## MINUTES OF THE JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD WORK SESSION THRUSDAY, MAY 29, 2025

The Jacksonville Transportation Authority Board of Directors held a Work Session on Thursday, May 29, 2025.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Aundra Wallace, Patricia Sams, Elaine Brown, and Max Glober.

JTA STAFF PRESENT: Nathaniel Ford, Cleveland Ferguson, Greer Gillis, Raj Srinath, Jeffery Smith, Jessica Shepler, Katie Smith, and Alexander Traversa.

**I. WELCOME:** Vice Chair Wallace called the Work Session to order at 12:05 p.m. and welcomed the Board, Staff and public.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no requests to speak.

## **III. LONG RANGE PLANNING AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT**

a. 2025 Transit Development Plan Update: Mrs. Gillis shared that the 2025 Transit Development Plan (TDP)would be shared with the Board at the work session. The TDP is a strategic guide that helps shape the future of public transportation in our community. It serves as a roadmap for improving and expanding transit services over a ten-year period. Ensuring that we meet the needs of residents and business. The plan covers the JTA service areas of Duval County, but also the surrounding counties of Baker, Clay, Nassau, St. Johns and Alachua. The TDP is required by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) as it allows the JTA to pursue public transit block grant funding. The plan undergoes a major update every five years and annual progress reports, which are minor updates to the TDP. The 2025 TDP is a Major update will cover the ten-year period from for Fiscal Year 2025 through Fiscal Year 2034. Mrs. Gillis then introduced Alexander Traversa, AVP of Planning and Project Development.

Mr. Traversa stated that he will be providing the Board with an overview of the 2025 TDP, which will come to the Board for consideration at the June Board meeting. He shared that the mentality as staff went into this year's update as the last major update was done right before COVID and there were a lot of changes in travel patterns and travel flows were important to capture.

Mr. Traversa provided information on the general approach to service planning which included creating direct connections along major travel corridors, simplifying services for the

customer, serving new markets that need transit service and leveraging transfer facilities. He then shared the guiding principles: frequency comes first with 30-minute service or better on weekdays, increase crosstown connectivity and expand emphasis on hubs, realign routes to match travel flows and upgrade or downgrade service types to match conditions.

Mr. Traversa then shared details on public outreach and engagement through public workshop, surveys and engaged Citizens Planning Advisory Committees and North Florida Transporataton Planning Organization. Details of the Phase Service Plan were provided to show some examples of the short-term, mid-term and long-term priorities. He concluded with next steps for Board approval, submission to FDOT and then implement the plan and monitor its progress to adapt to any changes for the minor updates that will be submitted to FDOT as required.

Director Brown shared that she is in favor mobility hubs and the smaller neighborhood that focuses on where people are going. Also, shared her appreciation for travel opportunities to and from the airport, this would be great for those that live at the beach to jump on a shuttle and not worry about travel or parking.

Mrs. Greer wrapped up the TDP update by stating that the plan is inclusive of the ferry; however, rail is not included in the plan, but staff will continue to be studied.

## **IV. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

a. **Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget:** Mr. Srinath began by sharing the status of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget timeline and the briefings that have already taken place and the next steps. He then shared the budget drivers and strategy for the Fiscal Year 2026 budgets.

Mr. Srinath then presented the proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2026 revenue allocations which touched on the Board's automatic fare increase policy that will not be implemented in this fiscal year. He then moved to the expense assumptions and provided some examples of those assumptions. A snapshot of the revenues vs. expenses for Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 was provided.

Mr. Srinath then moved to the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Budget and provided the assumptions and funding sources through grants. He also shared how the funds will be used and provided details on funding uses by asset category. The Five-year capital improvement plan was shared with the Board as well as those funding sources. Mr. Srinath concluded by stating the total proposed operating budget is \$162.4M and the proposed Capital budget of \$46.2M for total of \$208.6M for Fiscal Year 2026.

Vice Chair Wallace asked Mr. Ford to look at expense reduction where possible to offset

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future projections to share and discuss with the Board at the annual retreat before making any decisions on future fare increases. He also asked for staff to look at refinancing any additional debt that may be out there.

Director Wallace called for a recess of the work session for a Shade Meeting related to ongoing litigation at 12:42 p.m.

The work session reconvened at 1:37 p.m.

V. ROUNDTABLE: There were no items under Roundtable.

VI. ADJOURN: There being no further business, the work session adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

<u>Hundra L. Wallace</u> Aundra Wallace, Vice Chair

SEAL VINS

Patricia Gillum Sams, Secretary