

TARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



December 16, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board of Directors of Transit Authority of River City (TARC) met on December 16, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in person at TARC, 1000 W. Broadway in the Board Room and virtually via teleconference as permitted by KRS 61.826.

Board Members Present

In Person

Ted Smith
Justin Brown
Steve Miller
Abbie Gilbert (joined late)

Virtual

Abbie Gilbert
DuWayne Gant

Declined

Myra Rock
Alice Houston
Christy Ames

Meeting Called to Order

Steve Miller called meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Quorum Call

November Board Meeting Minutes approved.

Public Comment

John Hardesty read the Public Comment Preamble: The TARC Board values hearing from its customers, TARC employees and public at large. This Board will not respond in this meeting to any comments made at this time. However, TARC will post a response on TARC's website regarding the comments made by the following meeting. In addition, the TARC Board may assign the feedback or comments to be further examined by its subcommittees and, if warranted, further addressed by TARC. You have three minutes to address the Board.

Nick Passafiume -TARC Rider.

Nick Passafiume addressed the Board regarding a very positive experience with TARC. He used TARC to pick up his car after repairs were completed and was pleasantly surprised! He visited www.ridetarc.org to plan the trip and upload dollars for the trip. He was pleasantly surprised how easy it all was to plan and download. He thought the trip would take an hour or more. The bus was 1 minute early and the stop he needed was directly in front of his destination. A simple twenty minute trip. Nick is all for an increase in the fares, he thinks compare to other cities of similar size we should have a much higher fare.

Ms. Shaun Spencer commented on Facebook.

The transition from NIA customer support HUB to using Kroger customer support counter (location between 28th and 26th) is not working. TARC initially failed to train their staff and now the machine doesn't work. Not everyone can get to Union station before 4 pm or to the Kroger in Portland.

Destiny Renae Daniels submitted a public comment on Facebook.

I am the president of Hazelwood Neighborhood Association Inc. We would like to have a member of TARC to attend out meetings to discuss how to improve service in our area.

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Shaun Spencer submitted an additional comment on Facebook after the Board Meeting had closed.

Bus Stop at 26th and Broadway needs to be moved up 1/3 a block to in front of Kroger at 27th and Broadway. Safer (a police don't even want to make runs at 26th due to poor lightening) and people with grocery bags (especially disabled and elderly) shouldn't have to walk so far and into a dangers area!

Special Reports

Steve Miller presented the Finance Committee Report.

- Excellent attendance by Board Members.
- All items were fully discussed during the Finance Committee Meeting.
- The Resolution presented has been moved to today's Board Meeting for consideration.

Alice Houston presented the Operations Report.

- During the meeting the New TARC Network was presented.
- She appreciates the public comments that are shared.

Ozzy Gibson presented the Executive Director and Operations Report.

Above and Beyond employee of the month, Melissa Johnson.

- Melissa found a customer unresponsive on the back seat after all of the other passengers had left the coach.
- The next several minutes saved his life.
- Melissa called the control room and pressed the record button on the bus.
- Melissa quickly shared the information regarding the unresponsive person and requested an EMS unit.
- When Melissa rushed back to the customer she noticed signs of distress on the customer. She realized that EMS may not be there in time.
- Melissa called 911 and the dispatcher walked her through how do perform CPR until the EMS could arrive.
- EMS administered Narcan plus worked with the customer until he was conscious.
- Melissa level of calmness demonstrated a high level of professionalism.

The IndyGo Video – Pulse Bus Transfer Center.

- TARC Staff visited IndyGo transfer hub to help plan for our downtown transfer Center.
- Future site visits to neighboring transit agencies are in the planning stages.

The Executive and Operations report.

- Peer City Agency Comparison was presented.
- Recorded the first "TARC Talks" with Ozzy Gibson and Lillian Brents and made it available for staff.
- Received a \$2.6 Million FTA Grant for 10th Street Brake-Maintenance addition.
- Held our first of Quarterly TARC open house for Coach Operators recruitment.

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- Surveyed our Coach Operators and Riders Club members to get their input on the New TARC Network bus stop designs.
- Announced our 26th annual Design-a-bus student art contest and the partnership with Portland Museum's Adventure House of you.
- Celebrated Alice K Houston induction into the Entrepreneur Hall of Fame.
- Liz Fust will be joining us in January to present her peer review on paratransit service

New TARC Network Overview

Martin Barna with JWA presented the New TARC Network Implementation Plan Update.

- New bus stop signs were shared with the Board.
- New NTN Downtown map has been created to show final downtown routings.
- The team is on track.

Action Items

Matt Abner presented Resolution 2025-53 Amendment No. 2 Commercial Card Service to Contract 2020658 Banking and Financial Services.

- TARC seeks an amendment to the Banking and Financial Service Contract to exercise the option service for the Commercial Card Service.
- The procurement department canvassed other providers and determined Fifth Third Bank offered the best value.
- The implementation of this Commercial Card Service is estimated to cost \$50,000 over the remaining total life of the contract (6 years, assuming all option years are exercised).
- This includes the establishment of several file transfer feeds for reconciliation and auditing purposes as well as an annual program fee based on the average daily balance of the account.
- It is also important to note that this program does offer an annual rebate that can be used to offset these costs.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Steve Miller. The motion was seconded by Ted Smith. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution.

Matt Abner presented Resolution 2025-56 Armored Car Services Sole Source 20251979.

- GardaWorld has been a long-standing partner of TARC since 2000.
- Due to TARC's specific fare system and equipment, GardaWorld is currently the only provider who has the capability and resources to effectively deliver our needs based on our infrastructure limitations.
- The current contract with GardaWorld is set to expire on December 31, 2025.
- On October 16, 2025, a Request for Proposal (RFP) 20251908, was released and advertised to seek armored car services. No bids were received.
- On November 5, 2025, the procurement department proceeded to engage in a Sole Source award with GardaWorld.
- After completing a price analysis, the procurement department revealed an increase of only 2% from the previous contract.

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Resolution 2025-56 continued.

- TARC seeks to enter into a one (1) year contract with GardaWorld for an armored car transportation of received customer fares, the counting of the customer fares and the depositing of the customer fares at a cost not to exceed \$246,672.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Justin Brown. The motion was seconded by Steve Miller. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution.

Chris Ward presented Resolution 2025-54 Grant Application for Commonwealth of KY Grant.

- On November 20th, TARC was notified that its 2025 application to the Federal Transit Administration's Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Competitive program received an award to fund construction of a new brake repair shop at the south end of the 10th Street bus storage facility.
- Moving brake repair to the Union Station campus will avoid the cost and delays of moving buses back and forth to our current brake shop located in our maintenance facility at 2905 West Broadway.
- The full amount of the grant is \$3,280,000, of which \$2,624,000 are federal funds.
- In addition to the competitive federal grant program, the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Cabinet for Economic Development (CED) offers a program entitled Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation (GRANT) that encourages competitive applications by providing local matching funds for awarded federal grants.
- Under this program, TARC is eligible to apply for 95% of the required \$656,000 match requirement for the recent Section 5339 award. If the GRANT application is successful, the portion of the total project grant that TARC would contribute from the Mass Transit Trust Fund will be only \$32,800.
- TARC seeks authority to submit an application and enter into legal agreements associated with the GRANT program.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Justin Brown. The motion was seconded by Ted Smith. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution.

Nolan Kelly presented Resolution 2025-55 Bus Windshields, Windows, and Glass.

- The Procurement Department issued invitation to bid for Bus Windshields, Windows, and Glass, which included ninety-nine (99) inventory parts.
- TARC received a single bid from Gillig, LLC, on November 14, 2025, which was deemed responsive and responsible in compliance with Federal Transit Administration regulations and TARC Procurement Policy.
- The inclusion of 24 new parts/windows and a 3% negotiated reduction in the vendor's pricing resulted in a fair and reasonable final cost estimate.
- Funding for the first year has been budgeted in FY 2026, and the second year will be incorporated into the FY 2027 budget.
- TARC seeks to enter into a contract with Gillig, LLC for Bus Windshields, Windows, and Glass for a term of two (2) years at a total not-to-exceed amount of \$203,520.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Steve Miller. The motion was seconded by Justin Brown. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution.

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Nolan Kelly presented 2025-57 Bulk Oils Liquids Fluids and Lubricants 20211667.

- The Maintenance Department is requesting to exercise the second and final one-year optional term of the contract with our current vendors which are Apollo Oil, LLC, Landrum Chemical Industries, Rely Supply, LLC, and Valor Oil.
- An additional \$889,536 is required to accommodate increased usage and estimated future needs.
- This increase will bring the new total not-to-exceed amount to \$1,620,551.
- The department also plans to sole source item #55194 (currently on the bulk list) as part of a revised Preventative Maintenance plan to transition to 10K oil changes.
- The Procurement Department conducted a pricing analysis for the previous two years and deemed the second option pricing is fair and reasonable.
- The Procurement Department is recommending to exercise the second option of a one-year term in an additional amount not-to-exceed \$889,536.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Steve Miller. The motion was seconded by Justin Brown. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution.

Joe Triplett presented 2025-58 Ellipse Hosting, Support and Retainer Agreement – Sole Source Award.

- In July 2021, Hitachi announced end of life for the legacy Ellipse platform and the discontinuation of its active support to their clients by end of calendar year 2028.
- TARC staff has already begun the process to develop a replacement and procurement strategy.
- Hitachi is the parent company that owns the Ellipse software. COSOL is the preferred support agent for Ellipse and TARC has for a number of years operated under an agreement with COSOL to host, maintain, and provide support for Ellipse.
- As a preferred partner, it is critical to continue to subscribe to the Ellipse hosting and support services provided by COSOL.
- The staff is recommending a sole source award for an additional three (3) years with COSOL.
- The three (3) year term shall be procured as a sole source award with a total not-to-exceed amount of \$983,600 for the three-year term.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Ted Smith. The motion was seconded by Justin Brown. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution.

Aida Copic presented Resolution 2025-59 TARC's Title VI plan 2025.

- Per the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations, guidelines, and Circular FTA C 4702.1B, TARC has prepared an updated 2025 Title VI Plan that provides programmatic, process and policy information on major services, fare changes, and service polices that relate to minority and low-income populations.
- TARC has a longstanding commitment to meet both the spirit and letter of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that prohibits discrimination based on race, color or national origin in programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance, and is committed to full compliance under the FTA regulations.
- There were no policy changes made during the time detailed in the Title VI Plan update (2022-2025). The changes reflected in the document were updates to data and demographics.
- TARC is in the process of developing 2025 Draft Plans for network restructuring and efficiency improvements to be implemented in the summer of 2026 as part of the New TARC Network.

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Resolution 2026-59 continued.

- This will constitute a major change in TARC's service and will require TARC to make significant policy amendments, which will include public meetings and the opportunity for public comment.
- Once these changes are implemented, TARC will undertake a new, thorough Title VI analysis for network restructuring and service changes implemented as part of the new TARC network.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Justin Brown. The motion was seconded by Steve Miller. The Board of Directors unanimously adopted the resolution.

Board Closed Session – Real Estate Opportunity

Steve Miller asked for a motion to have the Board move to a closed session.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Justin Brown. The motion was seconded by Steve Miller. The Board of Directors moved into a closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810 to discuss a potential real estate opportunity.

Steve Miller asked for a motion to have the Board move to an open session.

The motion was duly moved for approval by Ted Smith. The motion was seconded by Steve Miller. The Board of Directors moved into an open session. No action was taken during the closed session.

Staff Reports and Presentation

Matt Abner presented the November Financials

- It was noted that all of the ARP – Covid money has been spent.

Ozzy Gibson presented the recommended fare schedule changes.

- The Transit Authority of River City (TARC) continues work on sustainable solutions. Through the TARC 2025 redesign process, TARC is looking to right size operations in an effort to control costs and offer the most sustainable and reliable service possible to our customers.
- Controlling costs is only part of the solution. All areas must be evaluated to try and generate revenues from either new or existing sources.
- One source for additional revenues is passenger fares.
- TARC has not increased passenger fares since 2012. Many transit organizations across the country have raised fares several times.
- This revised fare schedule increases fares for both fixed route and paratransit services and aligns TARC's fares with neighboring transit agencies.

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- While this is TARC's recommendation, we must comply with federal regulations to determine if there are any disparate impacts to communities as part of Title VI.
- This includes holding public meetings and gathering comments from various outlets (social media, email, phone, etc.) to be reviewed and considered for possible adjustments to this recommendation.
- This memo is to notify the Board of TARC leadership's intent to begin this fare increase evaluation and public involvement process.

Board Members discussed several key points regarding the fare increase.

The Fare Schedule Change Memo will move on for public meetings.

Steve Miller made a motion to adjourn at 4:57 p.m. This motion was approved by the Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen L. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Steve Miller, Acting Board Chair and past Financial Chair

A handwritten date "1/27/26" in black ink, written in a cursive style and positioned above a horizontal line.

Date