



Connect Transit will record the Board of Trustees meetings for sharing on our YouTube channel after the meeting. 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.

AGENDA

Connect Transit Board of Trustees, Annual Meeting

March 31, 2026 – 4:15 p.m.

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

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
 - a. Attendance by Other Means/Virtual
- C. Nominations for the Following Officers:
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice Chair
 - c. Secretary
- D. Close Nominations
- E. Election of Officers – Roll Call Vote
- F. 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.





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AGENDA

Connect Transit Board of Trustees, Regular Session

March 31, 2026 – 4:30 p.m.

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

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
 - a. Attendance by Other Means/Virtual
- C. Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement
- D. Safety Moment
- E. Public Comments
- F. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Regular Session Minutes for January 27, 2026
 - b. Approval of Regular Session Minutes for February 24, 2026
 - c. Approval of Financial Information for February 2026
 - d. Monthly Statistical Report for February 2026
- G. New Business
 - a. FY25 Audit Results – Informational
 - b. Recommendation for Adoption of Fare Policy Adjustments – Roll Call Vote
 - c. Recommendation for Approval of the FY27 Operating Budget – Roll Call Vote
 - d. Recommendation for Approval of the FY27 – FY31 Transportation Improvement Program – Roll Call Vote
- H. Committee Reports
- I. Board Chair's Report
- J. Deputy Managing Director's Report
- K. Trustee Comments
- L. Executive Session
- M. 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.





February 2026

Financial Reports



Connect Transit Cash Disbursement Report February 2026

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
A.T.U. - C.O.P.E.	00061658	06-Feb-26	\$252.09	Payroll Deduction
Abbey Placements LLC	00061659	06-Feb-26	\$854.00	Human resources
Abbey Placements LLC	00061722	20-Feb-26	\$2,006.76	Human resources
ABC Bus Companies	00061660	06-Feb-26	\$2,652.92	Bus Parts
ABC Bus Companies	00061723	20-Feb-26	\$1,609.02	Bus Parts
Advance Auto Parts	00061661	06-Feb-26	\$404.48	Maintenance Supplies
Advance Auto Parts	00061724	20-Feb-26	\$755.67	Maintenance Supplies
All About Eyes	00061662	06-Feb-26	\$70.00	Safety Glasses
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 752	00061663	06-Feb-26	\$8,400.00	Payroll Deduction
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 752	00061725	20-Feb-26	\$250.00	Payroll Deduction
Amazon Capital Service	00061664	06-Feb-26	\$397.78	Bus Parts, Computer Hardware, Materials & Supplies & Office Supplies
Amazon Capital Service	00061726	20-Feb-26	\$678.23	Bus Parts, Computer Hardware, Materials & Supplies & Office Supplies
Ancel Glink, P.C.	00061727	20-Feb-26	\$110.00	Legal Service
Angelo Vardinakis	00061665	06-Feb-26	\$100.00	Tool Reimbursement
Anthony Crawford Baldonado	00061666	06-Feb-26	\$100.00	Tool Reimbursement
Bailey Summers	00061667	06-Feb-26	\$100.00	Tool Reimbursement
BCBS	ACH	27-Feb-26	\$170,590.06	Health Insurance
Best One of Central IL	00061728	20-Feb-26	\$368.00	Outside Repair
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$1,326.00	Workers Comp Insurance
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	(\$443.90)	Mechanics Uniforms
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$339.99	Garage Equipment Repair
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$350.33	Bus Parts - DR
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$327.32	Freight
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$1,832.60	Office Supplies
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$5,235.77	Software Licensing
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$214.99	Dues & Subscriptions
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$478.57	Travel & Meetings
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$197.10	Employee Recognition
Bill.com	ACH	02-Feb-26	\$1,177.65	Safety/Training
Blitt and Gaines, P.C.	00061668	06-Feb-26	\$370.48	Payroll Deduction
Blitt and Gaines, P.C.	00061729	20-Feb-26	\$343.68	Payroll Deduction
Blue Springs, Inc	00061730	20-Feb-26	\$515.00	Portable Restrooms
Blunier Builders, Inc	00061669	06-Feb-26	\$2,460.78	Snow Removal
Blunier Builders, Inc	00061731	20-Feb-26	\$3,188.92	Snow Removal
B-N Economic Development Council	00061670	06-Feb-26	\$1,200.00	Travel & Meetings
Bridgestone Americas	00061732	20-Feb-26	\$4,768.41	Tires
Cardinal Infrastructure, LLC	00061733	20-Feb-26	\$7,000.00	Consulting
Carle	00061734	20-Feb-26	\$1,696.25	Empl Physicals & Drug Testing
Carlson Siding & Construction	00061671	06-Feb-26	\$450.00	Building Maintenance
CDM Smith Inc.	00061672	06-Feb-26	\$127,073.28	DT Transit Center A & E
CDM Smith Inc.	00061735	20-Feb-26	\$56,347.25	DT Transit Center A & E
Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District	00061736	20-Feb-26	\$891.06	Outside Repair
Checkr, Inc.	00061673	06-Feb-26	\$84.49	New Hire Background Checks
CIRBN, LLC	00061737	20-Feb-26	\$299.89	Internet
CIT Trucks, LLC - Normal	00061674	06-Feb-26	\$4,769.39	Bus Parts
CIT Trucks, LLC - Normal	00061739	20-Feb-26	\$9,305.07	Bus Parts
City of Bloomington(Water)	00061675	06-Feb-26	\$1,025.25	Utilities
City of Bloomington-Finance Department	00061740	20-Feb-26	\$2,364.39	Safety/Training
Clark Baird Smith, LLP	00061741	20-Feb-26	\$2,995.00	Legal Service
Clean Exhaust Specialist	00061676	06-Feb-26	\$8,521.00	Bus Parts
Clean Exhaust Specialist	00061742	20-Feb-26	\$6,103.04	Bus Parts
Commerce Banks	ACH	10-Feb-26	\$752.26	Bank Fees
Commerce Banks	ACH	23-Feb-26	\$76.90	Interest
Corn Belt Energy Corp.	00061743	20-Feb-26	\$4,609.42	Utilities
Cornerstone Government Affairs	00061677	06-Feb-26	\$4,000.00	Consulting
Cubic Transportation	ACH	23-Feb-26	\$245,531.25	Fare Collection
Culligan Water Conditioning	00061678	06-Feb-26	\$83.00	Bottled Water Service
Cummins	ACH	06-Feb-26	\$167,767.41	Mid-life Overhaul
DeJuan McClelland	00061679	06-Feb-26	\$186.61	Tool Reimbursement
Eagle Automotive	00061680	06-Feb-26	\$240.43	Bus Parts
Eagle Automotive	00061744	20-Feb-26	\$533.99	Bus Parts
Fasteners Etc.	00061745	20-Feb-26	\$1,013.86	Maintenance Supplies



Connect Transit Cash Disbursement Report February 2026

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
Galls, LLC	00061681	06-Feb-26	\$750.27	Admin & Operations Uniforms
Galls, LLC	00061746	20-Feb-26	\$635.19	Admin & Operations Uniforms
Genfare, LLC	00061747	20-Feb-26	\$8,877.22	Software and Hardware
Getz Fire Equipment	00061682	06-Feb-26	\$2,157.10	Outside Repair
Getz Fire Equipment	00061748	20-Feb-26	\$1,351.20	Outside Repair
Gillig LLC	00061683	06-Feb-26	\$57.45	Bus Parts
Gillig LLC	00061749	20-Feb-26	\$424.41	Bus Parts
Grainger	00061684	06-Feb-26	\$261.61	Office Cabinets
Grainger	00061750	20-Feb-26	\$814.99	Office Cabinets
Heritage Machine & Welding, Inc.	00061685	06-Feb-26	\$22.64	Bus Parts
Heritage-Crystal Clean, LLC	00061686	06-Feb-26	\$173.25	Environmental Services
HicksGas Bloomington LLC	00061687	06-Feb-26	\$1,160.53	LP Gas
HicksGas Bloomington LLC	00061751	20-Feb-26	\$1,287.96	LP Gas
Illinois Department of Revenue	ACH	09-Feb-26	\$20,692.37	State Taxes
Illinois Department of Revenue	ACH	23-Feb-26	\$20,444.85	State Taxes
Illinois Dept of Revenue Wage Levy Unit	00061688	06-Feb-26	\$312.49	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Dept of Revenue Wage Levy Unit	00061752	20-Feb-26	\$357.11	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Disbursement	ACH	05-Feb-26	\$1,290.79	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Disbursement	ACH	19-Feb-26	\$1,290.79	Payroll Deduction
Interstate Batteries of Mid-Illinois	00061689	06-Feb-26	\$1,159.60	Garage Equipment Repair
Joseph Isaia	00061753	20-Feb-26	\$76.80	Uniform Reimbursement
Ken's Oil Service, Inc	00061690	06-Feb-26	\$35,146.48	Fuel & Lubricants
Ken's Oil Service, Inc	00061754	20-Feb-26	\$38,697.30	Fuel & Lubricants
Kim Krug	00061691	06-Feb-26	\$73.61	Uniform Reimbursement
Kirk's Automotive, Inc	00061692	06-Feb-26	\$643.00	Bus Parts
Kirk's Automotive, Inc	00061755	20-Feb-26	\$2,396.00	Bus Parts
Lauterbach & Amen, LLP	00061693	06-Feb-26	\$19,100.00	Audit Services
Left Lane Auto LLC	00061694	06-Feb-26	\$59.95	Bus Parts
Left Lane Auto LLC	00061756	20-Feb-26	\$339.95	Bus Parts
Limelite Graphics	00061695	06-Feb-26	\$456.00	Decals
Lucinda McCluskey	00061757	20-Feb-26	\$72.36	Uniform Reimbursement
Martin One Source	00061758	20-Feb-26	\$145.02	Printed Materials
Menards	00061696	06-Feb-26	\$175.11	Materials & Supplies
Menards	00061759	20-Feb-26	\$80.35	Materials & Supplies
Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc.	00061697	06-Feb-26	\$103.48	Bus Parts
Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc.	00061760	20-Feb-26	\$3,128.46	Bus Parts
Miguel Arevalo	00061761	20-Feb-26	\$100.00	Tool Reimbursement
Miller Janitor Supply	00061698	06-Feb-26	\$1,155.61	Maintenance Supplies
Miller Janitor Supply	00061762	20-Feb-26	\$375.50	Maintenance Supplies
Missionsquare	ACH	05-Feb-26	\$40,466.11	Retirement Plan
Missionsquare	ACH	19-Feb-26	\$47,730.25	Retirement Plan
Mobile Communications America	00061699	06-Feb-26	\$1,462.50	Telecommunications
Mohawk Mfg. & Supply Co.	00061700	06-Feb-26	\$250.47	Bus Parts
Morris Avenue Garage	00061701	06-Feb-26	\$160.00	Vehicle Inspection
Morris Avenue Garage	00061763	20-Feb-26	\$240.00	Vehicle Inspection
Motion Industries, Inc.	00061764	20-Feb-26	\$167.51	Bus Parts
Mutual of Omaha	00061765	20-Feb-26	\$30,979.90	Life, AD&D, STD & LTD
Mutual of Omaha	00061783	20-Feb-26	\$28,798.04	Life, AD&D, STD & LTD
Napa Auto Parts	00061702	06-Feb-26	\$853.86	Bus Parts
Napa Auto Parts	00061766	20-Feb-26	\$541.86	Bus Parts
Nicor Gas	00061703	06-Feb-26	\$6,428.50	Utilities
Nonstop	ACH	17-Feb-26	\$48,446.39	Health Insurance
Oberlander Alarm Systems, Inc.	00061704	06-Feb-26	\$230.00	Security Alarm Service Fee
ODP Business Solutions, LLC	00061705	06-Feb-26	\$243.15	Office Supplies
O'Reilly Auto Parts	00061767	20-Feb-26	\$18.69	Bus Parts
OSF Medical Group - Occupational Health	00061768	20-Feb-26	\$460.00	Drug Testing
Pantagraph	00061769	20-Feb-26	\$500.00	Advertising- Promotions
Payroll	ACH	05-Feb-26	\$337,038.74	
Payroll	ACH	19-Feb-26	\$338,871.70	
Piercy Auto Body	00061706	06-Feb-26	\$1,749.52	Outside Repair
Purchase Power	00061707	06-Feb-26	\$652.27	Postage
Roanoke Motor Co. Inc.	00061708	06-Feb-26	\$236.92	Bus Parts
Roanoke Motor Co. Inc.	00061770	20-Feb-26	\$64.46	Bus Parts



Connect Transit
Cash Disbursement Report
February 2026

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
Sam Leman Chrysler Dodge Jeep	00061709	06-Feb-26	\$5.56	Bus Parts
Sam Leman Ford	00061710	06-Feb-26	\$1,524.80	Outside Repair
Sam Leman Ford	00061771	20-Feb-26	\$5,469.04	Outside Repair
Sanco Thermo King	00061772	20-Feb-26	\$3,590.93	Bus Parts
Select Screen Prints and Embroidery	00061773	20-Feb-26	\$1,814.27	T-Shirts
Shenika Stampley	00061711	06-Feb-26	\$151.46	Uniform Reimbursement
SLE Technologies, Inc	00061774	20-Feb-26	\$7,665.71	Garage Equipment Repair
Southtown Wrecker Service	00061712	06-Feb-26	\$1,480.00	Towing
Southtown Wrecker Service	00061775	20-Feb-26	\$897.50	Towing
Stratus Networks	00061713	06-Feb-26	\$2,796.73	Internet
Team Torque	00061714	06-Feb-26	\$277.37	Shop Tools
TeVoert Auto Repair	00061715	06-Feb-26	\$31.67	Garage Equipment Repair
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00061716	06-Feb-26	\$2,543.89	Bus Parts
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00061776	20-Feb-26	\$1,677.17	Bus Parts
Town of Normal-Utility Billing	00061717	06-Feb-26	\$613.16	Utilites
TX Child Support SDU	00061718	06-Feb-26	\$643.59	Payroll Deduction
TX Child Support SDU	00061777	20-Feb-26	\$643.59	Payroll Deduction
U.S. Bank Equipment Finance	00061778	20-Feb-26	\$2,856.75	Office Equipment
United States Treasury	ACH	05-Feb-26	\$112,536.94	Federal Taxes
United States Treasury	ACH	20-Feb-26	\$112,619.64	Federal Taxes
Verizon Wireless	00061719	06-Feb-26	\$4,150.69	Mobile Data Terminals for SS
Vestis Services, LLC (fka Aramark)	00061720	06-Feb-26	\$765.33	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Vestis Services, LLC (fka Aramark)	00061779	20-Feb-26	\$842.19	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Westervelt, Johnson Nicoll & Keller, LLC	00061721	06-Feb-26	\$524.76	Payroll Deduction
Wherry Machine and Welding, Inc	00061780	20-Feb-26	\$1,070.95	Outside Repair
Wilcox Electric & Service, Inc	00061781	20-Feb-26	\$130.00	Building Maintenance
William Masters, Inc	00061782	20-Feb-26	\$263.00	HVAC
		Total	\$2,187,327.52	

Bloomington Normal Public Transit Balance Sheet

Division: 99 Board Reports

As of: 2/28/2026

Fiscal Year: 2026 Period: 8 Feb-2026

Assets

Current Assets

Checking and Savings	\$5,960,619.97
Accounts Receivable	\$3,850,637.51
Inventory Asset - Fuel	\$57,247.65
Inventory Asset - Parts	\$508,682.03
Inventory Asset - Tires	\$0.00
Other Current Assets	\$644,175.19

Total Current Assets **\$11,021,362.35**

Fixed Assets \$28,026,072.96

Total Assets **\$39,047,435.31**

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$188,554.41
Payroll Liabilities	\$1,607,801.51
Contracts	\$0.00
Due to Illinois Funds Account	\$0.00
Deferred Revenue	\$372,831.23
Deficit Funding Advance	\$0.00

Total Liabilities **\$2,169,187.15**

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 \$17,567,981.77

Total Liabilities & Equity **\$39,047,435.31**

Bloomington Normal Public Transit

Income Statement With Approved Budget

From Fiscal Year: 2026 Thru Fiscal Year: 2026	From Period 8 Thru Period 8	Division: 98 Operating Profit/Loss		As of: 2/28/2026	
		Feb-2026	Jul-2025 Feb-2026	Approved Budget	
Operating Revenue					
Passenger Fares		\$68,053.02	12.18%	\$376,057.56	67.29%
ISU Contract Fare		\$53,126.53	8.75%	\$445,445.69	73.34%
Other Contract Fares		\$17,215.49	7.83%	\$121,236.39	55.15%
Advertising Revenue		\$10,158.33	8.33%	\$97,116.63	79.67%
Miscellaneous Revenue		\$4,774.64	4.55%	\$47,274.69	45.02%
Total Operating Revenue		\$153,328.01	9.51%	\$1,087,130.96	67.40%
Operating Expenses					
Operators Wages		\$772,449.87	8.27%	\$5,954,706.29	63.78%
Maintenance Wages		\$137,657.21	7.12%	\$1,121,066.70	57.96%
Administration Wages		\$105,730.59	7.70%	\$1,007,335.73	73.37%
Employer Payroll Tax Expense		\$92,634.42	9.10%	\$644,532.40	63.33%
Retirement Plan		\$35,690.62	5.49%	\$291,041.23	44.80%
Group Insurance		\$218,252.83	7.96%	\$1,765,993.60	64.39%
Uniform Expense		\$3,481.09	6.17%	\$26,638.61	47.19%
Professional Services		\$23,149.17	5.59%	\$257,103.51	62.13%
Outside Repair-Labor		\$16,479.27	11.65%	\$137,192.46	96.96%
Contract Maintenance Services		\$10,494.47	4.50%	\$131,207.96	56.31%
Custodial Services		(\$2,226.82)	-10.54%	\$6,916.25	32.73%
Employee Recruiting/Testing/Temp Help		\$3,840.75	8.54%	\$14,925.25	33.17%
Fuel		\$79,319.75	4.73%	\$673,869.94	40.21%
Lubricants		\$3,933.34	4.16%	\$31,568.21	33.37%
Tires		\$6,907.46	10.85%	\$40,050.59	62.88%
Bus Repair Parts		\$72,255.23	14.09%	\$472,151.39	92.04%
Other Materials & Supplies		\$6,510.45	6.00%	\$76,199.89	70.25%
Computer and Office Supplies		\$24,574.35	4.10%	\$297,978.17	49.66%
Utilities		\$13,210.79	9.62%	\$87,963.06	64.08%
Corporate Insurance		\$56,943.20	7.59%	\$470,191.88	62.69%
Dues/Subscriptions/Fees		\$13,064.77	2.91%	\$251,538.86	56.00%
Total Operating Expenses		\$1,694,352.81	7.58%	\$13,760,171.98	61.55%
Operating Assistance					
Operating Deficit Before Subsidies and Grants		(\$1,541,024.80)	7.43%	(\$12,673,041.02)	61.10%
City of Bloomington Operating Assistance		\$75,833.33	8.33%	\$607,666.64	66.78%
Town of Normal Operating Assistance		\$49,166.66	8.33%	\$393,333.28	66.67%
Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance		\$1,094,179.00	7.53%	\$8,886,018.00	61.15%
State Operating 5311		\$18,182.80	6.40%	\$130,051.40	45.78%
FTA 5307 Operating Assistance		\$292,084.20	6.60%	\$2,551,437.60	57.63%
Total Operating Assistance		\$1,529,445.99	7.37%	\$12,568,506.92	60.59%



February 2026	Current Month	Month in Prior Year	Percent Change	Year to Date	Prior Year to Date	% Change YTD
System Statistics:						
System Ridership	224,706	208,932	7.55%	1,602,131	1,518,653	5.50%
Fixed Ridership	210,440	195,192	7.81%	1,482,948	1,405,339	5.52%
Mobility Ridership	9,757	9,133	6.83%	78,337	75,113	4.29%
FLEX Ridership	4,509	4,607	-2.13%	40,846	38,201	6.92%
System Service Hours	14,116	13,509	4.49%	116,890	111,302	5.02%
Fixed Service Hours	9,252	8,630	7.21%	75,236	71,173	5.71%
Mobility Service Hours	3,958	3,900	1.49%	33,696	31,919	5.57%
FLEX Service Hours	906	979	-7.45%	7,958	8,210	-3.06%
System Service Miles	177,392	164,404	7.90%	1,468,598	1,369,324	7.25%
Fixed Service Miles	115,511	103,660	11.43%	949,845	862,858	10.08%
Mobility Service Miles	48,712	47,660	2.21%	406,104	397,052	2.28%
FLEX Service Miles	13,169	13,084	0.65%	112,649	109,414	2.96%
System Revenue Vehicles	50	57	-12.28%	53	64	-17.19%
Fixed Revenue Vehicles	25	31	-19.35%	27	38	-28.95%
Mobility Revenue Vehicles	20	21	-4.76%	21	21	0.00%
FLEX Revenue Vehicles	5	5	0.00%	5	5	0.00%
System Miles/Revenue Vehicle	3,548	2,884	23.01%	27,709	21,396	29.51%
Fixed Miles/Revenue Vehicle	4,620	3,344	38.18%	35,179	22,707	54.93%
Mobility Miles/Revenue Vehicle	2,436	2,270	7.32%	19,338	18,907	2.28%
FLEX Miles/Revenue Vehicle	2,634	2,617	0.65%	22,530	21,883	2.96%
System Efficiencies:						
System Ridership/Service Hour	15.92	15.47	2.92%	13.71	13.64	0.45%
Fixed Ridership/Revenue Hour	22.75	22.62	0.56%	19.71	19.75	-0.18%
Mobility Ridership/Revenue Hour	2.47	2.34	5.27%	2.32	2.35	-1.21%
FLEX Ridership/Revenue Hour	4.98	4.71	5.75%	5.13	4.65	10.30%
System Percent On-Time Trips	89.17%	90.02%	-0.94%	86.52%	90.11%	-3.98%
Fixed Percent On-Time Trips	91%	90%	1.11%	87%	90%	-3.94%
Mobility Percent On-Time Trips	91%	97%	-6.19%	94%	96%	-2.23%
FLEX Percent On-Time Trips	0%	77%	-100.00%	73%	80%	-9.17%
System Subsidy/Passenger	\$7.40	\$7.59	-2.51%	\$8.07	\$7.57	6.57%
Fixed Subsidy/Passenger	\$4.36	\$5.04	-13.51%	\$5.06	\$5.29	-4.46%
Mobility Subsidy/Passenger	\$64.50	\$54.75	17.80%	\$56.53	\$43.31	30.52%
FLEX Subsidy/Passenger	\$25.53	\$21.93	16.42%	\$24.32	\$20.97	15.97%
Operator Pay Hours/Service Hour	1.45	1.32	10.38%	1.37	1.33	2.96%
Vehicle Maintenance Expense/Mile	\$1.64	\$1.31	24.57%	\$1.47	\$1.26	16.08%



MEMO

Date: March 31, 2026
To: Board of Trustees
From: Brady Lange, Deputy Managing Director
Subject: Recommendation to Adopt Fare Policy Adjustments

Recommendation:

The Connect Transit Board of Trustees adopt the recommended fare policy adjustments to support the Umo Fare Collection Systems.

Background:

Connect Transit staff proposed a new fare collection system that will modernize our fare collection, improve convenience, and reduce maintenance costs. The proposal was approved by the Board of Trustees in February 2025 and concurred by IDOT in September 2025. We anticipate the implementation of the system to be completed in the summer of 2026.

Discussion:

The new fare collection system offers features that will improve the convenience of riding the bus and simplify the boarding process, encouraging additional ridership. The system will provide passengers with the ability to:

- **Pay using nearly any method** — the Umo app, credit/debit cards, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Connect Transit smartcards, or cash, giving riders maximum flexibility.
- **Load or manage their account online**, including adding value from a computer or phone and enabling automatic reloads for seamless travel.
- **Experience faster, simpler boarding** through contactless tap-to-pay technology, reducing wait times and improving the rider experience.
- **Access more fare options**, including discounted fares for eligible riders (e.g., student discount programs), and benefit from consistent fare structures across services.

With the modernization of the fare collection system comes the need to modify some fares and fare policies to improve consistency, reduce cost to Connect Transit, and align with current industry practices.

Proposed Changes:

- Cash Fare:
 - Current Policy:
 - Change cards are printed from the farebox if riders do not pay with exact change.
 - New Policy:
 - Exact fare only.
 - No change will be provided.
 - Passengers will not enjoy other benefits, such as transfers and fare capping.
 - New systems do not have printing capabilities which increase complexity, cost, and needed maintenance.

- Paper Passes / Fare Capping:
 - Current Policy:
 - Paper passes are offered for one ride, one-day, seven-day, and 30-days at Connect Transit offices and various retail locations throughout the community.
 - Passes are ordered from farebox vendor and printed on special paper.
 - New Policy:
 - Paper passes will no longer be offered and will instead be replaced by fare capping.
 - Fare capping will cap payments for riders that use the same payment method each time at a maximum of \$3 per day, \$10 per calendar week, and \$40 per calendar month.
 - Once a rider has paid enough to reach the limit, they will continue to tap or scan their desired payment method but will not be charged additional fare.
 - Fare capping applies to fixed route and Connect Flex; only the calendar month fare capping applies to Connect Mobility.

- Connect Flex Fare:
 - Current Policy:
 - Riders pay \$1 on board the vehicles with cash only.



- Visual validation applies to paper passes.
 - New Policy:
 - One-Ride fare increases to \$1.25 to bring fare in-line with the rest of the system.
 - Validators will be installed on vehicles so all payment methods will need to be tapped or scanned for validation.
 - Cash will still be accepted on board the vehicles but will also be exact fare only.
 - Cash payments will not enjoy other benefits such as transfers and fare capping.
- Jr./Sr. High Student Fare:
 - Current Policy:
 - No special rate is available.
 - New Policy:
 - Junior and Senior High School students who have visited a Connect Transit office to obtain a proper Connect Discount ID will be able to ride for \$0.50 per ride.
 - Similarly, the YouthBuild Universal access agreement will be adjusted to \$0.50 per ride.
 - All student riders will still participate in the benefits of transfers and fare capping.
- Pass Replacements / Lost Cards:
 - Current Policy:
 - If staff can confirm a rider's purchase of a paper pass, we will typically provide a replacement for the time left on the pass for no charge.
 - Staff are only able to confirm purchase of passes that are purchased at Connect Transit offices.
 - New Policy:
 - Lost cards will be replaced at no charge for the first lost card; replacement cards will cost \$5 each after the first free replacement.
 - Remaining value will be restored to the new card only if staff can identify the rider's account.
 - If no account is created, value cannot be restored.
 - Using the Umo app will eliminate any chance of losing a card with stored value and is the easiest way to pay.

Fare policy adjustments will be effective upon rollout of new fare collection equipment, currently anticipated this summer. Fares will be reviewed annually for impact on ridership

changes and revenue. If fare changes are deemed necessary by staff and the Operations and Planning Committee, recommendations will be brought to the Board of Trustees for approval. [Strategic Plan Goal 2, Objective 4]



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MEMO

Date: March 31, 2026
To: Board of Trustees
From: Pat Kuebrich, Finance Director
CC: Brady Lange, Deputy Managing Director
Subject: Recommendation for Approval of the FY27 Operating Budget

Recommendation:

Adopt the FY27 Operating Budget as presented.

Background:

Connect Transit staff presented a draft FY27 budget for review and consideration at the Connect Transit Board of Trustees meeting in February.

Discussion:

The total FY27 Operating Budget reflects year-over-year increases driven by labor costs, insurance, maintenance, and technology investments. The budget aligns projected expenses with available state, federal, and local funding sources. It also reflects targeted restoration of fixed-route peak service, efficiency gains in Connect Mobility, planned adjustments to microtransit service areas, and potential service expansion.

Operating assistance projections incorporate recent state legislation that raises DOAP reimbursement from 65% to 80%, maintains near-term local operating support at current levels, and allows rebalancing of federal 5307 funds.

Financial Impact:

The total proposed Operating Budget for FY27 is \$27,632,170.



MEMO

Date: March 31, 2026
To: Board of Trustees
From: Patrick Kuebrich, Finance Director
CC: Brady Lange, Deputy Managing Director
Subject: Recommendation for Approval of the FY27 – FY31 Transportation Improvement Program

Recommendation:

Approve the FY27 – FY31 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as presented.

Background:

A draft of the FY27–FY31 TIP was presented to committees throughout March as part of the annual capital planning cycle. The TIP is updated annually and outlines all transit capital projects eligible for state and federal funding within the Bloomington–Normal Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). The complete TIP is compiled by staff at McLean County Regional Planning and is developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal, and the Central Illinois Regional Airport.

Discussion:

Connect Transit utilizes the TIP as a framework for its capital planning and decision-making processes. The FY27–FY31 TIP covers facility upgrades, bus replacements, and various infrastructure improvements. TIP approval by the Board of Trustees does not guarantee funding or specific project approval; each project will be evaluated and approved individually by the Board of Trustees. Including items in the TIP helps Connect Transit pursue federal and state funds, reducing local capital reliance and ensuring eligibility for grant awards.

The TIP details planned funding sources—FTA 5307/5339, IDOT capital programs, local capital, and earmarks—and notes where discretionary funds may be needed.

Financial Impact:



There is no specific financial impact associated with approving this plan, as approval does not pertain to any individual project. Rather, it authorizes the overall direction and priorities, with specific financial commitments to be determined as individual projects are presented for approval in the future.



CONNECT TRANSIT - FY2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

OPERATING PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source	Total Cost	
1	Operating Assistance	General breakdown of operating budget for the year	IDOT DOAP	\$22,105,735	\$27,632,169
			FTA 5307	\$1,990,340	
			FTA 5311	\$284,094	
			Local	\$1,500,000	
			Fare Revenue	\$1,524,000	
			Other	\$228,000	
TOTAL OPERATING				\$27,632,169	

CAPITAL PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source	Total Cost	
1	Micro Transit Rolling Stock	Five (5) light-duty vans	FTA 5339	\$748,125	\$1,548,125
			IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$800,000	
2	Paratransit Vehicles	Four Paratransit Vehicles	FTA 5307	\$280,000	\$350,000
			Local	\$70,000	
3	Better Bus Stops - Design	A & E for 52 bus stops	FTA 5339	\$72,000	\$200,000
			IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$128,000	
4	Fuel Management Software	Service lane software for fueling and fluids	Local	\$60,000	\$60,000
5	Man Lift	Two (2) person man lift	FTA 5307	\$24,000	\$30,000
			Local	\$6,000	
6	Floor Scrubber - Maintenance	Bus storage and garage floor scrubber	FTA 5307	\$26,250	\$75,000
			IDOT Debt Service	\$48,750	
7	Maintenance Lifts and Jack Stands	Fill two maintenance pits with in-ground lifts & purchase jack stands	IDOT Capital (RR2)	\$360,000	\$675,000
			FTA 5307	\$315,000	
8	Roof Replacement	Administration facility roof replacement	FTA 5307	\$472,800	\$635,765
			IDOT Debt Service	\$162,965	
9	DT Bloomington Transit Center	A & E Downtown Bloomington Transit Center	FTA 5339	\$2,652,642	\$3,152,642
			IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$500,000	
10	DT Bloomington Transit Center	Construction Oversight of Downtown Bloomington Transit Center	FTA 5339	\$2,000,000	\$2,500,000
			IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$500,000	
11	DT Bloomington Transit Center	Construction of Downtown Bloomington Transit Center	FTA 5339	\$8,347,358	\$24,547,358
			IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$6,000,000	
			IL DCEO	\$3,000,000	
			CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$1,600,000	
			FTA 5307	\$5,600,000	
13	Wylie Drive Facility Expansion	New vehicle storage, training & operations facility Administration facility renovations and addition	FTA 5339	\$6,360,000	\$14,360,000
			IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$8,000,000	
14	Wylie Drive Facility Security Upgrades	Upgrade proximity locking systems systems Upgrade security camera systems	CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$327,200	\$409,000
			Local	\$81,800	
15	Radio System Replacement	Complete radio system hardware replacement	CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$472,800	\$635,765
			IDOT Debt Service	\$162,965	
16	Dispatch Upgrades	Update furniture in the dispatch area	FTA 5307	\$80,000	\$100,000
			Local	\$20,000	
				FTA 5339	\$20,180,125
				FTA 5307	\$6,798,050
				CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$2,400,000
				IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$7,128,000
				IDOT Capital (RR2)	\$360,000
				IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$8,800,000
				IDOT Debt Service	\$374,680
				IL DCEO	\$3,000,000
				Local	\$237,800
TOTAL CAPITAL				\$49,278,655	

CONNECT TRANSIT - FY2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

OPERATING PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source	Total Cost	
1	Operating Assistance	General breakdown of operating budget for the year	IDOT DOAP	\$24,316,309	\$30,395,386
			FTA 5307	\$2,848,683	
			FTA 5311	\$284,094	
			Local	\$1,500,000	
			Fare Revenue	\$1,218,300	
			Other	\$228,000	
TOTAL OPERATING				\$30,395,386	

CAPITAL PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source	Total Cost	
1	Microtransit Rolling Stock	Five (5) light-duty vans	FTA 5339	\$748,125	\$1,548,125
			IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$800,000	
2	Service Vehicles	Replace two (2) service vehicles	FTA 5307	\$18,000	\$90,000
			Local	\$72,000	
3	Paratransit Vehicles	Four Paratransit Vehicles	FTA 5307	\$280,000	\$350,000
			Local	\$70,000	
4	Heavy-Duty Buses	Five (5) Heavy-Duty Buses (replacing 2015 New Flyer buses)	FTA 5307	\$5,250,000	\$7,000,000
			Local	\$1,750,000	
5	Better Bus Stops - Design	A & E for bus stops	IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$142,345	\$300,000
			Local	\$157,655	
6	Better Bus Stops - Construction	Construction for 52 bus stops	FTA 5339	\$146,290	\$249,600
			IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$103,310	
7	Passenger Amenity Upgrades	Upgrade passenger amenities and waiting areas in Uptown Station	FTA 5307	\$160,000	\$200,000
			Local	\$40,000	
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				FTA 5339	\$894,415
				FTA 5307	\$5,708,000
				CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$0
				IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$245,655
				IDOT Capital (RR2)	\$0
				IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$800,000
				IDOT Debt Service	\$0
				IL DCEO	\$0
				Local	\$2,089,655
TOTAL CAPITAL					\$9,737,725

CONNECT TRANSIT - FY2029 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

OPERATING PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source	Total Cost	
1	Operating Assistance	General breakdown of operating budget for the year	IDOT DOAP	\$26,747,940	\$33,434,925
			FTA 5307	\$3,418,476	
			FTA 5311	\$284,094	
			Local	\$1,500,000	
			Fare Revenue	\$1,256,415	
			Other	\$228,000	
TOTAL OPERATING				\$33,434,925	

CAPITAL PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source	Total Cost	
1	Paratransit Vehicles	Four Paratransit Vehicles	FTA 5307	\$280,000	\$350,000
			Local	\$70,000	
2	Heavy-Duty Buses	Seven (7) Heavy-Duty Buses (replacing 2016 New Flyer buses)	FTA 5307	\$7,350,000	\$9,800,000
			Local	\$2,450,000	
3	Service Vehicles	Replace two (2) service vehicles	FTA 5307	\$18,000	\$90,000
			Local	\$72,000	
4	Vehicle Camera System Upgrades	Digital video recording system upgrades for entire rolling stock fleets including live video monitoring with AI detections.	FTA 5307	\$320,000	\$400,000
			Local	\$80,000	
5	Real Time Signage Upgrades	Upgrades to bus stops with real time signage at high traffic bus stops	FTA 5307	\$120,000	\$150,000
			Local	\$30,000	
6	Better Bus Stops - Construction	Construction for bus stops	IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$142,345	\$600,000
			Local	\$457,655	
7	EV Charging Upgrades	Installation of chargers and associated infrastructure for two (2) service vehicles and two (2) public chargers	FTA 5307	\$37,500	\$75,000
			Local	\$37,500	
8	Bathroom Updates	Wylie Drive Administration building bathroom updates to public, administration, and bus operator bathrooms.	FTA 5307	\$100,000	\$200,000
			Local	\$100,000	
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				FTA 5339	\$0
				FTA 5307	\$8,225,500
				CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$0
				IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$142,345
				IDOT Capital (RR2)	\$0
				IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$0
				IDOT Debt Service	\$0
				IL DCEO	\$0
				Local	\$3,297,155
TOTAL CAPITAL				\$11,665,000	

CONNECT TRANSIT - FY2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

OPERATING PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source		Total Cost
1	Operating Assistance	General breakdown of operating budget for the year	IDOT DOAP	\$29,422,734	\$36,778,417
			FTA 5307	\$4,047,154	
			FTA 5311	\$284,094	
			Local	\$1,500,000	
			Fare Revenue	\$1,296,435	
			Other	\$228,000	
TOTAL OPERATING					\$36,778,417

CAPITAL PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source		Total Cost
1	Paratransit Vehicles	Four Paratransit Vehicles	FTA 5307	\$280,000	\$350,000
			Local	\$70,000	
2	Service Vehicles	Replace two (2) service vehicles	FTA 5307	\$18,000	\$90,000
			Local	\$72,000	
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			FTA 5339	\$0	
			FTA 5307	\$298,000	
			CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$0	
			IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$0	
			IDOT Capital (RR2)	\$0	
			IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$0	
			IDOT Debt Service	\$0	
			IL DCEO	\$0	
			Local	\$142,000	
TOTAL CAPITAL					\$440,000

CONNECT TRANSIT - FY2031 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

OPERATING PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source		Total Cost
1	Operating Assistance	General breakdown of operating budget for the year	IDOT DOAP	\$32,365,007	\$40,456,258
			FTA 5307	\$4,740,700	
			FTA 5311	\$284,094	
			Local	\$1,500,000	
			Fare Revenue	\$1,338,457	
			Other	\$228,000	
TOTAL OPERATING					\$40,456,258

CAPITAL PLAN & FUNDING PROJECTIONS

Line	Project	Description	Funding Source		Total Cost
1	Paratransit Vehicles	Four Paratransit Vehicles	FTA 5307	\$280,000	\$350,000
			Local	\$70,000	
2	Heavy-Duty Buses	Ten (10) Heavy-Duty Buses (replacing 2018 New Flyer buses)	FTA 5307	\$12,750,000	\$17,000,000
			Local	\$4,250,000	
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			FTA 5339	\$0	
			FTA 5307	\$13,030,000	
			CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$0	
			IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$0	
			IDOT Capital (RR2)	\$0	
			IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$0	
			IDOT Debt Service	\$0	
			IL DCEO	\$0	
			Local	\$4,320,000	
TOTAL CAPITAL					\$17,350,000



TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

FY2027 - 2031

OPERATING	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	TOTAL
IDOT DOAP	\$22,105,735	\$24,316,309	\$26,747,940	\$29,422,734	\$32,365,007	\$134,957,725
FTA 5307	\$1,990,340	\$2,848,683	\$3,418,476	\$4,047,154	\$4,740,700	\$17,045,353
FTA 5311	\$284,094	\$284,094	\$284,094	\$284,094	\$284,094	\$1,420,470
Local	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$7,500,000
Fare Revenue	\$1,524,000	\$1,218,300	\$1,256,415	\$1,296,435	\$1,338,457	\$6,633,607
Other	\$228,000	\$228,000	\$228,000	\$228,000	\$228,000	\$1,140,000
TOTAL	\$27,632,169	\$30,395,386	\$33,434,925	\$36,778,417	\$40,456,258	\$168,697,155

CAPITAL	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	TOTAL
FTA 5339	\$20,180,125	\$894,415	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$21,074,540
FTA 5307	\$6,798,050	\$5,708,000	\$8,225,500	\$298,000	\$13,030,000	\$34,059,550
CDS / CPF (Earmarks)	\$2,400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,400,000
IDOT Capital (RR1)	\$7,128,000	\$245,655	\$142,345	\$0	\$0	\$7,516,000
IDOT Capital (RR2)	\$360,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$360,000
IDOT Capital (RR3)	\$8,800,000	\$800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,600,000
IDOT Debt Service	\$374,680	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$374,680
IL DCEO	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000,000
Local	\$237,800	\$2,089,655	\$3,297,155	\$142,000	\$4,320,000	\$10,086,610
TOTAL	\$49,278,655	\$9,737,725	\$11,665,000	\$440,000	\$17,350,000	\$88,471,380