MINUTES

MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 30, 2026

[Clerk's note: Except where noted, public, staff and board member comments are paraphrased. The full comment can be heard by reviewing the recording at the MTS website.]

1. Roll Call

Vice Chair Goble called the Board meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. A roll call sheet listing Board member attendance is attached as Attachment A.

2. Public Comment

Lori Saldaña – provided a verbal statement to the Board during the meeting. Lori addressed the Board regarding allegations that a former Board member sexually assaulted a former employee. She questioned whether Board members were aware that former Chair Nathan Fletcher allegedly carried a concealed weapon into the building and noted that elected officials were not required to pass through security screening when entering the building. She also expressed concern that MTS was seeking approximately $1 million in legal fees from the complainant, Grecia Figueroa, and stated that such action was unfair to a survivor of sexual assault. Ms. Saldaña urged the Board to reconsider the request for legal fees and questioned who authorized it.

Andrew Latham Staples – did not provide a public comment, he instead gave his 2 minutes of speaking time to Lori Saldana.

CONSENT ITEMS (ITEMS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER):

3. Approval of Minutes
Action would approve the June 18, 2026 Board of Directors meeting minutes.

4. CEO Report

5. Building C Crane Replacement – Work Order Agreement
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute Work Order No. MTSJOC441-06 under MTS Doc. PWG441.0-25, with ABC General Contractor, Inc. (ABCGC), in the amount of $338,841.87 for the removal and replacement of both overhead bridge cranes serving Trolley Maintenance Building C with higher-capacity cranes.

6. Grantville Transit Center Bus Bay Improvements – Work Order Agreement
Action would authorizes the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute Work Order No. MTSJOC457-02 under MTS Doc. PWG457.0-26, with ABC General Contractor, Inc. (ABCGC), in the amount of $201,481.94 for the replacement of four (4) bus shelters that are no longer in a State of Good Repair, and the removal, alteration, and replacement of existing vehicular paving, pedestrian paving, and curb to allow for safer bus movements and passenger loading throughout the Grantville Transit Center.

7. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities – SANDAG Cycle 12 – Grant Award
Action would 1) Accept the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with

Disabilities Cycle 12 awarded by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) in the amount of $952,861 for paratransit vehicle procurement; and 2) Authorize $389,907.86 in local matching funds to fully fund the purchase of six (6) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit vehicles.

8. **Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities – SANDAG Cycle 13 – Grant Award**
Action would 1) Accept the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Cycle 13 awarded by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) in the amount of $749,642.57 for paratransit vehicle procurement; and 2) Authorize $369,331.48 in local matching funds to fully fund the purchase of five (5) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit vehicles.

9. **Bus Brake Subcomponents - Contract Award**
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to: 1) Execute MTS Doc. No. B0797.0-26, with EW Truck & Equipment Co. Inc (EW Truck), to furnish Bus Brake Subcomponents for five (5) years in an amount not to exceed $538,881.64 (inclusive of 7.75% CA sales tax); 2) Execute MTS Doc. No. B0798.0-26, with The Aftermarket Parts Company, LLC dba NFI Parts (NFI), to furnish Bus Brake Subcomponents for five (5) years in an amount not to exceed $281,573.24 (inclusive of 7.75% CA sales tax); 3) Execute MTS Doc. No. B0799.0-26, with Vehicle Maintenance Program, Inc. (VMP), to furnish Bus Brake Subcomponents for five (5) years in an amount not to exceed $690,009.46 (inclusive of 7.75% CA sales tax); 4) Execute MTS Doc. No. B0800.0-26, with Mohawk Manufacturing & Supply Co (Mohawk), to furnish Bus Brake Subcomponents for five (5) years in an amount not to exceed $275,449.64 (inclusive of 7.75% CA sales tax); and 5) Execute MTS Doc. No. B0801.0-26, with Muncie Reclamation and Supply Co (Muncie), to furnish Bus Brake Subcomponents for five (5) years in an amount not to exceed $380,602.18 (inclusive of 7.75% CA sales tax)

10. **California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Program of Projects for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 Formula Funding**
Action would approve Resolution No. 26-09, authorizing the use of and application for $458,073 of FFY 2026 Section 5311 funds for operating assistance in rural areas.

11. **California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Program of Projects for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Intercity Bus Program 5311(f) - Competitive Funding**
Action would approve Resolution No. 26-10, authorizing the use of and application for $300,000 of FFY 2026 Section 5311(f) – Competitive funding for operating assistance in non-urbanized areas.

12. **Bus Engine and Transmission Overhaul - Contract Award**
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to: 1) Execute MTS Doc. No. B0802.0-26, with Harbor Diesel & Equipment, Inc., dba HD Industries (Harbor Diesel), in the amount of $6,755,731.05 (inclusive of CA 7.75% sales tax) for five (5) years, effective August 1, 2026, for the provision of Rebuilt ZF Transmissions (Group I) services and 2) Execute MTS Doc. No. B0803.0-26, with Cummins Inc. dba Cummins Sales and Service (Cummins), in the

amount of $14,364,524.83 (inclusive of CA 7.75% sales tax) for five (5) years, effective August 1, 2026, for the provision of In-frame Engine Overhaul (Group II) services

13. **Pyramid Building Structural Repairs – Contract Award**
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute MTS Doc. No. PWG470.0-26, with ABC General Contractor, Inc. (ABCGC), in the amount of $898,497.52 for the complete structural upgrade and repair of the Pyramid Building.

14. **Imperial Avenue Division Richard A. Murphy (IAD RAM) Building Roofing Replacement – Contract Award**
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute MTS Doc. No. PWB466.0-26, with Chambers Inc. dba Roof Construction (Chambers), in the amount of $350,600.00 for the construction of the IAD RAM building roofing replacement.

15. **Adoption of 2026 Conflict of Interest Code – Amendment**
Action would 1) Adopt Resolution No. 26-13 amending the MTS Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to the Political Reform Act of 1974; 2) Adopt the amended 2026 MTS Conflict of Interest Code; and 3) Forward the amended 2026 MTS Conflict of Interest Code to the County of San Diego (the designated code-reviewing body)

16. **San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Employees Updated List Authorized to Transfer Funds to and from Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) Accounts – Resolution**
Action would approve Resolution No. 26-11 and Resolution No. 26-12 to update the list of MTS employees authorized to transfer funds to and from the MTS and San Diego Transit Corporation (SDTC) LAIF investment accounts, administered by the State Treasurer.

17. **Operations Budget Status Report for May 2026**

18. **Purchase of Special Trackwork for the Broadway Wye Improvements – Contract Award**
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute MTS Doc. No. L1714.0-26, with Voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak LLC (Nortrak), for the purchase of Special Trackwork for the Broadway Wye Improvements in the amount of $2,058,158.61 (inclusive of 7.75% CA Sales Tax).

19. **Downtown Parallel Feeder and Street Trackage Replacement – Work Order Amendment**
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute Amendment No. WOA354-AE-59.01 under MTS Doc. PWL354.0-22, with Mott McDonald (MM), in the amount of $265,817.87 for the additional engineering services needed for the special track replacement at Park Boulevard and K Street and Park Boulevard and L Street as part of the Downtown Parallel Feeder and Street Trackage Replacement Project.

20. **Proposed Revisions to San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Board Policy No. 35 “Drug and Alcohol Policy”**
Action would approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy No. 35 “Drug and Alcohol Policy”.

21. Tenable Cybersecurity Software Renewal – Contract Award
Action would authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute MTS Doc. No. G3243.0-26, with DI Technology Group Inc (DI Technology), to provide Tenable Cybersecurity Software subscription renewal, for a contract period of five (5) years, in the amount of $805,475.00.

22. Grossmont Transit Center - Elevator Modernization Design Build – Contract Award
Action would 1) Authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to execute MTS Doc No. PWL465.0-26, with Structura Builders of California Joint Venture (Structura), in the amount of $2,117,654.88 for the modernization of two (2) elevators and stair tower improvements at the Grossmont Transit Center and 2) Authorize a 10% contingency fund of $211,765.49 for contract changes orders pursuant to Board Policy 41.4.4.

23. Proposed Amendments to For-Hire Vehicle Services Regulations within MTS Ordinance No. 11 and MTS Board Policy No. 34
Action would adopt the proposed amendments to Ordinance No. 11 "An Ordinance Providing for the Licensing and the Regulating of Transportation Services Within the City and County by the Adoption of a Uniform Paratransit Ordinance" and revisions to Board Policy No. 34 "For-Hire Vehicle Services".

Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

Board Comment

There were no Board Comments.

Action on Recommended Consent Items No. 14

Board Member Hall moved to approve Consent Agenda Item No. 14. Board Member McCann seconded the motion, and the vote was 9 to 0 in favor with Board Member Montgomery Steppe, Board Member Vaus, Board Member Moreno, Board Member Elo-Rivera and Board Member Gloria absent and Board Member Leyba-Gonzalez recusing.

Action on Recommended Consent Items No. 3 - 23 (Excluding Consent Item 14)

Board Member Hall moved to approve Consent Agenda Item Nos. 3 to 13 and 15 to 23. Board Member Arapostathis seconded the motion, and the vote was 10 to 0 in favor with Board Member Montgomery Steppe, Board Member Vaus, Board Member Moreno, Board Member Elo-Rivera and Board Member Gloria absent.

OTHER ITEMS:

24. Chair, Board Member and Chief Executive Officer's (CEO's) Communications

Sharon Cooney, MTS CEO, recognized and thanked MTS staff for their exceptional service during Comic-Con week. She reported that trolley ridership increased by 343,000 passengers and bus ridership increased by 33,000 passengers, an increase of 40,000 more passengers than last year's Comic-Con. Ms. Cooney stated that the event had great media coverage, including an article announcing the 45 fully wrapped trolleys promoting Comic-Con. She added that another highlight of the event was the commemorative Comic-Con pins at the Transit Store.

Ms. Cooney stated that the pins were sold out and a scavenger hunt was also held to provide the public with an opportunity to win a pin. She stated that the scavenger hunt was highly successful and generated significant exposure on social media.

Vice Chair Goble congratulated staff and stated that both fare revenue and non-fare revenue reflected MTS's exceptional efforts. He also commended staff for their preparedness and coordination across operations, marketing and other departments, noting that MTS successfully ensured transit services ran smoothly throughout Comi-Con.

Board Member Arapostathis thanked staff for the transit service during Comic-Con. He noted that many tourists stayed in La Mesa because of its convenient Trolley access to Comic-Con and some attendees traveled from Alpine to connect to the trolley. Board Member Arapostathis stated that these interactions highlighted the regional and national draw of the event and reiterated appreciation to MTS staff for their efforts in providing reliable transit services. Vice Chair Goble congratulated Board Member Arapostathis on the Spring Street housing project.

Board Member Fernandez reported receiving several emails from residents regarding the reliability of Rapid Route 225, including concerns about canceled trips during peak commute hours and overcrowded buses. He emphasized the importance of reliable serve and expressed a commitment to working with staff and fellow Board Members to address these concerns.

25. Remainder of Public Comments Not on The Agenda

There were no additional public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

26. Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is September 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

27. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

/s/ Stephen Whitburn
Chairperson
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Filed by:

/s/ Lucia Mansour
Clerk of the Board
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Approved as to form:

/s/ Karen Landers
General Counsel
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Attachment: A. Roll Call Sheet

SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROLL CALL

MEETING OF (DATE): July 30,2026
CALL TO ORDER (TIME): 9:06 a.m.
RECESS:
RECONVENE:
CLOSED SESSION:
RECONVENE:
ORDINANCES ADOPTED:
ADJOURN: 9:19 a.m.

JURISDICTION	BOARD MEMBER		ALTERNATE		PRESENT (TIME ARRIVED)	ABSENT (TIME LEFT)
City of Chula Vista	Cesar Fernandez	☒	Jose Preciado	☐	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of Chula Vista	John McCann	☒	Jose Preciado	☐	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of Coronado	Carrie Downey	☒	Mark Fleming	☐	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
County of San Diego	Monica Montgomery Steppe	☐	Paloma Aguirre	☐	ABSENT	ABSENT
City of El Cajon	Steve Goble (Vice-Chair)	☒	Phil Ortiz	☐	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of Imperial Beach	Matthew Leyba-Gonzalez	☒	Mariko Nakawatase	☐	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of La Mesa	Patricia Dillard	☐	Mark Arapostathis	☒	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of Lemon Grove	Jennifer Mendoza	☒	Seth Smith	☐	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of National City	Marcus Bush	☒	Jose Rodriguez	☐	9:10 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of Poway	Steve Vaus	☐	Peter De Hoff	☐	ABSENT	ABSENT
City of San Diego	Vivian Moreno	☐	Jennifer Campbell	☐	ABSENT	ABSENT
City of San Diego	Sean Elo-Rivera	☐	Joe LaCava	☐	ABSENT	ABSENT
City of San Diego	Todd Gloria	☐	Henry Foster	☐	ABSENT	ABSENT
City of San Diego	Stephen Whitburn (Chair)	☐	Kent Lee	☒	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.
City of Santee	Ronn Hall	☒	Laura Koval John Minto	☐ ☐	9:06 a.m.	9:19 a.m.

SIGNED BY THE CLERK OF THE BOARD: /s/ Lucia Mansour