

Metroplan Board of Directors Meeting

August 28, 2026

10:30 am

*Jeffery Hawkins Conference Room
501 West Markham*

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of July 22, 2026
2. Financial Report
3. Metroplan 2025 Audit
4. Metroplan Report
 - a. July/August Report
 - b. Metroplan and CAPDD Integration
- Energy and Environment Innovation for the Natural State
5. EEI Implementation Grant Update
 - Transportation Agenda
6. Rock Region METRO TIP Amendments
7. 2027 Supplemental Call for Projects
8. 2027-2029 TIP
9. Agency Reports
10. Metroplan Board Announcements
11. Citizen Communications
12. Adjourn



ITEM 1. MINUTES OF JULY 22, 2026

The minutes of the July 22nd, 2026 Metroplan Board meeting are attached for review and adoption.

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to adopt minutes from July 22nd, 2026.

Metroplan Board of Directors Meeting July 22, 2026

Attending:

Board Members

Mayor Crystal Herrmann, City of Alexander
Mayor Bernadette Chamberlain, City of Austin
Mayor Tom Farmer, City of Benton
Mayor Chris Treat, City of Bryant
Mayor Caleb Norris, City of Maumelle
Mayor Mike Kemp, City of Shannon Hills
Mayor Mary Jo Heye-Townsell, City of Sherwood
Mayor Charles Gastineau, City of Ward
Mayor Derrick Rainey, City of Wrightsville
Judge Allen Dodson, Faulkner County
Judge Barry Hyde, Pulaski County
Judge Matt Brumley, Saline County
Mr. Bryan Day, Little Rock Port Authority
Mr. Justin Avery, Rock Region METRO
Mr. David Siskowski, ARDOT
Mr. David Cook, City of North Little Rock
*Judge Doug Erwin, City of England
*Mr. Maneesh Krishnan, City of Little Rock
*Mr. Shane Carter, Clinton National Airport
*Mr. Brady Zweifel, City of Vilonia

***Indicates Proxy**

Metroplan

Casey Covington
Bernadette Rhodes
Bridgette Bavon
Lynn Bell
Peritosh Jambhale
Paul Murphy
Hans Haustein
Jonathan Lupton
Daniel Holland
Sydney Dozier

Brittany Nichols
Amy Thomas
Jeff Runder

Guest

Joe Smith, Arkansas Municipal League (AML)
Mark Stodola, AML
Tad Bohannon, Central Arkansas Water
Jon Plafcar, City of Carlisle
Mr. Robbie Alberson, City of Conway
Mayor Gail King, City of Des Arc
Brad Peterson, Crafton Tull
Dave Roberts, Crafton Tull
Leigh Ann Pool, Central Arkansas Planning & Development District
Tanya Childer, Central Arkansas Planning & Development District
Timothy Riley, Central Arkansas Planning & Development District
Mike Watson, HALFF
Andrew Boatman, HNTB
Zac Curry, HNTB
Sebastian Castano, HNTB
Robert Birch, City of Jacksonville
Grace Harvey, KATV
Kelli Lamberson, Office of Congressman Westerman
Gene Higginbotham, Congressmen Crawford
Austin Coleman, U.S. Senator Tom Cotton
Katie Rutledge, McClelland Engineers (MCE)
Tab Townsell, Pulaski County
Chris Collins, Olsson
Aaron Vowell, RKTK
Ember Strange, Rock Region METRO
Austin Coleman, Senator Cotton's Office
Jon Honeywell, Volkert

I. Approval of minutes of June 24, 2026

A motion to approve the minutes of the June Board meeting was made by Mayor Norris, seconded by Mayor Kemp and passed by the Board.

II. Approval of the Financial Report

Amy Thomas presented Metroplan's reconciled bank accounts as of May 31, 2026, and noted that staff are working on the Quarter 2 financial report. She added that staff have been working with Auditors to finish the 2025 Annual Audit report anticipating the completion of the report and presentation to board members in August.

III. Central Arkansas Spotlight – Passport to Planning

Bridget Bavon, a Little Rock native graduate student at UNC Chapel Hill, described her work as a public engagement intern with Metroplan. Her projects included community engagement and outreach, GIS support, survey design, public feedback analysis, grant support, and development of planning resources. She presented an RPIS story map designed as an interactive, accessible tool highlighting transportation and land use data across the four-county region. The map includes regional overview data, county-level information, population trends, current land use, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, traffic growth trends, strategic connections, development constraints, and Master Street Plan information. Bridget noted that Pulaski County content was still being developed and that the story map is intended to remain a living resource on Metroplan's website.

Paul Murphy, a Conway native studying computer science and exploring civil engineering, presented two projects. Paul presented his first project, a transit-oriented development and infill development readiness study for Little Rock and North Little Rock, using market, physical, and social measures to identify areas with stronger development readiness. He further presented on his AI data analysis project which utilized locally run image-to-text and language models to extract data from scanned utility bills and historical census tables, reducing the need for manual data entry while keeping private data off the internet.

IV. Metroplan Report

Casey Covington reported continued progress on the regional trail network, including recent groundbreaking activity and additional segments expected to move forward. He also highlighted the announcement of a \$30 million grant related to 30 Crossing and noted the importance of the park component in helping build public support for the project. Rock Region METRO was recognized for 40 years of service to Central Arkansas.

Mr. Covington discussed proposed federal updates to uniform guidance for grants. He noted that existing grants are not expected to be affected, but future discretionary grants could face risks related to termination of authority and reputational risk. National organizations representing cities, counties, councils of government, MPOs, and related groups have requested a delay and extended comment period. Metroplan will monitor the issue and coordinate with national organizations and the congressional delegation as needed.

Central Arkansas Summit Report

Sydney Dozier presented key findings, shared goals, and recommendations from the Central Arkansas Summit Report. Findings included the need to explore shared services, identify additional revenue streams, strengthen project identification, expand planning to include economic and strategic development, advocate for regional planning needs and related policies, and convening more strategic conversations among regional stakeholders.

Shared goals included improving access to current data, research, and planning resources; supporting both rural and urban communities; strengthening connections among transportation planning, economic development, land use, solid waste, disaster mitigation,

housing, environmental planning, public health, and related areas; maintaining high-quality products while expanding member services; positioning Central Arkansas priorities for regional, state, and federal support; and promoting a stronger regional voice.

Recommendations included identifying priority shared services, hosting regular stakeholder meetings, aligning planning with development and recruitment efforts, expanding planning to include economic and strategic development, establishing an advocacy plan, and supporting regional planning and programs affected by workforce development consolidation. The Chair thanked staff and noted that stakeholders were appreciative of the summit and Metroplan's emphasis on shared planning and access to high-quality data.

Mr. Covington reported that work continues with CAPDD on merger planning. He noted that the immediate focus is to review the financial availability of funding for both Metroplan and CAPDD so staff can present a clear picture of available resources and future options. The following merger deliverables were presented to the Board: update financial planning based on state actions on WIOA within 30 to 45 days; update the staffing plan based on state actions on WIOA within 45 to 60 days; assess space-planning needs for co-location within 60 to 90 days; research governance and organization design models and examples within 90 to 120 days; develop the MOU within 60 to 120 days, with a vote anticipated in November; update personnel policies by the end of 2026; prepare procurement documentation by the end of 2026; complete legal paperwork in early 2027; and begin co-location in 2027, with completion expected by the end of that year.

V. Agency Reports

A. Arkansas Department of Transportation

Casey Covington reported on behalf of David Siskowski that an ARDOT advertised project will update signs on freeways throughout Central Arkansas. The State Transportation Improvement Program is also out for review.

B. Rock Region METRO

Justin Avery introduced Amber Strange as the agency's new Chief Financial Officer and noted Rock Region METRO's 40th anniversary celebration. Updates included a forthcoming smart-card fare payment system and a new mobile ticketing app that will support trip planning and fare purchases.

C. Little Rock Port Authority

Bryan Day reported that monthly coordination continues long-term transportation infrastructure needs as growth moves southward of the Port. He also noted that South Loop study is beginning process with consultant Ernst.

D. Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport

Shane Carter thanked Metroplan and members for participating in the airport's stakeholder engagement survey, which received more than 1,200 responses and is informing schematic

design for terminal expansion. Planned improvements include baggage claim updates, a new lower-level security checkpoint, additional gates, and expanded food and beverage options. The airport commission also approved a financial consultant and is moving toward a common-use terminal system.

E. FHWA

There was no one in attendance.

F. Congressional Delegates

Representatives from congressional offices reported that the August district work period is approaching and noted continued availability to assist local governments. The OMB grant guidance concerns were acknowledged for follow-up.

G. Arkansas Economic Development Council

There was no one in attendance.

H. Arkansas Municipal League

Mark Stodola reported for the Arkansas Municipal League that the summer conference was successful, with strong attendance from municipal officials and participants. He reminded members that recorder, treasurer, and clerk training is now mandatory and encouraged interested officials, particularly from smaller cities, to seek opportunities to serve on Municipal League committees and advisory councils.

I. CAPDD

Leigh Ann Pool reported project workload updates, including transition planning following Connie Spencer's upcoming departure, Community Development Block Grant activity, the Pulaski County Woodson Levy Project award, FEMA mitigation plan issues, and the need for letters documenting extenuating circumstances where FEMA delays affected grant processes.

Energy and Environment Innovation for the Natural State

VI. EEI Implementation Grant Update

Brittany Nichols, presented on updates which included the first EV rebate random drawing, more than 13,000 trees requested toward the 166,000-tree goal, Bryant Parkway progress, Shannon Hills land restoration activity, streetlight conversion projects, 20 electric vehicles on the road in Little Rock, HVAC and controls progress, and new applicants for the Energy Savings Performance Contracting Program.

Bernadette Rhodes highlighted the positive impact of the Central Arkansas tree planting program on a young intern who developed a new interest in land management and conservation through work connected to the program. Approximately \$5.8 million remains available from the \$100 million EPA grant for opportunities including EV chargers, EV fleet rebates, energy efficiency, land restoration, and tree planting, with technical assistance available.

Staff presented a rolling application from the City of Cabot for a multimodal path. The project was described as highly competitive, construction ready, cost effective, connected to more than 11 community destinations, and supportive of closing a key gap in the regional greenway network in Lonoke County. The request was \$1,005,458 with a 20% local match. A motion was made by Mayor Heye-Townsell and second by Mayor Farmer was made to approve Resolution 26-11. The motion passed.

Transportation Agenda

VII. Rock Region METRO TIP and UPWP

Daniel Holland presented the current TIP amendment and clarified that the amendment under consideration applies to the current 2025–2028 TIP, while the 2027–2030 TIP is separately being prepared for public comment. He further added that Conway is now eligible for 5339 funding, which can be used to upgrade fleet vehicles. Daniel added that FTA requires previous years' funding to be displayed in the current 2025–2028 TIP for Rock Region METRO to apply for the funds. The amendment will add two (2) line items to access funding from 2023–2024 and 2025–2026. A motion was made by Mayor Kemp and second by Mayor Gastineau made to release the amendment for public comment. The motion passed.

Daniel Holland reported on Rock Region METRO's \$5.4 million BUILD grant awarded in early 2025 for transit-oriented development planning at the downtown transit center. The item will be included in the new STIP/TIP materials so the agency can proceed with applying for grant funds and advancing the planning project. He reported that this will be incorporated into new TIP and UPWP, FTA Requires funding to be incorporated into the TIP "2027 to 2030", and the UPWP will be amended to show discretionary grant funds.

This item was provided for information only.

VIII. Supplemental Funding 2026 and Project Obligations

Staff reported that Metroplan is on track to obligate approximately \$21.9 million, including supplemental projects. Six supplemental projects remain and are close to bid. Mayflower's project will move forward as right-of-way rather than construction. A motion by Mayor Chamberlain and second by Mayor Herrmann were made to approve Resolution 26-12 awarding supplemental funding to the remaining projects. The motion passed.

IX. 2027-2030 TIP

Daniel Holland presented the 2027–2030 project list for information. Most projects are carryovers from the previous TIP, with several additions. The TIP is being prepared for public comment and is expected to return for adoption in September.

X. Metroplan Board Announcements

During board announcements, no additional formal announcements were made. Aaron Huntley of UALR indicated willingness to be added to future agendas and noted that additional information will be forthcoming regarding Issue 3. The meeting concluded with appreciation for participants and was adjourned without objection.

XI. Citizen Communication

There were no citizen communications presented.

XII. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Judge Matt Brumley, Secretary/Treasurer

Judge Allen Dodson, President

ITEM 2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Metroplan's January -June 2026 financials are included in the packet. This includes a report of revenue and expenditures incurred by Metroplan during this period.

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to accept the Financial Report.

Metroplan 2026 Operating Budget YTD Actuals

1/1/2026 - 06/30/2026 YTD *Unaudited*

Metroplan Operating Revenue Budget		2026 YTD	% of Budget
MPO Planning Funds	\$1,255,709	\$609,215.07	48.5%
EEl	\$18,016	\$6,313.97	35.0%
CPRG	\$267,460	\$143,208.00	53.5%
Metroplan Member Dues	\$655,153	\$655,153.00	100.0%
State of Arkansas MPO Designation	\$20,000	\$11,250.00	56.3%
MAWA	\$10,346	\$0.00	0.0%
Interest Income	\$90,000	\$51,654.56	57.4%
Total	\$2,316,685	\$1,476,794.60	
Metroplan Operating Expenses Budget		2026 YTD	% of Budget
Metroplan Salaries & Fringe	\$1,586,723	\$753,325.92	47.5%
Indirect Expenses (excl Salary)	\$464,000	\$174,767.00	37.7%
Local Funds/Board Expenses	\$88,962	\$31,625.98	35.6%
MAWA Direct Support	\$6,000	\$0.00	0.0%
Match for Planning Projects/Grants	\$87,000	\$0.00	0.0%
Total	\$2,232,685	\$959,718.90	43.0%
Unallocated Gains Assets	\$84,000	\$517,075.70	
Pass Through Funds			
CPRG Projects		\$5,165,926	
Engineering Projects Design		\$815,596	

Metroplan 2026 Operating Expenses

1/1/2026- June 30, 2026 YTD *Unaudited*

		2026 Budget	2026 YTD Actual	% of Budget
Staff Salary and Fringe		\$1,586,723	\$753,326	47.5%
Indirect Expenses	Miscellaneous	\$5,000	\$3,426	68.5%
	Depreciation Expense	\$20,000	\$16,226	81.1%
	Employee Professional Membership	\$5,000	\$2,823	56.5%
	Financial System Support/Oversight	\$45,000	\$27,200	60.4%
	General Operating	\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
	Insurance - General	\$7,500	\$291	3.9%
	Legal, Accounting & Audit	\$65,000	\$1,295	2.0%
	Maintenance and Repair	\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
	Materials and Supplies	\$30,000	\$11,633	38.8%
	Lease Expense - Office Equipment	\$8,000	\$2,710	33.9%
	Outside Printing	\$15,000	\$0	0.0%
	Payroll Preparation Expenses	\$3,500	\$800	22.9%
	Postage	\$2,000	\$518	25.9%
	Professional Membership	\$10,000	\$7,462	74.6%
	Public Relations	\$8,000	\$401	5.0%
	Rent	\$68,000	\$39,667	58.3%
	Staff Travel & Training	\$52,500	\$13,535	25.8%
	Subscriptions and Publications	\$1,000	\$150	15.0%
	Technology Expense	\$70,000	\$37,572	53.7%
	New Website Depreciation	\$12,000	TBD	
	Telephone & Internet	\$16,500	\$9,059	54.9%
	Lease Improvement Depreciation	\$10,000	TBD	
	Total		\$464,000	\$174,767
100 %				
Local	oard Engagement/CA Summit/Travel/Lobbying	\$94,962	\$31,626	33.3%

ITEM 3. METROPLAN 2025 AUDIT

The 2025 Metroplan Audit has been completed by Rasco Winter Thomas CPAS and Advisors and is attached. Representatives will attend the Board meeting to present the results and answer questions. The 2025 Audit is a clean audit with no significant negative findings.

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to accept the 2025 Metroplan Audit.



METROPLAN

SMART PLANNING MAKES SMART PLACES.

**Financial Statements
December 31, 2025 and 2024
and
Supplementary Schedules
December 31, 2025**

(With Independent Auditor's Reports Thereon)

Metroplan

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of
Metroplan

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Metroplan (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Metroplan as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Metroplan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Metroplan's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Metroplan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Metroplan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and other supplementary schedules listed in the table of contents, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling

such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August XX, 2026, on our consideration of Metroplan's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Metroplan's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Metroplan's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Rasco Winter Thomas
Little Rock, Arkansas
August XX, 2026

Financial Statements

DRAFT
8.19.26

Metroplan

Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 1,246,823	\$ 323,609
Certificates of deposit	1,565,480	1,508,250
Federal grants and contracts receivable	5,931,686	2,770,533
Local match receivable	50,000	50,000
Prepaid expenses	34,004	9,480
Furniture, fixtures and equipment, net	132,729	70,984
Amounts held for others	1,998,304	2,107,023
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 10,959,026	\$ 6,839,879
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 4,434,544	\$ 485,265
Accrued salaries and other expenses	39,707	31,071
Accrued leave	31,122	24,581
Amounts held for others	1,998,304	2,107,023
Total Liabilities	6,503,677	2,647,940
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	4,455,349	4,191,939
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 10,959,026	\$ 6,839,879

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Metroplan

Statements of Activities Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Fees and Grants from Government Agencies		
Federal assistance:		
Highway planning grants	\$ 1,911,407	\$ 1,940,577
Federal transit technical studies grants	1,113,640	1,137,763
Safe streets and roads for all grant	132,267	336,019
Climate pollution reduction grants	6,402,374	157,941
State assistance:		
Arkansas planning grant	22,500	22,500
	<u>9,582,188</u>	<u>3,594,800</u>
Other Support and Revenue		
Local member contributions	654,442	655,153
Contract administrative services	11,171	24,138
Interest	112,607	143,507
Local projects and other	466,876	560,623
	<u>1,245,096</u>	<u>1,383,421</u>
Total Support and Revenue	<u>10,827,284</u>	<u>4,978,221</u>
EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Planning and construction studies	3,001,315	3,094,163
Climate pollution reduction grant	5,941,306	-
Transit technical studies	1,391,867	1,352,850
Contract administrative services and other	11,171	28,022
	<u>10,345,659</u>	<u>4,475,035</u>
Management and General	<u>218,215</u>	<u>134,401</u>
Total Expenses	<u>10,563,874</u>	<u>4,609,436</u>
Increase in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	263,410	368,785
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>4,191,939</u>	<u>3,823,154</u>
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 4,455,349</u>	<u>\$ 4,191,939</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Metroplan

Statement of Functional Expenses Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Program Services	Management and General	Total
Salaries and benefits	\$ 1,403,970	\$ 91,612	\$ 1,495,582
CPRG	5,941,306	-	5,941,306
Subcontracting and consulting	2,663,747	-	2,663,747
Outside printing	11,747	607	12,354
Technology expense	63,627	-	63,627
Materials and supplies	15,780	815	16,595
Equipment rental	5,494	284	5,778
Postage	2,254	116	2,370
Professional memberships	14,817	995	15,812
Financial system support	42,743	2,207	44,950
Office rent	64,661	3,339	68,000
Travel	34,046	1,758	35,804
Training	12,848	664	13,512
Insurance	3,944	204	4,148
Professional services	43,563	2,250	45,813
Public relations	-	10,314	10,314
Depreciation and amortization	19,027	983	20,010
Legal notices	368	19	387
Other operating expenses	1,717	102,048	103,765
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 10,345,659	\$ 218,215	\$ 10,563,874

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Metroplan

Statement of Functional Expenses Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Program Services	Management and General	Total
Salaries and benefits	\$ 1,164,157	\$ 114,580	\$ 1,278,737
Subcontracting and consulting	2,987,037	-	2,987,037
Outside printing	10,753	323	11,076
Technology expense	61,770	-	61,770
Materials and supplies	22,341	671	23,012
Maintenance and repair	881	26	907
Equipment rental	7,251	218	7,469
Postage	2,305	69	2,374
Professional memberships	13,408	488	13,896
Financial system support	35,630	1,070	36,700
Office rent	66,017	1,983	68,000
Travel	29,416	883	30,299
Training	12,617	379	12,996
Insurance	3,857	116	3,973
Professional services	40,124	1,205	41,329
Public relations	-	6,407	6,407
Depreciation and amortization	15,623	469	16,092
Legal notices	760	23	783
Other operating expenses	1,088	5,491	6,579
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,475,035	\$ 134,401	\$ 4,609,436

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Metroplan

Statements of Cash Flows Years Ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 263,410	\$ 368,785
Adjustments to Reconcile Increase in Net Assets to		
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities		
Depreciation and amortization	20,010	16,092
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable:		
Federal grants and contracts	(3,161,153)	(1,001,687)
Administrative fees and other	-	(50,000)
Prepaid expenses	(24,524)	(6,018)
Accounts payable	3,949,279	(528,465)
Accrued salaries and other expenses	8,636	22,426
Accrued leave	6,541	(3,205)
Amounts held for others, net	-	(138)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	1,062,199	(1,182,210)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchases of furniture, fixtures and equipment	(81,755)	(44,907)
Net change in certificates of deposit	(57,230)	51,859
Net Cash (Used in) Provided by Investing Activities	(138,985)	6,952
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	923,214	(1,175,258)
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	323,609	1,498,867
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,246,823	\$ 323,609

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Metroplan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

NOTE 1: NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Metroplan, a council of local governments, is a voluntary association of governments from Pulaski, Faulkner, Saline, Lonoke and Grant counties. Metroplan is organized as a nonprofit corporation in the State of Arkansas and is certified by the Governor under the provisions of the Arkansas Interlocal Cooperation Act (Act 430 of 1967) and by Act 26 of 1955, as amended by Act 29 of 1967, which allows local governments to cooperate for planning purposes. The operations of Metroplan are governed by the Articles of Incorporation adopted by the member governments.

Metroplan is supported primarily through grants from federal and state agencies and contributions from local governments. A majority of the federal funds received by Metroplan are from the United States Department of Transportation, passed through the Arkansas Department of Transportation, to carry out urban transportation planning activities. Local and other resources are generally used for matching funds and for general and administrative expenses.

Members of Metroplan at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

Counties

Faulkner County
Lonoke County
Pulaski County
Saline County

Cities

City of Alexander
City of Austin
City of Bauxite
City of Benton
City of Bryant
City of Cabot
City of Cammack Village
City of Conway
City of England
City of Greenbrier
City of Guy
City of Haskell
City of Jacksonville
City of Keo
City of Little Rock

Cities (Continued)

City of Lonoke
City of Maumelle
City of Mayflower
City of Mount Vernon
City of North Little Rock
City of Shannon Hills
City of Sherwood
City of Traskwood
City of Vilonia
City of Ward
City of Wooster
City of Wrightsville

Special Transportation Members

Central Arkansas Transit Authority
Arkansas Department of Transportation

Special Nonvoting and Others

Grant County
Hot Springs Village
City of Sheridan

Metroplan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of Metroplan have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

As required by Section 15 of the Federal Transit Act, Metroplan uses *The Urban Mass Transportation Industry Uniform System of Accounts and Records and Reporting System* as the basis for its financial accounting system.

Basis of Presentation

Metroplan reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following two classes of net assets:

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions – Net assets that are not subject to or are no longer subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions – Net assets whose use is limited by donor-imposed time and/or purpose restrictions.

Metroplan had no net assets with donor restrictions at December 31, 2025 or 2024.

Cash

For purposes of financial reporting, cash includes demand deposit accounts held at multiple financial institutions and certificates of deposit with maturities of three months or less.

Accounts Receivable

Metroplan incurs costs relating to various grants, contracts or projects it has entered into with various governmental entities. The balance reported as accounts receivable on the statements of financial position generally represents costs incurred by Metroplan in excess of amounts received from these entities. Management estimates expected credit losses based on historical experience, current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts. No allowance for expected credit losses was considered necessary at December 31, 2025 and 2024. Accounts receivable as of January 1, 2024 was \$1,768,846.

Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment

Furniture, fixtures and equipment greater than \$1,000 are capitalized, reported at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful lives, which range from three to seven years, using the straight-line method. Maintenance and repairs are expensed in the period incurred.

Accrued Leave

The provision for accrued leave reflects Metroplan's liability to its employees for accrued but unused annual leave. Any accrued annual leave, up to 80 hours, not taken by an employee will generally be paid to that employee upon termination of service with Metroplan.

Metroplan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Contributions

Contributions received are recorded as support, depending on the existence or nature of donor restrictions, if any. Metroplan had only contributions without donor restrictions during the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024.

Local membership contributions, which are nonrefundable, consist of a contribution element for the total dues paid. Metroplan recognizes these contributions immediately upon payment.

Revenue Recognition

A portion of Metroplan's revenue is derived from cost-reimbursable federal contracts and grants, which are conditioned upon certain performance requirements and/or the incurrence of allowable qualifying expenses. Amounts received are recognized as revenue when Metroplan has met any specified performance requirements and/or incurred expenses in compliance with specific contract or grant provisions. Timing and frequency of billings to grantors and members vary based on the terms of the related agreements. Billings generally have payments terms of 30 days. Amounts received prior to meeting performance requirements or incurring qualifying expenses are reported as deferred revenue in the statements of financial position. There were no deferred revenues as of December 31, 2025 or 2024.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

Metroplan allocates expenses among its various programs and supporting services. Direct costs that are identifiable with a specific program or supporting service are charged to that program or service at the time the costs are incurred.

Indirect costs that benefit or support all programs or services are allocated to projects based on the ratio of total indirect costs to total direct costs. A new indirect cost allocation rate is established each year based upon the activity during the calendar year. Indirect costs are allocated to each project based upon this established rate.

Income Taxes

Metroplan is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), and is not a private foundation within the meaning of the Section 509(a) of the Code.

Accounting standards require Metroplan to evaluate tax positions and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if Metroplan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Metroplan has analyzed the tax positions taken and has concluded that as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, there were no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. Metroplan may be subject to audit by the IRS; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

Metroplan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Leases

Metroplan determines at contract inception whether an arrangement is or contains a lease by assessing whether the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. For leases with terms greater than twelve months, Metroplan recognizes a right-of-use asset and corresponding lease liability. Lease terms include periods covered by options to extend the lease when exercise of the option is reasonably certain.

Metroplan leases its office building under an operating lease. Management evaluated the lease arrangement under Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 842, *Leases*, and determined that, although the contract contains a lease, the lease qualifies for the short-term lease exemption because the noncancelable lease term, including renewal periods that are reasonably certain to be exercised, does not exceed twelve months. Accordingly, no right-of-use asset or lease liability has been recognized for this lease. Lease payments are recognized as lease expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term and included in office rent on the statements of functional expenses.

2024 Reclassification

Certain prior-year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current-year presentation. For 2024, approximately \$365,000 of federal assistance revenue was reclassified from Federal Transit Technical Studies grants to Highway Planning grants in the statements of activities. This reclassification had no effect on 2024 total revenues, changes in net assets, cash flows, or total federal expenditures.

NOTE 3: FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT

A summary of the major components of furniture, fixtures and equipment as of December 31, is as follows:

	2025	2024
Computer equipment and software	\$ 212,057	\$ 132,725
Furniture and fixtures	58,976	56,553
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	(138,304)	(118,294)
Total furniture, fixtures and equipment, net	<u>\$ 132,729</u>	<u>\$ 70,984</u>

Metroplan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

NOTE 4: LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

Metroplan monitors its liquidity so that it is able to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments while maximizing the investment of its excess operating cash. Metroplan has the following financial assets that could readily be made available within one year of the statements of financial position to fund expenses without limitations:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cash	\$ 1,246,823	\$ 323,609
Certificates of deposit	1,565,480	1,508,250
Federal grants and contracts accounts receivable	5,931,686	2,770,533
Local match receivable	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	<u><u>\$ 8,793,989</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,652,392</u></u>

NOTE 5: INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION

The following is a summary of indirect costs, and the allocations thereof, for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Salaries and benefits	\$ 198,573	\$ 205,252
Outside printing	12,354	11,076
Repairs and maintenance	-	907
Technology expense	63,627	61,770
Materials and supplies	16,595	23,012
Equipment rental	5,778	7,469
Postage	2,370	2,374
Professional memberships	15,582	13,811
Financial system support	44,950	36,700
Office rent	68,000	68,000
Telephone	13,512	12,996
Training	35,804	30,299
Insurance	4,148	3,973
Professional services	45,813	41,329
Public relations	10,314	6,407
Depreciation and amortization	20,010	16,092
Legal notices	387	783
Other operating expenses	<u>2,036</u>	<u>1,206</u>
Total indirect costs	559,853	543,456
Less indirect costs, supporting services	<u>(29,251)</u>	<u>(5,748)</u>
Total indirect costs, program services	<u><u>\$ 530,602</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 537,708</u></u>

Metroplan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

NOTE 5: INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION (Continued)

The final calculated indirect cost rates were 40.9096% and 49.9409% of direct program services costs (excluding interest, subcontractor and certain consulting fees) for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

NOTE 6: CONTRACTED ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Metroplan provides certain operating and administrative services for which it is reimbursed for related direct and indirect expenses for Mid-Arkansas Water Alliance (MAWA). The activity related to these services was as follows for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 24,138	\$ 21,147
Reimbursements	(24,138)	(21,147)
Services provided	<u>11,171</u>	<u>24,138</u>
Ending balance	<u>\$ 11,171</u>	<u>\$ 24,138</u>

NOTE 7: AMOUNTS HELD FOR OTHERS

During the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, Metroplan maintained agreements with various member governments to manage certain projects, for which Metroplan is reimbursed for related direct and indirect expenses. Metroplan receives advances from members for certain projects. Amounts received in excess of project expenditures and related indirect costs totaled approximately \$1,998,000 and \$2,107,000 at December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Such balances are reported as amounts held for others in the statements of financial position.

NOTE 8: RETIREMENT PLAN

Metroplan has established a retirement plan for its employees that allows participants to contribute a portion of their compensation on a pre- or post-tax basis. Employees who have completed six months of service and worked 1,000 hours during this six-month period are eligible to participate. All participating employees become fully vested after three years of service. Metroplan may make discretionary contributions to the plan on behalf of each participant. Metroplan's contributions totaled approximately \$92,000 and \$78,000 for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

Metroplan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2025 and 2024

NOTE 9: CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Financial instruments that potentially subject Metroplan to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash and certificates of deposit held in financial institutions. Metroplan obtains collateral for amounts on deposit in financial institutions in excess of the insurance provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). At December 31, 2025 and 2024, total bank balances were approximately \$4,812,000 and \$3,950,000, respectively. Bank balances were either fully insured by the FDIC or collateralized at December 31, 2025 and 2024.

NOTE 10: CONTINGENCIES

Metroplan receives federal and state assistance designated for specific purposes that are subject to subsequent review and audit by federal and state funding sources. Such audits could result in a request for reimbursement by such funding sources for costs disallowed under the terms and conditions of the related contracts or grants. In the opinion of Metroplan's management, such disallowances, if any, will not be significant to Metroplan's financial statements.

NOTE 11: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through **DATE**, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Supplementary Schedules

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Metroplan

Combining Schedule of Activities Year Ended December 31, 2025

	<u>Program</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Total</u>
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Fees and Grants from Government Agencies			
Federal assistance and contracts:			
Highway planning grants	\$ 1,911,407	\$ -	\$ 1,911,407
Federal transit technical studies grants	1,113,640	-	1,113,640
Safe streets and roads for all grant	132,267	-	132,267
Climate pollution reduction grants	6,402,374	-	6,402,374
State assistance:			
Arkansas planning grant	-	22,500	22,500
	<u>9,559,688</u>	<u>22,500</u>	<u>9,582,188</u>
Other Support and Revenue			
Local member contributions	-	654,442	654,442
Contract administration services	11,171	-	11,171
Interest	-	112,607	112,607
Local projects and other	466,863	13	466,876
	<u>478,034</u>	<u>767,062</u>	<u>1,245,096</u>
Matching – Federal and Local Projects	<u>307,937</u>	<u>(307,937)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Support and Revenue	<u>10,345,659</u>	<u>481,625</u>	<u>10,827,284</u>
EXPENSES			
Direct salaries and benefits	1,210,004	87,005	1,297,009
Other expenses	-	101,959	101,959
Indirect cost allocation	530,602	29,251	559,853
Subcontracting and consulting	8,605,053	-	8,605,053
Total Expenses	<u>10,345,659</u>	<u>218,215</u>	<u>10,563,874</u>
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	-	263,410	263,410
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>-</u>	<u>4,191,939</u>	<u>4,191,939</u>
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,455,349</u>	<u>\$ 4,455,349</u>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

Metroplan

Schedule of Activities – Budget and Actual Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Actual	Budget	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
*Federal, state and miscellaneous	\$ 10,172,842	\$ 2,494,378	\$ 7,678,464
Local contributions	654,442	655,153	(711)
Total Support and Revenue	<u>10,827,284</u>	<u>3,149,531</u>	<u>7,677,753</u>
EXPENSES			
Direct Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	1,297,009	1,295,288	(1,721)
*Subcontracting, consulting and miscellaneous	8,707,012	966,733	(7,740,279)
Total Direct Expenses	<u>10,004,021</u>	<u>2,262,021</u>	<u>(7,742,000)</u>
Indirect Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	198,573	239,010	40,437
Outside printing	12,354	15,000	2,646
Repairs and maintenance	-	5,000	5,000
Technology expense	63,627	70,000	6,373
Materials and supplies	16,595	20,000	3,405
Equipment rental	5,778	15,000	9,222
Postage	2,370	2,000	(370)
Professional memberships	15,582	16,000	418
Financial system support	44,950	40,000	(4,950)
Office rent	68,000	68,000	-
Telephone	13,512	15,000	1,488
Travel/training	35,804	52,500	16,696
Insurance	4,148	7,500	3,352
Professional services	45,813	50,000	4,187
Public relations	10,314	8,000	(2,314)
Depreciation and amortization	20,010	52,000	31,990
Automobile expenses	-	5,000	5,000
Legal notices	387	-	(387)
Other operating expenses	2,036	3,000	964
Total Indirect Expenses	<u>559,853</u>	<u>683,010</u>	<u>123,157</u>
Total Expenses	<u>10,563,874</u>	<u>2,945,031</u>	<u>(7,618,843)</u>
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	<u>\$ 263,410</u>	<u>\$ 204,500</u>	<u>\$ 58,910</u>

*Budget items reflect Metroplan operations and Planning projects. Actual revenue and expenditures also include Engineering and CPRG projects.

See Independent Auditor's Report.

Metroplan

Schedule of Local Member Contributions Year Ended December 31, 2025

Counties

Faulkner County	\$	40,531
Lonoke County		20,979
Pulaski County		44,108
Saline County		50,604

Cities

City of Alexander		3,114
City of Austin		3,183
City of Benton		32,213
City of Bryant		19,010
City of Cabot		24,443
City of Cammack Village		716
City of Conway		59,003
City of England		2,279
City of Greenbrier		5,250
City of Guy		692
City of Haskell		3,640
City of Jacksonville		27,119
City of Keo		190
City of Little Rock		186,384
City of Lonoke		3,934
City of Maumelle		17,711
City of Mayflower		1,825
City of North Little Rock		59,424
City of Shannon Hills		4,131
City of Sherwood		30,113
City of Traskwood		455
City of Vilonia		3,945
City of Ward		5,568
City of Wooster		959
City of Wrightsville		1,419

Special Nonvoting and Others

Grant County		500
Hot Springs Village		500
City of Sheridan		500

\$	654,442
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See Independent Auditor's Report.

Metroplan

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Expenditures		
		Federal	Matching	Subrecipients
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION Passed through the Arkansas Department of Transportation				
Highway Planning and Construction:				
STPU-0023(65) - Job 80667	20.205	\$ 123,603	\$ 30,839	\$ -
STPU-0062(57) - Job 61756	20.205	111,243	27,811	-
STPU-9035(26) - Job 61717	20.205	5,152	1,288	-
STPU-9065(13) - Job 61720	20.205	23,240	5,810	-
STPU-9095(49) - Job 80647	20.205	18,403	4,601	-
STPU-9222(16) - Job 61527	20.205	15,540	3,885	-
STPU-9222(19) - Job 61715	20.205	24,916	6,229	-
STPU-9253(104) - Job 61757	20.205	17,844	4,461	-
STPU-9095(51) - Job 80709	20.205	40,568	10,142	-
STPU-9315(64) - Job 61815	20.205	133,128	33,282	-
STPU-9065(39) - Job 61837	20.205	106,444	26,611	-
STPU-0023(70) - Job 80723	20.205	41,810	10,452	-
STPU-9061(18) - Job 61836	20.205	39,925	9,981	-
STPU-0062(60) - Job 61816	20.205	27,687	6,922	-
STPU-9065(41) - Job 61891	20.205	176,522	44,131	-
STPU-0062(66) - Job 61884	20.205	56,671	14,168	-
STPU-9061(17) - Job 61812	20.205	140,301	35,075	-
HIPUCS-COVD(16) - Job 61814	20.205	18,427	4,607	-
TAPU-9253(117) - Job 61857	20.205	88,513	22,128	-
TAPU-0062(35) - Job 61810	20.205	48,330	12,083	-
STPU-9391(26) - Job 61841	20.205	101,151	25,288	-
STPU-9253(114) - Job 61838	20.205	209,609	52,402	-
STPU-9061(16) - Job 61811	20.505	132,194	33,049	-
TAPU-0043(51) - Job 61809	20.505	4,628	1,157	-
STPU-0043(50) - Job 61806	20.505	11,509	2,877	-
TAPU-0023(52) - Job 80561	20.505	16,524	4,131	-
HIPUCS-COVID(114) - Job 61813	20.505	118,531	29,633	-
STPU-9391(21) - Job 61713	20.205	10,994	2,748	-
Ozone Action Day Program				
FAP - CMAQ-AQ-15(1) - Job 12178	20.205	48,000	12,000	-
		1,911,407	477,791	-

(Continued)

See Independent Auditor's Report.

Metroplan

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (Continued) Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Federal	Expenditures Matching	Subrecipients
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION				
Passed through the Arkansas Department of Transportation				
Federal Transit-Metropolitan Planning Grants:				
AR-81-X026	20.505	\$ 1,113,640	\$ 278,373	\$ -
		<u>1,113,640</u>	<u>278,373</u>	<u>-</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION				
Passed through the Arkansas Department of Transportation				
Safe Streets and Roads for All Grants:				
Safe Streets and Roads for All	20.939	132,267	33,067	-
		<u>132,267</u>	<u>33,067</u>	<u>-</u>
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY				
Passed through the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment				
Climate Pollution Reduction Grants:				
Energy Environment and Innovation	66.046	157,547	-	-
Climate Pollution Reduction	66.046	6,244,827	-	5,941,306
		<u>6,402,374</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,941,306</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS		<u>\$ 9,559,688</u>	<u>\$ 789,231</u>	<u>\$ 5,941,306</u>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

Metroplan

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards *(Continued)* Year Ended December 31, 2025

NOTE 1: BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the schedule) includes the federal award activity of Metroplan under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2025. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of Metroplan, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets or cash flows of Metroplan. All federal awards received directly from federal agencies, as well as federal awards passed through other government agencies, are included on the schedule.

NOTE 2: BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The schedule is presented using the same basis of accounting as described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

NOTE 3: INDIRECT COST RATE

Metroplan has elected not to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate as provided under the Uniform Guidance. The indirect cost rate used for the year ended December 31, 2025 is described in Note 5 to the financial statements.

See Independent Auditor's Report.

Other Reports and Information

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED
ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

The Board of Directors
Metroplan

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Metroplan (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August XX, 2026.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Metroplan's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Metroplan's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Metroplan's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Metroplan's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Metroplan's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Metroplan's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Rasco Winter Thomas

Little Rock, Arkansas
August XX, 2026

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR
PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY
THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

The Board of Directors
Metroplan

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Metroplan's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Metroplan's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2025. Metroplan's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Metroplan complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2025.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Metroplan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Metroplan's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Metroplan's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Metroplan's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Metroplan's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Metroplan's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Metroplan's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Metroplan's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Rasco Winter Thomas
Little Rock, Arkansas
August XX, 2026

METROPLAN

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

I. SUMMARY OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S RESULTS

A. Type of Report Issued on the Financial Statements:

The Independent Auditor's Report on the financial statements of Metroplan, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025, expresses an unmodified opinion.

B. Internal Control Over Financial Reporting:

The audit disclosed no significant deficiencies, and no material weaknesses were identified.

C. Noncompliance Material to the Financial Statements:

The audit disclosed no instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of Metroplan, which would be required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025.

D. Internal Control Over Compliance:

The audit disclosed no significant deficiencies, and no material weaknesses were identified, in relation to the design or operation of internal control over the major federal programs.

E. Type of Report Issued on Compliance for Each Major Program:

The Independent Auditor's Report on compliance expresses an unmodified opinion on Metroplan's compliance with compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2025.

F. Findings Relating to the Financial Statement Audit:

The audit disclosed no findings relating to the financial statement audit required to be reported in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards.

METROPLAN

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended December 31, 2025 (continued)

G. Major Programs:

Assistance Listing Number	Name of Federal Program
20.205	Highway Planning and Construction
66.046	Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

H. Threshold for Distinguishing Between Type A and Type B Programs:

The threshold for distinguishing between Type A and Type B programs was \$1,000,000 for the year ended December 31, 2025.

I. Qualification of Auditee as a Low-Risk Auditee:

Metroplan did not qualify as a low-risk auditee under applicable provisions of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, for the year ended December 31, 2025.

II. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

No matters were reported.

III. FEDERAL AWARDS FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

August XX, 2026

The Board of Directors
Metroplan

We have audited the financial statements of Metroplan for the year ended December 31, 2025, and we have issued our report thereon dated August XX, 2026. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated March 30, 2026. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Metroplan are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2025. We noted no transactions entered into by Metroplan during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the useful lives of furniture, fixtures, and equipment is based on the number of years each asset is expected to be of use to Metroplan. Management's estimate of the indirect cost rate is based on the portion of costs incurred during the year that can be directly attributed to certain programs. We evaluated the methods, assumptions, and data used to develop these estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. The following material misstatement detected as a result of audit procedures was corrected by management:

Understatement of Accounts Receivable	\$82,124
Understatement of Federal Assistance Revenue	\$82,124
Understatement of Program Services Expenses	\$67,624
Understatement of Accounts Payable	\$67,624

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a disagreement on a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated August XX, 2026.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to Metroplan's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as Metroplan's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of Metroplan and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Rasco Winter Thomas

DRAFT - 8/18/26

ITEM 4. METROPLAN REPORT

SUMMARY

The Metroplan report will include an update on agency planning activities for July/August and a report on the Metroplan and CAPDD merger. This will include a report from Jonthan Lupton on the upcoming MetroTrends publication and projections for population and housing.

What is next:

- Update financial planning based on state actions on WIOA – *Completed*
- Update staffing plan based on state actions on WIOA – *Completed*
- Space planning needs for co-location – *July-Sept*
- Governance and organization design research and examples – *August-October*
- Peer Exchange with Greater Nashville Regional Council (Nov 8-10)
- MOU development – *August-October (vote in November)*
- Personnel policies update – *July-Dec (vote in December)*
- Procurement document – *July-Dec (vote in December)*
- Legal paperwork – *early 2027*
- Co-Location – *starting in 2027, completed by end of year*

ACTION NEEDED: Information Only.

Energy and Environment Innovation for the Natural State Implementation Grant

ITEM 5. EEI IMPLEMENTATION GRANT aka CPRG (CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT)

The following activities were completed in July-August:

General

- **Rolling applications** are still open for Green Networks, Streetlight Replacements, EV Vehicle and Charger Rebates, and Building Efficiency Stipends. <https://metroplan.org/eei-funding-opportunities/>
- There is still time for Metroplan members to join the **Building Efficiency Cohort**. First virtual session is Thursday, August 27th, 9:30 AM. Contact bnichols@metroplan.org for information.

Green Networks

- **E-Bike Rebate registration is live.** <https://ebikear.aptracks.com/>
Individuals can register now for all 5 upcoming random selections. The next random selection will take place on September 15th. Approx. 200 individuals in Central AR are being selected each time. Participants that are not selected will stay on the list for future selection dates.
- Central AR Tree Planting Project now offering **free potted trees**: www.bit.ly/FREETREE26
- Shannon Hills' land acquisition offer was accepted.

Transportation Efficiency

- LED Streetlights completed in Wrightsville. Jacksonville and Sheridan in progress. (Entergy)
- Conway and Little Rock are beginning LED installation this month. (City-led)

Building Efficiency

- City of Ward project is complete.
- 2nd Building Efficiency Cohort begins this week.
- LIT's Geothermal project in the Democrat-Gazette:
<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/aug/16/little-rock-airports-geothermal-wells-will-help/>

SUMMARY: Rolling Call for Projects – <https://metroplan.org/eei-funding-opportunities/>

The rolling application process allows eligible entities to submit applications online and receive evaluation and consideration for board approval on a first-come, first-served basis.

1. Green Networks (*approx. \$1 million available*)
 - a. Land preservation
 - c. Land restoration/tree planting
 - d. Trail construction
2. Transportation Efficiency
 - a. Rebates for EV fleet vehicles (*approx. \$350,000 available*)
 - b. Rebates for Level 2 EV chargers (*approx. \$350,000 available*)
 - c. Stipends for streetlight conversion to LED fixtures (*approx. \$900,000 available*)
3. Building Efficiency
 - a. Stipends for Energy Savings Performance Contract costs for public buildings (*approx. \$3.2 million available. New cohort starts this week.*)

ACTION NEEDED: Information only.

Transportation Agenda

ITEM 6. ROCK REGION METROPLAN TIP

SUMMARY

The following TIP amendment was prepared for Rock Region METRO and released for public comment on August 2nd. This amendment covers funds directly allocated to the Conway Urbanized Area for bus service and will be used to purchase buses and to construct bus facilities.

JOB	COUNTY	ROUTE	TERMINI	LENGTH	TYPE WORK	FUNDING (IN THOUSANDS)	OUT THE PROJECT	FFY	MPO
CONW03	FAULKNER		Capital – Rolling Stock/ Bus Facilities		Transit	212 - FTA 5339 32 - Local	Local	2026	CARTS
<i>*FY 2023 – 2024 Apportioned funds used in 2026. 2023 FTA 5339 = \$100,000; 2024 FTA 5339 = \$112,000</i>									
CONW03	FAULKNER		Capital – Rolling Stock/ Bus Facilities		Transit	237 -FTA 5339 35 - Local	Local	2027	CARTS
<i>*FY 2025-2026 Apportioned funds used in 2026. 2023 FTA 5339 = \$116,000; 2024 FTA 5339 = \$121,000</i>									

ACTION NEEDED: Approval of Resolution 26-13



RESOLUTION 26-13
AMENDING THE CENTRAL ARKANSAS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY (CARTS)
FY 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Metroplan is the officially designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the MPO is charged with the responsibility of developing and administering the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Central Arkansas Regional Transportation Study;

WHEREAS, Conway receives direct allocations of 5339 funding and wishes to use the 2023 to 2026 allocations on bus and bus facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that as the metropolitan planning organization for Central Arkansas, the Metroplan Board of Directors, hereby approves the TIP amendment to reflect:

JOB	COUNTY	ROUTE	TERMINI	LENGTH	TYPE WORK	FUNDING (IN THOUSANDS)	OUT THE PROJECT	FFY	MPO
CONW03	FAULKNER		Capital – Rolling Stock/ Bus Facilities		Transit	212 - FTA 5339 32 - Local	Local	2026	CARTS
<i>*FY 2023 – 2024 Apportioned funds used in 2026. 2023 FTA 5339 = \$100,000; 2024 FTA 5339 = \$112,000</i>									
CONW03	FAULKNER		Capital – Rolling Stock/ Bus Facilities		Transit	237 -FTA 5339 35 - Local	Local	2027	CARTS
<i>*FY 2025-2026 Apportioned funds used in 2026. 2023 FTA 5339 = \$116,000; 2024 FTA 5339 = \$121,000</i>									

Duly recorded this 26th day of August 2026.

Judge Matt Brumley, Secretary/Treasurer

Judge Allen Dodson, President

ITEM 7. SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT FUNDING 2027

SUMMARY

Metroplan staff has estimated that \$7.4 Million in funding is available for 2027 that is currently unallocated to projects. This funding comes from the remaining balance from the recent call for projects as well as projects that the sponsor are no longer moving forward. Previous calls for supplemental funding have prioritized ready-to-go projects and jurisdictions that have been previously awarded funding for that cycle.

Pulaski County and the City of Little Rock request that the Metroplan Board consider providing funding for transportation elements of the *30 Crossing Park*, a central piece of the envisioned reconstruction of I-30 through downtown Little Rock and North Little Rock. This funding would be available only for transportation elements (bikeways, sidewalks, streets) with alternative funding used for park elements. A resolution has been drafted for consideration of the board, with funding coming from the supplemental funding amount.

ACTION NEEDED: Approval of Resolution 26-14

ACTION NEEDED: Motion to authorize staff to release a call for projects

Example: [Metroplan Supplemental Call for Projects 2026](#)



RESOLUTION 26-14
FY 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
FY 2027 GROUP PROJECT SELECTION
CARTS VARIOUS ATTRIBUTABLE PROJECTS
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Metroplan is the officially designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the MPO is charged with the responsibility of developing and administering the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Central Arkansas Regional Transportation Study; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program includes a group funding category for CARTS Various Attributable Projects; and

WHEREAS, the *30 Crossing Park* was a central piece the envisioned reconstruction of I-30, and Pulaski County and City of Little Rock request federal funding for transportation elements of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that as the metropolitan planning organization for Central Arkansas, the Metroplan Board of Directors allocates regional funding to the following projects for obligation in federal fiscal year 2027:

Project	Project Scope	Phase	Funding Source	Awarded Funding
CA0602	30 Crossing Park Transportation Elements	Construction	STBG	\$4,000,000

Duly recorded this 26th day of August 2026.

Judge Matt Brumley, Secretary/Treasurer

Judge Allen Dodson, President



BARRY HYDE
County Judge / Chief Executive Officer

August 20, 2026

Metroplan Board of Directors
501 West Markham Street
Suite B
Little Rock, AR 72201

Formal Request for \$4 Million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds for the 30 Crossing Park Project

Dear Metroplan Board Members:

On behalf of Pulaski County and project partners, I am writing to formally request that the Metroplan Board allocate \$4 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds to support the 30 Crossing Park Project. The 30 Crossing Park reimagines the 16 acres of open space created following the removal of the Hwy 10/Cantrell partial cloverleaf interchange as part of the 30 Crossing interstate project. Pulaski County will provide a 20% local match for the requested STBG funds.

Pulaski County fully understands and acknowledges that the requested STBG funds may be used only for eligible transportation components of the 30 Crossing Park Project. The County is committed to ensuring that all STBG funds are administered and expended in accordance with applicable program requirements and that the funds are dedicated exclusively to eligible transportation-related costs.

Importantly, transportation is at the very core of the 30 Crossing Park Project. The transportation components are not ancillary to the project; they are fundamental to its purpose, its regional connectivity, and its ability to serve the Central Arkansas community. The project is designed to connect people and communities through an integrated network of trails and multimodal transportation infrastructure, creating connections between existing and planned regional facilities.

That focus on transportation makes this project particularly valuable to Metroplan and its mission. The infrastructure we build and maintain is vitally important to the success of every community, city, county, and organization that is part of the Metroplan region. Strong transportation infrastructure creates the connections that allow our communities to grow, businesses to thrive, residents to access jobs and services, and visitors to experience everything Central Arkansas has to offer. Investing in the transportation components of 30 Crossing Park is therefore an investment not only in Pulaski County, but in the broader regional transportation network and in the continued success of the communities that Metroplan represents.

The 30 Crossing Park Project is an exceptionally important component of the Central Arkansas Regional Greenways network. The project will serve as a critical hub connecting several regional trails, including the Arkansas River Trail and the Southeast Trail, while helping create a more connected, accessible, and sustainable transportation network for residents and visitors throughout Central Arkansas.

The project has broad regional support. The City of Little Rock, our partner in the project, strongly supports the effort, as does the City of North Little Rock and numerous other cities and counties throughout the region. The project also has the support of the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT), the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism (ADPHT), and the Greater Little Rock Regional Chamber. This broad coalition reflects the project's regional significance and its potential to advance Central Arkansas's long-term transportation, recreation, connectivity, and quality-of-life goals.

An initial \$30 million Green America's Cities grant is supporting the initial implementation of the 30 Crossing Park Project. However, additional funding is necessary to continue advancing the project and to build upon this significant initial investment. The requested \$4 million in STBG funds, together with Pulaski County's 20% matching contribution, will provide critical resources to help move the project forward, specifically by supporting its eligible transportation components.

We are particularly grateful for the full support of the Metroplan Board Executive Committee for this request. Given the project's regional importance, broad public and governmental support, and alignment with Central Arkansas's transportation and greenways goals, Pulaski County respectfully asks the full Metroplan Board to consider and approve a resolution allocating \$4 million in STBG funds for the 30 Crossing Park Project, with the understanding that these funds will be used solely for eligible transportation costs and accompanied by the County's required 20% match.

The 30 Crossing Park Project represents an important opportunity to strengthen the Central Arkansas Regional Greenways network and connect communities across the region. Pulaski County appreciates Metroplan's partnership and leadership and respectfully requests the Board's favorable consideration of this funding request.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of this important regional project.

Sincerely,



Barry Hyde
Pulaski County Judge

ITEM 8. 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

SUMMARY

The draft 2027-2030 TIP can be found at [The 2027-2030 Draft TIP Is Available for Public Review and Comment - Metroplan](#). The formal public comment period extends through September 2nd. A vote on approval of the TIP will be included on the September Metroplan Board agenda.

ACTION NEEDED: Information Only.

ITEM 9. AGENCY REPORTS

A. Arkansas Department of Transportation

B. Rock Region METRO

C. Little Rock Port Authority

D. Bill & Hillary Clinton National Airport

E. Federal Highway Administration

F. Arkansas Department of Economic Development

G. Central Arkansas Planning and Development District
