MINUTES OF THE JACKSONVILLE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD WORK SESSION WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025

The Jacksonville Transportation Authority Board of Directors held a Virtual Work Session on Wednesday, April 23, 2025.

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

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

- I. WELCOME: Vice Chair Wallace called the Work Session to order at 1:38 p.m. and welcomed the Board, Staff and public.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no requests to speak.

III. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a. **Fiscal Year 2026 Preliminary Budget:** Mr. Srinath shared the April Safety message and the provided the Board with a snapshot of the process for creating the annual budget the timelines associated with budget approval and submission to the City, as well as the Fiscal Year 2026 budget drivers and strategy. He shared that there would be no automatic fare increase for this fiscal year but would be reviewed again in Fiscal Year 2027.

Mr. Srinath then presented the proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2026 and the revenue allocations and the expense assumptions. The Board and staff discussed the decrease in administrative headcount and performance-based increase for not-represented employees and the salary increases based on the collective bargaining agreement with the Amalgamated Transit Union and International Association of Machinist. An overview of revenues vs. expenses was also provided. He shared the cost savings that the fuel strategy has provided through fuel hedging.

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 Board and staff discussed the grant process and the breakdown of the discretionary funding.

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.

The Board and staff discussed next steps and scheduling meetings with JTA's Council Liaison and members of the City Council's Finance Committee Chair to review the proposed budget in advance of submission to City. Mr. Ford stated that one-on-one's will be scheduled for each Board Member to have more in-depth discussions with Mr. Srinath.

IV. ROUNDTABLE: There were no items under Roundtable.

V. ADJOURN: There being no further business, the work session adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Aundra Wallace, Vice Chair

Patricia Gillium Sams, Secretary