

Board of Director’s Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date/Time: May 16, 2024 - 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Members: Kathleen Mozak (Chair), Mike Allemang (Treasurer), Jesse Miller (Secretary), Chris Allen, Simi Barr, Rich Chang, Julie Grand, Monica Ross-Williams, Susan Pollay, Kyra Sims

Location: Riverside Arts Center, Ypsilanti (4th Floor)

Virtual attendance available via [Zoom](#)

Passcode: 983308

Agenda Item	Info Type	Details	Page #
1. OPENING ITEMS			
1.1 Approve Agenda	D	Mozak	
1.2 Public Comment	O		
1.3 General Announcements	O		
2. CONSENT AGENDA			
2.1 Board Meeting Minutes April 18, 2024	D		3
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3. EMERGENT ITEMS			
3.1 YTC Updates	O	Yang	15
4. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE			
4.1 Open Dialogue Task Force Updates	O	Chang	Verbal
5. MONITORING			
6. POLICY			
7. BOARD EDUCATION / DISCUSSION			
8. OPERATIONAL UPDATES			
8.1 Business Plan Intro	O	Carpenter	44
8.2 Budget Process + Timeline	O	Reed	45
8.3 FY24 Q2 Financial Report	O	Reed	47
8.4 CEO Report & ZEB Updates	O	Carpenter	51
9. CLOSING ITEMS			
9.1 Action Item Recap	O	Carpenter / Holt	
9.2 Topics for Next Meetings Advocacy Agenda Business Plan Environmental Sustainability (2.11) Governance Process Policies (3.5-3.8) Falls on Buses Q2 Service Report		Thursday, June 20, 2024	
9.3 Public Comment	O		
9.4 Adjournment			

* M = Monitoring, D = Decision Preparation, O = Other

If additional policy development is desired:

Discuss in Board Agenda Item 3.0 Policy Monitoring and Development. It may be appropriate to assign a committee or task force to develop policy language options for board to consider at a later date.

Emergent Topics

Policy 3.1.3 places an emphasis on distinguishing Board and Staff roles, with the Board focusing on “long term impacts outside the organization, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.” Policy 3.1.3.1 specifies that that Board use a structured conversation before addressing a topic, to ensure that the discussion is appropriately framed:

1. What is the nature of the issue? Is the issue within the scope of the agency?
2. What is the value [principle] that drives the concern?
3. Whose issue is this? Is it the Board’s [Policy, 3.0 and 4.0] or the CEO’s [running the organization, 1.0 and 2.0]?
4. Is there already a Board policy that adequately covers the issue? If so, what has the Board already said on this subject and how is this issue related?
Does the Board wish to change what it has already said?

Board of Director’s Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: April 18, 2024 - 6:30 – 9:00pm

Members: Kathleen Mozak (Chair), Mike Allemang (Treasurer), Jesse Miller (Secretary), Chris Allen, Simi Barr, Rich Chang, Julie Grand, Susan Pollay

Location: Ann Arbor District Library (4th Floor)
Virtual attendance available via Zoom

Chairwoman Mozak called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Agenda Item
<p>1. OPENING ITEMS</p> <p>1.1 Approve Agenda</p> <p>Mr. Allemang motioned to accept the agenda, seconded by Mr. Chang</p> <p>All in favor of approving the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Chris Allen: Yes Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes Mr. Simi Barr: Yes Mr. Rich Chang: Yes Ms. Julie Grand: Yes Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes <p>The approval of agenda passed unanimously.</p> <p>1.2 Public Comment</p> <p>Jim Mogensen requested a change to his public comments noted in the March 21, 2024 Board meeting minutes in the Consent Agenda – he clarified that instead of University of Michigan, it be changed to Central Student Government, and instead of D2A2 it be changed to Michigan Flyer.</p> <p>Robert Pawlowski noted that in reviewing the phone survey presentation data, he had concern regarding the high number of undecideds for millage support. His experience in the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti area has been that there is a much higher level of public transportation support. He expressed interest in hearing more about the data gathering from the survey.</p> <p>1.3 General Announcements</p> <p>Chairwoman Mozak shared that retired LAC Chair Cheryl Weber had passed away in March. She had served with the LAC for over 17 years and was a well-known advocate within the community.</p>

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Board Meeting Minutes March 21, 2024

2.2 Committee Meeting Summaries

Mr. Miller motioned to amend the March 21, 2024 minutes public comments wording with University of Michigan to Central Student Government and D2A2 to Michigan Flyer, seconded by Mr. Allemang.

All in favor of accepting the proposed amendments to the March 21, 2024 minutes:

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie GrandL Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The approval of the proposed amendments to the March 21, 2024 minutes passed unanimously.

Mr. Chang motioned to accept the amended Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Barr:

All in favor of approving the amended Consent Agenda:

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Kyra Sims: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The approval of the amended Consent Agenda passed unanimously.

3. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

3.1 Open Dialogue Task Force Updates

Mr. Chang provided a brief presentation ([Board packet, pg. 105](#)) that provided background on the organizational structure as it links to the community. He outlined legal owners, beneficiaries, and stakeholders in the community. He also introduced Dr. Hugh Clark conducted a phone survey in 2021 – the data compiled was used to in the development of the millage request in 2022. Mr. Chang shared that Mr. Clark would be presenting more detailed information from that phone survey.

3.2 Telephone Survey Results

Dr. Hugh Clark presented data from a community survey done in 2021 ([Board packet, pg. 16](#)) which provided information on community concerns/issues related to public transportation services, strengths/weaknesses of the organization, the public's priorities in regards to service and opposition/support on service expansions.

Dr. Clark fielded a variety of board questions related to ways to continue to gather information about values and priorities from the community, who was involved in the survey and how to get a quality representation of responses from voters.

Mr. Chang shared that the survey information would be utilized at the next ODTF meeting as they continue work to connect with the community.

4. MONITORING

4.1 Communication & Support to the Board (2.9)

Mr. Carpenter presented the monitoring report for Communication & Support to the Board outlining several areas of non-compliance noted within the report. One specific non-compliant sub-policy was related to 45% on-time submission for monitoring reports.

Mr. Chang shared that in the survey he had inquired about the CEO's interpretation of timeliness and due dates – after a robust discussion with several board members, the conclusion was that the policy wording would be reviewed at the next Governance Committee meeting.

Mr. Allemang motioned to accept the report as (B) a reasonable interpretation for all policy items and that the evidence demonstrates compliance with the interpretations, except for the CEO's stated non-compliance with items noted in the report, seconded by Mr. Chang.

All in favor of accepting the Communication & Support to the Board (Policy 2.9) monitoring report as (B) a reasonable interpretation for all policy items and that the evidence demonstrates compliance with the interpretations, except for the CEO's stated non-compliance with items noted in the report:

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The motion to accept Communication & Support to the Board (Policy 2.9) monitoring report as (B) a reasonable interpretation for all policy items and that the evidence demonstrates compliance with the interpretations, except for the CEO's stated non-compliance with items noted in the report, passed unanimously.

5. POLICY

6. BOARD EDUCATION / DISCUSSION

7. OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Mr. Carpenter requested that the order of agenda items 7.1 (ZEB Updates & Transition Plan) and 7.2 (Whistleblower Procedure) be switched.

7-2 7.1 Whistleblower Procedure (Feedback)

Ms. Boote (HR Manager) and Mr. Muskovitz (Corporate Counsel) presented a draft version of an updated Whistleblower procedure for the organization that allows for anonymity and a 3rd party messaging service should an issue be reported. In 2023 the CEO had identified the need for a clearer procedure for staff to utilize. Board feedback was requested, and the full implementation of the procedure is planned for August 2024.

Ms. Boote and Mr. Muskovitz fielded questions from board members related to components of the process. Board members expressed support for the revisions that had been made to the procedure.

*** The Board took a 5-minute recess.*

7.4 7.2 ZEB Updates & Transition Plan Approval

Mr. Carpenter presented an overview of the Transition Plan ([Board packet, page 114](#)) which provided a summary of the ZEB approval process. He shared the scope of the grant request which includes 2 hydrogen buses, 1 fueling station and 34 hybrid buses. This plan is an important step toward the organization becoming emission-free by 2041. Board members inquired about the transition of para-transit fleet vehicles and Mr. Carpenter shared that plan is being developed within the Corporate Business Plan and details will be shared at a later date.

Mr. Barr motioned to approve the Transition Plan, seconded by Ms. Pollay.

All in favor of approving the Transition Plan:

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie GrandL Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

The Transition Plan was approved unanimously.

7.3 CEO Report / DC Visit Debrief

Mr. Carpenter shared that the Washtenaw Express launch date is May 6th and thanked staff for the work involved in organizing, designing, and training for the route. The remainder of millage service implementations will occur in August as had been planned. Ypsilanti Transit Center public engagement is beginning, and comments/input will be shared with the board in upcoming months.

Mr. Pfeifer shared an update on a recent trip to Washington DC for the APTA Legislative Conference – he attended along with Mr. Carpenter and Board Members Barr and Pollay. They were able to meet with staff from Representatives Dingell and Slotkin's offices. Mr. Barr noted the positive experience of meeting with legislative staff.

Mr. Carpenter concluded by sharing that staff had determined they would not be attending the May MPTA Legislative Day in Lansing as the timing didn't align with local representatives' availability. The plan is to schedule a separate day to go to Lansing soon.

8. EMERGENT ITEMS

8.1 May Board Meeting in Ypsilanti

Chairwoman Mozak shared that with YTC community engagement efforts underway, the Governance Committee determined that it would be beneficial to hold the May Board meeting at the Riverside Arts Center. Board members unanimously agreed to hold the May Board meeting in Ypsilanti.

9. CLOSING ITEMS

9.1 Action Item Recap

Further discussion of policy 2.9 and Board responses at the Governance Committee meeting, send out updated May Board meeting calendar invite with location change, staff will be working on a para-transit/fleet vehicle transition plan.

9.2 Topics for Next Meetings

ZEB Updates
Environmental Sustainability (2.11)
Governance Process Policies (3.5-3.8)
Budget Process Timeline
Q2 Financial Report
June: Advocacy Agenda, Business Plan

9.3 Public Comment

Robert Pawlowski shared that the phone survey presentation had addressed his earlier comments. He also commented on the upcoming implementation of the Washtenaw Express route and the positive service it will provide for residents and businesses along the corridor.

9.4 Adjournment

Ms. Pollay motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Barr

All in favor of adjourning the meeting:

Mr. Chris Allen: Yes
Mr. Mike Allemang: Yes
Mr. Simi Barr: Yes
Mr. Rich Chang: Yes
Ms. Julie Grand: Yes
Mr. Jesse Miller: Yes
Ms. Susan Pollay: Yes
Chairwoman Kathleen Mozak: Yes

Chairwoman Mozak adjourned the meeting at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt

Governance Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date/Time: Thursday, April 25, 2024 – 9:00am-11:00am

Members: Kathleen Mozak (Chair), Mike Allemang, Jesse Miller, Rich Chang

Staff: Matt Carpenter, Dina Reed, Forest Yang, George Brooks, Jeff Pfeifer, Rosa-Maria Njuki, Deb Holt

Location: REMOTE – Via Zoom

Chairwoman Mozak called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

Agenda Item
<p>1. OPENING ITEMS</p> <p>1.1 Agenda (Additions, Approval)</p> <p>No additions or changes to the agenda.</p> <p>1.2 Communications</p> <p>Ms. Reed shared that the Lo-No Grant Application had been submitted to the FTA.</p> <p>Mr. Yang shared that the FTA has determined the YTC project has been labeled as a Category Exclusion which will expedite the project process.</p>
<p>2. BOARD DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>2.1 Recruitment / Training / Attendance</p> <p>Chairwoman Mozak shared that 2 board members are up for re-appointment in May with the City of Ann Arbor.</p> <p>2.2 Task Force Coordination (ODTF)</p> <p>Mr. Chang shared that the next ODTF meeting will be held in 2 weeks, he will report back feedback on next-steps to Governance next month.</p>
<p>3. POLICY MONITORING & DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>3.1 Public Safety Policy Update</p> <p>Mr. Miller shared that no updates are available as the April Service Committee meeting had been cancelled.</p>

3.2 Monitoring Report Participation

Chairwoman Mozak shared ideas from Governance consultant Sue Radwan on increasing participation from board members and suggested 85% participation might be appropriate. The committee discussed participation expectations and accountability with both policy monitoring and meeting attendance and whether it should be outlined as a policy. They determined they would continue the discussion at the next meeting.

The committee agreed that going forward to add names of board participants with monitoring report survey data and include absent members in meeting minutes and notes.

3.3 Policy Monitoring vs. Development (e.g. 2.9 timely vs. due date)

The committee discussed the language of “timely vs. due date” used in the prior month’s monitoring report (policy 2.9) as it related to timelines. The committee found the language and interpretation to be appropriate.

Mr. Miller proposed adding policy language discussion to the agenda as a means of having a formal placeholder agenda item after monitoring reports have been reviewed. The committee agreed to have that added to the board agenda.

4. STRATEGY & OPERATIONAL UPDATES: CEO

4.1 Equity Presentation

Mr. Carpenter noted that the Board had included equity as an education topic in their annual board work plan. He has identified 3 areas of potential equity discussion for consideration: Discrimination Law, Recent Trends in DEI, and Geographic Allocation of Funding.

The committee had a robust discussion on the areas presented and Mr. Carpenter agreed to research further into how other agencies address equity. The discussion will continue at the next meeting.

4.2 ZEB Updates

Mr. Carpenter thanked Ms. Reed and staff for their work on completing the grant submission. Grant awarding notifications will occur mid to later summer. Ms. Reed will be sending out an email to the Board sharing that the grant has been submitted.

5. CLOSING ITEMS

5.1 Committee Agendas

Mr. Miller noted no changes to the Service Committee agenda. Mr. Allemang noted no changes to the Finance Committee agenda. The committee determined the Environmental Sustainability Policy discussion with the board will be deferred to June. No other changes noted.

5.2 Action Item Recap

List participants on monitoring report surveys.

List absent members on meeting minutes / notes.

Add Policy Language Discussion as an agenda item on future Board agendas.

5.3 Topics for Next Meeting

ZEB Updates

Timing of Annual Plan of Work

Governance Process Policies (3.5-3.8)

Equity

Future: Parliamentary Procedure, Park & Ride Updates

5.4 Adjournment

Chairwoman Mozak thanked the committee and staff and adjourned the meeting at 11:06am.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Holt

DRAFT

Service Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date/Time: April 29, 2024, 10:00am-Noon

Members Present: Jesse Miller (Chair), Rich Chang, Susan Pollay

Members Absent: Simi Barr

Staff: Matt Carpenter, Dina Reed, George Brooks, Jeff Pfeifer, Deb Holt

Location: REMOTE – Via Zoom

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 10:01am

Agenda Item
1. OPENING ITEMS
<p>1.1 Agenda (Additions, Approval)</p> <p>No additions or changes were noted in the agenda.</p> <p>1.2 Communications</p> <p>No new communications.</p>
2. POLICY MONITORING & DEVELOPMENT
<p>2.1 Public Safety Policy Update</p> <p>The committee and Governance Consultant continued to discuss defining the concept of public safety and whether it belongs with the Ends policies or as a sub-policy under several other policies.</p> <p>The committee discussed that the perception of safety is just as important as actual physical safety. They will continue the discussion at next month's meeting.</p>
3. STRATEGY & OPERATIONAL UPDATES: CEO
<p>3.1 Budget Process Timeline</p> <p>Ms. Reed shared a draft overview of the FY25 Budget timeline process which will lead to the final September budget presentation for Board approval. She noted that after gathering Board feedback last year, it was requested that committees be provided budget previews and discussions earlier in the budget season.</p> <p>3.2 Falls on Buses</p> <p>This agenda item will be deferred to the next committee meeting as Mr. Brooks was having virtual connectivity challenges.</p>

3.3 ZEB Updates

Mr. Carpenter shared that grants applications were submitted last week and an earmark request submission was in preparation and would be sent soon.

4. CLOSING ITEMS

4.1 Action Item Recap

Invite Consultant Sue Radwan to future meeting dates, continue public safety discussion.

4.2 Topics for the Next Meeting

ZEB Updates
Environmental Sustainability (2.11)
Public Safety Discussion
Falls on Buses

4.3 Adjournment

Mr. Miller thanked the committee and staff and adjourned the meeting at 11:21 am.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt

Finance Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date/Time: May 7, 2024, 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Members Present: Mike Allemang (Chair/Treasurer), Julie Grand

Members Absent: Chris Allen, Monica Ross-Williams, Kyra Sims, Matt Carpenter

Staff: Dina Reed, Forest Yang, George Brooks, Jeff Pfeifer, Rosa-Maria Njuki, Deb Holt

Location: REMOTE – Via Zoom

Mr. Allemang called the meeting to order at 3:03pm

Agenda Item
<p>1. OPENING ITEMS</p> <p>1.1 Agenda (Additions, Approval)</p> <p>No additions or changes were noted in the agenda.</p> <p>1.2 Communications</p> <p>Mr. Brooks and Mr. Yang shared positive updates about the Washtenaw Express route which was implemented 5/6.</p>
<p>2. POLICY MONITORING & DEVELOPMENT</p>
<p>3. STRATEGY AND OPERATIONAL UPDATES</p> <p>3.1 FY24 Q2 Financial Report</p> <p>Ms. Reed presented the FY 24 Q2 Finance Report – the organization operated within budget for the 2nd quarter. On the expense sheet she noted a surplus of revenues over expenses but reminded the committee that the surplus would be reduced by the end of the year as service expansions are implemented. Salaries/wages/benefits account for lower expenses, but the 2nd half of the year will see an increase as additional staff are hired to support the service expansions. \$2 million of pandemic relief funds continue to be drawn down and will be depleted by Q3 as planned. Revenues were higher for the 2nd quarter with higher property tax revenues and interest income.</p> <p>The balance sheet is trending positively and meeting or exceeding the set reserve target. The capital reserves are stable and cash flow is trending consistently on target. Under investments. She also provided an update on a Treasury Note that was matured and the proceeds were used to purchase another agency bond.</p>

3.2 Budget Process Timeline

Ms. Reed noted the timeline was being shared earlier than in prior years after Board feedback from 2023. She then shared a draft overview of the FY25 Budget process – the timeline is an overview of the entire budget process which will lead to the final September budget presentation for Board approval.

3.3 ZEB Updates

Ms. Reed shared that the two grant applications have been submitted along with two earmark requests. Awarding responses are not expected until mid-summer.

4 CLOSING ITEMS

4.1 Action Item Recap

FY24 Q2 Financial Report and Budget Process Timeline will be included in the May Board packet.

4.2 Topics for Next Meeting

ZEB Updates
Asset Protection (2.7)
Budget process updates

4.3 Adjournment

Mr. Allemang thanked the committee and staff and adjourned the meeting at 3:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Holt

YTC Reconstruction Project Update & Public Engagement Period

Meeting: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: May 16, 2024

INFORMATION TYPE
Other
RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)
Receive for information – update on the YTC Reconstruction project and information on the public engagement period (April 22-May22)
ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S)
N/A
PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS & POLICIES
The Ypsilanti Transit Center reconstruction capital project has been included in TheRide 2045 Long-Range Plan as well as numerous previous annual budgets approved by the Board. On September 21, 2023, the Board approved FY2024 budget that includes \$1.235 million for the YTC planning, architecture, and engineering.
ISSUE SUMMARY
<p>Work on Phase II of the YTC Reconstruction planning process commenced in October 2023 and has thus far included reviewing and validating prior planning work, creating a framework for public engagement, ensuring project management controls are in place, and engaging with the Federal Transit Administration to kick off the environmental review process. The project team has also developed revised site concepts that build and improve upon the work completed in 2017-2018.</p> <p>On April 22, 2024, the TheRide announced a public engagement period to provide the public with the opportunity to learn more about and provide feedback on the proposed site concepts for the new Ypsilanti Transit Center in downtown Ypsilanti.</p> <p>The Ypsilanti Transit Center project, which is a part of TheRide’s Long-Range Plan, focuses on constructing a new transit center in Ypsilanti to serve the growing greater Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area. The proposed new transit center in Ypsilanti would address needs for the growing community including a larger building, more efficient internal and external layout, additional amenities, security enhancements and a greater number of bus bay spaces.</p> <p>The public input period runs April 22 – May 22. TheRide encouraged the public to provide feedback in a number of ways:</p>

- Visit TheRideYTC.org to review information at a virtual open house and to provide your feedback via an online survey.
- Public Meeting Drop-In Session: Thursday, April 25, 2024, 2:00pm – 6:00pm
Ypsilanti Transit Center 220 Pearl St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
- Attend TheRide’s May 16 Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, May 16, 2024, 6:30pm
- Write a letter: Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority Attn: YTC Feedback 2700 S. Industrial Highway Ann Arbor, MI 48104
- Call: 734-794-1882
- Email: YTCInfo@TheRide.org

BACKGROUND

Reconstruction and expansion of the YTC has been an organizational goal for over five years. The existing YTC has reached the end of its useful life and no longer meets the needs of the organization nor its customers. In 2017-2018, TheRide completed a YTC Passenger Terminal Needs Assessment to take the first steps of the planning process for a new terminal, including facility programming, site evaluation, site selection, concepts, a robust public engagement effort, and initial cost estimates. On September 25, 2023, AAATA signed a contract with DLZ Michigan, Inc. for Phase II of the YTC reconstruction planning process. Phase II restarted the planning process that began in 2017. AAATA aims to open a larger, more modern YTC in 2027. Work began on Phase II immediately after contract approval, and an official kickoff was held in November 2023.

IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

- Budgetary/Fiscal: the planning and construction of the new Ypsilanti Transit Center has been included in our 10-year capital plan as part of the FY 2024 budget.
- Social: The first public engagement period for the YTC project runs from April 22 – May 22, 2024.
- Environmental: The FTA has recommended a Categorical Exclusion for the NEPA requirements, and the impact will be documented through the review process.
- Governance: N/A

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ypsilanti Transit Center Reconstruction: Project Update – Board of Directors (presentation)

Ypsilanti Transit Center Reconstruction

Project Update

Board of Directors
Riverside Arts Center
May 16, 2024

Agenda

- Project Description
- Project Context
- Project History & Overview
- What We've Learned
- Where We Are Heading
- Discussion/Q&A



What Does the TheRide Want to Accomplish?

Project Description

- Build a new transit center in downtown Ypsilanti, MI
 - Larger, accommodate growth
 - More functional
 - Updated amenities
- Work with partners to deliver a better transit center in an affordable, efficient way

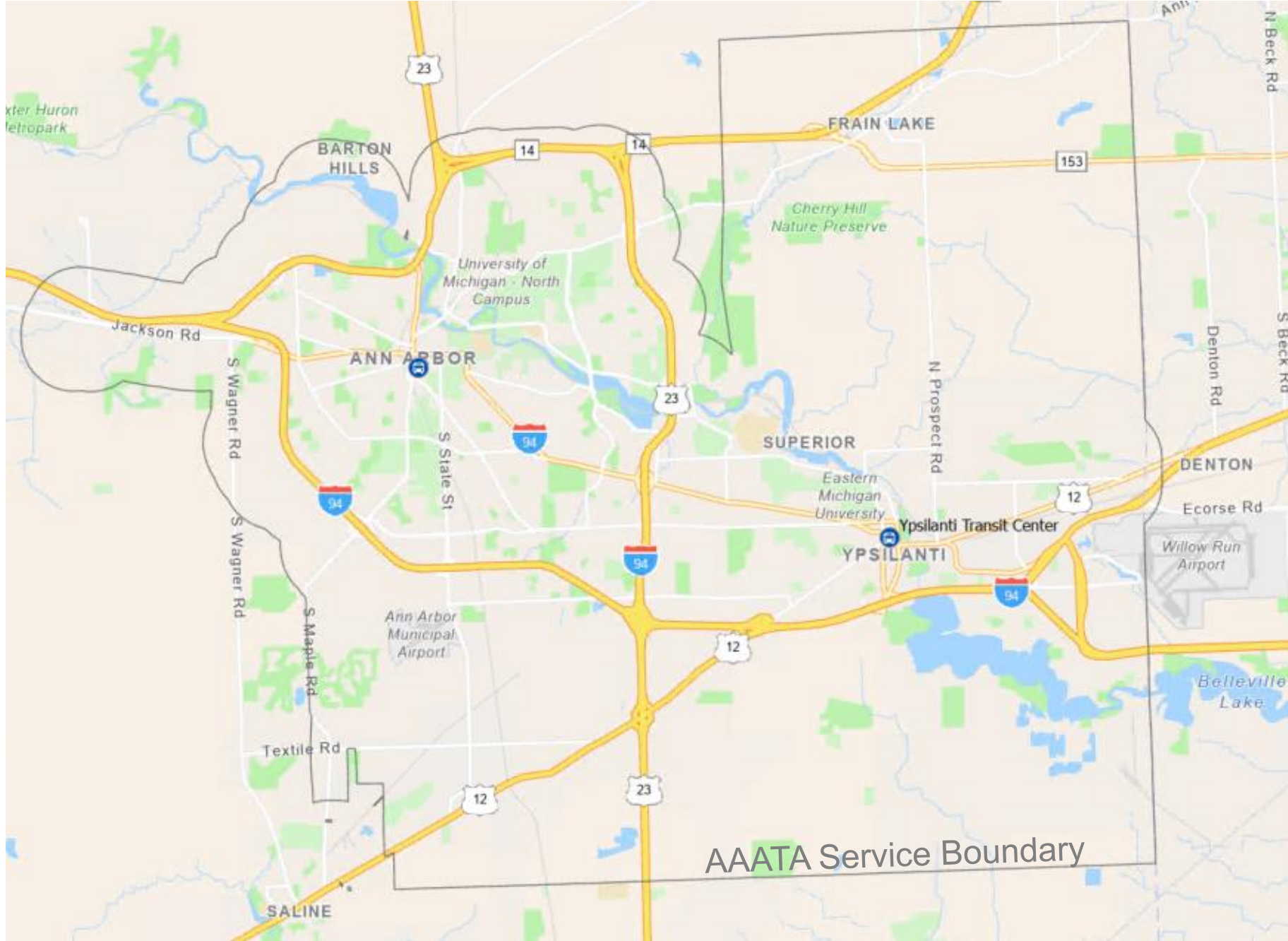


Project Description

- Current facility sits at 220 Pearl St. in downtown Ypsilanti
- Has reached the end of its useful life
- Inadequate for TheRide's and community's needs
- Included in TheRide 2045 as one of the top capital projects

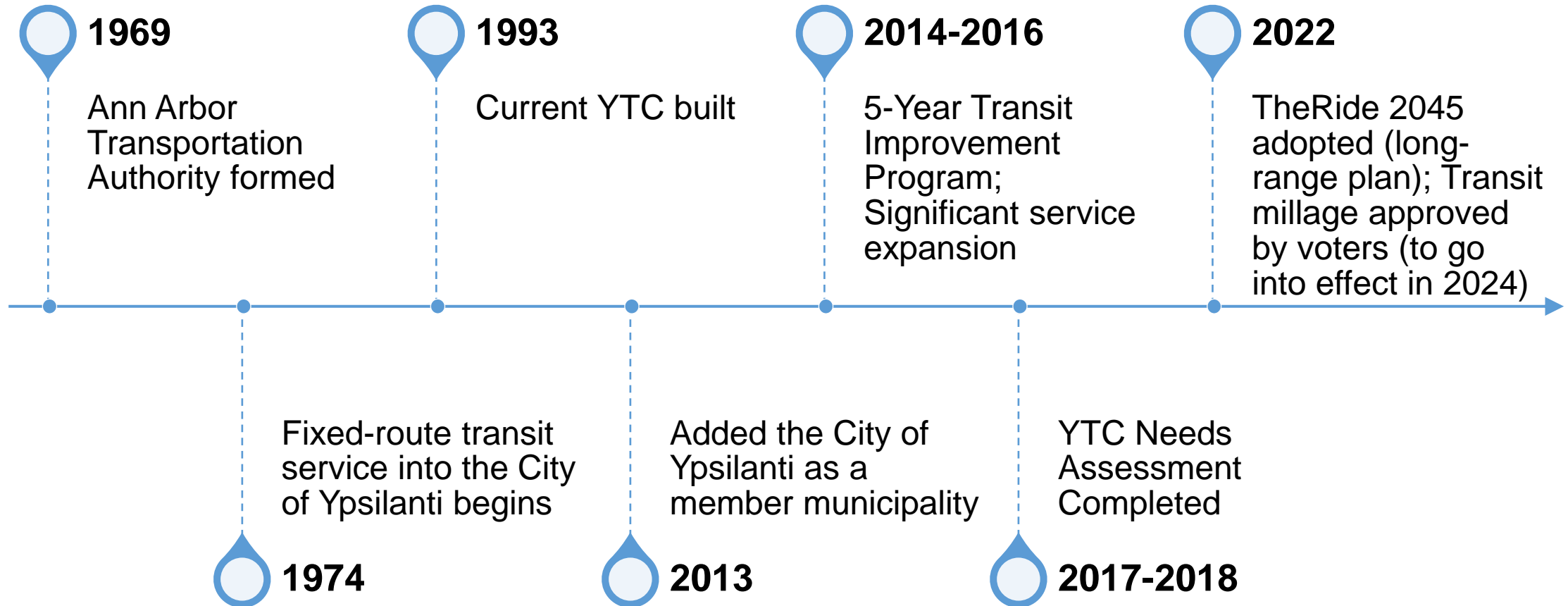


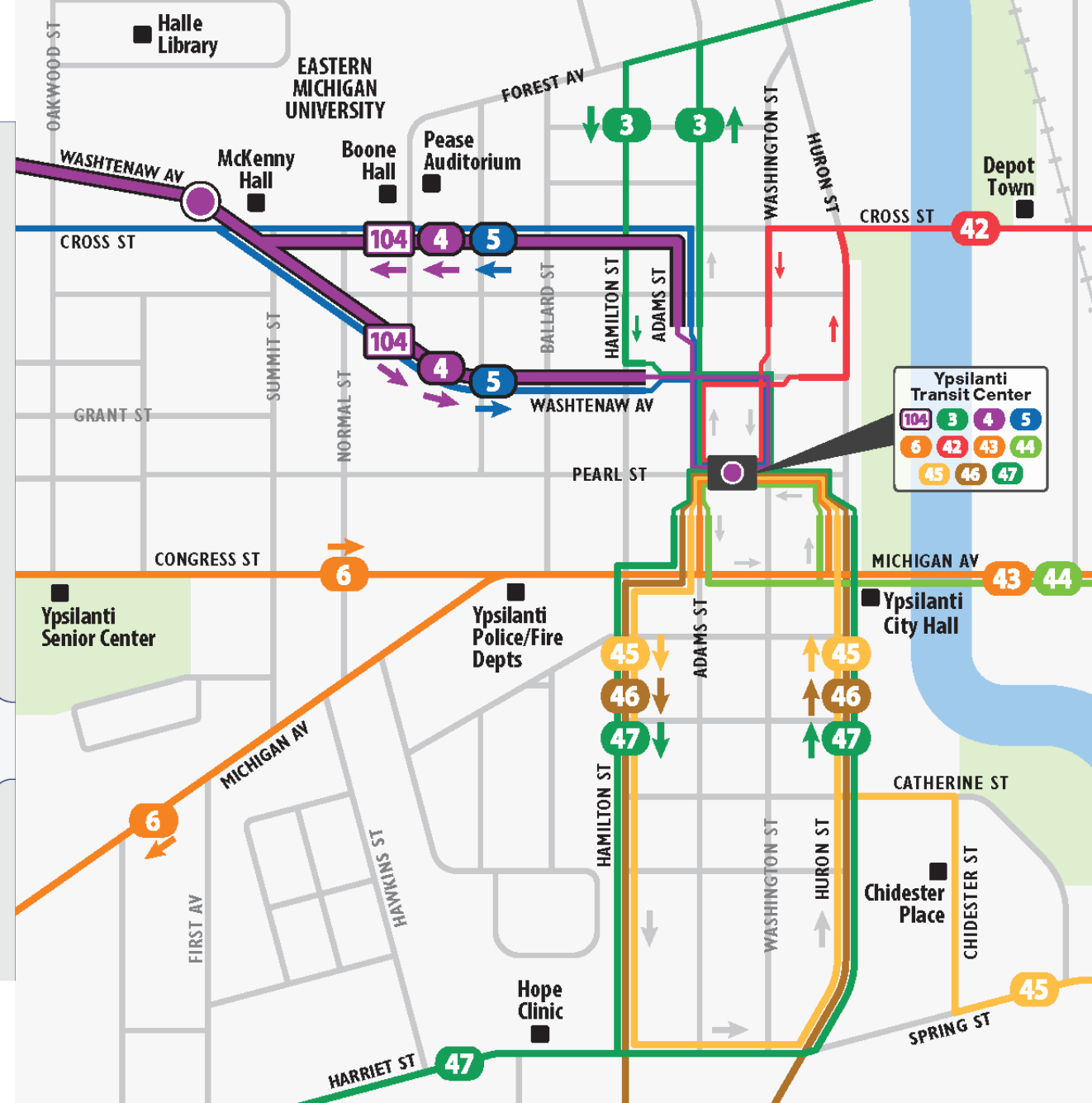
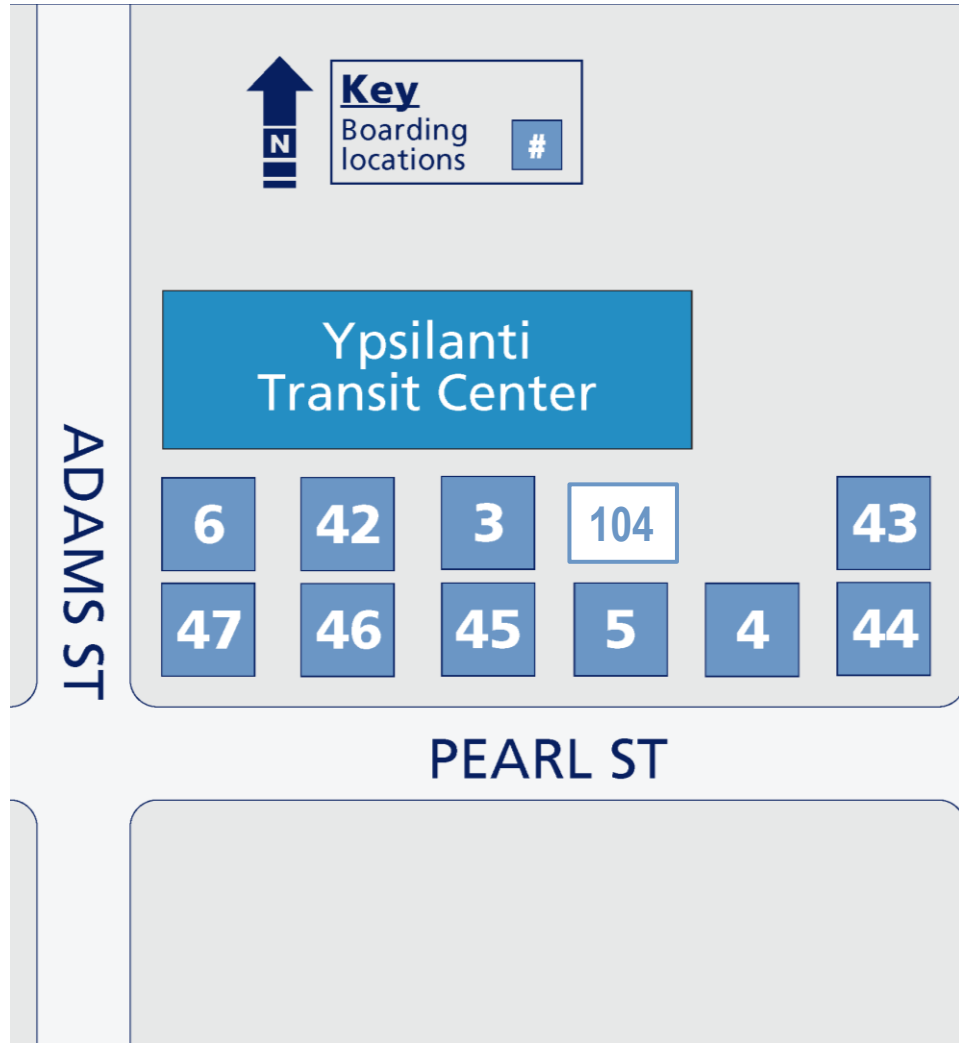
Project Context

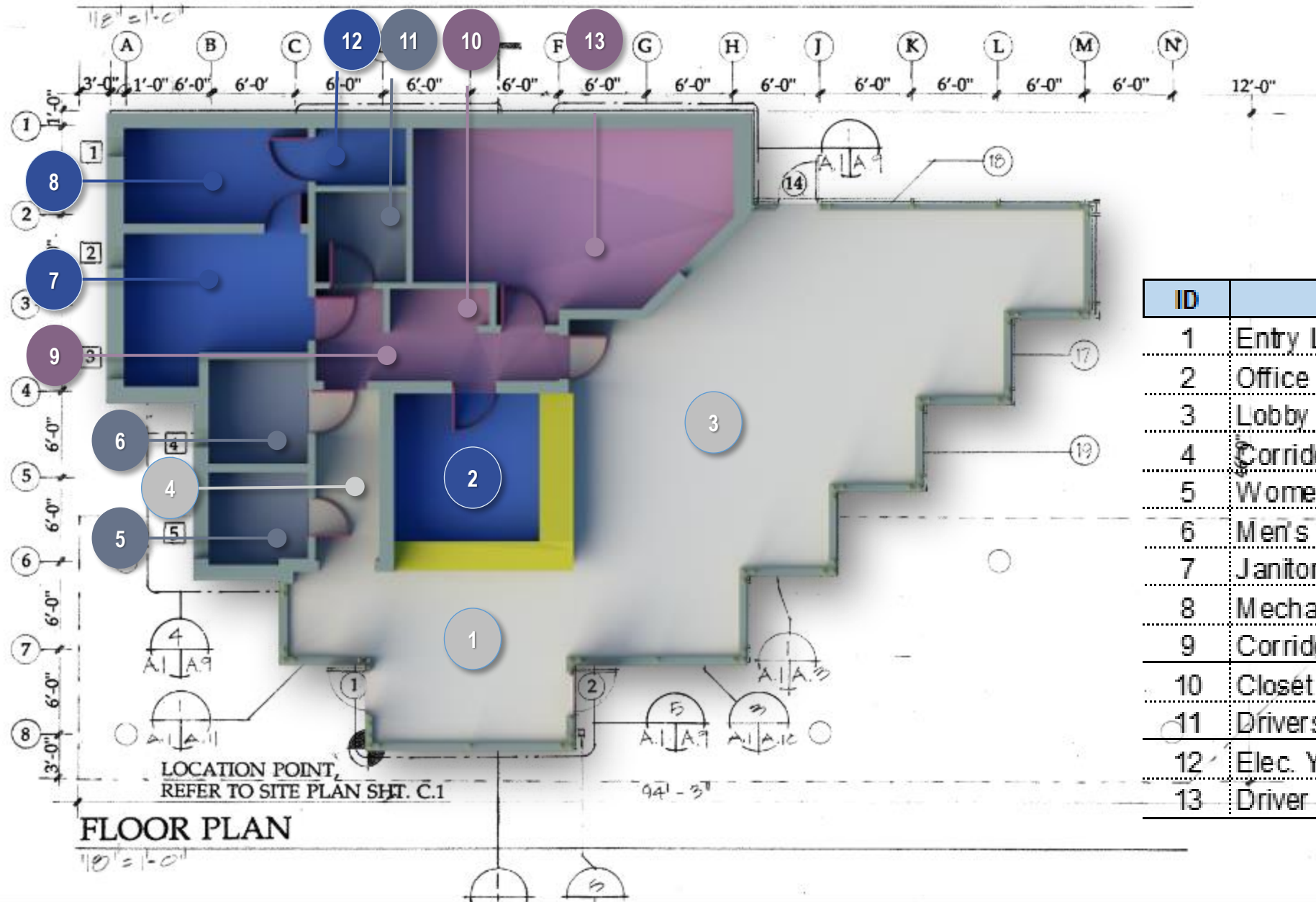


AAATA Service Boundary

Area Transit History







ID	ROOM
1	Entry Lobby
2	Office
3	Lobby
4	Corridor
5	Women's
6	Men's
7	Janitor Storage
8	Mechanical
9	Corridor
10	Closet
11	Drivers Restroom
12	Elec. Yelephone Room
13	Driver W aiting

FLOOR PLAN

Project History & Overview

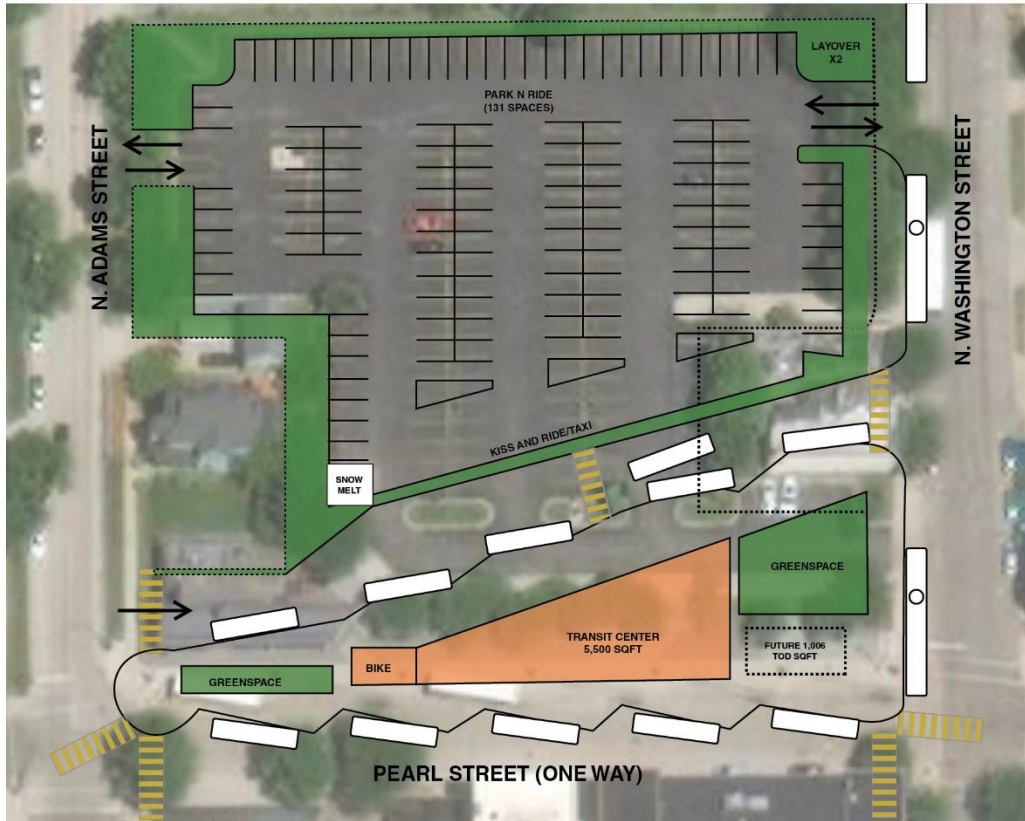
Project History

- Conducted a Needs Assessment in 2017-2018
 - Facility programming
 - Site selection
 - Concept alternatives
 - Robust public engagement
- Work slowed to ensure funding and due to COVID-19 challenges



Site Concepts from 2018

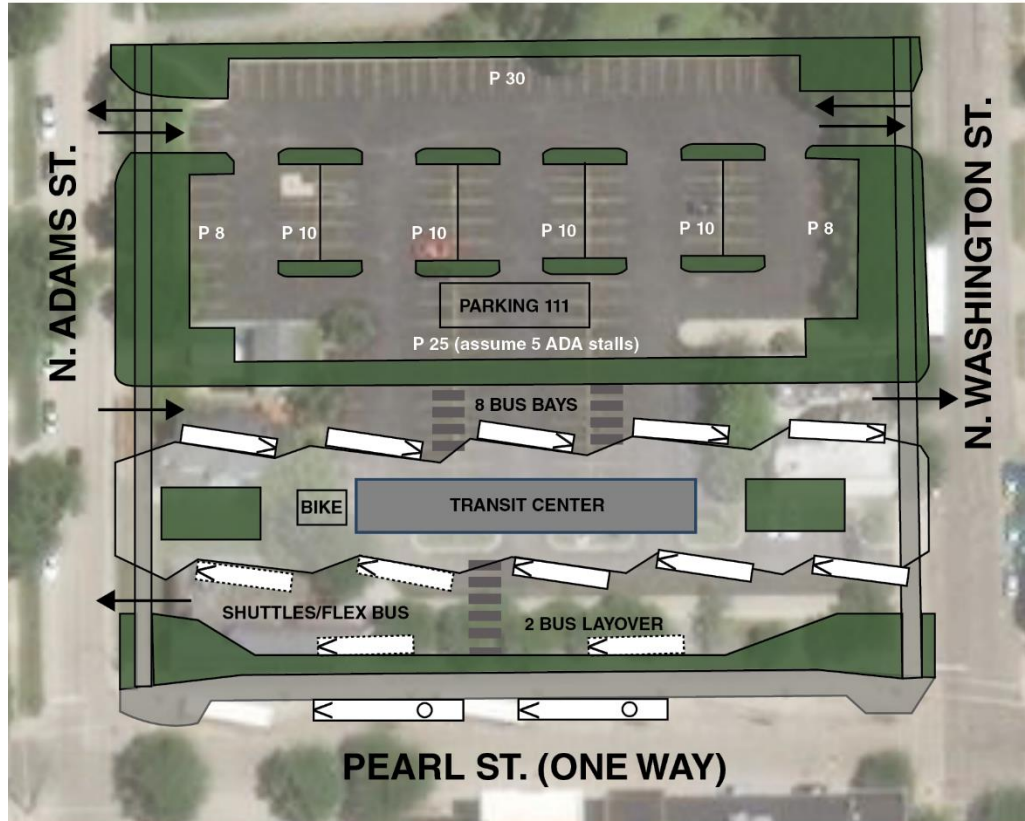
SITE PLAN CONCEPT 1



These are planning-level concepts for the redesign of the YTC area.



SITE PLAN CONCEPT 2



These are planning-level concepts for the redesign of the YTC area.



Project Today

- Hired DLZ/HDR in Fall 2023 to begin next phase
 - Validate 2017-2018 work
 - Develop additional concepts
 - Environmental documentation
- Engaged with the Federal Transit Administration



Estimated Schedule

- 2024: complete Phase II
 - NEPA
 - Concept development
 - Initial schematic design (30-50% owner review)
- 2025-2026: complete Phase III & begin Phase IV
 - Design development
 - Final design
- 2026-2027: complete Phase IV & V
 - Construction documentation, bidding, and permitting
 - Construction
 - Facility open in 2027

Funding

- Successful 2022 millage
- Congressionally directed spending
- Capital reserves
- Other sources



What We've Learned & Where We Are Headed

Engagement Activities

(beginning in November 2023)

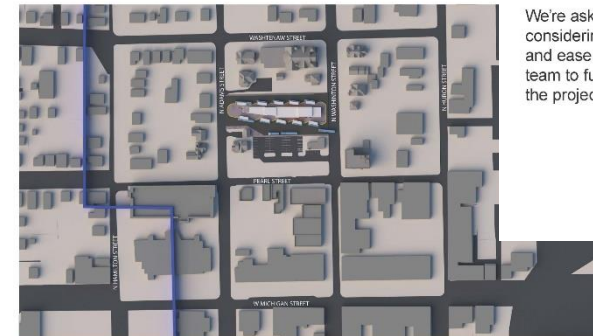
- YTC Technical Working Group meetings
- Internal Kickoff and Department meetings
- Ypsilanti City Council Updates
- Virtual Open House
- In-person Open House
- Historic District meeting
- TheRide’s Board of Directors Meeting



Current Site

The Ypsilanti Transit Center (YTC) was constructed in 1993 at 22 between N. Adams St. and N. Washington ST. in the City of Ypsilanti.

The YTC includes indoor and outdoor passenger waiting areas, a counter area, public restrooms, and six bus stop bays. Lay-by bus also use on-street spaces on N. Washington Street.



The current site includes:

- An enclosed facility, approximately 2,000 square feet, with a waiting area, driver’s break room, public bathrooms, private driver bathroom, security office, customer service desk, mechanical room, and a canopy area.
- Six free-flow sawtooth bus bays along Pearl St.
- A platform area with benches, bike racks, trash receptacles, and route signage.

Welcome

The Ypsilanti Transit Center (YTC) proposed project, initiated by TheRide, focuses on constructing a new transit center in Ypsilanti to serve the growing Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area. At the time the original YTC was built, it met the needs of riders and staff. However, due to its age and size restrictions, the facility as it stands today does not adequately meet rising service demands.

We’re asking the public to provide feedback about the proposed concepts, considering factors such as building location, safety and comfort, traffic flow and ease of access to buses. Feedback will be shared with the planning team to further refine and develop final concepts for consideration later in the project.

The Growing Need

Security

Overall Size

Layout

Amenities

Bus Bay Spaces

Customer Service Staff

Natural Lighting

Location

The Growing Need



Lack of Overall Space

The facility is undersized today, and with ridership projected to increase due to future planned service expansion, crowding and pedestrian flows at the facility will only worsen. Additionally, TheRide drivers feel crowded in the bus slips, especially when encountering a deployed bike rack or snow accumulation. Staff accommodations and facility operations spaces at the current facility are also very limited and will grow increasingly tight as service expands.



Inefficient Layout

The facility has inadequate separation between pedestrians, passenger cars and trucks, and buses. Sightline issues, particularly seeing the bus bays, routes, and parking lot from the facility, as well as sightlines within the facility, have caused frustration and safety risks.



Security

The security systems do not provide coverage to all bus bays and bike parking, and the facility lacks secure areas for equipment, security personnel, and additional information specialists that provide ticketing and trip planning assistance.



Bus Bay Spaces

Based on recommendations in TheRide 2045, service will increase in Ypsilanti, and TheRide will need more than six bus bays to accommodate future service, including articulated bus (a bus with two or more sections linked by a flexible middle) bays for planned high-capacity transit service between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, such as bus rapid transit. Bus rapid transit offers cost-efficient, faster transit service through partial or fully dedicated lanes, off-board fare payment, level boarding locations, and transit priority features.

The Growing Need

As part of a broader initiative known as TheRide 2045, the proposed Ypsilanti facility serves as a critical element to enhance service to its original YTC was built, it met the needs of riders and staff. However, due to size restrictions, the facility as it stands today does not adequately meet current demands. The most frequently heard comments from our customers are:



Site Location

Past and current engagement efforts have identified the current site location for the YTC meeting space. While the space itself is a good location on the block at Pearl and N Adams, it lacks easy access to riders and is centrally located.



Friendly and Helpful Staff

Feedback to TheRide during YTC engagement and regular organization evaluations has shown that staff sense that the staff serving the YTC meet rider expectations. Having the Information Station has benefited riders, and route drivers have a positive reputation among riders.



Natural Lighting

With floor to ceiling windows, natural lighting is a feature of the current YTC. This has been a feature of the small footprint.



Lack of Amenities

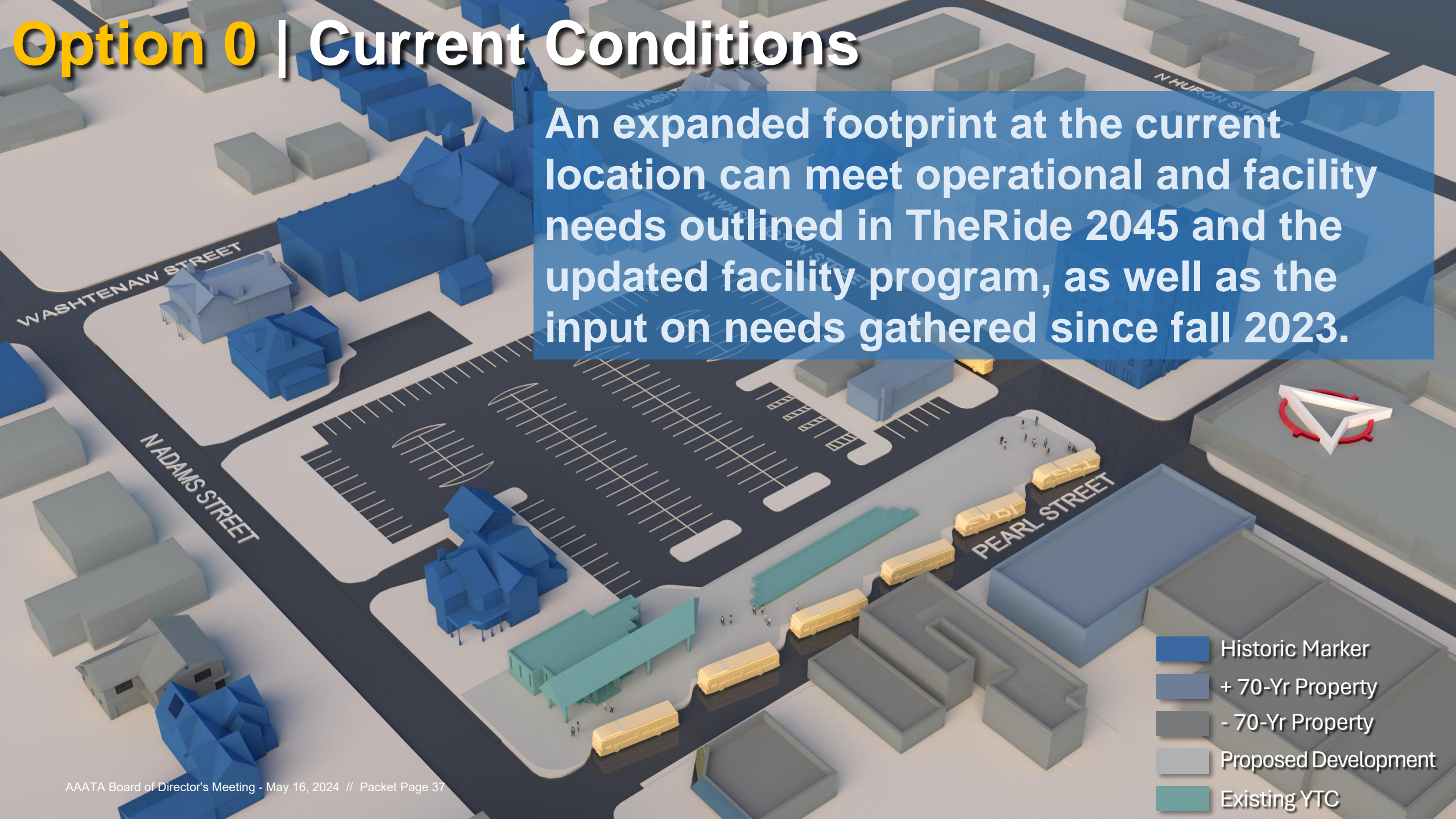
A severe lack of amenities for both passengers and drivers includes few outdoor sheltered areas near the buses, no real-time information, and insufficient indoor seating. The facility also has too few public and driver bathrooms.

Option 0 | Current Conditions

Current validation feedback continues to support the current site and adjacent parking lot as the best location.

Option 0 | Current Conditions

An expanded footprint at the current location can meet operational and facility needs outlined in TheRide 2045 and the updated facility program, as well as the input on needs gathered since fall 2023.

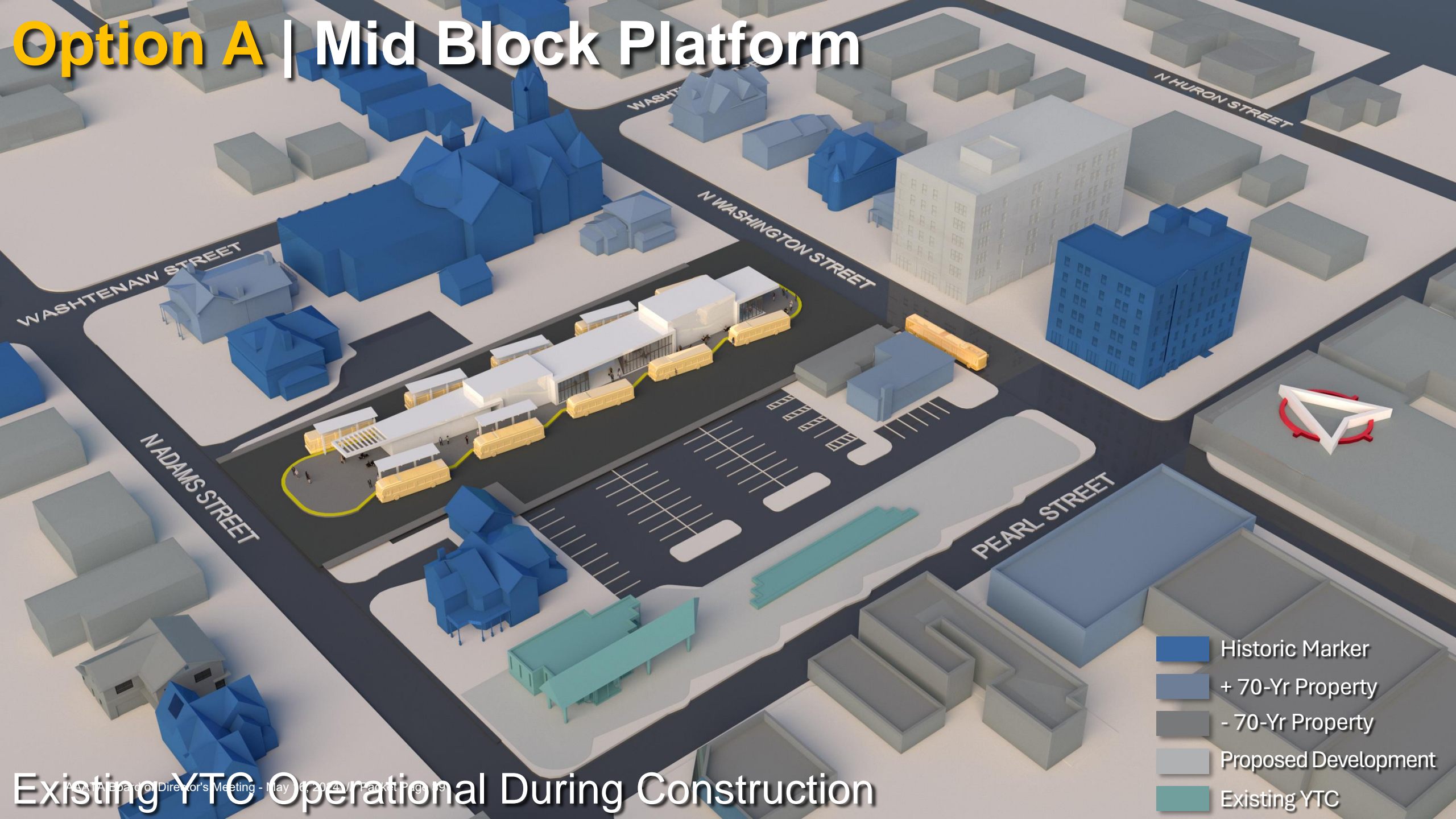


- Historic Marker
- + 70-Yr Property
- 70-Yr Property
- Proposed Development
- Existing YTC

Site Concepts

- Developed 3 feasible concepts
- All concepts include:
 - Approximately 3x larger transit facility
 - Safe and efficient bus operation
 - Accommodate future growth
 - Modern amenities
 - Improved accommodations for all

Option A | Mid Block Platform



- Historic Marker
- + 70-Yr Property
- 70-Yr Property
- Proposed Development
- Existing YTC

Existing YTC Operational During Construction

Option B | SE Triangular Platform



- Historic Marker
- + 70-Yr Property
- 70-Yr Property
- Proposed Development
- Existing YTC

Option C | Mid Block Triangle



- Historic Marker
- + 70-Yr Property
- 70-Yr Property
- Proposed Development
- Existing YTC

Existing YTC Operational During Construction

Next Steps

- Continue environmental review
- Finalize site concept and develop schematics
- Next round of public engagement in fall 2024
- Move into the next phase by fall/winter 2024-2025



Thank You!

Please Visit [TheRideYTC.org](https://www.theride.org)



Email: YTCinfo@theride.org

Call: (734) 794-1882


Project Website:

<https://www.theride.org/about/projects/ypsilanti-transit-center>

Budget Process and Business Plan

Meeting: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: May 16, 2024

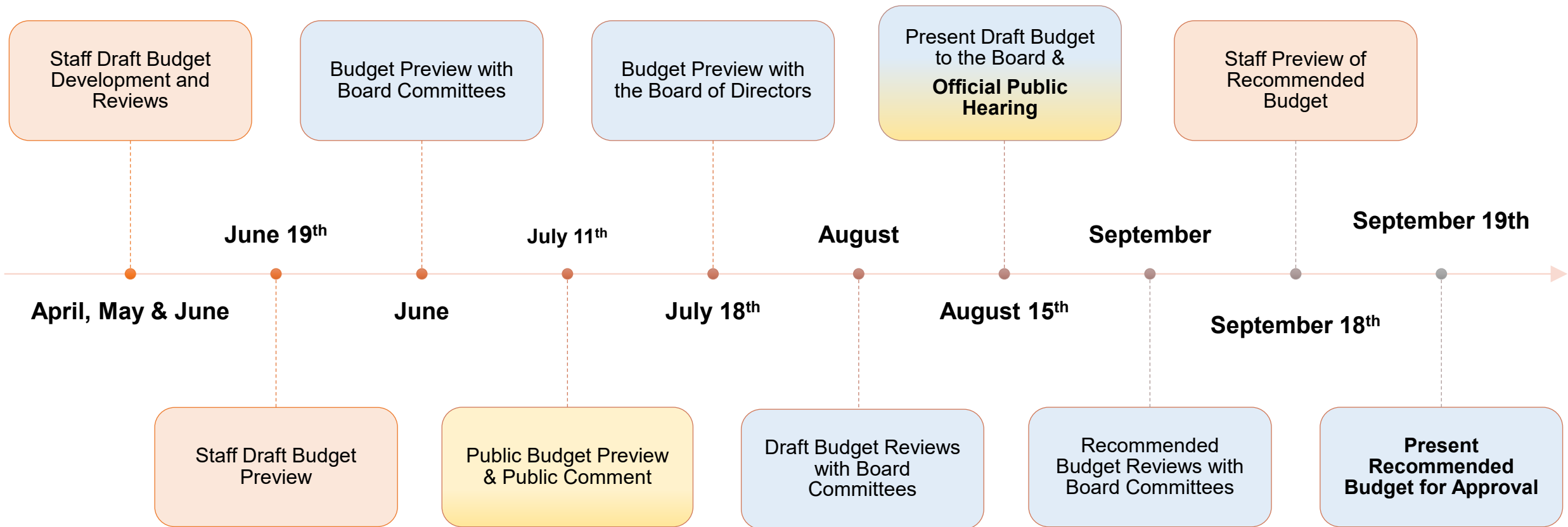
INFORMATION TYPE	
Other	
RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)	
Receive for information and discuss.	
PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS & POLICIES	
The Board adopted Policy Governance in 2017, creating a new approach for annual budgeting.	
ISSUE SUMMARY	
The CEO will briefly discuss how TheRide develops a Corporate Business Plan which drives the annual budget. TheRide’s approach may not be familiar to all Board members. Questions and discussion are encouraged.	
BACKGROUND	
<p>TheRide no longer uses our budget to <i>set</i> priorities, only <i>reflect</i> them. Strategic decisions happen earlier. When the Board adopted Policy Governance in 2017, it began setting expectations for the budget <i>as a group and in advance via written policy</i>. Staff are tasked with the most suitable expenditures to advance those goals. Board approval is more of a housekeeping exercise. This process may be different from others where board members debate priorities and set operational budget <i>during</i> the budgeting process.</p> <p>To aid in this process, every year the CEO presents a Business Plan that illustrates the strategic context and major expenditures that will advance the agency’s goals. This covers numerous years, but also highlights the expenses that will drive the forthcoming annual budget.</p> <p><u>This is an opportunity to share and discuss the goals of the annual budget, and concerns of individual board members, before the detailed budgeting process.</u></p>	 <pre> graph TD A[Board Goals] --> B[Business Plan] B --> C[Annual Budget] </pre>
IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgetary/Fiscal: Directly related to Board approval of annual budget. • Social: N/A • Environmental: N/A • Governance: Directly related to Board approval of annual budget. 	

FY2025 Budget Process Timeline

Board of Director's Meeting: May 16, 2024

INFORMATION TYPE:
Decision Preparation
RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):
Receive for information a timeline for the operating and capital budget process for FY2025.
ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):
Financial planning and budgeting is legally required, required by Board policy, and essential; there is no prudent alternative.
PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS & POLICIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Process: Policy 3.2.7 "...the Board has direct responsibility to create...approval of the annual budget developed and recommended by the CEO." • Executive Limitation: Policy 2.4 Financial Planning/Budgeting
ISSUE SUMMARY:
This issue brief presents a timeline for the FY 2025 budget process which will lead into the presentation of a budget for Board adoption in September.
BACKGROUND:
AAATA staff developed this preview FY2025 operating and capital budget that furthers Board Ends within Executive Limitations and provides multi-year context. The Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act of 1968 requires the Board to adopt a balanced operating budget by Board Resolution for our next fiscal year, which begins October 1. In addition, the Board needs to authorize a multi-year capital program for federal funding. A formal public hearing for the budget is required and will be held at the August Board meeting. Final approval will be sought in September.
IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgetary/Fiscal: Budget adoption is required by state law and Policies 2.4, 3.2.7. • Social/Environmental: Provision of public transportation authorized by the budget is necessary to ensure achievement of social and environmental ends per Board policy. • Governance: The Board is responsible to approve the annual budget (Policy 3.2.7)
ATTACHMENTS:
1. FY2025 Budget Timeline

FY2025 Budget *Draft* Timeline



FY2024 Q2 Financial Statement

Finance Committee Review Date: May 7, 2024

Board Meeting Review Date: May 16, 2024

INFORMATION TYPE:
Receive as CEO operational update
RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):
Receive as CEO operational update
PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS & POLICIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.10.1.5 CEO shall not...Let the Board be unaware of... incidental information (including) quarterly budget to actual financial reports. • Appendix A: Informational Reports schedule specifies quarterly Financial Statement reports in November, February, May, and August. • Policy 2.6 Investments and Appendix F Investment Policy.
ISSUE SUMMARY:
Staff presents the Second Quarter Financial Statement with currently available and reportable financial information for the period ending March 31, 2024.
BACKGROUND:
<p>Financial highlights from the second quarter year to date (October 2023 to March 2024) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TheRide operated within the budget for the second quarter of the year. • There was a \$7.0 million surplus of revenues over expenses year-to-date. However, by year-end we expect the surplus to be reduced as expansion services are implemented and operating expenses increase. • Expenses were \$4.2 million lower than budget primarily due to the timing of salaries, wages, and benefits. The budget is straight-lined, and expenses are expected to escalate in the second half of the year as additional staff are hired to support service increases. • Revenues were \$2.3 million higher than budget year-to-date driven due to favorable property tax revenues and interest income (reported in "Other Revenues"). Both are expected to continue to trend over budget throughout the year. • The current balances for the three board-approved reserves are as follows: operating reserve, \$12.9 million or 3.0 months (based on year-to-date expenses), capital reserve, \$33.2 million, and insurance reserve, \$0.5 million. • \$56.5 million in Federal pandemic relief revenue (CARES, ARP, CRRSAA) have been used to date to support operations. The remaining balance is \$2.25 million.

- Cash flow was adequate to cover expenses; Q2 2024 ended with \$50.5 million in cash and investments.
- Investments are stable. One agency bond matured during the quarter and the \$750k proceeds were used to purchase another agency bond at a higher interest rate (4.17% versus 0.23% of the prior bond). A U.S. Treasury Note with a 5.5% interest rate was called and the proceeds of \$1.8M were used to purchase a short-term U.S. Treasury Bill with a 4.86% interest rate. Interest rates for the CDARS program, agency bonds, and treasuries are evaluated quarterly to ensure cash is safe, there is adequate liquidity, and that cash returns the highest yield compatible with prudent investing (Board Policy 2.6).

IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- Budgetary/Fiscal: Demonstrates financial performance for the reporting period
- Governance: Supports Board in financial oversight/fiduciary responsibility

ATTACHMENTS:

FY2024 Q2 Financial Statement (Income Statement and Balance Sheet)



Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority

Q2 Financial Statement

Income Statement

For the Period Ended March 31, 2024

Revenue and Expense (Budget to Actual)

(\$ in thousands)

BLACK = FAVORABLE
RED = UNFAVORABLE

REVENUES	Actual Quarter 1	Actual Quarter 2	Actual Quarter 3	Actual Quarter 4	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD	Budget Variance	
							\$	%
Fares and Contracts	\$ 1,961	\$ 2,135	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,096	\$ 3,179	\$ 917	28.8%
Local Property Taxes	5,413	5,413	-	-	10,826	10,011	815	8.1%
State Operating Assistance	5,451	4,899	-	-	10,350	10,433	(83)	-0.8%
Federal Operating Assistance	688	868	-	-	1,556	3,443	(1,887)	-54.8%
Federal Pandemic Relief	2,300	2,250	-	-	4,550	3,393	1,157	34.1%
Other Revenues	883	744	-	-	1,627	220	1,407	100.0%
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 16,696	\$ 16,309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,005	\$ 30,679	\$ 2,326	7.6%
EXPENSES								
Salaries, Wages, Benefits	\$ 6,691	\$ 7,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,821	\$ 16,410	\$ 2,589	15.8%
Purchased Transportation	3,535	2,947	-	-	6,482	6,503	21	0.3%
Fuel, Material, Supplies	1,252	1,341	-	-	2,593	3,338	746	22.3%
Purchased Services	781	958	-	-	1,739	1,907	168	8.8%
Other Expenses	888	885	-	-	1,773	2,062	289	33.4%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 13,147	\$ 12,861	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,008	\$ 30,220	\$ 4,212	13.9%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 3,549	\$ 3,448	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,997	\$ 459	\$ 6,538	100.0%
Capital Reserve Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Operating Reserve Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
OPERATING BALANCE	\$ 3,549	\$ 3,448	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,997	\$ 459	\$ -	

<p> TheRide had a \$6,997,000 surplus at the end of the second quarter.</p> <p> Revenues were higher than budgeted by \$2,326,000 driven by timing of revenue from MRide contract and higher interest revenue. The organization drew more from the pandemic funds first and once that is exhausted, we will draw down federal operating funds. We maintained a conservative approach in our assumption regarding interest revenue.</p> <p> Expenses were \$4,212,000 lower than budgeted primarily due to unfilled staff positions and timing of benefits expenditures.</p>	<p>Federal Pandemic Relief Utilization</p> <p>Expenditures from \$58.7 million in Federal Pandemic Relief funding as of March 31, 2023, for eligible COVID-19-related costs:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Operating Expenditures</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 56,495,090</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Expenditures</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ -</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 56,495,090</td> </tr> </table> <p>Federal Pandemic Funds Remaining: \$ 2,249,897</p>	Operating Expenditures	\$ 56,495,090	Capital Expenditures	\$ -	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 56,495,090
Operating Expenditures	\$ 56,495,090						
Capital Expenditures	\$ -						
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 56,495,090						

YTD Revenue and Expense By Mode

(\$ in thousands)

	Fixed Route	Demand Response	Other Demand Response	Non-Urban	D2A2	VanRide	TOTAL
	<i>Fixed Route Bus</i>	<i>A-Ride</i>	<i>FlexRide, GoldRide, NightRide</i>	<i>WAVE, Peoples Express</i>	<i>Detroit Shuttle</i>	<i>VanRide, Ride Sharing</i>	
DIRECT REVENUE							
Fare Revenue	\$ 2,276	\$ 96	\$ 60	\$ 90	\$ 85	\$ -	\$ 2,607
Contract Revenues	813	-	-	676	-	-	1,489
Advertising, Interest, Other	1,627	-	-	-	-	-	1,627
Federal Operating	-	-	-	-	1,115	-	1,115
State Operating	8,189	1,095	360	576	-	130	10,350
Total Direct Revenue	\$ 12,905	\$ 1,191	\$ 420	\$ 1,342	\$ 1,200	\$ 130	\$ 17,188
TOTAL EXPENSE							
Salaries, Wages, Benefits	\$ 13,087	\$ 564	\$ 51	\$ 81	\$ -	\$ 38	\$ 13,821
Purchased Transportation	35	2,536	1,047	1,383	1,122	359	6,482
Fuel, Materials, Supplies	2,289	304	-	-	-	-	2,593
Contracted Services	1,651	62	-	26	-	-	1,739
Other Expenses	1,250	30	16	19	55	3	1,373
Total Operating Expense	\$ 18,312	\$ 3,496	\$ 1,114	\$ 1,509	\$ 1,177	\$ 400	\$ 26,008
Surplus (Deficit) from OPS	\$ (5,407)	\$ (2,305)	\$ (694)	\$ (167)	\$ 23	\$ (270)	\$ (8,820)
ALLOCATED REVENUE							
Local Property Taxes	\$ 7,854	\$ 2,046	\$ 617	\$ 95	\$ (23)	\$ 237	\$ 10,826
Federal Operating/Pandemic	4,550	259	77	72	-	33	4,991
SURPLUS (DEFICIT):	\$ 6,997	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,997

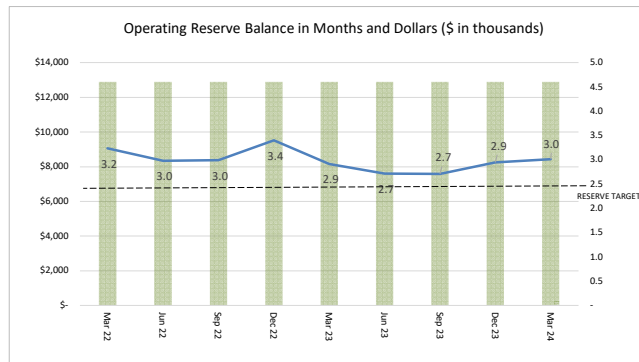
Balance Sheet

For the Period Ended March 31, 2024

Balance Sheet and Reserve

\$ in thousands, with Prior Year comparison.

	Q2 2023 3/31/2023	Q1 2024 12/31/2024	Q2 2024 3/31/2024
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 22,255	\$ 33,642	\$ 32,110
Investments	19,706	18,233	18,417
Other Current Assets	21,053	15,652	19,124
Capital Assets	43,756	39,688	38,355
Total Assets	106,770	107,215	108,006
LIABILITIES	7,346	4,348	3,561
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 99,424	\$ 102,867	\$ 104,445
RESERVES:	Balances		
Capital	\$ 29,773	\$ 33,184	\$ 33,184
Insurance	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500
Operating	\$ 12,905	\$ 12,905	\$ 12,905
Months in Operating Reserve	2.9	2.9	3.0



Statement of Cash Flows (\$ in thousands)

Historical Cash Flows	FY 2022				FY 2023				FY 2024	
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
Beginning Balance:	\$ 35,455	\$ 32,606	\$ 28,626	\$ 29,403	\$ 44,678	\$ 34,082	\$ 41,961	\$ 41,537	\$ 54,630	\$ 51,875
Cash from Operations	(5,079)	(3,775)	573	25,604	(5,186)	3,153	(205)	12,832	(3,045)	(2,402)
Cash from Capital	2,261	(90)	324	(3,163)	(5,510)	4,349	(166)	55	53	870
Cash from Investments	(31)	(115)	(120)	(7,166)	100	377	(53)	206	237	184
Cash Flow:	\$ (2,849)	\$ (3,980)	\$ 777	\$ 15,275	\$ (10,596)	\$ 7,879	\$ (424)	\$ 13,093	\$ (2,755)	\$ (1,348)
Ending Balance:	\$ 32,606	\$ 28,626	\$ 29,403	\$ 44,678	\$ 34,082	\$ 41,961	\$ 41,537	\$ 54,630	\$ 51,875	\$ 50,527

Q2 cash flow was negative at \$1.3 million

The Statement of Cash Flows summarizes the amount of cash and cash equivalents entering and leaving AAATA during the reporting period. It measures how AAATA generates cash to fund its operating, capital, and investing needs. Typically negative cash flow is normal for all quarters except the 4th quarter, when property tax receipts generate positive cash flow.

Investments Summary

(\$ in thousands)

Investment Instrument	Date of Maturity	Interest Rate	Total as of 12/31/2023		Total as of 03/31/2024	
			Amount	Transactions	Amount	Transactions
U.S. Agency Bond	1/19/2024	0.23%	\$ 750	\$ (750)	\$ -	
U.S. Agency Bond	4/8/2024	0.38%	1,000	-	1,000	
U.S. Treasury Notes	5/9/2024	4.86%	-	1,800	1,800	
U.S. Treasury Notes	6/30/2024	3.00%	2,000	-	2,000	
U.S. Agency Bond	9/15/2024	2.88%	2,500	-	2,500	
U.S. Agency Bond	9/23/2024	0.50%	2,000	-	2,000	
U.S. Agency Bond	2/24/2025	3.75%	200	-	200	
U.S. Agency Bond	3/28/2025	2.83%	2,500	-	2,500	
U.S. Agency Bond	3/28/2025	3.10%	2,000	-	2,000	
U.S. Agency Bond	6/27/2025	3.25%	2,000	-	2,000	
U.S. Agency Bond	8/8/2025	4.10%	1,400	-	1,400	
U.S. Treasury Notes	11/24/2025	5.50%	1,800	(1,800)	-	
U.S. Agency Bond	1/22/2026	4.17%	-	750	750	
Money Market Funds	N/A	5.23%	347	176	523	
Mark-to-Market Adjustment			(264)	8	(256)	
Total Investments:			\$ 18,233	\$ 184	\$ 18,417	

Q2 2024 Investment Gain (year to date): \$421,000

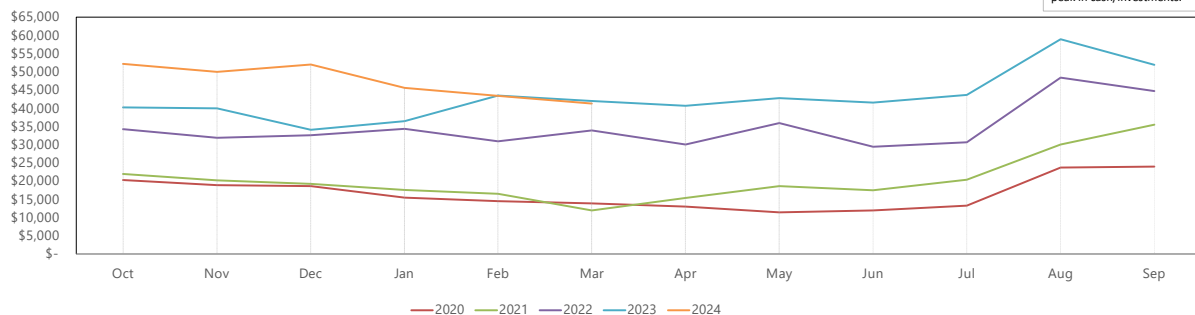
U.S. Treasury Bills, Notes, and Agency Bonds are short term bonds (several months to 10 years) backed by the Treasury Department of the U.S. Government. The rates shown for the current investments represent the gross yield-to-maturity rates (before the annual fee of .28%).

A FDIC-insured cash sweep account or accounts that have balances above the FDIC insurance threshold are used for day-to-day working capital.

Cash and Investments History

Total Cash and Investments by Month and Year (2020 to 2024 YTD)

(\$ in thousands)



Property tax revenues are posted in Q4 resulting in a peak in cash/investments.

CEO Report

Meeting: Board of Directors

Meeting Date: May 16, 2024

INFORMATION TYPE

Other

LONG-RANGE PLAN STATUS UPDATES

SPRING SERVICE & WASHTENAW EXPRESS UPDATE

TheRide's Spring service updates began on Sunday, May 5. Service adjustments include Spring/Summer schedules going into effect on Routes 4 and 62 due to school breaks, and timepoint adjustments to improve on-time performance on Route 4.

Final preparation for the **Washtenaw Express route** was completed, with the new service starting on Monday, May 6. The launch of the new express service was successful, and reaction from the community has been positive. Staff are working to make minor adjustments based on customer and operator feedback. Service will be monitored over the next several months, and changes will be made if needed when universities and schools return to classes in the fall. We expect ridership to grow over the first year as customers learn how the route can improve their travel.

2024 MILLEAGE SERVICES

Planning for the August service expansion has concluded, and development of communications materials and hiring of new operators is underway. Additional millage-related service enhancements will start on Sunday, August 25th. These will include 1) extended hours of weekday service on fixed-routes, 2) extended hours of weekend service on fixed-routes, 3) increased frequency of weekend service on fixed-routes, and 4) expanded and extended service for FlexRide Late Night and Holiday service. Staff are working to finalize details for these services and will provide additional updates in the coming months.

YPSILANTI TRANSIT CENTER PLANNING

The AAATA team, working with the City of Ypsilanti, developed three feasible concepts that can accommodate a larger transit center while also improving bus operations. The initial round of public engagement aims to educate the public and gather feedback. Public engagement began April 22 and runs through May 22. In-person, public events included an Open House on Thursday, April 25 at the YTC, a collaboration with First Fridays on Friday, May 3 at the YTC, a study session at the Historic District Commission on Tuesday, May 14, and a presentation at the AAATA Board Meeting on Thursday, May 16 at the Riverside Arts Center. We also held a stakeholder lunch on May 9, which included a broad range of Ypsilanti and transit community representatives. We encourage all to learn more and take our survey at the virtual open house at TheRideYTC.org.

We were notified by the FTA that they will process the Class of Action for the YTC project as a **Categorical Exclusion** with Section 106 consultation and documentation. This will help expedite the project.

BLAKE TRANSIT CENTER EXPANSION

TheRide continues to work with the Ann Arbor Housing Commission and City staff on the joint development of the old Y-Lot site adjacent to the BTC. Plans and agreements between the partners have not changed and the project is making steady if slow progress. The Housing Commission continues contract negotiations with the selected co-developer, with the goal of making more substantial progress on the project starting in May. A separate study led by the DDA to redesign 4th Avenue from Liberty St. to William St. is ongoing. TheRide will ensure that various stakeholders, including drivers, customers, and other staff, among others, have continuing opportunities to provide input.

ZERO EMISSIONS BUS PROPULSION

AAATA successfully submitted our grant application in late April and are now in a waiting period. AAATA staff submitted a \$4.3 million CDS (earmark) request to Sen. Gary Peters to assist with a fueling station, as well as a \$1.6 million request through Rep. Debbie Dingell to help fund one of the hydrogen buses as well as workforce development.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

At the state level, there has been substantial movement on the state budget. May 17th marks the May Consensus Revenue Estimate Conference, where actual budget estimate numbers are discussed. The budget will be passed at some point following that date.

Both the House and Senate versions of the budgets that were passed do see an increase in funding for the LBO, which is a positive sign, compared to the initial executive budget presentation from Governor Whitmer. AAATA continues to communicate with our elected officials about the importance of funding transportation.

STOPGAP BUS REPLACEMENT

TheRide is currently working on a mutual cancellation agreement with NovaBus, as reported last month, NovaBus is departing the US market. The remainder of the contract has been awarded to Gillig, a prominent manufacturer. Delivery of the new buses is set to take place in about 12 months. As per the 2019 authorization, the replacement buses will be conventional clean diesels (same as the Novas) and are not part of the ZEB or Low-No discussions.

LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LAC)

The April LAC meeting took place on April 23rd, where focus on deliverables, LAC self-determination, and membership was discussed.

ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL

CEO Matt CEO Matt Carpenter presented to the Ann Arbor City Council on Monday, April 15th, where he shared an update on the US-23 conversations with MDOT as well as the ZEB grant submission.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (ANN ARBOR)

The Commission met on April 17th. The Commission received information on routine City road matters and conducted routine business.

WATS POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The WATS Policy Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, April 17th. The Committee conducted routine business.

2024 INTERNATIONAL BUS ROADEO

MCO Kilo Coward participated in the 2024 International Bus Roadeo in Portland, OR, earlier this month. Kilo was accompanied by Deputy CEO George Brooks. Kilo won the 2023 Bus Roadeo for our area and was selected to represent AAATA in the international competition.

To the right is a photo from Kilo's competition run.



EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT/HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, May 15th marks "Bike to Wherever Day". AAATA encourages all staff to participate in this annual event. There will be a station set up at 2700, where snacks and water will be available for those who are participating.

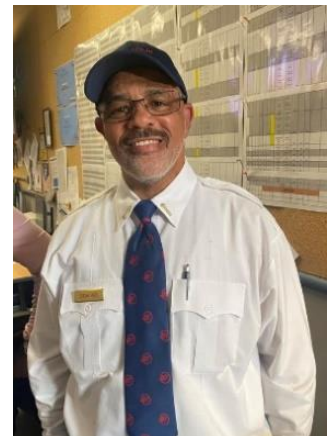


The 2024 Commuter Challenge is also underway. The competition runs from May 1-31st, with the goal to help community members to become more inclined to commute to work via walking, biking, carpooling, or taking the bus. Over 400 people have already signed up for the challenge. Prizes will be awarded at the end of the challenge to the winners.

MCO Dorian Crawford recently retired from AAATA, after 25 years of service. AAATA staff celebrated with a luncheon to honor Dorian's years of service to the organization.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

CEO Carpenter has spent more time helping address MPTA business recently due to two projects: the recruitment of a new Executive Director and ongoing discussions about merging with a second industry trade group.



NOTICE OF CONTRACT AWARDS (>\$250,000)

ROOF REPLACEMENT

Contract approval of budget item over \$250,000. As part of the HVAC and roof project that was approved in the FY2024 budget, the CEO executed a contract between AAATA and Progressive AE to provide architectural and engineering services in the estimated amount of \$282,500.