

Connect Transit Board of Trustees
June 13, 2025, 12:00 p.m.
11 Uptown Circle, Room 409, Normal, IL 61761
Strategic Plan Update Workshop Minutes – Approved at 6/24/25 Meeting

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ryan Whitehouse called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Board Clerk, Janice Crago, recorded attendance via roll call.

Trustees Present:

Trustee Gina Bianchi
Trustee Judy Buchanan
Secretary Linda Foster
Vice Chair Julie Hile
Trustee Mandava Rao
Chairman Ryan Whitehouse

Trustees Absent:

Trustee Elicssha Sanders

City Managers Present:

City Manager Pam Reece

City Managers Absent:

City Manager Jeff Jurgens

Staff Present:

David Braun, Managing Director
Janice Crago, Board Clerk

Guest(s) Present:

Kristen Joyner, KJ Backpack (Virtual)
Laura Calderon, IPTA Director
Kendra McGeady, Pelivan Transit/NEO Tribal Transit Con. (Virtual)

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MISSION STATEMENT:

Chairman Whitehouse led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Connect Transit Mission Statement.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

E. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE WORKSHOP:

Kristen Joyner and Laura Calderon led the discussion as outlined in the agenda.

Agenda Item	Activity	Time
Welcome & Meal		12:00
	Warm Up: Pre-retreat assignment report from each Board member.	
What does the financial landscape look like?		12:45
	Importance of Being Able to Leverage the Public Dollars to Cover Unserved/Underserved Areas: Federal and State Funding Landscape. <i>Laura Calderon, Executive Director, IPTA</i>	
Break		
Four Over-arching Connect Transit Goals		1:20
Review of Current Goals: Survey		
	Goal 1: Gain Public and Political Support Goal 2: Ensure Long-Term Financial Sustainability Goal 3: Leverage Projects and Initiatives for a Positive Customer Experience Goal 4: Operate Efficiently Without Sacrificing Service Quality	
Review and Consensus		1:45
	Page-by-page review of Objectives and Actions from the previous Strategic Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions to Consider: What has been accomplished? What is on-going? What needs a refresh? What needs to be removed? • Discussion exercises to help formulate revised Action steps. 	
Break		
The Future		2:45
	Discussion: Economic Growth and Service Expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the addition of rural transit service factor into the Strategic Plan? How is this similar and different from the urban service? • How can Board members participate in economic growth planning across the entire county/community? 	
Schedule discussion groups (virtual)		
	Small group discussions about action steps to reach the goals.	
	Identify responsibilities/resources. What do we need to live up to expectations? What resources do we need?	
Adjourn		3:30
Special Board of Trustees Meeting to follow at 3:45 p.m.		

L. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Whitehouse called for a Motion to Adjourn.

Secretary Foster motioned; seconded by Trustee Buchanan.

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 3:32 p.m.

Linda Foster 6/24/25
Linda Foster, Secretary / Date

Janice Crago 6.24.25
Janice Crago, Board Clerk / Date

[CONNECT TRANSIT SEAL]

