

Mikie Sherrill, Governor
Dr. Dale G. Caldwell, Lieutenant Governor
Priya Jain, Acting Commissioner
Kris Kolluri, President & CEO

TWO GATEWAY
283-299 MARKET STREET
NEWARK, NJ 07102-5310
973-491-7000



NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS

**NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION
NJ TRANSIT RAIL OPERATIONS, INC.
NJ TRANSIT BUS OPERATIONS, INC.
NJ TRANSIT MERCER, INC.
NJ TRANSIT MORRIS, INC.
NJ TRANSIT SOUTHERN LIGHT RAIL, INC.**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is notice that the meetings of the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Transit Corporation, NJ TRANSIT Rail Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris, Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail, Inc. will be held at the **NJ TRANSIT Headquarters Building, Two Gateway, 2nd Floor Board Room, 283-299 Market Street, Newark, NJ 07102** on **THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026, BEGINNING at 6:00 P.M.**

MEETING ATTENDEES ARE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A GUEST PASS FROM THE 2 GATEWAY SECURITY DESK, GO THROUGH POLICE SECURITY SCREENINGS, AND THEN SIGN IN FOR THE MEETING WITH STAFF AT THE RECEPTION TABLE OUTSIDE THE BOARD ROOM. PLEASE ALLOW EXTRA TIME.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE: Members of the public who cannot participate in person are encouraged to watch the meetings on the corporation's website in real time at www.njtransit.com/board. The meetings will also be video recorded, archived, and made available to the public for subsequent viewing on the corporation's website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC COMMENT REGISTRATION:

Members of the public are encouraged to **pre-register in advance to provide public comments**. Members of the public who wish to provide public comments should use the "REGISTER/SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR AN UPCOMING MEETING" form on NJ TRANSIT's website at: https://njtransit.my.salesforce-sites.com/customerservice/site_app#/board_meeting_registration.

THE DEADLINE TO PRE-REGISTER IS 5:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026. We recommend using Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, Firefox, or Safari for the best experience.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES:

Each speaker will have three (3) minutes to provide comments.

IN PERSON: Speakers who pre-register and attend the meetings in-person will be given priority and have their comments taken first. In-person speakers who did not pre-register in advance will then be taken on a first-come-first-serve basis.

TELEPHONE: Speakers who pre-register and participate by telephone will follow the in-person speakers. Telephone participants who did not pre-register in advance, and queue to speak, will have their comments taken on a first-come-first-serve basis thereafter.

The toll-free dial-in phone number is 1-800-346-7359 and the conference entry code is 701939. Speakers participating by telephone may begin calling in at 5:30 P.M. to check in with the call proctor. Once checked in, participants can press *1 to enter the queue to provide public comments. There will be a brief tone to indicate you have successfully entered the queue. Anyone joining the meeting will be on a "Music Hold" prior to the meeting.

The **next meetings are scheduled** to be held on **Wednesday, April 15, 2026**, beginning at **6:00 p.m.**

This notice is being provided in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, c.231 and the NJ TRANSIT reform legislation, P.L. 2018, c.162.

Meghan Clark Umukoro

Meghan Clark Umukoro
Board Secretary

March 6, 2026

**NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION
NJ TRANSIT BUS OPERATIONS, INC.
NJ TRANSIT RAIL OPERATIONS, INC.
NJ TRANSIT MERCER, INC.
NJ TRANSIT MORRIS, INC.
NJ TRANSIT SOUTHERN LIGHT RAIL, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS**

MARCH 12, 2026

FINAL AGENDA

- **CALL TO ORDER**
- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**
- **ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**
- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- **PRESIDENT & CEO'S MONTHLY REPORT**
- **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

ACTION ITEMS

- 2603-07 CONTRACTING OUT – MIDDLESEX COUNTY LOCAL BUS SERVICE –** Authorization to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 0000175 with Suburban Transit, LLC of New Brunswick, New Jersey, to operate the Middlesex County Local Bus Service for a 60-month contract period beginning August 9, 2026 through August 8, 2031, at a cost not to exceed \$71,979,083, plus five percent for contingencies, for a total contact authorization of \$75,578,037, subject to the availability of funds and Board approval of NJ TRANSIT's Operating Budget.
- 2603-08 CONTRACTING OUT – BERGEN COUNTY LOCAL BUS SERVICE –** Authorization to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 0000144 with Academy Express, LLC of Hoboken, New Jersey, to operate the Bergen County Local Bus Service for a 60-month contract period beginning September 6, 2026 through September 6, 2031, at a cost not to exceed \$90,859,002, plus five percent for contingencies, for a total contact authorization of \$95,401,952, subject to the availability of funds and Board approval of NJ TRANSIT's Operating Budget.
- 2603-09 LEASE AND SERVICE OF BUS TIRES –** Authorization to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 0000122 with The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company (Goodyear) of Akron, Ohio, for the lease and service of bus tires for NJ TRANSIT's bus fleet over a period of five years, at a cost not to exceed \$41,992,108.16, subject to the availability of funds.

2603-10 RAIL CONTRACTED TREE TRIMMING – Authorization to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 25-615 with Independence Constructors Corporation of Bridgewater, New Jersey, to perform system-wide tree trimming/removal along NJ TRANSIT's right of ways, for a total cost of \$14,352,624.00, for a one-year base contract with four subsequent option years included, subject to the availability of funds.

2603-11 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A COST SHARE AGREEMENT FOR THE REHABILITATION OF DOCK BRIDGE BETWEEN NJ TRANSIT AND NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION – Authorization to use funds in the amount not to exceed \$23,453,000, subject to the availability of funds, to satisfy NJ TRANSIT's funding obligations towards the Dock Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

Authorization to enter into an agreement, any amendments, and any supporting agreements with Amtrak for the project.

2603-12 APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER: NJ TRANSIT BUS OPERATIONS, INC., NJ TRANSIT MERCER, INC., NJ TRANSIT MORRIS, INC., AND NJ TRANSIT SOUTHERN LIGHT RAIL, INC. – Authorization to appoint Lance Norman to the position of Senior Vice President and General Manager of NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail Inc.

CONSENT CALENDAR

2603-13 PERSONAL INJURY CLAIM OF THE ESTATE OF ASUNCION MONTANO – Authorization to settle the claim of The Estate of Asuncion Montano, through its attorney, at an amount discussed in Executive Session. The Attorney General has approved the proposed settlement, subject to the availability of funds.

2603-14 PERSONAL INJURY CLAIM OF MICHAEL NOEL – Authorization to settle the claim of Michael Noel, through his attorney, at an amount discussed in Executive Session. The Attorney General has approved the proposed settlement, subject to the availability of funds.

➤ **EXECUTIVE SESSION AUTHORIZATION**

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WHEREAS, the Bylaws provide that the minutes of actions taken at meetings of the New Jersey Transit Corporation, NJ TRANSIT Rail Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris, Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail, Inc. Board of Directors be approved by the Board; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4(f) of the New Jersey Public Transportation Act of 1979, the minutes of actions taken at the February 11, 2026 Board Meetings of the New Jersey Transit Corporation, NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Rail Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris, Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail, Inc. were forwarded to the Governor on February 19, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of actions taken at the February 11, 2026 Board Meetings of the New Jersey Transit Corporation, NJ TRANSIT Rail Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris, Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail, Inc. Board of Directors' meetings are hereby approved.

PRESIDENT & CEO'S REPORT

**THIS REPORT WILL BE PRESENTED
SEPARATELY**

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 2603-07: CONTRACTING OUT – MIDDLESEX COUNTY LOCAL BUS SERVICE

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT is empowered, pursuant to the New Jersey Public Transportation Act of 1979 (N.J.S.A. 24:25-1 et seq.) (the “Act”), to contract for motor bus regular route services operated by carriers in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, staff has determined it is appropriate to provide bus service in the Middlesex County area; and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposal (RFP 0000175) was issued to seek competitive proposals from private motorbus carriers to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, the NJ TRANSIT Office of Business Development assigned a three percent SBE/DVOB Category 3 Goal for this contract; and

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT’s Technical Evaluation Committee has reviewed and determined Suburban Transit LLC’s proposal meets the requirements set forth in Request for Proposal No. 0000175; and

WHEREAS, the cost proposal submitted by the proposer has been evaluated against another proposer and the benchmark cost submitted by NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the competitive procurement process, it was determined that Suburban Transit, LLC submitted a proposal that is in the best interest of NJ TRANSIT;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 0000175 with Suburban Transit, LLC of New Brunswick, New Jersey, to operate the Middlesex County Local Bus Service for a 60-month contract period beginning August 9, 2026 through August 8, 2031, at a cost not to exceed \$71,979,083, plus five percent for contingencies, for a total contact authorization of \$75,578,037, subject to the availability of funds and Board approval of NJ TRANSIT’s Operating Budget.

ITEM 2603-08: CONTRACTING OUT – BERGEN COUNTY LOCAL BUS SERVICE

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT is empowered, pursuant to the New Jersey Public Transportation Act of 1979 (N.J.S.A. 24:25-1 et seq.) (the ‘Act’), to contract for motor bus regular route services operated by carriers in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, staff has determined it is appropriate to provide bus service in the Bergen County area; and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposal (RFP 0000144) was issued to seek competitive proposals from private motorbus carriers to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, the NJ TRANSIT Office of Business Development assigned a three percent SBE/DVOB Category 3 Goal for this contract; and

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT’s Technical Evaluation Committee has reviewed and determined Academy Express, LLC’s proposal meets the requirements set forth in Request for Proposal No 0000144; and

WHEREAS, the cost proposal submitted by the proposer has been evaluated against another proposer and the benchmark cost submitted by NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the competitive procurement process, it was determined that Academy Express, LLC submitted a proposal that is in the best interest of NJ TRANSIT;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 0000144 with Academy Express, LLC of Hoboken, New Jersey, to operate the Bergen County Local Bus Service for a 60-month contract period beginning September 6, 2026 through September 6, 2031, at a cost not to exceed \$90,859,002, plus five percent for contingencies, for a total contact authorization of \$95,401,952, subject to the availability of funds and Board approval of NJ TRANSIT’s Operating Budget.

ITEM 2603-09:

LEASE AND SERVICE OF BUS TIRES

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations operates a fleet of 2,399 buses out of 19 bus garage facilities located throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT contracts for the lease and service of bus tires as a cost-effective and efficient means of maintaining operability of the fleet; and

WHEREAS, an Invitation for Bid (IFB) was advertised on July 1, 2025, for a five-year base contract for the lease and service of bus tires for all bus types in NJ TRANSIT's fleet, including the provision of service personnel at all 19 of NJ TRANSIT's bus garage facilities for the duration of the contract; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of a competitive procurement process, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company (Goodyear) was identified as the lowest responsive bidder; and

WHEREAS, Goodyear is a major tire producer whose products meet NJ TRANSIT's specifications as well as the bus Original Equipment Manufacturers' specifications; and

WHEREAS, the NJ TRANSIT Office of Business Development (OBD) has assigned this contract a zero percent SBE/DVOB;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 0000122 with The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company (Goodyear) of Akron, Ohio, for the lease and service of bus tires for NJ TRANSIT's bus fleet over a period of five years, at a cost not to exceed \$41,992,108.16, subject to the availability of funds.

ITEM 2603-10: RAIL CONTRACTED TREE TRIMMING



- **STAFF SEEKS AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH INDEPENDENCE CONSTRUCTORS CORPORATION TO PERFORM TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL ALONG NJ TRANSIT'S RIGHT OF WAYS FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$14,352,624.00**
- **MANDATED VEGETATION CONTROL BY FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION (FRA)**
- **MINIMIZE SERVICE DISRUPTIONS CAUSED BY FALLEN TREES ACROSS RAILROAD TRACKS AND ON OVERHEAD CATENARY SYSTEM**

ITEM 2603-10: RAIL CONTRACTED TREE TRIMMING



ITEM 2603-10:

RAIL CONTRACTED TREE TRIMMING

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT is responsible for maintaining 544.8 miles of right of way;
and

WHEREAS, periodic evaluation of all vegetation growth, specifically tree growth, is necessary to ensure service reliability and safe train operations; and

WHEREAS, the routine trimming and removal of trees along NJ TRANSIT's right of ways is essential for ensuring clear visibility of railroad signs and signals. This maintenance also helps prevent service disruptions caused by damage to the Overhead Catenary System from fallen trees, ensuring that the railway system remains in a state of good repair;
and

WHEREAS, proper vegetation management of NJ TRANSIT's right of ways is mandated by Federal Railroad Administration Regulation 49 CFR Part 213.37 Vegetation;
and

WHEREAS, upon completion of a competitive procurement process, it was determined that Independence Constructors Corporation submitted the most advantageous proposals that provided the best value and were in the best interest of NJ TRANSIT;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to enter into NJ TRANSIT Contract No. 25-615 with Independence Constructors Corporation of Bridgewater, New Jersey, to perform system-wide tree trimming/removal along NJ TRANSIT's right of ways, for a total cost of \$14,352,624.00, for a one-year base contract with four subsequent option years included, subject to the availability of funds.

ITEM 2603-11: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A COST SHARE AGREEMENT FOR THE REHABILITATION OF DOCK BRIDGE BETWEEN NJ TRANSIT AND NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

WHEREAS, the Dock Bridge is a vital rail asset on the Northeast Corridor, supporting National Railroad Passenger Corporation (“Amtrak”), NJ TRANSIT, and Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation (PATH) passenger rail services, and its continued safe and reliable operation is essential to regional mobility; and

WHEREAS, the Dock Bridge Rehabilitation Project is a restoration initiative aimed at addressing safety-critical repairs, improving structural integrity, enhancing the reliability and resiliency of rail operations over the bridge, and ensuring uninterrupted passenger rail service for Amtrak, NJ TRANSIT, and PATH customers; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2023, the FRA awarded Amtrak a FY22-23 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program grant in the amount of \$300,184,000 to support the construction phase of the project, with a required non-federal local match of \$75,046,000; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak will serve as the project sponsor and lead, responsible for managing procurement, construction, and compliance with the Federal Railroad Administration (“FRA”) grant requirements; and

WHEREAS, following value engineering efforts, the total project cost was reduced from \$375,230,000 to \$235,000,000, resulting in a revised FRA grant award in the amount of \$188,000,000 and a reduced non-federal local match requirement of \$47,000,000 paid between NJ TRANSIT, Amtrak, and PATH; and

WHEREAS, the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 requires NJ TRANSIT to fund portions of shared capital investments such as the Dock Bridge Rehabilitation Project to support the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to use funds in the amount not to exceed \$23,453,000, subject to the availability of funds, to satisfy NJ TRANSIT’s funding obligations towards the Dock Bridge Rehabilitation Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to enter into an agreement, any amendments, and any supporting agreements with Amtrak for the project.

ITEM 2603-12: APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER: NJ TRANSIT BUS OPERATIONS, INC., NJ TRANSIT MERCER, INC., NJ TRANSIT MORRIS, INC., AND NJ TRANSIT SOUTHERN LIGHT RAIL, INC.

WHEREAS, NJ TRANSIT's Bylaws authorize the President & CEO to appoint the Senior Vice President and General Manager of NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris, Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail, Inc., with concurrence by the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, this position requires an experienced, qualified professional with the knowledge and expertise necessary to manage NJ TRANSIT's complex system; and

WHEREAS, Lance Norman has extensive leadership experience with almost 25 years at NJ TRANSIT, progressively advancing from Assistant Garage Supervisor, Garage Supervisor, Director of Transportation, and Deputy General Manager of Bus Operations; and

WHEREAS, Lance Norman possesses the necessary qualifications to meet the requirements of the Senior Vice President and General Manager of NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer, Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris, Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail, Inc.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors authorizes the President & CEO to appoint Lance Norman to the position of Senior Vice President and General Manager of NJ TRANSIT Bus Operations Inc., NJ TRANSIT Mercer Inc., NJ TRANSIT Morris Inc., and NJ TRANSIT Southern Light Rail Inc.

CONSENT CALENDAR

ITEM 2603-13: PERSONAL INJURY CLAIM OF THE ESTATE OF ASUNCION MONTANO

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section II of the Bylaws requires Board Authorization for settlement of claims in excess of \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, The Estate of Asuncion Montano has presented a claim with a probable settlement cost greater than \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, staff has reviewed the claim and recommends settling this case out of court;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to settle the claim of The Estate of Asuncion Montano, through its attorney, at an amount discussed in Executive Session. The Attorney General has approved the proposed settlement, subject to the availability of funds.

ITEM 2603-14: PERSONAL INJURY CLAIM OF MICHAEL NOEL

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section II of the Bylaws requires Board Authorization for settlement of claims in excess of \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, Michael Noel has presented a claim with a probable settlement cost greater than \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, staff has reviewed the claim and recommends settling this case out of court;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chair or President & CEO is authorized to settle the claim of Michael Noel, through his attorney, at an amount discussed in Executive Session. The Attorney General has approved the proposed settlement, subject to the availability of funds.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AUTHORIZATION

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 that the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Transit Corporation hold an executive session to discuss personnel matters, contract negotiations, the status of pending and anticipated litigation, and matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, including, but not limited to the Personal Injury Claim of Jaeun Chung and the Personal Injury Claim of Elvis Kukaj; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is expected that discussions undertaken at this executive session could be made public at the conclusion of these matters as appropriate.