

# Board of Trustees

## Annual Meeting

April 23, 2024



# Agenda

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
  - Attendance by Other Means/Virtual – Roll Call Vote
- Receive Nominations for the Following Officers:
  - Chair
  - Vice-Chair
  - Secretary
- Close Nominations
- Elections of Officers (Roll Call Vote)
- Adjournment of Annual Meeting (Regular Session immediately follows)

# Board of Trustees

## Regular Session

April 23, 2024



# Agenda

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
  - Attendance by Other Means/Virtual – Roll Call Vote
- Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement
  - Connect Transit provides safe, reliable transportation and access to opportunity to strengthen and enrich individual lives, our community, the economy, and the environment.
- Public Comments

# Consent Agenda

- Approval of Regular Session Minutes for March 26, 2024
- Approval of Financial Information for March 2024
- Approval of Statistical Reports for March 2024
- Cardinal Infrastructure Federal Report
- Cornerstone – Illinois Weekly Update
  
- Roll Call Vote

# Committee Reports

## **Finance Committee:**

Trustee Singer  
Vice Chair Hile

## **Operations & Planning**

**Committee:**  
Trustee Foster  
Trustee Rao

## **Marketing & Communications**

**Committee:**  
Trustee Buchanan  
Secretary McCue

# New Business

- Microgrid Feasibility Report – Informational

# Connect Transit Microgrid



# Getting Started with Energy Sustainability of Service

- Collaborate with Connect Transit Team to understand their EV bus electricity service
- Brainstorm strategies, partnerships, and technologies to improve the sustainability of Connect Transit's service to the community
- Establish the potential benefit for the community
  - Improvements to resiliency of service
  - Reduction of cost
  - Reduction of environmental impact



# Developing a Roadmap for a Solar + Battery Microgrid

## Phase I – Conceptual Feasibility

- Model electricity usage and determine electricity cost
- Determine amount of backup energy needed
- Determine onsite solar and battery potential

## Phase II – Identify Financial Benefits

- Reduce utility bill
- Generate revenue from utility
- Federal incentives
- State incentives

## Phase III – Preliminary Design and Economics

- Optimize solar PV based on land constraints, utility input, and reliability
- Optimize BESS for payback and resiliency
- Complete payback analysis

## Phase IV – Utility Interconnection

- Optimize solar PV based on land constraints and utility input
- Optimize BESS for payback and resiliency
- Complete payback analysis
- Project currently in interconnection review

# Solar + Storage Microgrid



Connect Transit Conceptual Solar PV Layout



Example Solar PV



Example Battery

# Recommendations and Expected Results

## Recommendation

- Install solar + battery microgrid as described
- Self-ownership of system with outsourced operations and maintenance

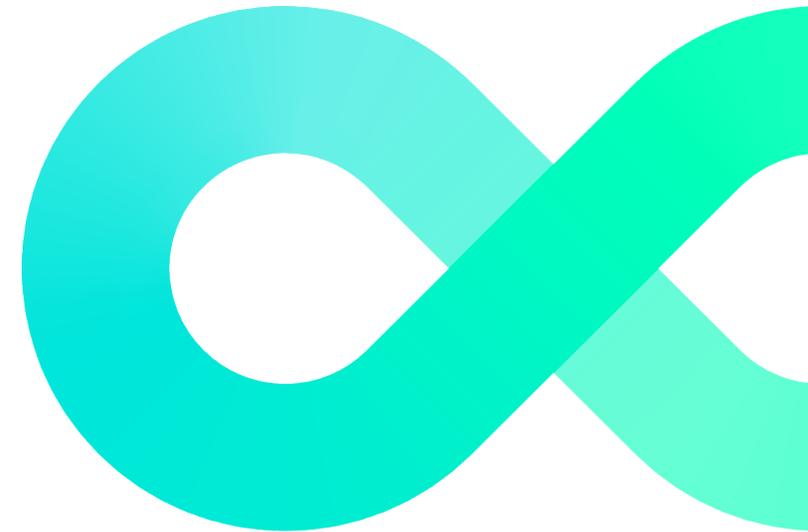
## Expected Result - Resiliency

- Minimum 24-hour energy supply for 6 buses (25% of the projected EV bus fleet)
  - Can be expanded
- Ability to charge any time of day with no electric cost impact

## Expected Results - Economic

- Project pays for itself with incentives, grants and energy savings
- Added benefit of Resiliency
- Grant funding will further reduce payback
- Long-term electricity pricing stability and improved control of electric costs

## Next Steps



# New Business

- Recommendation to Approve 2024 – 2027 Strategic Business Plan  
– Roll Call Vote

# Strategic Plan



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# Chairman's Report

# General Manager's Report

Congratulations!

- Congratulations to Shelly Moss for completing Leadership McLean County!



# General Manager's Report

## Proterra Update

- September 2019 – Initial order of 12 zero-emission buses
- November 2022 – Option for five additional zero-emission buses under contract
- June 2023 – Five expansion zero-emission buses and notice to proceed issued.

# General Manager's Report

## Construction Easement for West Property

**Purpose:** Equipment access and construction of earthwork and grading on the subject premises.

**Termination Date of Easement:** 12/31/2024

1. Their employees, agents, and contractors will have the right of ingress and egress to perform work as necessary.
2. They will pay to repair/restore any damage to our property resulting from their work.
3. They will indemnify and hold Connect Transit harmless from any and all liability, damage, expenses, cause of action, suits or claims arising from injury to persons and property on the property underlying the Temporary Construction Easement



# General Manager's Report

## Community

- **Outreach:**

- News25 Interview
- "Connect the Dots" - Autism Awareness Event
- Bloomington City Council Downtown Transit Center Update
- Normal Town Council Budget Presentation

- **Employee Morale:**

- April employee birthdays and work anniversary celebrations
- Health and Wellness Fair



# General Manager's Report

## Professional Development

- David Braun, General Manager; Brady Lange, Procurement Director; Ryan Whitehouse, Board Chair
  - APTA Legislative Conference
  - Washington, DC
  - April 7 – 9, 2024



# General Manager's Report

## Professional Development



- Federal Transit Administration Update
- Implementing AI for Public Transportation and Mobility Solutions
- Implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- Public Transit Authorizing Panel
- Passenger Rail Authorizing Panel
- Appropriations Panel
- The Current Political Climate Featuring Keynote Speaker Margaret Brennan
- Meetings with Legislative Staff

# General Manager's Report

## Recruiting

- Positions Open
  - Assistant General Manager (1)
  - Bus Operators (7)
  - Dispatcher (1)
  - Mechanic (1)
  - Microtransit Operator (1)
  - Planning & Grants Coordinator (1)
  - Service Technician (1)



# General Manager's Report

## Reminders

- Statement of Economic Interest Due *May 1*
  - <https://www.mcleancountyil.gov/549/Statements-of-Economic-Interests>
  - Please forward confirmation email to Board Clerk
- Multi-Factor Authentication for Email
  - Please reply to email from Board Clerk
- Updated Board Photos
  - Please set up an appointment with Board Clerk

# Agenda

- Trustee Comments
- Executive Session – a. ILCS 120/2(c)(5) – Property Acquisition

# **The Board of Trustees Have Moved Into Executive Session**

# Agenda

- Adjournment
  - Roll Call Vote
- Next Meeting: *May 28, 2024*