

**GREATER ROANOKE TRANSIT COMPANY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Tuesday, January 20, 2026**

**12:30 P.M.**

**CITY MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM  
ROOM 364**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order – Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting of GRTC held on Monday, November 17, 2025.
3. A communication from the General Counsel, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.8, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, requesting that the Board of Directors of GRTC convene a closed meeting for consultation and legal counsel, where legal opinion is necessary.
4. Reports of Officers:
  - A. Secretary:
    1. A communication advising of the resignation of Andrew C. Keen as a Director of the Greater Roanoke Transit Company, Board of Directors, effective January 2, 2026.
    2. Election of Vacancy on Board of Directors:
      - Richard W. Peters, Jr., to replace Director Andrew C. Keen.
    3. Election of Vacancy for Officer:
      - Edena Reese-Atmore to replace Treasurer Margaret Lindsey.
  - B. General Manager:
    - a. TPAC Meeting Update
    - b. GRTC Ridership Update
    - c. GRTC Performance Statistics
5. Discussion of FY25-34 Transit Strategic Plan Performance Standards
6. GRTC External Audit Presentation
7. GRTC Financial Report
8. Authorization to approve and adopt Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service – February 4, 2026

9. Authorization to file for Federal Transit Administration Operating and Capital Financial Assistance; and Commonwealth of Virginia Operating and Capital Financial Assistance for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

10. Other Business.

11. Closed Meeting.

12. Next Meeting: Monday, March 16, 2026, at 12:30 p.m., in the HR Learning Center.

13. Adjourn.

**GREATER ROANOKE TRANSIT COMPANY**  
**November 17, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greater Roanoke Transit Company was called to order by President Joseph L. Cobb on Monday, November 17, 2025, at 12:30 p.m., in the HR Learning Center, located in Room 309, Third Floor North, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S.W., Roanoke, Virginia, pursuant to written notification by the Secretary of the Corporation.

**PRESENT:** Directors Matthew Crookshank, Dwayne D'Ardenne, Maxwell Dillon Andrew Keen, Karen Michalski-Karney, Vivian Sanchez-Jones and President Joseph L. Cobb-7.

**ABSENT:** None-0.

Also present were Valmarie Turner, Vice-President of Operations; Angela O'Brien, Assistant Vice-President for Operations; Cecelia F. McCoy, Secretary; Timothy R. Spencer, General Counsel and Registered Agent; Laura Carini, Assistant General Counsel; Margaret Lindsey, Treasurer; Kevin L. Price, General Manager, Valley Metro; and Ronnie Parker, Assistant General Manager, Valley Metro; Corey Alshouse, Interim Director of Finance, Valley Metro; and Drew Harmon, Municipal Auditor.

President Cobb declared the existence of a quorum.

**MINUTES:** President Cobb noted a scrivener's error in the minutes. With the secretary's agreement to correct the error, the minutes were approved.

(See copy of Minutes on file in the Secretary's Office.)

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

**GENERAL MANAGER:**

**MANAGEMENT UPDATE:** The General Manager submitted the Management Update dated November 17, 2025, regarding the following items:

- Valley Metro's 50th Anniversary Celebration Kickoff Event
- Transit Passenger Advisory Committee (TPAC) Update – October 2025 Meeting
- GRTC External Audit Update
- GRTC Ridership Update

(See Management Update on File in the Secretary's Office.)

General Manager Price announced to the Board that the 50th Anniversary

Celebration of public transit service and operations in the Roanoke Valley will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at Third Street Station. The event will begin at 10:30 a.m. on the North Platform. He noted that the celebration will recognize employees who have served with Valley Metro for 40 to nearly 50 years. Mr. Price extended an invitation to the entire Board of Directors and Officers to attend.

Mr. Price gave an update on October 8, 2025, Transit Passenger Advisory Committee (TPAC) virtual meeting. Director Michalski-Karney attended the meeting and updated the Board on the following appointments: Hope Trachtenberg-Fifer, Chair; Steve Grammer, Vice-Chair; and Virginia Pannabecker, Secretary.

Director Michalski-Karney presented the following concerns from the TPAC Committee to the Board:

- Snow removal at bus stops
- Installation of concrete pads at bus stops
- Status of the Walmart bus shelter
- Suggested bus fare increase
- Extension of the pilot program
- Drainage ditch on Melrose Avenue (Director D'Ardenne will investigate)
- Length of work shifts for drivers

Following discussion, Mr. Price stated that Valley Metro will review these concerns and work toward suitable solutions.

(See meeting notes from October 9, 2025, TPAC meeting on file in the Secretary's office).

#### **GRTC EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE:**

With regard to the GRTC External Audit Update, Mr. Price reported that on November 10, 2025, audit staff from Brown Edwards began the field work for GRTC's FY25 Annual External Audit at the Valley Metro Administrative Building.

#### **GRTC RIDERSHIP UPDATE:**

Regarding Ridership, Mr. Price reported ridership has remained consistent during this period and robust activity on Smart Way ridership. He also indicated that ridership percentage is highest on Sundays and has shown steady growth.

Director D'Ardenne asked the Board to consider reviewing the standards outlined in the Transit Strategic Plan that was adopted by the Board last year.

#### **GRTC FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Corey Alshouse, Interim Director of Finance updated the Board on GRTC Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position (Unaudited) For; and

Statement of Net Position (Unaudited) reports – as of June 30, 2025. He stated that Brown Edwards CPA offered positive feedback and believes the organization is moving in the right direction and performing well overall.

(See report on file in the Secretary's office).

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

The General Counsel, Timothy Spencer, requested a closed meeting for consultation with legal counsel, where a legal opinion is required.

Director Sanchez-Jones moved that the Board go into a Closed Meeting pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act § 2.2-3711(A)(8) for consultation with legal counsel, where legal opinion is necessary. The motion was seconded by Director D'Ardenne and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Crookshank, D'Ardenne, Dillon, Keen, Michalski-Karney, Sanchez-Jones and President Cobb-7.

NAYS: None-0.

President Cobb recessed the Board meeting and entered a closed meeting at 1:10 p.m.

At 1:45 p.m., the Board meeting reconvened in the HR Learning Center, President Cobb presiding, and all members of the Board in attendance.

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING:** With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Director Keen moved that each Member of the Board of Greater Roanoke (GRTC) certifies that to the best of each Member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Chapter 37 of Title 2.2 Code of Virginia, Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which any closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the public body. The motion was seconded by President Cobb and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Crookshank, D'Ardenne, Dillon, Keen Michalski-Karney, and President Cobb-6.

NAYS: None-0. (Director Sanchez-Jones was not present at the time of the vote).

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

President Cobb announced that the next GRTC Board of Directors meeting would

be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 12:30 p.m., in the City Manager's Conference Room, located in Room 364 on the Third Floor South, the Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S.W.

There being no further business, the President declared the regular meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

Joseph L. Cobb  
President

**ATTEST:**

Cecelia F. McCoy  
Secretary



**Timothy R. Spencer**  
City Attorney

**CITY OF ROANOKE**  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY**  
464 MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
215 CHURCH AVENUE, SW  
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24011-1595

TELEPHONE 540-853-2431  
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EMAIL: [timothy.spencer@roanokeva.gov](mailto:timothy.spencer@roanokeva.gov)

**David L. Collins**  
**Laura M. Carini**  
Deputy City Attorneys

**Jennifer Crook Braxton**  
**Kimberly P. Beamer**  
**Lalita Brim-Poindexter**  
Assistant City Attorneys

January 20, 2026

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Board of Directors for GRTC  
Roanoke, Virginia

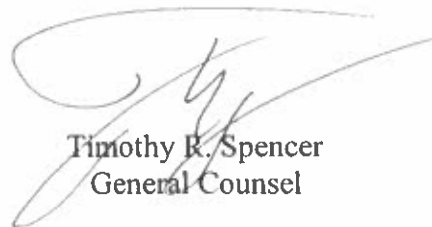
Re: Request for closed meeting

Dear President Cobb and Members of the Board of Directors:

This is to request, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(8), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, that the Board of Directors of GRTC convene a closed meeting for consultation with legal counsel, where legal opinion is necessary.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Timothy R. Spencer  
General Counsel

TRS/arw

**Town of Vinton**

311 S. Pollard Street  
Vinton, VA 24179  
Phone (540) 983-0608  
Fax (540) 985-3105

**ANDREW KEEN**  
Finance Director/Treasurer

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Greater Roanoke Transit Company  
215 Church Ave SE  
Roanoke, VA 24011

Dear President Cobb,

I am writing this letter to officially give notice of resignation of my position of Director on the Greater Roanoke Transit Company (GRTC) Board, effective January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025. I am resigning from this position solely due to the acceptance of another position as Town Manager with the Town of Marion.

I would like to take this opportunity to express how difficult of a decision this was for me personally. Ultimately, the deciding factor in my decision was a rare opportunity to move closer to family and to serve in my hometown community. It has been an honor to serve on the GRTC Board, and I look forward to seeing the continued successes of the authority for years to come.

Sincerely,

ANDREW C. KEEN

Finance Director



**Town of Vinton**

311 S. Pollard Street  
Vinton, VA 24179  
Phone (540) 983-0607  
Fax (540) 983-0626

January 7, 2026

Ms. Susie McCoy, Clerk  
City of Roanoke  
215 Church Avenue, SW  
Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building  
Suite 456  
Roanoke, VA 24011-1536

RE: Greater Roanoke Transit Company Board Appointment

Dear Ms. McCoy:

This letter is written to confirm that Andrew Keen, Finance Director, was re-appointed by Town Council at their June 3, 2025, meeting as our GRTC Board Member for the term beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Keen has ended his employment with the Town of Vinton; therefore, Richard W. Peters, Jr., was appointed by Town Council at their January 6, 2026, meeting as our GRTC Board Member for the remaining of the term that ends on June 30, 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Megan Lawless  
Town Clerk



1108 Campbell Ave SE  
Roanoke, VA 24013  
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www.valleymetro.com

## TPAC Meeting Notes from November 13, 2025

November 13, 2025 – 6:30pm

Virtual Meeting

### 1. Welcome/Roll Call

TPAC Member	Present
Steve Grammer	X
Laura Hartman	X
Cole Kiester	
Sean McGinnis	X
Ginny Pannabecker	X
Alison Stinnette	X
Hope Trachtenberg-Fifer	X
Sharon Fritz	
Vacant	
GRTC	
William Long	X
Ron Parker	X
GRTC Board	
Karen Michalski-Karney	X
Guest	
Justin	X
Yvonne	X
Jeff	X

### 2. GRTC Updates

#### a. Stop/Shelter Updates

- None

#### b. Routes/Schedules

- William Long mentioned that the next few months are some of the busiest in terms of detours around parades and other events as well as holiday closures. All Valley Metro communications channels will update riders and the community with service alerts.
- William noted the snowy forecast for the upcoming winter. Preparations are already being made at Third Street Station. Snow routes are on the Valley Metro website, and all communications channels will update riders and the community with snow route and closure alerts.
  - Steve Grammer asked how bus stops are cleared of snow and ice. Karen Michalski-Karney said that she would bring snow clearance – particularly around bus stops – to the next GRTC board meeting.

#### c. Ridership



- William Long reviewed ridership updates. Valley Metro provided fare-free service on Election Day (November 4, 2025) and shared the ridership numbers compared to average numbers.

#### **d. Other Updates**

- William Long announced that Valley Metro will host a 50-year anniversary celebration at Third Street Station on Tuesday, November 18, at 10:30am. The 50-years logo will be revealed.
- According to the TPAC charter, committee officers need to be selected, and new officers will fulfill their roles beginning at the February 12, 2026, meeting.
  - The TPAC Chair will help develop meeting agendas, facilitate the discussion, and lead committee communications. Laura Hartman nominated Hope Trachtenberg-Fifer as Chair, and Hope accepted.
  - The TPAC Vice Chair will assist the Chair in agenda development and meeting facilitation, acting as Chair in the Chair's absence, as well as lead the accessibility subcommittee when formed. Hope nominated Sean McGinnis, who declined. Laura nominated Steve Grammer, and Steve accepted.
  - The TPAC Secretary will record meeting notes and distribute them to committee members, attending GRTC board members, and GRTC staff. Laura nominated Ginny Pannabecker, and Ginny accepted.
    - Ginny noted that she will be unable to attend the February and April 2026 meetings, and Laura will fulfill this role in her absence.
  - Hope requested the roster and contact information for TPAC members.
  - Laura asked how meeting agendas and notes will be stored. Hope asked about the possibility of shared files on Valley Metro servers, and Laura asked about shared space on the City of Roanoke servers.
    - Laura and Ginny will investigate options for sharing documents with TPAC officers.

#### **e. Follow-up Items**

- William Long mentioned discussion with RADAR regarding coming improvements. RADAR indicated that it is working on online features, including fare payment options and online scheduling, in the month of November. These features will allow riders to track buses and to receive notifications. Right now, riders can indicate the desire for a call or text message when the bus is close by. This is not automated now but will be with the new online features.
  - Steve Grammer voiced frustrations regarding the inability to schedule rides without calling. William said that online scheduling will be one of these new features.
  - Ginny Pannabecker asked if the app will show the bus's capacity. William said that it's unlikely, but that STAR and MetroFLX rides are scheduled, and the system will not allow scheduling an overfull bus.

#### **4. Questions/Comments**

- Hope Trachtenberg-Fifer mentioned a concern over the state of some of the bus stops in the system, specifically that many do not have a concrete pad nor sidewalks for accessibility. Karen Michalski-Karney asked if there's a prioritized list for stop updates. William Long answered that Valley Metro has a prioritized list for bus stop improvements and that the localities have lists for other pedestrian facilities. Alison Stinette noted that RVTPO has requested the sidewalk plans from the City of Roanoke as part of the ongoing Bus Stop Accessibility Study.
  - Karen said that the City of Roanoke is typically responsive to requests for curb cuts and noted the number of curb cuts currently being installed.
  - Steve Grammer asked about curb cuts at the Valley View / Walmart stop. William answered that work on this stop continues, and Walmart is planning some changes to the parking lot that may affect the bus stop and its location. Those negotiations are ongoing.
  - Hope asked about the possibility of raising fares to create funds for bus stop improvements. Laura Hartman noted that fare increases may not be the most equitable way to fund accessibility projects.
- Hope voiced frustration that TPAC has not been notified of news regarding GRTC, instead finding out in the newspaper. Laura noted that the article referred to a decision by the GRTC board rather than Valley Metro staff, and that the TPAC charter clarifies that TPAC communicates recommendations to the GRTC board, but that board decisions aren't necessarily communicated directly to TPAC.
- Laura noted concern over the number of Valley Metro operators, specifically long shifts and the inability to expand services due to low numbers. William answered that low operator numbers have been an issue since pandemic shutdowns and recruiting new operators has been a continual task.
  - Laura asked about renegotiation with MetroFLX operators as the pilot program ends and the service is extended. William said that updates will be brought to the next meeting.
- Laura said that a member of the Summit Hills Neighborhood Group expressed concern over the Melrose EB at Peck bus stop. William described the factors in bus stop placement at this location, noting the odd roadway configuration, drainage infrastructure, and property ownership issues. The stop was moved to its current location as the safest choice in the area and to avoid eliminating the stop altogether.
  - TPAC members discussed various possible solutions to accessibility at this stop and across the service area. Alison Stinette noted that the Bus Stop Accessibility Study is considering options for bus stop balancing – optimizing distances between stops – which takes into account accessibility, ridership, and on-time performance. Alison also said that the City of Roanoke is working on accessibility plans through each quadrant of the city. Karen said that she will bring this topic to the GRTC board.
- Laura asked about adding names to the Wall of Honor at Third Street Station. William answered that design of plaques is currently underway.
- Sean McGinnis asked for an update on the electric buses. William said that the buses are able to run all routes except routes 31 and 32 to Blue Hills due to a low bridge. The buses are able to operate all day; however, the weather has been ideal since the launch in April.



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[www.valleymetro.com](http://www.valleymetro.com)

The upcoming cold weather will likely reduce the range, and operations will need to adjust.

- Alison announced that the RVARC hosted a group of UVA graduate students last week. The group toured Roanoke, discussing transportation, parking, transit, and regional collaboration. As part of this trip, the group received a tour of Third Street Station.

#### **5. Next Meeting – February 12, 2026**

- William Long announced that the next meeting is February 12, 2026, and shared the 2026 TPAC meeting schedule.

#### **6. Adjourn**



**Greater Roanoke Transit Company (GRTC)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Management Update**

January 20, 2026

**Planning and Special Projects**

**TPAC Meeting Update**

On November 13, 2025, TPAC held a virtual meeting via Zoom Meeting. Updates on transit ridership, adverse weather preparations, TPAC Officer nominations, and miscellaneous follow-up items were the other topics of discussion. Staff also responded to questions from TPAC members. The minutes from the November 13, 2025, meeting is included in the GRTC Board Packet.

**GRTC Ridership Update**

<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Year Total</b>
City Routes	100,603	99,299	100,173	109,175	94,058	95,588							598,896
Smart Way-Base	3,010	3,171	3,467	4,532	3,372	3,459							21,011
Smart Way-Amtrak	221	325	519	634	1,060	1,364							4,123
Smart Way Express	1,092	1,372	2,054	2,265	1,509	1,144							9,436
Star Line Trolley	5,229	5,782	5,299	5,044	4,368	4,750							30,472
STAR	8,155	8,453	7,115	6,745	7,176								37,644
MetroFLX	1,728	1,772	1,638	1,637	1,712								8,487
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,310</b>	<b>118,402</b>	<b>118,627</b>	<b>128,395</b>	<b>111,543</b>	<b>106,305</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>710,069</b>
<b>YTD Total</b>	<b>118,310</b>	<b>236,712</b>	<b>355,339</b>	<b>483,734</b>	<b>595,277</b>	<b>701,582</b>	<b>701,582</b>	<b>701,582</b>	<b>701,582</b>	<b>701,582</b>	<b>701,582</b>	<b>701,582</b>	
<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Year Total</b>
City Routes	108,763	112,615	103,468	118,880	106,260	97,756	95,917	84,954	92,131	103,398	100,004	95,190	1,219,336
Smart Way-Base	2,906	3,771	3,577	4,327	3,599	4,069	3,286	3,052	3,795	3,967	3,861	2,941	43,151
Smart Way-Amtrak	689	638	754	642	887	614	291	562	517	904	785	424	7,707
Smart Way Express	1,597	1,796	1,548	2,233	1,677	1,082	1,305	1,726	1,526	2,333	1,183	950	18,956
Star Line Trolley	5,372	5,585	5,289	5,934	5,248	5,073	5,031	4,957	5,428	5,902	5,500	5,103	64,422
STAR	7,016	7,150	7,852	7,803	7,504	6,456	6,339	6,220	7,252	8,167	6,800	7,424	85,983
MetroFLX	1,066	1,180	1,316	1,285	1,453	1,361	1,457	1,445	1,475	1,812	1,502	1,525	16,877
<b>Total</b>	<b>127,409</b>	<b>132,735</b>	<b>123,804</b>	<b>141,104</b>	<b>126,628</b>	<b>116,411</b>	<b>113,626</b>	<b>102,916</b>	<b>112,124</b>	<b>126,483</b>	<b>119,635</b>	<b>113,557</b>	<b>1,456,432</b>
<b>YTD Total</b>	<b>127,409</b>	<b>260,144</b>	<b>383,948</b>	<b>525,052</b>	<b>651,680</b>	<b>768,091</b>	<b>881,717</b>	<b>984,633</b>	<b>1,096,757</b>	<b>1,223,240</b>	<b>1,342,875</b>	<b>1,456,432</b>	
<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Year Total</b>
City Routes	90,824	101,999	93,429	97,155	97,893	97,679	92,928	103,864	98,019	105,396	108,287	101,320	1,188,793
Smart Way-Base	2,641	4,202	2,816	2,578	3,718	2,242	884	806	895	2,170	3,700	3,038	29,690
Smart Way-Amtrak	586	877	955	1,258	1,264	942	579	442	503	694	864	408	9,372
Smart Way Express	851	1,115	1,294	2,350	2,053	1,188	1,835	2,295	1,891	1,860	1,257	1,656	19,645
Star Line Trolley	4,979	5,401	4,825	5,311	4,905	3,915	4,928	5,173	5,046	5,440	5,417	5,004	60,344
STAR	6,196	6,969	6,608	7,004	7,092	6,652	6,508	7,363	7,025	7,586	7,396	6,746	83,145
MetroFLX							20	743	802	922	1,073	1,199	4,759
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,077</b>	<b>120,563</b>	<b>109,927</b>	<b>115,656</b>	<b>116,925</b>	<b>112,618</b>	<b>107,682</b>	<b>120,686</b>	<b>114,181</b>	<b>124,068</b>	<b>127,994</b>	<b>119,371</b>	<b>1,395,748</b>
<b>YTD Total</b>	<b>106,077</b>	<b>226,640</b>	<b>336,567</b>	<b>452,223</b>	<b>569,148</b>	<b>681,766</b>	<b>789,448</b>	<b>910,134</b>	<b>1,024,315</b>	<b>1,148,383</b>	<b>1,276,377</b>	<b>1,395,748</b>	

Greater Roanoke Transit Company

P.O. Box 13247 Roanoke, Virginia 24032 Phone: (540) 982-0305 Fax: (540) 982-2703 [www.valleymetro.com](http://www.valleymetro.com)

GRTC Performance Statistics

FY2024 Statistics (Validated/National Transit Database)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Passengers per revenue mile	.83			
Passengers per revenue hour	13.65 (15)			
Cost per revenue mile (\$)	9.13 (15.04)			
Cost per revenue hour (\$)	148.73			
Cost per passenger trip (\$)	10.89 (10)			
Farebox Recovery (%)	13 (15)			
Accidents per 10,000 passenger trips	.106			
Population within one half mile of a bus stop (Roanoke UZA)	132,800 (217,312)			
On-time Performance (%)	80 (75)			
Transit stops with passenger amenities (bench, shelter, trashcan) – 825 Total Stops (%)	15			



Kevin L. Price  
General Manager

Copy: Vice President of Operations  
Assistant Vice President of Operations  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
GRTC General Counsel  
Municipal Auditor

---

Greater Roanoke Transit Company

P.O. Box 13247 Roanoke, Virginia 24032 Phone: (540) 982-0305 Fax: (540) 982-2703 [www.valleymetro.com](http://www.valleymetro.com)



Greater Roanoke Transit Company  
Board of Directors Meeting

January 20, 2026

Honorable Joseph L. Cobb, President, and Members and Officers of the Board of Directors  
Greater Roanoke Transit Company Roanoke, Virginia

Subject: Authorization – Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service – February 4, 2026

Background

Transit Equity Day commemorates the legacy of civil rights leader Rosa Parks and acknowledges the pivotal role of accessible public transportation in fostering equitable, inclusive communities. Every day, millions rely on public transit as a lifeline, connecting them to work, education, healthcare, and social opportunities.

The provision of Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service celebrates the legacy of Rosa Parks and acknowledges the importance of accessibility, affordability, environmental justice, and community engagement as it relates to public transportation.

Recommendation

Authorize the provision of Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service on Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin L. Price  
General Manager

Cc: Vice President of Operations  
Assistant Vice President of Operations  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
General Counsel  
Municipal Auditor



yc  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GREATER ROANOKE TRANSIT COMPANY

A RESOLUTION approving and adopting Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service for Wednesday, February 4, 2026, for the Greater Roanoke Transit Company (GRTC) DBA Valley Metro; and authorizing the General Manager of GRTC to take appropriate action to implement such Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service for Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Greater Roanoke Transit Company as follows:

1. The Board of Directors hereby approves and adopts Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service for Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

2. The above passenger Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service shall be effective on Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

3. The General Manager of GRTC is hereby authorized to take appropriate action to implement and administer the Fare Free Transit Equity Day Service for Wednesday, February 4, 2026, set forth above, subject to any needed approval by the Council of the City of Roanoke.

ATTEST:

Secretary.



January 20, 2026

Dear President Cobb and Members of the Board:

**Subject:** Authorization to File for Federal Transit Administration Operating and Capital Financial Assistance, and Commonwealth of Virginia Operating and Capital Financial Assistance for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 - 2027.

**Background**

Financial assistance has been provided to Greater Roanoke Transit Company (GRTC) by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) during previous fiscal years for certain operating and capital expenses.

Under FTA regulations, GRTC is eligible for federal operating funds, which cannot exceed 50% of its proposed operating deficit. In FY 2026 – 2027, GRTC will apply for the maximum amount allowed in federal operating and capital financial assistance.

The deadline for filing the applications for the above referenced assistance for FY 2026 - 2027 is February 1, 2026.

**Recommendation**

Authorize the General Manager or Assistant General Manager to file applications requesting the maximum operating and capital financial assistance from FTA and VDRPT for FY 2026 - 2027 and to accept and execute the necessary grant agreements in a form approved by General Counsel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin L. Price  
General Manager

Cc: Vice President of Operations  
Assistant Vice President of Operations  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
GRTC General Counsel  
Municipal Auditor

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GREATER ROANOKE TRANSIT COMPANY

A RESOLUTION authorizing the filing of applications with the Federal Transit Administration (“FTA”) and the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (“DRPT”), for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administrator has been delegated authority to award Federal operating and capital financial assistance for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027;

WHEREAS, the grant or cooperative agreement for Federal financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon Greater Roanoke Transit Company (“GRTC”) and cannot exceed 50% of its proposed operating deficit; and

WHEREAS, for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027, GRTC will apply for the maximum amount allowed in federal operating and capital financial assistance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Greater Roanoke Transit Company as follows:

1. The Board of Directors of GRTC designates that GRTC’s General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager are each authorized to execute and file applications for Federal operating and capital financial assistance on behalf of GRTC with FTA and DRPT for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, and/or authorized by any other Federal statutes administered by the FTA, including, but not limited to, applicable section of 23 U.S.C. Chapter 23. GRTC is the Designated Recipient as defined by 49 U.S.C. Sec.5302(3).

2. GRTC’s General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager are each designated and authorized to execute and file with its application(s) the annual certification and assurances

and other documents FTA and DRPT require before awarding a Federal assistance grant or cooperative agreement.

3. GRTC's General Manager and/or Assistant General Manager are each designated and authorized to execute grant and cooperative agreements with FTA and DRPT on behalf of GRTC, in a form approved by General Counsel, all as more particularly set forth in the report of the General Manager to this Board dated January 20, 2026. The Company's Secretary is also authorized to attest any such document.

CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

The undersigned duly qualified Secretary, acting on behalf of GRTC, certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greater Roanoke Transit Company ("GRTC") held on January 20, 2026.

ATTEST:

Secretary.