



Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) Advisory Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026
Location: Virtual Meeting via SRTA Microsoft Teams 2:00 PM
Call in Number: 1-929-523-2910; Access Code: 172 198 711#
Purpose: SRTA Advisory Board Meeting

(1) Call to Order

The Advisory Board Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM EST.

(2) Roll Call

Present:

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| City of New Bedford (Jennifer Clarke) | City of Fall River (Ann O'Neil Souza) |
| Town of Mattapoisett (Michael Lorenzo) | Town of Westport (Richard Brewer) |
| Town of Swansea (John Hansen) | ADA Representative (Dan Robillard) |

Absent:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Town of Acushnet | Town of Dartmouth |
| Town of Fairhaven | Town of Freetown |
| Town of Somerset | Riders Representative |

Additional Attendees:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Erik Rousseau, SRTA | Arthur Frank, General Counsel (SRTA) |
| John LeBert, SRTA | Corey Hebert, SRTA |
| Brendan Marden, SRTA | Martiza Aquino, SRTA |
| Michelle Tavares, SRTA | Maria Colon, SRTA |
| Daniel Brogan, SRPEDD | |

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(3) Approval of Minutes

Motion: The motion was made (ADA Representative) and seconded (City of Fall River) to approve the minutes from the previous SRTA Advisory Board Meeting held on October 23, 2025.

Discussion: N/A

Vote:

For: City of Fall River, Town of Mattapoisett, City of New Bedford, Town of Swansea, ADA Representative

Status: Motion Passes

(4) 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.

Environmental Justice:

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

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.

(5) Citizen's Participation

None.

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(6) Old Business

None.

(7) New Business

Draft FY27 Budget

Mr. Rousseau presented the Draft FY27 Budget. The current Governor of Massachusetts' budget has level funded the regional transit authorities. Highlights for operating revenue include the continuation of fare free service, the Intercity Express service, and the South Coast Rail Micro-Connect service. Highlights for operating expenses are the increased cost of insurance, security guards at the terminals, and the volatility of the fuel market.

Ms. Clarke asked how our fuel contracts are structured. Mr. Rousseau explained that the SRTA procures six-month fuel contracts which simplifies the SRTA's operations. The staff time saved as a result of the fuel contract, compared to procuring fuel off the rack as needed, has led to savings in the budget.

Mr. Brewer asked if we could expect the fare free service to remain funded each year. Mr. Rousseau replied that the Massachusetts legislature requires the regional transit authorities in the State to provide fare free public transit service if the transit authority accepts and receives the funding that is available to provide that service. The legislature does intend to continue funding fare free service.

Mr. Rousseau also presented the outlook for future fiscal years through fiscal year 2031. The draft operating budget was provided to all attendees and can be referenced for further detail.

(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 TBD, either on April 30, 2026, at 2:00 PM, if needed, or May 21, 2026.

(9) Adjournment

The Advisory Board Chair called the meeting to adjourn at 2:23 PM EST.

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