



**CITIZENS TRANSIT ADVISORY GROUP (CTAG)  
Agenda**

**January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**7:30 am to 9:00 am**

**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center**

**WebEx Meeting**

- 
- I. **Call to Order** Adam Pasiak, CTAG Co-Chairman
  - II. **Approval of November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting Summary**
  - III. **Federal COVID Funding Impact** Blanche Sherman
  - IV. **CEO Comments** John Lewis, Jr.
  - V. **Meeting Structure** CTAG
  - VI. **Other Business**
  - VII. **Adjourn**



**CITIZENS TRANSIT ADVISORY GROUP (CTAG)**

**Meeting Summary**

**November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**DISCUSSION SUMMARY**

**(Approved on January 18, 2022)**

---

Present: Adam Pasiak, Mecklenburg County, CTAG Co-Chairman  
Michael Cataldo, Charlotte City Council  
Michael Young, Charlotte City Council  
Jeffrey Parker, Mecklenburg County  
Todd Steiss, Town of Davidson  
Kevin Walsh, Town of Huntersville  
Donald Rhodes, Town of Matthews  
Jessi Healey, Town of Mint Hill  
Tommy Fellers, Town of Pineville

Staff: John Lewis Jr, Blanche Sherman, Krystal Green, Rachel Gragg, Allen Smith III, Paulus Ford

Meeting time 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

---

**I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of CTAG was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by Town of Davidson Representative's Todd Steiss.

**II. Approval of Meeting Summary from October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Approved**

**III. Introduction of New Member - Michael Young was appointed by the Charlotte City Council.**

**IV. Cancellation of December 2021 Meeting – In light of the Christmas Holiday Season, CTAG voted to cancel the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.**

**V. CEO Comments – John Lewis, Jr., CATS CEO provided the following updates:**

1. Electric Bus Pilot – The BEB Pilot will begin when all 18 buses have been received. While working through the manufacturing delays (COVID), we are still anticipating the arrival of the first of several electric buses. Our team will be monitoring this closely and hopefully, we will begin receiving some of the electric bus fleet in early 2022

2. Transit Funding Bill – The president has signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Plan that has designated approximately \$39B for transit. There are several grant opportunities for multimodal programs, Rail, Bus Safety and Technology. CATS will be engaged in competing for these opportunities which include:

- Rail – Capital Investment Grants [5309 Program] and Rail Vehicle Replacement [5337 (f) Program]

- Bus – Bus and Bus Facilities [5339 (b) Program] and Low or No Emissions Grants [5339 (c) Program]

The Federal government will have substantial new funds to award in form of competitive grants to address “classic” infrastructure needs. The state governments will receive new formula funding to address “classic” infrastructure needs in their states. Also, local sources of revenue will be needed to match grants.

CATS will be pursuing all opportunities as will continue with the 2030 Transit Vision for City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg and surrounding counties.

3. Ridership – As COVID eases up and some of the major employers are starting to bring staff back to the uptown area, there has been a slow increase over the past few months in our ridership numbers. CATS marketing team is working on a promotion for the riders, alerting them to the cleaning and safety precautions that are in place, on both trains and buses, to inform riders that one of CATS top priority is providing safe and reliable transit services as we begin this new normal in our history.

4. The budget cycle has begun for this fiscal year. As in previous years and budget cycles, CATS will begin the progress of preparing, to share with the board, the draft recommended budget for FY-23.

VI. **Other Business** – None

VII. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58am

NEXT CTAG MEETING: JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 AT 7:30 AM



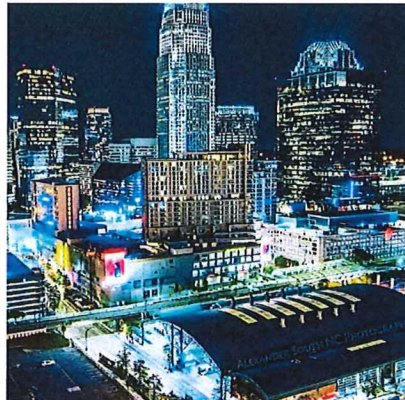
# CATS' COVID-19 Funding

Presented to  
Citizen Transit Advisory Group  
January 18, 2021

1

### COVID-19 Funding Overview

- I. Overview - COVID-19 Pandemic
- II. COVID-19 Impact on CATS
- III. Utilization of COVID-19 Funds
- IV. Going Forward




2




## OVERVIEW COVID-19 PANDEMIC

3


 <span style="float: right;">Pandemic Timeline</span>	
<b>March</b>	<p>March 10, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NC Governor Roy Cooper declared a State of Emergency and Safer at Home Order</li> </ul>
<b>March</b>	<p>March 23, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CATS suspended fares for all services</li> </ul>
<b>March</b>	<p>March 27, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide stay at home order issued until April 29.</li> <li>• Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) signed into law</li> </ul>
<b>April</b>	<p>April 2, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FTA announced \$63,620,890 in CARES funding for CATS</li> </ul>
<b>June</b>	<p>June 8, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CATS resumed charging fares</li> </ul>

4




## Pandemic Timeline

<b>December</b>	<p>Dec 27, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations ACT (CRRSAA) signed into law</li> </ul>
<b>January</b>	<p>January 11, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FTA announced \$52,345,661 in 5307 funds and \$166,938 5310 funds available through CRRSAA for CATS</li> </ul>
<b>January</b>	<p>January 31, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDC announced a federal mask requirement for transit systems following the Presidents Executive Order on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021</li> </ul>
<b>March</b>	<p>March 11, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Rescue Plan (ARP) signed into Law</li> </ul>


CITY OF CHARLOTTE 
[www.RIDETRANSIT.org](http://www.RIDETRANSIT.org)

5



## Pandemic Timeline

<b>March</b>	<p>March 29, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FTA announced \$88,134,579 in 5307 funds and \$166,940 in 5310 funds available through ARP for CATS</li> </ul>
<b>April</b>	<p>April 30, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TSA extended the face mask requirement for all public transportation networks through September 13, 2021</li> </ul>
<b>May</b>	<p>May 14, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NC Governor lifted COVID-19 restrictions, lifting mask mandate for vaccinated individuals</li> </ul>
<b>June</b>	<p>June 11, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FTA Announced \$11,122,146 in 5309 funding for CATS Gold Line Project available through ARP</li> </ul>
<b>August</b>	<p>August 20, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TSA extended the face mask requirement for all public transportation networks through March 18, 2022</li> </ul>

CITY OF CHARLOTTE 
[www.RIDETRANSIT.org](http://www.RIDETRANSIT.org)

6





## Funding Sources

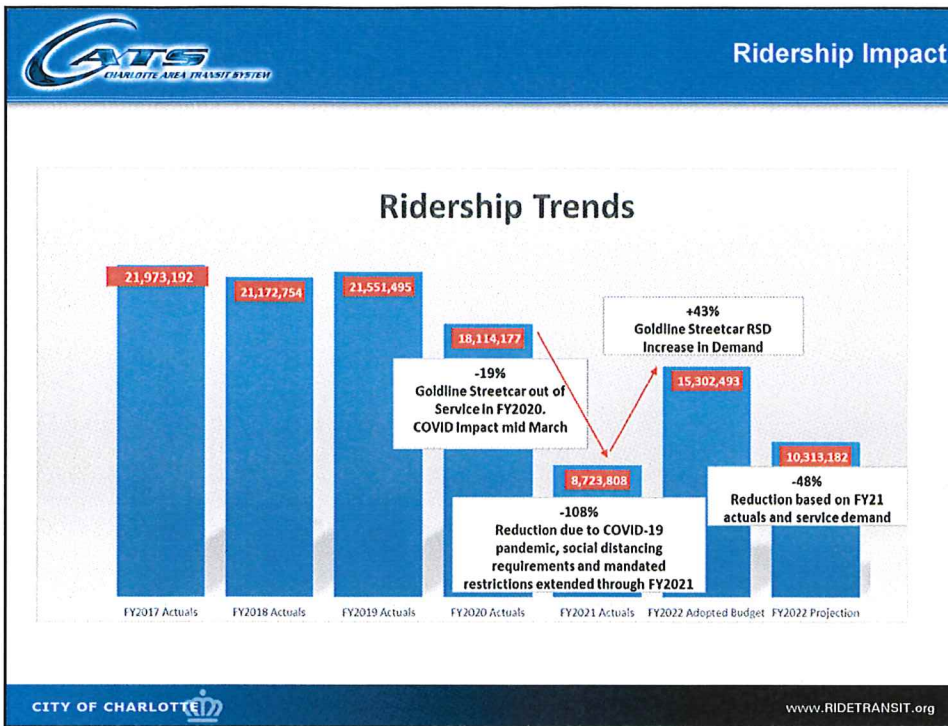
Legislation	CATS Allocation	Date Awarded
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)	\$56,935,286	March 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)	\$51,090,454*	December 27 <sup>th</sup> ,2020
American Rescue Plan Act (ARP)	\$82,696,619*	March 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) - Capital Investment Program	\$11,122,146	June 11 <sup>th</sup> ,2021
Total	\$201,844,505	

7

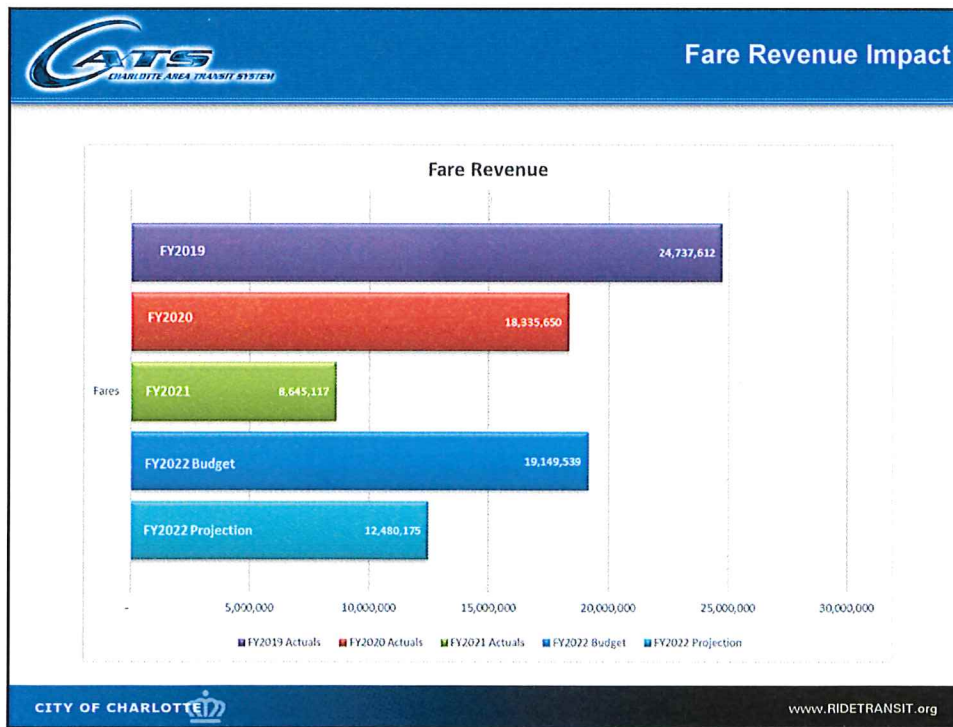


## COVID-19 IMPACT ON CATS

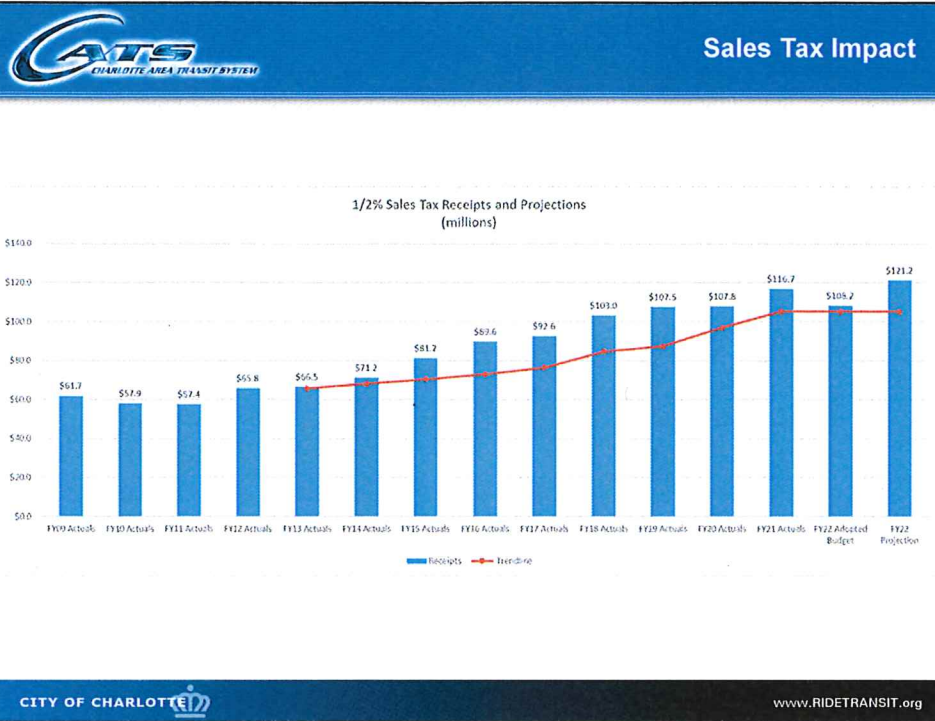
8



9



10



11

**Service Reductions and Anticipated Changes**

Bus	Date	Service Level	Revenue Hours per Weekday	Description
	Mar-20	Saturday w/ Express	1,855	Saturday with limited express
	Jun-20	Saturday w/ Express	2,128	Saturday with limited express
	Oct-20	New Based Schedule	2,144	frequency improvement to core routes
	Feb-21	Base Schedule	2,229	Minor frequency improvements
	Jun-21	Base Schedule	2,250	Minor frequency improvements
	Jul-21	Base Schedule	2,264	Added express service
	Aug-21	Base Schedule	2,208	discontinued services that was replaced by streetcar
	Feb-22	Base Schedule	2,243	adjustments for on-time performance
Light Rail	Date	Service Level	Revenue Hours per Weekday	Description
	Mar-20	Sunday (20 min)	116	initial reduction for pandemic
	Jun-20	15-minute all day	205	added layover for cleaning
	Oct-20	15-minute all day	205	added layover for cleaning
	Dec-20	Sunday (20 min)	130	Sunday Service
	Feb-21	Base- 20 min	152	20-minute schedule with extended hours
	Aug-21	Base- 20 min	252	streetcar added
	Feb-22	Base- 20 min	252	


CITY OF CHARLOTTE www.RIDETRANSIT.org

12



## COVID-19 FUNDING UTILIZATION


13



CARES Funding Utilization

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)

- Cost incurred to prevent, prepare for, and in response to the coronavirus public health emergency
  - ✓ Building modifications for Public safety
  - ✓ Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment
  - ✓ Increased Cleaning Services
  - ✓ Capital Costs incurred in response to COVID – 19

CITY OF CHARLOTTE 

[www.RIDETRANSIT.org](http://www.RIDETRANSIT.org)

14

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)

- Operating Costs to maintain transit services
  - ✓ Revenue Shortfalls due to COVID – 19
  - ✓ Paying Administrative Leave due to Service Reduction
  - ✓ Paying Premium Pay for Front Line Workers

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)

- Bus and Rail Preventive Maintenance
  - ✓ Routine Maintenance for Bus and Rail Vehicles
  - ✓ Rail Track and Building Maintenance



## CRRSAA Funding Utilization

### Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)

- Preventive Maintenance for Bus and Special Transportation Services
  
- Operating Cost to Maintain Transit Services
  
- Supplant Local Funding for Preliminary Engineering for Future Developments
  
- Rail Car Maintenance
  - ✓ Mid-Life Overhaul for Rail Vehicles

17



## ARP Funds Utilization

### American Rescue Plan Act (ARP)

- Preventive Maintenance for Bus and Rail
  
- Operating Cost to Maintain Transit Services
  
- Rail Car Maintenance
  - ✓ Mid-Life Overhaul for Rail Vehicles

18

### American Rescue Plan Act (ARP)- Capital Investment Grant Funds

- Supplant Local Match for CityLYNX Goldline Phase II at 100%

19

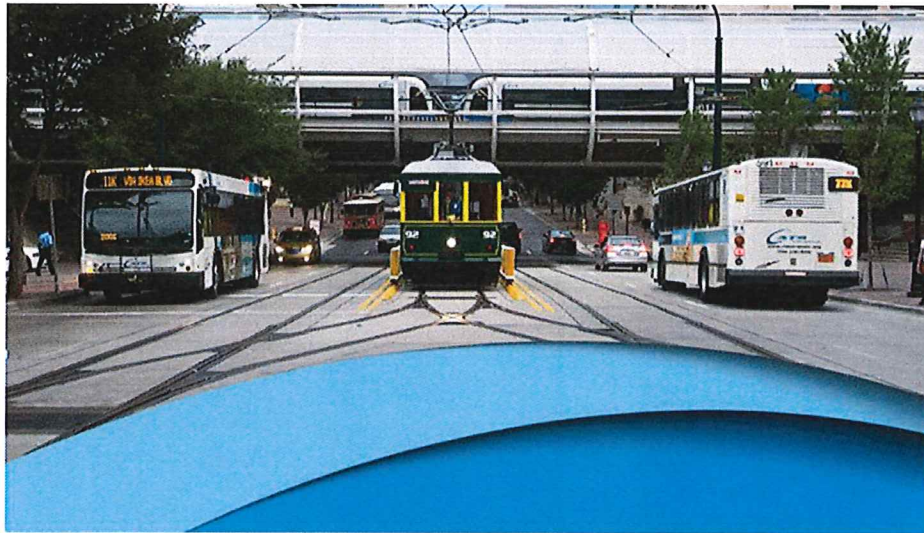


**GOING FORWARD**

20

- Employee & Passenger Safety Top Priority
- Continue utilization of COVID-19 funding to maintain operations and prepare for the future through the Pandemic
- Continue to provide bus, rail, and paratransit services based on demands

21



22



