



Strategic and Operational Planning Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 10:00 AM

COTA - WG Porter Boardroom, 33 N High St, Columbus OH

1. Call to Order

Chair Trudy Bartley called the May 6, 2025 Strategic and Operational Planning Committee meeting to order at 10:01 am.

2. Roll Call

Board Members Present

Trudy Bartley, Chair

Amy Taylor, Trustee

3. New Board Member Appointment – Oath of Office

A. Stephen Sayre

Vice Chair Sean Mentel administered the oath of office to Stephen Sayre.

4. Approval of Strategic and Operational Planning Committee Minutes

A. March 4, 2025 Strategic and Operational Planning Committee Minutes

Trustee Amy Taylor moved to approve the March 4, 2025 Strategic and Operational Planning Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Stephen Sayre. Motion carried.

5. New Business

A. Policy Updates - Michael DeWees, COTA Interim Chief Financial Officer

COTA Interim Chief Financial Officer Michael DeWees presented LinkUS' impact on COTA's sales tax allocation policy, operating and capital reserves policy, and debt management policy. Proposed remedies for those policies—which are captured in resolutions that will be submitted to the Performance Monitoring/Audit Committee and the Board of Trustees Regular Agenda—were presented to the Board. Mr. DeWees also discussed LinkUS' impact on Federal 5307 Formula Funds by sharing recent history/challenges with vehicle purchases and a proposed strategy.

B. LinkUS Progress Update - Andy Biesterveld, COTA Chief Engineer

COTA Chief Engineer Andy Biesterveld presented a LinkUS progress update on the West Broad, East Main, and Northwest corridors, providing a schedule of how addressing identified risks may impact the timeline in carrying out the work. Mr. Biesterveld also shared that work will begin on Corridor 4, starting with feasibility and alternative analysis procurement in November 2025. Mr. Biesterveld shared a list of West Broad Third Party Agreements, which are finalized or almost finalized. Downtown convergence work was also highlighted, stating that efforts are being coordinated. An Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant (USODOT) will provide an analysis of the Old Market site.

- C. Resolution 2025-XX Authorizing a Contract with Gillig LLC for the Purchase of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Powered Heavy Duty Transit Coaches, Spare Parts and Training - Amy Hockman, COTA Chief of Transit Operations

COTA Chief of Transit Operations Amy Hockman presented a proposed resolution to purchase additional CNG transit coaches, spare parts and training. Vendor choice considerations were shared. Ms. Hockman said that the investment will allow COTA to maintain a diversified and reliable fleet while we readdress our sustainability plan.

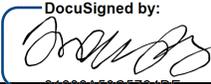
6. Other Business

No other business was brought before the Committee.

7. Adjournment

Trustee Amy Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Stephen Sayre. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 am.

Adopted: _____ July 8, 2025 _____

Signed:  _____
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**Chair, Strategic and Operational Planning
Committee**

Attest:  _____
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President/CEO