I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Safety Briefing

Donna Simmons, Vice President, Administration and Risk Management Compliance Officer, presented the safety briefing. Halloween is right around the corner. Everyone was reminded to be safe. Be extra careful when driving, exercise caution, and be vigilant of children crossing the streets. Also, if you have children make sure they wear reflective gear.

III. Public Comment:

Heidi Ross, citizen, spoke against the Connections 2025 proposal to eliminate Route 21/22. She lives in Rosedale and her son takes the bus home from O. Henry Middle School. O. Henry Middle School and Austin High are choice schools and for many students transferring in, this is their only way to get to school. As a traffic engineer she is concerned about the loss of a transit corridor along Exposition Boulevard. This is the only route which provides North/South bus service from Exposition. It also provides access west of Mopac to domestic, retail and service workers who work in this area and use this route to get to their jobs on a daily basis. An online petition seeking support to maintain the north/south bus service on Exposition was created and as of this morning it has more than 491 signatures.

Owen Murphy, 7th grade student at O. Henry Middle School, spoke in favor of Route 21/22. He uses this route to return home from school, as well as to attend after school activities; such as church youth meetings and other extracurricular activities.

Graham Mueller, 13 year old student at O. Henry Middle School, does not want Route 21/22 discontinued. He has been taking this route since he was in the 6th grade. Public transportation is faster than the school bus. It takes him 10 minutes to get home on this bus as opposed to 38 minutes on the school bus. In addition, this route allows him to attend UT events downtown as well as other sporting events. Please do not cancel Route 21/22.

Charlie Ross, student at O. Henry Middle School, rides the bus with passengers that are traveling for work. He is concerned with how people will get to work if this route is cancelled.

Sophia Menard and Sadie Swift, students at O. Henry Middle School also support Route 21/22. They Route 21 home from school every day and ride Route 22 to sporting events and youth group meetings. The bus is always full with people traveling to/from work and they are concerned these passengers will also lose their means of transportation if this route is eliminated.

Andrew Moser, O. Henry Middle School student, does not want Route 21/22 cut. Both of his parents work late and this is his only way to get home from school. He also rides the bus after school to sporting events and youth group meetings. He challenged the statement that this bus does not have many riders and stated the bus is always full.

Patrick Wallace, 13 year old student at O. Henry Middle School, supports Route 21/22. His father travels for work and his mother works long hours so this is his ride home from school every day. Please keep this
route. It benefits others as well.

Robin Orlowski, citizen, has several disabilities and is not able to drive. She depends on public transportation to get her around. She is against removing the proposed local routes.

Rob Birch, citizen, is concerned about the traffic situation in Austin. He invited the Board to hear a presentation on the benefits of integrating the Austin Independent School District’s transportation budget with Capital Metro’s budget. He believes integrating the two systems would create the following benefits: Reduce traffic in downtown Austin, increase the routes and availability of buses for people dependent on public transportation, and free up monies and time to reinvest into education and the community.

Valerie Blanchard, citizen, spoke in favor of Route 19/Bull Creek. She does not want this route discontinued and asked the Board to reconsider this action. Several of her friends use this route to commute to/from their jobs daily, as well as to travel to medical appointments. She has a friend that is legally blind and is not eligible for MetroAccess. Consequently, this is their only means of transportation. She asked that we re-evaluate discontinuation of this route.

Martha Wood, opposes eliminating Route 19. If Route 19 is discontinued, she will have to walk 1.5 miles to get to the proposed 801 & 803 replacement routes. This is doable, but it will be a challenge during the hot summer months. For her, public transportation, in particular Route 19, is a lifestyle change, but for others it is lifeline. She voiced her concerns about the people who ride this bus to/from work, and to medical appointments. She asked the Board to consider others needs before discontinuing this route. She also urged the Board to read the on-line petition she sent them earlier today.

Ellen Fishbein and Laura Arbilla, citizens, presented several ideas on service and customer improvements for MetroRail. They believe these improvements will accommodate the growing demand until service is expanded.

Carlos Leon, citizen, is upset with the Attorney General’s recent ruling regarding his public information request to Capital Metro. He provided the Board with a copy of his written response to the Attorney General and stated he will follow up with a law suit if we do not provide him with the information he has requested.

IV. Advisory Committee Updates:

1. Update on the Access Advisory Committee (AAC)

Jordan Smith, Community Involvement department, provided the Access Advisory Committee update. Committee members heard an update on the Connections 2025 draft plan. A member of the Planning department was available to answer questions and gather feedback which will be incorporated into the final plan scheduled for Board vote in December.

2. Update on the Customer Satisfaction Advisory Committee (CSAC)

Jordan Smith, Community Involvement team, provided the CSAC update. The focus of the meeting was on the Connections 2025 draft plan. Committee members had an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback for the final plan which is scheduled for Board approval in December.

V. Executive Session of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code:

Went into executive session at 1:23 p.m.
Returned at 2:15 p.m.

Section 551.072 for real property issues - Real Estate Opportunities.

VI. Board Committee Updates:

1. Operations, Planning and Safety Committee

Board Member Silas, Chair of the Operations, Planning and Safety Committee, presented the report
from the October 14 committee meeting. The committee had two Action items: Item #3 which is on today’s Consent agenda and Item #2 which is on today’s Action agenda, but is not scheduled for action today. The committee also heard the following presentations:

- Review of Benefit and Retirement Plans for Capital Metro Employees (Board Member Silas thanked Donna Simmons for providing an excellent and in-depth presentation)
- Lago Vista Service and Election Update
- COOP/Business Continuity Plan
- Monthly Operations Report

2. Finance, Audit and Administration Committee; and

Board Member Mitchell, Chair of the Finance, Audit and Administration Committee presented the report from the October 14 committee meeting. The committee heard the following four Action items:

- Approval of a resolution authorizing the elimination of the Premium Fare tier from the Capital Metro Fare Structure - Item is on today’s regular agenda
- Approval of a resolution approving Capital Metro’s Investment Policy for 2017 - on today’s Consent Agenda
- Approval of a resolution adopting the FY2017-FY2018 Internal Audit Services Plan - on today’s regular agenda
- Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or her designee, to finalize and execute an amendment to an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the City of Austin for employee transit passes - Item is on today’s consent agenda

In addition, the committee heard the following presentations:

- Review of Benefit and Retirement Plans for Capital Metro Employees
- FY2016 Internal Audit Quality Assurance Review
- Monthly Financial Report

3. CAMPO update

Board Member Mitchell, Capital Metro’s CAMPO representative provided the update. CAMPO met on October 17 to approve amendments to the 2040 plan. There were 40 proposed changes and two items were removed. One of the items was to take Lone Star rail off the plan.

Board Member Garza stated she would not be able to stay for the Connections 2025 update. She asked if it would be possible to get a visual map of the routes that are proposed to be cut and what we are proposing as alternate routes. Board Member Kitchen would like to know what will it take to keep these routes. She would like to understand what the options or tradeoffs would be if we keep some of these routes.

Board Member Silas commented that the consultant is scheduled to provide an in-depth review of Connections 2025 to the Board in November.

Board Member Kitchen invited the Board to the November 1st Council work session where they will discuss how the Connections 2025 plan relates to the City’s comprehensive housing plan and the City’s transportation plan.

VII. Consent Items

1. Approval of minutes for the September 26, 2016 Board Meeting.

3. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or her designee, to finalize and execute a contract with Fox Service Company to provide full heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) maintenance and repair services for all Capital Metro public and operational properties and buildings for a base term of two years, with eight (8) one-year options in an amount not to exceed $3,744,265.

4. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or her designee, to finalize and execute an amendment to an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the City of Austin for employee transit passes for a period of one year from January 1, 2017.

VIII. Action Items:

1. Approval of a resolution authorizing the elimination of the Premium Fare tier from the Capital Metro Fare Structure and including services now in the Premium Fare in the Local Fare tier effective January 8, 2017.

Donna Simmons, Vice President, Administration and Interim CFO, presented the current fare structure. We are proposing eliminating the premium fare tier. One of the recommendations from the Connections 2025 study is that “simple and flexible” should be the consumer approach to embrace customers. Eliminating the premium fare tier offers this simplification. The elimination of the premium fare will take effect on Jan.8, 2017. Capital Metro will notify CAMPO of the adopted fare reduction upon Board approval.

Robert Birch, citizen, wanted to know if we offer store value cards. Dottie Watkins said cards can be purchased. They are pre-loaded but can not be reloaded.

Board member Garza indicated that she is supportive of ending the two-tiered system because of the fare difference and is happy we are eliminating the premium fare as suggested by the Connections 2025 consultant.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Delia Garza, Board Member
SECONDER: Rita Jonse, Board Member
AYES: Silas, Mitchell, Cooper, Garza, Kitchen, Jonse, Renteria
ABSENT: Word

2. Approval of a resolution authorizing the President/CEO, or her designee, to negotiate, finalize and execute an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Austin in order to design, build, operate and maintain the Downtown Rail Station Improvements.

Due to ongoing negotiations with City of Austin staff and Legal, this item was pulled and postponed until the November board meeting.

3. Approval of a resolution adopting the FY2017-FY2018 Internal Audit Services Plan.

Caroline Beyer, Vice President, Internal Audit, presented this item. The Proposed Internal Audit Services plan was presented to the Finance, Audit and Administration Committee on October 14 and there were no recommended changes. A summary of the audits and projects the Internal Audit team recommends performing during the next two fiscal years, FY2017 and FY2018 was presented. The projects in the proposed plan were selected after completion of an organizational comprehensive risk assessment. The proposed plan aligns with Capital Metro’s strategic goals and tasks.
IX. Reports:

1. Connections 2025 Update

Lawrence Deeter, Planning & Development team, presented this item. The Board heard an update on Connections 2025 public participation to date. The following was discussed:

- Media coverage and social media
- Community Outreach Strategy which involved stakeholder workshops, public open houses, virtual meetings, online outreach and drop-in sessions at major stops
- What we’ve heard - comments and concerns
- Next Steps:
  - November - Board will hear final outreach feedback and review draft final plan
  - December - Final plan to be presented to Board for approval

In closing, staff indicated a letter regarding Connections 2025 was sent to all MetroAccess customers so they are aware this study is underway.

Chair Cooper wants to understand the options for the routes proposed to be cut, so he is prepared to answer questions from those individuals negatively impacted.

Board member Kitchen thanked staff for their work on Connections 2025 and indicated she would like to see if there are some that may be appropriate to keep.

2. President/CEO Updates

President/CEO Linda Watson presented the report. The report included the following:

- Double Decker bus on loan. The bus seats 89 passengers and can accommodate up to 100 passengers total. The purpose of the demonstration is to test the viability of a larger capacity bus on heavy commuter corridors such as IH-35, Mopac, and 183.
- Back of the Bus Campaign - Safety campaign we’re running that warns people to “stay back” and give our buses more room. CBS station did a special report about it. Thanks to Marriete Hummel for getting this publicity.
- Bus and Paratransit Contract Manager John Andoh Received 40 Under 40 Recognition from the Association for Commuter Transportation
- Election Day Rides - Capital Metro will be offering free rides on the first day of early voting and on Election Day to encourage people to get out and vote.

X. Items for Future Discussion:

XI. Adjournment

ADA Compliance

Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications are provided upon request. Please call (512)389-7458 or email gina.estrada@capmetro.org if you need more information.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Wade Cooper, chairperson; Beverly Silas, vice chair; Juli Word, board secretary; Delia Garza, Ann Kitchen, Rita Jonse, Terry Mitchell and Pio Renteria. Board Liaison: Gina Estrada (512)389-7458, email gina.estrada@capmetro.org if you need more information.

The Board of Directors may go into closed session under the Texas Open Meetings Act. In accordance
with Texas Government Code, Section 551.071, consultation with attorney for any legal issues, under Section 551.072 for real property issues; under Section 551.074 for personnel matters, or under Section 551.076, for deliberation regarding the deployment or implementation of security personnel or devices; arising regarding any item listed on this agenda.