

Metropolitan Transit Commission



February 23, 2022

METROPOLITAN TRANSIT COMMISSION Wednesday, February 23, 2022 5:30pm Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center WebEx AGENDA

I.	Call to OrderCommissioner Leigh Altman Attendance (Roll Call)
II.	Approval of the January 26, 2022 Summary (p.5-8)Commissioner Leigh Alman
III.	Report from the Chair of the Transit Service Advisory Committee (TSAC)Krissy Oechslin
IV.	Report from the Chair of the Citizens Transit Advisory Group (CTAG) Adam Pasiak
V.	Public Comments
VI.	 Informational Items Envision My Ride Update (p.10-18)Jason Lawrence
VII.	Action ItemsNone
VIII.	MTC Commissioners' Business • None
IX.	Chief Executive Officer's Report (p.20-27) John Lewis, Jr

X. Adjourn

METROPOLITAN TRANSIT COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY January 26, 2022 (Approved on February 23, 2022)

Presiding: Commissioner Leigh Altman, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners

Present:

Mayor Vi Lyles (City of Charlotte) Mayor Woody Washam (Town of Cornelius) Andrew Grant (Town Manager, Cornelius) Mayor Rusty Knox (Town of Davidson) Jamie Justice (Town Manager, Davidson) Mayor Melinda Bales (Town of Huntersville) Anthony Roberts (Town Manager, Huntersville) Mayor Pro-Tem Renee Garner (Matthews) Bill Thunberg (Mooresville Representative) Mayor Walker Reid III, (City of Gastonia) Mayor Marion Holloway (City of Monroe) Brian Borne (Interim City Manager, Monroe) Mayor William Dusch (City of Concord) Mayor Pro-Tem David Scholl (Town of Stallings)

CATS Chief Executive Officer: John Lewis, Jr

I. <u>Call to Order</u>

The regular meeting of Metropolitan Transit Commission was called to order via WebEx conferencing at 5pm by Mecklenburg County Commissioner Leigh Altman.

II. Action Item – Selection of MTC Vice Chairman

A motion to nominate **Mayor John Higdon (Town of Matthews)**, as the MTC Vice Chairman was made by **Mayor Vi Lyles (City of Charlotte**); and seconded by **Mayor Woody Washam (Town of Cornelius)**. Motion carried unanimously.

III. <u>Review of Meeting Summary</u>

The meeting summary of November 17, 2021 was approved.

IV. Transit Services Advisory Committee (TSAC) Chairman's Report

Krissy Oechslin (Chairwoman) reported the following recap: TSAC met in December and January. In January we approved a service change for February, and it's a slight route change to I believe it's a 53X on its reverse evening commute trips that will enable people to go to a food pantry in the area that they wouldn't otherwise have had access to. We were glad to hear that. We had asked that CATS explain to customers a little bit more in detail about how reverse commute trips work, because they're a little bit complicated.

There was public comment in our January meeting for better communication about missed bus trips. We are aware that CATS, like many businesses and organizations, is feeling the effects of a challenging labor market and supply chain constraints. We have seen with the Gold Line that CATS has extensively communicated delays and bus bridges, but the gentlemen who provided public comment requested similar treatment with missed buses, especially on routes that run infrequently, like the 57, which runs only once per hour. The real-time app can help with these situations. The speaker, in particular, had some accessibility issues with the app, and not everybody uses the app. He raises a good point that there's a lot of communications about the Gold Line but not much about other routes.

At an upcoming TSAC meeting I would like to dive into reporting on missed buses. This has an impact across all bus riders, but it's not necessarily very visible to any individual bus rider.

If you only take one or two routes you might only get one or two missed buses in a week, but if you multiply that by the entire system by all riders across all routes, there might be a lot more missed buses that are happening than the public realizes. That's something we'd like to look into in a future meeting.

V. <u>Citizens Transit Advisory Group (CTAG) Chairman's Report</u>

Adam Pasiak (Co-Chairman-Mecklenburg County) reported the following recap: In the January 18th meeting, the Citizens Transit Advisory Group received a presentation on the federal COVID funding programs that's been received by CATS and how those funds have been utilized and their plan for using those remaining funds in the year to come. To date, CATS reported that they received approximately \$202M in total federal funding associated to the pandemic, and that came in the forms of both the CARES Act funds and ARP funds, the American Rescue Plan funds, broken down pretty evenly, about \$94M in ARP funds at about \$108M in CARES ACT funds. Those funds have been used primarily by CATS to maintain operations, maintain public safety, PPE, cleaning, building modifications, as well as other maintenance and operating costs.

CTAG also received updates from CATS CEO, Mr. Lewis, on the status of CATS. Our meeting date fell right between both winter storms that we had. Thankfully it was a positive report. Mr. Lewis explained that we just had to shut down the Gold Line a little bit, but that was not because of the Gold Line's operation, it was more a safety concern around other cars on the street, but at the time operations had been back to normal and everything was running as planned.

At the end of our January meeting, CTAG members voted to keep all of our meetings through the calendar year 2022 virtual, with the exception of one potential in person meeting in April around budget time, and then we also reserved the option for potential in-person meetings if COVID changes and allows. It was felt that as wonderful as virtual meetings are, we still like to meet in person and get to know each other and hear reports in person, but other than that we look forward to our future meetings and reporting back to the MTC.

VI. <u>Public Comments</u> – None

VII. Informational Item

A. Battery Electric Bus (BEB) – Pilot Program UpdateCatherine KummerCatherine Kummer – CATS Sustainability, Resiliency and Governmental Affairs Officer – madea presentation an update on the Battery Electric Bus (BEB) – Pilot Program, based on pages 12-18 in the MTC Agenda packet for January 26th, 2022 meeting.

B.FY2023 Preliminary Operating and Debt Service Budget &John Lewis, Jr.FY2023-2027 Preliminary Capital Investment PlanBlanche Sherman

John Lewis, Jr – CATS Chief Executive Officer and Blanche Sherman – CATS Chief Financial Officer – made a presentation of the FY2023 Preliminary Operating and Debt Service Budget and FY2023-2027 Preliminary Capital Investment Plan, based on pages 20-75 in the MTC Agenda packet for January 26th, 2022 meeting.

Discussion:

Bill Thunberg (Town of Mooresville Representative): I just wanted to point out something about the CATS CEO's presentation on the CATS TRAX metrics. Those of you that are new to the board don't really realize this, the Board did not ask Mr. Lewis to do this metrics. He

and his team came forward and they created those metrics to be able to track their own performance over time. I think it's just worthy to note that they've done that on their own, and it's important to them to understand where they are and where they're going and what they're doing, and I appreciate the fact that he reports that to us every year.

VIII. Action Item

A. LYNX Silver Line Refined LPA Update & Implementation Strategy Andy Mock Staff Recommendation

Andy Mock – CATS Senior Transit Project Development Manager – made a presentation on the LYNX Silver Line Refined Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) Update and Implementation Strategy Staff Recommendation, based on pages 77-92 in the MTC Agenda packet for January 26th, 2022 meeting.

Resolution: A motion to adopt the LYNX Silver Line Refined Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) Update and Implementation Strategy Staff Recommendation was made by **Mayor Vi Lyles (City of Charlotte)**; seconded by **Mayor Pro-Tem Renee Garner (Town of Matthews)**. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Property Acquisition for Bus Stop

Andy Mock

Jason Lawrence – CATS Senior Transportation Planner – presented an action item for the Property Acquisition for future CATS Bus Stop, based on pages 94-98 in the MTC Agenda packet for January 26th, 2022 meeting.

Discussion:

Mayor Lyles (City of Charlotte): I know the shopping center is a major employment area, but across the street -- and you were talking about the paratransit -- there are a number of doctor offices. There's a Novant center, an Atrium, and several kinds of health-related services in there. The question I would have, I'm curious if we would have crosswalks and other options that if people are coming into the Park-and-Ride area has there been any demand for the ability to cross over safely to the medical facilities across that street, and is that something that you've seen a need for or is it that the bus provides the services to the medical facilities as it is now?

Mr. Lawrence: We currently have services on Highway 51. We have a cross-town route that does serve Pineville-Matthews Road. Our accessibility would improve accessibility from the stop to Pineville-Matthews Road, and the medical facility I think that's on the map is just under the existing Park-and-Ride stop text box, so we could look into what the crosswalk environment is there and talk to CDOT about that crossing. I do know there's a crosswalk at Providence and 51, but I do think that there is benefit from service to this stop. Just in closing with that, I think having the route to terminate does provide us the opportunity to serve the greater area as a whole because Providence is one of our future expansions of high-frequency bus services.

Mayor Lyles (City of Charlotte): I appreciate that. If there is, I would like to see some coordination with CDOT to say, how do we get crosswalks that make it possible for the use of those healthcare facilities, especially around the paratransit operation. Not necessarily right now but -- I think that's a conversation worth having.

Madam Chair, if you would like a motion to approve this, I think this is improving an existing well-done service and highly utilized service, and I'm assuming that Krissy would agree with me on that, but this is one of the areas that we've seen the need and the demand for

transit service. I move adoption of the recommended action for the Arboretum Park-and-Ride project.

Mayor Washam (Town of Cornelius): I'm going to support this as well, but I do want to add a comment that I really hope that there's no impact moving forward. I'm pretty sentimental about our future BRT sites that have to be yet acquired and I just want to make sure that there's no impact, but I'll still vote yes, but I guess I should have asked that question earlier. I'll just throw that in assuming that there's not going to be an impact on that.

CATS CEO Lewis: Mayor Washam, to answer your question, this will not take away from our project, capital projects along the I-77 corridor.

Resolution: A motion to approve the Property Acquisition for future CATS Bus Stop was made by **Mayor Vi Lyles (City of Charlotte)**; seconded by **Mayor Melinda Bales (Town of Huntersville)**. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. MTC Commissioners' Business - None

X. Chief Executive Officer's Report - None

XI. <u>Other Business</u> – None

XII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m. Mecklenburg County Commissioner Leigh Altman – MTC Chairwoman.

NEXT MTC MEETING: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 2022, STARTS AT 5:30 P.M.

METROPOLITAN TRANSIT COMMISSION INFORMATION ITEM INFORMATION SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Envision My Ride Update

DATE: February 23, 2022

- **1.0 <u>PURPOSE/SCOPE</u>: To inform the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) on the status of the Envision My Ride effort.</u>**
- **2.0 BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION**: Through the Envision My Ride effort CATS has sought to redesign the bus network and improve the customer experience. This will be achieved by developing recommendations in three main areas: Network Structure, Route Frequency, and Service Reliability.
- 3.0 **PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND**: Not Applicable
- 4.0 **POLICY IMPACT**: Not Applicable
- 5.0 **ECONOMIC IMPACT**: Not Applicable
- 6.0 <u>ALTERNATIVES</u>: Not Applicable
- 7.0 **RECOMMENDATION**: Not Applicable
- 8.0 ATTACHMENT(S): Not Applicable

SUBMITTED AND RECOMMENDED BY:

John M. Lewis, Jr. Chief Executive Officer, Charlotte Area Transit System Director of Public Transit, City of Charlotte





Envision My Ride

1. Structural

March 2018 (Opening of LYNX BLE)

- 22 existing routes adjusted
- 9 new routes established
- 4 new cross-town routes

October 2018

24 additional routes adjusted

2. Frequency

February 2020

- Increase frequency on 4 routes to 15 minutes
- MetroRapid (I-77 Express Lanes)

3. Reliability

Fall 2020

- CATS conducting a Bus Priority Study to complete the Envision My Ride effort
- 4th St and Central Avenue Bus-Only Lane Pilots (1st component of the study)

CITY OF CHARLOT

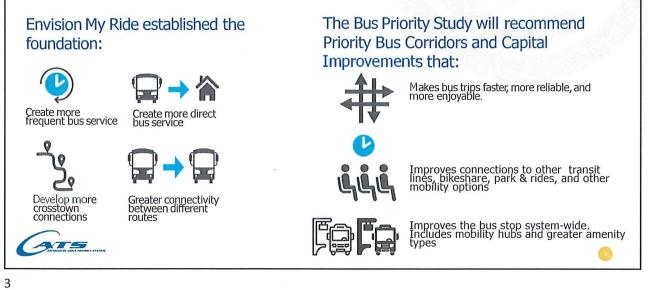
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Envision My Ride: Bus Priority Study

Building a Better Bus Network

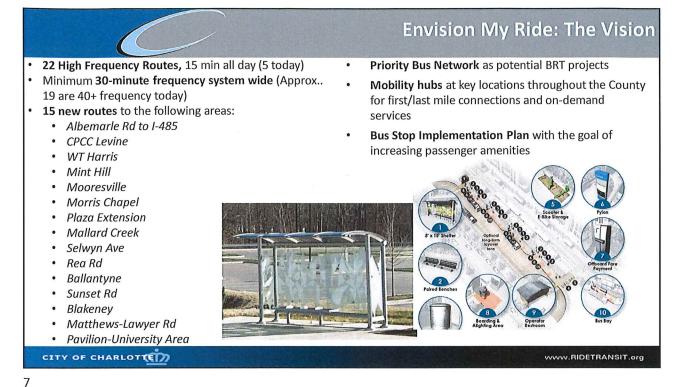


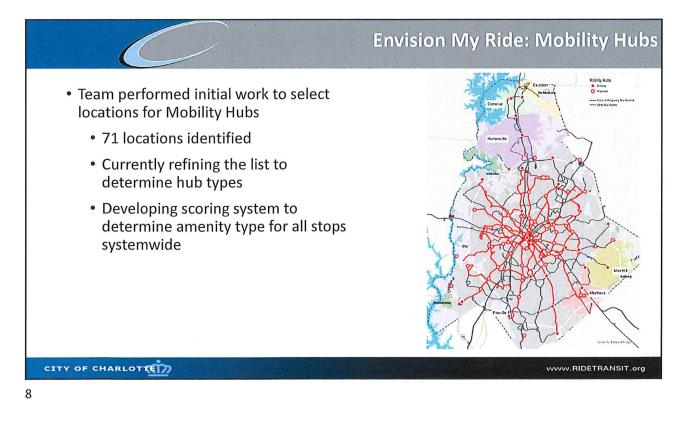
Envision My Ride Bus Priority Study Structural >2018 Improvements Study Provided additional crosstown Cal service and added service to new destinations throughout Charlotte We are here! 2022 > 2020 Frequency -Improvements 2021 WINTER Introduced MetroRapid express н. SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER service between Uptown Charlotte and North Meck Public Input Increased the number of frequent Community Community Community routes * Meeting #1 Meeting #2 Meeting #3 *Envision My Ride will continue to increase frequency on core bus routes as funding Feedback on passenger values, preferences, needs, and barriers to riding the bus. becomes available Feedback on types of treatments for initial corridors. Share refined recommendations CITY OF CHARLOT www.RIDETRANSIT.org

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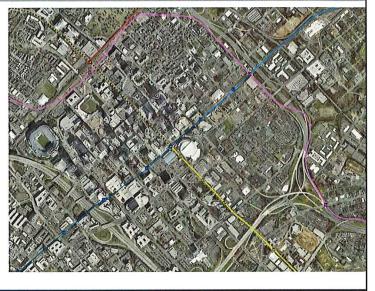






Envision My Ride: Uptown Transit Centers

- Review of Uptown operations
- Focus on service recommendations at the Charlotte Transportation Center and future Charlotte Gateway Station
- CTC and CGS operational analysis

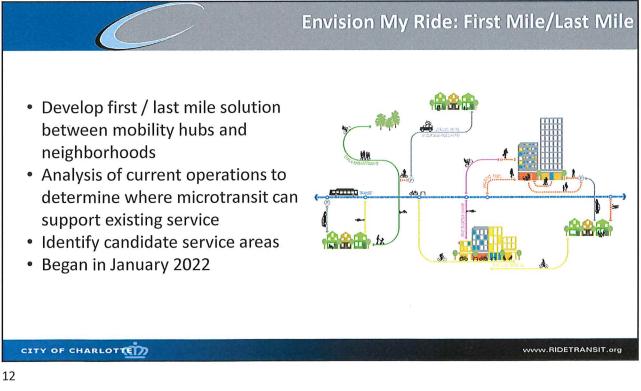


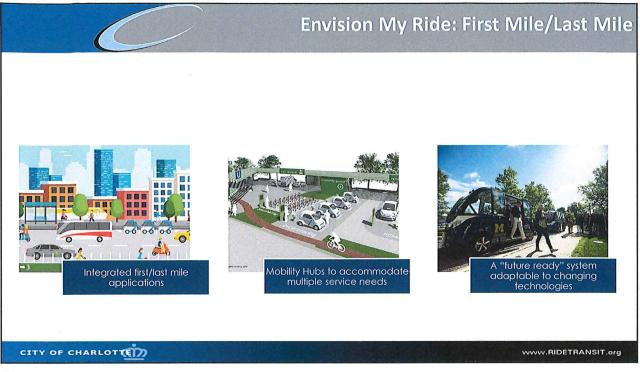
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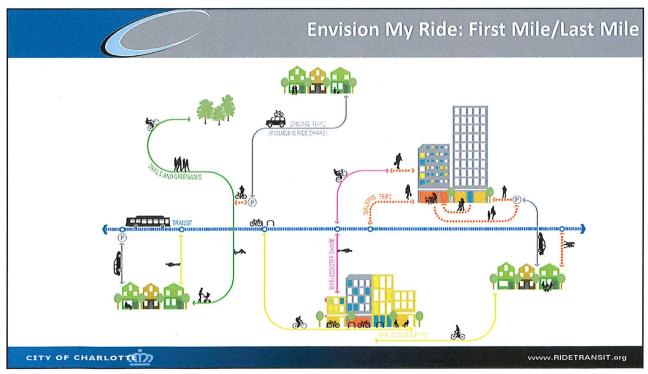




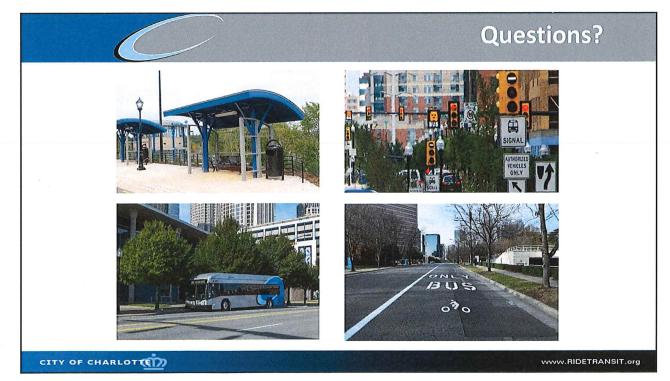












Metropolitan Transit Commission

Charlotte Area Transit System Ridership Report

Jan-22

Mode / Service			Percent	YTD	YTD	Percent	Avg Daily	er Month		
	Jan-22	Jan-21	Increase/Decrease	FY 2022	FY 2021	Increase/Decrease	WeekDay	Saturday	Sunday	
Local										
BOD Local	413,130	429,925	-3.9 %	3,278,163	3,304,956	-0.8 %	16,962	8,073	6,861	
Subtotal	413,130	429,925	-3.9 %	3,278,163	3,304,956	-0.8 %	16,962	8,073	6,861	
Local Express										
Harrisburg Road Express	384	210	82.9 %	3,837	2,007	91.2 %	20	-	-	
Northcross Express	315	203	55.2 %	3,254	1,784	82.4 %	17	-	-	
Idlewild Road Express	418	239	74.9 %	3,679	2,331	57.8 %	22	-	-	
Independence Blvd Express	310	55	463.6 %	3,786	883	328.8 %	16	-	-	
Lawyers Road Express	315	189	66.7 %	2,685	2,102	27.7 %	17	-	-	
Northlake Express	242	183	32.2 %	2,799	1,439	94.5 %	13	-	-	
North Mecklenburg Express	732	136	438.2 %	6,887	1,604	329.4 %	39	-	-	
Huntersville Express	506	258	96.1 %	6,284	2,439	157.6 %	27	-	-	
Rea Road Express	458	261	75.5 %	3,718	2,041	82.2 %	24	-	-	
Huntersville Greenhouse Express	95	101	-5.9 %	817	844	-3.2 %	5	-	-	
Subtotal	3,775	1,835	105.7 %	37,746	17,474	116.0 %	200	-		
Regional Express										
Gastonia Express	393	403	-2.5 %	4,394	3,814	15.2 %	21	-	-	
Rock Hill Express	295	261	13.0 %	2,746	1,671	64.3 %	16	-	-	
Union County Express	194	161	20.5 %	2,183	1,648	32.5 %	10	-	-	
Subtotal	882	825	6.9 %	9,323	7,133	30.7 %	47	-		
Community Circulator										
Neighborhood Shuttles	11,688	13,607	-14.1 %	86,718	105,275	-17.6 %	487	218	181	
Eastland Neighborhood Shuttle	5,965	7,500	-20.5 %	51,129	60,921	-16.1 %	222	155	135	
Pineville-Matthews Road	1,133	1,305	-13.2 %	8,726	10,251	-14.9 %	52	22	-	
Village Rider	2,387	3,159	-24.4 %	22,860	25,339	-9.8 %	103	37	34	
Subtotal	21,173	25,571	-17.2 %	169,433	201,786	-16.0 %	864	432	350	
Human Services Transportation										
Special Transportation Services	10,948	10,723	2.1 %	94,058	78,424	19.9 %	471	125	84	
DSS	-	2,528	n/a	16,688	8,271	101.8 %	-	-	-	
Subtotal	10,948	13,251	-17.4 %	110,746	86,695	27.7 %	471	125	84	
Rideshare Services										
Vanpool	3,283	2,652	23.8 %	21,215	22,699	-6.5 %	145	24	25	
Subtotal	3,283	2,652	23.8 %	21,215	22,699	-6.5 %	145	24	25	
Rail	,				,					
LYNX Blue Line	245,725	181,956	35.0 %	2,019,891	1,518,482	33.0 %	8,604	7,676	5,876	



Metropolitan Transit Commission

Charlotte Area Transit System Ridership Report

Jan-22

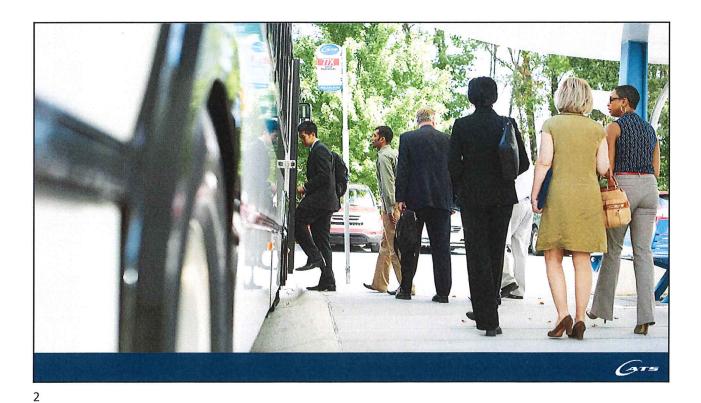
Mode / Service			Percent	YTD	YTD	Percent	Avg Daily Ridership per Month			
	Jan-22	Jan-21	Increase/Decrease	FY 2022	FY 2021	Increase/Decrease	WeekDay	y Saturday Sunday		
CityLynx Gold Line	20,596	-	n/a	151,472	-	n/a	751	639	396	
Subtotal	266,321	181,956	46.4 %	2,171,363	1,518,482	43.0 %	9,355	8,315	6,272	
Total	719,512	656,015	9.7 %	5,797,989	5,159,225	12.4 %	28,044	16,969	13,592	



Workforce Update

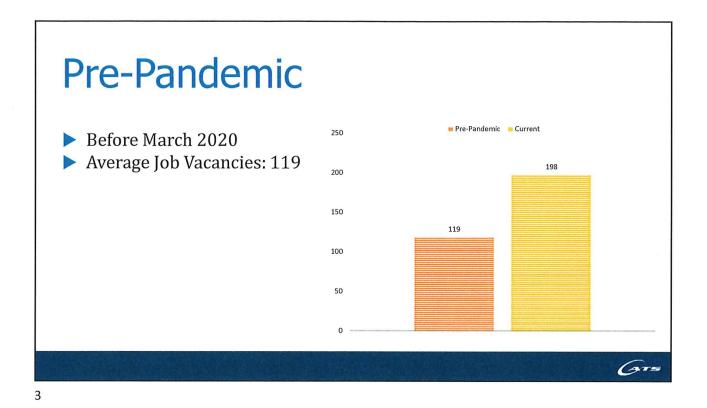
Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) February 23, 2022

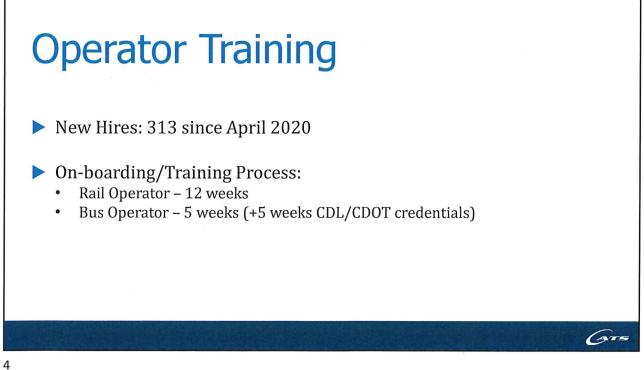
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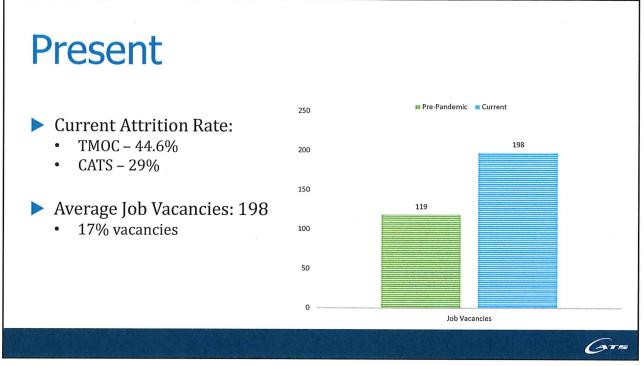


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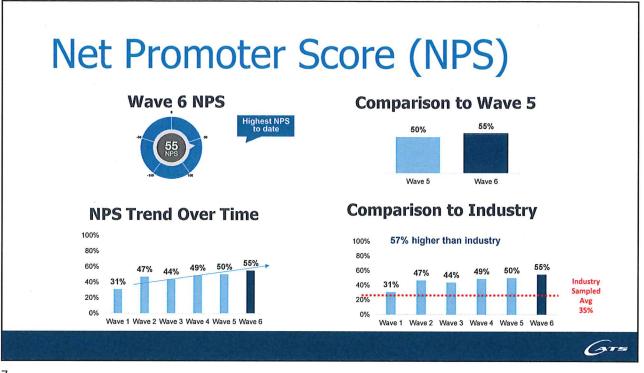
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January | CATS Sales Tax Report FY2022

November Receipts

Sales Tax Collections and Distribution - November 2021

- The November 2021 receipts of \$12,115,165 were \$2,795,457 (30.0%) above budget target for the month
- The November 2021 receipts were \$1,988,933 (19.6%) above forecast for the month.
- The November 2021 receipts were \$2,150,352 (21.6%) above November of 2020

Sales Tax Budget Data

FY2020

FY2019

FY2018

7,708,503

8,147,197 \$

\$

\$

\$

9,621,386 \$

8,436,960 \$

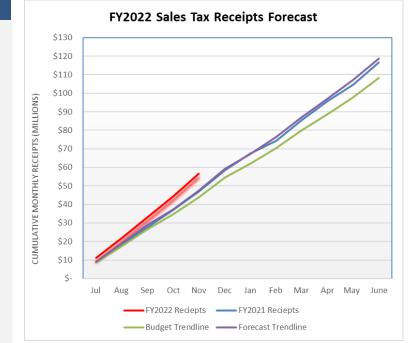
9,103,726 \$

8,784,051 \$

- FY2022 sales tax budget is \$108,235,200
- The FY22 model forecasts year-end receipts of \$122,393,691 which is \$14,158,491 (13.08%) above the FY22 budget target of \$108,235,200
- FY2021 actual sales tax was \$116,669,192

Local Government Sales and Use Tax Distribution

- Source: North Carolina Department of Revenue Sales & Use Distribution Report for the month December 31, 2021
- Published by NC Secretary of Revenue on 1/12/2022 with actual receipts through October 2021
- CATS sales tax report only includes Mecklenburg County Article 43 sales tax



7,635,380 \$

8,539,748 \$

9,880,419

10,155,891

9,303,951 \$

\$

6,997,727 \$

9,277,676 \$

9,435,500

9,833,896

9,117,052

9,699,263 \$

\$

\$

107,778,982

107,535,197

103,021,757

FY2022 Budget Sales Tax Receipts (Actuals and Forecasts)

Jurisdiction		Population	% of Total	Jul 21 Actuals	Aug 21 Actuals	Sep 21 Actuals	Oct 21 Actuals	Nov 21 Actuals	Dec 21 Forecast	Jan 22 Forecasts	Feb 22 Forecasts	Mar 22 Forecasts	April 22 Forecasts	May Foreca		Jun 22 orecasts		Total
Charlotte	40.59%	863,985	40.4%	\$ 4,585,539	\$ 4,326,315	\$ 4,494,138	\$ 4,603,496	\$ 4,891,177	\$ 4,739,5	§9 \$ 3,288,87	6 \$ -	\$-	\$	- \$	- \$	-	\$	30,929,109
Cornelius	1.46%	32,144	1.5%	164,887	155,566	161,601	165,533	181,973	176,3	33 122,36	- 0	-		-	-	-		1,128,253
Davidson	0.61%	13,261	0.6%	69,208	65,295	67,828	69,479	75,073	72,7	6 50,48	- 0	-		-	-	-		470,109
Huntersville	2.76%	62,528	2.9%	311,511	293,901	305,301	312,730	353,982	343,0	0 238,02	1 -	-		-	-	-		2,158,457
Matthew s	1.51%	31,071	1.5%	170,086	160,471	166,696	170,753	175,899	170,4	118,27	- 6	-		-	-	-		1,132,628
Mint Hill	1.29%	27,692	1.3%	146,293	138,023	143,377	146,866	156,769	151,9	0 105,41	3 -	-		-	-	-		988,650
Pineville	0.43%	9,533	0.4%	48,882	46,119	47,908	49,073	53,968	52,2	36,28	9 -	-		-	-	-		334,533
Meck. County	51.35%	1,099,845	51.4%	5,801,983	5,473,992	5,686,335	5,824,704	6,226,423	6,033,4	4,186,70	9 -	-		-	-	-		39,233,574
Total	100.00%	2,140,059	100.0%	6 \$ 11,298,388	\$10,659,682	\$11,073,183	\$11,342,634	\$ 12,115,265	\$ 11,739,7	37 \$ 8,146,42	4						\$	76,375,313
FY2022 Budget Sales Tax Comparison Year over Year														D Budget riance		62,049,463 14,325,850		
Year-over-Year	Comparison	(FY22-FY21)		16.7%	8.9%	27.7%	14.7%	22.9%	19.8	-1.6	%							-29.0%
FY22 Budget Target				\$ 8,479,780	\$ 9,053,661	\$ 9,001,133	\$ 8,076,718	\$ 9,319,809	\$ 10,570,98	4 \$ 7,547,37	7 \$ 8,322,267	\$ 9,596,200	\$ 8,752,85	3 \$ 9,12	28,597 \$	10,385,820	\$ 1	108,235,200
% of FY22 Budget Achieved 10.7% 20.7% 31.2% 41.9% 53.3% 64.4% 72.1%													72.1%					
Prior Year Sales Tax Receipts: FY2018 – FY2021																		
Fiscal Year	Jul	A	ug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	; ,	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr		May	Ju	ne		Total
FY2021	\$ 8,921	,474 \$ 9,	466,946 \$	9,245,058	\$ 9,317,741	1 \$ 9,964,9 ⁻	13 \$ 11,40	2.907 \$ 9.	,134,772 \$	6,785,996	\$ 11,253,53 ⁻	1 \$ 10,287,4	147 \$	8,942,957	\$ 11.	945,450	\$ 1	116,669,192

8,906,774 \$ 8,195,787 \$ 7,918,012 \$

9,324,267 \$ 6,897,695 \$ 7,842,800 \$

\$ 9.683,570 \$ 9.787,973 \$ 8.671,558 \$ 9.890,136 \$ 9.858,570 \$ 9.800,116 \$ 8.278,036 \$ 8.606,547 \$ 8.735,473 \$

8,067,019 \$ 9,425,129 \$

7,883,713 \$ 8,884,437 \$