sort of hard, you know,

1 hardware/hard-tech solutions can also help to
2 solve some of our biggest challenges.

3 So here on the list you have all of the
4 problem statements that we put out for '24, and we
5 have various pilots throughout. We've got a
6 couple pilots in customer experience that we
7 anticipate launching in July. We also have a
8 prior pilot that we sought approval from the board
9 on a few months ago, which was a camera-based
10 right-of-way intrusion project. We have the
11 no-cost pilot that we're leveraging, utilizing
12 cameras on our buses to check bus stop conditions.

13 And, specifically, what we are here
14 today is for a pilot -- another pilot around
15 right-of-way intrusion, and the concerns with the
16 technology solution to address right-of-way
17 intrusions. So, specifically, right-of-way
18 intrusions continue to be a challenge the agency
19 works to address. The -- as you guys may have
20 seen in the paper, we had a recent right-of-way
21 intrusion on the Red Line that did impact service
22 yesterday. And so this is something that has both
23 a human impact for our riders. It has a human
24 impact for our operators as well, and it has a

1 real-world service impact on how we deliver
2 service.

3 So we are seeking board approval today
4 for Sensonic. Sensonic will launch a technology
5 approach, leveraging our existing fiberoptic cable
6 to detect right-of-way intrusion for CTA. The
7 total cost of the pilot is \$110,000. This is an
8 up to amount. The payment will be split into two
9 milestones so where the full value will not be
10 realized until the pilot is successfully running
11 and complete.

12 This particular pilot is different than
13 other pilots that we have. A lot of the other
14 pilots that we have are camera-based and that
15 camera-based technology can only detect
16 right-of-way intrusions within their field of
17 vision of the camera. So it can only see a camera
18 at the station and potential right-of-way
19 intrusions there. It cannot extend beyond sort of
20 what it can see and beyond, typically, into --
21 into the subway or along a track where there
22 isn't -- isn't a station.

23 And so this is really unique because it
24 is a sensor technology on our fiberoptic cable.

1 The -- Sensonic has tested it up to 50 miles on
2 more freight rail-type solutions. And so this is
3 their -- this is their attempt and work to try to
4 pilot something on a public transit system.

5 We will be detecting over about 3 miles
6 of total track for right-of-way intrusion, so
7 there will be a sensor on the fiberoptic cable
8 that runs along the right-of-way. It will connect
9 to an edge device that is powered by the computer
10 vision technology developed by Sensonic,
11 specifically designed to detect vibrations on a
12 fiberoptic cable and be able to distinguish the
13 difference between a train that's going down the
14 tracks and somebody walking on the tracks or
15 something moving on the tracks. So it's a really
16 sort of complex model that they developed and that
17 they will pilot for us.

18 Just a little bit about the hardware
19 some more and the pilot timeline. So there is
20 software components that I've mentioned, plus
21 there will be an edge device that we would utilize
22 in a sensor. The overall initial training and
23 calibration and installation will take about
24 six weeks. From there, we'll have eight weeks of

1 additional sort of fine-tuning calibration, and
2 then we will have about 14 weeks, working with our
3 control center to manage for false positive,
4 tracking the results of this particular
5 technology.

6 I do want to note very quickly, because
7 we've talked about this as a board as this is a
8 priority of you all to work on right-of-way
9 intrusion, and we've passed the prior program of
10 STV and Dirk, which is the AI detection
11 technology. We have other different types of
12 technology that we are working in testing as well.
13 There is -- utilizing our existing camera-based
14 system that we're testing right-of-way intrusions,
15 and then we have a third system that is deployed
16 on the Yellow Line. It's a little bit more
17 focused on employee safety, right? When our
18 infrastructure team is working on the
19 right-of-way, making sure that there are safety
20 measures and there's detection of them on the
21 right-of-way to prevent any accidents there.

22 So this is kind of the full gambit of
23 what we're looking at from a technology
24 perspective to try to address right-of-way

1 intrusions. What we do know from what else is out
2 there in the world, we know NTA has about five
3 different pilots that they're running right now
4 for right-of-way intrusion. So they're also
5 looking at AI-based technology and other
6 technology as well, and they do have some hardware
7 components as well.

8 They are looking at platform doors.
9 Those would be very specific doors that you would
10 install that would require precision birthing of
11 our trains and require that to all be synced up so
12 that when the doors open as a train pulls into the
13 station, it correctly matches up with the doors of
14 the train.

15 Just for sort of context, that's about
16 \$100 million of what we see for those three
17 stations for a platform-door pilot, and then from
18 an AI-based technology type of solution,
19 MetroLink, our partners up -- are they in
20 Vancouver? Where are they? In Canada, they also
21 have an AI-based intrusion technology. They're
22 doing 1.5 miles of track for a cost of 1.3 million
23 for their AI-based technology.

24 So we sort of see what's out in the

1 world. There's the platform-based technologies,
2 and then there's this camera-based technologies
3 and sensor-based technologies. So we're looking
4 at sort of the difference between camera- and
5 platform-based technologies, and then we do
6 continue -- or excuse me -- camera-based and
7 sensor-based, and then we do continue to look at
8 those physical solutions, knowing that those are
9 very expensive and very complex to implement. But
10 that is something that we are looking at the full
11 gambit of how we can try to detect right-of-way
12 intrusions.

13 The last piece before I take questions
14 is just how we're measuring success. We have
15 metrics for success for all of our pilots that
16 we've been working on across the departments that
17 you see here, and what this is about is looking at
18 the different types of technology, being able to
19 compare and contrast them, looking at response
20 time, up-time; most importantly, false positive
21 rates. What we don't want to have happen is, you
22 detect a person, but that person's actually
23 boarding the train, and then an alert goes off
24 and, you know, you hold the service. That's not

1 what we want.

2 So we are testing all of these
3 different metrics for these pilots to ensure that
4 what we ultimately look to leverage across the
5 system is useful and does take into consideration
6 sort of the various different environments that we
7 have at CTA.

8 With that, I will take any questions.

9 Director Jakes?

10 VICE CHAIR JAKES: If someone -- if no
11 one purposefully, or accidentally, falls on the
12 tracks, even out of view of the cameras, how do
13 you measure the success of it?

14 MS. POPPE: So one of the things that
15 we do do to train the model is there will be some
16 interaction with us training it by us entering the
17 right-of-way or coming close, because there's both
18 the sensor of directly entering the right-of-way
19 or getting very close to it as well, right?
20 There's also the situations where people get too
21 close to the tactile or too close to the train.
22 So that's something that we will look at as well,
23 so it will be -- there'll be some controlled
24 environment.

1 Train's not going to be running, but
2 there will be some controlled environment, where
3 we help train the model enter the right-of-way and
4 so the camera or sensor does detect us as we
5 calibrate the model. And then there will also be
6 detection, not just of somebody directly entering
7 the right-of-way, but also: Did somebody get very
8 close to the train, get very close to the tactile?
9 Are we being able to sense them?

10 VICE CHAIR JAKES: And maybe I missed
11 it. What's the response time from it detecting to
12 notifying someone?

13 MS. POPPE: Yeah. It can be almost
14 immediate notification to control center. From
15 there, control center, then, does have a camera
16 that they will pull up, verify that there's a
17 right-of-way intrusion, and then radio out.

18 Longer-term, as we continue to work
19 through this pilot and continue to work through
20 making sure that we're not seeing this pulse --
21 false positives. We would look to: Could we make
22 it immediate? Could we do a direct alert at the
23 station to the operator? Could we even get up to
24 cutting power?

1 And so that we can say: We're just
2 going to cut power right away and notify control.
3 But until we sort of calibrate the model, know for
4 sure it works, and know it's not sending us false
5 positives, we notify control, and then control
6 communicates with the operator.

7 MS. BADER: I think the one thing I
8 would add is, the purpose of testing multiple
9 interventions at once is the alert is something
10 we'll be able to control. If you can successfully
11 generate an automated report, whether it's the
12 camera generation, fiberoptic cable, the -- how
13 you get that report to the control center and what
14 you do, those are all internal procedures we
15 coordinate regularly.

16 What we haven't been able to do is
17 identify a very high-quality automatic sensor. So
18 we're doing these in real time because what might
19 work best in terms of sending an alert to control
20 and, you know, sending the signal to cut power for
21 one pilot could be applied to another pilot. The
22 thing that has been most difficult to dial in with
23 technology, both at CTA and in our peer agencies,
24 is reducing those false positives and trying to

1 sense an intrusion, you know, as quickly as
2 possible, so it isn't necessarily the operator
3 seeing someone on the track, but they've already
4 been radioed. They know to slow down. We can
5 also explore things, like wayside lighting, so
6 they would see a light even before they got the
7 radio. It's really the generating the incident
8 that is what we're trying to iterate on and figure
9 out the best and highest quality approach.

10 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Thank you.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

12 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes. Thanks for
13 paying attention to this particular issue.

14 I think all the Innovation Studio
15 projects are important, but the ones that can save
16 lives are, of course, number one.

17 And because we have several going on on
18 different timelines, when do you think we could
19 start assessing impact and, hopefully, positive
20 impact on the numbers?

21 MS. POPPE: Yeah. The system at
22 UIC-Halsted, the two that we will be doing at --
23 for the STV pilot, and then this one that's about
24 3 miles, those will run pretty concurrently. So

1 those are going to run simultaneously pretty much
2 throughout 2026, so we will be able to know over
3 the next six months, sort of, how they're
4 comparing and contrasting to each other.

5 The Yellow Line is a longer -- is a
6 longer lead time, so I would say in the next
7 six months, I will be able to come back to you,
8 along with our partners in IT and operations and
9 infrastructure, to say: Hey, here's what we're
10 seeing working. We're going to look to
11 potentially extend it further, knowing that there
12 is still the Yellow Line project going, which has
13 a broader scope. It's got third-rail protection.
14 It's got some other things in it as well, so that
15 would continue. But I would in the next
16 six months -- six to nine months, we'll be able to
17 come back.

18 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: For the one we are
19 approving today?

20 MS. POPPE: For the one we are
21 approving today, yep, and then the one that you
22 approved three months -- two months ago --
23 three months ago -- two months ago.

24 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Thanks.

1 MS. POPPE: Yeah.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

3 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes. I agree as well.
4 This is particularly important, obviously, to make
5 sure that we're doing our very best to save lives
6 on our end. Obviously, this merits a much longer
7 conversation, I think within our city, mental
8 health issues and otherwise.

9 I'm wondering if this particular pilot
10 can be enhanced with audio and lights,
11 particularly because the -- as I understand the
12 pilot, it's really just assessing blockage, right,
13 across a distance, but it's not preventing the
14 person or object to actually do anything.

15 And so I think if we can coordinate
16 that notification to also coordinate with some
17 lighting that would go on there, that could be
18 lighter cost and some audio, as in, like, you're
19 crossing, you know, a right-of-way, or a warning
20 of sort. I feel like that could also sort of get
21 to the root of a problem before it becomes a
22 problem.

23 MS. POPPE: Yeah. We'll absolutely
24 take a look to see what else we can -- as -- after

1 we've calibrated the model and feel like it's
2 accurate and good, that once we go there, what we
3 can do, potentially, from an audio announcement --
4 even an audio announcement from control center
5 that somebody is able to say on the platform:
6 You're standing too close to the tactile --

7 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Exactly.

8 MS. POPPE: -- or get off the
9 right-of-way, those type of things. We'll look to
10 see what we can expand after we've confirmed that
11 we can detect people in the right way.

12 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: And colored lighting.
13 Maybe, you know, that could be another --

14 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: I think that's a
16 wonderful suggestion to implement that.

17 MS. POPPE: Thank you.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

19 DIRECTOR LEE: All my questions have
20 been asked already, so thank you.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

22 DIRECTOR EADDY: I posed mine briefly
23 already.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there

1 are no further questions.

2 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
3 to place this item on the omnibus for board
4 approval?

5 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

6 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

7 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved and
8 seconded that this item be placed on the omnibus
9 for board approval. We'll take a roll call vote.

10 Director Roquejo?

11 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

13 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

17 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

19 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

21 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

22 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

23 Director Jakes, you may now proceed to
24 Agenda Item No. --

1 VICE CHAIR JAKES: 15.

2 MS. GREENLEE: -- 15.

3 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 15 is
4 the review of an ordinance authorizing the
5 purchase of primary and excess property insurance
6 coverage for policy year 2025-2026.

7 Sisavanh Baker.

8 MS. BAKER: Good morning, Directors.
9 Thank you. Sisavanh Baker, deputy general counsel
10 for the CTA's law department.

11 This is an ordinance authorizing the
12 2025-2026 property insurance policy. It runs from
13 July to July, and it's renewed every year.

14 Our insurance broker, Mesirow Alliant,
15 and its DBE partner, Paradigm, marketed the
16 renewal to both domestic and international
17 insurance markets. A consortium of the
18 international and domestic insurance providers
19 provided the best combination of coverage and
20 price.

21 Last year's premium was \$7,031,587, and
22 this year we're looking at a premium of
23 \$7,436,605. This is an approximate increase of
24 \$405,000, or a 5.76 percent increase. Increases

1 are based typically on a variety of issues, but
2 this year we've had an increase in our assets
3 values, which went up to 15.3 -- 36 percent from
4 7.6 billion to \$8.8 billion.

5 We recommend renewal with this
6 consortium, and I am happy to answer any
7 questions.

8 VICE CHAIR JAKES: I have no questions,
9 Sissy. Thank you.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

11 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

13 DIRECTOR LEE: No questions.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

15 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

17 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No questions.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

19 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
21 are no questions.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
23 to place this item on the omnibus for board
24 approval?

1 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

2 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

3 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
4 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
5 this item be placed on the omnibus for board
6 approval. We'll take a roll call vote.

7 Director Eaddy?

8 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

10 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

12 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

14 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

16 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

18 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

20 Director Jakes, you may now proceed to
21 Agenda Item No. 16.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 16 is
23 the review of an ordinance authorizing an
24 amendment to a contract with CRRC Sifang America

1 JV for railcars.

2 Kent Ray and Jeff Bora.

3 MR. RAY: Good morning, Directors.

4 Kent Ray, general counsel. With me is Jeff Bora.

5 Jeff is the deputy general counsel for corporate
6 law and litigation.

7 Today, we're seeking the board's
8 approval of an ordinance authorizing an amendment
9 to the Chicago Transit Authority's contract with
10 CRRC Sifang America joint venture with respect to
11 CRRC's manufacture and delivery of CTA Series 7000
12 railcars. This contract was entered into about
13 ten years ago and includes a base order of 400 new
14 railcars and four options for additional railcars,
15 totaling 446 on top of the 400 base.

16 Over the course of the past ten years,
17 through pandemic, supply chain issues, and
18 inflation, CTA has received and continues to
19 receive, so far, roughly 230 of these cars on the
20 base order, while the option order terms included
21 an escalation in indices to account for the cost
22 of railcar over time. From the U.S. Bureau of
23 Labor Statistics, those indices were discontinued,
24 leaving the parties to find acceptable replacement

1 escalation indices.

2 What this amendment does is it provides
3 for replacement escalation indices for the
4 options -- railcars; it resets the time for
5 application of those indices to reflect the
6 current production; it permits additional
7 escalation that must be justified up to certain
8 capped amounts; it allocates responsibilities for
9 taxes and duties prospective from 2025; it
10 establishes certainty of performance by
11 strengthening vendor-bonding requirements,
12 requiring that the bond -- the letter of credit be
13 under a US-based bank; and recognizes significant
14 savings over having to seek new contracts to
15 procure these railcars.

16 Lending for the option orders will be
17 approved by the board separately prior to
18 production. We anticipate the first option to go
19 into production somewhere -- two years out.

20 Happy to answer any questions.

21 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Kent, what happens
22 to the old railcars? I know we talked about this
23 years ago, but I forgot.

24 MR. RAY: 2600s -- I'd have to refer to

1 Mr. Bonds for that question.

2 MR. BONDS: Morning, Directors. Donald
3 Bonds, Chief Transit Officer for CTA.

4 What happened to the old railcars is
5 that they get scrapped at some point. We actually
6 sell them off as scrap metal, so we get a profit
7 off of those once we retire those.

8 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Good. Good. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. BONDS: Thank you.

11 VICE CHAIR JAKES: That's the only
12 question I had.

13 MS. GREENLEE: We'll take other
14 questions from other members of the board.

15 Director Roquejo?

16 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yeah. I think we
17 can take advantage of this moment and educate
18 ourselves, and the public, as to what the cost is
19 of each of those railcars that we all get into and
20 out of every day. So what is the cost of one of
21 those railcars today? And what is the potential
22 cost as part of these options and negotiations?

23 MR. RAY: The current cost for the base
24 order railcars is approximately \$1.5 million per

1 railcar. Under this settlement, discounting
2 potential taxes down the road, they are capped at
3 an additional 1.2 roughly on top of that.

4 If we were to go out on the street to
5 buy railcars today, we had an independent cost
6 estimate done and it was looking as though we
7 would be paying somewhere in excess of
8 4.25 million per railcar.

9 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: 4.2 million for each
10 of the cars?

11 MR. RAY: Yes, sir.

12 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: And how many cars do
13 we have in the system?

14 MR. RAY: I'll probably need Mr. Bonds
15 for that, too. You should just stay up here,
16 please.

17 MR. BONDS: Kent, we have around 1500
18 railcars total --

19 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: 1500?

20 MR. BONDS: -- in our fleet currently.
21 700 or -- 714 are the 5000 Series of railcars. We
22 have about between 215 and 230 that have been
23 delivered of the 7000s. As the 7000s come on
24 board, we're starting to pull back on the 2600s,

1 and the rest of that fleet is 3200s and 2600s,
2 which are currently operating on Blue Line and the
3 Brown and Orange Lines.

4 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Thank you. I think
5 that's very sobering when we are talking about,
6 you know, funding that we need, et cetera. I
7 think it's important to educate all of us on the
8 cost and that every time we get on, we take one of
9 those cars, we are walking into a 2 million-dollar
10 car, you know, every day.

11 So thanks for the context and --

12 MR. RAY: Exactly.

13 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yeah.

14 MS. LEERHSEN: And just to build on
15 that, I think, in terms of the funding point that
16 you're making, one of the messages I've really
17 been trying to send -- certainly, people are
18 highly focused on service delivery and the quality
19 of service delivery, as they should be. But what
20 I've been looking to do is break down the reasons
21 that they're seeing service impacted, so when you
22 do look at issues with our aging fleet and issues
23 with our cars and associating that with the
24 funding impact, right?

1 These are not just sort of management
2 and operational decisions. They are informed by
3 our aging fleet, our aging infrastructure, very
4 much so, and there's a funding component to that.

5 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Thanks.

6 MR. BONDS: So on top of the additional
7 cost that -- when you look at how much it's going
8 to cost us to go out for new railcars, yes, I'll
9 also count in the cost that it's costing us to
10 keep the older fleet running because it's --
11 really has gotten to a point that they need to be
12 retired.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

14 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Thank you for all
15 that. What's also most impressive is your ability
16 to just throw out those numbers like nothing, so
17 thank you.

18 MR. BONDS: I've been doing this a long
19 time.

20 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: I understand.
21 Appreciate it.

22 MR. BONDS: Thank you.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

24 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Is there any risk of

1 solvency in terms of --

2 MR. RAY: I suppose there's always
3 risk, but I think this -- this resolution helps
4 us -- helps assure us of continued performance.
5 This was an important step in having our vendors,
6 with its suppliers and subcontractors, that
7 they're going to be available and ready to go on
8 these options.

9 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Thank you.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

11 DIRECTOR LEE: No further questions.

12 Thanks, Kent.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

14 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yeah. You referenced
15 about the aging equipment. What is the cost --
16 maintenance cost -- at what expense?

17 MR. BONDS: Well, I don't have that
18 number in front of me, but I definitely know that
19 this costs us quite a bit because the 2600s,
20 especially --

21 DIRECTOR EADDY: Right.

22 MR. BONDS: The 3200s have received
23 some level of overhaul in the last ten years.
24 2600s have not seen an overhaul in probably

1 15 years, which means a lot of the components are
2 needing to be replaced, there's a lot of wiring
3 issues, door issues -- all of these are being, you
4 know, really, the rail maintenance group do a
5 bang-up job, trying to keep them going.

6 And so it's costing --

7 DIRECTOR EADDY: It's costing us quite
8 a bit.

9 MR. BONDS: Right.

10 MR. RAY: One final point: I did all
11 the talking, but Jeff Bora is the attorney who
12 negotiated -- took the lead on our team in
13 negotiating these great terms, so I do want to
14 thank him for that work.

15 MS. LEERHSEN: And, Director Eaddy, to
16 your question --

17 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yeah.

18 MS. LEERHSEN: -- and to the point
19 overall, we can calculate that and give a sense of
20 scale. I think it's a great -- by Mr. Bonds as
21 well, you know, the upkeep and the money that goes
22 into that, in addition --

23 DIRECTOR EADDY: Right.

24 MS. LEERHSEN: -- to the purchase of

1 the new cars, and we can build that out.

2 DIRECTOR EADDY: Thank you.

3 MS. GREENLEE: I so want to hear Jeff
4 say something.

5 MR. BORA: Good morning, everyone.
6 It's a pleasure to meet you.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Thank you.

8 MR. BORA: Does that satisfy your
9 request?

10 MS. GREENLEE: Yes. Thank you very
11 much.

12 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
13 to place this item on the omnibus for board
14 approval?

15 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

16 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

17 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
18 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
19 this item will be placed on the omnibus for board
20 approval. We'll take a roll call vote.

21 Director Eaddy?

22 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

23 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

24 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

1 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

2 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

3 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

4 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

5 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

6 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

8 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, you may

10 now proceed to Agenda Item No. 17.

11 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Agenda Item 17 is
12 the review of an ordinance authorizing a license
13 agreement with the County of Cook, through the
14 County of Cook Health and Hospital system, to
15 install, operate, and maintain public-health
16 vending machines on CTA property, dispensing -- am
17 I saying this right -- nalaxone; is that correct?

18 MS. BARRETO: Nalaxone, yes.

19 VICE CHAIR JAKES: At rail stations.

20 Narcan, right?

21 MS. BARRETO: Correct.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Okay. All right.

23 Denise?

24 MS. BARRETO: Good morning, Directors.

1 Denise Barreto, Chief Equity and Engagement
2 Officer.

3 This morning we are seeking the board's
4 approval for an ordinance authorizing a license
5 agreement with the Cook County -- with the County
6 of Cook, through the County of Cook Health and
7 Hospital Systems, to install, operate, and
8 maintain public-health vending machines on CTA
9 property, dispensing nalaxone at rail stations,
10 also known as Narcan -- is a life-saving
11 medication used to reverse the effects of an
12 opioid overdose.

13 The vending machines will be installed
14 at five stations across four rail lines. This
15 agreement is the result of a CTA partnership with
16 the West Side Opioid Task -- Heroin Task Force,
17 CC -- the Cook County Health systems, and Cook
18 County Department of Public Health, and the
19 Chicago Recovery Alliance.

20 Happy to answer any questions.

21 VICE CHAIR JAKES: I don't have a
22 question, but I do have a brief comment because --
23 and I'm sorry. I don't know your name.

24 MS. BARRETO: Sheila Haennicke.

1 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Ms. Haennicke?

2 MS. HAENNICKE: Yes.

3 VICE CHAIR JAKES: You are the epitome
4 of turning pain into purpose, and thank you.
5 Thank you for that. So that's my only comment.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Other comments or
7 questions from the board?

8 Director Roquejo?

9 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yeah. I wanted to
10 double down on that comment and appreciate that,
11 last board meeting, Sheila was here, and this
12 board meeting, we're making this happen. And I
13 appreciate the staff taking the lead here, making
14 sure that we focus on these projects, again, that
15 are saving lives, right? And of all the projects,
16 those should be elevated.

17 Today, the theme seems to be
18 partnerships, right? And I appreciate Nora's
19 focus on that last time. And so I've been
20 following this both with excitement that we are
21 building all these partnerships. I'm also
22 concerned as to how -- what's the overall, I
23 guess, strategy around partners here? How are we
24 staffed to initiate those, follow-through, check

1 on those, cultivate, nurture, all these things.
2 Because once you start a partnership, that
3 generates more work, right? That's usually the
4 case.

5 So if you could just give us some sense
6 on the needs and how you're all thinking, big
7 picture, and maybe use this as an example of how
8 it was originated, how we arrived here, and what's
9 next, that will be helpful for us.

10 MS. BARRETO: Sure. So this
11 partnership is the result of a direct request of
12 mine on WBEZ in October of 2023, when folks were
13 pressuring the CTA on: You need to have Narcan on
14 the stations. You need to have your -- you need
15 to have your operators carrying it.

16 I specifically said: We are not in the
17 health care business. We are a transit agency,
18 and we moved people, and we need help with social
19 services. And within a week, the West Side Opioid
20 Task Force called, led by my callout of
21 representative, LaShawn Ford. They called us
22 within a week and that started this.

23 I think the bigger question -- that's
24 the origin story. But the bigger thing is, as it

1 started to move, it was very clear -- because as
2 Director Jakes pointed out last -- last meeting,
3 he asked: Is this the same, or similar, to what
4 was happening in the city, with this machine that
5 we have at 95th? And the point of that, that was
6 very much in our minds when we were building this
7 because that machine did experience -- it didn't
8 work at times. It was out of supplies.

9 And so with this partnership with Cook
10 County Department of Public Health, they have a
11 partnership with the Chicago Recovery Alliance.
12 And so we will have full, like, the Chicago
13 Recovery Alliance will be the partner that makes
14 sure that it is procured -- that the Narcan is
15 procured, replenished, and they're also going to
16 provide office hours for us to make sure that
17 there are some human touch and not just a machine
18 being put up.

19 And that is a nod to acting president,
20 Nora Leerhsen, because in her role as Chief of
21 Staff, that was her biggest concern about this
22 project -- was: Are we just putting up a machine?
23 Is this, you know, all we're doing?

24 As far as how to move forward, I think

1 the biggest thing related, at least, under my
2 responsibilities of partnerships and
3 collaborations, you build relationships before you
4 need them. So we are always talking to people.
5 We are continuously out in the community. My
6 team, the Government Community Relations liaisons,
7 have been strategically deployed by region. And
8 so they are in contact with all kinds of
9 organizations, other electeds, and I -- I think
10 our vision is that we're building those
11 relationships and when CTA raises a need for a
12 partner, we will have relationships already in
13 place to make that stuff happen.

14 So I could defer to someone else, but
15 that's the way that -- within the Government
16 Community Relations, that's the way we're looking
17 at it.

18 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Thank you.

19 MS. LEERHSEN: I would just add,
20 recognizing your question, and note, Director,
21 that the focus on partnerships does create a lot
22 of additional engagement that I think we've been
23 feeling over the last couple of months during my
24 time here in this role. And I want to be

1 thoughtful about it because I think it's specific
2 to each area. There's partnerships that are still
3 kind of subject-matter specific, as Denise is
4 recognizing on this topic, and then -- but,
5 overall, is a cultural approach from across the
6 whole agency.

7 So we're being thoughtful about how to
8 structure that in terms of working that muscle
9 within each group in terms of planning and
10 innovation and what it means for partnerships
11 there versus from a health perspective or safety
12 perspective, but then also making sure we have the
13 mechanisms in place, that people know how to do
14 that in ways that is shared across those areas,
15 and to cultivate that further.

16 So we'll keep you updated on that. I
17 think it's a -- it's very much top-down, a focus
18 of mine, personally, to embed those partnerships.
19 I feel strongly that, from the top, those start as
20 well, and then flow down to the organization in
21 various ways.

22 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Thanks. And I
23 cannot stress enough how important it is at the
24 evolution from -- and I started my career here at

1 CTA -- was just, like, this wall, where we just
2 move people from A to B. That's all we do.

3 Surely, slowly, but steadily building,
4 now, partnerships that are helpful, not only to
5 support people who use our system, but also when
6 we, then, go out and ask for help, support,
7 funding, et cetera -- it's one thing to show up
8 alone, and another thing to show up with your
9 friends. There are not transactional friends that
10 you use, but friends you have a deep relationship
11 with.

12 So congrats on this partnership, and I
13 look forward to the overall picture. And also,
14 again, still kind of concerned around: How do we
15 sustain this effort and staff it properly? So we
16 don't start things that we cannot follow
17 through -- as was your concern with the initial
18 machine.

19 MS. BARRETO: And I think -- I just
20 want to make clear that part of that is having
21 other partners because we don't -- you know,
22 having enough people in GCR to have the
23 relationships so that you can activate other
24 partners, right? Because the ability for us to

1 grow our teams to do all the things we need to
2 do -- I mean, we know what our resource
3 constraints are. So this particular situation is
4 a perfect example -- as this moves and looking at
5 the timing of the -- timing as well as placing of
6 these machines.

7 The relationships that my team have
8 built in those regions will be able to be
9 activated should there be an issue or should there
10 be a -- so just wanted to emphasize that because
11 you asked, specifically, about staffing, and I
12 think we have to keep that nuance there -- that
13 our staff is our staff, but our staff can, then,
14 be extended by relationships that they build and
15 that they maintain always.

16 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Thank you.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Questions?

18 Director Ortiz?

19 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: I appreciate the
20 partnership.

21 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

22 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Just
23 congratulations. This is -- in this meeting,
24 we've done two things now to save lives, and I

1 think that this is what we need to really consider
2 with these important issues. So thank you for all
3 the hard work.

4 Nora, thank you for the leadership on
5 this as well, but this is a move in the right
6 direction. Thank you.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

8 DIRECTOR LEE: Thank you for your
9 leadership, Denise. This is exciting and I'm
10 excited to see how it's maintained and continually
11 staffed, so thanks.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

13 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yeah. I'm just
14 curious in terms of the selection of the various
15 lines.

16 MS. BARRETO: Sure.

17 DIRECTOR EADDY: What lent to that
18 selection?

19 MS. BARRETO: Awesome question. So
20 first of all, we wanted to look where the Heroin
21 Highway is, right? A lot of this -- the data that
22 we looked at was related to Chicago Public Health,
23 as well as Cook County Public Health. The
24 West Side Opioid Heroin and Task -- and Opioid

1 Task Force, really, they gave us a wish list
2 there. Wasn't it, like, nine stations, I think,
3 originally that they -- that we started out with,
4 and we went and visited when Nancy Ellen
5 (phonetic) was here, on the coldest day -- I have
6 to tell you that.

7 But, anyway, we went to all those
8 stations and looked at feasibility, but it really
9 was driven by where the activity is, and that's
10 also the way that we're going to deploy office
11 hours, right? So there's a guarantee of, at
12 least, six to nine visits a month in the locations
13 of where these machines are. And I'll just read
14 that out loud: It's the Blue Line, Jefferson
15 Park; the Green Line, it's the Harlem Oak Park
16 side; Red Line, 47th Street and Howard; and the
17 Pink Line on Central Park.

18 DIRECTOR EADDY: Okay. Thank you.

19 MS. BARRETO: You're welcome.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
21 are no further questions.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: May I now have leave
23 to place this item on the omnibus for board
24 approval?

1 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

2 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

3 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
4 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo. We'll
5 take a roll call vote.

6 Director Eaddy?

7 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

9 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

11 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

13 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

15 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

17 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

19 Director Jakes, you may now proceed to
20 Agenda Item No. 18, which is the review of our
21 purchase and sales award recommendations.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Okay. I'm going to
23 go through these -- hopefully, they can keep up
24 with me.

1 Our next order of business is the
2 review of Contract Nos. B-1 through B-6, which are
3 contract awards for infrastructure. I have no
4 questions.

5 MS. GREENLEE: We'll take questions
6 from other members of the board.

7 Director Roquejo?

8 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

10 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

12 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

14 DIRECTOR LEE: None.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

16 DIRECTOR EADDY: None.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, there
18 are no further questions.

19 We may now proceed to Contracts
20 Nos. D-1 through D-2.

21 VICE CHAIR JAKES: D-1 through D-2 are
22 contract awards for planning and innovation. I
23 have no questions.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Questions from other

1 members?

2 Director Eaddy?

3 DIRECTOR EADDY: None.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

5 DIRECTOR LEE: None.

6 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

7 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

9 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: None.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

11 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, no

13 further questions.

14 You may now proceed Contract No. E-1.

15 VICE CHAIR JAKES: E-1 is a contract
16 award for communications. No questions.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo, any
18 questions?

19 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

20 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

21 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: No questions.

22 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

23 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

24 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee.

1 DIRECTOR LEE: None.

2 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy.

3 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

4 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, you may
5 now proceed to Contract G-1.

6 VICE CHAIR JAKES: G-1 is a contract
7 award for technology. No questions.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

9 DIRECTOR EADDY: No questions.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

11 DIRECTOR LEE: None.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

13 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: No questions.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

15 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: None.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

17 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: No questions.

18 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, we --
19 there are no further questions, nor are there any
20 other contracts.

21 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Since there are no
22 further questions on the contracts, may I have
23 leave to place the ten contracts on the omnibus?

24 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

1 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

2 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
3 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
4 the ten contracts be placed on the omnibus. We'll
5 take a roll call vote.

6 Director Roquejo?

7 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

8 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

9 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

10 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

11 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

12 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

13 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

14 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

15 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

16 MS. GREENLEE: Director Eaddy?

17 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

18 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

19 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Since there's no
20 further business to come before the committee, may
21 I have a motion to approve the omnibus and
22 recommend the omnibus for board approval?

23 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

24 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

1 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
2 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
3 the omnibus be approved -- be recommended for
4 board approval. We'll take a roll call vote.

5 Director Eaddy?

6 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

7 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

8 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

9 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

10 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

12 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

14 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

16 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes, the
18 motion passes.

19 You may now proceed to Agenda Item 19.

20 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Well, before we go
21 to 19, I'm just going to say this: Last month, I
22 bragged that we got out of FAB in 20 minutes. I
23 won't do that again.

24 Finally, may I have a motion to

1 adjourn?

2 DIRECTOR LEE: So moved.

3 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Second.

4 MS. GREENLEE: It's been moved by
5 Director Lee, seconded by Director Roquejo that
6 the Committee on Finance, Audit, and Budget
7 meeting for June 11th, 2025, be adjourned. We'll
8 take a roll call vote.

9 Director Eaddy?

10 DIRECTOR EADDY: Yes.

11 MS. GREENLEE: Director Lee?

12 DIRECTOR LEE: Yes.

13 MS. GREENLEE: Director Jakes?

14 VICE CHAIR JAKES: Yes.

15 MS. GREENLEE: Chairman Barclay?

16 CHAIRMAN BARCLAY: Yes.

17 MS. GREENLEE: Director Ortiz?

18 DIRECTOR ORTIZ: Yes.

19 MS. GREENLEE: Director Roquejo?

20 DIRECTOR ROQUEJO: Yes.

21 MS. GREENLEE: The motion passes.

22 VICE CHAIR JAKES: We are adjourned.

23 (Off the record at 11:37 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER - NOTARY PUBLIC

I, Kristine Wesner, CVR, the officer before whom the foregoing proceeding was taken, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct record of the testimony given; that said testimony was taken by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that reading and signing was not requested; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this proceeding and have no interest, financial or otherwise, in its outcome.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 19th day of June, 2025.

Kt w



My Commission Expires: July 02, 2025

A			
ability 77:15, 88:24	accessible 20:18	activity 91:9	after 36:15, 66:24, 67:10
able 12:22, 13:8, 37:8, 37:24, 38:3, 38:5, 40:4, 40:5, 40:6, 40:19, 41:3, 48:4, 57:12, 60:18, 62:9, 63:10, 63:16, 65:2, 65:7, 65:16, 67:5, 89:8	accidentally 61:11	actually 47:14, 60:22, 66:14, 74:5	afternoon 50:3
about 8:3, 9:9, 11:15, 16:1, 36:5, 36:9, 37:9, 37:17, 39:21, 40:22, 45:16, 46:11, 46:19, 46:21, 47:1, 57:5, 57:18, 57:23, 58:2, 58:7, 59:2, 59:15, 60:17, 64:23, 72:12, 73:22, 75:22, 76:5, 78:15, 85:21, 87:1, 87:7, 89:11	accidents 58:21	actuals 6:9	again 9:13, 9:16, 36:18, 36:20, 44:15, 83:14, 88:14, 97:23
absent 4:23	accordance 11:21	add 54:3, 63:8, 86:19	agencies 44:7, 51:24, 63:23
absolutely 15:8, 37:2, 45:12, 66:23	account 11:14, 72:21	additional 7:3, 7:4, 8:11, 8:12, 9:12, 20:2, 20:3, 20:22, 26:10, 26:17, 29:4, 31:14, 46:17, 50:17, 54:2, 58:1, 72:14, 73:6, 75:3, 77:6, 86:22	agency 55:18, 84:17, 87:6
acceptable 72:24	accounted 23:14, 29:5	address 22:12, 45:13, 55:16, 55:19, 58:24	agenda 6:10, 10:20, 10:21, 16:11, 19:8, 19:9, 22:7, 22:8, 25:13, 25:15, 28:9, 28:11, 30:20, 30:21, 33:8, 33:9, 42:9, 42:10, 48:12, 49:16, 49:17, 53:10, 53:11, 68:24, 69:3, 71:21, 71:22, 81:10, 81:11, 92:20, 97:19
access 19:20, 34:5, 34:7, 34:17, 34:19, 43:11, 50:18, 52:6	accounting 15:14	addressed 16:5	aggressive 39:16
accessibility 17:10	accurate 67:2	adelfia 11:4, 11:12, 12:19	aging 76:22, 77:3, 78:15
	acquire 26:7, 28:24, 31:10	adequately 51:9	ago 39:22, 55:9, 65:22, 65:23, 72:13, 73:23
	acquired 23:3, 39:1	adjacent 42:21, 45:8	agree 44:12, 66:3
	acquisition 22:10, 22:21, 22:24, 26:1, 26:18, 29:5, 31:8, 31:18, 34:7, 34:13, 34:20, 36:9, 38:9, 39:7	adjourn 98:1	agreed 43:5, 43:14
	acquisitions 37:5, 38:6, 38:23	adjourned 98:7, 98:22	agreed-upon 34:23, 39:9
	across 60:16, 61:4, 66:13, 82:14, 87:5, 87:14	advanced 46:20	
	act 13:6, 23:6	advantage 74:17	
	acting 3:11, 85:19	affixed 99:15	
	activate 88:23	affordable 46:15	
	activated 89:9		
	activation 47:23		
	active 45:21		

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>agreement 2:22, 17:7, 19:11, 19:17, 20:3, 20:5, 31:16, 33:11, 33:23, 37:14, 40:16, 43:8, 43:10, 45:5, 48:9, 49:19, 50:5, 51:3, 53:13, 81:13, 82:5, 82:15 agreements 11:24 ahead 7:11 ai 58:10 ai-based 59:5, 59:18, 59:21, 59:23 alder 46:19 alert 60:23, 62:22, 63:9, 63:19 alignment 34:2, 34:6 all 4:3, 6:7, 6:11, 11:8, 11:20, 12:4, 12:6, 13:23, 16:11, 17:4, 17:10, 19:23, 23:13, 24:9, 26:17, 31:18, 35:10, 48:14, 51:5, 53:24, 55:3, 58:8, 59:11, 60:15, 61:2, 63:14, 64:14, 67:19, 74:19, 76:7, 77:14, 79:3, 79:10, 81:22, 83:15, 83:21, 84:1, 84:6, 85:23,</p>	<p>86:8, 88:2, 89:1, 90:2, 90:20, 91:7 alliance 82:19, 85:11, 85:13 alliant 69:14 allocates 73:8 allowing 43:11 allows 19:19 almost 62:13 alone 88:8 along 7:5, 8:19, 35:5, 56:21, 57:8, 65:8 already 64:3, 67:20, 67:23, 86:12 also 3:10, 6:18, 9:3, 9:4, 12:10, 13:12, 43:14, 44:10, 44:18, 44:20, 47:22, 50:20, 55:1, 55:7, 59:4, 59:20, 61:20, 62:5, 62:7, 64:5, 66:16, 66:20, 77:9, 77:15, 82:10, 83:21, 85:15, 87:12, 88:5, 88:13, 91:10 always 16:3, 78:2, 86:4, 89:15 amazing 47:2 amending 16:13</p>	<p>amendment 17:2, 17:15, 19:11, 71:24, 72:8, 73:2 amends 16:18 america 71:24, 72:10 amount 7:20, 8:16, 56:8 amounts 12:4, 73:8 ana 11:12, 12:16, 12:19 anchor 44:10 andrew 16:7 announcement 67:3, 67:4 annual 11:4, 20:5 another 46:14, 55:14, 63:21, 67:13, 88:8 answer 43:17, 70:6, 73:20, 82:20 anticipate 8:18, 9:6, 55:7, 73:18 anticipated 6:18, 7:20 anxiously 41:3 any 10:3, 12:14, 13:16, 14:3, 17:19, 20:6, 23:10, 23:16, 26:20, 29:7, 35:15, 38:15, 40:15, 43:17, 51:12, 58:21, 61:8, 70:6,</p>	<p>73:20, 77:24, 82:20, 94:17, 95:19, 99:11 anything 39:11, 66:14 anyway 91:7 apologize 53:17 applause 15:22 applicable 26:3 application 17:4, 73:5 applied 63:21 appraised 38:23, 43:4 appreciate 77:21, 83:10, 83:13, 83:18, 89:19 approach 56:5, 64:9, 87:5 approval 5:2, 17:17, 18:12, 21:10, 21:16, 22:19, 23:8, 23:12, 24:16, 24:21, 25:21, 26:6, 26:10, 26:11, 27:13, 27:18, 28:16, 28:23, 29:4, 29:24, 31:4, 31:10, 31:14, 32:11, 32:16, 33:21, 37:10, 41:13, 42:18, 48:20, 50:4, 52:14, 54:14, 55:8, 56:3, 68:4, 68:9, 70:24, 71:6, 72:8, 80:14, 80:20,</p>
---	---	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>82:4, 91:24, 96:22, 97:4 approvals 26:17 approve 5:4, 36:5, 96:21 approved 5:10, 65:22, 73:17, 97:3 approving 16:13, 65:19, 65:21 approximate 69:23 approximately 43:3, 74:24 april 6:9, 6:13, 6:17, 6:22 area 45:16, 46:13, 46:22, 87:2 areas 87:14 arising 22:10 around 9:24, 36:10, 40:3, 40:19, 44:23, 45:2, 46:5, 46:17, 48:8, 55:14, 75:17, 83:23, 88:14 arrived 84:8 art 47:24 artist 47:17 asked 20:16, 67:20, 85:3, 89:11 assess 51:8 assessing 64:19, 66:12</p>	<p>asset 46:10 assets 70:2 associated 23:13, 26:17, 31:18, 34:2, 34:20 associating 76:23 assuming 9:13, 41:1 assure 78:4 attempt 57:3 attention 46:8, 64:13 attorney 79:11 audio 66:10, 66:18, 67:3, 67:4 audit 1:7, 4:6, 11:4, 11:7, 11:15, 11:18, 11:21, 12:2, 12:10, 12:17, 12:20, 13:12, 13:20, 13:24, 14:2, 14:6, 16:6, 16:7, 98:6 auditing 12:9, 12:15 auditor 10:22, 16:3 auditor's 12:3 auditors 11:3, 15:15 ausan 11:12, 12:18, 12:19 authority 1:1, 2:1, 2:4, 28:19, 43:16 authority's 72:9</p>	<p>authorization 37:13 authorize 25:22, 28:17, 31:5, 37:4 authorized 19:16, 22:24, 23:9, 26:1, 26:7, 28:20, 28:24, 31:7 authorizing 19:10, 22:9, 22:20, 25:16, 28:12, 30:22, 33:10, 33:22, 42:12, 42:19, 49:18, 53:12, 69:4, 69:11, 71:23, 72:8, 81:12, 82:4 automated 63:11 automatic 63:17 availability 38:2 available 47:16, 78:7 avenue 28:14, 42:13, 42:21 award 92:21, 94:16, 95:7 awards 93:3, 93:22 away 63:2 awesome 90:19</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">B</p> <hr/> <p>b-1 93:2 b-6 93:2 back 15:11, 20:20,</p>	<p>42:15, 50:14, 54:16, 65:7, 65:17, 75:24 backside 46:24 bader 54:8, 63:7 baker 69:7, 69:8, 69:9 balances 7:4 bang-up 79:5 bank 8:10, 73:13 barclay 3:3, 4:13, 4:14, 5:19, 5:20, 10:12, 10:13, 14:11, 14:12, 18:2, 18:3, 18:24, 19:1, 20:13, 20:14, 21:21, 21:22, 24:2, 24:3, 25:5, 25:6, 27:3, 27:4, 28:2, 28:3, 29:14, 29:15, 30:12, 30:13, 32:1, 32:2, 32:24, 33:1, 35:23, 35:24, 42:1, 42:2, 44:2, 44:3, 49:6, 49:7, 51:20, 51:21, 52:24, 53:1, 67:14, 67:15, 68:14, 68:15, 70:14, 70:15, 71:13, 71:14, 77:23, 77:24, 78:9, 81:3, 81:4, 89:21, 89:22, 92:12, 92:13,</p>
--	---	---	--

<p>93:11, 93:12, 94:6, 94:7, 94:22, 94:23, 95:12, 95:13, 96:10, 96:11, 97:11, 97:12, 98:15, 98:16 barreto 81:18, 81:21, 81:24, 82:1, 82:24, 84:10, 88:19, 90:16, 90:19, 91:19 base 72:13, 72:15, 72:20, 74:23 based 13:14, 50:17, 51:1, 70:1 basically 50:12 bathroom 49:20, 50:18, 50:21, 51:11, 52:7 because 13:9, 36:5, 36:19, 38:7, 38:22, 39:14, 45:9, 56:23, 58:6, 61:17, 63:18, 64:17, 66:11, 77:10, 78:19, 82:22, 84:2, 85:1, 85:7, 85:20, 87:1, 88:21, 88:24, 89:10 become 38:7 becomes 38:21, 66:21 been 5:7, 18:15, 21:13, 23:9, 23:14, 24:19, 26:7, 27:16, 28:24, 29:5,</p>	<p>30:3, 32:14, 35:10, 37:8, 38:5, 39:8, 40:4, 40:5, 41:16, 42:24, 44:5, 44:21, 46:11, 47:8, 48:23, 52:17, 60:16, 63:16, 63:22, 64:4, 67:20, 68:7, 71:3, 75:22, 76:17, 76:20, 77:18, 80:17, 83:19, 86:7, 86:22, 92:3, 96:2, 97:1, 98:4 before 1:1, 2:22, 60:13, 64:6, 66:21, 86:3, 96:20, 97:20, 99:3 behind 47:23 being 34:8, 37:24, 38:3, 48:11, 60:18, 62:9, 79:3, 85:18, 87:7 below 37:13 benefit 47:3 bernard 3:4 best 24:8, 63:19, 64:9, 66:5, 69:19 better 9:17, 50:16 between 9:2, 34:5, 35:1, 45:5, 50:5, 57:13, 60:4, 75:22</p>	<p>beyond 56:19, 56:20 bids 9:21 big 84:6 bigger 84:23, 84:24 biggest 38:13, 55:2, 85:21, 86:1 bill 22:14, 22:17, 23:18, 25:19, 26:22, 28:15, 29:9, 31:1, 33:14, 35:18, 36:8, 42:15, 43:21 billion 17:16, 70:4 birthing 59:10 bit 6:17, 6:21, 7:10, 57:18, 58:16, 78:19, 79:8 blockage 66:12 blue 19:24, 76:2, 91:14 board 1:1, 2:1, 3:12, 8:6, 10:7, 14:8, 18:11, 19:16, 21:9, 21:15, 22:23, 23:11, 23:12, 23:21, 24:15, 24:21, 26:1, 26:10, 26:11, 26:17, 27:12, 27:18, 28:20, 29:4, 29:23, 31:14, 32:10, 32:16, 40:15, 41:2,</p>	<p>41:13, 48:19, 50:4, 51:15, 52:13, 55:8, 56:3, 58:7, 68:3, 68:9, 70:23, 71:5, 73:17, 74:14, 75:24, 80:13, 80:19, 83:7, 83:11, 83:12, 91:23, 93:6, 96:22, 97:4 board's 72:7, 82:3 boarding 60:23 bond 73:12 bonds 74:1, 74:2, 74:3, 74:10, 75:14, 75:17, 75:20, 77:6, 77:18, 77:22, 78:17, 78:22, 79:9, 79:20 bora 72:2, 72:4, 79:11, 80:5, 80:8 both 12:7, 13:19, 38:6, 50:19, 55:22, 61:17, 63:23, 69:16, 83:20 bottom 6:24 bought 37:11 bragged 97:22 break 76:20 brief 82:22 briefly 67:22</p>
--	--	---	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>bringing 47:4 broader 65:13 broadly 39:7, 47:6 broker 69:14 brother-sister 37:18 brown 39:22, 76:3 budget 1:7, 4:6, 6:16, 7:1, 7:8, 7:13, 8:8, 8:21, 9:2, 9:16, 9:17, 16:24, 23:15, 26:19, 29:6, 31:19, 34:11, 36:22, 37:24, 38:5, 38:10, 40:5, 98:6 budgeted 8:16, 34:10 build 76:14, 80:1, 86:3, 89:14 building 83:21, 85:6, 86:10, 88:3 built 89:8 bunch 47:7 bureau 72:22 bus 17:8, 50:6, 50:15, 50:19, 52:6, 55:12 buses 55:12 business 5:1, 6:3, 39:16, 84:17, 93:1, 96:20 businesses 47:21</p>	<p>buy 75:5 <hr/>C<hr/>cable 56:5, 56:24, 57:7, 57:12, 63:12 calculate 79:19 calibrate 62:5, 63:3 calibrated 67:1 calibration 57:23, 58:1 call 4:4, 4:7, 5:11, 15:6, 18:17, 21:16, 24:22, 27:19, 30:5, 32:17, 41:18, 43:10, 45:17, 49:1, 52:19, 68:9, 71:6, 80:20, 92:5, 96:5, 97:4, 98:8 called 50:12, 84:20, 84:21 callout 84:20 calls 34:22 calumet 35:1, 35:4, 42:13, 42:21 camera 17:12, 56:17, 60:4, 62:4, 62:15, 63:12 camera-based 55:9, 56:14, 56:15, 58:13, 60:2, 60:6 cameras 55:12, 61:12 campuses 35:2</p>	<p>can't 15:16, 15:17, 45:23 canada 59:20 cannot 56:19, 87:23, 88:16 capital 16:14, 16:19, 17:13, 17:18 capped 73:8, 75:2 car 76:10 cara 54:8 care 84:17 career 87:24 carrying 84:15 cars 72:19, 75:10, 75:12, 76:9, 76:23, 80:1 case 9:22, 84:4 cases 39:2 categories 8:2, 8:17, 8:19 category 7:19 cc 82:17 cdt 1:10 celebrate 40:23 celebrating 36:16 center 43:1, 58:3, 62:14, 62:15, 63:13, 67:4 central 91:17</p>	<p>certain 23:1, 26:2, 45:2, 73:7 certainly 47:3, 76:17 certainty 9:24, 73:10 certificate 99:1 certified 2:23 certify 99:5 cetera 76:6, 88:7 chain 72:17 chair 3:4, 4:3, 4:16, 4:24, 5:17, 6:2, 10:4, 10:21, 14:5, 15:8, 15:16, 15:19, 16:8, 17:20, 18:10, 18:23, 19:9, 20:7, 21:8, 21:24, 22:8, 22:16, 23:18, 24:14, 25:4, 25:15, 26:22, 27:11, 28:1, 28:11, 29:9, 29:22, 30:11, 30:21, 31:20, 32:9, 32:23, 33:9, 33:17, 35:17, 41:9, 41:24, 42:10, 43:19, 48:18, 49:9, 49:17, 51:13, 52:12, 53:3, 53:11, 53:21, 54:4, 61:10, 62:10, 64:10, 68:2, 68:17, 69:1, 69:3, 70:8, 70:22,</p>
---	---	--	---

<p>71:12, 71:22, 73:21, 74:8, 74:11, 80:12, 81:2, 81:11, 81:19, 81:22, 82:21, 83:1, 83:3, 91:22, 92:11, 92:22, 93:21, 94:15, 95:6, 95:21, 96:13, 96:19, 97:10, 97:20, 98:14, 98:22 chairman 3:3, 4:13, 4:14, 5:19, 5:20, 6:4, 10:12, 10:13, 14:11, 14:12, 18:2, 18:3, 19:1, 20:13, 20:14, 21:21, 21:22, 24:2, 24:3, 25:5, 25:6, 27:3, 27:4, 28:2, 28:3, 29:14, 29:15, 30:12, 30:13, 32:1, 32:2, 32:24, 33:1, 35:23, 35:24, 42:1, 42:2, 44:2, 44:3, 44:19, 49:6, 49:7, 51:20, 51:21, 52:24, 53:1, 67:14, 67:15, 68:14, 68:15, 70:14, 70:15, 71:13, 71:14, 77:23, 77:24, 78:9, 81:3, 81:4, 89:21, 89:22, 92:12, 92:13, 93:11, 93:12, 94:6, 94:7, 94:22,</p>	<p>94:23, 95:12, 95:13, 96:10, 96:11, 97:11, 97:12, 98:15, 98:16 challenge 55:18 challenges 38:13, 54:19, 55:2 challenging 38:22 chance 6:19 change 9:18 changes 9:11 changing 54:23 check 55:12, 83:24 chicago 1:1, 1:8, 2:1, 2:4, 2:6, 25:18, 33:12, 33:24, 38:17, 42:13, 42:14, 43:2, 47:13, 49:21, 72:9, 82:19, 85:11, 85:12, 90:22 chief 22:17, 23:7, 26:5, 28:22, 31:9, 54:7, 74:3, 82:1, 85:20 chorus 6:6 christine 11:11, 13:17 cip 16:19, 17:2, 17:16 city 42:14, 43:1, 43:5, 43:13,</p>	<p>43:14, 45:5, 45:9, 46:16, 48:9, 66:7, 85:4 class 43:8, 43:10 clean 12:3, 14:6, 16:6, 16:10 cleaning 51:4 clear 39:4, 85:1, 88:20 close 61:17, 61:19, 61:21, 62:8, 67:6 closing 17:6, 40:23, 43:9 cluster 13:5, 13:10 emap 44:22 coldest 91:5 collaborations 86:3 collections 9:1 college 43:1, 43:12 colleges 42:14, 43:2, 43:5, 43:13, 43:14, 45:6, 45:9, 48:9 colored 67:12 combination 69:19 come 6:23, 8:11, 38:22, 40:7, 46:1, 65:7, 65:17, 75:23, 96:20 comes 38:15</p>	<p>coming 6:15, 9:17, 61:17 commend 14:13, 14:18 comment 44:3, 45:24, 51:21, 82:22, 83:5, 83:10 comments 44:15, 83:6 commission 99:20 commitments 34:3 committee 4:5, 5:2, 5:9, 96:20, 98:6 commodities 9:18 common 38:17, 51:22 communicates 63:6 communications 94:16 community 36:10, 36:24, 38:18, 40:6, 44:9, 44:23, 45:1, 45:11, 46:15, 47:4, 47:17, 86:5, 86:6, 86:16 commuters 47:4 compare 54:21, 60:19 comparing 65:4 complete 17:4, 19:21, 56:11 completed 11:15, 12:2 complex 57:16, 60:9 compliance 11:23, 12:22,</p>
--	---	---	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>13:13 component 77:4 components 57:20, 59:7, 79:1 computer 57:9 concern 85:21, 88:17 concerned 83:22, 88:14 concerns 55:15 concession 47:15 concludes 10:2 concurrently 64:24 conditions 9:14, 55:12 conducted 11:4 confirmed 23:4, 67:10 congrats 45:4, 88:12 congratulations 44:17, 89:23 connect 57:8 connection 19:22, 35:1 consider 21:1, 90:1 consideration 45:18, 61:5 consortium 69:17, 70:6 constraints 89:3 construct 34:24 construction 34:9, 34:16, 35:13 contact 86:8</p>	<p>contentious 40:1 context 59:15, 76:11 contingency 37:23 contingency 37:15, 38:1, 38:3 continually 90:10 continue 9:7, 51:7, 55:18, 60:6, 60:7, 62:18, 62:19, 65:15 continued 8:18, 17:9, 78:4 continues 7:1, 8:7, 72:18 continuously 86:5 contract 71:24, 72:9, 72:12, 93:2, 93:3, 93:22, 94:14, 94:15, 95:5, 95:6 contracts 8:11, 73:14, 93:19, 95:20, 95:22, 95:23, 96:4 contrast 54:22, 60:19 contrasting 65:4 control 58:3, 62:14, 62:15, 63:2, 63:5, 63:10, 63:13, 63:19, 67:4 controlled 61:23, 62:2 controls 12:11, 13:13</p>	<p>conversation 66:7 conversations 46:11, 46:19 cook 81:13, 81:14, 82:5, 82:6, 82:17, 85:9, 90:23 coordinate 63:15, 66:15, 66:16 corner 45:21 corporate 72:5 correct 12:5, 81:17, 81:21, 99:6 correctly 59:13 cost 20:4, 51:3, 51:5, 51:8, 51:10, 56:7, 59:22, 66:18, 72:21, 74:18, 74:20, 74:22, 74:23, 75:5, 76:8, 77:7, 77:8, 77:9, 78:15, 78:16 cost-sharing 50:5, 51:2 costing 77:9, 79:6, 79:7 costs 23:13, 26:11, 26:17, 29:4, 31:18, 34:10, 34:20, 34:24, 35:10, 36:7, 38:12, 78:19 cottage 22:11, 22:22, 23:3, 28:13, 28:18, 50:7,</p>	<p>50:11 could 15:12, 39:5, 45:7, 45:9, 46:14, 62:21, 62:22, 62:23, 63:21, 64:18, 66:17, 66:20, 67:13, 84:5, 86:14 counsel 3:13, 23:9, 26:7, 28:24, 69:9, 72:4, 72:5, 99:10 count 77:9 county 81:13, 81:14, 82:5, 82:6, 82:17, 82:18, 85:10, 90:23 couple 6:10, 8:8, 24:10, 40:18, 54:1, 55:6, 86:23 course 16:2, 64:16, 72:16 court 39:3 cover 12:7 coverage 13:8, 69:6, 69:19 covering 51:3, 51:9 create 38:19, 86:21 creative 45:5 credit 73:12 credits 43:12, 45:6 critical 17:3</p>
--	--	---	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>crossing 66:19 crowe 11:3, 11:11, 12:21 crrc 71:24, 72:10 crrc's 72:11 cta 3:11, 13:1, 13:11, 16:21, 19:16, 23:3, 31:17, 34:3, 34:13, 34:17, 34:18, 34:22, 35:12, 43:5, 43:11, 45:5, 48:12, 50:4, 50:5, 50:19, 53:14, 56:6, 61:7, 63:23, 72:11, 72:18, 74:3, 81:16, 82:8, 82:15, 84:13, 86:11, 88:1 cta's 11:16, 16:20, 19:18, 42:22, 49:19, 50:6, 69:10 cta-owned 42:20 cultivate 84:1, 87:15 cultural 87:5 curious 90:14 current 16:18, 73:6, 74:23 currently 75:20, 76:2 curve 38:1, 41:5 customer 55:6</p>	<p>cut 63:2, 63:20 cutting 62:24 cvr 1:24, 99:3 cycle 45:22</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <hr/> <p>d-1 93:20, 93:21 d-2 93:20, 93:21 dare 14:5 data 90:21 day 50:24, 74:20, 76:10, 91:5, 99:15 dbe 11:12, 12:20, 69:15 deal 40:6 december 11:17, 12:24, 35:11 decision 34:3 decisions 77:2 deck 53:18, 53:21 declaring 42:11, 42:19 deep 88:10 deeper 45:24 defend 43:15 defer 86:14 definitely 21:3, 78:18</p>	<p>deliver 9:11, 56:1 delivered 75:23 delivery 72:11, 76:18, 76:19 demand 20:1 denise 81:23, 82:1, 87:3, 90:9 department 13:22, 69:10, 82:18, 85:10 departments 60:16 deploy 91:10 deployed 58:15, 86:7 deputy 69:9, 72:5 design 37:8 designated 19:20, 23:11 designed 57:11 desk 11:2 detect 56:6, 56:15, 57:11, 60:11, 60:22, 62:4, 67:11 detecting 57:5, 62:11 detection 58:10, 58:20, 62:6 determine 11:19, 51:9 determined 26:15 develop 45:16 developed 46:4, 57:10,</p>	<p>57:16 development 44:8, 45:2, 46:13, 46:21, 47:2, 47:6, 47:20 device 57:9, 57:21 dial 63:22 difference 57:13, 60:4 different 11:24, 54:11, 54:20, 54:22, 56:12, 58:11, 59:3, 60:18, 61:3, 61:6, 64:18 difficult 63:22 direct 62:22, 84:11 direction 90:6, 99:8 directly 7:2, 15:14, 61:18, 62:6 directors 6:5, 11:10, 22:15, 49:24, 69:8, 72:3, 74:2, 81:24 dirk 58:10 discontinued 72:23 discounting 75:1 discussion 54:5 dispensing 81:16, 82:9 distance 66:13 distinguish 57:12 distributed 43:7</p>
---	--	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>district 33:12, 33:24 doing 51:23, 59:22, 63:18, 64:22, 66:5, 77:18, 85:23 dollars 29:2, 31:11 domain 39:3, 39:10, 39:18, 40:1 domestic 69:16, 69:18 donald 74:2 done 75:6, 89:24 door 79:3 doors 59:8, 59:9, 59:12, 59:13 double 83:10 down 57:13, 64:4, 75:2, 76:20, 83:10, 87:20 dozen 37:19 dr 3:4 draw 46:8 driven 91:9 due 7:4, 12:10, 13:2, 13:7, 16:21 during 12:8, 31:17, 86:23 duties 73:9</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <hr/> <p>e-1 94:14, 94:15</p>	<p>each 65:4, 74:19, 75:9, 87:2, 87:9 eaddy 3:7, 4:19, 4:20, 5:12, 5:13, 10:16, 10:17, 18:6, 18:7, 18:18, 18:19, 21:4, 21:5, 22:3, 22:4, 23:22, 23:23, 24:23, 24:24, 27:7, 27:8, 27:20, 27:21, 29:18, 29:19, 30:6, 30:7, 32:5, 32:6, 32:18, 32:19, 35:19, 35:20, 41:19, 41:20, 43:22, 43:23, 49:12, 49:13, 52:8, 52:9, 53:6, 53:7, 67:21, 67:22, 68:20, 68:21, 70:10, 70:11, 71:7, 71:8, 78:13, 78:14, 78:21, 79:7, 79:15, 79:17, 79:23, 80:2, 80:21, 80:22, 90:12, 90:13, 90:17, 91:18, 92:6, 92:7, 93:15, 93:16, 94:2, 94:3, 95:2, 95:3, 95:8, 95:9, 96:16, 96:17, 97:5, 97:6, 98:9, 98:10 early 54:16 earn 43:12</p>	<p>earning 7:3 easement 34:14, 34:15, 34:16, 34:18 east 34:6, 35:2, 35:3, 45:18, 49:20 echo 14:22 economic 9:13 ecosystem 54:24 edge 57:9, 57:21 educate 74:17, 76:7 education 43:12 effects 82:11 effort 88:15 eight 44:21, 57:24 electeds 86:9 elevated 83:16 eligible 35:9 ellen 46:1, 91:4 else 59:1, 66:24, 86:14 embed 87:18 emily 15:11, 15:23 eminent 39:3, 39:9, 39:17, 40:1 emphasize 89:10 employed 99:10</p>	<p>employee 58:17 employees 43:11 end 16:6, 24:8, 37:7, 39:3, 40:7, 54:3, 66:6 ended 11:16, 12:23, 39:17 engaged 11:18 engagement 12:21, 82:1, 86:22 enhance 44:9 enhanced 66:10 enough 87:23, 88:22 enroll 43:11 ensure 61:3 enter 62:3 entered 38:14, 72:12 entering 61:16, 61:18, 62:6 entire 50:13, 50:16 entirely 37:11 entities 39:17 entrance 35:4 environment 54:21, 61:24, 62:2 environments 61:6 epitome 83:3</p>
--	---	--	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>equipment 78:15 equity 45:3, 82:1 escalation 72:21, 73:1, 73:3, 73:7 especially 38:17, 78:20 establishes 73:10 establishment 34:1 estate 24:9, 36:7, 36:9, 36:21, 38:16, 40:24 estimate 75:6 estimated 50:23 estimates 9:8 et 76:6, 88:7 etod 44:22, 45:23, 48:12 evaluated 13:13 even 39:3, 39:8, 54:24, 61:12, 62:23, 64:6, 67:4 events 47:24 every 69:13, 74:20, 76:8, 76:10 everybody 13:21, 40:20 everyone 12:18, 16:9, 80:5 evolution 87:24 exact 20:21, 22:12,</p>	<p>38:8 exactly 67:7, 76:12 example 52:2, 84:7, 89:4 exceed 26:12, 26:16, 31:11, 35:7 exceeding 36:23 excess 23:13, 69:5, 75:7 excited 90:10 excitement 83:20 exciting 48:3, 48:4, 90:9 excuse 54:10, 60:6 execute 17:5 executed 43:9 exhibits 47:24 existing 23:15, 26:18, 29:6, 31:19, 35:3, 56:5, 58:13 expand 67:10 expansion 39:23 expect 40:14 expenditures 13:9 expends 13:11 expense 23:14, 78:16 expenses 7:16, 7:22,</p>	<p>8:4, 8:12, 8:20, 8:21, 22:10, 22:21, 23:4, 23:10, 23:12, 26:3, 26:9, 26:16 expensive 60:9 experience 39:22, 55:6, 85:7 expires 99:20 explore 64:5 extend 56:19, 65:11 extended 50:8, 89:14 extension 22:13, 23:2, 34:1, 34:10, 36:14 extent 50:13 eye 8:2</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <hr/> <p>fab 97:22 faces 15:7 facilitate 34:9 facilities 17:11, 49:20 fact 39:8, 44:20 fairly 46:4 falls 61:11 false 58:3, 60:20, 62:21, 63:4, 63:24 family 38:15, 38:21</p>	<p>far 72:19, 85:24 fare 6:15, 7:10 favorable 9:15, 39:4 favorably 40:4 feasibility 91:8 february 8:24 federal 11:21, 11:22, 12:17, 12:23, 13:1, 13:2, 13:5, 13:9, 13:10, 13:20, 34:4, 37:21, 41:4 fee 34:13 feel 66:20, 67:1, 87:19 feeling 86:23 feet 43:4 fencing 35:5 few 15:6, 15:7, 55:9 fiberoptic 56:5, 56:24, 57:7, 57:12, 63:12 field 56:16 figure 64:8 final 16:23, 19:15, 79:10 finalize 40:17 finalizing 37:14, 40:16</p>
--	--	---	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>finally 43:14, 97:24</p> <p>finance 1:7, 4:6, 6:3, 13:6, 13:21, 98:6</p> <p>financial 11:16, 11:18, 12:1, 12:5, 12:7, 12:8, 13:20, 99:12</p> <p>financing 17:13</p> <p>find 72:24</p> <p>findings 12:14, 13:16</p> <p>fine 53:24</p> <p>fine-tuning 58:1</p> <p>first 19:10, 19:22, 46:24, 47:13, 51:7, 73:18, 90:20</p> <p>fiscal 10:22, 13:20, 16:13, 16:20, 16:24, 17:5</p> <p>fits 46:15</p> <p>five 59:2, 82:14</p> <p>five-year 16:19, 17:16</p> <p>fleet 17:8, 17:9, 75:20, 76:1, 76:22, 77:3, 77:10</p> <p>flow 87:20</p> <p>focus 7:17, 83:14, 83:19, 86:21, 87:17</p> <p>focused 8:6, 13:3,</p>	<p>58:17, 76:18</p> <p>folks 84:12</p> <p>follow 88:16</p> <p>follow-through 83:24</p> <p>following 83:20</p> <p>footprint 46:16</p> <p>force 39:11, 82:16, 84:20, 91:1</p> <p>ford 84:21</p> <p>foregoing 99:4, 99:5</p> <p>forgot 73:23</p> <p>formula 16:21, 16:24</p> <p>forward 7:10, 8:10, 9:20, 36:14, 37:8, 39:5, 44:4, 85:24, 88:13</p> <p>four 72:14, 82:14</p> <p>fraction 8:15</p> <p>freight 57:2</p> <p>frequent 49:21, 50:6, 50:15</p> <p>friends 88:9, 88:10</p> <p>fringe 7:22</p> <p>front 78:18</p> <p>frontage 45:20, 46:3</p> <p>fta 16:24, 17:4, 17:6</p>	<p>fuel 8:17</p> <p>full 16:20, 46:6, 56:9, 58:22, 60:10, 85:12</p> <p>funding 8:22, 9:12, 17:9, 76:6, 76:15, 76:24, 77:4, 88:7</p> <p>funds 9:4, 11:21, 16:21</p> <p>further 10:19, 15:4, 24:13, 27:10, 41:8, 48:17, 52:11, 65:11, 68:1, 78:11, 87:15, 91:21, 93:18, 94:13, 95:19, 95:22, 96:20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <hr/> <p>g-1 95:5, 95:6</p> <p>gambit 58:22, 60:11</p> <p>garfield 42:22</p> <p>gatehouse 35:3</p> <p>gates 47:7</p> <p>gateway 47:2</p> <p>gave 54:10, 91:1</p> <p>gcr 88:22</p> <p>general 3:13, 23:9, 26:7, 28:24, 69:9, 72:4, 72:5</p> <p>generate 63:11</p>	<p>generates 84:3</p> <p>generating 64:7</p> <p>generation 63:12</p> <p>generational 38:15, 38:20</p> <p>georgette 3:12, 4:7</p> <p>getting 9:20, 36:15, 61:19</p> <p>give 6:7, 15:24, 79:19, 84:5</p> <p>given 99:6</p> <p>glad 43:17, 44:6, 52:5</p> <p>global 46:20</p> <p>go 13:24, 16:11, 47:10, 47:19, 50:2, 51:7, 53:24, 66:17, 67:2, 73:18, 75:4, 77:8, 78:7, 88:6, 92:23, 97:20</p> <p>goal 46:12, 54:16</p> <p>goals 45:23</p> <p>goes 41:2, 60:23, 79:21</p> <p>going 6:8, 6:12, 9:7, 9:9, 9:10, 9:11, 9:24, 12:16, 15:24, 33:17, 36:8, 36:22, 39:18, 44:9, 44:10, 48:2, 48:7, 54:2,</p>
---	---	--	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>57:13, 62:1, 63:2, 64:17, 65:1, 65:10, 65:12, 77:7, 78:7, 79:5, 85:15, 91:10, 92:22, 97:21 gone 37:8 good 4:3, 6:4, 6:6, 9:10, 11:10, 12:18, 14:16, 16:10, 22:15, 22:16, 43:19, 43:20, 49:24, 50:3, 52:2, 67:2, 69:8, 72:3, 74:8, 80:5, 81:24 gotten 77:11 government 11:23, 12:9, 12:15, 41:4, 86:6, 86:15 grant 11:21, 11:24, 13:2, 17:3, 17:5, 17:6 great 6:11, 40:11, 41:6, 41:9, 45:10, 47:9, 79:13, 79:20 greater 33:12, 33:24, 46:13 green 42:22, 46:6, 91:15 group 79:4, 87:9 grove 22:11, 22:22, 23:3, 28:14, 28:19, 50:7, 50:11</p>	<p>grow 89:1 guarantee 91:11 guess 50:4, 83:23 guidelines 11:22, 13:3 guys 14:13, 15:12, 55:19</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <hr/> <p>haennicke 82:24, 83:1, 83:2 half 6:14, 6:24, 8:12 hand 7:4, 99:15 hands 15:13 hanson-pollack 11:14 happen 45:9, 60:21, 83:12, 86:13 happened 74:4 happening 85:4 happens 44:24, 50:10, 73:21 happy 12:21, 13:15, 14:4, 23:16, 26:20, 29:7, 35:15, 70:6, 73:20, 82:20 hard 14:14, 14:19, 15:24, 54:24, 90:3 hard-tech 55:1 harder 38:10</p>	<p>hardware 55:1, 57:18, 59:6 harlem 91:15 harm 39:6 harmless 43:15 head 50:14 health 66:8, 81:14, 82:6, 82:17, 82:18, 84:17, 85:10, 87:11, 90:22, 90:23 hear 36:7, 40:11, 80:3 heard 39:21 held 2:1, 54:5 help 46:8, 54:20, 55:1, 62:3, 84:18, 88:6 helpful 84:9, 88:4 helps 78:3, 78:4 here 4:12, 4:14, 4:18, 4:20, 6:7, 6:13, 6:15, 6:21, 6:24, 7:10, 7:16, 7:23, 8:9, 8:10, 8:14, 9:15, 11:3, 11:11, 11:15, 36:5, 36:18, 37:1, 38:21, 40:7, 40:23, 46:1, 54:6, 54:12, 55:3, 55:13, 60:17, 75:15,</p>	<p>83:11, 83:13, 83:23, 84:8, 86:24, 87:24, 91:5 here's 8:23, 54:19, 65:9 hereby 99:4 hereunto 99:14 heroin 82:16, 90:20, 90:24 hey 65:9 high-quality 63:17 higher 7:5, 7:22 highest 64:9 highlight 44:18 highly 76:18 highway 90:21 hold 39:24, 43:15, 60:24 holding 44:5 hollis 11:14 home 38:11 hopefully 9:22, 64:19, 92:23 hospital 81:14, 82:7 hours 85:16, 91:11 housing 46:15 howard 91:16</p>
---	---	--	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>however 13:2 huge 37:16, 37:20, 40:8, 40:9 human 55:23, 85:17 hundred 50:23 hurting 38:20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">I</p> <hr/> <p>ideal 42:24 identified 34:8, 37:21, 42:24 identify 37:6, 63:17 iga 34:12, 34:22 illinois 1:8, 2:6, 2:24, 42:13 immediate 62:14, 62:22 impact 37:9, 55:21, 55:23, 55:24, 56:1, 64:19, 64:20, 76:24 impacted 35:6, 76:21 implement 60:9, 67:16 importance 44:19 important 36:17, 36:19, 38:21, 64:15, 66:4, 76:7, 78:5, 87:23, 90:2 importantly 44:6, 60:20 impressive 77:15</p>	<p>improved 6:22, 9:16 improvement 16:14 improvements 17:11 incident 64:7 included 72:20 includes 72:13 including 23:2, 26:4 inclusion 17:18 income 7:3 incorporate 16:19 incorporated 53:13 incorporating 7:23 increase 16:22, 20:1, 69:23, 69:24, 70:2 increases 69:24 indemnification 35:12 indemnify 31:17, 43:15 independent 10:22, 11:3, 75:5 indices 72:21, 72:23, 73:1, 73:3, 73:5 inflation 72:18 information 13:24, 14:1, 54:1, 54:2 informed 77:2 infrastructure 13:6, 22:18,</p>	<p>23:8, 26:6, 28:23, 31:10, 58:18, 65:9, 77:3, 93:3 initial 57:22, 88:17 initiate 83:24 initiative 17:12 innovation 13:6, 53:14, 54:7, 54:10, 54:15, 54:17, 64:14, 87:10, 93:22 install 59:10, 81:15, 82:7 installation 57:23 installed 82:13 installments 51:6 instrumental 47:8 insurance 69:5, 69:12, 69:14, 69:17, 69:18 intended 7:12 interaction 61:16 interest 7:5, 99:12 interesting 47:22 intergovernmental 33:11, 33:22, 49:19 interim 16:7 internal 12:11, 13:13, 16:3, 63:14 international 69:16, 69:18</p>	<p>interventions 63:9 introduce 11:5 intrusion 55:10, 55:15, 55:21, 56:6, 57:6, 58:9, 59:4, 59:21, 62:17, 64:1 intrusions 55:17, 55:18, 56:16, 56:19, 58:14, 59:1, 60:12 invested 44:22 investment 7:3 invite 11:2 issue 12:22, 14:2, 64:13, 89:9 issued 12:2 issues 66:8, 70:1, 72:17, 76:22, 79:3, 90:2 item 7:17, 8:5, 10:20, 10:21, 16:12, 18:11, 19:8, 19:9, 19:15, 21:9, 21:15, 22:7, 22:8, 23:17, 24:15, 25:14, 25:15, 26:21, 27:12, 28:10, 28:11, 29:8, 29:23, 30:20, 30:21, 32:10, 33:8, 33:9, 33:16, 35:16, 41:12, 42:9, 42:10, 42:17,</p>
--	--	--	---

<p>43:18, 48:19, 49:16, 49:17, 52:13, 53:10, 53:11, 68:3, 68:8, 68:24, 69:3, 70:23, 71:5, 71:21, 71:22, 80:13, 80:19, 81:10, 81:11, 91:23, 92:20, 97:19 items 6:10, 38:8, 38:11 iterate 64:8</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">J</p> <p>jeff 72:2, 72:4, 72:5, 79:11, 80:3 jefferson 91:14 jewelry 47:20 jha 4:23 job 1:22, 79:5 joined 54:8 joint 72:10 july 9:22, 55:7, 69:13, 99:20 june 1:9, 4:5, 31:16, 98:7, 99:16 justified 73:7 jv 72:1</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <p>keep 77:10, 79:5,</p>	<p>87:16, 89:12, 92:23 keeping 8:2 kensington 34:17, 50:8 kent 3:13, 72:2, 72:4, 73:21, 75:17, 78:12 kept 39:18 kick 33:20 kind 7:19, 37:12, 40:7, 46:3, 46:5, 46:6, 46:20, 46:23, 46:24, 47:6, 47:17, 47:18, 47:20, 54:20, 58:22, 87:3, 88:14 kinds 86:8 know 14:14, 14:16, 20:6, 20:17, 21:1, 36:16, 38:19, 39:12, 44:5, 47:5, 51:22, 54:24, 59:1, 59:2, 60:24, 63:3, 63:4, 63:20, 64:1, 64:4, 65:2, 66:19, 67:13, 73:22, 76:6, 76:10, 78:18, 79:4, 79:21, 82:23, 85:23, 87:13, 88:21, 89:2 knowing 60:8, 65:11 known 82:10</p>	<p>kristine 1:24, 2:22, 99:3</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">L</p> <p>lab-type 54:21 labor 7:19, 8:15, 72:23 lagging 39:14 lake 2:5 large 46:4 larger 48:12 largest 13:10 lashawn 84:21 last 7:2, 7:14, 33:16, 42:17, 60:13, 69:21, 78:23, 83:11, 83:19, 85:2, 86:23, 97:21 late 54:16 launch 56:4 launched 54:16 launching 55:7 law 69:10, 72:6 laws 11:23 lawyer 39:15 lawyers 39:15 lead 65:6, 79:12, 83:13</p>	<p>leadership 90:4, 90:9 leading 14:15 learned 39:23 learning 36:9, 36:21, 43:1 lease 39:4, 47:14 least 9:24, 86:1, 91:12 leave 18:10, 21:8, 24:14, 27:11, 29:22, 32:9, 41:12, 48:18, 52:12, 68:2, 70:22, 80:12, 91:22, 95:23 leaving 72:24 led 84:20 leerhsen 3:11, 76:14, 79:15, 79:18, 79:24, 85:20, 86:19 lending 73:16 lent 90:17 less 7:24 lessons 39:23 lester 3:3 let's 16:11 letter 73:12 level 9:9, 78:23 leverage 61:4</p>
--	---	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>leveraging 55:11, 56:5 liaisons 86:6 license 19:11, 49:19, 81:12, 82:4 life-saving 82:10 light 64:6 lighter 66:18 lighting 64:5, 66:17, 67:12 lights 66:10 likely 37:13 line 8:7, 19:24, 22:12, 23:1, 34:1, 36:14, 38:11, 39:22, 42:22, 45:22, 46:6, 55:21, 58:16, 65:5, 65:12, 76:2, 91:14, 91:15, 91:16, 91:17 lines 76:3, 82:14, 90:15 list 55:3, 91:1 litigation 72:6 little 6:16, 7:10, 38:7, 57:18, 58:16 lives 64:16, 66:5, 83:15, 89:24 loaded 53:19 located 22:11, 22:22,</p>	<p>25:17, 25:23, 28:13, 28:18, 30:23, 31:6, 42:12, 42:20 location 19:23, 19:24, 42:24, 50:9 locations 91:12 locking 9:21 long 44:6, 77:18 longer 42:23, 47:1, 65:5, 65:6, 66:6 longer-term 62:18 look 6:19, 12:10, 45:16, 46:18, 60:7, 61:4, 61:22, 62:21, 65:10, 66:24, 67:9, 76:22, 77:7, 88:13, 90:20 looked 38:14, 90:22, 91:8 looking 9:8, 9:20, 38:19, 58:23, 59:5, 59:8, 60:3, 60:10, 60:17, 60:19, 69:22, 75:6, 76:20, 86:16, 89:4 lot 14:1, 19:13, 31:2, 39:24, 46:2, 48:2, 48:7, 56:13, 79:1, 79:2, 86:21, 90:21 loud 91:14</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">M</p> <p>machine 85:4, 85:7, 85:17, 85:22, 88:18 machines 81:16, 82:8, 82:13, 89:6, 91:13 made 47:16, 47:20 maintain 31:15, 34:4, 38:5, 51:10, 81:15, 82:8, 89:15 maintained 7:5, 90:10 maintenance 51:4, 78:16, 79:4 major 13:3 make 12:12, 16:4, 20:21, 34:3, 40:19, 45:1, 62:21, 66:4, 85:16, 86:13, 88:20 makes 45:2, 51:22, 85:13 making 36:24, 58:19, 62:20, 76:16, 83:12, 83:13, 87:12 malcolm 43:1 manage 58:3 management 77:1 manager 11:13 manner 13:23</p>	<p>manufacture 72:11 many 40:12, 75:12 marketed 69:15 markets 69:17 marsh 34:18 matched 9:3 matches 59:13 material 8:17, 11:20 materially 12:5 maybe 62:10, 67:13, 84:7 mckone 6:3, 6:4, 11:1, 15:5, 15:9, 15:23, 16:17, 18:4, 19:15, 20:20, 21:3, 44:12 mean 89:2 means 79:1, 87:10 measure 61:13 measures 58:20 measuring 60:14 mechanisms 87:13 medication 82:11 meet 80:6 meeting 1:7, 2:1, 4:5, 5:9, 17:13, 36:22, 83:11,</p>
--	--	--	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

83:12, 85:2, 89:23, 98:7 members 10:7, 14:8, 15:6, 15:10, 23:21, 51:15, 74:14, 93:6, 94:1 mental 66:7 mentioned 26:4, 40:12, 44:20, 45:15, 47:5, 57:20 merits 66:6 mesirow 69:14 messages 76:16 met 14:14, 41:4 metal 74:6 metra 50:6, 50:9, 50:19, 51:5 metra's 49:20, 51:10 metrics 60:15, 61:3 metrolink 59:19 metropolitan 33:11, 33:23 michael 3:7 michele 3:6 mid-june 17:4 mid-september 17:6 midpoint 46:5 might 63:18 mile 19:22	mile-last 19:22 miles 57:1, 57:5, 59:22, 64:24 milestone 37:16, 38:1, 40:9, 40:23 milestones 36:17, 56:9 million 7:13, 7:14, 8:21, 9:15, 16:23, 17:1, 26:9, 29:2, 31:11, 36:6, 59:16, 59:22, 74:24, 75:8, 75:9 million-dollar 76:9 mind 40:2 minds 85:6 mine 67:22, 84:12, 87:18 minutes 5:2, 5:9, 50:16, 97:22 miss 33:17 missed 62:10 mitigations 35:8 model 57:16, 61:15, 62:3, 62:5, 63:3, 67:1 molly 49:23, 53:16, 54:8 moment 6:7, 36:19, 74:17 money 79:21	month 6:16, 6:17, 6:23, 7:7, 9:3, 9:22, 91:12, 97:21 monthly 6:13, 7:17, 8:23 months 8:8, 55:9, 65:3, 65:7, 65:16, 65:22, 65:23, 86:23 mooney 22:14, 22:15, 22:17, 24:10, 25:20, 28:16, 31:2, 33:15, 33:19, 37:2, 40:14, 41:1, 42:16, 45:12, 45:14, 48:13 more 6:23, 8:1, 8:16, 33:19, 38:7, 39:16, 40:12, 40:15, 44:6, 45:24, 46:20, 48:10, 50:6, 57:2, 57:19, 58:16, 84:3 morning 4:4, 6:4, 11:10, 12:18, 22:15, 22:16, 42:17, 49:24, 50:3, 69:8, 72:3, 74:2, 80:5, 81:24, 82:3 mornings 6:6 most 8:23, 60:20, 63:22, 77:15 mostly 38:15	motion 5:4, 6:1, 19:6, 22:5, 25:12, 28:9, 30:18, 33:6, 42:7, 49:14, 53:8, 68:22, 71:19, 92:18, 96:18, 96:21, 97:18, 97:24, 98:21 move 39:5, 42:8, 85:1, 85:24, 88:2, 90:5 moved 5:5, 5:7, 18:13, 18:15, 21:11, 21:13, 24:17, 24:19, 27:14, 27:16, 30:1, 30:3, 32:12, 32:14, 41:14, 41:16, 48:21, 48:23, 52:15, 52:17, 68:5, 68:7, 71:1, 71:3, 80:15, 80:17, 84:18, 92:1, 92:3, 95:24, 96:2, 96:23, 97:1, 98:2, 98:4 moves 89:4 moving 8:10, 36:14, 44:4, 57:15 much 14:20, 16:9, 37:11, 45:24, 65:1, 66:6, 77:4, 77:7, 80:11, 85:6, 87:17 multiple 63:8 murka 15:12, 15:23
---	--	--	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>muscle 87:8</p> <p>must 35:10, 43:8, 73:7</p> <p>mwrđ 34:5, 34:8, 34:14, 34:15, 34:17, 34:19, 34:23, 35:11</p> <p>mwrđ's 35:1, 35:4</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">N</p> <hr/> <p>nalaxone 81:17, 81:18, 82:9</p> <p>name 12:19, 82:23</p> <p>nancy 91:4</p> <p>narcan 81:20, 82:10, 84:13, 85:14</p> <p>necessarily 64:2</p> <p>necessary 34:8, 42:23</p> <p>necessitate 50:18</p> <p>need 15:19, 40:17, 50:18, 53:21, 75:14, 76:6, 77:11, 84:13, 84:14, 84:18, 86:4, 86:11, 89:1, 90:1</p> <p>needing 79:2</p> <p>needs 45:10, 52:7, 84:6</p> <p>neema 4:23</p> <p>negative 7:18</p> <p>negotiate 40:4</p>	<p>negotiated 26:13, 29:2, 31:12, 79:12</p> <p>negotiating 79:13</p> <p>negotiations 39:18, 74:22</p> <p>neither 99:10</p> <p>nepa 34:4</p> <p>net 16:22</p> <p>network 49:21, 50:6, 50:15</p> <p>new 34:24, 35:5, 43:1, 72:13, 73:14, 77:8, 80:1</p> <p>news 9:10, 14:16</p> <p>next 5:1, 6:2, 6:23, 65:3, 65:6, 65:15, 84:9, 93:1</p> <p>nine 65:16, 91:2, 91:12</p> <p>no-cost 55:11</p> <p>nod 85:19</p> <p>non-farebox 6:24, 7:12</p> <p>non-revenue 17:9</p> <p>none 18:1, 24:5, 27:2, 27:6, 29:17, 32:4, 51:19, 93:14, 93:16, 94:3, 94:5, 94:9, 95:1, 95:11, 95:15</p>	<p>nora 3:11, 85:20, 90:4</p> <p>nora's 83:18</p> <p>normal 51:1</p> <p>north 50:14</p> <p>nos 93:2, 93:20</p> <p>notarial 99:15</p> <p>notary 2:23, 99:1</p> <p>note 4:22, 8:5, 58:6, 86:20</p> <p>notes 12:4, 12:8</p> <p>nothing 77:16</p> <p>notification 62:14, 66:16</p> <p>notify 63:2, 63:5</p> <p>notifying 62:12</p> <p>nta 59:2</p> <p>nuance 89:12</p> <p>number 13:1, 36:19, 64:16, 78:18</p> <p>numbers 64:20, 77:16</p> <p>nurture 84:1</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">O</p> <hr/> <p>oak 91:15</p> <p>object 66:14</p> <p>obligated 34:3</p> <p>obligations 17:14</p>	<p>obtain 13:8</p> <p>obviously 66:4, 66:6</p> <p>occur 35:14</p> <p>occurred 35:10</p> <p>october 22:23, 25:24, 28:21, 84:12</p> <p>offered 43:12</p> <p>office 85:16, 91:10</p> <p>officer 22:18, 23:8, 26:6, 28:23, 31:10, 54:8, 74:3, 82:2, 99:3</p> <p>offset 8:1, 8:16</p> <p>often 39:21, 47:19</p> <p>oh 49:3, 50:1</p> <p>okay 16:17, 50:1, 54:4, 81:22, 91:18, 92:22</p> <p>old 47:15, 53:23, 73:22, 74:4</p> <p>older 77:10</p> <p>omnibus 18:11, 21:9, 21:15, 24:15, 24:21, 27:12, 27:18, 29:23, 32:10, 32:16, 41:13, 48:19, 52:13, 68:3, 68:8, 70:23, 71:5, 80:13, 80:19, 91:23, 95:23, 96:4, 96:21, 96:22,</p>
---	---	--	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>97:3 on-hand 7:21 once 63:9, 67:2, 74:7, 84:2 one 7:17, 9:20, 33:19, 37:11, 38:13, 38:18, 40:8, 40:15, 40:20, 45:19, 46:23, 47:13, 48:9, 48:11, 50:1, 53:23, 61:11, 61:14, 63:7, 63:21, 64:16, 64:23, 65:18, 65:20, 65:21, 74:20, 76:8, 76:16, 79:10, 88:7 ones 20:22, 64:15 ongoing 45:15, 46:11 only 20:21, 56:15, 56:17, 74:11, 83:5, 88:4 open 10:2, 17:19, 46:9, 59:12 operate 81:15, 82:7 operating 8:20, 76:2 operational 77:2 operations 34:9, 35:13, 42:23, 65:8 operator 62:23, 63:6, 64:2 operators 50:19, 50:21, 50:24, 52:6,</p>	<p>55:24, 84:15 opinion 12:3, 12:22 opinions 14:2 opioid 82:12, 82:16, 84:19, 90:24 opportunity 38:19, 47:10, 50:20 option 72:20, 73:16, 73:18 options 72:14, 73:4, 74:22, 78:8 orange 76:3 order 4:4, 5:1, 6:2, 72:13, 72:20, 74:24, 93:1 orders 73:16 ordinance 16:12, 16:13, 16:18, 19:10, 22:9, 22:20, 22:24, 23:7, 25:16, 25:22, 25:24, 26:5, 28:12, 28:17, 28:19, 28:22, 30:22, 31:5, 31:7, 31:9, 33:10, 33:22, 37:3, 37:4, 42:11, 42:19, 45:23, 49:18, 53:12, 69:4, 69:11, 71:23, 72:8, 81:12, 82:4 ordinances 37:10 organization 87:20</p>	<p>organizations 86:9 origin 84:24 originally 91:3 originated 84:8 ortiz 3:5, 4:11, 4:12, 5:21, 5:22, 10:10, 10:11, 14:21, 14:22, 17:24, 18:1, 19:2, 19:3, 20:10, 20:11, 21:19, 21:20, 24:4, 24:5, 25:7, 25:8, 27:1, 27:2, 28:4, 28:5, 29:12, 29:13, 30:14, 30:15, 31:23, 31:24, 33:2, 33:3, 36:1, 36:2, 40:10, 42:3, 42:4, 44:13, 44:14, 49:4, 49:5, 51:18, 51:19, 52:22, 52:23, 66:2, 66:3, 67:7, 67:12, 68:12, 68:13, 70:16, 70:17, 71:15, 71:16, 77:13, 77:14, 77:20, 81:5, 81:6, 89:18, 89:19, 92:14, 92:15, 93:9, 93:10, 94:8, 94:9, 94:20, 94:21, 95:14, 95:15, 96:8, 96:9, 97:13, 97:14, 98:17,</p>	<p>98:18 other 6:10, 8:5, 8:17, 8:19, 10:7, 14:8, 23:21, 36:7, 38:3, 45:10, 47:20, 48:8, 51:15, 51:24, 56:13, 58:11, 59:5, 65:4, 65:14, 74:13, 74:14, 83:6, 86:9, 88:21, 88:23, 93:6, 93:24, 95:20 otherwise 46:1, 66:8, 99:12 ourselves 74:18 out 9:19, 33:20, 37:11, 43:10, 47:14, 54:17, 55:4, 59:1, 59:24, 61:12, 62:17, 64:9, 73:19, 74:20, 75:4, 77:8, 77:16, 80:1, 85:2, 85:8, 86:5, 88:6, 91:3, 91:14, 97:22 outcome 99:13 over 6:22, 11:5, 12:11, 12:23, 13:13, 36:6, 37:6, 37:19, 44:21, 57:5, 65:2, 72:16, 72:22, 73:14, 86:23 overall 7:7, 17:8,</p>
--	---	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>36:11, 37:23, 38:6, 57:22, 79:19, 83:22, 87:5, 88:13 overdose 82:12 overhaul 78:23, 78:24 owed 23:4, 26:15 owner 23:5, 23:10, 26:15, 31:15 owners 39:2, 39:6 ownership 38:16 owns 38:8, 46:16, 47:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <hr/> <p>pace 19:11, 19:13, 19:17, 20:1, 20:4, 36:11 pace's 19:18 pages 1:23 paid 51:6 pain 83:4 pandemic 72:17 paper 55:20 paradigm 69:15 parcel 23:4, 23:11, 37:12, 40:15, 44:5, 45:18, 45:21, 46:4, 48:10 parcels 23:1, 26:2,</p>	<p>37:6, 37:9, 37:19, 39:13, 39:15, 40:13, 40:15, 45:8, 45:19 park 19:12, 19:18, 91:15, 91:17 park-and-ride 46:2 parking 19:12, 19:17 part 12:17, 13:12, 34:4, 34:10, 37:21, 47:16, 48:4, 54:15, 74:22, 88:20 participation 43:8, 43:10 particular 44:21, 56:12, 58:4, 64:13, 66:9, 89:3 particularly 66:4, 66:11 parties 72:24, 99:11 partner 11:11, 11:12, 69:15, 85:13, 86:12 partnered 12:19 partners 44:23, 59:19, 65:8, 83:23, 88:21, 88:24 partnership 47:12, 82:15, 84:2, 84:11, 85:9, 85:11, 88:12, 89:20 partnerships 44:19, 83:18, 83:21, 86:2, 86:21, 87:2, 87:10, 87:18,</p>	<p>88:4 pass 6:15, 7:11 passed 37:4, 58:9 passes 6:1, 19:6, 22:5, 25:12, 28:9, 30:18, 33:6, 42:7, 49:14, 53:8, 68:22, 71:19, 92:18, 96:18, 97:18, 98:21 past 72:16 path 39:17 pay 23:9, 26:9 paying 64:13, 75:7 payment 22:9, 22:20, 26:2, 56:8 peach's 47:10 peer 63:23 people 61:20, 67:11, 76:17, 84:18, 86:4, 87:13, 88:2, 88:5, 88:22 percent 7:24, 9:2, 13:8, 69:24, 70:3 perfect 89:4 performance 73:10, 78:4 perimeter 35:6 period 31:17 permanent 34:16, 34:18,</p>	<p>35:5 permits 73:6 perpetual 34:16, 34:18 person 38:8, 60:22, 66:14 person's 60:22 personally 87:18 perspective 45:3, 58:24, 87:11, 87:12 phase 17:12, 36:15, 37:15, 47:1 phonetic 15:12, 53:18, 91:5 physical 60:8 picture 36:11, 84:7, 88:13 piece 60:13 pieces 40:18, 54:2 pilot 19:19, 53:12, 53:14, 54:13, 54:14, 54:20, 55:8, 55:11, 55:14, 56:7, 56:10, 56:12, 57:4, 57:17, 57:19, 59:17, 62:19, 63:21, 64:23, 66:9, 66:12 pilots 55:5, 55:6, 56:13, 56:14, 59:3, 60:15, 61:3 pink 91:17</p>
--	---	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>pipeline 35:1, 48:10</p> <p>place 18:11, 21:9, 24:15, 27:12, 29:23, 32:10, 36:16, 41:12, 48:19, 52:13, 68:3, 70:23, 80:13, 86:13, 87:13, 91:23, 95:23</p> <p>placed 21:15, 24:21, 27:18, 32:16, 68:8, 71:5, 80:19, 96:4</p> <p>placing 89:5</p> <p>plan 16:19, 16:22, 17:18, 46:21, 47:1</p> <p>planning 44:23, 54:7, 54:9, 87:9, 93:22</p> <p>plant 35:2, 35:4</p> <p>platform 59:8, 67:5</p> <p>platform-based 60:1, 60:5</p> <p>platform-door 59:17</p> <p>play 8:11</p> <p>playing 7:9</p> <p>please 4:7, 15:18, 54:20, 75:16</p> <p>pleased 14:17, 36:13, 44:4</p> <p>pleasure 80:6</p> <p>plus 39:22, 57:20</p>	<p>point 14:3, 14:15, 41:5, 45:24, 74:5, 76:15, 77:11, 79:10, 79:18, 85:5</p> <p>pointed 85:2</p> <p>policy 69:6, 69:12</p> <p>pop-up 47:18</p> <p>poppe 49:24, 53:17, 53:23, 54:6, 54:8, 61:14, 62:13, 64:21, 65:20, 66:1, 66:23, 67:8, 67:17</p> <p>popping 31:1</p> <p>portion 34:23</p> <p>posed 67:22</p> <p>position 39:13</p> <p>positive 7:1, 7:13, 8:8, 8:9, 8:18, 8:21, 9:2, 9:4, 9:6, 9:12, 58:3, 60:20, 64:19</p> <p>positives 62:21, 63:5, 63:24</p> <p>possession 31:15</p> <p>possible 64:2</p> <p>post 46:6</p> <p>post-possession 31:16</p> <p>postured 39:13</p> <p>potential 48:11, 56:18,</p>	<p>74:21, 75:2</p> <p>potentially 46:14, 65:11, 67:3</p> <p>power 8:17, 9:19, 9:21, 10:1, 62:24, 63:2, 63:20</p> <p>powered 57:9</p> <p>pre-garfield 46:7</p> <p>precision 59:10</p> <p>preface 36:12</p> <p>preliminary 6:20</p> <p>premium 69:21, 69:22</p> <p>present 3:2, 3:10, 4:10, 12:16, 54:12</p> <p>presented 12:4</p> <p>president 3:11, 54:9, 85:19</p> <p>pressuring 84:13</p> <p>pretty 36:6, 37:11, 37:16, 47:22, 64:24, 65:1</p> <p>prevent 58:21</p> <p>preventing 66:13</p> <p>previously 20:17, 31:7</p> <p>price 9:21, 9:23, 26:8, 26:13, 29:1, 29:3, 31:12, 69:20</p> <p>primary 69:5</p>	<p>prior 6:18, 17:5, 23:11, 28:19, 35:11, 43:9, 55:8, 58:9, 73:17</p> <p>prioritizing 52:6</p> <p>priority 58:8</p> <p>private 54:18</p> <p>proactive 46:18</p> <p>probably 21:1, 75:14, 78:24</p> <p>problem 54:17, 55:4, 66:21, 66:22</p> <p>procedures 63:14</p> <p>proceed 10:19, 19:7, 22:6, 25:13, 28:9, 30:19, 33:7, 49:15, 53:9, 68:23, 71:20, 81:10, 92:19, 93:19, 94:14, 95:5, 97:19</p> <p>proceeding 39:10, 99:4, 99:11</p> <p>process 13:12, 14:1, 34:4, 36:8, 37:21, 38:9, 40:8</p> <p>procure 73:15</p> <p>procured 85:14, 85:15</p> <p>procurement 45:21</p> <p>production 73:6, 73:18,</p>
--	--	--	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>73:19 professional 13:23 profit 74:6 program 13:7, 13:11, 16:15, 17:10, 19:13, 19:19, 51:8, 53:13, 53:15, 54:15, 58:9 programs 12:23, 13:2, 13:4, 13:7, 13:14 progress 36:24 project 22:13, 23:2, 23:15, 25:18, 26:19, 28:14, 29:6, 30:24, 31:19, 33:13, 34:1, 34:11, 36:12, 36:14, 37:5, 37:16, 37:20, 37:23, 39:23, 47:16, 49:22, 55:10, 65:12, 85:22 projects 35:13, 37:18, 44:8, 64:15, 83:14, 83:15 properly 88:15 properties 26:8, 29:1, 31:11, 34:5, 39:1, 39:2 property 22:11, 22:21, 23:2, 25:17, 25:23, 26:4, 26:14, 28:13, 28:18, 29:3, 30:23, 31:6,</p>	<p>31:13, 34:8, 34:13, 34:15, 35:6, 38:23, 39:6, 39:20, 39:24, 42:12, 42:20, 42:22, 43:3, 43:6, 43:9, 43:16, 45:17, 46:17, 47:8, 69:5, 69:12, 81:16, 82:9 property-taking 40:2 proposed 34:2, 34:12 prospective 73:9 protection 65:13 provide 20:4, 35:12, 44:10, 45:7, 85:16 provided 51:5, 69:19 providers 69:18 provides 17:7, 34:12, 73:2 providing 13:23 ptf 9:3 public 2:24, 8:22, 9:12, 54:18, 57:4, 74:18, 82:18, 85:10, 90:22, 90:23, 99:1 public-health 81:15, 82:8 pull 6:8, 62:16, 75:24 pulls 59:12</p>	<p>pulse 62:20 pumping 34:24 purchase 9:19, 10:1, 17:7, 17:8, 25:16, 25:22, 26:8, 26:13, 28:12, 28:17, 29:1, 29:2, 30:23, 31:5, 31:12, 36:21, 69:5, 79:24, 92:21 purchased 40:13 purpose 63:8, 83:4 purposefully 61:11 pursuant 2:22, 23:5, 23:7, 26:5, 28:22, 31:9 put 8:9, 15:7, 54:17, 55:4, 85:18 putting 85:22</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Q</p> <hr/> <p>quality 64:9, 76:18 question 14:6, 20:17, 24:7, 41:9, 52:9, 74:1, 74:12, 79:16, 82:22, 84:23, 86:20, 90:19 quick 45:8 quickly 58:6, 64:1 quite 78:19, 79:7</p>	<p>quorum 4:22</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <hr/> <p>radio 62:17, 64:7 radioed 64:4 rail 17:8, 79:4, 81:19, 82:9, 82:14 rail-type 57:2 railcar 72:22, 75:1, 75:8 railcars 72:1, 72:12, 72:14, 73:4, 73:15, 73:22, 74:4, 74:19, 74:21, 74:24, 75:5, 75:18, 75:21, 77:8 raise 15:13 raises 86:11 rate 7:23 rates 7:5, 60:21 ray 3:13, 72:2, 72:3, 72:4, 73:24, 74:23, 75:11, 75:14, 76:12, 78:2, 79:10 rd 47:7 reach 38:1 reaching 50:8 read 91:13</p>
---	--	---	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>reading 99:9</p> <p>ready 78:7</p> <p>real 24:9, 25:17, 25:22, 28:13, 28:17, 30:23, 31:5, 36:7, 36:9, 36:21, 38:16, 40:23, 42:12, 63:18</p> <p>real-world 56:1</p> <p>realized 56:10</p> <p>really 36:13, 38:9, 38:16, 38:21, 45:1, 47:8, 48:3, 56:23, 57:15, 64:7, 66:12, 76:16, 77:11, 79:4, 90:1, 91:1, 91:8</p> <p>reasonably 11:19</p> <p>reasons 76:20</p> <p>receive 72:19</p> <p>received 72:18, 78:22</p> <p>receives 13:1</p> <p>receiving 45:6</p> <p>recent 8:23, 55:20</p> <p>recessed 46:3</p> <p>reciprocal 35:12</p> <p>reclamation 33:12, 33:23, 35:2</p> <p>recognizes 73:13</p>	<p>recognizing 86:20, 87:4</p> <p>recommend 70:5, 96:22</p> <p>recommendations 92:21</p> <p>recommended 97:3</p> <p>recommends 22:19, 25:21, 28:16, 31:4, 33:21, 42:18</p> <p>record 4:22, 34:2, 54:5, 98:23, 99:6</p> <p>recovery 82:19, 85:11, 85:13</p> <p>red 22:12, 23:1, 33:24, 36:14, 55:21, 91:16</p> <p>reduce 37:9</p> <p>reduced 99:8</p> <p>reducing 63:24</p> <p>refer 73:24</p> <p>referenced 37:3, 78:14</p> <p>refine 38:10</p> <p>refinement 37:7</p> <p>reflect 73:5</p> <p>reflects 40:2</p> <p>refresh 17:11</p> <p>regards 12:1</p> <p>region 86:7</p> <p>regional 16:20, 17:18</p>	<p>regions 89:8</p> <p>registered 19:20</p> <p>registry 37:22</p> <p>regularly 63:15</p> <p>regulations 11:23</p> <p>reimburse 34:23</p> <p>reimbursement 35:9</p> <p>reimbursements 35:8</p> <p>reinstalling 35:4</p> <p>related 22:21, 86:1, 90:22, 99:10</p> <p>relates 36:20</p> <p>relations 86:6, 86:16</p> <p>relationship 88:10</p> <p>relationships 45:15, 86:3, 86:11, 86:12, 88:23, 89:7, 89:14</p> <p>relocate 35:3, 38:12</p> <p>relocated 34:19</p> <p>relocation 22:10, 22:20, 23:4, 23:5, 23:10, 26:3, 26:9, 26:16</p> <p>relocations 38:6, 38:7</p> <p>remain 9:14</p> <p>reminder 54:7, 54:14</p> <p>renew 17:11</p>	<p>renewal 20:5, 69:16, 70:5</p> <p>renewed 69:13</p> <p>renovated 47:15</p> <p>renovation 46:7</p> <p>renovations 46:6</p> <p>replaced 79:2</p> <p>replacement 17:12, 72:24, 73:3</p> <p>replenished 85:15</p> <p>report 6:3, 6:8, 10:2, 10:22, 12:14, 12:21, 13:15, 13:16, 41:3, 53:22, 63:11, 63:13</p> <p>reported 1:24</p> <p>reporter 2:23, 99:1</p> <p>reporting 12:11</p> <p>representative 84:21</p> <p>representing 12:20</p> <p>request 80:9, 84:11</p> <p>requested 20:2, 99:9</p> <p>require 59:10, 59:11</p> <p>required 12:9, 13:24, 23:12, 26:3, 26:11, 34:15, 37:22, 39:20</p> <p>requirements 73:11</p>
--	---	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>requires 29:4 requiring 26:16, 31:13, 73:12 reserved 34:14 resets 73:4 resolution 78:3 resource 89:2 respect 72:10 respectfully 40:7 respects 11:20 response 60:19, 62:11 responsibilities 73:8, 86:2 responsibly 40:6 rest 9:13, 76:1 restaurant 47:9 restroom 50:24 result 7:2, 9:16, 82:15, 84:11 results 6:13, 6:22, 7:17, 8:23, 8:24, 11:6, 13:14, 44:24, 58:4 retail 47:15 retire 74:7 retired 77:12 returns 9:17</p>	<p>rev 3:4 revenue 7:1, 7:7, 7:11, 7:15, 17:8 revenues 6:14, 6:15, 6:20, 6:22 reverse 82:11 review 16:12, 19:10, 22:9, 25:16, 28:12, 30:22, 33:10, 42:11, 49:18, 53:12, 69:4, 71:23, 81:12, 92:20, 93:2 reviews 17:5 rfp 9:19, 45:22 ride 19:13, 19:18 riders 44:11, 55:23 right 4:3, 6:7, 6:11, 11:8, 16:3, 16:11, 37:19, 45:20, 45:22, 47:14, 48:14, 54:1, 58:17, 59:3, 61:19, 63:2, 66:12, 67:11, 76:24, 78:21, 79:9, 79:23, 81:17, 81:20, 81:22, 83:15, 83:18, 84:3, 88:24, 90:5, 90:21, 91:11 right-of-way 55:10, 55:15, 55:16, 55:17, 55:20, 56:6,</p>	<p>56:16, 56:18, 57:6, 57:8, 58:8, 58:14, 58:19, 58:21, 58:24, 59:4, 60:11, 61:17, 61:18, 62:3, 62:7, 62:17, 66:19, 67:9 risk 37:20, 37:22, 77:24, 78:3 rle 25:18, 26:2, 28:14, 30:24, 33:13, 33:16, 37:18, 38:20 road 34:19, 75:2 roberto 3:8 role 18:17, 85:20, 86:24 roll 4:8, 5:11, 7:8, 21:16, 24:22, 27:19, 30:5, 32:17, 41:18, 49:1, 52:19, 68:9, 71:6, 80:20, 92:5, 96:5, 97:4, 98:8 root 66:21 rosa 3:5 rosemont 19:12, 19:18, 19:24 rotating 47:17, 47:24 roughly 72:19, 75:3 route 50:13, 50:16 routes 51:2</p>	<p>rpm 37:18 rta 9:8, 17:17, 44:22 rules 38:22, 39:6 ruling 39:20 rulings 39:4, 39:9 run 64:24, 65:1 running 46:1, 56:10, 59:3, 62:1, 77:10 runs 57:8, 69:12</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <hr/> <p>safety 53:14, 54:13, 54:14, 58:17, 58:19, 87:11 said 8:15, 84:16, 99:7 sale 42:12, 42:20, 43:6, 43:16 sales 8:24, 9:17, 92:21 same 44:14, 85:3 satisfy 80:8 save 64:15, 66:5, 89:24 saving 83:15 savings 73:14 saw 37:20 say 39:7, 54:18,</p>
---	---	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>63:1, 65:6, 65:9, 67:5, 80:4, 97:21 saying 36:13, 81:17 scale 79:20 scope 65:13 scrap 74:6 scrapped 74:5 seal 99:15 second 5:6, 8:12, 18:14, 21:12, 24:18, 27:15, 30:2, 32:13, 41:15, 48:22, 50:1, 52:16, 68:6, 71:2, 80:16, 92:2, 96:1, 96:24, 98:3 seconded 5:8, 18:16, 21:14, 24:20, 27:17, 30:4, 32:15, 41:17, 48:24, 52:18, 68:8, 71:4, 80:18, 92:4, 96:3, 97:2, 98:5 secretary 3:12 section 16:21 sector 54:18 security 8:7, 17:12, 35:5 see 6:15, 7:9, 7:16, 7:24, 8:12, 8:14, 9:1,</p>	<p>9:15, 15:16, 15:17, 15:20, 36:13, 37:13, 40:14, 44:4, 44:7, 47:3, 52:1, 54:23, 56:17, 56:20, 59:16, 59:24, 60:17, 64:6, 66:24, 67:10, 90:10 seeing 7:6, 8:18, 39:14, 44:24, 62:20, 64:3, 65:10, 76:21 seek 73:14 seeking 50:4, 54:13, 56:3, 72:7, 82:3 seems 83:17 seen 7:21, 20:1, 55:20, 78:24 selection 90:14, 90:18 self 47:21 self-incubating 47:21 sell 74:6 send 76:17 sending 63:4, 63:19, 63:20 senior 11:13 sense 45:3, 51:22, 62:9, 64:1, 79:19, 84:5 sonsonic 53:13, 56:4, 57:1, 57:10</p>	<p>sensor 56:24, 57:7, 57:22, 61:18, 62:4, 63:17 sensor-based 60:3, 60:7 sentiments 14:22 separate 26:11 separately 34:7, 34:22, 35:11, 73:17 series 72:11, 75:21 serve 50:12 service 50:7, 50:17, 51:1, 55:21, 56:1, 56:2, 60:24, 76:18, 76:19, 76:21 services 8:7, 84:19 serving 50:15 set 11:22, 99:14 settlement 39:9, 75:1 several 14:14, 64:17 shannon 15:23 share 16:20, 44:14 shared 87:14 sharon 15:11 sheila 82:24, 83:11 short-turn 50:11, 50:13 should 12:13, 20:24, 40:20, 51:23,</p>	<p>75:15, 76:19, 83:16, 89:9 show 88:7, 88:8 side 7:12, 7:15, 7:16, 8:4, 8:6, 8:22, 9:18, 34:6, 45:19, 47:6, 82:16, 84:19, 90:24, 91:16 sifang 71:24, 72:10 signal 63:20 signature-5tmlq 99:18 signatures 40:17 significant 73:13 signing 99:9 similar 85:3 simultaneously 65:1 since 8:5, 95:21, 96:19 single 12:10 single-family 38:11 sir 42:16, 44:12, 48:13, 75:11 sisavanh 69:7, 69:9 sissy 70:9 sister 44:7 site 35:5, 44:22, 46:14 sites 48:10, 48:12</p>
---	--	---	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>situation 89:3 situations 61:20 six 36:5, 57:24, 65:3, 65:7, 65:16, 91:12 sizable 36:6 size 13:7 slide 11:5 slightly 6:16, 7:8, 7:22 slow 64:4 slowly 88:3 smaller 8:1 sobering 76:5 social 84:18 softer 6:17 software 57:20 solution 55:16, 59:18 solutions 54:20, 54:22, 55:1, 57:2, 60:8 solve 55:2 solvency 78:1 some 6:20, 7:22, 8:1, 8:10, 8:12, 9:8, 9:10, 15:9, 36:17, 38:2, 39:2, 39:13, 46:8, 46:16, 46:18, 47:1, 47:23, 54:19,</p>	<p>55:2, 57:19, 59:6, 61:15, 61:23, 62:2, 65:14, 66:16, 66:18, 74:5, 78:23, 84:5, 85:17 somebody 57:14, 62:6, 62:7, 67:5 someone 61:10, 62:12, 64:3, 86:14 something 55:22, 57:4, 57:15, 60:10, 61:22, 63:9, 80:4 somewhere 73:19, 75:7 sorry 82:23 sort 9:9, 54:23, 54:24, 56:19, 57:16, 58:1, 59:15, 59:24, 60:4, 61:6, 63:3, 65:3, 66:20, 77:1 sought 55:8 south 22:22, 23:3, 28:13, 28:18, 42:13, 42:21, 47:6 space 47:15, 47:23 spaces 19:12, 19:18, 20:2, 20:4 specific 59:9, 87:1, 87:3 specifically 54:13, 55:13, 55:17, 57:11,</p>	<p>84:16, 89:11 spent 13:9 split 56:8 springfield 52:1 square 43:4 st 11:17, 12:24 staff 22:19, 25:21, 26:13, 28:16, 29:2, 31:4, 31:12, 33:21, 37:4, 42:18, 83:13, 85:21, 88:15, 89:13 staffed 83:24, 90:11 staffing 89:11 stand 15:18 standard 20:19 standards 12:10, 12:15 standing 67:6 start 6:12, 36:16, 37:5, 46:12, 53:22, 64:19, 84:2, 87:19, 88:16 started 84:22, 85:1, 87:24, 91:3 starting 6:13, 75:24 state 2:24 stated 11:20 statements 11:16, 11:19,</p>	<p>12:1, 12:5, 12:7, 12:8, 54:17, 55:4 station 17:10, 34:24, 42:22, 44:21, 46:8, 47:3, 47:18, 48:7, 48:11, 50:9, 50:19, 56:18, 56:22, 59:13, 62:23 stations 17:10, 45:2, 48:8, 59:17, 81:19, 82:9, 82:14, 84:14, 91:2, 91:8 statistics 72:23 statutes 11:24 stay 40:5, 75:15 steadily 88:3 step 78:5 still 39:23, 40:2, 50:4, 65:12, 87:2, 88:14 stop 36:5, 36:18, 55:12 story 84:24 strategically 86:7 strategy 47:1, 54:9, 54:10, 83:23 street 2:5, 25:18, 25:23, 30:24, 31:6, 44:5, 49:21, 75:4, 91:16</p>
---	---	--	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>strengthening 73:11</p> <p>stress 87:23</p> <p>strongly 87:19</p> <p>structural 9:11</p> <p>structure 87:8</p> <p>studio 53:15, 54:15, 54:17, 64:14</p> <p>stuff 48:1, 86:13</p> <p>stv 58:10, 64:23</p> <p>subcontractor 11:13, 12:20</p> <p>subcontractors 78:6</p> <p>subject 20:5, 26:14, 29:3, 31:13</p> <p>subject-matter 87:3</p> <p>submit 17:3</p> <p>submitted 17:17, 35:10</p> <p>subway 56:21</p> <p>success 39:7, 40:3, 60:14, 60:15, 61:13</p> <p>successfully 56:10, 63:10</p> <p>suggestion 21:1, 67:16</p> <p>sum 23:6</p> <p>summary 13:19</p> <p>suppliers 78:6</p> <p>supplies 51:4, 85:8</p>	<p>supply 51:10, 72:17</p> <p>support 23:1, 26:2, 33:24, 41:1, 45:22, 46:12, 46:14, 46:18, 46:21, 47:2, 48:5, 88:5, 88:6</p> <p>supported 16:2</p> <p>supporting 47:5, 47:9</p> <p>supportive 39:19</p> <p>suppose 78:2</p> <p>sure 12:12, 16:4, 45:1, 58:19, 62:20, 63:4, 66:5, 83:14, 84:10, 85:14, 85:16, 87:12, 90:16</p> <p>surely 88:3</p> <p>surplus 42:11, 42:19</p> <p>sustain 88:15</p> <p>synced 59:11</p> <p>system 57:4, 58:14, 58:15, 61:5, 64:21, 75:13, 81:14, 88:5</p> <p>system-generated 6:14, 7:15</p> <p>systems 17:13, 82:7, 82:17</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">T</p> <hr/> <p>tactile 61:21, 62:8, 67:6</p>	<p>tails 46:23</p> <p>take 5:11, 6:8, 6:19, 10:6, 11:6, 14:4, 14:7, 18:17, 21:16, 23:16, 23:20, 24:22, 26:20, 27:19, 29:7, 30:5, 32:17, 35:15, 38:10, 39:10, 39:20, 41:18, 49:1, 51:14, 52:19, 57:23, 60:13, 61:5, 61:8, 66:24, 68:9, 71:6, 74:13, 74:17, 76:8, 80:20, 92:5, 93:5, 96:5, 97:4, 98:8</p> <p>takeaway 48:8</p> <p>taken 99:4, 99:7</p> <p>taking 35:6, 37:19, 83:13</p> <p>talk 11:15, 39:21</p> <p>talked 58:7, 73:22</p> <p>talking 76:5, 79:11, 86:4</p> <p>task 82:16, 84:20, 90:24, 91:1</p> <p>tax 9:1, 9:17</p> <p>taxes 73:9, 75:2</p> <p>team 14:13, 14:14, 14:18, 15:6, 15:9, 15:14,</p>	<p>16:7, 58:18, 79:12, 86:6, 89:7</p> <p>teams 89:1</p> <p>technologies 60:1, 60:2, 60:3, 60:5</p> <p>technology 54:23, 55:16, 56:4, 56:15, 56:24, 57:10, 58:5, 58:11, 58:12, 58:23, 59:5, 59:6, 59:18, 59:21, 59:23, 60:18, 63:23, 95:7</p> <p>tell 36:10, 36:23, 91:6</p> <p>temporary 34:14</p> <p>ten 72:13, 72:16, 78:23, 95:23, 96:4</p> <p>tenant 23:11</p> <p>term 50:11</p> <p>terms 7:20, 43:11, 63:19, 72:20, 76:15, 78:1, 79:13, 87:8, 87:9, 90:14</p> <p>test 12:11</p> <p>tested 57:1</p> <p>testimony 99:6, 99:7</p> <p>testing 12:6, 13:3, 13:15, 58:12, 58:14, 61:2, 63:8</p>
--	--	--	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>th 5:2, 22:11, 25:18, 25:23, 30:24, 31:6, 44:4, 49:21, 50:8, 50:13, 85:5, 91:16, 98:7, 99:15 thank 4:24, 10:5, 11:1, 11:8, 13:18, 13:21, 14:20, 14:23, 15:6, 15:21, 15:24, 16:8, 16:9, 16:17, 19:15, 20:11, 21:1, 21:3, 23:19, 25:20, 33:15, 42:16, 44:15, 48:14, 52:3, 52:7, 64:10, 67:17, 67:20, 69:9, 70:9, 74:8, 74:10, 76:4, 77:14, 77:17, 77:22, 78:9, 79:14, 80:2, 80:7, 80:10, 83:4, 83:5, 86:18, 89:16, 90:2, 90:4, 90:6, 90:8, 91:18 thanks 10:15, 15:2, 16:6, 41:6, 64:12, 65:24, 76:11, 77:5, 78:12, 87:22, 90:11 theaster 47:7 theme 83:17 themselves 11:6</p>	<p>thereafter 99:7 thing 63:7, 63:22, 84:24, 86:1, 88:7, 88:8 things 8:4, 8:22, 16:4, 38:3, 39:5, 40:3, 47:13, 61:14, 64:5, 65:14, 67:9, 84:1, 88:16, 89:1, 89:24 think 6:21, 20:16, 37:17, 40:3, 44:9, 48:2, 48:3, 63:7, 64:14, 64:18, 66:7, 66:15, 67:15, 74:16, 76:4, 76:7, 76:15, 78:3, 79:20, 84:23, 85:24, 86:9, 86:22, 87:1, 87:17, 88:19, 89:12, 90:1, 91:2 thinking 41:10, 84:6 third 58:15 third-rail 65:13 thought 46:21 thoughtful 38:24, 87:1, 87:7 three 59:16, 65:22, 65:23 through 6:9, 9:12, 11:6, 13:24,</p>	<p>16:14, 38:16, 41:2, 43:7, 43:13, 51:8, 53:14, 62:19, 72:17, 81:13, 82:6, 88:17, 92:23, 93:2, 93:20, 93:21 throughout 9:7, 16:4, 16:5, 55:5, 65:2 throw 77:16 tied 37:23, 37:24 time 15:24, 34:11, 44:6, 60:20, 62:11, 63:18, 65:6, 72:22, 73:4, 76:8, 77:19, 83:19, 86:24 timeline 57:19 timelines 64:18 times 14:15, 85:8 timing 6:21, 17:2, 89:5 title 39:4, 54:11 today 31:3, 33:16, 45:19, 48:9, 54:6, 55:14, 56:3, 65:19, 65:21, 72:7, 74:21, 75:5, 83:17 together 51:24, 52:2 tom 6:3, 10:5, 10:24, 11:9, 16:16, 17:21,</p>	<p>19:14, 20:7 took 39:24, 79:12 top 6:14, 72:15, 75:3, 77:6, 87:19 top-down 87:17 topic 87:4 torres 11:8, 11:11, 13:18 total 7:7, 7:10, 7:12, 7:24, 8:3, 8:16, 8:20, 17:7, 17:15, 37:9, 56:7, 57:6, 75:18 totaling 72:15 totals 17:1 touch 85:17 track 56:21, 57:6, 59:22, 64:3 tracking 58:4 tracks 57:14, 57:15, 61:12 train 45:2, 57:13, 59:12, 59:14, 60:23, 61:15, 61:21, 62:3, 62:8 train's 62:1 training 57:22, 61:16 trains 59:11 transaction 40:18</p>
---	--	---	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>transactional 88:9 transactions 24:9, 36:6, 36:11, 36:20, 40:24 transcript 99:5 transit 1:1, 2:1, 2:4, 13:5, 13:10, 22:23, 26:1, 28:20, 42:23, 57:4, 72:9, 74:3, 84:17 transit-oriented 44:8 transportation 13:5 trends 7:9 trip 19:21 true 99:5 true-up 16:23 try 57:3, 58:24, 60:11 trying 46:8, 63:24, 64:8, 76:17, 79:5 turning 83:4 two 7:9, 13:3, 19:17, 20:2, 20:4, 20:21, 20:22, 45:9, 45:19, 46:24, 48:9, 51:2, 51:6, 56:8, 64:22, 65:22, 65:23, 73:19, 89:24 type 20:21, 59:18,</p>	<p>67:9 types 54:22, 58:11, 60:18 typewriting 99:8 typical 38:10 typically 38:12, 50:10, 56:20, 70:1</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">U</p> <hr/> <p>uic-halsted 64:22 ultimately 46:12, 61:4 under 6:16, 7:8, 7:10, 12:15, 22:23, 25:24, 26:9, 28:19, 31:7, 36:23, 40:20, 45:18, 73:13, 75:1, 86:1, 99:8 under-1 47:23 underdeveloped 45:20 underserved 38:18 understand 66:11, 77:20 underutilized 46:10 uniform 23:5 unique 56:23 university 47:13 unlocks 37:15, 38:2 unmodified 12:3, 12:22 until 31:16, 38:8,</p>	<p>56:10, 63:3 up-time 60:20 update 9:23, 12:16, 45:8 updated 87:16 upkeep 79:21 us-based 73:13 use 19:12, 19:17, 20:2, 47:17, 47:24, 49:19, 50:5, 51:2, 84:7, 88:5, 88:10 useful 61:5 users 19:20, 19:23, 20:18 usually 84:3 utilize 50:21, 50:24, 57:21 utilizing 55:11, 58:13</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">V</p> <hr/> <p>valuable 19:21 value 17:15, 35:7, 38:23, 43:4, 43:6, 56:9 values 26:12, 40:21, 70:3 vancouver 59:20 vango 19:13, 19:19, 19:20, 20:3 variable 38:7</p>	<p>variance 7:18, 8:9, 9:5, 9:7 variances 8:19 variety 70:1 various 35:13, 55:5, 61:6, 87:21, 90:14 vehicle 19:13, 19:21 vehicles 17:9, 20:3, 20:18, 20:19 venting 81:16, 82:8, 82:13 vendor-bonding 73:11 vendors 78:5 venture 72:10 verbatim 2:23 verify 62:16 versus 6:18, 87:11 vibrations 57:11 vice 3:4, 4:3, 4:16, 4:24, 5:17, 6:2, 10:4, 10:21, 14:5, 15:8, 15:16, 15:19, 16:8, 17:20, 18:10, 18:23, 19:9, 20:7, 21:8, 21:24, 22:8, 22:16, 23:18, 24:14, 25:4, 25:15, 26:22, 27:11, 28:1, 28:11,</p>
---	--	--	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting

Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>29:9, 29:22, 30:11, 30:21, 31:20, 32:9, 32:23, 33:9, 33:17, 35:17, 41:9, 41:24, 42:10, 43:19, 48:18, 49:9, 49:17, 51:13, 52:12, 53:3, 53:11, 53:21, 54:4, 54:9, 61:10, 62:10, 64:10, 68:2, 68:17, 69:1, 69:3, 70:8, 70:22, 71:12, 71:22, 73:21, 74:8, 74:11, 80:12, 81:2, 81:11, 81:19, 81:22, 82:21, 83:1, 83:3, 91:22, 92:11, 92:22, 93:21, 94:15, 95:6, 95:21, 96:13, 96:19, 97:10, 97:20, 98:14, 98:22 view 61:12 vision 56:17, 57:10, 86:10 visit 47:11 visited 91:4 visits 91:12 vita 53:18, 53:20 vote 5:11, 18:17, 21:16, 24:22, 27:19, 30:5, 32:17, 41:18,</p>	<p>49:1, 52:19, 68:9, 71:6, 80:20, 92:5, 96:5, 97:4, 98:8 <hr/>W<hr/>wait 15:16 waiting 41:3 walking 57:14, 76:9 wall 88:1 want 7:21, 14:12, 14:18, 52:1, 58:6, 60:21, 61:1, 79:13, 80:3, 86:24, 88:20 wanted 36:4, 36:7, 36:12, 36:18, 44:18, 83:9, 89:10, 90:20 warning 66:19 water 33:12, 33:23, 35:1 way 46:7, 67:11, 86:15, 86:16, 91:10 ways 87:14, 87:21 wayside 64:5 wbez 84:12 we'll 5:11, 6:23, 8:9, 9:23, 10:6, 14:7, 18:16, 21:16, 23:20, 24:22, 27:19, 30:4, 32:17,</p>	<p>41:17, 48:24, 51:8, 51:14, 52:18, 53:24, 57:24, 63:10, 65:16, 66:23, 67:9, 68:9, 71:6, 74:13, 80:20, 87:16, 92:4, 93:5, 96:4, 97:4, 98:7 we're 6:12, 7:3, 7:6, 7:19, 7:23, 8:2, 8:3, 9:15, 9:20, 14:16, 16:2, 33:17, 36:5, 36:24, 37:14, 38:18, 44:7, 44:24, 45:18, 52:5, 54:12, 54:19, 55:11, 58:14, 58:23, 60:3, 60:14, 62:20, 63:1, 63:18, 64:8, 65:9, 65:10, 66:5, 69:22, 72:7, 75:24, 83:12, 85:23, 86:10, 86:16, 87:7, 91:10 we've 6:9, 8:8, 14:14, 37:8, 38:5, 40:4, 40:5, 40:18, 41:4, 44:5, 45:15, 55:5, 58:7, 58:9, 60:16, 67:1, 67:10, 70:2, 86:22, 89:24 wealth 38:15, 38:20 wednesday 1:9 week 84:19, 84:22</p>	<p>weeks 57:24, 58:2 welcome 42:15, 91:19 went 70:3, 91:4, 91:7 weren't 39:6 wesner 1:24, 2:23, 99:3 west 2:5, 25:17, 25:23, 30:23, 31:6, 34:6, 35:2, 45:19, 82:16, 84:19, 90:24 wheelchair 20:18 whereof 99:14 whether 63:11 whole 31:2, 41:4, 48:2, 48:7, 87:6 wiring 79:2 wish 91:1 within 8:15, 23:14, 26:18, 29:6, 31:19, 40:5, 56:16, 66:7, 84:19, 84:22, 86:15, 87:9 without 23:11, 26:10 witness 53:2, 99:14 wonder 24:8 wonderful 67:16 wondering 66:9</p>
---	--	--	---

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>work 14:14, 14:19, 15:14, 40:19, 45:1, 51:10, 57:3, 58:8, 62:18, 62:19, 63:19, 79:14, 84:3, 85:8, 90:3 worked 39:1 workers 45:7 workforce 7:20 working 12:12, 13:22, 16:3, 44:7, 51:23, 51:24, 52:2, 58:2, 58:12, 58:18, 60:16, 65:10, 87:8 works 55:19, 63:4 world 54:3, 59:2, 60:1 worried 8:3 wouldn't 14:5 wrong 53:18</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Y</p> <hr/> <p>yeah 15:19, 36:4, 40:10, 41:2, 62:13, 64:21, 66:1, 66:23, 74:16, 76:13, 78:14, 79:17, 83:9, 90:13 year 6:18, 7:2, 7:4, 7:11, 7:13, 7:14, 8:13, 9:7, 9:13, 10:22,</p>	<p>11:16, 12:23, 13:4, 13:20, 16:4, 16:5, 16:20, 16:24, 17:6, 51:6, 69:6, 69:13, 69:22, 70:2 year's 69:21 year-to-date 7:9, 8:14, 8:20, 9:14 years 16:14, 24:10, 39:22, 44:21, 72:13, 72:16, 73:19, 73:23, 78:23, 79:1 yellow 58:16, 65:5, 65:12 yep 65:21 yesterday 55:22</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Z</p> <hr/> <p>zoning 46:20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">\$</p> <hr/> <p>\$1 26:9 \$1,175,000 26:14 \$1,400,000 31:13 \$1.5 74:24 \$10,000 51:6 \$100 59:16 \$100,000 23:10, 23:13, 26:10 \$110,000 56:7</p>	<p>\$3.35 16:23 \$370,000 43:5, 43:7 \$4,490,000 34:21 \$405,000 69:24 \$444.4 17:1 \$45,510,000 35:9 \$5,000 51:7 \$5,573,470 23:6 \$5,600,000 29:3 \$580,000 26:16 \$6.986 17:16 \$60 36:6 \$7,031,587 69:21 \$7,436,605 69:23 \$8.8 70:4</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">.</p> <hr/> <p>.3137 2:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">0</p> <hr/> <p>02 99:20 022 22:24, 25:24, 28:20, 31:8, 37:3 024 16:13</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <hr/> <p>1.2 75:3</p>	<p>1.3 59:22 1.5 59:22 10 1:10, 9:2, 30:20, 30:21, 50:16 104 30:24, 31:6 105 25:18, 25:23 11 1:9, 4:5, 33:8, 33:9, 98:7, 98:23 111 50:21 115 49:21, 50:8 118 22:24, 25:24, 28:20, 37:3 119 22:11 11900 22:12, 22:22, 23:3 12 42:9, 42:10 12200 28:13, 28:18 12256 28:13, 28:18 13 49:16, 49:17 14 5:2, 5:9, 53:10, 53:11, 58:2 143 16:13 15 69:1, 69:2, 69:3, 79:1 15.3 70:3 1500 75:17, 75:19</p>
---	--	--	--

Transcript of Committee on Finance Audit & Budget Meeting
 Conducted on June 11, 2025

<p>16 71:21, 71:22 17 81:10, 81:11 18 1:10, 31:8, 92:20 19 97:19, 97:21, 99:15 193 37:9 1st 31:16, 35:11</p>	<p>23 54:16 23.7 9:15 230 72:19, 75:22 24 54:16, 55:4 25 99:20 2600 73:24, 75:24, 76:1, 78:19, 78:24</p>	<p>5 5.76 69:24 50 57:1 5000 75:21 504 49:20 5426 42:13, 42:21 5446 42:13, 42:21 55 44:4 567 2:5 582102 1:22</p>	
<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>		
<p>2.9 7:13 20 8:21, 39:22, 97:22 200 37:6, 37:19 2022 22:23, 25:24, 37:4 2023 19:16, 84:12 2024 10:23, 11:7, 11:17, 12:24 2025 1:9, 4:5, 5:3, 5:9, 16:14, 16:20, 16:22, 16:24, 69:6, 69:12, 73:9, 98:7, 99:16, 99:20 2026 9:24, 31:16, 65:2, 69:6, 69:12 2029 16:14, 35:11 215 75:22 22 28:21</p>	<p>31 11:17, 12:24 312.681 2:7 3200 76:1, 78:22 36 70:3 37 98:23 38,768 43:3</p>	<p>6 60661 2:6 63 47:7</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>7</p>	
<p>4.2 75:9 4.25 75:8 400 72:13, 72:15 401 30:23, 31:6 407 30:23, 31:6 411 25:17, 25:23 413 25:17, 25:23 446 72:15 47 91:16</p>	<p>7.6 70:4 700 75:21 7000 72:11, 75:23 714 75:21</p>	<p>9 95 50:13, 85:5 99 1:23, 13:8</p>	