



Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) Advisory Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025
Location: Virtual Meeting via SRTA Microsoft Teams 2:00 PM
Call in Number: 1-929-523-2910; Access Code: 983 524 304#
Purpose: SRTA Advisory Board Meeting

(1) Call to Order

The Advisory Board Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM EST.

(2) Roll Call

Present:

City of New Bedford (Jennifer Clarke)	City of Fall River (Seth Aitken)
Town of Dartmouth (Chris Vitale)	Town of Fairhaven (Andrew Romano)
Town of Mattapoisett (Michael Lorenzo)	Town of Swansea (John Hansen)
Town of Westport (Richard Brewer)	

Absent:

Town of Acushnet	Town of Freetown
Town of Somerset	ADA Representative
Riders Representative	

Additional Attendees:

Erik Rousseau, SRTA	Arthur Frank, General Counsel (SRTA)
Kristen Sniezek, SRTA	John LeBert, SRTA
Shayne Trimbell, SRTA	Corey Hebert, SRTA
Brendan Marden, SRTA	Michelle Tavares, SRTA
H. Bruce Webb, Town of Fairhaven	Daniel Brogan, SRPEDD

Serving the Communities of

Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Somerset, Swansea, Westport

700 Pleasant St., Suite 530, New Bedford, MA 02740
srtabus.com, (P) 508-999-5211 (F) 508-993-9196



(3) Approval of Minutes

Motion: The motion was made (Town of Westport) and seconded (Town of Dartmouth) to approve the minutes from the previous SRTA Advisory Board Meeting held on October 29, 2024.

Discussion: N/A

Vote:

For: Town of Dartmouth, City of Fall River, Town of Mattapoisett, City of New Bedford, Town of Swansea, Town of Westport

Status: Motion Passes

(4) Citizen's Participation

None.

(5) Civil Rights Update

Title VI:

The SRTA's current Title VI Plan has been submitted and is under FTA review and awaiting concurrence.

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO):

The current EEO Policy Statement for the SRTA has been submitted and is under FTA review and awaiting concurrence.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE):

The SRTA's current DBE Program Plan has been submitted and is under FTA review and awaiting concurrence.

The SRTA's current DBE Goal Plan has been submitted and is under FTA review and awaiting concurrence.

The most recent semi-annual report was submitted on December 1st and is under FTA review. The next semi-annual report is due June 1st.

Environmental Justice:

Environmental justice is a requirement that the SRTA must engage the public whenever there is a major project or route change.

Serving the Communities of

Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Somerset, Swansea, Westport

700 Pleasant St., Suite 530, New Bedford, MA 02740
srtabus.com, (P) 508-999-5211 (F) 508-993-9196



The SRTA is constantly working to increase public participation, and if any public input is needed, it will be conveyed to the Board as part of this report.

Public Hearings / Meetings:

None.

(6) Old Business

None.

(7) New Business

FTA Authorizing Resolution

Mr. Rousseau presented the Authorizing Resolution which states the SRTA is a grantee in Region 1 and can receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds. The FTA requested this resolution from the SRTA for their files.

Motion: The motion was made (Town of Westport) and seconded (Town of Dartmouth) to adopt the Authorizing Resolution.

Discussion: Ms. Clarke asked if the general council concurred with this resolution. Mr. Frank confirmed he did concur with the resolution.

Vote:

For: Town of Dartmouth, Town of Fairhaven, City of Fall River, Town of Mattapoisett, City of New Bedford, Town of Swansea, Town of Westport

Status: Motion Passes

Title VI Plan Update

Mr. Trimbell presented the updates to the Title VI 2025 program. There are minor updates to the program, but no major policy changes. The SRTA has been able to meet the standards and policies set forth in the Title VI program.

Motion: The motion was made (Town of Mattapoisett) and seconded (City of Fall River) to approve the SRTA Title VI Program.

Discussion: N/A

Serving the Communities of

Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Somerset, Swansea, Westport

700 Pleasant St., Suite 530, New Bedford, MA 02740
srtabus.com, (P) 508-999-5211 (F) 508-993-9196



Vote:

For: Town of Dartmouth, Town of Fairhaven, City of Fall River, Town of Mattapoisett, City of New Bedford, Town of Swansea, Town of Westport

Status: Motion Passes

FY25 Service Update

Mr. Rousseau presented SRTA service updates such as the Express Service that connects Downtown New Bedford to Downtown Fall River, which runs 7 days a week. State funding for this service is secured until June 30, 2026. Another service that will be added is micro-transit service for South Coast Rail which will begin once South Coast Rail service starts, likely in early April 2025. Micro-transit service will be funded through June 30, 2026, as well.

Ms. Clarke asked for clarification on funding for the Express service. Mr. Rousseau explained that State funding was secured via two discretionary grant awards, one for fiscal year 2025 and the other for fiscal year 2026.

FY25 Budget Update

Mrs. Snizek presented the SRTA fiscal year 2025 financials and budget as of January 31, 2025. Important updates to the SRTA revenue include the earned revenue for the Try Transit Fare Free Program, Intercity Express Route, and the South Coast Rail Micro Connect. Important updates to operating expenses include anticipated increases in transit operations due to the Intercity Express not being budgeted for at the beginning of the fiscal year. That increase will be offset by the amount awarded to the SRTA, by the State, to fund this service. Insurance costs increased as well due to insuring new buses in the process of being upfit for service, while also insuring the old buses currently in service which will be replaced. These costs should decrease slightly over time as older buses are replaced and disposed.

(8) Logistics for the Next Advisory Board Meeting

As indicated on the agenda, the next Advisory Board Meeting for the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority is on March 20, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

(9) Adjournment

The Advisory Board Chair called the meeting to adjourn at 2:30 PM EST.

Serving the Communities of

Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Somerset, Swansea, Westport

700 Pleasant St., Suite 530, New Bedford, MA 02740
srtabus.com, (P) 508-999-5211 (F) 508-993-9196