

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025**

The regular Board meeting of the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) was held on Tuesday, July 1, 2025.

BOARD MEMBERS

Aundra Wallace, Vice Chair
Patricia Sams, Secretary
Elaine Brown
Max Glober
Donald Horner

JTA EXECUTIVE STAFF

Nathaniel P. Ford Sr., CEO
Greer Gillis, SVP System Development
Jeffery Smith, SVP Operations
Jessica Shepler, SVP Public Affairs
Heather Obora, Interim CFO

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Katie Smith, Board Administrator
Richard Milian, General Counsel

A. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chair Wallace called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and thanked the Board for attending the meeting and the work session held before the meeting.

Director Sams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Smith provided roll call to confirm a quorum.

Vice Chair Wallace shared the Safety Message for the Month of July: “Safety First, Last and Always.”

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 29, 2025 BOARD WORK SESSION AND BOARD MEETING

MOTION (Brown/Sams) to approve the minutes from May 29, 2025 Board Works Session and Board Meeting. Motion Approved (5-0).

C. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISON – Councilman Johnson was unable to attend the meeting.

D. AUTHORITY RECOGNITIONS

June Employee Recognitions

Bus Operator: Percival Joseph, Jr.

Maintenance: Bernadette Johnson

Administrative: Hoang Vo

July Employee Recognitions

Bus Operator: Tamara Haywood

Maintenance: Innocent Umoinyang

Administrative: Carolyn Pride

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: There were three public comments.

1. John Nooney: Mr. Nooney shared his position on a land acquisition that he is sharing with all of the community Board’s and committees. He stated that he would like JTA to recognize this request and importance of the land acquisition.

F. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:** Mr. Ford stated that he will be providing updates and highlights from the last month.

He began by announcing that Heather Obora as interim Chief Financial Officer following the news of Raj Srinath's retirement. Ms. Obora has been serving as Chief Procurement Officer at the JTA and has over 30 years of distinguished leadership experience in finance, procurement, and supply chain management across both public and private sectors, Heather brings exceptional qualifications to serve in this role. Mr. Ford also recognized Mr. Srinath for his diligent financial leadership and abundant contributions to the JTA and shared some of those accomplishments.

An overview of the week of June 23, 2025 was provided which included the JTA hosting the National Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Day Conference at the Prime Osborn Conference Center. This conference brought together over 300 industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators from all around the country and internationally to explore the rapidly evolving world of autonomous mobility and its integration into public transportation systems.

Following the success of AV Day Conference, JTA proudly marked a historic milestone on Friday, June 27 with the official launch of Neighborhood Autonomous Vehicle Innovation (NAVI) the first AV powered public transportation service in the United States. The launch event drew over 200 attendees and showcased the JTA as a national leader in mobility innovation. Staff then celebrated with the operations team for the first pull-out of the NAVI vehicle. NAVI is now in service, operating Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. along the 3.5-mile Bay Street Innovation Corridor (BSIC). The BSIC represents Phase 1 of the Ultimate Urban Circulator (U²C) program and is recognized as a critical artery in the city connecting residential areas and businesses through the urban core to the Sports & Entertainment District.

A video was shared that highlighted the past month's activities.

Mr. Ford closed out his report by sharing that he had the opportunity to represent the United States at the International Association of Public Transport's summit (UITP) held in Hamburg, Germany. He was able to share the phenomenal work being done at the JTA to create and develop the workforce of the future and to advance and ready the current workforce as the AV vehicle industry advances. He shared that there was also the opportunity to visit with HOLON to see their manufacturing facilities and meet with their leadership and key personnel. Xan Traversa joined me in Germany.

Mr. Ford turned the floor over to Mr. Traversa where he provided a brief overview of the trip to Germany and his experience.

DIVISION REPORTS

1. **ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY REPORTS** – Ms. Obora, on behalf of Mr.

Ferguson provided the Administration Report and provided highlights of the Procurement Report.

2. **FINANCE MONTHLY REPORTS** – Ms. Obora provided the financial report to the Board through May, as well as the processed invoices report and the agency sponsorship and membership report.

3. **OPERATIONS MONTHLY REPORT** – Mr. Smith provided the Board with a few highlights of the Operations Report through May 2025.

4. **PUBLIC AFFAIRS** - Mrs. Shepler shared highlights of the Real Estate and Economic Development Report for May. She also shared that staff is meeting with council members to brief them on the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

Mrs. Shepler recognized that Councilman Freeman was in attendance and that at the conclusion of the Board Meeting the Board will meet him at the Kiss and Ride to announce the My Ride2Train Program that will provide fare free service to individuals attending trade schools.

5. **SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT MONTHLY REPORT** – Ms. Gillis provided a snapshot of the System Development Report through May 2025.

H. **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **DECLARATION OF SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY**

MOTION (Brown/Sams) to approve Consent Agenda item H.1 as staff recommends. Motion Approved (5-0).

I. **ADOPTION AGENDA**

There were no items under the Adoption Agenda.

J. **SAFETY, AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE** (Vacant, Committee Chair)

There were no items under Safety, Audit and Compliance Committee.

K. **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** (Sams, Committee Chair)

Director Sams thanked Mr. Smith for providing an in-depth look at the contract renewal during the work session that took place prior to the Board meeting.

1. **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES:** Mr. Smith state that staff requests the Board approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement (Agreement) between the JTA and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Florida Council 79 (AFSCME) and authorize the CEO to execute the Agreement.

MOTION (Sams/Brown) to approve the contract renewal for AFSCME. Motion Approved (5-0).

L. **SERVICE DELIVERY** (Vacant, Committee Chair)

There were no items under Service Delivery Committee.

M. LONG RANGE PLANNING AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT (Wallace, Committee Chair)

1. APPROVAL OF 2025 TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN MAJOR UPDATE:

Mrs. Gillis stated that staff recommends the Board review and approve JTA's 2025 Transit Development Plan (TDP) major update.

The TDP is a strategic planning document required by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for all public transit agencies receiving state funding. Established under Florida Statutes, the TDP serves as the primary tool for defining public transportation needs and priorities over a ten-year planning horizon. It ensures that transit agencies align their services and investments with community needs, regional goals, and state and federal policies. The JTA is mandated by state statutes to conduct a major update of its TDP every five years with annual updates occurring in the interim to reflect minor changes and progress. This document, covering the years 2024–2034, serves as a strategic roadmap for improving and expanding public transportation across the Northeast Florida region.

MOTION (Sams/Glober) to approve the 2025 TDP Major Update. Motion Approved (5-0).

N. OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF ROSA PARK GROUND LEASE: Mr. Milian stated that the previous Board voted to approve the CEO to negotiate a lease for the Rosa Parks Real property, which has taken place. The motion before the Board is to approve the lease with the terms as shared by staff at the work session held immediately before the July 1, 2025 Board meeting.

MOTION (Sams/Brown) to approve the Rosa Parks Ground Lease. Motion Approved (5-0).

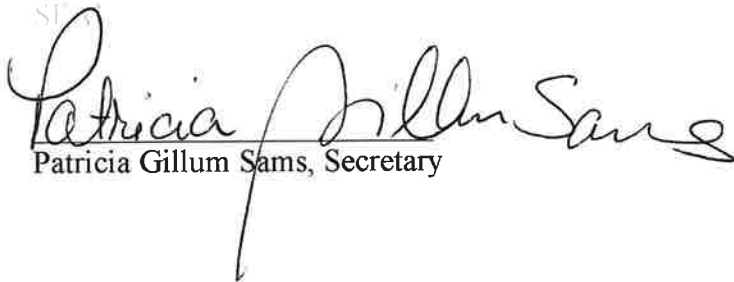
O. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH HOLON: Mrs. Shepler stated that as was shared with the Board at the work session, staff recommends the Board authorize the CEO to negotiate and execute a Lease Agreement with Holon for office space located at 1101 West Bay Street. The space at 1101 W. Bay Street was constructed as part of the Skyway. As JTA continues to grow and expand operations, this space will be needed; however, at this time it is not being utilized. Holon will use the space as their temporary office while their plant is being built.

The proposed lease would be for a term of 18 months with an additional six-month option. The rent will be \$2,680/month for a total lease value of \$48,240 over 18 months.

MOTION (Brown/Sams) to approve the Lease Agreement with Holon. Motion Approved
(5-0).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

SP

Patricia Gillum Sams, Secretary


Aundra Wallace, Vice-Chair