

**MINUTES**  
**WORK SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**METROPOLITAN ATLANTA RAPID TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**OCTOBER 8, 2020**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Board Members Present**

Roberta Abdul-Salaam  
Robert Ashe  
Jim Durrett  
Roderick Edmond  
William Floyd  
Roderick Frierson  
Jerry Griffin  
Freda Hardage **(Chair)**  
Alicia Ivey  
John Pond  
Rita Scott  
Christopher Tomlinson\*  
W. Thomas Worth

**Staff Members Present**

Jeffrey Parker  
Rhonda Allen  
Luz Borrero  
Collie Greenwood  
Kevin Hurley  
Melissa Mullinax  
Elizabeth O'Neill  
Franklin Rucker  
Gena Major  
Torrey Kirby  
Katherine Dirga  
Tyrene Huff  
Marie Peters

Other in attendance: Robert Highsmith of Holland & Knight

**Approval of September 10, 2020 Work Session Meeting Minutes**

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On a motion by Mr. Ashe, seconded by Ms. Ivey, the minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 12 to 0 with 13\* members present.

**Chair's Report**

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Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, October 29, 2020 - 9:30 a.m.

- Planning & Capital Programs Committee
- Operations & Safety Committee (immediately following)
- Business Management Committee (immediately following)

Thursday, November 12, 2020 – 12:00 p.m.

- Board of Directors Meeting

\*Christopher Tomlinson is the Executive Director of Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) and is therefore, a non-voting member of the MARTA Board of Directors.

Thursday, November 19, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.

- External Relations Committee

Friday, November 20, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.

- Audit Committee

## **General Manager/CEO's Report**

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### Artbound Annual Update

Ms. Dirga presented the above agenda item. The Board received a briefing on the following:

- Snapshot of the Artbound Program
  - Artbound was launch in June of 2017
  - Forty-one total artworks are displayed
  - Thirty-five of thirty-eight stations has at least one artwork
  - Women artists in 1979 were thirty-six percent full-speed-ahead to 2017, women artists are forty-two percent
  - Artists of color in 1979 were thirty percent fast-forward to 2017, artists of color are sixty-three percent
  - Funds to artists in FY20 total to one hundred and ninety-four thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars (\$194,760)
- Community Partnership
  - City of Decatur, Fulton County Arts & Culture, TransFormation Alliance, Roswell Arts Fund, Art on the Atlanta Beltline, Atlanta Regional Commission, Dekalb School Arts, to name a few
- Music and Performing Arts
  - MARTA Bars and Beats
  - The Bakery X Artbound at Streets Alive
  - Concert on the Car
  - Great Blue
  - Live at Five Points Station
  - Terminus Modern Ballet Theatre
- Temporary/Permanent Visual Arts
  - East Lake Station Mural – the artist selected from a pool of one hundred applicants. The chosen artist Nico Romero immersed himself in the community to speak with individuals to get an idea of what the community means to them.
  - Holiday Cheer – individuals dressed in funny holiday sweaters sang on trains and at bus loops
  - Carolers and Hot Cocoa – setup free hot chocolate concession bar at Clayton County Justice Center in addition to riding on buses with patrons
  - MARTA held customer appreciate at Five Points February 2020
  - MARTA Artbound program Instagram page is called **marta\_artbound**
  - To maintain engagement with customers and support local artists during the current health climate, MARTA came up with #isolationcreations. Local

- artists invited to create a video with an original song which they send to MARTA
- Clayton Transit hub – MARTA created a community mural and invited the community to come together and paint the mural
- Decatur Arts Alliance reached out to MARTA to have a call for black artist to create art inspired by social justice for the three stations in Decatur
- Airport Station Mosaic set to complete fall of 2021
- On the Horizon
  - Call for a proposal at Five Points, Avondale and Indian Creek stations
  - 2021: Station programming by Kenny Leon's true colors theatre
  - Artists invitational tribute to civil rights leaders

### MARTA Safety Plan

Mr. Parker, General Manager/CEO, noted that GDOT signed off on all documents related to the MARTA's Safety plan pending the Board of Directors approval.

### Inclusion Matters Partnering Program

Mr. Parker, General Manager/CEO, informs the Board that MARTA is in the process of developing a training program called "Inclusion Matters." Contractors awarded a \$25 million project or more will be required to participate in the program. Through the program, contractors will gain insight into why the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) program is essential to MARTA. The program ensures that DBE capitalizes economically through participation in MARTA projects and contracts from money the citizens in this country and throughout the Atlanta region paid through taxes.

Mr. Parker added that a resolution would be presented to the Board in early 2021 to approve the program's policy and funding.

### **Other Matters**

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On a motion by Mr. Ashe, seconded by Mr. Griffin, the Board unanimously agreed by a vote of 12 to 0 with 13\* members present to go into Executive Session at 12:59 p.m. to discuss personnel matter.

### **Adjournment**

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The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.