Meetings of
BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

VALLEY METRO RAIL | VALLEY METRO

Joint Boards of Directors

Valley Metro RPTA

Valley Metro Rail

Date:
October 16, 2025

Starting Time:
11:15 a.m.
(directly following the Joint Board Study Session)

Meetings to occur sequentially
Location:
Valley Metro
Boardroom/Webex
101 N. 1st Avenue, 10th Floor

If you require assistance accessing the meetings on the 10th floor, call 602.262.7433.

Agenda

October 10, 2025

Joint Meeting Agenda
Valley Metro RPTA
And
Valley Metro Rail
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Valley Metro, 101 N. 1st Avenue, 10th Floor
Boardroom/You Tube
11:15 a.m.

	Action Recommended
1. Public Comment	1. For Information

The public will be provided with an opportunity at this time to address the committees on **non-agenda items and all action agenda items for the Joint, RPTA and VMR meeting agendas.** Up to three minutes will be provided per speaker unless the Chair allows more at their discretion. A total of 15 minutes for all speakers will be provided.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report — 2. For information

Jessica Mefford-Miller, CEO, will brief the Joint Boards on current issues.

3. Audit and Finance Subcommittee Update — 3. For information

Councilmember White, AFS Chair, will provide an update on the discussions and actions taken at the September AFS meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

4A. Minutes — 4A. For action

Minutes from the September 18, 2025, Joint Board meeting minutes are presented for approval.

4B. Advertising Sales Services Authorization to Issue a Solicitation — 4B. For action

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a competitive solicitation for advertising sales services.

4C. Community Relations Support Services Authorization to Issue a Solicitation

4C. For action

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a competitive solicitation for community relations support services.

4D. ATIS Software Support and Maintenance Contract Amendment

4D. For action

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize for the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract amendment with Trapeze Software Group, Inc., to extend the contract through June 30, 2027.

4E. Online Marketplace Contract Award

4E. For action

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize for the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a cooperative contract with Amazon.com Service, LLC, dba Amazon Business, for an online shoppable marketplace with a five-year contract and no options to extend. The aggregate value of the contract will not exceed $300,000.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. Community Relations Support Services Contract Amendment

5. For action

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute one-year contract extensions with AlphaVu, LLC, The Colibri Collective, LLC, HDR Engineering, Inc., Highnoon, The Lavidge Company, Owens Harkey & Associates, LLC dba OH Partners, On Advertising, Inc., RIESTER Sonoran, LLC, Spiral Creative Services, LLC, Torres Multicultural Communications, LLC, and WSP USA, Inc., to extend the contracts through November 29, 2026, and increase the aggregate value of the contracts not to exceed $7,896,617.

6. [Joint Ad Hoc Committee – Member Selection] — 6. For action

The Joint Boards of Directors will select the members to serve on the Joint Ad Hoc Committee.

This item will be sent under separate cover.

7. [Travel and Expenditures] — 7. For information

The monthly travel and expenditures for Valley Metro RPTA and Valley Metro Rail are presented for information.

8. [Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items] — 8. For information

Chair Adams will provide members the opportunity to report on current events and suggest future agenda items for consideration.

9. [Next Meeting] — 9. For information

The next meeting of the Joint Board is scheduled for **November 13, 2025 at 11:15 a.m.**

Qualified sign language interpreters are available with 72 hours notice. Materials in alternative formats are available upon request. For further information, please call Valley Metro at 602-262-7433 or TTY at 602-251-2039. The agenda and supporting information and meeting stream information is available by accessing our web site at www.valleymetro.org.

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 1**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Public Comment

PURPOSE
The public will be provided with an opportunity at this time to address the committees on **non-agenda items and all action agenda items for the Joint, RPTA and VMR meeting agendas.** Up to three minutes will be provided per speaker unless the Chair allows more at their discretion. A total of 15 minutes for all speakers will be provided.

RECOMMENDATION
This item is presented for information only.

BACKGROUND | DISCUSSION | CONSIDERATION
None

COST AND BUDGET
None

COMMITTEE PROCESS
None

CONTACT
Jessica Mefford-Miller
Jmeffordmiller@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
None

Executive Summary

DATE
October 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 2

SUBJECT
Chief Executive Officer's Report

COST AND BUDGET
There are no costs associated with this item

RECOMMENDATION
This item is presented for information only.

CONTACT
Jessica Mefford-Miller
Chief Executive Officer
jmeffordmiller@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
None

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 3**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Audit and Finance Subcommittee (AFS) Update

PURPOSE
Councilmember White, AFS Chair, will provide an update on the discussions and actions taken at the September AFS meeting.

BACKGROUND | DISCUSSION | CONSIDERATION
The Audit and Finance Subcommitte met on Thursday, October 2, 2025.

COST AND BUDGET
None

COMMITTEE PROCESS
None

RECOMMENDATION
This item is presented for information only.

CONTACT
Ken Kessler
Chief Financial Officer
kkessler@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
Draft minutes for October 2, 2025

Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2025 **AGENDA ITEM 3A**

Audit and Finance Subcommittee
Thursday, October 2, 2025
Boardroom/Webex
12:00 p.m.

Meeting Participants
Councilmember Max White, City of Avondale, Chair (phone)
Councilmember Peggy McMahon, Town of Fountain Hills (phone)
Councilmember Laura Pastor, City of Phoenix (phone)
Councilmember Jennifer Adams, City of Tempe (phone)

Chair White called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. Pat will you please call the roll.

Yes ma'am, good afternoon, everyone.

City of Avendale Councilmember Max White. Present.
Town of Fountain Hills Councilmember Peggy McMashon. Present.
City of Phoenix Councilmember Laura Pastor. Present.
City of Tempe Councilmember Jennifer Adams? Present.
City of Tolleson Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis?

Ms. Dillon said Chair we are ready to proceed. We do have a quorum.

Thank you. It is 12:02 p.m. and I'd like to call to order the Audit and Finance Subcommittee meeting for October second and welcome all of the members who are online. Pat, can you call the role for us, please?

1. Public Comment

Chair White said we'll move to item number one public comment. The public will be provided with an opportunity at this time to address the committee on non-agenda items and all action items for the joint RPTA and VMR meeting agenda. Up to three minutes will be provided per speaker unless the chair allows more at their discretion. A total of 15 minutes for all speakers will be provided. Pat, do we have any public comment?

Ms. Dillon said no ma'am, I'm not today.

2. Chief Financial Officer's Report

Thank you so much. We'll move to item number two Chief Financial Officer's Report. I'll go ahead and call on Mr. Ken Kesler, our CFO for this report. Thank you so much Mr. Kestler.

Mr. Kessler said thank you madam chair. Members of the subcommittee. Today's CFO comments we have the Public Transportation Fund Revenues through August at this point, being that it's just 2nd day of October. We won't see September revenues till sometime next week. So through September, we are just a tick under four and a half percent over prior year.

And just a little under 2 % under prior year, I'm sorry, under current year budget. So we, we have kind of, come down a bit the 1st month we're about 7 % over prior year now, we're about four and a half percent under I'm sorry over last year's actuals. So happy to answer any questions.

Chair White said I will open the floor for questions. Hearing none. This is a report for information only. We can move to item number three. Thank you so much Mr. Kessler.

3. Minutes

Chair White said the minutes from the September 4, 2025 AFS meeting are presented for approval. If we could take a moment to review these minutes.

I'm going to ask the committee if there are any questions or concerns on the minutes as presented. Hearing and seeing no questions, I'll entertain a motion in a second to approve the minutes.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MCMAHON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PASTOR AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2025 AFS MEETING MINUTES.

4. Fiscal Year 2027 Preliminary Transit Service Budget Assumptions

Chair White said moving to item number four FY 2027 Preliminary Transit Service Budget Assumptions. I will go ahead and go back to our CFO Mr. Kesler to present this item.

Mr. Kessler said thank you madam chair. Tyler Olsen, Manager of Budget and Operations Financial Controls, will present this item today.

Mr. Olson said good afternoon, Madam Chair members of the subcommittee. Last month we discussed the FY 27 budget timeline and that process this month. I'm going to highlight the main assumptions for our transit service budget, which will deliver to city staff on 31 October. This 1st pass estimate is really what your city.

This fun through the IGA process, those services provided to your communities. Our goal here being so early is a not to exceed amount, getting your city's budget process. We'll continue to refine those numbers as we move further into the development process. We did share the same presentation with your city staff at financial working group last month.

Jumping into RPTA, taking a look at the revenues, as Mr. Kessler mentioned, year-over-year growth has been slowing, and in some cases looking at local revenues across the board, some cities being better than forecasted, some under, under plan.

But we will continue to monitor those quickly touching on public transportation funds, FY24 actuals compared to FY25, so the left side of that slide there you can see that we're still collecting higher than planned or higher than prior year, $5.5 million.

And then the budget for FY25 is slightly under plan. We do get the budget from, it's the official forecast, so we use the folks from the state to provide that information, and that's what we plan on putting in our budget, we should receive that here later this month. On the federal.

The revenue side of things, really flat year-over-year, advertising, no risk there. We have a minimum annual guarantee which we will meet. On the fare revenue side of things, here's a quick look at FY25, budget versus actual and the monthly collections cumulative, did a lot better than planned on the bus side primarily due to higher ridership than previous years, so it was a good story about eight percent higher, higher than we had done the year before, so we'll keep that trend in mind as we move into FY27.

Taking a look at service, the major part of our budget, what drives our budget, service levels on the bus side of things. Very minimal changes. We essentially start off with our base miles, what we're operating in the budget today FY26, about 15 million miles. We're adding about 146,000 miles for Keolis. For National Express, only about a one percent delta, year to year.

And so here's some of those service changes, we will continue to, work with your city staff and our service planning group, to identify any other enhancements that maybe requested as we move through this process and, and get those into FY27.

Taking a look at contracts for our East Valley bus contractor. We do have rates for the current five-year period based on the contract that was approved by the board, so no risk there. The West Valley contract, we do have rates through FY27 with the current contract. The contract will be out of contract options.

Valley Metro will be will be reprocuring that service. So rates beyond FY27 are not known until we get those from the market.

Fixed route bus just to touch real quick on, on fuel and facilities. Our East Valley bus service is operated out of two different facilities, the Mesa facility we own and compressed natural gas is piped directly into that facility. We do have a good rate for that fuel.

The Tempe facility, a large portion of our service is operated from this facility. We do lease that facility, so we work very closely with the City of Tempe to get those budget numbers and they have their own fuel contract in which liquid fuel is delivered to the facility then converted to natural gas, so slightly higher cost to that compared to being piped in, but we will share that.

Taking a look at demand services, we do have rates for both of our contracts, which includes the option years within the five-year period. Taking a look at current market trends. Positive indicators CPI is steady, not wild growth, only looking at two to three percent currently.

We've already seen the Feds implement some rate cuts and possibly more through the end of the year. Areas we want to monitor, obviously are the local sales tax collections that I mentioned, we are seeing a bit of a rise in price on natural gas costs and of course we'll continue to monitor other economic indicators.

As far as initiatives for FY27, this time last year, Prop 479 had not been approved. That's not the case at this point, so we know that we have a job to do in implementing that plan and working with MAG in that process.

And of course the Board approved Strategic Plan will continue to drive our budget, guide us in FY27 and beyond. We're also taking a look at the fare collection system that we now have in place. We've learned from that, and have some feedback from customers who want to explore the possibility of improving the customer experience even more so with some flexible payments and some promotions, obviously, you know, the more riders we have, the better our service is, and so we want to try to figure out how we can do that in a creative way through our new technology that we have.

And of course we're keeping an eye on potential risks, mainly tariffs, inflation on materials and fuel, we're seeing some of that in parts so far this year, so we'll continue to monitor that in the economic trends. Any questions before I jump into Valley Metro rail?

Chair White said we can hold the questions Mr. Olson, you can proceed. Thank you.

Mr. Olson said alright, so starting off with revenues for light rail, we do have a, another minimum annual guarantee on the advertising side for light rail. And then the federal PM slightly higher, so it's a good thing 9 % is the estimated increase for the year.

Fare revenue performance on rail, is not as good as RPTA primarily for a couple reasons, a combination of fare media returns. We have legacy fare media that has been returned as part of the new rollout of fare collection software and technology and so we're seeing some of the revenue was recognized in previous years and already distributed, which is the main reason why we want to move to a, one of the many reasons we want to move to the new technology where we can recognize revenue at the time it was actually used instead of sold. So a lot of returns by customers in the region and then we did have some ridership declines year over year on light rail, about four percent down for the year, so we'll continue to monitor that as we move forward.

When it comes to service on the rail side, we look at frequency. That's essentially the time between cars at a light rail station, the time the customer has to wait. So light rail, 12 minute frequency is our, our peak service and Streetcar is going to be 15 minutes. We do have contracts in place for those service alternate concepts incorporated provides the rail transportation, meaning the operators, supervisors, and their management. There's an eight percent increase in the annual escalator for the current board approved contract.

Intercon, our new fare inspection and security group, there is a three percent increase in their contract.

Propulsion power is still early. I'm not sure exactly what we're going to get from APS, we are working with our representative there. It's kind of a worst-case scenario would be 16 percent, but we're trying to get some better information. All of the utility rate increases do need to be approved by the Arizona corporation commission. We'll keep an eye on that. SRP already hasn't approved 3 % there. And we'll, we'll include some contingency in this first pass and as we move forward and refine our numbers. We'll back that contingency out of there.

For state good repair, obviously a lot of infrastructure with light rail. Some of the locally funded items that we have in the plan right now, which we're reviewing would be replacing our battery cartridges, which essentially are uninterruptible power backup systems that our signal buildings, platforms, traction power substations are really critical in the event of power loss.

Some other upgrades to our traction power substations include network switches that have reached end of life and are no longer supported, so that will be important for us to get done this upcoming year.

Obviously Streetcar extension, the Rio east Dobson are still in the planning phase and we'll continue that in FY27. Our light rail west continues planning there. CapEx, we hope to enter construction and everything else is generally the same as RPTA. Any questions? This concludes my presentation for VMR as well.

Chair White said thank you for your presentation, Mr. Olson. I appreciate that. I do not have any questions. I don't believe any of the committee members have any questions. You did provide comprehensive information.

Chair White said I just wanted to share with the board, council member Adams is online, with me. Councilmember Adams I just wanted to make sure you can hear and still and be heard.

5. <u>Travel Expenditures and Reimbursement Audit</u>

Chair White said we will move to item number five Travel Expenditures and Reimbursement Audit. I'm going to invite our chief auditor, Sabina Beckstrom to present this item. Ms. Beckstrom.

Ms. Beckstrom said thank you Madam chair. I'm going to invite Larry Kondrat, Audit Manager to the podium to present the results of this audit for you.

Mr. Kondrat said good afternoon Madam Chair, and members of the subcommittee. I'm here to present the results of the travel expenses and reimbursements audit. The objective of the audit was to review travel expenses and reimbursements to determine whether our travel process controls are effective.

An internal audit reviewed 67 percent of all travel expenses and reimbursements for fiscal year 2025 determined that Valley Metro has very effective travel process controls and there were no findings or recommendations resulting from the audit. So are there any questions related to the audit?

Chair White said I don't see any questions online. I don't have any questions. I do want to make a comment for any and everybody that travels on behalf of Valley Metro in the name of promoting and ensuring we have great transit. Thank you so much for your strong record keeping. I think it's anybody who travels with the organization and represents the organization.

We are following the rules and this type of audit makes me feel very good about all the members of the organization that have to use travel. So I'm just very proud of this type of outcome. Thank you so much Mr. Kondrat for these findings. This is an action item, so if you do have any questions or concerns.

I want to give you another chance to voice or make those commentaries. Otherwise staff is recommending that AFS accepts the Travel Expense and Reimbursement Audit Report. I will entertain that motion.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER ADAMS, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MCMAHON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE TRAVEL EXPENSE AND REIMBURSEMENT AUDIT REPORT.

6. Internal Audit Annual Report for September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2025

Chair White said we will move to item six Internal Audit Annual Report for September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2025. Our chief auditor Ms. Beckstrom will present this item and it is information only.

Ms. Beckstrom said thank you Madam Chair members of the committee. Valley Metro Internal Audit Division is designed to serve Valley Metro and its Board of Directors by providing independent objective assurance advice, insight and foresight which add value and help to improve the processes and operation operational processes for Valley Metro. The.

Internal audit division follows the international auditing standards known as the Global Internal Audit Standards set forth by the Institute of Internal auditors. These standards were updated in January of 2025 hence the name changed, they used to be known as the International Professional Practices framework. So some updates and a name change. These standards require that the Chief Auditor, maintain a systemic approach to regularly reporting out results to leadership, which is completed by.

This requirement is fulfilled by regularly reporting out to AFS in addition to this annual reporting of, of all events that have taken place through the year. During this audit period, the internal audit division completed nine internal audits.

Nine safety and security audits and followed up on 32 recommendations that had for implementation, and of those 32 recommendations that we are following up on. Seventeen have been implemented and 15 will be implemented during the next cycle. In addition to the nine internal audits that we have completed during this cycle, there were three audits on the audit plan that were not finished before August 31, 2025. Those three audits will be completed within the first three months of this audit cycle and it does not slow the work of the new audits in this new audit cycle. The reason behind that was we had some staffing changes in some of the divisions that we were auditing which were required us to give a little bit more time. And then there was a delay with one of our audits due to the opening of South Central Extension. We needed to push that deadline back because of competing priorities.

Are there any questions about the information in the annual audit report?

Chair White said hearing no questions, I believe we can accept this for information only. Was there additional information to provide Ms. Beckstrom?

Ms. Beckstrom said there's quite a bit of information in the report. I just gave high level presentation, but if there are any questions, you can reach out to me directly as well.

Chair White said we do appreciate the high level. I know we received the full pack and had the opportunity to review it. I didn't have anything for you at this time, but I do appreciate the fact that there is some regularity and we are very well aware, it's a very transparent process and transparent shop that you run. Thank you very much, Ms. Beckstrom.

8. <u>Intergovernmental Agreements, Contract Change Orders, Amendments and Awards</u>

Chair White said since this item is for presentation only, we will move to item number eight. Intergovernmental Agreements, Contract Change Orders, Amendments and Awards. If an AFS member has questions regarding these items, please contact Valley Metro's staff to...

Ms. Dillon said we have the Internal Audit Update item number seven.

Chair White said I'm sorry I skipped over item number seven. Please forgive me. Item number seven, our Chief Auditor is going to present this as well. Thank you.

7. Internal Audit Update

Ms. Beckstrom said thank you Madam Chair members of the committee. Again, Larry Kondrat will come up to the podium to present this item for information.

Mr. Kondrat said thank you again Madam Chair, and members of the subcommittee. I'm here to present this month's Internal Audit Update.

We completed the travel expenses and reimbursements audit that we just previously discussed, and then we also completed three internal safety and security audits that resulted in two corrective action plans.

In progress right now, we're finalizing the draft audit report for the IT patch management audit, and the vehicle disposal process audit, the draft audit report is undergoing final review.

The construction management contract audit, the external auditors are conducting interviews right now with a couple of peer agencies and there's one internal safety and security audit left and the.

For the calendar year 2025 audit plan and we have an entrance conference scheduled two weeks from now for that. There were two recommendations implemented within the last month. One had to do with rail operator fitness for duty. And the other had to do with Bus Operator Fitness for Duty. And currently there are still 13 recommendations in progress of which six are from a audit that was published in August. And that's all I have for this month's update. Are there any questions?

Chair White said Mr. Kondrat I know that you said there were some recommendations that required corrective action. Were those policy or procedure corrective actions if you can give me the most high level from what you identified?

Mr. Kondrat said yes, thank you for that question ma'am chair. Both corrective action plans had to do with revising language, one had to do with our agency safety plan, which will include in the revision that submitted in January. And the other one had a minor language in regards to security document. We've created new positions within the safety and security quality assurance division and they need to be added to the next copy of the agency safety plan. But there, there are minor corrective action plans and they'll be addressed by the end of the year.

Chair White said thank you very much. I really appreciate that. Any additional questions or concerns from committee members? No. Hearing none, this report is for information only. Thank you so much, Mr. Kondrat.

8. Intergovernmental Agreements, Contract Change Orders, Amendments and Awards

9. Chair White

Now we can move to item number eight, intergovernmental agreements, contract change orders, amendments, and awards. If we have any questions regarding this item, please contact Valley Metro's staff. I know that Pat will be our conduit. If you do have any questions about the information in your packet.

108 "Max White - City of Avondale" (624151552)
00:36:13.729 --> 00:36:32.459
Item number nine report on current events and suggested future agenda items. If there's a committee member on the line that would like to share something with us, please use this time to do so.

109 "Max White - City of Avondale" (624151552)
00:36:32.459 --> 00:36:50.519
Thank you, council member Adams. Anything council member passed door council member mcman, we good? Hearing none, we will, our next committee meeting of AFS is scheduled for Thursday, 6 November.

110 "Max White - City of Avondale" (624151552)
00:36:50.519 --> 00:37:09.695
2025 at 12:00 P.M. This meeting can be adjourned. Thank you all so much for all of your hard work. Have a terrific Thursday and an awesome October. Let's use to have a new beginning and continue the work. Thank you all for all that you do.

111 "Peggy McMahon" (1036162304)
00:37:09.695 --> 00:37:13.238
Thank you. Thank you all for your time today. Thank you.

112 "Dillon, Pat" (848062720)
00:37:13.238 --> 00:37:20.676
Sure thank you.

Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2025 **AGENDA ITEM 4A**

Joint Boards of Directors
Thursday, September 18, 2025
Lake Powell Conference Room/Webex
101 N. 1st Avenue, 10th Floor
11:15 a.m.

RPTA Meeting Participants
City of Avondale, Councilmember Max White **(Vice Chair)** (phone)
City of Phoenix, Interim Deputy City Manager, Amber Williamson for Councilmember Laura Pastor **(Treasurer)**
City of El Mirage, Councilmember Monica Dorcey
Town of Gilbert, Councilmember Kenny Buckland (phone)
City of Glendale, Vice Mayor Lauren Tolmachoff
City of Goodyear, Vice Mayor Wally Campbell (phone)
Maricopa County, Supervisor Steve Gallardo (phone)
City of Mesa, Councilmember Francisco Heredia (phone)
Town of Queen Creek, Councilmember Bryan McClure (phone)
City of Scottsdale, Councilmember Maryann McAllen (phone)
City of Tolleson, Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis (phone)
Town of Wickenburg, Mayor BG Bratcher (phone)
Town of Youngtown, Mayor Michael LeVault (phone)

RPTA Members not Present
City of Buckeye, Councilmember Jamine Berry
City of Chandler, Councilmember OD Harris
Town of Fountain Hills, Councilmember Peggy McMahon
City of Peoria, Councilmember Jon Edwards
City of Surprise, Councilmember Earle Greenberg
City of Tempe, Councilmember Jennifer Adams **(Chair)**

Valley Metro Rail Board Members
City of Phoenix, Interim Deputy City Manager, Amber Williamson for Councilmember Laura Pastor **(Chair)**
City of Mesa, Councilmember Francisco Heredia (phone)

VMR Members not Present
City of Tempe, Councilmember Jennifer Adams **(Vice Chair)**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:19 a.m.

Chair White said I'll go ahead and call our September 18th, 2025, meeting of the Joint Board of Directors of Valley Metro Rail, Valley Metro to order at 11:19.

Can you take roll for us please, Pat?

Ms. Dillon said yes, ma'am. Good morning, everyone.

City of Avondale, Councilmember Maxine White? Present.
City of Buckeye, Councilmember Jamaine Berry?
City of Chandler, Councilmember OD Harris?
City of El Mirage, Councilmember Monica Dorcey? Present.
Town of Fountain Hills, Councilmember Peggy McMahon?
Town of Gilbert, Councilmember Kenny Buckland?
City of Glendale, Vice Mayor Lauren Tolmachoff?
City of Goodyear, Vice Mayor Wally Campbell?
Maricopa County Supervisor, Steve Gallardo? Present.
City of Mesa, Councilmember Francisco Heredia?
City of Peoria, Councilmember Jon Edwards?
City of Phoenix, Councilmember Laura Pastor? Councilmember Pastor is not present today, but Amber Willliams will be representing the City of Phoenix at the Valley Metro Rail board today.
Town of Queen Creek, Councilmember Bryan McClure? Here.
City of Scottsdale, Councilmember Mary Ann McAllen? Present.
City of Surprise, Councilmember Earle Greenberg?
City of Tempe, Councilmember Jennifer Adams?
City of Tolleson, Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis? Present. Online.
Town of Wickenburg, Mayor B.G. Bratcher? Present.
Town of Youngtown, Mayor Michael LeVault? Yes, Pat, I'm here.

Ms. Dillon said Chair, we do have a quorum, and we are ready to proceed.

Chair White said thank you so much.

1. Public Comment

We'll move to item number one, Public Comment. The public will be provided with an opportunity at this time to address the committee on non-agenda items and all action items for the Joint RPTA and VMR meeting agenda. Up to three minutes will be provided unless the chair allows more at their discretion. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for all speakers. Pat, do we have any public comment written in or present in the audience?

Ms. Dillon said no, ma'am, not today.

Chair White said thank you very much.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report

CHAIR WHITE: We can move to item number two, Chief Executive Officer's Report. We'll receive this report today from Jessica Mefford-Miller, our CEO, and she'll give us an update for the joint boards on current issues. CEO Mefford Miller.

Ms. Mefford-Miller said good morning. Thank you, Madam Chair, members of the board, staff and members of the public.

It has been quite a week at Valley Metro. I do want to begin this morning by providing you with an update and addressing a collision that occurred on our system Sunday evening impacting service and certainly making for several media stories.

This past Sunday on September 14th at approximately 7:14 p.m., a light rail train traveling westbound on Washington and a semi-truck also traveling westbound on Washington collided at 18th Street.

That collision very quickly ignited a fire which caused significant damage to both vehicles and our overhead catenary system. The visuals were quite startling, but I think it's important to note first and foremost that our operator, every single passenger and the driver of this semi-truck were able to safely exit the vehicles. The driver of the semi-truck was transported with non-critical injuries and has since been discharged from the hospital.

I am so grateful for the swift actions of our operator on that evening, our riders, our team members and partners who were able to quickly respond and mitigate what could have been a terrible impact at that scene.

I want to give you just a little bit of context. The train itself was severely damaged. It did derail from the track. The incident took down our overhead catenary pole and approximately two blocks of our overhead catenary wire which powers the light rail vehicles. This is because the semi-truck did make contact as it was drug just a little bit by the train with a pole which took down those wires.

Fortunately, we were able to continue service with a little bit of disruption and the help of some bus bridging because we were able to operate in the eastbound and westbound direction on our tracks along Jefferson Street. This is a portion of the alignment where we operate normally westbound on Washington and eastbound on Jefferson. So for a portion of the alignment and with the skilled help of our team on the ground and on the control center, both directions of travel carried on Jefferson.

Our teams worked 24/7 throughout the night and the days from Sunday night and into Monday to restore service. By noon Monday, we had the train rerailed. We did tow it back to our operations and maintenance facility which is near 44th Street and Washington Avenue.

And by 10 a.m. on yesterday, Wednesday, we were able to restore service in both directions on Washington and Jefferson. This would not have been possible without the work from our many partners, City of Phoenix Police, fire, streets department and Public Works were there at the ready to help us remove debris from the scene, of course, extinguish that fire.

City of Phoenix Police is continuing the ongoing investigation, All City Towing and Mass. Electric also came to our aid in removing the vehicle and restoring our overhead catenary system. And we're also grateful to our neighbors and police who ensured safety and access to that scene which remained closed through yesterday.

I've got to credit the Valley Metro team. You show your greatest strength at times when things don't go as we planned. To our maintenance team who was responsible for the vehicles, the track, the overhead catenary system. The operations team who responded on scene immediately and continued to supervise days of disrupted service. Our safety team who responded swiftly and took control of the scene and continued communication with me, with all of our partners and with one another for a period of days. Our communications team who kept the public and our riders informed. Our rail and bus operators and our contractor, ACI and Inter-con our security team who maintained a presence on the ground.

Once that investigation concludes, I will provide an update to the board with additional details. Also, in the news this week, it's been a big week in the news for Valley Metro. A couple of days ago, local news media reported concerns from local operators and the Amalgamated Transit Union on behalf of bus and rail. I did send you an email this morning with greater details, but I do want to address this morning some high-level information.

Our rail contractor, ACI, who employs all of our rail operators is and has and remains in collective bargaining with ATU Local 1433. These negotiations have scheduled sit-down meetings. The next meetings occur in the month of October. I remain hopeful that these discussions will yield a beneficial agreement for all involved.

Relative to some of the comments shared with the media, I want to underscore safety is part of our culture. It's discussed as part of regular collaborative meetings with our team members, service providers, and union and these occur in safety meetings with frontline team members and field observations and listening sessions. We're working to actively create a safer and more secure system through maintenance campaigns, service scheduling -- service scheduling efforts, and technology investments.

Investing in our talented workforce is also part of our culture and another critical pillar of our strategic plan. We're committed to listening to our operators and all of our frontline team members. We're creating continuous improvement throughout the Valley Metro organization and operation based on their input. Some of our frontline engagement channels that you might not be aware of include quarterly listening sessions with all of our rail and bus operators, quarterly all-hands meetings with our security team, monthly labor management safety committee meetings at each of our operating facilities, customer experience coordinator forums, train ridealongs between our planning and scheduling team with our operators that's focused on scheduling, signals, and the function of our brand new Downtown Hub. We conducted an operator survey recently via QR code. It was electronic. We got a low response rate. So now we're working to deliver that operator survey in paper form so that we can plan continued feedback.

We've got a cross-disciplinary team within Valley Metro led by communications but in partnership with service planning, maintenance, and operations that's working to develop a comprehensive plan for ongoing frontline engagement. And that includes our Valley Metro employees as well as our contract team members. That plan is going to be complete later this fall. This isn't new. This is work that we have been doing and work we will continue doing. When it comes to safety and the needs of our frontline teams and our customers, we do not deflect from that input or criticism.

In other matters, I do want to provide a less sensational update on work that we're doing with communities from across our service area.

This microtransit business plan is something that's under development. It was initially requested by several of our West Valley facilities that participate in WeRide, but we also have participation from cities outside of West Valley. Those include Goodyear, Avondale, Peoria, Chandler, Surprise, and Buckeye.

The purpose of developing a microtransit business plan, which we're doing in a partnership between staff and a contract partner, AECOM, is to develop a plan that would outline the possibility of transitioning administration of microtransit, namely the WeRide program, from the member communities to Valley Metro.

WeRide has been a very successful program. It was launched by the communities as a pilot, always with a long-term thought that should it be a program that continues, it might be something logical for Valley Metro to lead out. So that plan development includes identifying and really understanding the city goals and objectives, developing, operating, and financial capacity plans for supporting service into the future, marketing and communications, which is so critical for communicating the value and availability of any of the service we provide, and then finally an implementation plan.

The contractor came on board just this month. The kickoff meeting with member cities is scheduled for early October, and we anticipate the planning work will be complete in late spring of 2026.

Moving back into engagement with the community, we opened South Central Extension and Downtown Hub June 7th, always intending for that wonderful ribbon-cutting celebration to be really the kickoff of an ongoing and living conversation and relationship with the South Central community.

We're committed to continuing engagement, relationships, presence, and also building awareness of this brand-new service. We continue to have staff present on site, working with businesses and residents in the South Central Corridor. We're also continuing to have presence at community meetings and events.

This past weekend on September 13th, we had presence at the 75th anniversary of the Harmon Library, and that's at 5th and Buckeye. We also had a booth sharing information about Valley Metro Services, including the new South Central Extension at the El Grito Celebration of Mexican Independence Day, which occurred here in downtown Phoenix on September 13th.

That engagement is going to continue. We'll have facilitated tours of the entire system, including the South Central Extension alignment. We're organizing those this fall with local groups and business contacts so that local businesses, organizations that support seniors and especially young people in the community. And we're working now to gear up for a holiday celebration that we're planning on the South Central Corridor. December is going to be here before we know it, and we look forward to celebrating the holidays with South Phoenix.

Also this week, boy, this has -- this has been a week. Monday morning, while attending the APTA TRANSform conference, Jesus Sapien, City of Phoenix Public Transit Director and I had the opportunity to meet privately with FTA Administrator Marcus Molinaro.

We had the opportunity to share with him how federal transit investment in the Phoenix transit system from state of good repair dollars to capital investment or SIG grant funds have helped us double our rail miles since 2008. We discussed our continued partnership with FTA as we seek to reinvest in our existing system and expand both east and west to reach our growing demand for transit across the Valley.

We shared with him examples of our successful project delivery, our five capital investment grant-funded rail projects have all been delivered ahead of schedule and under budget. We shared how the agency is delivering transit across the Valley, support families and communities through safe and secure operations.

And we also got to share some of our great stats and progress delivered by our security team, which we will soon begin communicating to the public because we've had strong success and it's a story worth telling. We're very excited to have Mr. Molinaro confirmed as FTA Administrator and we will continue to work on our strong relationship with FTA.
Madam Chair, members of the board, this concludes my report. Are there any questions I may answer?

Chair White said thank you so much, CEO Mefford Miller. I'll open up the floor for any questions for our CEO from board members. I don't see any questions online nor hear any from the body, Pat. Are there any questions in the room I'm overlooking?

Ms. Dillon said no, ma'am. There are no hands raised.

Chair White said thank you for the comprehensive report. A lot of information. I am so grateful to hear.

Safety is first. We're all very concerned when we heard about the accident and derailment of a train, but to know that we're back to full operation and an investigation for the root cause is in progress. We're thankful that everyone came out safely. So I'm very proud of the staff. You've already thanked everyone. Just want to continue to be mindful to await the outcome before, and we look forward to your next report.

3. Audit and Finance Subcommittee Update

Chair White said we'll go ahead and move from item number two to item number three, Audit and Finance Subcommittee Report.

I'll provide that report. The Audit and Finance Subcommittee met on Thursday, September 4th. We opened up for public comment. There was none available.

We also received an update from our Chief Financial Officer on PTF sales tax revenue through July. Very happy to report. We're just a tick under 7 percent over prior year actual. So getting off to a strong start for the new fiscal year.

We received FY27 budget development process timeline. Our Chief, I'm sorry, our Budget Manager and Operations Fiscal Controls Officer, Tyler Olson, walked the committee through the budget development timeline for FY27. The AFS will receive the key assumptions at our October meeting. There are other key dates for the budget process and AFS will be receiving several updates throughout the process.

During that meeting, we also received an update from our Chief Auditor. The results of the contract change orders audit were presented and accepted and approved. It was determined that Valley Metro has efficient, effective controls in place for the identification, pricing and approval of change orders and had consistent practices across the process. There were no issues identified or findings as a result of the contract change order audit results.
Our Internal Audit Manager, Larry Kondrat, provided an update regarding audits that are being completed, in progress and an update on audit recommendations that are in the process of being completed.

From there, we have our intergovernmental agreement, contract change order amendments and awards. This information was in the board's agenda. And so if there are any questions from the members online or in the audience, please make sure you reach out to Valley Metro staff. Our next AFS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 2nd at 12 p.m. And that concludes the audit finance subcommittee report.

I will open up the floor for questions. Hearing no questions.

4. Consent Agenda

Chair White said we'll move to item number four, our Consent Agenda. Today, our Consent Agenda consists of four items. Please review the Consent Agenda and I will entertain a motion to accept the Consent Agenda.

IT WAS MOVED BY VICE MAYOR TOLMACHOFF, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER DORSEY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 4A THROUGH 4D.

5. Joint Ad-hoc Committee

Chair White said we're moving into our regular agenda. Item number five is also an action item. It's the recommendation that the Board of Directors establish an ad hoc committee to review business practices in contracting and procurement strategies and report back to the board of directors with their findings, observations or recommendations, including opportunities identified for efficiencies to Valley Metro's business practices, contracting, and procurement practices. I believe this item was recommended by a few board members. So I would like to just pause here and open up the floor for discussion and receive feedback about this recommendation prior to taking action.

Vice Mayor Tolmachoff said I think this will be a productive committee. I know I was one of the people that encouraged this to kind of take a deep dive into what, you know, possibly now that we have a -- we're sure about a funding source for the organization for the next 20 years, whether we need to adjust some of the business practices, whether we want to in-source things, what things could we in-source, and that the board would be able to support this conversation by forming this ad hoc committee. So I'm absolutely in favor of it. Thank you.

Chair White said thank you so much, Vice Mayor Tomalchoff. We can red robin this, and please just open up the mic and go ahead and state your perspective if you have one.

Vice Mayor Tolmachoff said it's awful quiet in here today.

Chair White said it is quiet. So I'll go ahead and state my perspective. I believe that as a member of the Audit and Finance Subcommittee, having chaired that committee for a year and also participating actively in -- in the leadership here on the board of directors, I don't have a problem with this. I just find that in -- and this is me bragging on the staff in Avondale. So I find that my staff in my city is able to help me kind of understand and give me some perspective on that. Might be because some of my staff is super knowledgeable, might be because some of my staff came from your city, Vice Mayor Tomalchoff, but I don't know if I have the capacity for another meeting. So I would agree with this, but I'm not sure if I could be a part of that ad hoc committee.

And so I think too, a part of the discussion I think we need to have and be realistic with is who are we going to -- who's going to be committed to continue this conversation? And I hear you as that first voice saying that, yes, I am available and committed.

Vice Mayor Tolmachoff said I'm absolutely willing. I believe the staff report outlines three, I don't remember what it said, but I think it said a five-member committee. Jessica, would you like to weigh in?

Ms. Mefford-Miller said thank you, Vice Mayor Tomalchoff. In your memo on page three under background information, the suggested ad hoc committee composition really mirrors that of audit finance subcommittee, which is five members, three representing RPTA and two representing VMR. Of course, the board is positioned to inform that should you prefer a different committee construct.

Vice Mayor Tolmachoff said we had that deep dive on several areas and I know there were some -- from several board members some questions about the length of time procurements were taking. And I know we've expressed -- and in my city also coming from my staff is whether or not we -- you know, things have changed now. Now we know the organization's got funding for the next 20 years.

So I can understand outsourcing contracts when you don't want to be bringing people in, creating new departments or whatever for different things or building a bigger staff because we weren't sure we were going to have a funding source beyond 2025. That's changed now. So my feeling is that it's the right time to have this conversation.

We may determine that we don't need to make any changes. That might be the outcome of having the conversation, but I think it's a conversation that is important for board members to participate in.

So some of this was at the recommendation of city staff and Glendale is that we take a look at what we can maybe be more efficient at now that we know we have funding for the next 20 years to proceed through, you know, our strategic plan.

And I think it aligns well with the strategic plan. I just like the way that you're framing that in all the initiatives now. And I think it really does align with the organization's strategic plan. So I guess I'm going to be the only one that talks today.

I don't know if anybody else wants to say anything but feel free.

Councilmember Dorcey said I agree with Councilmember White that I don't have an objection to doing this. And if it brings out some helpful things, then it's probably worth the effort. I would be willing to be involved in this. I don't know really how much expertise I bring to the process, but I assume that we'll have staff to help us where we require that sort of thing. So I'm in.

Chair White said any opposing views? I think we've heard a couple of views in favor of this process.

Ms. Dillon said Chair White Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis has a question or his hand raised.

Vice Mayor Davis said I was just going to say I don't see a problem with this either. You know, it's always good to look at things. I definitely do not have the capacity to participate in this committee. I think I'm at my maximum allowable things, but I think if some other board members would like to take this on, I think that would be great.

Chair White said I thank you so much, Vice Mayor Davis. I think we also have a new procurement manual. Maybe someone from Valley Metro staff can validate, confirm or deny. But if we have a new procurement manual, it might be great for us to understand what that looks like and the difference between what we had before and where we are now, because that would be something the board of directors is completely unfamiliar with.

Ms. Dillon said Chair White, Vice Mayor Campbell also has her hand raised. Vice Mayor Campbell, I think you're still muted. I think you have to turn up the volume as well, Vice Mayor. I don't have any audio.

Ms. Dillon said Vice Mayor Campbell, we cannot hear you. So you'll need to adjust your microphone volume. You're on mute now. Vice Mayor, we can see you. Are you in agreement with this ad hoc committee?

Chair White said she is shaking her head, yes. Yes, okay, very good, very good.

Vice Mayor Tolmachoff said Vice Chair White, just for the sake of -- and I don't know if everybody's seen the entire staff report, but it's a five member committee. So it's what's being proposed, three RPTA members and two Valley Metro Rail, and then geographically, you know, divided amongst East Valley, West Valley. So that's what -- that's what they're seeking.
This is basically just establish the committees, what I understand, and then there'll be letters of interest, I guess, submitted for anybody who wishes to participate.

Ms. Dillon said yes, ma'am, that email will come out early next week, requesting letters of interest to sit on this ad hoc committee. And then we'll come back in October, and the board will vote on that slate of participants.

Chair White said I am ready to entertain a motion for the joint ad hoc committee.

IT WAS MOVED BY VICE MAYOR TOLMACHOFF, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR DAVIS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO CREATE THE JOINT AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW BUSINESS PRACTICES AND PROCUREMENT STRATEGY AND REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH THEIR FINDINGS.

6. Travel and Expenditures

Chair White said moving to item number six, Travel and Expenditures. This item is for information only. It's in your packet. If you have any questions, please reach out.

7. Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items

Chair White said I will move to item number seven, Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items. Opening up the floor to any member on the line or in person. Hearing no items.

8. Next Meeting

Chair White said item number eight, our next meeting of the joint board is on October 16th at 11:15 a.m. And this will close out our joint meeting.

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 4B**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Advertising Sales Services Authorization to Issue a Solicitation

COST AND BUDGET
Costs submitted in responses will be subject to either a price or cost analysis, including comparison to an independent cost estimate, if applicable. Specific costs and budget impact will be disclosed at the time of a request for award.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a competitive solicitation for advertising sales services.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
This item relates to the following goal and strategy in the Five-Year Strategic Plan:

- Goal 9: Financial Sustainability
    - Tactic C: Maximize revenue generation, including advertising

COMMITTEE PROCESS
RTAG: September 16, 2025, for information
TMC/RMC: October 1, 2025, approved
Boards of Directors: October 16, 2025, for action

CONTACT
Hillary Foose
Chief of Marketing & Communications
hfoose@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
None

Background Information

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION
The Advertising Sales Services contract allows Valley Metro to realize revenue from a full range of advertising sales services for the bus and rail system, including selling, installing, maintaining and managing the agency's advertising sales program, which consists of exterior vehicle wraps, interior ceiling advertisements, bus stop shelter posters, transit bench ads, station displays, and billboards.

The previous contract was awarded on July 1, 2015 and is set to expire on June 30, 2026. The following is summary of the revenue generated over the last three fiscal years by Bus and Rail.

FY	Bus	Rail	FY TOTAL
2023	662,822.32	656,058.93	1,318,881.25
2024	701,519.27	1,250,000.00	1,951,519.27
2025	765,412.04	1,250,000.00	2,015,412.04
TOTAL	**$2,129,753.63**	**$3,156,058.93**	**$5,285,812.56**

For the future solicitation, the scope will be entirely re-evaluated to ensure the agency/region maximizes revenue, leverages assets and new technologies, takes into consideration best practices and operational needs as well as supports member cities in their revenue-generating goals. The scope will be drafted in consultation with member cities and internal and external expertise.

4B. Advertising Sales Services Authorization to Issue a Solicitation

1

Background Information

- This contract supports the advertising sales services needs of the bus and rail system, encompassing the sale, installation, maintenance and management of the agency's advertising sales program.
- Over $5,000,000 in advertising revenue generated over the last three fiscal years.

FY	BUS	RAIL	TOTAL FY
2023	662,822.32	656,058.93	1,318,881.25
2024	701,519.27	1,250,000.00	1,951,519.27
2025	765,412.04	1,250,000.00	2,015,412.04
TOTAL	**$2,129,753.63**	**$3,156,058.93**	**$5,285,812.56**

2

2

Background Information

- This item serves the Agency's strategic plan through maximizing advertising revenue generation and delivering on financial sustainability.
- Advertising sales services supports member cities in their revenue-generating goals.

3

VALLEY METRO

3

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize for the Chief Executive Officer to issue a solicitation for advertising sales services.

4

VALLEY METRO

4

Executive Summary

DATE
October 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 4C

SUBJECT
Community Relations Support Services Authorization to Issue a Solicitation

COST AND BUDGET
Costs submitted in responses will be subject to either a price or cost analysis, including comparison to an independent cost estimate, if applicable. Specific costs and budget impact will be disclosed at the time of a request for award.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the TMC/RMC forward to the Boards of Directors authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to issue a competitive solicitation for community relations support services.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
This item relates to the following goals and strategies in the Five-Year Strategic Plan,

- Goal 1: Deliver Excellent Customer Experience
  - Initiative 1.5: Continue to innovate, integrate, and market mobility solutions to expand transit availability and equity.
- Goal 5: Stakeholder Collaboration
  - Initiative 5.4: Foster community voices and feedback from hard-to-reach communities.
  - Initiative 5.5: Communicate the value of transit to stakeholders and the public.

COMMITTEE PROCESS
RTAG: September 16, 2025, for information
TMC/RMC: October 1, 2025, approved
Boards of Directors: October 16, 2025, for action

CONTACTS
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Hillary Foose
Chief, Marketing & Communications
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ATTACHMENT
None

Background Information

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION
The Community Relations Support Services contract utilizes multiple-qualified firms that enable Valley Metro to expand our bandwidth and leverage industry and area expertise to provide community relations support services for the current transit system and future expansion. The service augments Valley Metro's in-house teams to effectively and in a timely and targeted manner engage and support impacted communities, promote our range of services as well as help implement strategic efforts driven by Strategic Plan, budget initiatives, important agency milestones and/or Board/CEO priorities.

Valley Metro has and continues to utilize community relations consultant resources to augment internal staff, provide specialized expertise, aid the agency in scaling up/down and being responsive to the community engagement needs of the region and member cities.

Historically, these firms have been used for:

- Community relations coordination
- Virtual and digital outreach
- Business assistance program development and support
- Specialized public relations
- Crisis communications support
- Special event planning and support
- Research tasks
- Graphics and visualization support
- Administrative and scheduling support

At Valley Metro's direction, the consultant staff have been embedded in capital projects since the development of the light rail starter line, and assist, as needed, with light rail extensions, service changes, studies and help with agency strategic initiatives, such as outreach for the Fare Collection System Modernization and the Bus Network Redesign.

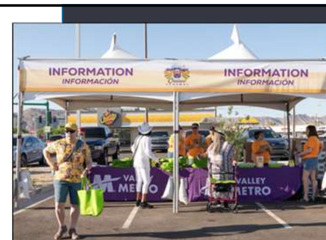
Community Relations Support Services will only be used as budget allows and to build campaigns supportive of agency/member city goals.

4C. Community Relations Support Services Authorization to Issue a Solicitation

1

Background Information

- This contract provides community relations support services for the current transit system and future expansion by leveraging qualified firms with extensive experience in the transit industry and in our community.
- The service augments Valley Metro’s in-house teams to effectively support impacted communities, aid the agency in scaling up/down, promote our services and help implement strategic efforts.
- Enables the agency to be responsive to the community engagement needs of the region and member cities as well as budget initiatives, and Board/CEO priorities.



2

2

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a competitive solicitation for community relations support services.

3

3

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 4D**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
ATIS Software Support and Maintenance Contract Amendment

COST AND BUDGET
No additional contract authority is requested.

For FY26, the contract obligation is fully funded within the adopted FY26 Operating and Capital Budget. Contract obligations beyond FY26 are incorporated into the Agency's Five-Year Operating Forecast and Capital Program (FY26 through FY30).

The source of funds is Public Transportation Funds.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract amendment with Trapeze Software Group, Inc., to extend the contract through June 30, 2027.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
This item relates to the following goals and strategies in the Five-Year Strategic Plan:

- Goal 4: Leverage industry best practices and innovations on data and technology
    - Tactic 4.4: Improve data sharing and access mobility data from private providers
- Goal 8: Operational excellence
    - Tactic 8.3: Improve service quality through enhanced planning, performance management, and continuous improvement

COMMITTEE PROCESS
RTAG: September 16, 2025, for information
TMC/RMC: October 1, 2025, approved
Boards of Directors: October 16, 2025, for action

CONTACT
Matus Mrocek
Interim Director, Information and Technology
MMrocek@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
A copy of the contract amendment is available for review.

Background Information

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

Trapeze ATIS" refers to Trapeze Group's Advanced Traveler Information System (ATIS), a component of their Intelligent Transportation Systems. At the agency, Trapeze ATIS provides the IVR (Interactive Voice Response) for NextRide with real-time arrival estimates and service alerts. It is also heavily used by our Customer Service agents for trip planning and school field trip itineraries.

The agency is seeking to replace the software during this fiscal year but is requesting this extension to ensure that the new solution is fully implemented before the discontinuation of Trapeze ATIS.

This item has been reviewed and approved by Information Technology Services

CONTRACT TYPE AND TERM

The contract is a firm fixed-price contract. The contract began on July 1, 2023, and will end on June 30, 2027.

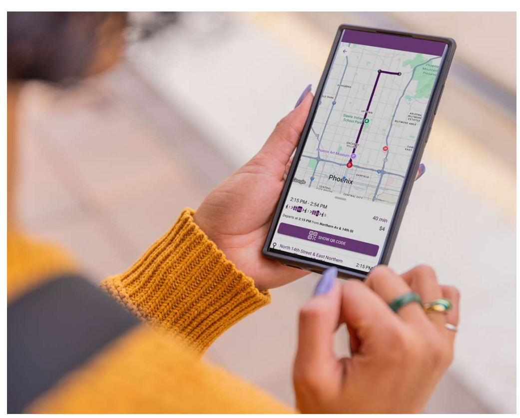
4D. ATIS Software Support and Maintenance Contract Amendment

VALLEY METRO | VALLEY METRO RAIL

1

Trapeze ATIS

- This contract is needed to provide riders with real-time transit information, such as arrivals, delays, and service alerts, across apps, web, text, and phone.
- The agency is seeking to replace the software during this fiscal year but is requesting this extension to ensure that the new software is fully implemented before the discontinuation of Trapeze ATIS.



2

VALLEY METRO

2

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract amendment with Trapeze Software Group, Inc., to extend the contract through June 30, 2027.

3

3

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 4E**

October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Online Marketplace Contract Award

COST AND BUDGET
Cost for full term is $300,000 with no contingency. The aggregate value will not exceed $300,000.

For FY26, the contract obligation is fully funded within the FY26 Operating and Capital Budget. Contract obligations beyond FY26 are incorporated into the Agency's Five-Year Operating Forecast and Capital Program (FY27 through FY31).

The source of funds is Public Transportation Funds and member cities.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a cooperative contract with Amazon.com Service, LLC, dba Amazon Business, for an online shoppable marketplace with a five-year contract and no options to extend. The aggregate value of the contract will not exceed $300,000.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
This item relates to the following goals and strategies in the Five-Year Strategic Plan,

- Goal 9: Financial sustainability
  - Tactic 9.5: Proactively identify cost savings and implement resource justification

COMMITTEE PROCESS
RTAG: September 16, 2025, for information
TMC/RMC: October 1, 2025, approved
Boards: October 16, 2025, for action

CONTACT
Ken Kessler
Chief Financial Officer, Finance and Procurement
kkessler@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
A copy of the contract is available for review.

Background Information

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION
This contract is needed to establish a cost-effective and compliant purchasing mechanism that benefits multiple departments within the agency, supporting agency-wide procurement needs.

The Amazon cooperative contract, established through a competitively solicited process, allows for the acquisition of a broad range of goods and supplies essential to daily operations. These departments rely on the platform for timely access to office supplies, equipment, electronics, facility maintenance items, and other operational essentials that may not be readily available through traditional procurement channels.

Key benefits of using the Amazon cooperative contract include:

- Wide selection of competitively priced items, supporting departmental flexibility and operational efficiency.
- Consolidated invoicing and reporting, which improves fiscal transparency and simplifies reconciliation for procurement staff.
- Expedited shipping and reliable delivery, ensuring critical supplies are received quickly to support uninterrupted service delivery.
- Compliance with public procurement regulations, as the contract was competitively bid and is available through a recognized cooperative purchasing group.

Categories frequently used:

- Information Technology – Peripherals, storage devices, and related products
- Maintenance, Repair, and Operations – Small tools and supplies
- Office Supplies - Accessories, promotional products, and related supplies

PROCUREMENT INFORMATION
In accordance with the Agency's Joint Procurement Manual, standard competition was waived as a result of the following reason: Special Circumstances – Alternative Competition. The OMNIA Partners Online Marketplace contract, number LS4679, was awarded through a competitive process consistent with the Joint Procurement Manual.

CONTRACT TYPE AND TERM
The contract is an indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity contract. The contract was awarded on May 6, 2025, with a max end date of May 5, 2030, with no options to extend.

4E. Online Marketplace Contract Award

1

Frequently used categories:

IT – Peripherals, storage devices, and related products

Maintenance & Operations – Small tools and supplies

Office Supplies – Promotional products and office supplies

2

2

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a cooperative contract with Amazon.com Service, LLC, dba Amazon Business, for an online shoppable marketplace with a five-year contract and no options to extend. The aggregate value of the contract will not exceed $300,000.

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 5**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Community Relations Support Services Contract Amendment

COST AND BUDGET
Cost for the extension period is $1,396,617. The aggregate contract value will not exceed $7,896,617. The split is approximately $530,400 for RPTA and $866,217 for VMR.

For FY26, the Agency contract obligation is fully funded within the adopted FY26 Operating and Capital Budget. Contract obligations beyond FY26 are incorporated into the Agency's Five-Year Operating Forecast and Capital Program (FY26 through FY30).

Funding sources are Public Transportation Funds, federal funds, and member cities.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute one-year contract extensions with AlphaVu, LLC, The Colibri Collective, LLC, HDR Engineering, Inc., Highnoon, The Lavidge Company, Owens Harkey & Associates, LLC dba OH Partners, On Advertising, Inc., RIESTER Sonoran, LLC, Spiral Creative Services, LLC, Torres Multicultural Communications, LLC, and WSP USA, Inc., to extend the contracts through November 29, 2026, and increase the aggregate value of the contracts not to exceed $7,896,617.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
This item relates to the following goals and strategies in the Five-Year Strategic Plan,
- Goal 1: Deliver Excellent Customer Experience
  - Initiative 1.5: Continue to innovate, integrate, and market mobility solutions to expand transit availability and equity.
- Goal 5: Deliver on Stakeholder Collaboration
  - Initiative 5.4: Incorporate community voices in Valley Metro's portfolio of programs and projects, particularly feedback from hard-to-reach communities.
  - Initiative 5.5: Communicate the value of transit to all stakeholders and the public.

COMMITTEE PROCESS
RTAG: September 16, 2025, for information
TMC/RMC: October 1, 2025, approved
Boards of Directors: October 16, 2025, for action

CONTACTS
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Deputy Chief, Stakeholder Collaboration
durbinato@valleymetro.org

Hillary Foose
Chief, Marketing & Communications
hfoose@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
A copy of the contract amendments are available for review.

Background Information

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION
The Community Relations Support Services (CRSS) contracts with multiple, qualified firms enables Valley Metro to expand our bandwidth and leverage industry and area expertise to provide community relations support for the current transit system and future expansion. The service augments Valley Metro's in-house teams to effectively and in a timely and targeted manner engage and support impacted communities, promote our range of services as well as help implement strategic efforts driven by Strategic Plan, budget initiatives, important agency milestones and/or Board/CEO priorities.

In September 2022, following a competitive procurement, three-year contracts for an amount not to exceed $6.5 million were awarded to AlphaVu, LLC, The Colibri Collective, LLC, HDR Engineering, Inc., Highnoon, The Lavidge Company, Owens Harkey & Associates, LLC dba OH Partners, On Advertising, Inc., RIESTER Sonoran, LLC, Spiral Creative Services, LLC, Torres Multicultural Communications, LLC, and WSP USA, Inc. for the agency's needs.

Valley Metro has and continues to utilize community relations consultant resources to augment internal staff, provide specialized expertise, aid the agency in scaling up/down and being responsive to the community engagement needs of the region and member cities. The contracted firms may operate within similar categories of work, yet each possesses distinct specialties and areas of expertise.

Historically, these firms have been used for:

- Community relations coordination
- Virtual and digital outreach
- Business assistance program development and support
- Specialized public relations
- Crisis communications support
- Special event planning and support
- Research tasks
- Graphics and visualization support
- Administrative and scheduling support.

At Valley Metro's direction, the consultant staff have been embedded in capital projects since the development of the light rail starter line, and assist, as needed, with service and fare changes, studies and help with agency strategic initiatives, such as outreach for the Fare Collection System Modernization and the Bus Network Redesign.

The contract extension request through November 2026 will maintain continuity and stability as the current suppliers have established relationships with community stakeholders and avoids disruptions in service, ensuring consistent engagement. Existing suppliers already understand the agency's policies, challenges, community needs, and best engagement strategies.

The extension will enable community engagement continuity during crucial phases of several major initiatives. The comprehensive operational analysis currently underway would be presented with challenges if faced with utilizing a new firm unfamiliar with our services, community, and recent changes. We also are entering crucial phases of both the Rio East Dobson Streetcar Extension and the Capital Extension. Additionally, we are actively filling internal positions to build out our team, and re-soliciting over the next year will enable us to more accurately assess our expanded internal capacity and determine how best to supplement it with contracted support.

Throughout the duration of the requested contract extension, CRSS efforts will encompass the following items as well as additional tasks not explicitly listed:

- Performing analysis and developing recommendations for the Bus Network Redesign;
- Conducting demographic research to ensure efforts meet the needs of local communities;
- Executing specialized outreach programs including community events, hosting in virtual environments and tailoring public involvement plans to meet specific community and project objectives;
- Coordinating with key community residents and businesses to facilitate two-way communication;
- Supporting graphic needs;

The increased authorization request of $1,396,617, for a revised not-to-exceed (NTE) contract value of $7,896,617, will be focused on supporting the above projects or programs through November 30, 2026.

As individual projects are identified, the following steps will be used to determine the vendor appropriate for the job:

- Valley Metro will match specific jobs based on category of work with the appropriate vendor(s) based on specific expertise, workload and availability.
- Valley Metro will prepare the specifications and request a quote.
- The vendor(s) will prepare and submit quote(s) to Valley Metro.
- Final negotiations occur, task order issued and purchase order is initiated.
- If price negotiations are not successful, Valley Metro reserves the right to solicit the other firms on contract.

CONTRACT TYPE AND TERM

The contracts are qualifications- and task-order-based. The contracts began on November 30, 2022, and will end on November 29, 2026, with one one-year option to extend.

5. Community Relations Support Services Contract Amendment

1

Background Information

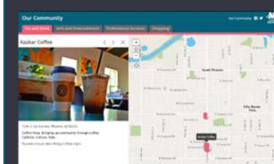
- The Community Relations Support Services contract serves the Agency's strategic plan to innovate solutions to expand transit availability, foster community feedback from hard-to-reach communities and communicate the value of transit.
- The service augments Valley Metro's in-house teams to effectively support impacted communities and aids the agency in scaling up/down.
- Enables the agency to be responsive to the community engagement needs of the region and member cities, and Board/CEO priorities.

2

2

Background Information

- Request to extend contracts for Community Relations Support Services to November 29, 2026.
- Consultant staff have been embedded in capital projects, and assist, as needed, with light rail extensions, service changes, research, and community relations coordination.
- The contract extension will ensure program continuity and consistent community engagement as the current suppliers have established stakeholder relationships and will reduce disruptions in service.



VALLEY METRO

3

3

Background Information

- Request increase contract authority of $1,396,617 ($530,400 RPTA, $866,217 VMR) for a contract total of $7,896,617. This is not a request to increase the budget.
- Below are some of the major initiatives that we anticipate will use these CRSS services now through November 2026:
  - Bus Network Redesign
  - Capitol Extension
  - Rio E Dobson Streetcar Extension

VALLEY METRO

4

4

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Boards of Directors authorize for the Chief Executive Officer to execute one-year contract extensions with AlphaVu, LLC, The Colibri Collective, LLC, HDR Engineering, Inc., Highnoon, The Lavidge Company, Owens Harkey & Associates, LLC dba OH Partners, On Advertising, Inc., RIESTER Sonoran, LLC, Spiral Creative Services, LLC, Torres Multicultural Communications, LLC, and WSP USA, Inc.

The contract extension request is to November 29, 2026.

The contract authority increase requested is $1,396,617 for a contract total of $7,896,617.

5

VALLEY METRO

5

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 7**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Travel and Expenditures

PURPOSE
The monthly travel and expenditures are presented for information.

RECOMMENDATION
This item is presented for information only.

BACKGROUND | DISCUSSION | CONSIDERATION
None

COST AND BUDGET
None

COMMITTEE PROCESS
None

CONTACT
Ken Kessler
Chief Financial Officer
Kkessler@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENTS
Valley Metro Travel Report
Valley Metro RPTA and Valley Metro Rail Monthly Accounts Payable over $25,000

Valley Metro
Travel Reimbursement Report

Job Title	Purpose of Travel	Location	Dates Traveled	Total Travel Cost	Airfare	Other Transport	Lodging	Meals	Misc.	
Contract Specialist	2025 NIGP Annual Forum	Denver, CO	7/25/25-7/31/25	$624.43		$103.93		$520.50		
Interim Director, IT	APTATech	Miami, FL	8/02/25-8/06/25	$1,875.17	$487.97	$97.24	$927.96	$362.00		
Manager, TDM	ACT International Conference	New Orleans, LA	8/02/25-8/06/25	$1,485.61	$564.96	$81.04	$633.11	$206.50		
Transit Scheduling Mgr	APTA Sustainability Workshop	Denver, CO	8/10/25-8/13/25	$1,486.44	$356.96	$29.00	$760.48	$270.00	$70.00	1
Vanpool Program Coordinator	39th Accual Act Info Conference	New Orleans, LA	8/03/25-8/06/25	$1,611.71	$594.60	$42.91	$731.20	$243.00		
Chief Executive Officer	TCRP Oversight & Project Selection Commission	Washington, DC	6/25/25-6/27/25	$68.00		$33.00		$0.00	$35.00	4,1
ATS Manager MOB	Interviewee Candidate	Phoenix, AZ	8/27/25-8/27/25	$609.47	$540.97	$4.00		$64.50		
Sr Contracts Administrator	NIGP Forum 2025	Denver, CO	7/26/25-7/31/25	$1,715.32	$482.96	$108.81	$794.05	$333.50	($4.00)	3
Deputy Chief, Service Planning	APTA Sustainability Workshop	Denver, CO	8/10/25-8/13/25	$1,387.44	$356.96		$760.48	$270.00		
Service Planning & GIS Manager	APTA Sustainability Workshop	Denver, CO	8/10/25-8/13/25	$1,513.46	$368.96	$34.02	$760.48	$270.00	$80.00	1

Total this reporting period $12,377.05

Year to Date **$34,956.91**

Report reflects Out of State (AZ) Travel

** Misc*
[1] Baggage Fees
[2] Flight Wi-Fi Fee
[3] Flight Cost Difference
[4] Car Rental/Rideshare

Valley Metro Regional Public Transportation Authority
Monthly AP Payments over $25,000
Aug 2025

Payment Number	Date	Supplier or Party Name	Transaction Description	Amount
10003766	8/8/2025	Keolis Transit Services LLC	Fixed Route Bus Operations/Maintenance/Professional Services	7,324,191.89
10003817	8/28/2025	City of Phoenix	Transportation Services for East/West Valley-Fixed & ADA Routes	4,374,951.83
10003808	8/28/2025	City of Tempe	EVBOM lease agreement - Fuel	1,657,039.65
90000436	8/22/2025	ADP Inc	PPE 08/17/2025 Payroll Liabilities	1,531,194.64
90000432	8/8/2025	ADP Inc	PPE 08/03/2025 Payroll Liabilities	1,503,012.18
10003812	8/28/2025	MTM Transit LLC	Paratransit Service & Fuel, Mobility Center Fuel & Trips	1,476,639.59
10003779	8/15/2025	Keolis Transit Services LLC	Preventative Maintenance Services	959,239.93
90000434	8/22/2025	Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company	Health Insurance Premiums	720,270.72
1003250	8/28/2025	Carahsoft Technology Corporation	MicroStation Select-CAD Software	591,114.68
10003768	8/15/2025	CDW Government LLC	Software and Support Expenses	400,458.31
90000433	8/22/2025	ASRS	PPE 08/17/25 ASRS Contributions & LTD	397,814.08
90000431	8/8/2025	ASRS	PPE 08/03/25 ASRS Contributions & LTD	397,444.48
1003210	8/8/2025	Hye Tech Network & Security Solutions L	Eleveo Technology and Audio/Visual Solutions - Smartnet Renewal	384,613.91
10003759	8/8/2025	MJM Innovations	Broker Services	281,056.45
10003810	8/28/2025	National Express Transit Corporation	West Valley Contractred Fixed Route and Maintenance Services	279,957.21
10003816	8/28/2025	101 North First Ave LLC	101 Building Rent	205,009.08
10003769	8/15/2025	DLT Solutions LLC	Oracle ERP/HCM Licenses	195,086.70
90000439	8/31/2025	Surepays	RPTA Monthly Utilities	157,626.81
10003783	8/22/2025	CDW Government LLC	Software and Support Expenses	134,757.98
10003792	8/22/2025	Senergy Petroleum LLC	Bulk Fuel	128,315.40
10003795	8/22/2025	Vix Technology USA Inc	Customer Service Network	95,396.17
10003750	8/8/2025	Northwind Technologies	IT Software and Subscriptions	89,510.99
1003236	8/22/2025	CopperPoint Insurance Company	Rent and CAM Charges	71,790.74
10003798	8/22/2025	Guidesoft Inc	Temporary Staff - IT related	67,811.84
10003751	8/8/2025	SHI International Corp	Software License, Maintenance and Support	67,363.81
10003804	8/28/2025	Scheidt & Bachmann USA Inc	Hardware & Software Maintenance	63,866.68
1003229	8/15/2025	AzTA (Arizona Transit Association)	FY26 Membership	53,820.00
10003760	8/8/2025	Advanced Network Management Inc	Network Management software license and support - VMWare	53,310.02
90000435	8/22/2025	Wells Fargo Bank	Monthly Credit Card Charges	51,343.41
10003764	8/8/2025	Guidesoft Inc	Temporary Staff - IT related	39,152.27

10003755	8/8/2025	WEX Health Inc	Flexible Spending	39,030.82
10003806	8/28/2025	Senergy Petroleum LLC	Bulk Fuel	37,880.99
1003232	8/15/2025	Hye Tech Network & Security Solutions L	Eleveo Technology and Audio/Visual Solutions - UCCX Renewal	33,999.92
10003803	8/28/2025	QCM Technologies Inc	Information Technology Services	29,862.71
1003215	8/8/2025	CopperPoint Insurance Company	Workers Comp Premium Renewal	29,507.40
10003801	8/28/2025	CDW Government LLC	Training Expenses	29,441.34
10003814	8/28/2025	National Express Transit Corporation	Sublease	28,807.13
10003818	8/28/2025	Valley Metro RPTA	Platinum Pass Program Services	27,157.25
				24,008,849.01

Valley Metro Rail, Inc
Monthly AP Payments over $25,000
Aug 2025

Payment Number	Date	Supplier or Party Name	Transaction Description	Amount
50003556	8/22/2025	Alternate Concepts Inc	Transportation Services - Direct Labor Costs	4,651,577.66
50003594	8/28/2025	Inter-Con Security Systems Inc	Field Security Officers	1,522,458.04
90000050	8/31/2025	Surepays	VMR Monthly Utilities	681,964.77
50003572	8/22/2025	SRP	Third Party Utilities for SCE	675,926.45
50003583	8/28/2025	DMS Facility Services Inc	Facilities Maintenance Services	638,331.22
50003521	8/8/2025	ARCADIS	Consulting Support Services	458,409.22
50003526	8/8/2025	Hill International Inc	PMCM Services	376,615.29
50003590	8/28/2025	Vix Technology USA Inc	Spare Parts	326,302.82
50003531	8/8/2025	Siemens Mobility Inc	LRV Vehicle Communication and Video System Upgrade	228,162.81
5003680	8/8/2025	STV Incorporated	Project Development Support	178,483.40
5003687	8/8/2025	Altec Industries Inc	Utility Equipment-Digger Derricks & Bucket Trucks	167,180.94
50003530	8/8/2025	SHI International Corp	Software License, Maintenance and Support	122,405.23
50003545	8/15/2025	Penn Machine Company LLC	Tire, Kit and Rubber Block	106,280.00
50003527	8/8/2025	Magnetry LLC	Marketing and Advertising Services	90,000.00
50003524	8/8/2025	CDW Government LLC	Software and Support Expenses	81,388.89
50003560	8/22/2025	Dellner Inc	Bumper Energy Absorbers	67,737.66
50003595	8/28/2025	City of Phoenix	Regional Fixed Route Svc Operations Support	65,035.00
5003714	8/15/2025	Verizon Communications Inc	MCI Third Party Utilities - SCE	59,081.50
50003578	8/28/2025	Integrated Power Services LLC	Repair Traction Motor	39,256.60
50003573	8/28/2025	Siemens Mobility Inc	Filter HVAC	37,166.79
5003713	8/15/2025	BBA Project Inc	Relay - Panel	36,765.99
50003563	8/22/2025	HDR Engineering Inc	Project Development Support	34,566.07
50003539	8/8/2025	WEX Bank	Fleet Card Services	34,521.31
50003523	8/8/2025	Award Winning Restorations	Accident Repair	34,326.90
50003535	8/8/2025	Vix Technology USA Inc	Spare Parts	33,378.74
5003721	8/28/2025	STV Incorporated	Project Development Support	31,064.07
50003587	8/28/2025	LCPtracker Inc	Software Licenses	27,522.45
50003548	8/15/2025	TransTech of South Carolina Inc	Upper Arm Assy for Pantograph	26,532.00
5003686	8/8/2025	Suns Legacy Partners LLC	Phoenix Suns Marketing Partnership Agreement	25,125.00
				10,857,566.82

Executive Summary

DATE
October 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 8

SUBJECT
Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items

COST AND BUDGET
There are no costs associated with this item

RECOMMENDATION
This item is presented for information only.

CONTACT
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Chief Executive Officer
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ATTACHMENT
None

Pending Items Request

Item Requested	Date Requested	Planned Follow-up Date

Agenda

October 10, 2025

Valley Metro RPTA
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Boardroom/You Tube
Valley Metro, 101 N. 1st Avenue, 10th Floor
11:15 a.m.

	Action Recommended
1. Minutes	1. For action
Minutes from the September 18, 2025, Board meeting are presented for approval.	
2. Fare Collection System Modernization Funding Agreement Amendment	2. For action
Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an amendment to the intergovernmental funding agreement with the City of Phoenix to increase the amount of PTF that can be reimbursed for costs of the FCSM by $886,735 to a new total of $7,235,179.	
3. Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items	3. For information
Chair Adams will provide members the opportunity to report on current events and suggest future agenda items for consideration.	
4. Next Meeting	4. For information
The next Board meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 11:15 a.m.**	

Qualified sign language interpreters are available with 72 hours notice. Materials in alternative formats are available upon request. For further information, please call Valley Metro at 602-262-7433 or TTY at 602-251-2039. The agenda and supporting information and meeting stream information is available by accessing our web site at www.valleymetro.org.

Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2025 **AGENDA ITEM 1**

Valley Metro RPTA Boards of Directors
Thursday, September 18, 2025
Lake Powell Conference Room/Webex
101 N. 1st Avenue, 10th Floor
11:15 a.m.

Meeting Participants
City of Avondale, Councilmember Max White **(Vice Chair)** (phone)
City of El Mirage, Councilmember Monica Dorcey
Town of Gilbert, Councilmember Kenny Buckland (phone)
City of Glendale, Vice Mayor Lauren Tolmachoff
City of Goodyear, Vice Mayor Wally Campbell (phone)
Maricopa County, Supervisor Steve Gallardo (phone)
City of Mesa, Councilmember Francisco Heredia (phone)
Town of Queen Creek, Councilmember Bryan McClure (phone)
City of Scottsdale, Councilmember Maryann McAllen (phone)
City of Tolleson, Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis (phone)
Town of Wickenburg, Mayor BG Bratcher (phone)
Town of Youngtown, Mayor Michael LeVault (phone)

Members not Present
City of Buckeye, Councilmember Jamine Berry
City of Chandler, Councilmember OD Harris
Town of Fountain Hills, Councilmember Peggy McMahon
City of Peoria, Councilmember Jon Edwards
City of Phoenix, Councilmember Laura Pastor **(Treasurer)**
City of Surprise, Councilmember Earle Greenberg
City of Tempe, Councilmember Jennifer Adams **(Chair)**

Chair White called the meeting to order at 11:49 a.m. We will be moving directly into our Valley Metro RPTA board meeting. We'll start off with our first agenda item, Consent Agenda.

1. Consent Agenda

Chair White said are there any members who wish to remove any items from our consent agenda?

The Chair requests we remove item 1B, Federal Transit Administration Pass-Through Grant Agreement from the consent agenda.

Ms. Dillon said we will pull that item, Chair. We'll pull that for separate consideration.

Vice Mayor Tolmachoff said so I was just going to ask for a separate vote or just for a presentation.

Ms. Dillon said I believe that the Chair has questions or some comments regarding the Federal Transit Administration Grant Agreements. So then we will take a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 1A, 1C, D and F.

Vice Mayor Tolmachoff said what about E?

Ms. Dillon said I'm sorry, yes. Everything but item B.

IT WAS MOVED BY VICE MAYOR DAVIS, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR TOLMACHOFF AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1A, C, D AND E.

Chair White said thank you so much. I did want to just receive a brief update from our intergovernmental representative Alexis on the FTA pass-through grant agreements. I believe that we are in a position where there might be -- I think our CEO said it best that Valley Metro continues to receive funding from the federal government and we just want to make sure we shape the purpose, bring it to light and maybe even hear a best practice how we continue to receive these pass-through grants. Alexis, I think is teed up to present for us.

Ms. Mefford-Miller said Madam Chair, this is Jessica. If I may, I would suggest Ken Kessler actually respond to this item. The pass-through grant funds relative to this particular agenda item are all formula funds under the 5307, 5337, 5339 and 5310 programs. And I think it's important to make a distinction between their formula programs and our competitive programs.

Mr. Kessler, do you want to provide a high-level overview of what those programs are and the nature of this pass-through agreement?

Mr. Kessler certainly. So thank you. Yes, Vice Chair White, members of the board. As Jessica mentioned, these are formula programs. This is the

RPTA share of the federal fiscal year 2025 apportionments to the Phoenix, Mesa and the West Phoenix, Avondale, Goodyear UZA. So the regional funding, the formula funding coming to our region. MAG programs these funds each year into the transportation improvement program. And so this is just the current year of federal funds, Valley Metro RPTA share.

And as Jessica mentioned, these are formula funds. So these funds have already been apportioned and allocated by the Federal Transit Administration. And we're just coming to the board to ask for approval to enter into the grant pass-through agreements with the City of Phoenix since the City of Phoenix is the designated grant recipient for FTA grants within our region.

Happy to answer any additional questions.

Ms. Mefford-Miller said if I may, I would add with respect to our ongoing federal lobbying efforts that where formula funds are placed, we are actively lobbying Congress and this administration to increase federal formula funding through these programs, also introducing an additional federal formula funding program similar to 5307 that would be focused on expenditures directly related to safety and security.

We have requested that these funding levels be maintained and then increased on an annual basis to keep pace with inflation so that our purchasing power does not erode over time. And we use these funds to support a number of activities. Vehicle purchases, for example, are one of those activities, investments in the system.

Mr. Kessler, do you want to elaborate? Am I missing anything?

Mr. Kessler said sure. Another large portion of the funds also go towards supporting preventive maintenance for our operations.

Ms. Mefford-Miller said thank you. Madam Chair, has that answered your question?

Chair White said that has answered my question. As Chair, I move to accept Consent Agenda item 1B.

It was moved by Chair White, seconded by Vice Mayor Davis and unanimously carried to approve consent agenda item 1B.

And I believe we are still awaiting MAG's committee to complete their review of this as well. So it does indicate that that funding level might change after MAG's review. However, we have an amazing partnership. So we look forward to any updates that come if there are any changes to that process and that funding.

2. <u>Articulated Bus Purchase Contract Award</u>

Chair White said moving to regular agenda item number two, Articulated Bus Purchase Contract Award. I'll go ahead and turn it over for the presentation.

Ms. Mefford-Miller said thank you, Madam Chair, members of the board. I'd like to invite Greg Thompson, our Deputy Chief of Bus and Van Maintenance to the podium to provide a brief presentation.

This is one example of how we put those federal 5307 formula funds to work by repopulating or recapitalizing our vehicle fleet.

Our bus fleet does today consist of compressed natural gas and diesel vehicles. In the future, we see an inclusion of compressed natural gas and battery electric in our new purchases.

This particular purchase is to replace existing 60-foot articulated buses. Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson said thank you, Jessica. Good morning, Madam Chair, members of the committee. Today, staff is recommending that the board authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a cooperative contract with New Flyer Industries to procure 17 heavy duty CNG buses with a contract value not to exceed $26,184,619.

These 60-foot buses will be used in Valley Metro's local fixed route service and are critical for meeting high demand corridors. This purchase will replace 15 of the 2011 articulated buses and at the time of replacement will have exceeded the 500,000 miles and 16 years of service.

There's an additional two vehicles that are being replaced. They were rendered unusable in 2022. Replacing these vehicles will help to maintain service reliability, reduce maintenance costs and ensure we continue to provide a safe, efficient and accessible service for our riders.

Project costs and funding sources are outlined in tables 1 and 2 in your packets and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Chair White said I'll open up the floor for any discussion. Hearing no discussion. I will entertain a motion to accept staff's recommendation that the board authorize the CEO to execute a cooperative contract with New Flyer to procure 17 articulated heavy-duty CNG buses for the use in the local fixed route bus service for an amount not to exceed $26,184,619.

IT WAS MOVED BY VICE MAYOR TOLMACHOFF, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DORCEY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO AUTHORIZE THE CEO TO EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE CONTRACT WITH NEW FLYER TO PROCURE 17 ARTICULATED HEAVY-DUTY CNG BUSES FOR THE USE IN THE LOCAL FIXED ROUTE BUS SERVICE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $26,184,619.

3. Mobility Center Lease Extension

Chair White said moving to agenda item number three, Mobility Center Lease Extension. This is also an action item. So I will ask our CEO, Mefford-Miller, to share and kick off this presentation.

Ms. Mefford-Miller said thank you, Madam Chair, members of the board. I'd like to ask Angie DeVore, our Interim Chief Administrative Officer, to come to the podium as Ms. DeVore has been handling ongoing negotiations with potential properties for the Mobility Center space.

Mobility Center is located at 44th Street in Washington, very near our light rail station. This location is home to our Accessible Transportation Services team, and it's also a public-facing location. We sell passes here, but most importantly, this is our primary location from which we provide ADA paratransit assessments. So we walk customers through, or see customers through, I should say, A simulated system that includes a bus and curbs and rail features that one might encounter in the built environment to help determine if and under what conditions individuals might be able to access the fixed-route system. And if not, that and a combination of their own abilities would make them eligible to receive ADA paratransit services.

We also have our Accessible Transportation team based out of this location, and some of our customer service team members.

This lease is set to expire on December 31st of 2025. Ms. DeVore has done a wonderful job. You'll see her again this year as we seek to present to you information regarding the lease of this building, what we call the 101 Building, our administrative headquarters. Angie.

Ms. DeVore said thank you, Jessica. Madam Chair, members of the board.
In 2010, Valley Metro entered into a 15-year lease agreement at 4600 East Washington Street. It's also known as our Mobility Center. And as Jessica mentioned, it will expire at the end of this year. At that point, we have the option to either move or extend the lease.

The 23,930 square feet that we currently have houses a small suite for on-site Valley Metro customer service staff, the ADA paratransit trip scheduling call center and functional assessments, travel training, Ride Choice -- sorry, Ride Choice eligibility processing, accessible transit services staff, and the sales of paratransit and Phoenix Dial-a-Ride tickets.

The primary functions of this unique space depicted in the -- in the photos is really twofold. The first is to conduct the functional assessments for ADA complementary paratransit eligibility. And the second is for travel training for those individuals with disabilities and seniors 65 and over on how to use the bus and light rail system.

As you can see in the space on the top left-hand corner, you can see where the bus is located and where there's some curbs, lighting and this is where the functional assessments start. And then in the lower right-hand corner, you can see a portion of the course, which shows maybe stairs, different types of hardscape surfaces in order to walk over. And this does help provide that assessment functionality in a climate controlled environment.

Valley Metro worked with a real estate professional on State contract to address key priorities, including contract flexibility and favorable financial terms. The negotiated terms resulted in a 126 month, 10-and-a-half-year lease, 12 months of free rent, free parking over the duration of the lease. The operating expenses will be reset to a new base year at the end of 2026.

And basically, why that is important is that instead of using the 2005 costs as the base, the landlord will establish 2026 as the new base. And that would be the starting allowance for the operating expenses. Under the new lease extension, Valley Metro will not pay any base rent or operating expenses for calendar year 2026.

The average rent over the 10-and-a-half-year term is 27.71 a square foot, which is lower than the current calendar year average of 28.64 a square foot and lower than the area submarket of $30.06 per square foot.

As it relates to restoration and tenant improvements, under the current lease, the agency must restore the space to its original condition at an estimated cost of $570,000 due to the complexity of removing the bus and other exterior features that were installed in an interior space, things such as traffic lights, curbs, ramps, railings, textured ground surfaces. And the new lease does remove most of these restoration obligations with the exception of the removal of the bus.

However, they have allowed us to apply up to 350 -- approximately 359,000 of the tenant improvements toward restoration, which minimizes, or in this case eliminates the impact to Valley Metro.

The new lease does have some flexible lease built in -- built into the lease. There are provisions for loss of funding with the options to adjust or return space. There's the right to expand on the third floor in the first 24 months under the same lease terms, which includes an ongoing right of first refusal for the space. And overall, the lease extension will provide Valley Metro the flexibility to adapt as its needs change.

And the recommendation here is before you that staff is recommending -- on the slide for your consideration, the board of directors authorized the CEO to execute 126 month or 10-year, six month lease extension with CopperPoint Holdings, the landlord, for the base rent in an amount not to exceed $6,961,742.71.

And with that, I'd be happy to take any questions.

Chair White said thank you so much to our Chief Interim Administrative Officer, Ms. DeVore. I'm opening up the floor for any questions, concerns.

Ms. Dillon said Chair, Councilmember Kenny Buckland has his hand raised.

Councilmember Buckland said thank you, Chair White. I wanted to express some gratitude towards Jessica, our CEO. I don't know if you guys noticed, but in our new board resources page, the contract was actually dropped in here. So thank you. I was able to -- I don't like to review, as I said in March, review contracts without -- or approve the signature without actually having reviewed them myself. What you've done through this has allowed me to go through the scope, the terms, and the best I can tell, this was negotiated very, very well. The escalator was actually less than what the market's done the last 15 years. So I just wanted to say kudos on that. And thank you for dropping that in so that I can be informed. We can be informed and I'm happy to make a motion if there is no further discussion.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER BUCKLAND, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR TOLMACHOFF AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) TO EXECUTE A 126-MONTH (10-YEAR/6 MONTH) LEASE EXTENSION (SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO OFFICE LEASE) WITH COPPERPOINT HOLDINGS, INC. ("LANDLORD") FOR THE BASE RENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $6,961,742.71.

Chair White said I would like to also, again, commend the Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Ms. DeVore for the comprehensive review and also making sure this aligns completely with our strategic plan goals to deliver excellent customer experience and financial stability.

4. Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items

Chair White said moving to item number four, Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items.

I will kick off our reporting on current events and share that I have on my yellow AVI pin today. We honored Suicide Prevention Day here in Avondale on September 10th. It isn't always obvious when someone is struggling or having suicidal thoughts behind tough exteriors or seemingly cheerful smiles. Someone around you might be feeling deeply lonely and drowning in dark thoughts. It might be you who's struggling.

So we wore the yellow to celebrate the fact that we want to be available and make space for people who may be struggling. There are a lot of awful things happening in the world right now. And it is okay to say that you're not okay, but the best thing we can do is make connections every day and try and make sure our connections are meaningful and can sustain those things that we consider our inalienable rights, which is life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I'll open up the floor for any additional report on current events and suggested future agenda items.

Vice Mayor Davis said I just want to invite you all to our 3rd Fridays. They're starting back up this month, so it'll be tomorrow from 6 to 9.30 p.m. We have live music with Powerdrive performing and lots of arts and food trucks and all kinds of stuff. So it's a lot of fun. So come down, come to Tolleson. CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for the invite. We appreciate that.

I'd also like to share. I believe that Valley Metro had the opportunity to get out and celebrate Grito de Independence celebrations recognizing Mexico's Independence Day on September 16th. We are in the midst of Hispanic Heritage Month spanning from September 15th to October 15th. So stay tuned in throughout the Valley for activities and events celebrating our Hispanic heritage in the Southwest.

Hearing no additional current events and suggested future agenda items.

5. <u>Next Meeting</u>

Chair White said we'll move to item number five. Our next meeting of RPTA will be on October 16th, 2025, at 11:15 a.m.

And this meeting is now adjourned. Thank you so much for your participation.
We will be transitioning into our Valley Metro Rail meeting. So all of those joint board members have a wonderful afternoon. It is now 12:10 p.m. Thank you very much for your participation.

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 2**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Fare Collection System Modernization Funding Agreement Amendment

COST AND BUDGET
Add $886,735 of funding to the agreement with the City of Phoenix for the local share of the Fare Collection System Modernization (FCSM) project costs.

For FY26, the Agency contract obligation is fully funded within the adopted FY26 Operating and Capital Budget. Contract obligations beyond FY26 are incorporated into the Agency's Five-Year Operating Forecast and Capital Program (FY27 through FY31).

The source of funds is Public Transportation Funds (PTF) within the capital program.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the TMC forward to the Board of Directors authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to execute an amendment to the intergovernmental funding agreement with the City of Phoenix to increase the amount of PTF that can be reimbursed for costs of the FCSM by $886,735 to a new total of $7,235,179.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
This item relates to the following goals and strategies in the Five-Year Strategic Plan:

- Goal 9: Financial Sustainability
    - Initiative 9.2: Support effective transit system design by identifying opportunities for fare collection enhancements.

COMMITTEE PROCESS
RTAG: September 16, 2025 for information
TMC: October 1, 2025 approved
Board of Directors: October 16, 2025 for action

CONTACT
Ken Kessler
Chief Financial Officer
Kkessler@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
PowerPoint Presentation

Background Information

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION
In October 2020, the Board authorized the CEO to execute a funding agreement with the City of Phoenix, allowing Valley Metro to reimburse the city for the local share of eligible costs related to the Fare Collection System Modernization (FCSM) project using PTF in the amount of $6,348,444. This amount was based on 20% of the original contract value between the City of Phoenix and its third-party vendor for the FCSM project.

Since then, the City of Phoenix has approved four change orders with the vendor, resulting in increased project costs. Accordingly, an additional $886,735 in regional PTF funding is required to cover the adjusted local share of eligible costs, bringing the total funding need to $7,235,179.

The FCSM project is included in the adopted Transit Life Cycle Program for funding with regional PTF.

As of the end of fiscal year 2025, $6,039,899 of regional PTF funding had been provided to the City of Phoenix for the local share of eligible costs for the FCSM project.

This item serves the Agency's strategic plan by enabling the region to fund fare collection enhancements implemented as part of the FCSM project.

2. Fare Collection System Modernization (FCSM) Funding Agreement Amendment

1

FCSM Funding Agreement Amendment

Purpose	Approved in Oct 2020	Current Request	Total Funding
PTF funding for City of Phoenix local share of costs for FCSM project	$6,348,444	$886,735	$7,235,179

2

2

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an amendment to the funding agreement with the City of Phoenix to increase the amount of regional Public Transportation Funding (PTF) that can be reimbursed for costs of the Fare Collection System Modernization project by $886,735 to a new total of $7,235,179.

3

VALLEY METRO

3

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 3**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items

COST AND BUDGET
None

RECOMMENDATION
This item is presented for information only.

BACKGROUND | DISCUSSION | CONSIDERATION
None

COMMITTEE PROCESS
None

CONTACT
Jessica Mefford-Miller
Chief Executive Officer
jmeffordmiller@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
None

Pending Items Request

Item Requested	Date Requested	Planned Follow-up Date

Agenda

October 10, 2025

Valley Metro Rail
Board of Directors
Thursday, October 16, 2025
Boardroom/You Tube
Valley Metro, 101 N. 1st Avenue, 10th Floor
11:15 a.m.

1.	Minutes	1A.	For action

Minutes from the September 18, 2025, Board meeting are presented for approval.

2.	SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade Contract Award	2.	For action

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a cooperative contract with Promark Technologies, Inc., and TD Synnex Corporation for the purchase of server hardware and software, with an aggregate value not to exceed $2,999,012.

3.	Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items	3.	For information

Chair Pastor will provide members the opportunity to report on current events and suggest future agenda items for consideration.

4.	Next Meeting	4.	For information

The next Board meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 11:15 a.m.**

Qualified sign language interpreters are available with 72 hours notice. Materials in alternative formats are available upon request. For further information, please call Valley Metro at 602-262-7433 or TTY at 602-251-2039. The agenda and supporting information and meeting stream information is available by accessing our web site at www.valleymetro.org.

Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2025 **AGENDA ITEM 1**

Valley Metro Rail Boards of Directors
Thursday, September 18, 2025
Lake Powell Conference Room/You Tube
101 N. 1st Avenue, 10th Floor
11:15 a.m.

Valley Metro Rail Board Members
City of Phoenix, Interim Deputy City Manager, Amber Williamson for Councilmember Laura Pastor **(Chair)**
City of Mesa, Councilmember Francisco Heredia (phone)

VMR Members not Present
City of Tempe, Councilmember Jennifer Adams **(Vice Chair)**

Chair Williamson called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

Chair Williamson said thank you. Welcome everyone. I'll go ahead and open the rail board of directors meeting for today, September 18th.

1. Consent Agenda

Chair Williamson said we will start with agenda item number one, our Consent Agenda. Do any of the committee members have any questions or are there any items that need to be pulled for separate discussion?

Ms. Dillon said Ms. Williamson, I would like to make a note that the City of Phoenix is present for this meeting today and also the City of Mesa that does create a quorum for Valley Metro Rail.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER HEREDIA, SECONDED BY CHAIR WILLIAMSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

2. SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade Contract Award

Chair Williamson said we will move on to agenda item number two, which is the SCADA Server Infrastructure Update Contract Award. And I will ask our CEO, Jessica, to please introduce this item.

Ms. Mefford-Miller said thank you, Madam Chair, members of Valley Metro Rail committee. I'd like to invite Rob Rosenberg, our Deputy Chief of Rail Vehicle and Maintenance of Way, to the podium for an update.

I want to note that this purchase that we're requesting here for our SCADA system, which is Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition. This is our rail control system.

The recommendation included here are aligns with investments that were recommended out of a 2020 to 2023 audit of our operations technology or OT infrastructure. These were areas that were identified as needing improvement specific to cybersecurity. I'll ask Mr. Rosenberg to provide an overview.

Mr. Rosenberg said thank you, Jessica, members of the board. So as Jessica stated, there were some deficiencies noted during a cybersecurity audit in 2022.

One of the items that was addressed was that the SCADA system did not have redundancy. So this item before you will allow us to add additional servers so that we have a redundant system. A redundant SCADA system will allow us not only to have improved reliability but allows our maintenance team the ability to add updates to the system without completely taking it down. So just as a quick reminder, our SCADA system tracks all our train movement as well as critical items throughout the alignment.

The second item that this memo before you today addresses is -- was also an item identified during that same cybersecurity audit. It was identified that our network switches were not current and did not meet industry standards. So where we were insufficient was the ability to do monitoring of the system -- or monitoring of the traffic, network traffic throughout the system. So this item before you allow us to upgrade those switches to the current technology.

As we've shown here, that information that's coming through to our SCADA system is stuff from the signal buildings and the traction power system, as well as all passenger information system. The last item that is covered under the memo before you deals with the upgrade of our CCTV servers.

So we're currently upgrading our camera system throughout the alignment. With that upgrade, the cameras now have a greater bandwidth and resolution, which means we have to have greater storage for all that information. We also anticipate that through the CPTED study, we'll be adding additional cameras throughout the system, which also causes an increase in need for additional servers.

So the recommendation is before you and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Chair Williamson said thank you so much. So with that, staff recommends that the Board Of Directors authorize Chief Executive Officer, Jessica, to execute a cooperative contract with Promark Technologies for the purchase of server hardware and software with an aggregate value not to exceed $2,990,012.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER HEREDIA, SECONDED BY CHAIR WILLIAMSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO AUTHORIZE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, TO

EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE CONTRACT WITH PROMARK TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF SERVER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE WITH AN AGGREGATE VALUE NOT TO EXCEED $2,990,012.

3. Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items

Chair Williamson said we'll move to agenda item number three. This is the report on current events and suggested future agenda items. Are there any reports on current events or any suggested agenda items for future meetings from the board members?
Councilmember Heredia?

Councilmember Heredia said no.

4. Next Meeting

Chair Williamson said we will move to our last agenda item, number four. Our next meeting would be on Thursday, October 16th, at 11:15 a.m.

And with that, I will adjourn the meeting.

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Executive Summary

DATE **AGENDA ITEM 2**
October 10, 2025

SUBJECT
SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade Contract Award

Note: This item is being brought back to the Valley Metro Rail Board of Directors to include both contractors and the contracts authority.

COST AND BUDGET
Cost of this purchase is $2,607,837, plus a contingency of $391,175 or 15.0%, for an aggregate value not to exceed $2,999,012. A slightly higher contingency is included to accommodate federal duties upside cost risk.

For FY26, the Agency contract obligation is fully funded within the adopted FY26 Operating and Capital Budget. Contract obligations beyond FY26 are incorporated into the Agency's Five-Year Operating Forecast and Capital Program (FY26 through FY30).

The source of funds is federal funds and Public Transportation Funds.

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a cooperative contract with Promark Technologies, Inc., and TD Synnex Corporation for the purchase of server hardware and software, with an aggregate value not to exceed $2,999,012.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT
This item relates to the following goals and strategies in the Five-Year Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Advance performance-based operation
    - Tactic A: Operate an effective, reliable, high-performing transit system

COMMITTEE PROCESS
Board of Directors: October 16, 2025, for action

CONTACT
Darren Curry
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dcurry@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
A copy of the contract is available upon request.

Background Information

During the recent cybersecurity PEN Pre-Superbowl/Post-Superbowl Audit, several critical areas within the Operations Technology (OT) infrastructure were identified as needing improvement to enhance cybersecurity posture and overall system resilience.

- Core router
- Wayside network refresh
- CCTV servers

The core router redundancy network upgrade. The core route connects mission-critical Operations Technology and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems. It was found to be a single point of failure, with no failover or redundancy in place. This upgrade will increase uptime, improve overall Operations Technology (OT) cybersecurity, and increase the network's ability to maintain continuous operations. This has become critical with the opening of South Central Extension due to intersecting rail lines.

Our wayside network switches located at traction power substations, signal buildings, station platforms, and the central operations center were identified as outdated, unsupported, and incompatible with modern cybersecurity standards. The legacy hardware offers limited visibility into network activity and lacks sufficient logging, monitoring, and analysis capabilities. The refresh would play a vital role in improving the reliability of monitoring train movement, rail safety (including switch positions), and the power statuses at the substation.

The CCTV servers. The audit highlighted the need to modernize the CCTV server's hardware and its supporting infrastructure to maintain effective surveillance coverage. Upgrading these systems will not only enhance reliability and scalability but also better support the Agency's security and monitoring needs as the light rail system grows. These improvements will allow for smoother incident response, increasing the resolutions, and the number of new cameras that will be needed due to CEPTED. Together, these updates represent a proactive approach to strengthening the system's overall performance and sustainability.

PROCUREMENT INFORMATION
In accordance with the Agency's Joint Procurement Manual, standard competition was waived as a result of an approved Determination memo based upon the following reason: Special Circumstances – Alternative Competition. The General Services Administration Multiple Award Schedule Information Technology Contracts No. GS-35F-303DA and 47QTCA19D00m were awarded using a competitive process consistent with the Agency's procurement processes set forth in the Joint Procurement Manual.

VALLEY METRO RAIL

CONTRACT TYPE AND TERM

The contract is a firm fixed-price with a percentage off the catalog price, indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contract. The cooperative contract will begin on or about October 1, 2025, and end on May 3, 2026, and September 26, 2029, respectively, with two remaining five-year options to extend.

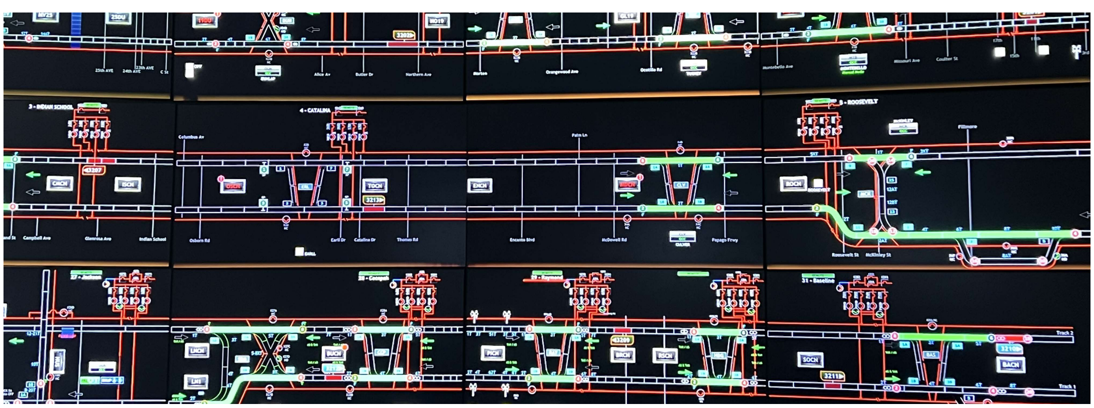
2. SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade

VALLEY METRO RAIL

1

SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade

SCADA Monitoring Screen



2

VALLEY METRO

2

SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade

Signal Building

3

VALLEY METRO

3

SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade

TPSS

4

VALLEY METRO

4

SCADA Server Infrastructure Upgrade

SCADA Server

CCTV Server

5

VALLEY METRO

5

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a cooperative contract with Promark Technologies, Inc., and TD Synnex Corporation for the purchase of server hardware and software, with an aggregate value not to exceed $2,999,012.

6

VALLEY METRO

6

Executive Summary

DATE
October 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 3

SUBJECT
Report on Current Events and Suggested Future Agenda Items

COST AND BUDGET
None

RECOMMENDATION
This item is presented for information only.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION
None

COMMITTEE ACTION
None

CONTACT
Jessica Mefford-Miller
Chief Executive Officer
jmeffordmiller@valleymetro.org

ATTACHMENT
None

Pending Items Request

Item Requested	Date Requested	Planned Follow-up Date