



Connect Transit will livestream the Board of Trustees meetings when a YouTube link is provided on the agenda. Anyone who attends the meeting or addresses a public meeting during Public Comment time will be heard and may be seen on the livestream. Any audio and video captured will be in the recording.

If you are experiencing COVID symptoms, please do not attend the meeting.

AGENDA

Connect Transit Board of Trustees, Regular Session

June 24, 2025 – 4:30 p.m.

Connect Transit Board Room, 351 Wylie Drive, Normal, IL 61761

[YouTube Link for June 24, 2025](#)

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
 - a. Attendance by Other Means/Virtual – Roll Call Vote
- C. Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement
- D. Public Comments
- E. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Financial Information for May 2025
 - b. Monthly Statistical Reports for May 2025
 - c. Approval of Minutes for April 22, 2025 – Regular Session and Executive Session
 - d. Approval of Minutes for May 27, 2025 – Regular Session
 - e. Approval of Minutes for June 13, 2025 – Strategic Plan Workshop and Special Meeting
 - f. Cardinal Infrastructure; Federal Report
 - g. Cornerstone; Illinois Weekly Update
- F. New Business
 - a. FY24 Audit Results – Informational
 - b. Recommendation for State Lobbyist Contract Extension – Roll Call Vote
 - c. Recommendation for Federal Lobbyist Contract Extension – Roll Call Vote
 - d. Route Modification Discussion – Informational
 - e. Route Naming Discussion – Informational
- G. Committee Reports
- H. Chairman’s Report
- I. Managing Director’s Report
- J. Trustee Comments
- K. Executive Session
- L. Adjournment

Mission:

Connect Transit provides safe, reliable transportation and access to opportunity to strengthen and enrich individual lives, our community, the economy, and the environment.





May 2025

Financial Reports



351 Wylie Drive, Normal, IL 61761



309-828-9833



connect-transit.com

info@connect-transit.com



Connect Transit Cash Disbursement Report May 2025

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
1st Ayd Corporation	00060432	02-May-25	\$265.92	Cleaning Supplies
1st Ayd Corporation	00060501	16-May-25	\$210.17	Cleaning Supplies
A.T.U. - C.O.P.E.	00060433	02-May-25	\$261.26	Payroll Deduction
Abbey Placements LLC	00060502	16-May-25	\$3,000.00	Human resources
ABC Bus Companies	00060434	02-May-25	\$1,323.30	Bus Parts
ABC Bus Companies	00060503	16-May-25	\$913.35	Bus Parts
ABC Bus Companies	00060570	30-May-25	\$1,792.93	Bus Parts
Advance Auto Parts	00060435	02-May-25	\$411.58	Maintenance Supplies
Advance Auto Parts	00060504	16-May-25	\$263.06	Maintenance Supplies
Advance Auto Parts	00060571	30-May-25	\$1,103.30	Maintenance Supplies
Airgas USA, LLC	00060436	02-May-25	\$499.08	Welding Supplies
Airgas USA, LLC	00060572	30-May-25	\$402.43	Welding Supplies
All About Eyes	00060437	02-May-25	\$90.00	Safety Glasses
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 752	00060438	02-May-25	\$7,355.60	Payroll Deduction
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 752	00060505	16-May-25	\$150.00	Payroll Deduction
Amazon Capital Service	00060439	02-May-25	\$374.72	Bus Parts, Computer Equipment, Maintenance and Office Supply
Amazon Capital Service	00060506	16-May-25	\$437.76	Bus Parts, Computer Equipment, Maintenance and Office Supply
Amazon Capital Service	00060573	30-May-25	\$5,227.73	Bus Parts, Computer Equipment, Maintenance and Office Supply
Ancel Glink, P.C.	00060440	02-May-25	\$935.00	Legal Service
Bailey Summers	00060507	16-May-25	\$525.00	Tool Reimbursement
Best Buddies International, Inc.	00060508	16-May-25	\$2,500.00	Advertising- Promotions
Best One of Central IL	00060441	02-May-25	\$1,103.27	Outside Repair
Best One of Central IL	00060509	16-May-25	\$309.00	Outside Repair
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$470.54	Mechanics Uniforms
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$116.30	Support Vehicles
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$161.90	Building Maintenance
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$163.10	Tires New - FR
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$422.04	Bus Parts - FR
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$7.97	Office Supplies
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$4,011.15	Software Licensing
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$38.99	Dues & Subscriptions
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$5,861.95	Travel & Meetings
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$129.67	Employee Recognition
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$256.01	Public Notices
Bill.com	ACH	01-May-25	\$115.26	Safety/Training
Bill's Key and Lock	00060510	16-May-25	\$9.66	Locks & Keys
Blitt and Gaines, P.C.	00060442	02-May-25	\$380.38	Payroll Deduction
Blitt and Gaines, P.C.	00060511	16-May-25	\$380.38	Payroll Deduction
Blitt and Gaines, P.C.	00060574	30-May-25	\$380.38	Payroll Deduction
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois	00060566	21-May-25	\$169,558.50	Insurance
Blue Springs, Inc	00060512	16-May-25	\$225.00	Portable Restrooms
Bridgestone Americas	00060443	02-May-25	\$4,610.64	Tires
Bridgestone Americas	00060513	16-May-25	\$4,639.64	Tires
Cardinal Infrastructure, LLC	00060444	02-May-25	\$7,000.00	Consulting
Cardinal Infrastructure, LLC	00060514	16-May-25	\$7,000.00	Consulting
Carle	00060445	02-May-25	\$543.00	Empl Physicals & Drug Testing
CDM Smith Inc.	00060446	02-May-25	\$4,450.00	A & E Consultant
CDM Smith Inc.	00060575	30-May-25	\$2,500.00	A & E Consultant
Checkr, Inc.	00060515	16-May-25	\$408.45	New Hire Background Checks
ChemStation of Indiana	00060516	16-May-25	\$476.50	Garage Supplies
CIRBN, LLC	00060517	16-May-25	\$147.13	Internet
CIT Trucks, LLC - Normal	00060447	02-May-25	\$8,728.03	Bus Parts
CIT Trucks, LLC - Normal	00060518	16-May-25	\$5,541.74	Bus Parts
CIT Trucks, LLC - Normal	00060576	30-May-25	\$9,954.41	Bus Parts
City of Bloomington(Water)	00060448	02-May-25	\$1,136.31	Utilities
City of Bloomington(Water)	00060519	16-May-25	\$143.64	Utilities
City of Bloomington(Water)	00060569	23-May-25	\$1,275.00	Utilities



Connect Transit Cash Disbursement Report May 2025

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
Clark Baird Smith, LLP	00060520	16-May-25	\$6,156.25	Legal Service
Clean Exhaust Specialist	00060449	02-May-25	\$6,322.00	Bus Parts
Clean Exhaust Specialist	00060521	16-May-25	\$671.00	Bus Parts
Clean Exhaust Specialist	00060577	30-May-25	\$313.00	Bus Parts
Commerce Bank	ACH	12-May-25	\$321.11	Bank Fees
Commerce Bank	ACH	19-May-25	\$2,003.00	Bank Deposit Error Correction
Corn Belt Energy Corp.	00060450	02-May-25	\$4,210.34	Utilities
Corn Belt Energy Corp.	00060522	16-May-25	\$3,164.71	Utilities
Cornerstone Government Affairs	00060523	16-May-25	\$4,000.00	Consulting
Culligan Water Conditioning	00060451	02-May-25	\$207.00	Bottled Water Service
Culligan Water Conditioning	00060578	30-May-25	\$142.50	Bottled Water Service
Cummins Sales and Service	00060452	02-May-25	\$18,244.01	Bus Parts
Cummins Sales and Service	00060579	30-May-25	\$2,172.71	Bus Parts
Dearborn Life Insurance	00060524	16-May-25	\$23,090.30	Insurance
Dearborn Life Insurance	00060567	21-May-25	\$22,762.29	Insurance
DH Pace Company, Inc.	00060580	30-May-25	\$1,570.45	Door Repair
Diamond Manufacturing, Inc.	00060453	02-May-25	\$10,395.00	Farebox
Discount Tire	00060454	02-May-25	\$475.00	Tires
Discount Tire	00060525	16-May-25	\$237.50	Tires
Don Owen Tire Service, Inc.	00060455	02-May-25	\$83.95	Bus Parts
Don Owen Tire Service, Inc.	00060526	16-May-25	\$1,618.53	Bus Parts
Don Owen Tire Service, Inc.	00060581	30-May-25	\$153.59	Bus Parts
Eagle Automotive	00060456	02-May-25	\$168.43	Bus Parts
Eagle Automotive	00060527	16-May-25	\$81.54	Bus Parts
Eagle Automotive	00060582	30-May-25	\$845.31	Bus Parts
East Penn Manufacturing Co.	00060528	16-May-25	\$2,845.08	Bus Parts
Fast Signs Of Bloomington	00060457	02-May-25	\$1,073.60	Advertising- Promotions
Fast Signs Of Bloomington	00060583	30-May-25	\$1,070.06	Advertising- Promotions
Fastenal Company	00060529	16-May-25	\$81.60	Bus Parts
Fasteners Etc.	00060458	02-May-25	\$981.22	Maintenance Supplies
Fasteners Etc.	00060530	16-May-25	\$674.12	Maintenance Supplies
Fasteners Etc.	00060584	30-May-25	\$1,162.26	Maintenance Supplies
Galls, LLC	00060459	02-May-25	\$809.47	Admin & Operations Uniforms
Galls, LLC	00060531	16-May-25	\$1,652.30	Admin & Operations Uniforms
Galls, LLC	00060585	30-May-25	\$1,177.96	Admin & Operations Uniforms
Genfare, LLC	ACH	07-May-25	\$10.00	Bus Pass Refund
Genfare, LLC	ACH	14-May-25	\$41.25	Bus Pass Refund
Genfare, LLC	ACH	16-May-25	\$10.00	Bus Pass Refund
Genfare, LLC	00060586	30-May-25	\$3,696.58	Software and Hardware
Gerber Collision	00060460	02-May-25	\$5,160.10	Outside Repair
Getz Fire Equipment	00060532	16-May-25	\$1,524.80	Outside Repair
Getz Fire Equipment	00060587	30-May-25	\$1,583.45	Outside Repair
Gillig LLC	00060588	30-May-25	\$576.99	Bus Parts
GMV Synchronatics Corp.	00060589	30-May-25	\$78,880.00	Bus Parts
Grainger	00060533	16-May-25	\$672.03	Office Cabinets
Grosso's Garage	00060534	16-May-25	\$199.11	Bus Parts
Grosso's Garage	00060590	30-May-25	\$268.79	Outside Repair
Hanson Industrial, Inc.	00060535	16-May-25	\$1,543.08	Bus Washer & Garage Equipment Repair
Heritage Machine & Welding, Inc.	00060461	02-May-25	\$69.13	Bus Parts
Heritage Machine & Welding, Inc.	00060591	30-May-25	\$437.32	Bus Parts
HicksGas Bloomington LLC	00060462	02-May-25	\$2,071.01	LP Gas
HicksGas Bloomington LLC	00060536	16-May-25	\$959.05	LP Gas
HicksGas Bloomington LLC	00060592	30-May-25	\$559.49	LP Gas
Illinois Department of Employment	ACH	01-May-25	\$43,878.27	SUTA Payment
Illinois Department of Revenue	ACH	05-May-25	\$17,943.51	State Tax Payment
Illinois Department of Revenue	ACH	19-May-25	\$17,825.08	State Tax Payment
Illinois Dept of Revenue Wage Levy Unit	00060537	16-May-25	\$26.46	Payroll Deduction



Connect Transit Cash Disbursement Report May 2025

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
Illinois Disbursement	ACH	01-May-25	\$827.32	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Disbursement	ACH	15-May-25	\$827.32	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Disbursement	ACH	29-May-25	\$1,198.79	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Oil Marketing Equipment, Inc.	00060463	02-May-25	\$361.90	Fuel Station
JEFFREY MANCIL	00060464	02-May-25	\$183.73	Travel Reimbursement
Julie Holts	00060538	16-May-25	\$173.99	Uniform Reimbursement
Ken's Oil Service, Inc	00060465	02-May-25	\$46,510.78	Bus Parts, Fuel & Lubricants
Ken's Oil Service, Inc	00060539	16-May-25	\$45,456.27	Bus Parts, Fuel & Lubricants
Ken's Oil Service, Inc	00060593	30-May-25	\$39,238.29	Bus Parts, Fuel & Lubricants
Kirk's Automotive, Inc	00060466	02-May-25	\$1,319.00	Bus Parts
Kirk's Automotive, Inc	00060540	16-May-25	\$676.57	Bus Parts
Kirk's Automotive, Inc	00060594	30-May-25	\$2,317.00	Bus Parts
Lauterbach & Amen, LLP	00060467	02-May-25	\$8,200.00	Audit Services
Learfield Sub, LLC	00060541	16-May-25	\$9,750.00	Advertising
Linda Sutton	00060595	30-May-25	\$65.00	Physical Reimbursement
Luminator Technology Group, Inc.	00060468	02-May-25	\$3,159.00	Bus Parts
Mark Hodel	00060542	16-May-25	\$280.63	Uniform Reimbursement
Mark R. Peterson	00060596	30-May-25	\$525.00	Consulting
McLean County Regional Planning	00060469	02-May-25	\$20,000.00	Consulting Fees
Menards	00060470	02-May-25	\$1,154.01	Cleaning Supplies, Materials & Supplies, Shop Tools
Menards	00060543	16-May-25	\$138.15	Cleaning Supplies, Materials & Supplies, Shop Tools
Midwest Equipment II	00060471	02-May-25	\$45.18	Lawn Maintenance Equipment
Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc.	00060472	02-May-25	\$1,097.88	Bus Parts
Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc.	00060597	30-May-25	\$81.65	Bus Parts
Miller Janitor Supply	00060473	02-May-25	\$611.55	Maintenance Supplies
Miller Janitor Supply	00060544	16-May-25	\$461.85	Maintenance Supplies
Missionsquare	ACH	01-May-25	\$3,637.17	Retirement Payment
Missionsquare	ACH	01-May-25	\$32,400.00	Retirement Payment
Missionsquare	ACH	15-May-25	\$35,984.15	Retirement Payment
Missionsquare	ACH	29-May-25	\$37,650.95	Retirement Payment
Mohawk Mfg. & Supply Co.	00060545	16-May-25	\$177.72	Bus Parts
Morris Avenue Garage	00060474	02-May-25	\$400.00	Vehicle Inspection
Morris Avenue Garage	00060546	16-May-25	\$400.00	Vehicle Inspection
Morris Avenue Garage	00060598	30-May-25	\$40.00	Vehicle Inspection
Motion Industries, Inc.	00060547	16-May-25	\$88.70	Bus Parts
Motion Industries, Inc.	00060599	30-May-25	\$171.86	Bus Parts
Mounce Automotive, LLC	00060600	30-May-25	\$45.00	Vehicle Inspection
Mutual Wheel	00060475	02-May-25	\$796.80	Bus Parts
Napa Auto Parts	00060476	02-May-25	\$1,150.44	Bus Parts
Napa Auto Parts	00060548	16-May-25	\$256.62	Bus Parts
Napa Auto Parts	00060601	30-May-25	\$463.94	Bus Parts
Natsco Transit Solutions Inc	00060477	02-May-25	\$990.00	Bus Parts
Nicholas Ruybalid	00060478	02-May-25	\$54.46	Uniform Reimbursement
Nicor Gas	00060549	16-May-25	\$3,279.41	Utilities
Nord Construction, Inc.	00060550	16-May-25	\$12,508.00	Construction
Normal CornBelters Baseball, LLC	00060479	02-May-25	\$6,000.00	Advertising- Promotions
Oberlander Alarm Systems, Inc.	00060480	02-May-25	\$230.00	Security Alarm Service Fee
Oberlander Alarm Systems, Inc.	00060602	30-May-25	\$230.00	Security Alarm Service Fee
ODP Business Solutions, LLC	00060551	16-May-25	\$90.55	Office Supplies
O'Reilly Auto Parts	00060552	16-May-25	\$30.09	Bus Parts
Orkin Pest Control	00060481	02-May-25	\$8,259.84	Pest Control
Orkin Pest Control	00060553	16-May-25	\$3,144.96	Pest Control
OSF Medical Group - Occupational Health	00060603	30-May-25	\$930.00	Drug Testing
Payroll	ACH	01-May-25	\$297,520.90	
Payroll	ACH	13-May-25	\$308,875.84	
Payroll	ACH	29-May-25	\$295,587.57	
Piercy Auto Body	00060482	02-May-25	\$8,768.57	Outside Repair
Piercy Auto Body	00060604	30-May-25	\$433.86	Outside Repair
Pitney Bowes Global Finance Services LLC	00060483	02-May-25	\$289.14	Office Equipment



Connect Transit
Cash Disbursement Report
May 2025

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
Pitney Bowes Global Finance Services LLC	00060605	30-May-25	\$35.00	Office Equipment
Pro Air HVAC/Electrical	00060484	02-May-25	\$115.00	HVAC
Pro Air HVAC/Electrical	00060606	30-May-25	\$2,620.00	HVAC
Purchase Power	00060485	02-May-25	\$300.00	Postage
Rashaad Tyler	00060486	02-May-25	\$31.71	Uniform Reimbursement
Republic Services # 368	00060487	02-May-25	\$990.95	Garbage Disposal
Republic Services # 368	00060622	30-May-25	\$975.40	Garbage Disposal
Roanoke Motor Co. Inc.	00060607	30-May-25	\$489.00	Bus Parts
Rosco Collision Avoidance, Inc.	00060608	30-May-25	\$8,430.80	Bus Parts
Safelite Auto Glass	00060609	30-May-25	\$274.54	Outside Repair
Safetylane Automotive Equipment	00060488	02-May-25	\$2,161.00	Garage Equipment Supplies
Sam Leman Ford	00060554	16-May-25	\$486.07	Outside Repair
Sam Leman Ford	00060610	30-May-25	\$11.01	Outside Repair
Sanco Thermo King	00060611	30-May-25	\$66.49	Bus Parts
Siemens Industry, Inc.	00060489	02-May-25	\$10,000.00	Consulting
Southtown Wrecker Service	00060490	02-May-25	\$277.50	Towing
Southtown Wrecker Service	00060555	16-May-25	\$792.50	Towing
Southtown Wrecker Service	00060612	30-May-25	\$740.00	Towing
Stratus Networks	00060556	16-May-25	\$3,331.85	Internet
Supreme Radio Communications, Inc	00060491	02-May-25	\$16,040.36	Telecommunications
Team Torque	00060492	02-May-25	\$120.00	Garage Equipment Repair
TeVot Auto Repair	00060613	30-May-25	\$47.00	Bus Parts
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00060494	02-May-25	\$6,994.77	Bus Parts
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00060557	16-May-25	\$2,089.95	Bus Parts
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00060614	30-May-25	\$7,438.93	Bus Parts
Town of Normal-Utility Billing	00060495	02-May-25	\$436.30	Utilites
Town of Normal-Utility Billing	00060558	16-May-25	\$236.39	Utilites
Town of Normal-Utility Billing	00060615	30-May-25	\$685.22	Utilites
Transit Resource Center	00060616	30-May-25	\$695.00	Consulting Fees
Trott Communications Group, Inc.	00060559	16-May-25	\$1,113.75	Consulting Fees
TX Child Support SDU	00060496	02-May-25	\$643.59	Payroll Deduction
TX Child Support SDU	00060560	16-May-25	\$643.59	Payroll Deduction
TX Child Support SDU	00060617	30-May-25	\$643.59	Payroll Deduction
Uline	00060497	02-May-25	\$346.80	Office Supplies
Uline	00060618	30-May-25	\$429.33	Office Supplies
United States Treasury	ACH	02-May-25	\$98,489.24	Federal Tax Payment
United States Treasury	ACH	16-May-25	\$97,910.90	Federal Tax Payment
United States Treasury	ACH	29-May-25	\$93,342.64	Federal Tax Payment
UPS United Parcel Service Inc	00060498	02-May-25	\$25.32	Shipping
UPS United Parcel Service Inc	00060561	16-May-25	\$25.00	Shipping
UPS United Parcel Service Inc	00060619	30-May-25	\$10.89	Shipping
Verizon Wireless	00060562	16-May-25	\$10,852.88	Mobile Data Terminals for SS
Vestis Services, LLC (fka Aramark)	00060499	02-May-25	\$965.01	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Vestis Services, LLC (fka Aramark)	00060563	16-May-25	\$709.65	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Vestis Services, LLC (fka Aramark)	00060620	30-May-25	\$626.91	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Via Mobility, LLC	00060564	16-May-25	\$2,520.00	Consulting
VSP of Illinois, NFP	00060500	02-May-25	\$1,295.20	Vision Insurance
VSP of Illinois, NFP	00060568	21-May-25	\$1,289.19	Vision Insurance
Wherry Machine and Welding, Inc	00060565	16-May-25	\$16.38	Outside Repair
Wherry Machine and Welding, Inc	00060621	30-May-25	\$22.00	Outside Repair
Total:			\$2,193,952.82	

Bloomington Normal Public Transit Balance Sheet

Division: 99 Board Reports

As of: 5/31/2025

Fiscal Year: 2025 Period: 11 May-2025

Assets

Current Assets

Checking and Savings	\$6,034,041.10
Accounts Receivable	\$4,632,897.77
Inventory Asset - Fuel	\$90,483.12
Inventory Asset - Parts	\$484,406.64
Inventory Asset - Tires	\$0.00
Other Current Assets	\$308,647.99

Total Current Assets \$11,550,476.62

Fixed Assets \$29,759,089.35

Total Assets \$41,309,565.97

Liabilites & Equity

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$62,618.26
Payroll Liabilities	\$1,313,154.55
Contracts	\$0.00
Due to Illinois Funds Account	\$0.00
Deferred Revenue	\$1,215,211.57
Deficit Funding Advance	\$0.00

Total Liabilities \$2,590,984.38

EQUITY

Fixed Asset Equity	\$12,539,853.77
Unreserved Fund Equity	\$6,750,412.62
Underground Petroleum Storage	\$20,000.00

Total Equity \$19,310,266.39

Retained Earnings \$19,408,315.20

Total Liabilities & Equity \$41,309,565.97

Bloomington Normal Public Transit

Income Statement With Approved Budget

From Fiscal Year: 2025 Thru Fiscal Year: 2025	From Period 11 Thru Period 11	Division: 98 Operating Profit/Loss		As of: 5/31/2025		
		May-2025	Jul-2024 May-2025	Approved Budget		
Operating Revenue						
Passenger Fares		\$41,906.81	7.72%	\$490,913.41	90.49%	\$542,500.00
ISU Contract Fare		\$48,670.68	8.33%	\$535,377.48	91.67%	\$584,048.00
Other Contract Fares		\$25,339.53	12.67%	\$217,238.08	108.62%	\$200,000.00
Advertising Revenue		\$11,466.67	9.78%	\$122,208.38	104.18%	\$117,300.00
Miscellaneous Revenue		\$13,028.41	137.14%	\$197,782.68	2081.92%	\$9,500.00
Total Operating Revenue		\$140,412.10	9.66%	\$1,563,520.03	107.58%	\$1,453,348.00
Operating Expenses						
Operators Wages		\$799,605.04	9.37%	\$7,526,707.46	88.24%	\$8,529,928.00
Maintenance Wages		\$153,323.29	9.90%	\$1,439,106.22	92.91%	\$1,549,005.00
Administration Wages		\$124,664.48	9.15%	\$1,136,741.97	83.41%	\$1,362,807.00
Employer Payroll Tax Expense		\$83,796.64	9.10%	\$818,177.90	88.90%	\$920,380.00
Retirement Plan		\$42,663.83	7.24%	\$396,603.71	67.33%	\$589,087.00
Group Insurance		\$164,133.16	6.88%	\$1,945,372.45	81.51%	\$2,386,762.00
Uniform Expense		\$4,279.91	7.96%	\$37,225.90	69.23%	\$53,775.00
Professional Services		\$41,865.98	12.22%	\$459,328.28	134.11%	\$342,500.00
Outside Repair-Labor		\$7,172.35	5.57%	\$217,647.27	169.05%	\$128,750.00
Contract Maintenance Services		\$12,838.01	5.45%	\$182,757.25	77.64%	\$235,376.00
Custodial Services		\$1,205.40	5.92%	\$24,858.88	122.10%	\$20,360.00
Employee Recruiting/Testing/Temp Help		\$2,073.50	4.61%	\$13,021.50	28.94%	\$45,000.00
Fuel		\$75,079.96	5.05%	\$917,841.63	61.76%	\$1,486,212.00
Lubricants		\$15,778.30	18.07%	\$94,681.79	108.44%	\$87,316.00
Tires		\$4,560.73	7.63%	\$49,945.88	83.55%	\$59,781.00
Bus Repair Parts		\$143,082.49	27.83%	\$729,249.49	141.85%	\$514,093.00
Other Materials & Supplies		\$6,450.82	8.25%	\$82,305.60	105.25%	\$78,200.00
Shelters/Signs/Shop Tools		\$246.22	1.23%	\$15,734.49	78.67%	\$20,000.00
Computer and Office Supplies		\$22,830.20	5.01%	\$309,292.50	67.91%	\$455,419.00
Utilities		\$11,477.37	8.87%	\$160,282.04	123.87%	\$129,400.00
Corporate Insurance		\$52,620.82	8.35%	\$588,430.62	93.39%	\$630,100.00
Dues/Subscriptions/Fees		\$445.00	0.90%	\$23,726.94	47.79%	\$49,650.00
Printing/Marketing/Training		\$30,458.63	8.01%	\$293,621.99	77.18%	\$380,425.00
Total Operating Expenses		\$1,800,652.13	8.98%	\$17,462,661.76	87.08%	\$20,054,326.00
Operating Assistance						
Operating Deficit Before Subsidies and Grants		(\$1,660,240.03)	8.93%	(\$15,899,141.73)	85.47%	(\$18,600,978.00)
City of Bloomington Operating Assistance		\$75,833.33	8.33%	\$834,166.63	91.67%	\$910,000.00
Town of Normal Operating Assistance		\$49,166.66	8.33%	\$540,833.26	91.67%	\$590,000.00
Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance		\$1,159,243.00	8.89%	\$11,229,945.62	86.15%	\$13,035,312.00
FTA 5307 Operating Assistance		\$356,304.00	8.76%	\$3,094,879.41	76.12%	\$4,065,666.00
Total Operating Assistance		\$1,640,546.99	8.82%	\$15,699,824.92	84.40%	\$18,600,978.00



May 2025	Current Month	Month in Prior Year	Percent Change	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date	% Change YTD
System Statistics:						
System Ridership	156,622	160,920	-2.67%	2,098,745	2,170,459	-3.30%
Fixed Ridership	142,470	146,718	-2.90%	1,941,635	2,016,190	-3.70%
Mobility Ridership	9,438	9,141	3.25%	104,683	105,020	-0.32%
FLEX Ridership	4,714	5,061	-6.86%	52,427	49,249	6.45%
System Service Hours	13,943	13,344	4.49%	155,215	160,931	-3.55%
Fixed Service Hours	8,700	8,329	4.45%	98,996	105,502	-6.17%
Mobility Service Hours	4,217	3,965	6.36%	44,874	44,568	0.69%
FLEX Service Hours	1,026	1,050	-2.29%	11,345	10,861	4.45%
System Service Miles	170,585	163,427	4.38%	1,906,833	1,916,365	-0.50%
Fixed Service Miles	105,473	101,309	4.11%	1,200,287	1,241,886	-3.35%
Mobility Service Miles	50,800	48,925	3.83%	554,049	552,094	0.35%
FLEX Service Miles	14,312	13,193	8.48%	152,497	122,385	24.60%
System Revenue Vehicles	53	63	-15.87%	64	67	-4.48%
Fixed Revenue Vehicles	28	36	-22.22%	38	40	-5.00%
Mobility Revenue Vehicles	21	22	-4.55%	21	22	-4.55%
FLEX Revenue Vehicles	4	5	-20.00%	5	5	0.00%
System Miles/Revenue Vehicle	3,219	2,594	24.07%	29,794	28,602	4.17%
Fixed Miles/Revenue Vehicle	3,767	2,814	33.86%	31,587	31,047	1.74%
Mobility Miles/Revenue Vehicle	2,419	2,224	8.78%	26,383	25,095	5.13%
FLEX Miles/Revenue Vehicle	3,578	2,639	35.60%	30,499	24,477	24.60%
System Efficiencies:						
System Ridership/Service Hour	11.23	12.06	-6.85%	13.52	13.49	0.26%
Fixed Ridership/Revenue Hour	16.38	17.62	-7.04%	19.61	19.11	2.63%
Mobility Ridership/Revenue Hour	2.24	2.31	-2.92%	2.33	2.36	-1.00%
FLEX Ridership/Revenue Hour	4.59	4.82	-4.68%	4.62	4.53	1.92%
System Percent On-Time Trips	93.67%	95.08%	-1.49%	90.49%	92.21%	-1.87%
Fixed Percent On-Time Trips	94%	95%	-1.05%	90%	92%	-1.75%
Mobility Percent On-Time Trips	97%	97%	0.00%	96%	97%	-1.03%
FLEX Percent On-Time Trips	77%	94%	-18.09%	79%	86%	-8.15%
System Subsidy/Passenger	\$11.32	\$9.69	16.89%	\$7.82	\$7.01	11.57%
Fixed Subsidy/Passenger	\$7.87	\$7.83	0.51%	\$5.42	\$5.68	-4.59%
Mobility Subsidy/Passenger	\$57.68	\$37.06	55.66%	\$45.79	\$29.24	56.61%
FLEX Subsidy/Passenger	\$22.94	\$14.16	62.01%	\$21.05	\$14.17	48.57%
Operator Pay Hours/Service Hour	1.36	1.41	-3.84%	1.32	1.30	1.56%
Vehicle Maintenance Expense/Mile	\$2.02	\$1.32	52.80%	\$1.34	\$1.11	21.12%



600 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 250, Washington, DC 20001

Federal Update for Connect Transit
Prepared June 18th, 2025

Reconciliation Update

House Republicans passed their reconciliation bill on May 22nd in a 215-214 vote. The bill has now reached the Senate, where Republicans will tweak it both to suit their own goals and to ensure the bill receives the Senate Parliamentarian's blessing. Reconciliation bills must follow the Senate's Byrd Rule, which bars policy unrelated to revenues or spending. The Senate Parliamentarian is charged with determining whether a measure violates the Byrd Rule, and staying within her bounds is key for Republicans who would otherwise need to flip at least seven Senate Democrats to avoid a filibuster. The House passed a series of changes to address items flagged by the Senate Parliamentarian last week. However, the Parliamentarian is expected to flag more items in the future, necessitating more changes.

So far, four Senate Committees have released their segments of the bill: Senate Environment & Public Works (EPW), Senate Commerce & Transportation, Senate Finance, and Senate Energy & Natural Resources. Senate EPW's proposal excludes the EV fees included in the House's bill, which were intended to increase revenues for the Highway Trust Fund. However, it does include the House bill's opt-in fee approach for expedited NEPA reviews. This would allow project sponsors to speed up NEPA timelines by paying a fee. The fee would also let projects avoid judicial review, which would reduce the risk of NEPA lawsuits. The Senate Finance Committee's bill revises portions of the House's phaseout of Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) tax credits, but the credits that benefit transit agencies were not included. Senate Banking (which has jurisdiction over public transportation) has not yet released its portion of the bill.

If the Senate Finance Committee's changes to IRA credits are preserved in the final Senate bill, Congress's chambers will need to reach an agreement over their eventual fate. The Senate and House will also need to find a compromise on the State and Local Tax deduction (SALT). There is a large contingent of blue-state Republicans in the House who were able to extract major concessions on this policy in the House bill, but there are no Republicans advocating for the SALT deduction in the Senate. Like the IRA credits, major changes to this portion of the House bill will make Speaker Johnson's life difficult as the House and Senate work to find a version of this legislation that they can both pass.

Appropriations Update

The House Appropriations Subcommittees are slowly releasing their FY 2026 bills. So far, the Agriculture, Defense, Homeland Security, and Veterans Affairs Subcommittees have marked up their legislation. Notably, the Homeland Security Subcommittee's bill included an \$800,000 increase in funding for FEMA's Transit Security Grant Program. This stands in stark contrast to the President's Budget Request, which suggested cutting more than half of the program's funding. The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee is scheduled to markup its bill on Monday, July 14th.



Appropriations Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK-4) has said that he plans to release topline totals for all FY 26 spending bills in the next few weeks. He also intends to move all 12 appropriations bills through committee before the August recess, which would allow Speaker Johnson to pass parts of the FY 2026 appropriations package this summer.

Supreme Court Rules to Limit the Scope of NEPA Reviews

In its *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition v. Eagle County, CO* ruling, the Supreme Court ruled that reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act do not need to consider upstream or downstream impacts on other infrastructure. The case revolved around whether the environmental review process required consideration of how a proposed railway line could impact oil drilling and refining; the judges ruled that this did not need to be considered. However, effects originating from the infrastructure that are separated by distance or time - such as runoff causing environmental harms in a lake many miles from a project - still fall under the purview of NEPA reviews.

Administration Asks Judge to End Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

The Trump Administration has asked a federal judge to declare DOT's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program unconstitutional. They argue that it uses "race- and sex-based presumptions of social and economic disadvantage," and that these presumptions violate the fifth amendment. The settlement must be approved by a judge to go into effect.

DOT Releases More Projects From Review

The Department of Transportation has released \$2.9 billion in previously awarded grants. The Department is now just over one-third of the way through the 3,200 projects it is reviewing.

Council on Environmental Quality Launches New Online Tools

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has launched three new initiatives for improving the environmental review process. Their [Categorical Exclusion \(CE\) Explorer](#) is a searchable platform that explains how agencies apply CEs across project types. The [Permitting Technology and Innovation Action Plan](#) lays out how CEQ and federal agencies will implement measures to improve interagency collaboration via data and technology utilization. Finally, the [Data and Technology Standard Resource](#) aims to establish a government-wide data and technology standard, making data exchange between systems easier.



TO: Connect Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Cornerstone Government Affairs – Illinois Team
SUBJECT: Legislative Update
DATE: June 24, 2025

Summary

This month, our team successfully secured the reappropriation of \$3 million for Connect in this year’s budget. We will continue to pursue the release of this funding as well. We provided frequent updates, including a House and Senate comparison, on the public transit reform packages that came together at the end of session. While neither version passed, we are continuing to monitor for discussions to continue over the summer and into the fall veto session.

Additionally, our team had multiple continued discussions with House and Senate members, as well as involved stakeholders, regarding a legislative amendment that would allow eMirrors to be used by public transit vehicles. While this language was not able to pass this spring, we are working to identify a path forward for this language this fall.

Finally, we also shared intel from our federal team regarding the Administration’s current activity around transit funding. Moving forward, we are continuing to monitor public transit reform discussions and other actions outside of session which may impact your work.

Bill Tracking

Below are bills of interest in your filed that passed this session and will now be sent to the Governor for final consideration.

HB 1616

Short Description: ORGAN DONOR LEAVE-PART-TIME

House Sponsors

Rep. Nabeela Syed, Camille Y. Lilly, Katie Stuart, Elizabeth "Lisa" Hernandez, Joyce Mason, Harry Benton, Jaime M. Andrade, Jr., Barbara Hernandez, Emanuel "Chris" Welch-Jay Hoffman, Nicolle Grasse, Tracy Katz Muhl, Maura Hirschauer, Kevin John Olickal, Bob Morgan, Hoan Huynh, Abdelnasser Rashid, Anna Moeller and Janet Yang Rohr

Senate Sponsors

(Sen. Christopher Belt-Mattie Hunter-Lakesia Collins, Paul Faraci, Emil Jones, III, Adriane Johnson,

Mike Simmons-Michael E. Hastings-Patrick J. Joyce, Karina Villa, Doris Turner and Mary Edly-Allen)

Synopsis As Introduced

Amends the Employee Blood and Organ Donation Leave Act. Provides that a participating employee or part-time employee (rather than an employee) may use up to 10 days of leave in any 12-month period to serve as an organ donor. Provides that, for a part-time employee using leave to serve as an organ donor, the employer shall calculate the daily average pay the part-time employee received during his or her previous 2 months of employment and compensate the part-time employee in the amount of the daily average pay for the leave days used.

Last Action

Date	Chamber	Action
5/29/2025	House	Passed Both Houses

HB 2978

Short Description: NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE LEAVE

House Sponsors

Rep. Laura Faver Dias-Nicole La Ha-Kimberly Du Buclet-Mary Beth Canty, Barbara Hernandez, Maura Hirschauer, Dagmara Avelar, Maurice A. West, II, Elizabeth "Lisa" Hernandez, Will Guzzardi, Edgar González, Jr., Kelly M. Cassidy, Nicolle Grasse, Nabeela Syed, Abdelnasser Rashid, Justin Slaughter, Kevin John Olickal, Sonya M. Harper, Martha Deuter, Diane Blair-Sherlock, Jennifer Sanalidro, Anna Moeller, Sue Scherer, Camille Y. Lilly and Hoan Huynh

Senate Sponsors

(Sen. Bill Cunningham, Julie A. Morrison and Meg Loughran Cappel)

Synopsis As Introduced

Creates the Family Neonatal Intensive Care Leave Act. Provides that an employee of an employer with 16 or more employees and no more than 50 employees shall be entitled to use a maximum of 10 days of unpaid neonatal intensive care leave while any child of the employee is a patient in a neonatal intensive care unit. Provides that an employee of an employer with 51 or more employees shall be entitled to use 20 days of unpaid neonatal intensive care leave while a child of the employee is a patient in a neonatal intensive care unit. Provides that, upon the conclusion of leave taken under the Act, an employee shall be reinstated to his or her former position or a substantially equivalent one with no loss of benefits held or accrued prior to taking leave. Sets forth provisions concerning unlawful employer practices; Department of Labor responsibilities; and enforcement. Amends the State Finance Act to create the Neonatal Intensive Care Leave Fund.

Last Action

Date	Chamber	Action
6/1/2025	House	Passed Both Houses

General Legislative Updates

104th ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The Illinois General Assembly remains on summer break. Both chambers will reconvene October 14 through 16 and October 28 through 30 for Veto Session.

Revenue: At the end of session, the legislature passed [HB 2755](#) (Tarver/Villanueva) to address new revenues to support the FY 26 spending plan. According to the Senate sponsor, the bill has some 44 different proposals, including \$880 million in new revenue, technical changes, DCEO business development tax credits, and “clean-up” language. Highlights from the bill:

- **Tax Amnesty:** Creates a tax amnesty program from October 1, 2025, through November 15, 2025 (\$228 million GRF)
- **Motor Fuel Tax Transfer:** Delays the final payment from sales tax on motor fuel to the Road Fund (\$171 million)
- **Sports Betting Tax Increases:** Increases the Sports wagering tax as follows: \$0.25 per wager for the first 20 million annual combined Tier 1 and Tier 2 wagers; \$0.50 per wager for each wager over 20 million annual combined Tier 1 and Tier 2 wagers. All of the collected money will go into the Sports Wagering Fund for transfer to the General Revenue Fund. (\$36 million)
- **Hotel Tax:** Removes the hotel exemption for short-term rental hosting platforms. They will have to pay and collect the same taxes as hotels currently pay. (\$5 million GRF/\$5 OSF)
- **Tobacco Tax Act Harmonization:** Raises the tax on tobacco products from 36% to 45% of the wholesale price – including vapes and moist snuff – taxing all tobacco-related products at the same rate. Revenues will be allocated as follows: \$5 million to the Tobacco Settlement Recovery Fund, with half of the remaining money split between two Medicaid funds.
- **Telecommunications Tax:** Creates a new 9-8-8 Trust Fund to help support a statewide suicide prevention and mental health crisis line run by the Department of Human Services. Increases the telecommunications tax from 7% to 8.65%. (\$49 million)
- **Corporate Tax Changes:** Switches from the Joyce Rule to the Finnigan Rule to enable the state to collect more corporate tax income. More [here](#). (\$72 million)
- **Leveling The Playing Field:** Makes several changes, including:
 - Businesses outside of Illinois selling \$100,000+ worth of physical goods to Illinois residents must collect Illinois sales tax, even without an in-state presence. Online platforms (like Amazon or Etsy) meeting this threshold are considered sellers responsible for collecting and remitting sales tax.
 - Expands the Illinois Retail Act to include servicemen under occupation and use taxes, creating equal tax treatment.
 - Eliminates the “200 transaction threshold” for economic nexus, aligning with other states for more efficient enforcement.
 - Enacts a 15% tax rate when insufficient sales records are provided, encouraging proper documentation.
 - Allows service providers to file returns for retailers and service men maintaining business in Illinois.

Economic Development Package: The House approved an economic development package contained in [SB 2008](#) (Cervantes/Hoffman). As amended, the legislation creates the Statewide Innovation Development and Economy Act, setting up a framework for promoting economic growth through STAR bonds (which finance major tourism and retail projects across Illinois). The legislation allows municipalities to issue these bonds, with final approval from the Governor's Office and DCEO. Only one STAR bond project may be approved in each of the state's 10 Economic Development Regions, and funding is capped at 50% of development costs up to \$75 million in state sales tax increment. SB 2008 also creates the Advancing Innovative Manufacturing Tax Credit program for manufacturers of critically demanded goods and enhances various economic incentives, including increased SBIR/STTR matching grants (up to \$75,000 for Phase I and \$250,000 for Phase II). Also included: modifying the apprenticeship education expense credit; authorizing new Enterprise Zones; establishing withholding requirements for film production compensation through loan-out companies; and extending the Film Production Services Tax Credit through January 1, 2039. Passed the House 102-10 and is now pending in the Senate on concurrence.

Transit Reforms: In the final hours of the Spring Session, the Illinois Senate voted 32-22 to approve [HB 3438](#) (Andrade/Villivalam), which represents transit reforms and addresses the impending \$750 million fiscal cliff. The bill replaces the RTA with a new body known as the Northern Illinois Transit Authority, overseeing bus and rail service in Chicago, Cook County, and the collar counties. It establishes reforms addressing transit planning, safety, environmental protection, and governance. Key provisions include creating safety oversight bodies, promoting zero-emission buses, and establishing transit-supportive development guidelines. The bill also limits local parking requirements near transit hubs, creates coordination committees, and makes various conforming changes to multiple Acts to support an integrated regional transportation system.

HB 3438 also includes \$1.5 billion in revenues, \$50 million in fare increases, and \$113 million in “efficiencies”. Also, the measure implements new funding mechanisms through electric vehicle charging and retail delivery fees. Specifically, the bill creates the Electric Vehicle Charging Fee Act, which imposes a fee (beginning on January 1, 2026) on the privilege of engaging in business as an electric vehicle power provider in Illinois. Creates the Retail Delivery Climate Impact Fee Act, which establishes a climate impact fee, on and after January 1, 2026, of \$1.50 on certain retail deliveries statewide. The measure was not considered in the House prior to adjournment.

Pension Omnibus: [HB 3193](#) (Kifowit/Martwick) represents the 2025 pension omnibus. As amended, the bill includes initiatives from ten members of the General Assembly, clean-up language from six retirement systems, and incorporates requests from at least seven labor organizations. As amended, it combines provisions from over a dozen separate bills and additional stakeholder proposals. It includes targeted reforms for specific pension funds, such as CPF, TRS, IMRF, and SERS, addressing issues like service credit calculations, disability definitions, benefit timing, and technical clarifications. The bill aims to address equity concerns, provide cost relief to institutions like Eastern Illinois University, and

expand member options for service credit transfers in union-related productions. It also introduces administrative improvements, such as modernizing election procedures and extending payment timelines for employer contributions triggered by salary spikes. Most provisions in the bill are expected to result in minimal costs or no costs. Specific provisions include:

- Altering the calculation used by retired teachers returning to work beyond their allotted days; they will have benefits reduced on a prorated basis rather than canceled. The Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund requested this adjustment.
- Reshaping how service credit is calculated for the Chicago Teacher Pension Fund. Currently, 40 hours worked in five days gets 5 days of credit, but 40 hours in three days gets only 3 days. The new method ensures equal credit for equal work.
- Adding breast cancer to occupational disease disabilities for Chicago firefighters, reflecting rising incidences due to toxic fires.
- For the Chicago Municipal Pension Fund – allowing the board to reproduce records digitally under the local record acts.
- Clarifying – for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago – that salary for disability benefits means the salary on which the benefit is based. Employees must undergo annual exams to continue receiving benefits.
- Changing IMRF's opt-in requirement to opt-out for elected officials receiving service credit.
- Allowing AFSCME to permit a portion of pension payments to be withheld for union dues, reinforcing current practice without legal issues.
- A general provision mandates fiduciary liability insurance for pension system trustees and employees.
- Changing (within the State University Retirement System) the survivor insurance notification period to six months from notification rather than death. It incorporates Tier 2 final average salary provisions into SURS.
- Rectifying, with a one-time reprieve, the situation of an Eastern Illinois University employee's over-cap salary, which led to a \$310,000 penalty.
- Cleaning up the TRS language defining who can participate in the Supplemental Savings plan.
- Altering (at the request of the Illinois FOP) the estimations for state troopers' benefits final calculations. SERS opposes this provision due to administrative costs.
- Streamlining the Fire Investment Fund trustee election processes by reducing petition signature requirements and allowing online, phone, and mail voting.
- Addressing IEA requests extending employer penalty payment timeframes for breaching the 6% raise threshold from three years to seven years, plus interest, providing budgeting flexibility while keeping systems whole.
- Adjusting service credit transfers to include: downstate police to IMRF, career technical education teachers to TRS, downstate police to fire and vice versa, and military time to Cook County, each requiring purchase of contributions plus interest.

Tier 2 Pension Reform: While larger efforts to pass a more comprehensive Tier 2 pension fix stalled in the final days of the spring session, two Tier 2 pension bills were approved. As mentioned above, the FY 26 budget adds \$75 million to ensure the Tier Two pension program meets the Social Security minimum retirement benefit level, and the General Assembly also passed another bill to provide a limited Tier 2 pension fix for the Chicago Police and Fire Pension funds.

[HB 3657](#) (Kifowit/Martwick) fulfills a six-year promise to provide a Tier 2 fix to Chicago Police and Fire pension funds, providing equity with benefits extended to downstate police and fire by raising the pensionable wage cap and changing the final average salary calculation. The measure passed both chambers unanimously, and the bill now heads to the Governor’s desk.

Representative Hoffman filed amendments to [SB 1937](#) (Martwick/Kifowit), which proponents cite as improving Tier 2 benefits without increasing unfunded pension liability or affecting the state's credit ratings. The proposal, which is supported by the We Are One Coalition, addresses four areas: improving final average salary calculations, lowering retirement age, enhancing cost of living adjustments, and fixing the "Safe Harbor" issue. The proposal also modernizes the pension funding approach, targeting 90% funding by 2045 and 100% by 2049. Proponents argue that while not providing full equity with Tier 1, these changes offer public employees better retirement security.

While the legislation garnered support from unions and some legislators, civic organizations opposed the measure. They wrote in part, “The proposed amendments go far beyond the Governor’s pension proposal as introduced in the FY 2026 budget. They would be detrimental to the long-term fiscal stability and credit rating of the State of Illinois, contrary to claims their proponents have made. Moreover, proposals covering the City of Chicago and other municipalities have received very little scrutiny, exacerbating the risk to taxpayers and the state budget if adopted.” The measure was not called for a vote.

GOVERNOR’S HIGHLIGHTS:

Budget Package Signed Into Law: Governor Pritzker signed the budget package into law on Monday. The \$55.1 billion FY 26 budget, scheduled to take effect on July 1, marks the largest spending plan in the state's history. Next year’s budget anticipates \$55.3 billion in expected revenue, which includes more than \$700 million in new taxes on tobacco, sports betting, and corporate income, as well as over \$500 million in one-time revenues.

The budget package is composed of: [SB 2510](#) (FY 26 Operating and Capital Budgets and FY 25 Supplemental); [HB 1075](#) (Budget Implementation); [HB 2755](#) (Revenue Omnibus); and [HB 3374](#) (Bond Authorization).

Governor Pritzker issued an “item/reduction veto” of the Budget Bill (SB 2510), which reduces approximately \$161 million from the Capital Budget. He described this action as a correction of what he termed “drafting errors.” According to the veto messages, this adjustment aligns funding for capital

projects with the Bond Authorization legislation as initially intended by the General Assembly. The budget legislation, as line-item/reduction vetoed, will take effect as is, without requiring further action from the General Assembly. Read more [here](#).

Other New Laws: Governor Pritzker also signed the following legislation into law:

- [SB 2437](#) represents the 2025 Medicaid Omnibus legislation.
- [SB 2456](#) represents the 2025 Sunset extension omnibus legislation.
- [HB 2771](#) modifies and makes permanent the Hospital Assessment Program, including provisions for the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to collect unpaid assessments from delinquent hospital providers.
- [SB 126](#) requires all state-regulated health insurance plans to provide coverage for all FDA-approved treatments of Alzheimer’s Disease, medications prescribed to slow Alzheimer’s Disease progression, and diagnostic testing necessary for physicians to treat Alzheimer’s Disease.
- [HB 742](#) delays the effective date of the Interchange Fee Prohibition Act until July 1, 2026. The Interchange Fee Prohibition Act prohibits banks and credit card companies from charging businesses a fee for the portion of a transaction that is subject to a tip or tax.
- [HB 850](#) reforms the clear and present danger statutes.

Governor Pritzker Testifies Before Congress: Governor JB Pritzker defended his governing record and Illinois' immigration policies before the U.S. House Oversight Committee last Thursday. Along with Democratic governors Kathy Hochul of New York and Tim Walz of Minnesota, Pritzker answered questions about “sanctuary states.” The hearing included debates on public safety concerns and criticism of the Trump administration’s deportation raids. Read more [here](#).

Made in Illinois Grant Recipients Announced: Governor JB Pritzker, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), and IMEC announced the 2025 Made in Illinois Grant Program recipients. This year, 29 manufacturers will receive a total of \$1.35 million to enhance innovation, efficiency, and growth in Illinois' manufacturing sector. Read more [here](#).

Elite Special Pathogen Treatment Centers: Governor JB Pritzker announced that Illinois has partnered with Rush University Medical Center and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago to serve as Elite Special Pathogen Treatment Centers. Under agreements with the Illinois Department of Public Health, these hospitals will enhance their capacity to treat diseases like Ebola, Lassa fever, and pneumonic plague. This initiative is part of the IDPH's efforts to bolster global surveillance following the federal government's exit from the WHO and the reduction in funding for health services. Read more [here](#).

Gulf Hypoxia Program (GHP) Priority Watershed Implementation Grant: The Illinois EPA is offering a new grant program, the Gulf Hypoxia Program (GHP) Priority Watershed Implementation grant, which offers up to \$788,000 for projects aimed at reducing nitrate loads in Illinois' surface waters. Eligible best management practices include:

- Denitrifying Bioreactor (CP 605)
- Saturated Buffer (CP 604)
- Constructed Wetland (CP 656)

This funding aims to improve water quality and ensure public water supplies meet nitrate standards. Projects must be located within eligible watersheds and utilize one of the specified Best Management Practices.

The Notice of Funding Opportunities and additional information can be found on Illinois EPA's [GHP Priority Watershed Implementation webpage](#). Awards for the GHP Priority Watershed Implementation will be made until funds are expended or January 1, 2027, whichever comes first. Applicants must apply through the [Grant Accountability and Transparency Act Grantee Portal](#).

Nonpoint Source Pollution Grants: The Illinois EPA is offering \$4.4 million in funding through two Section 319(h) Grant Program Notices of Funding Opportunity to combat nonpoint source pollution. The funds are available for watershed-based planning and implementation projects aimed at improving Illinois' surface and groundwater quality.

The Illinois EPA receives federal funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency via Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act. Of the total, up to \$400,000 is designated for planning projects, and up to \$4 million is allocated for implementation projects. This includes up to \$250,000 for Education and Information projects, \$150,000 for Monitoring projects, and \$3.6 million for Best Management Practices. Actual funding will depend on the final U.S. EPA budget and Illinois' allocation.

The Notice of Funding Opportunities and additional information can be found on Illinois EPA's [Nonpoint Source Grants webpage](#). Applications for the Section 319(h) Grant program will be accepted through 1:00 PM (CDT) on July 23, 2025. Applicants must apply through the [Grant Accountability and Transparency Act Grantee Portal](#).

ICC Power Grid Workshops: The Illinois Commerce Commission invites the public and community organizations to join June workshops for a safer, more reliable power grid.

The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) requires Ameren and ComEd to file grid plans that support Illinois' clean energy goals, outline system investments, and ensure accountability. CEJA requires both utilities to conduct a transparent stakeholder process for the design of their grid plan.

Illinois energy customers and other interested parties are encouraged to join – in person or virtually – in the stakeholder process to learn about the grid planning. More information about the meetings can be found [here](#).

Gaming Board Meeting: The Illinois Gaming Board held its monthly meeting on June 4. A recap of the meeting is [here](#).

Equitable Energy Future Grant Program: The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity awarded 27 grants totaling \$23 million through the Equitable Energy Future Grant Program. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to promote equitable growth within the clean energy workforce in Illinois, as outlined in the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act. Additionally, the Governor has announced \$25.5 million in grant funding for the third round of the Equitable Energy Future Grant Program, which aims to support renewable energy projects in historically underserved communities. Grantees will be chosen via a competitive Notice of Funding Opportunity process. Read more [here](#).

DNR Grants: The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications for the State Pheasant Fund Special Funds and the Illinois Habitat Fund Special Funds Grant programs from July 1 through August 1. Read more [here](#).

IDOA Allows Poultry Exhibitions to Resume: The Illinois Department of Agriculture is lifting the temporary suspension on the exhibition or sale of poultry at swap meets, exhibitions, flea markets, and auction markets. The suspension was initially issued in February in response to the ongoing threat of H5N1 avian flu.

Gubernatorial Appointments: The Governor made the following appointments:

- Michele L. Pankow will serve as Illinois State Fire Marshall.
- Melissa Shepherd will serve as a Member of the Health Benefits Exchange Advisory Committee.
- Mohammed Asif will serve as a member of the Illinois State Medical Board.
- Amber Poettker will serve as a Member of the Illinois State Medical Board.
- Henry Mendoza will continue to serve as a Member of the Illinois Affordable Housing Advisory Commission.
- John Holden II will serve as a Member of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.
- Judy Hackett will serve as a Member of the Illinois State Board of Education.

OTHER NEWS:

2026 Election Update:

Community organizer Miracle Jenkins announced his candidacy for the 9th Congressional District, currently held by retiring Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky. A Democrat and former staffer for Schakowsky, Jenkins aims to ensure more voices are heard in government. Also entering the Democratic primary this week is Bethany Johnson, an Evanston resident. In addition to Jenkins and Johnson, Evanston Mayor Daniel Biss, state Senator Laura Fine, content creator Kat Abughazaleh, Skokie's Bushra Amiwala are also seeking the Democratic nomination.

In the 8th Congressional District, military veteran Dan Tully announced that he will seek the Democratic nomination for the congressional seat currently held by Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, who is running for the US Senate seat being vacated by retiring Senator Dick Durbin.

Melissa Steele is running as a Republican for state representative in the 109th District, facing incumbent Representative Charlie Meier in the primary. She describes herself as “a mother, a neighbor, a survivor” and prioritizes “dismantling DCFS.” Steele believes her life experiences – living in a halfway house, serving time, and now owning a home and a business – make her a strong candidate.

Barrington school board member Erin Chan Ding and former Barrington Village Board candidate Jesse Rojo are running in the Democratic primary for the 52nd District. They will face Maria Peterson for the right to take on Republican Representative Marty McLaughlin (R-Barrington Hills) in the general election.

CGFA May Revenue Report: In May, overall revenues increased by \$325 million (9.2%), slightly surpassing the 9.0% growth rate of the previous month. Transfers and federal receipts primarily drove this increase. Transfers In rose by \$220 million (141.9%) due to a \$250 million rise in Other Transfers, including a significant \$245 million transfer to the General Revenue Fund from the Capital Projects Fund.

Federal Sources contributed an additional \$126 million to the GRF, but this amount remained 6.2% lower than the FY 2024 levels. Personal Income Tax decreased by \$56 million (2.5%) and Corporate Income Tax declined by \$78 million (28.8%) due to one fewer receipting day. Sales Tax saw a slight increase of \$10 million (1.0%), while net sales tax revenue decreased by \$7 million (0.8%) due to higher allocations to transportation funds. Other State Sources gained \$95 million, with notable increases in Insurance Taxes and Fees, Estate Tax, and Corporate Franchise Tax, while Interest on state funds and investments dropped by \$37 million. Read the full report [here](#).

Guardianship and Advocacy Commission Appoints New Director: Tracey B. Fleming has been appointed as the Director of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, effective July 1, 2025, succeeding Dr. Mary Milano, who is retiring after nearly 20 years. Fleming has served as the Executive Director of the Illinois Human Rights Commission for the past five years, focusing on agency reforms and protections against unlawful discrimination, and is committed to equality, disability rights, and inclusive leadership.



MEMO

Date: June 24, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
From: Ashley Strupek, Procurement Manager
CC: David Braun, Managing Director
Subject: Recommendation for State Lobbying Services Contract Extension

Recommendation:

Authorize the Managing Director to execute a single-year contract extension with Cornerstone Government Affairs to provide state representation in Illinois.

Background:

Connect Transit has contracted with Cornerstone Government Affairs for seven years to provide state representation in Illinois. State lobbying services helps increase our return on state dollars through grant programs, legislation, and regulatory actions. Lobbying services also help Connect Transit maintain and develop relationships with our state delegation and state agencies to promote and protect the interests of Connect Transit.

Discussion:

Over the past year, Cornerstone Government Affairs has helped Connect Transit introduce legislation to replace side mirrors on buses with digital e-mirrors, supported the Downstate request regarding stabilizing our funding source, and lobbied to get the remaining \$3 million in appropriated DCEO funding for the transit center in the state budget, finally allowing us to spend it towards the transit center development.

Financial Impact:

This single-year contract extension will cost \$4,000 per month, which is the same rate as the current agreement. Federal and state regulations require the use of local funds to pay for these services.



MEMO

Date: June 24, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
From: Ashley Strupek, Procurement Manager
CC: David Braun, Managing Director
Subject: Recommendation for Federal Lobbying Services Contract Extension

Recommendation:

Authorize the Managing Director to execute a single-year contract extension with Cardinal Infrastructure to provide federal representation in Washington, DC.

Background:

Connect Transit has contracted with Cardinal Infrastructure for eight years to provide federal representation in Washington, DC. Federal lobbying services help increase our return on federal dollars through grant programs, legislation, and regulatory actions. Lobbying services also help Connect Transit maintain and develop relationships with our Congressional Delegation and federal agencies to promote and protect the interests of Connect Transit. Finally, lobbying services provide information and insights into funding opportunities and share Notices of Funding Opportunities, as well as insights into success factors for funding applications.

Discussion:

Over the past year, Cardinal Infrastructure has helped Connect Transit navigate through the FTA approvals process for the transit center, communicate information regarding vehicle issues from other clients, identify and communicate to our legislators' recommended changes for the upcoming transit reauthorization bill, and research specific issues including rural funding, e-mirrors, and grant research. Given the upcoming transit reauthorization and Cardinal's familiarity with our issues, Connect Transit believes a one-year extension would serve us better than a competitive procurement.

Financial Impact:



This one-year contract extension will cost \$7,000 per month, which is the same rate as the current agreement. Federal and state regulations require the use of local funds to pay for these services.



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MEMO

Date: June 24, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
From: Alex Giantamidis, Transit Planner
CC: David Braun, Managing Director
Subject: Draft Proposal to Modify Routes as Described

Strategic Alignment:

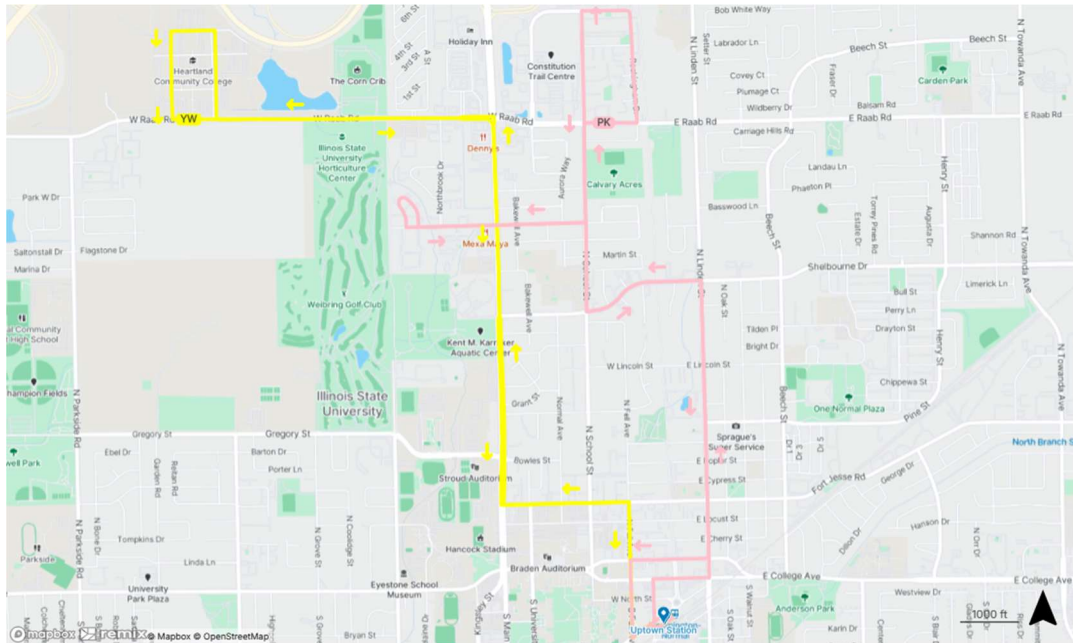
Connect Transit's Strategic Plan Goal #4 states that Connect Transit will operate efficiently without sacrificing quality. Objective #3 states that we should "position Connect Transit to provide solutions for changing service demands", specifically by "continually analyzing service performance, ... large employer locations and work shifts, and changing demographics to identify appropriate methods to meet the various needs..."

After lengthy consideration and review, staff recommends the following route modifications that will reduce service duplication, improve the efficiency of our routes, serve large employers that are currently unserved, and recognizes the needs of people living in areas that rely on our service to meet their day-to-day needs.

Please see following pages for proposals.

Proposal #1: Realign the Yellow – Pink

Current Yellow-Pink



Current Situation:

Our Yellow and Pink routes currently run north-south and both leave Uptown Station at :15 and :45 each hour.

- **Yellow Route:** Goes to Heartland Community College via Main Street and Raab Road, serving ISU student housing, the Alumni Center, Dollar Tree, shopping and dining options, the Corn Crib, and Northmeadow Village mobile home park.
- **Pink Route:** Goes to Lincoln Square via Linden, Shelbourne, and School Street. On the northbound (outbound) trip only, it takes a long detour on Orlando Avenue to reach the Orlando Apartments. The Pink Route mainly serves residential communities such as the Northbrook Orlando Estates, as well as the Lincoln Square Apartments, and the backside of shopping areas like Schnuck's.

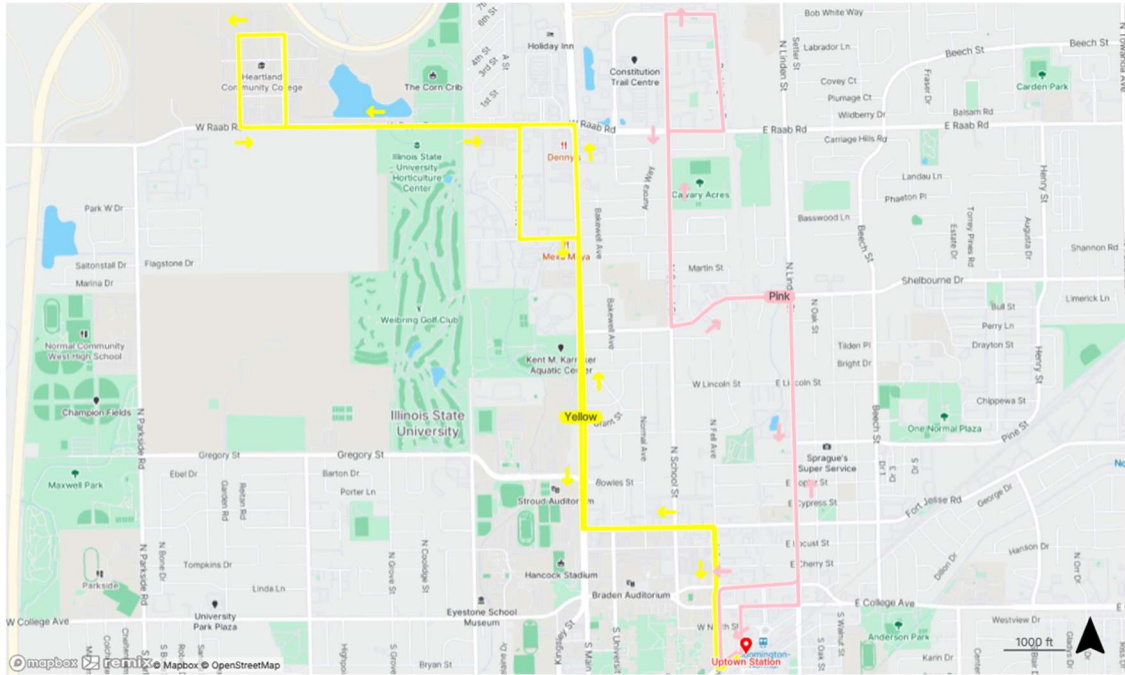
Northbound Pink Deviation

Currently, to serve the apartments located on Orlando Avenue, the Pink Route deviates significantly on its Northbound (outbound) trip only. From School Street, the bus turns left on Orlando, and loops around the Orlando Northbrook Estates before returning to its main route.

Proposed Modification:

We would like to move the Orlando Apartments detour from the Pink Route to the Yellow Route and serve it on the southbound (inbound) trip.

Recommended Modification



Purpose:

- It gives Orlando Ave. and Northbrook Dr. residents a **faster and easier** trip to Uptown Station and to the rest of the route network serving Bloomington and Normal.
- The Pink Route tends to suffer from a tight schedule during peak traffic/ridership hours, resulting in less relief time for Operators.
- It makes sense geographically, Yellow is closer to the Orlando area.

- It saves time: about **five minutes** for both routes, which provides relief if the route is running late.
- We avoid the Orlando Northbrook Estates private road, which is unsafe due to insufficient infrastructure for the size of our vehicles, as well as pedestrian traffic in the area.
- It reduces bus mileage by about **9%**.

Initial Outreach:

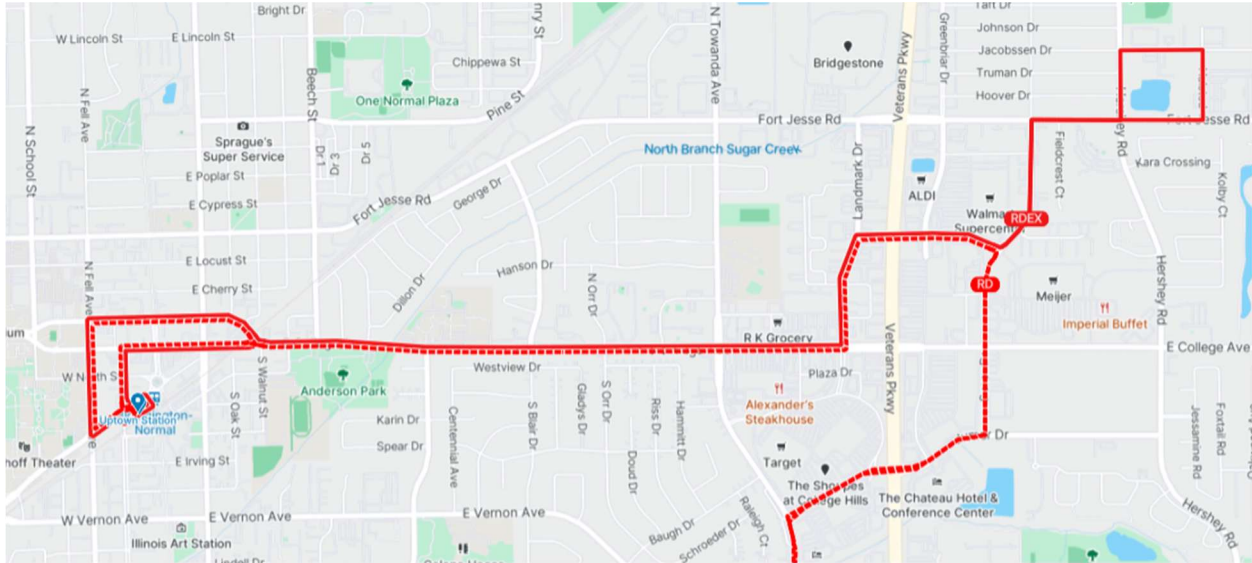
- Passengers on this route were surveyed during the weeks of June 9 and June 17, 2025. Results are attached at the end of this document.
- Based on survey results, the majority of passengers surveyed are interested in travelling to Uptown, making the change more convenient for passengers travelling southbound (inbound).

Financial Impact:

Approximate reduction of \$17,642 based on a 9% reduction in miles at \$1.27/mile.

Proposal #2: Replace Red Express with New Route

Current Red Express



Current Situation:

The Red Express operates only during weekday peak hours: 7–11 a.m. and 3–6 p.m..

- It mostly follows the regular Red Route, traveling along College Avenue to serve major stops like Landmark Drive, Walmart, OSF on Ft. Jesse and Lifelong Access, which have an average daily ridership of four and six riders respectively.

Key Issues:

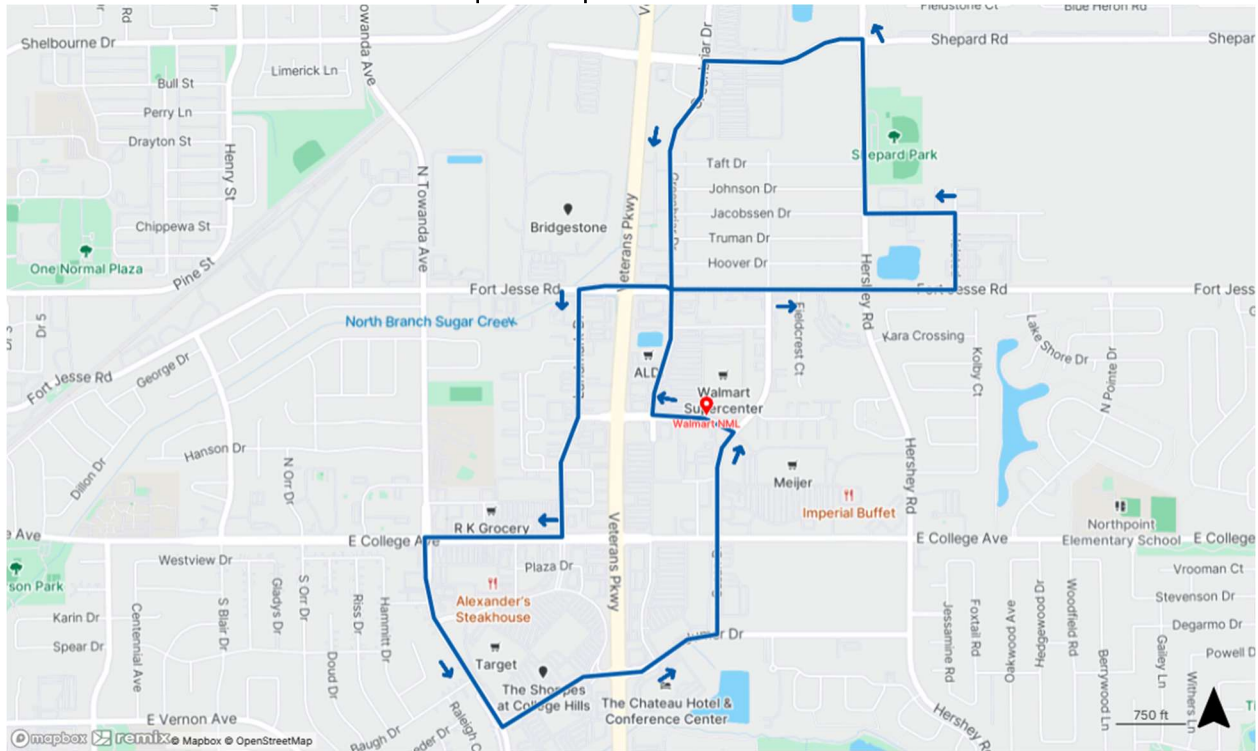
- The Red Express does not have built-in recovery time, so it has poor on-time performance.
- The Red Express reaches its timepoints more than five minutes late approximately 24% of the time.
- On an average day, the Red Express gets to its first and last stops (Uptown Station, OSF on Ft. Jesse) approximately three minutes late. With zero recovery time built into the route, this tends to cause extreme delays as the route continues with no way to catch up.
- Because of the poor on-time performance and duplication with the regular Red Route, the two buses are sometimes running back-to-back splitting ridership between the two and making the system less efficient.

Proposed Modification:

We would like to replace the Red Express Route with a Circulator that will continue service to the area served by the Red Express (OSF, Lifelong Access) and reduce duplication with the regular Red Route. The Circulator will expand service to employment centers to the north, including Sam's

Club (160 employees), Menards (200 employees), Destihl, and O'Brien Mitsubishi, as well as apartments and neighborhoods along Greenbriar Dr.

Red Express Replacement: Circulator



Purpose:

- The Circulator will be more efficient, with recovery time built into its schedule, allowing for on-time service at a 30-minute frequency.
- The route will serve some of the system's most popular bus stops (Walmart, Shoppes at College Hill) and allow for easy connections to Red, Blue, Purple, and Tan improving system interconnectedness.
- We will serve areas that we do not currently serve, such as Menards, Sam's Club, and Greenbriar Apartments, potentially attracting new passengers or offering greater convenience to existing passengers.
- The change will also provide service on weekends and throughout the entire day, rather than only peak hours.

Financial Impact:

	Revenue Miles	Revenue Hours
Red Express	27,437	2,032
Circulator	50,654	4,358
Difference	23,217	2,326

Marginal Cost per Mile: \$ 1.27

Marginal Cost per Hour: \$ 60.59

Additional Expense: \$ 170,418

Adjusted FLEX Zone Start Date - Start in April 2026

	Revenue Miles	Revenue Hours
Budget	128,410	9,684
Anticipated	43,440	3,276
Difference	-84,970	-6,408

Marginal Cost per Mile: \$ 0.38

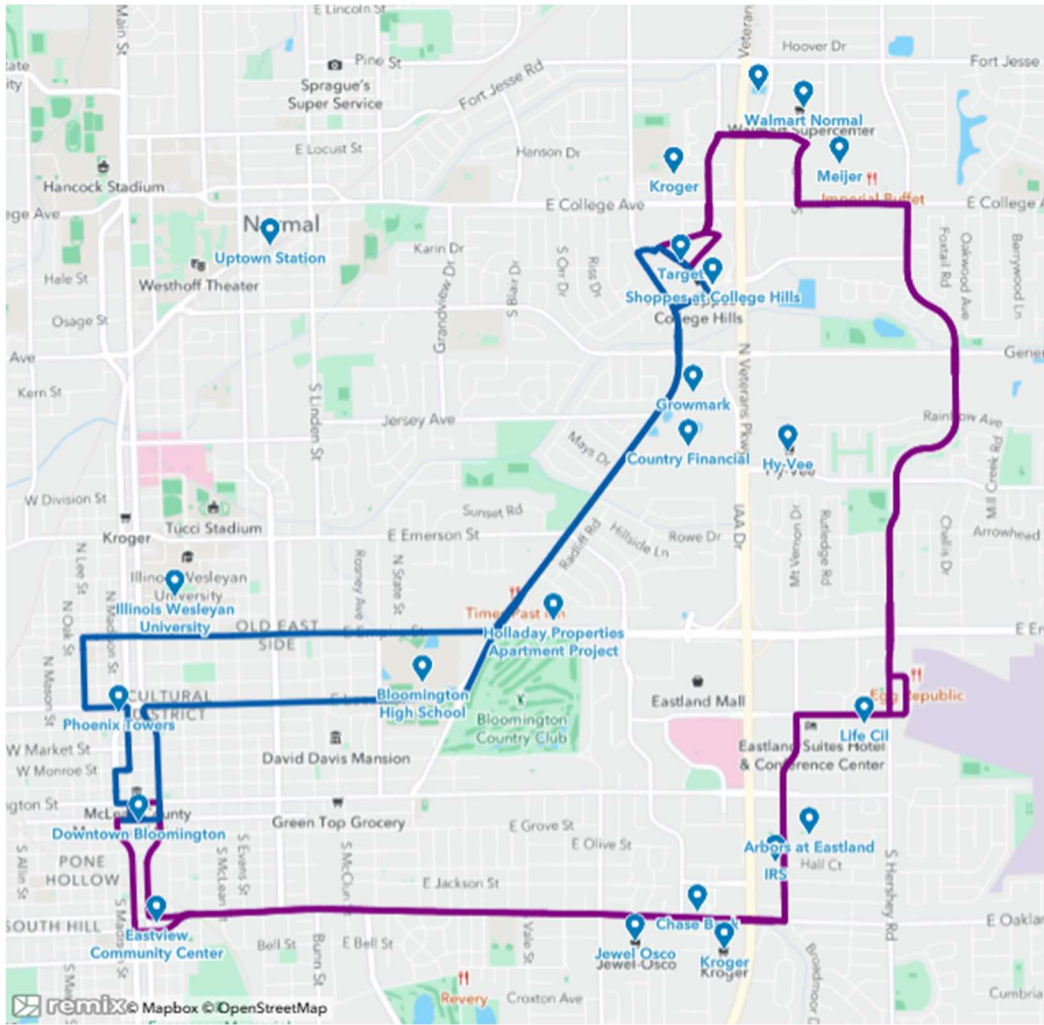
Marginal Cost per Hour: \$ 42.41

Budget Adjustment \$ (304,071)

Net Change: \$ (133,653)

Proposal #3: Renewal of Peak Service on the Blue/Purple

Current Blue-Purple Service



Current Situation:

Our Blue and Purple Routes are interlined and work together to cover the area shown in the map above. The Blue and Purple Routes currently provide one-hour frequency throughout the day during weekdays and weekends.

Proposed Modification:

Add two vehicles to provide 30-minute frequency in morning (6:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.) and afternoon (2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) peaks, during weekdays.

Purpose:

Peak service on several routes was reduced in January 2024 due to vehicle availability issues, and then made permanent in the FY25 budget in anticipation of rising Connect Mobility costs. Since that time, we have consistently been asked by Operators and passengers to restore the service. We considered the impact of the reduction and found the following:

Routes	Riders change	
Blue	-19%	
Purple	-10%	
Silver	-20%	Served by FLEX Zone
Lime	-19%	Affected by road closures
Pink	-4%	
Orange	-1%	
Aqua	-1%	
Gold	0%	
Brown	6%	
Yellow	8%	

The impacts on passengers included the lack of frequency and the lack of ability to make connections to the Red Route which takes them to Uptown Station.

Financial Impact:

The additional hours and miles for this change were included in the FY26 budget

	Revenue Miles	Revenue Hours
Purple	26,504	1,820
Blue	13,237	1,117
TOTAL	39,741	2,936

Marginal Cost per Mile: \$ 1.27

Marginal Cost per Hour: \$ 60.59

Budgeted Expense: \$ 228,391



Discussion:

If the Board of Trustees approves moving forward with these proposals, Connect Transit staff will schedule public engagement sessions to allow riders and residents to learn about the changes and share their opinions. Meetings will be held in Bloomington and Normal, and the passengers on the effected routes, or residents of the affected areas will be notified through social media and press releases.

Final recommendations will consider the comments made by the public and will be made at the July 22, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting.

If approved, the changes will go into effect August 10, 2025.





MEMO

Date: June 24, 2025
To: Board of Trustees
From: David Braun, Managing Director
Subject: Route Name Changes

Strategic Alignment:

Connect Transit's Strategic Planning Goal #3 provides that Connect Transit will leverage projects and initiatives for a positive customer experience.

Objective #2 states that we should "optimize the user experience", by investigating and pursuing ways to make riding easier, more convenient and more understandable.

Staff plans to implement the following route naming convention changes to improve passenger understanding of the route destination and service area, thereby removing the barrier of uncertainty or confusion for many riders and improving the rider experience.

Discussion:

Route Renaming Consideration - Numbering System Based on Major Hubs

- Each route name keeps the associated color.
- Four categorical groupings are based on their interaction with major hubs. The first digit will differentiate the route based on connection to major hubs:
 - 000 Series - No connection to Uptown Station or Downtown Bloomington.
 - 100 Series - Connection only to Uptown Station.
 - 200 Series - Connection only to Downtown Bloomington.
 - 300 Series - Connection to both Uptown Station and Downtown Bloomington.
- For the next two digits, the number will correspond with our internal numbering system used in our data collection efforts. This would allow consistency in data collection and reporting.

Example of numbering **XY Y** X: indicating major hub, either 0, 1, 2, or 3.
 Y: unique identifier, 00-99.

Examples of Iconography

Colors remain the same. For darker route colors, we will use a white font; for lighter route colors, use black font.



014 - Redbird.
 As the Redbird connects to neither the Uptown Station hub nor the Downtown Transfer hub, the first digit is 0 (zero). In our internal tracking system, Redbird is #14, therefore, route 014.



107 - Yellow.
 As the Yellow connects to only the Uptown Station hub, the first digit is 1 (one). In our internal tracking system, Yellow is #07, therefore, route 107.



211 - Aqua
 As the Green connects to only the Downtown Transfer hub, the first digit is 2 (two). In our internal tracking system, Aqua is #11, therefore, route 211.



301 - Green
 As the Green connects to both the Uptown Station hub and the Downtown Transfer hub, the first digit is 3 (three). In our internal tracking system, Redbird is #01, therefore, route 301.

List of new route numbers, if implemented:

No Link to Hub	Uptown Only	Downtown Only	Serves Uptown and Downtown
014 - Redbird 033 - Sapphire	104 - Pink 106 - Brown 107 - Yellow 115 - Tan 130 - Red Express	203 - Purple 205 - Blue 208 - Orange 211 - Aqua 212 - Gold 218 - Silver	301 - Green 302 - Red 309 - Lime

Financial Impact:

The new numbering system will be incorporated in marketing and informational materials as they are updated or reprinted. No additional costs are expected.