

Cape Ann Transportation Authority  
Board Meeting  
March 6, 2024  
9:30am

Attendance: Mayor Greg Verga, Mitchell Vieira, Gil Frieden, Joe Domelowicz, ADA Representative Jay Smiledge, Board Counsel Liz O'Connor, Intern Eddie Marques, Felicia Webb Administrator, Jackie LaFlam Administrative Assistant.

Called to order by Mayor Verga at 9:30am

Public comments, Walter Peckham commented he was glad to have Felicia back at CATA

**Approval of Minutes**

Mitch Vieira, Motion to approve April 25, 2023, June 6, 2023 and December 4, 2023 minutes  
Seconded by Gil Frieden  
All in favor

**FY23 Audit** will be discussed in next CATA Advisory Board Meeting.

**FY24 Revised Budget**

Revenues

Felicia explained the revised increase and decrease in revenue from the State Contract Assistance and the Try Transit Program. The decrease in federal funding is due to the increase in state funding. Also, the contract transportation budget decreases due to the operating company not providing services to MART and Day by Day.

Expenditures

Increased due to Fixed Route and On Demand increasing, operator wages increased due to dial a ride service, an increase in the payroll taxes and an adjustment in the parts and maintenance contract.

Mitch Vieira, Motion to approve the Revised FY24 Budget  
Seconded by Joe Domelowicz  
All in favor

**CATA Updates**

Felicia is pleased with the Fixed Route ridership and On Demand.

**Grants**

Felicia explained the Transit Innovation Grant, Cape Ann Works Program (J1 Student Transportation Project) and expanding On Demand

Community Transit Grant in support of the dialysis program. CATA was also awarded 6 replacement low floor vans for FY25

Taxi Grant awarded through MassDevelopment to support out of town medical transportation programs managed by Gloucester, Rockport, and Ipswich Councils on Aging. A portion will go to Action, Open Door and Wellspring, we're just waiting for the eligibility for these programs.

Try Transit Program, MassDot grants supports fare free or reduced fare initiatives among the RTA's. CATA would like to participate in FY/25. It does not include CATA on Demand, just fixed route, ADA and Dial a Ride. Once the funding is secured the Advisory Board should approve the change in fare. The board voted to approve the previous two Transit Transit/Fare Free months in 2022 and 2023.

Joe Domelowicz, I move that the CATA Advisory Board approve the temporary fare reductions implemented in support of the Try Transit Program on CATA's fixed route, ADA paratransit, and senior dial-a-ride services from November 25, 2022 to December 31, 2022 and from November 24, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

Gil Frieden, seconded

All in Favor

### **Open Position**

There is an open position for a Transit Program and Compliance Manager, which CATA plans on posting.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

September 5, 1974, The City of Gloucester City Council voted and CATA was established. We are going to plan an anniversary and have a 50<sup>th</sup> CATA logo done. We also will have a no fare day on September 5<sup>th</sup> as well as a press release about the history of CATA and all of its accomplishments.

Jay asked if there is a possibility for the Taxi Grant for MART to start bidding on PTI rides

Felicia said we do need to start working on that again.

Gil Frieden motioned to adjourn at 10:06am

Seconded by Joe Domeloowicz

All in Favor