



Connect Transit will livestream the Board of Trustees meetings when a YouTube link is provided on the agenda. Anyone who attends the meeting or addresses a public meeting during Public Comment time will be heard and may be seen on the livestream. Any audio and video captured will be in the recording.

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please do not attend the meeting.

## AGENDA

### Connect Transit Board of Trustees, Regular Session

February 27, 2024 – 4:30 p.m.

Connect Transit Board Room, 351 Wylie Drive, Normal, IL 61761

YouTube Link: <https://youtube.com/live/CFwSFQh8Uqc?feature=share>

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
  - a. Attendance by Other Means/Virtual – Roll Call Vote
- C. Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement
- D. Public Comments
- E. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Strategic Plan Workshop Minutes for January 19, 2024
  - b. Approval of Regular Session Minutes for January 23, 2024
  - c. Approval of Financial Information for January 2024
  - d. Monthly Statistical Reports for January 2024
  - e. Cardinal Infrastructure Federal Report
  - f. Cornerstone – Illinois Weekly Update
- F. Committee Reports
- G. New Business
  - a. Recommendation for Insurance Brokerage Services – Roll Call Vote
  - b. Recommendation for Enterprise Resource Planning Joint Consultancy – Roll Call Vote
  - c. System Performance Update – Informational
  - d. Draft FY25 Budget – Informational
- H. Chairman’s Report
- I. General Manager’s Report
- J. Trustee Comments
- K. Executive Session – n/a
- L. Adjournment

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#### Mission:

Connect Transit provides safe, reliable transportation and access to opportunity to strengthen and enrich individual lives, our community, the economy, and the environment.





January 2024

# Financial Reports



351 Wylie Drive, Normal, IL 61761



309-828-9833



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## Connect Transit Cash Disbursement Report January 2024

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
1st Ayd Corporation	00058274	02-Jan-24	\$257.79	Cleaning Supplies
A.T.U. - C.O.P.E.	00058275	02-Jan-24	\$0.00	Payroll Deduction
A.T.U. - C.O.P.E.	00058307	12-Jan-24	\$310.85	Payroll Deduction
ABC Bus Companies	00058276	02-Jan-24	\$2,264.95	Bus Parts
ABC Bus Companies	00058308	12-Jan-24	\$2,212.62	Bus Parts
ABC Bus Companies	00058373	26-Jan-24	\$5,234.71	Bus Parts
Ace-Hi Glass Co.	00058374	26-Jan-24	\$960.00	Glass
Advance Auto Parts	00058277	02-Jan-24	\$265.81	Maintenance Supplies
Advance Auto Parts	00058309	12-Jan-24	\$473.43	Maintenance Supplies
Advance Auto Parts	00058376	26-Jan-24	\$2,516.08	Maintenance Supplies
Airgas USA, LLC	00058278	02-Jan-24	\$78.68	Welding Supplies
Airgas USA, LLC	00058377	26-Jan-24	\$365.10	Welding Supplies
Altro USA, Inc.	00058310	12-Jan-24	\$1,157.57	Materials & Supplies
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 752	00058311	12-Jan-24	\$8,041.20	Payroll Deduction
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 752	00058378	26-Jan-24	\$250.00	Payroll Deduction
Amazon Capital Service	00058279	02-Jan-24	\$206.33	Computer Hardware, Office Supplies & Shop Tools
Amazon Capital Service	00058312	12-Jan-24	\$862.55	Bus Parts, Computer Hardware, Office Supplies, & Property Damage
Amazon Capital Service	00058379	26-Jan-24	\$491.70	Garage Equip., Office Supplies, Mat. & Supplies Shop Tools
Ancel Glink, P.C.	00058380	26-Jan-24	\$51.25	Legal Service
Andrew Dutton	00058381	26-Jan-24	\$65.37	Uniform Reimbursement
Aramark Uniform Services	00058280	02-Jan-24	\$245.10	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Aramark Uniform Services	00058313	12-Jan-24	\$461.85	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Aramark Uniform Services	00058382	26-Jan-24	\$472.50	Cleaning Uniforms & Rugs
Best Buddies International, Inc.	00058314	12-Jan-24	\$2,500.00	Advertising- Promotions
Bill's Key and Lock	00058315	12-Jan-24	\$39.55	Locks & Keys
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois	00058368	22-Jan-24	\$151,863.89	Insurance
Blue Springs, Inc	00058316	12-Jan-24	\$180.00	Portable Restrooms
Bridgestone Americas	00058317	12-Jan-24	\$8,101.24	Tires
Cardinal Infrastructure, LLC	00058318	12-Jan-24	\$6,000.00	Consulting
Carlson Siding & Construction	00058319	12-Jan-24	\$400.00	Building Maintenance
Central Illinois Trucks Inc.	00058281	02-Jan-24	\$4,164.84	Bus Parts
Central Illinois Trucks Inc.	00058320	12-Jan-24	\$2,540.06	Bus Parts
Central Illinois Trucks Inc.	00058384	26-Jan-24	\$9,605.73	Bus Parts
Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District	00058282	02-Jan-24	\$1,449.04	Bus Parts
Checkr, Inc.	00058321	12-Jan-24	\$168.98	New Hire Background Checks
CIRBN, LLC	00058385	26-Jan-24	\$147.13	Internet
City of Bloomington(Water)	00058283	02-Jan-24	\$879.93	Utilities
City of Bloomington(Water)	00058386	26-Jan-24	\$137.97	Utilities
Clark Baird Smith, LLP	00058387	26-Jan-24	\$740.00	Legal Service
Clean Exhaust Specialist	00058322	12-Jan-24	\$2,938.70	Bus Parts
Clean Exhaust Specialist	00058388	26-Jan-24	\$2,952.00	Bus Parts
Column Software PBC	00058389	26-Jan-24	\$270.55	Printed Materials
Concur Technologies, Inc	00058390	26-Jan-24	\$378.75	Software
Corn Belt Energy Corp.	00058391	26-Jan-24	\$11,242.95	Utilities
Cornerstone Government Affairs	00058392	26-Jan-24	\$3,958.33	Consulting
Creative Bus Sales, Inc.	00058393	26-Jan-24	\$23.64	Bus Parts
Cummins Sales and Service	00058284	02-Jan-24	\$352.86	Bus Parts
Discount Tire	00058323	12-Jan-24	\$986.00	Tires
Don Owen Tire Service, Inc.	00058324	12-Jan-24	\$150.00	Bus Parts
Don Owen Tire Service, Inc.	00058394	26-Jan-24	\$105.06	Bus Parts
Dovetail, Inc.	00058325	12-Jan-24	\$6,720.00	Consulting
Eagle Automotive	00058285	02-Jan-24	\$637.73	Bus Parts
Eagle Automotive	00058326	12-Jan-24	\$831.06	Bus Parts
Eagle Automotive	00058395	26-Jan-24	\$300.71	Bus Parts
Economic Development Council	00058327	12-Jan-24	\$60.00	Travel & Meetings
Fasteners Etc.	00058328	12-Jan-24	\$19.00	Maintenance Supplies
Fasteners Etc.	00058396	26-Jan-24	\$297.66	Maintenance Supplies



**Connect Transit  
Cash Disbursement Report  
January 2024**

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
Fitzgerald Equipment Co., Inc.	00058286	02-Jan-24	\$397.29	Garage Equipment Repair
Galls, LLC	00058287	02-Jan-24	\$854.28	Uniforms
Galls, LLC	00058397	26-Jan-24	\$663.08	Uniforms
Gatekeeper Systems, Inc.	00058288	02-Jan-24	\$3,770.27	Bus Parts
Genfare, LLC	00058329	12-Jan-24	\$580.99	Software and Hardware
Gillig LLC	00058289	02-Jan-24	\$1,423.49	Bus Parts
Gillig LLC	00058330	12-Jan-24	\$378.47	Bus Parts
Gillig LLC	00058398	26-Jan-24	\$1,026.12	Bus Parts
Great Plains Media	00058331	12-Jan-24	\$1,600.00	Radio Advertising
Greatland Corporation	00058332	12-Jan-24	\$495.11	Office Supplies
Grover Trunell	00058399	26-Jan-24	\$71.78	Driver's Uniforms
Hicks Gas Bloomington LLC	00058400	26-Jan-24	\$2,316.18	Lp Gas
Illinois Department of Revenue	00058290	02-Jan-24	\$17,210.29	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Department of Revenue	00058333	12-Jan-24	\$17,422.89	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Department of Revenue	ACH	26-Jan-24	\$17,027.08	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Department of Revenue	ACH	29-Jan-24	\$16.74	Payroll Deduction
Illinois Department of Employment	ACH	30-Jan-24	\$4,164.53	SUTA Payment
Illinois Oil Marketing Equipment, Inc.	00058334	12-Jan-24	\$922.49	Fuel Station
Illinois State Disbursement Unit	00058291	02-Jan-24	\$2,433.63	Payroll Deduction
Illinois State Disbursement Unit	00058335	12-Jan-24	\$2,370.40	Payroll Deduction
Illinois State Disbursement Unit	00058401	26-Jan-24	\$2,084.88	Payroll Deduction
IPTA	00058402	26-Jan-24	\$1,050.00	Travel & Meetings
iReportSource	00058336	12-Jan-24	\$5,586.30	Software Licensing
J.G. Stewart Contractors, Inc	00058337	12-Jan-24	\$1,905.00	Construction
J.G. Stewart Contractors, Inc	ACH	26-Jan-24	\$76,980.00	Bus Stops
Julie Hile	00058371	23-Jan-24	\$1,431.76	Trustee's Expense
Julie Holts	00058338	12-Jan-24	\$23.93	Uniform Reimbursement
Ken's Oil Service, Inc	00058339	12-Jan-24	\$49,494.08	Bus Parts, Fuels & Lubricants
Ken's Oil Service, Inc	00058403	26-Jan-24	\$43,982.26	Bus Parts, Fuels & Lubricants
Marsh & McLennan Agency, LLC	00058372	23-Jan-24	\$15,708.00	Insurance
McLean County Chamber of Commerce	00058340	12-Jan-24	\$1,750.00	Advertising- Promotions
McLean County Chamber of Commerce	00058404	26-Jan-24	\$985.00	Dues & Subscriptions
McMaster-Carr Supply Company	00058405	26-Jan-24	\$1,141.05	Materials & Supplies
Menards	00058292	02-Jan-24	\$2.48	Materials & Supplies
Menards	00058341	12-Jan-24	\$210.57	Materials & Supplies
Menards	00058406	26-Jan-24	\$697.55	Shop Tools & Snow Removal
Michelin North America, Inc	00058293	02-Jan-24	\$37.02	Tires
Midwest Bus Corporation	00058294	02-Jan-24	\$374.72	Bus Parts
Midwest Bus Corporation	00058407	26-Jan-24	\$5,040.00	Bus Parts
Midwest Equipment II	00058408	26-Jan-24	\$118.96	Lawn Maintenance Equipment
Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc.	00058295	02-Jan-24	\$211.64	Bus Parts
Miguel Arevalo	00058342	12-Jan-24	\$200.00	Tool Reimbursement
Miller Janitor Supply	00058343	12-Jan-24	\$671.80	Maintenance Supplies
MINONK NAPA	00058344	12-Jan-24	\$43.50	Bus Parts
Missionsquare	ACH	11-Jan-24	\$36,153.58	Retirement Accounts Payment
Missionsquare	ACH	25-Jan-24	\$36,456.10	Retirement Accounts Payment
Morris Avenue Garage	00058296	02-Jan-24	\$40.00	Vehicle Inspection
Morris Avenue Garage	00058345	12-Jan-24	\$80.00	Vehicle Inspection
Morris Avenue Garage	00058409	26-Jan-24	\$120.00	Vehicle Inspection
Motion Industries, Inc.	00058346	12-Jan-24	\$302.19	Bus Parts
Motion Industries, Inc.	00058410	26-Jan-24	\$9.43	Bus Parts
Mutual of Omaha	00058411	26-Jan-24	\$19,885.77	Life, AD&D, STD & LTD
Mutual Wheel	00058347	12-Jan-24	\$28.16	Bus Parts
Napa Auto Parts	00058412	26-Jan-24	\$44.99	Bus Parts
Nicor Gas	00058297	02-Jan-24	\$4,981.67	Utilities
Oberlander Alarm Systems, Inc.	00058413	26-Jan-24	\$230.00	Security Alarm Service Fee
ODP Business Solutions, LLC	00058348	12-Jan-24	\$136.04	Office Supplies
O'Reilly Auto Parts	00058414	26-Jan-24	\$7.06	Bus Parts



## Connect Transit Cash Disbursement Report January 2024

Name	Check Number	Date	Amount	Description
Orkin Pest Control	00058415	26-Jan-24	\$2,880.00	Pest Control
OSF Medical Group - Occupational Health	00058349	12-Jan-24	\$460.00	Drug Testing
Pantagraph	00058350	12-Jan-24	\$808.95	Advertising- Promotions
Payroll	ACH	11-Jan-24	\$288,452.78	
Payroll	ACH	25-Jan-24	\$290,422.43	
Pitney Bowes Global Finance Services LLC	00058416	26-Jan-24	\$289.14	Office Equipment
Pro Air HVAC/Electrical	00058351	12-Jan-24	\$120.00	HVAC
Pro Air HVAC/Electrical	00058417	26-Jan-24	\$550.00	HVAC
Proterra, Inc.	00058298	02-Jan-24	\$11,601.44	Bus Parts
Proterra, Inc.	00058352	12-Jan-24	\$1,002.49	Bus Parts
Proterra, Inc.	00058418	26-Jan-24	\$2,193.32	Bus Parts
Pulse Marketing LLC	00058419	26-Jan-24	\$3,250.00	Website
Purchase Power	00058420	26-Jan-24	\$300.00	Postage
Redbird Catering	00058299	02-Jan-24	\$2,098.75	Employee Recognition
Redbird Sports Properties, LLC	00058353	12-Jan-24	\$1,550.00	Advertising
Redbird Sports Properties, LLC	00058421	26-Jan-24	\$1,550.00	Advertising
Reinhart Landscaping & Snow	00058354	12-Jan-24	\$1,090.00	Snow Removal
Reinhart Landscaping & Snow	00058422	26-Jan-24	\$4,315.00	Snow Removal
Republic Services # 368	00058300	02-Jan-24	\$605.92	Garbage Disposal
Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc	00058301	02-Jan-24	\$330.67	Solvent Tank
Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc	00058423	26-Jan-24	\$357.07	Solvent Tank
Sam Leman	00058355	12-Jan-24	\$165.75	Outside Repair
Sam Leman Ford	00058424	26-Jan-24	\$2,495.75	Outside Repair
Sportworks Global, LLC	00058356	12-Jan-24	\$2,089.00	Bike Rack Replacement
Stratus Networks	00058357	12-Jan-24	\$3,312.48	Internet
SumnerOne, Inc.	00058302	02-Jan-24	\$768.25	Copier Lease
Sunbelt Rentals	00058358	12-Jan-24	\$1,212.55	Machine Rentals
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00058303	02-Jan-24	\$4,747.47	Bus Parts
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00058359	12-Jan-24	\$4,059.90	Bus Parts
The Aftermarket Parts Company LLC	00058425	26-Jan-24	\$16,806.31	Bus Parts
The Copy Shop	00058360	12-Jan-24	\$163.90	Printing
Thermo King Quad Cities, Inc.	00058361	12-Jan-24	\$644.19	Bus Parts
Town of Normal	00058304	02-Jan-24	\$675.81	Utilities
TRAVELERS	00058362	12-Jan-24	\$8,141.19	Property Damage
Udemy, Inc.	00058426	26-Jan-24	\$7,560.00	Software Licensing
Uline	00058363	12-Jan-24	\$180.80	Office Supplies
Uline	00058427	26-Jan-24	\$226.09	Office Supplies
United States Treasury	ACH	02-Jan-24	\$94,532.53	Federal Tax Payment
United States Treasury	ACH	16-Jan-24	\$96,089.14	Federal Tax Payment
United States Treasury	ACH	29-Jan-24	\$94,790.18	Federal Tax Payment
UPS	00058428	26-Jan-24	\$35.84	Shipping
Urban Transportation Associates, INC.	00058429	26-Jan-24	\$16,500.00	Software Licensing
Ventura Systems, Inc.	00058305	02-Jan-24	\$235.28	Bus Parts
Verizon Wireless	00058364	12-Jan-24	\$3,892.26	Mobile Data Terminals for SS
Via Mobility, LLC	00058306	02-Jan-24	\$2,400.00	Consulting
Via Mobility, LLC	00058365	12-Jan-24	\$2,400.00	Consulting
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	(145.65)	Cash Back Rebate
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	3,052.17	Advertising- Employment
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	397.70	Bus Parts - DR
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	513.23	Freight
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	97.95	Office Supplies
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	108.75	Computer Hardware
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	3,659.90	Software Licensing
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	39.99	Dues & Subscriptions
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	460.05	Trustee Expense
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	4,806.35	Travel & Meetings
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	619.29	Employee Recognition
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	141.26	Safety & Training
VISA-Commerce Bank	00058369	22-Jan-24	668.10	Miscellaneous Expense
VSP of Illinois, NFP	00058370	22-Jan-24	\$1,165.82	Vision Insurance
Weed Man	00058430	26-Jan-24	\$131.00	Lawn Care



**Connect Transit  
Cash Disbursement Report  
January 2024**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Check Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
Wherry Machine and Welding, Inc	00058431	26-Jan-24	\$37.52	Outside Repair
Wilcox Electric & Service, Inc	00058432	26-Jan-24	\$1,727.00	Building Maintenance
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,627,572.46</b>	

# Bloomington Normal Public Transit

## Balance Sheet

Division: 99 Board Reports

As of: 1/31/2024

Fiscal Year: 2024 Period: 7 Jan-2024

### Assets

#### Current Assets

Checking and Savings	\$6,467,442.48
Accounts Receivable	\$4,234,438.14
Inventory Asset - Fuel	\$82,768.43
Inventory Asset - Parts	\$428,515.54
Inventory Asset - Tires	\$0.00
Other Current Assets	\$600,070.86

**Total Current Assets** \$11,813,235.45

Fixed Assets \$30,435,366.99

**Total Assets** \$42,248,602.44

### Liabilities & Equity

#### Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$186,613.33
Payroll Liabilities	\$1,323,094.47
Contracts	\$0.00
Due to Illinois Funds Account	\$0.00
Deferred Revenue	\$258,526.53
Deficit Funding Advance	\$0.00

**Total Liabilities** \$1,768,234.33

#### EQUITY

Fixed Asset Equity	\$12,483,532.77
Unreserved Fund Equity	\$6,750,412.62
Underground Petroleum Storage	\$20,000.00

**Total Equity** \$19,253,945.39

Retained Earnings \$21,226,422.72

**Total Liabilities & Equity** \$42,248,602.44

# Bloomington Normal Public Transit

## Income Statement With Approved Budget

From Fiscal Year: 2024 Thru Fiscal Year: 2024	From Period 7 Thru Period 7	Division: 98 Operating Profit/Loss		As of: 1/31/2024		
		Jan-2024	Jul-2023 Jan-2024	Approved Budget		
<b>Operating Revenue</b>						
Passenger Fares		\$68,994.39	12.72%	\$312,597.40	57.62%	\$542,500.00
ISU Contract Fare		\$48,670.68	8.33%	\$340,694.76	58.33%	\$584,048.00
Other Contract Fares		\$21,321.29	10.66%	\$149,270.39	74.64%	\$200,000.00
Advertising Revenue		\$9,775.00	8.33%	\$73,291.66	62.48%	\$117,300.00
Miscellaneous Revenue		\$3,030.00	31.89%	\$27,377.42	288.18%	\$9,500.00
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>		<b>\$151,791.36</b>	<b>10.44%</b>	<b>\$903,231.63</b>	<b>62.15%</b>	<b>\$1,453,348.00</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>						
Operators Wages		\$657,696.45	8.25%	\$4,701,839.33	59.01%	\$7,967,560.00
Maintenance Wages		\$113,980.05	7.24%	\$767,567.94	48.78%	\$1,573,647.00
Administration Wages		\$93,993.88	7.98%	\$687,561.39	58.38%	\$1,177,806.00
Employer Payroll Tax Expense		\$89,359.89	10.27%	\$499,208.10	57.40%	\$869,722.00
Retirement Plan		\$32,721.02	6.11%	\$232,349.41	43.35%	\$535,951.00
Group Insurance		\$162,542.47	7.26%	\$1,135,492.46	50.75%	\$2,237,512.00
Uniform Expense		\$1,291.26	2.04%	\$24,719.59	39.01%	\$63,375.00
Professional Services		\$17,719.81	7.93%	\$236,226.43	105.69%	\$223,500.00
Outside Repair-Labor		\$19,707.05	14.08%	\$27,996.08	20.00%	\$140,000.00
Contract Maintenance Services		\$16,020.56	6.83%	\$84,887.55	36.20%	\$234,476.00
Custodial Services		\$1,573.51	8.26%	\$14,369.03	75.39%	\$19,060.00
Employee Recruiting/Testing/Temp Help		\$3,601.50	8.00%	\$18,295.60	40.66%	\$45,000.00
Fuel		\$91,123.45	5.64%	\$641,761.91	39.71%	\$1,616,224.00
Lubricants		\$3,200.87	3.71%	\$16,971.01	19.67%	\$86,285.00
Tires		\$3,831.94	6.21%	\$24,872.61	40.33%	\$61,680.00
Bus Repair Parts		\$54,210.11	11.31%	\$329,687.26	68.78%	\$479,362.00
Other Materials & Supplies		\$12,330.33	14.86%	\$52,873.44	63.70%	\$83,000.00
Shelters/Signs/Shop Tools		\$3,129.46	15.65%	\$14,775.37	73.88%	\$20,000.00
Computer and Office Supplies		(\$107,880.08)	-24.72%	\$119,267.93	27.33%	\$436,362.00
Utilities		\$15,767.74	12.22%	\$89,606.22	69.46%	\$129,000.00
Corporate Insurance		\$45,996.42	8.72%	\$329,764.16	62.49%	\$527,725.00
Dues/Subscriptions/Fees		\$319.99	0.72%	\$24,973.01	55.93%	\$44,650.00
Printing/Marketing/Training		\$24,752.41	6.60%	\$163,165.15	43.53%	\$374,850.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>		<b>\$1,356,990.09</b>	<b>7.16%</b>	<b>\$10,238,230.98</b>	<b>54.04%</b>	<b>\$18,946,747.00</b>
<b>Operating Assistance</b>						
Operating Deficit Before Subsidies and Grants		(\$1,205,198.73)	6.89%	(\$9,334,999.35)	53.36%	(\$17,493,399.00)
City of Bloomington Operating Assistance		\$75,833.33	0.00%	\$530,833.31	0.00%	\$0.00
Town of Normal Operating Assistance		\$49,166.66	0.00%	\$344,166.62	0.00%	\$0.00
Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance		\$738,967.00	0.00%	\$6,449,112.00	0.00%	\$0.00
FTA 5307 Operating Assistance		\$191,499.00	0.00%	\$1,750,220.00	0.00%	\$0.00
<b>Total Operating Assistance</b>		<b>\$1,055,465.99</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>\$9,074,331.93</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>



<b>January 2024</b>	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Month in Prior Year</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Prior Year to Date</b>	<b>% Change YTD</b>
<b>System Statistics:</b>						
<b>System Ridership</b>	<b>168,267</b>	<b>166,461</b>	<b>1.08%</b>	<b>1,382,993</b>	<b>1,253,383</b>	<b>10.34%</b>
Fixed Ridership	154,716	158,228	-2.22%	1,282,709	1,196,067	7.24%
Mobility Ridership	9,322	8,233	13.23%	70,208	57,316	22.49%
FLEX Ridership	4,229	*	*	30,076	*	*
<b>System Service Hours</b>	<b>15,521</b>	<b>12,768</b>	<b>21.56%</b>	<b>104,940</b>	<b>89,559</b>	<b>17.17%</b>
Fixed Service Hours	10,554	9,050	16.61%	69,596	64,080	8.61%
Mobility Service Hours	3,904	3,718	5.00%	28,716	25,479	12.70%
FLEX Service Hours	1,063	*	*	6,628	*	*
<b>System Service Miles</b>	<b>186,349</b>	<b>154,287</b>	<b>20.78%</b>	<b>1,232,945</b>	<b>1,091,312</b>	<b>12.98%</b>
Fixed Service Miles	126,467	109,394	15.61%	809,118	783,509	3.27%
Mobility Service Miles	48,024	44,893	6.97%	352,046	307,803	14.37%
FLEX Service Miles	11,858	*	*	71,781	*	*
<b>System Revenue Vehicles</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>3.57%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>11.86%</b>
Fixed Revenue Vehicles	32	37	-13.51%	40	40	0.00%
Mobility Revenue Vehicles	21	19	10.53%	21	19	10.53%
FLEX Revenue Vehicles	5	*	*	5	*	*
<b>System Miles/Revenue Vehicle</b>	<b>3,213</b>	<b>2,755</b>	<b>16.62%</b>	<b>18,681</b>	<b>18,497</b>	<b>1.00%</b>
Fixed Miles/Revenue Vehicle	3,952	2,957	33.67%	20,228	19,588	3.27%
Mobility Miles/Revenue Vehicle	2,287	2,363	-3.21%	16,764	16,200	3.48%
FLEX Miles/Revenue Vehicle	2,372	*	*	14,356	*	*
<b>System Efficiencies:</b>						
<b>System Ridership/Service Hour</b>	<b>10.84</b>	<b>13.04</b>	<b>-16.84%</b>	<b>13.18</b>	<b>14.00</b>	<b>-5.83%</b>
Fixed Ridership/Revenue Hour	14.66	17.48	-16.15%	18.43	18.67	-1.26%
Mobility Ridership/Revenue Hour	2.39	2.21	7.83%	2.44	2.25	8.68%
FLEX Ridership/Revenue Hour	3.98	*	*	4.54	*	*
<b>System Percent On-Time Trips</b>	<b>92.89%</b>	<b>94.25%</b>	<b>-1.43%</b>	<b>91.82%</b>	<b>93.80%</b>	<b>-2.11%</b>
Fixed Percent On-Time Trips	93%	94%	-1.06%	92%	94%	-2.03%
Mobility Percent On-Time Trips	97%	99%	-2.02%	97%	99%	-1.17%
FLEX Percent On-Time Trips	80%	*	*	85%	*	*
<b>System Subsidy/Passenger</b>	<b>\$7.07</b>	<b>\$7.64</b>	<b>-7.46%</b>	<b>\$6.76</b>	<b>\$6.94</b>	<b>-2.59%</b>
Fixed Subsidy/Passenger	\$5.58	\$6.23	-10.43%	\$5.56	\$5.58	-0.35%
Mobility Subsidy/Passenger	\$28.69	\$34.90	-17.79%	\$25.41	\$35.21	-27.82%
FLEX Subsidy/Passenger	\$14.20	*	*	\$14.15	*	*
<b>Operator Pay Hours/Service Hour</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>-13.44%</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>-5.33%</b>
<b>Vehicle Maintenance Expense/Mile</b>	<b>\$1.23</b>	<b>\$1.22</b>	<b>0.67%</b>	<b>\$1.06</b>	<b>\$0.98</b>	<b>9.06%</b>



600 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 250, Washington, DC 20001

## **Monthly Federal Update for Connect Transit**

*Prepared by Cardinal Infrastructure*

*Prepared February 17, 2024*

### **Congressional Update**

Both houses of Congress have left for the President's Day recess and will return on February 26th. Upon their return the major piece of pending business remains funding bills set to expire on March 1 and March 8th. Appropriators believe they are on course for passage of bills to fund all agencies through the end of the 2024 fiscal year, however, no final agreements have been reached.

For about half of the dozen funding bills, negotiations among top subcommittee appropriators are finished, according to Tom Cole (R-OK), who is vice chair of the full Appropriations Committee, head of its transportation and housing subpanel and also Rules Committee chief.

Should congressional leaders push the spending timetable past April, or if they try to keep funding flat through Oct. 1, across-the-board cuts would kick in under last year's bipartisan deal to raise the debt limit. That threat may not be enough to guarantee success this month, and Congress could override the cuts. Linger tension over the Senate's defunct border security deal and Speaker Mike Johnson's refusal to take up its foreign aid package could still turn funding talks into a complicated nightmare.

### **Federal Agency Actions of Interest**

#### **Project Innovation Accelerator**

A new grant resource will soon be unveiled. DOT is putting the final touches on a Project Innovation Accelerator designed to help communities address the hurdles of grant applications. DOT expects to support 50 grantees through this program.

DOT has also revised their grant application toolkit to better help grant applications understand grant obligation requirements like NEPA.

#### **Safe Streets and Roads for All**

Opening Soon! Applications for the next round of [Safe Streets and Roads for All](#) (SS4A) grants and Neighborhood Access and Reconnecting Communities competitive grant program are anticipated to open in February 2024.

#### **Fernandez to Retire**

FTA Administrator Nuria Fernandez announced her retirement. She'll depart FTA on February 24th and plans to spend more time with her grandchildren.



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### **Low and No Emission NOFO**

The Federal Transit Administration today [announced the availability](#) of \$1.5 billion to support state and local efforts to modernize aging transit fleets with low- and no-emission buses, renovate and construct bus facilities, and support workforce development. FTA will host [a webinar](#) to provide information to potential applicants, including a review of program eligibility, an overview of the evaluation criteria and selection considerations, and the submission process. February 22, 2024 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET.

### **White House Summit on Bus Manufacturing**

On Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, the White House and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), in coordination with the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), convened a roundtable discussion focused on ensuring adequate U.S. manufacturing capacity to build clean transit buses at the scale and pace needed to meet market demand and achieve national climate and equity goals.

The roundtable included approximately 60 representatives from U.S. transit agencies, bus manufacturers, component suppliers, labor unions, federal agencies, and other stakeholders.

Transit agencies are invited to join FTA to learn about recommended bus procurement practices at a [webinar scheduled](#) for Thursday, February 29 at 2:30 PM ET. FTA presenters include: Paul Kincaid, Associate Administrator for Communications and Congressional Affairs, Dana Nifosi, Acting Chief Counsel and James Harper Jr., Director, Office of Acquisition Management

### **FTA Makes Recommendations for Improving Bus Procurement**

FTA is also [focused on strengthening](#) U.S. bus manufacturing, which can stabilize the cost of new buses and accelerate delivery of new vehicles. More standardized bus models will shorten manufacturing timelines, so transit agencies competing for funds are encouraged to consider strategies to avoid customization. By prioritizing this in applications, FTA is encouraging improvements in bus vehicle delivery that will result in more American-built buses getting on the road faster. FTA issued [updated FAQs](#), National Transit Institute [procurement courses](#), and announced a [best practices webinar](#) on Feb 29.

FTA is taking actions to strengthen the American bus manufacturing industry, reduce vehicle contract costs, and shorten vehicle delivery times, all of which is described in a [Dear Colleague letter](#) posted today. The guidance comes as transit agencies seek to procure buses using the historic investment provided by the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.



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The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation is offering [technical assistance](#) to communities for building fleet transition plans. The Joint Office is also [offering](#) three webinars in February that will dig into several important topics related to EV deployment, permitting and site selection strategies and zoning.

### **Joint Development Projects**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is [issuing a new](#) Circular [7050.1C to address](#) joint development projects using FTA funds or FTA-funded property. The purpose of these changes is to incorporate changes made by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), implemented as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, that amended the definition of a “capital project.”

### **AMTRAK**

For the first time in more than eight years, the [Amtrak board of directors has new members](#). The U.S. Senate on Tuesday confirmed the nominations of Christopher Koos, Anthony Coscia, and Joel Szabat to serve on the board, the first time the Senate has confirmed board members since 2015.

### **Climate Pollution Reduction Grants**

The Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program awards grants to states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and carry out ambitious plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution. Cities should engage with [planning grant recipients](#) now as they develop their Priority Climate Action Plans due to the U.S. EPA by March 1.

### **DOT Tracking Infrastructure Spending**

In late December, the U.S. Department of Transportation [began a new process of tracking](#) how fast the funds provided by BIL/IIJA are being processed and spent. The new USDOT reporting site says it will be updated biweekly and is therefore several months ahead of any other publicly available budget reporting.

### **Fleet Management**

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation [provides information](#) about navigating cold weather for electric buses including its recently released Cold Weather Impacts on Electric School Buses. While not all these considerations may apply to transit agencies, the publication highlights strategies bus fleet managers can use to optimize bus performance in cold weather.



# CORNERSTONE

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**TO:** Connect Transit Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Cornerstone Government Affairs – Illinois Team  
**SUBJECT:** Legislative Update  
**DATE:** February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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## Summary

This month, our team continued to follow up with House leadership, staff, and Rep. Chung regarding the release of Connect’s appropriation. We also reached out to the Illinois Public Transportation Association (IPTA) to discuss Connect’s concerns with the low threshold for IDOT approval on purchases and to see where we may coordinate to address these concerns on behalf of Connect and IPTA’s members.

Additionally, we monitored the recent Governor’s budget address and updated Connect that the \$3 million we secured for the downstate transit center was included in the Governor’s proposed budget. With the continuance of the spring session, we have frequently updated Connect on recent bill filings. Our team will continue to monitor for additional legislative action that may impact your work.

## Bill Tracking

Below are the bills of interest filed this Spring that we wanted to highlight for you. We would be happy to answer any questions on these bills, or any others included in your bill file.

### **HB 1634**

**Short Description:** VEH CD–CALI EMISSION STANDARDS

#### **House Sponsors**

Rep. Edgar Gonzalez, Jr., Janet Yang Rohr and Bob Morgan

#### **Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Law of 2005 of the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that, by December 1, 2023, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency shall adopt rules to implement the motor vehicle emission standards of the State of California, including, but not limited to the (1) zero-emission vehicle program, (2) low-emission vehicle program, (3) advanced clean trucks program, and (4) heavy-duty low NOx omnibus program, and shall amend the rules within 6 months of any changes to maintain consistency with the California motor vehicle emission standards and federal clean air laws. Provides that the rules may incorporate by reference the California motor vehicle standards established in final regulations issued by the California Air Resources Board and promulgated under the California Health and Safety Code. Effective immediately.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
1/31/2024	House	Assigned to Energy & Environment Committee

**HB 3904**

**Short Description:** LOCAL OFFICIAL VACANCY POSTING

**House Sponsors**

Rep. Terra Costa Howard

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Creates the Local Official Vacancy Posting Act. Provides that a unit of local government shall post every elected official vacancy on its website, if the full-time staff of the municipality maintain the website, and the county clerk shall also post the vacancy on the county clerk website. Provides that the unit of local government may not fill the vacancy until the posting has been on the municipality's website, or the county's website if the municipality does not have full-time staff maintaining a website, for at least 15 days. Limits home rule powers.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/14/2024	House	Assigned to Ethics & Elections

**HB 4402**

**Short Description:** OPN MTG-EMERGENCY DEFINED

**House Sponsors**

Rep. Daniel Didech

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Open Meetings Act. Defines the terms "bona fide emergency" and "exigent circumstances". Provides that, if a quorum of the members of a public body is physically present at a meeting, a majority of the public body may allow a member of that body to attend the meeting by other means if the member is prevented from physically attending because of, among other things, exigent circumstances concerning a family member (rather than because of, among other things, a family or other emergency).

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/14/2024	House	Assigned to Executive Committee

**HB 4602**

**Short Description:** ONE DAY OF REST-VARIOUS

**House Sponsors**

Rep. Marcus C. Evans, Jr.

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the One Day Rest In Seven Act. Provides that the calculation of required rest days does not include any time that the employee is on call. Provides that an employee who voluntarily agrees to work on a day of rest must be paid at his or her regular hourly rate or, if applicable, at the overtime wage rate as required by the Illinois Minimum Wage Law. Provides that every employer shall permit its employees who are scheduled or expected to work (rather than are to work) for 7 1/2 continuous hours at least 20 minutes for a meal period beginning no later than 5 hours after the start of the work period. Provides that any employer, or agent or officer of an employer, has violated the Act if he or she discharges, takes an adverse action against, or in any other manner discriminates against any employee because that employee has exercised a right under the Act. Provides that the Director of Labor may (rather than shall) grant long term and short permits authorizing the employment of persons on days of rest. Makes changes in provisions concerning definitions; posting requirements; recordkeeping; and civil offenses. Makes other changes.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
1/31/2024	House	Referred to Rules Committee

**HB 4915**

**Short Description:** COUNTY TRANSPORTATION REVENUE

**House Sponsors**

Rep. Daniel Didech

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Special County Occupation Tax For Public Safety, Public Facilities, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, or Transportation Law of the Counties Code. Provides that the tax may be used for active transportation and public transportation. Makes conforming changes, including to the Law's name. Defines "active transportation" and "public transportation". Makes technical corrections to definition provisions. Amends the Simplified Sales and Use Tax Administration Act to make a conforming change.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/7/2024	House	Referred to Rules Committee

**HB 5277**

**Short Description:** TRANSIT-TO-TRAILS PROGRAM

**House Sponsors**

Rep. Justin Slaughter

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Department of Transportation Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Requires the Secretary of Transportation to establish a program through which the Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities for projects that facilitate travel by public transportation to public outdoor recreation sites for outdoor activities, including hiking, biking, boating, picnicking, hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, or other nature-based activities. Provides that the Secretary shall offer grants through the Transit to Trails program on an annual basis. Requires the Department of Transportation to adopt rules necessary to implement and administer the program. Provides that, in considering grant applications, the Department shall prioritize projects with demonstrated intent to enhance access to outdoor recreation opportunities for populations in greatest need of improved access to outdoor nature-based recreation. Requires the Department to provide technical assistance in preparing grant applications to applicants upon request. Provides that implementation of the grant program is subject to appropriation by the General Assembly.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/9/2024	House	Referred to Rules Committee

**HB 5360**

**Short Description:** LOCAL TRANSIT-BUS STOP BENCHES

**House Sponsors**

Rep. Mary Beth Canty

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act, the Local Mass Transit District Act, and the Regional Transportation Authority Act. Provides that, subject to appropriation, a local mass transit district, the Chicago Transit Authority, and the Suburban Bus Board must install one bench at each of the entity's public bus stops if the bus stop does not already have a bench installed. Allows a local mass transit district, the Authority, and the Board to install the benches in an order specified by the entities as funding is provided to the entity. Limits the concurrent exercise of home rule powers, except for reasonable restrictions on the location of the bench.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/9/2024	House	Referred to Rules Committee

**SB 1556**

**Short Description:** EPA-CLEAN TRANSPORT STANDARD

**Senate Sponsors**

Sen. David Koehler-Sue Rezin-Cristina Castro-Steve Stadelman-Christopher Belt and Michael E. Hastings

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that, to the extent allowed by federal law, the Environmental Protection Agency shall propose, within 12 months after the amendatory Act's effective date, and the Pollution Control Board shall adopt, within 12 months after receipt of the Agency's proposal, rules establishing a clean transportation standard to reduce carbon intensity from the on-road transportation sector by 20% by 2038, with further reductions to be implemented at the discretion of the Agency based upon advances in technology. Contains requirements for the Board rules and for the clean transportation standard. Exempts aviation fuels from the clean transportation standard. Provides that producers of sustainable aviation fuel shall be eligible to generate monetary credits on an opt-in basis that may be applied to future obligations or traded to providers not meeting the clean transportation standard. Requires the Agency to submit a report to the General Assembly detailing the implementation of the clean transportation standard, the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions that have been achieved through the clean transportation standard, and targets for future reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. Contains other provisions. Effective immediately.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
1/10/2024	Senate	Re-assigned to Energy and Public Utilities

**SB 2321****Short Description:** RIGHT TO PRIVACY-DRUG TEST**Senate Sponsors**

Sen. Robert Peters

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act. Provides that an employer may not refuse to hire an individual or discipline an employee because results of an individual's drug test indicate the presence of THC on the part of that individual. Permits an employer to enforce a pre-employment drug testing policy, zero-tolerance drug testing policy, random drug testing policy, or a drug-free workplace policy or disciplining an employee for violating such policy, but provides that an employer may not take adverse action against an employee solely because of a positive drug test for cannabis unless the test result exceeds limits set forth in certain DUI provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code. Sets forth conditions under which an employer may discipline an employee for impairment. Provides that there is not a cause of action for any person against an employer for disciplining or terminating the employment of an individual when enforcing a compliant policy. Amends the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. Repeals provisions concerning employment and employer liability.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/8/2024	Senate	To Subcommittee on Cannabis

**SB 2691****Short Description:** EMPLOYEE SICK LEAVE-NOTICE**Senate Sponsors**

Sen. Laura Fine

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the Employee Sick Leave Act. Provides that an employer may limit the use of personal sick leave benefits provided by the employer for absences due to an illness, injury, medical appointment, or personal care of the employee's covered family member to an amount not less than the personal sick leave that would be earned or accrued during 9 months (rather than 6 months) at the employee's then

current rate of entitlement. Provides that, for employers who base personal sick leave benefits on an employee's years of service instead of annual or monthly accrual, such employer may limit the amount of sick leave to be used under this Act to three-fourths of the employee's maximum annual grant (rather than half of the employee's maximum annual grant). Provides that an employer may not require an employee to provide advance notice of his or her use of personal sick leave benefits. Makes a corresponding change.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
1/10/2024	Senate	Referred to Assignments

**SB 2939**

**Short Description:** ONE DAY OF REST-VARIOUS

**Senate Sponsors**

Sen. Cristina Castro

**Synopsis As Introduced**

Amends the One Day Rest In Seven Act. Provides that the calculation of required rest days does not include any time that the employee is on call. Provides that an employee who voluntarily agrees to work on a day of rest must be paid at his or her regular hourly rate or, if applicable, at the overtime wage rate as required by the Illinois Minimum Wage Law. Provides that every employer shall permit its employees who are scheduled or expected to work (rather than are to work) for 7 1/2 continuous hours at least 20 minutes for a meal period beginning no later than 5 hours after the start of the work period. Provides that any employer, or agent or officer of an employer, has violated the Act if he or she discharges, takes an adverse action against, or in any other manner discriminates against any employee because that employee has exercised a right under the Act. Provides that the Director of Labor may (rather than shall) grant long term and short permits authorizing the employment of persons on days of rest. Makes changes in provisions concerning definitions; posting requirements; recordkeeping; and civil offenses. Makes other changes.

**Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/21/2024	Senate	Postponed - Labor

## **SB 3160**

**Short Description:** CARBON FUEL STANDARDS ACT

### **Senate Sponsors**

Sen. Cristina Castro

### **Synopsis As Introduced**

Creates the Low Carbon Fuel Standards Program Act. Establishes the Low Carbon Standards Program to be administered by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Provides that the Program shall establish declining carbon intensity standards, expressed in terms of the carbon intensity of transportation fuels, to be achieved during each compliance period. Provides that providers of transportation fuel must demonstrate that the mix of fuels they supply for use in Illinois meets the carbon intensity benchmarks of the program for each annual compliance period. Effective immediately.

### **Last Action**

Date	Chamber	Action
2/6/2024	Senate	Referred to Assignments

## **General Legislative Updates**

### **103<sup>rd</sup> ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

Both chambers returned to session Tuesday, February 20 through Thursday, February 22, with the Governor delivering his combined State of the State and Budget Address on February 21. While committee hearings were scheduled for the week, the primary focus was on the Governor’s budget and policy priorities. Committee hearings will significantly ramp up in March.

There was an avalanche of bill filings in the week leading up to the bill filing deadline -- 952 House Bills and 816 Senate Bills were filed just last week. There were already 762 House Bills and 694 Senate Bills previously filed for consideration in the 2024 legislative session. Below are some highlights of recent bill filings:

- Artificial Intelligence: Several bills were filed to regulate artificial intelligence; see a summary [here](#).
- Elected CPS Board: Senate President Harmon filed [SB 3757](#), creating a hybrid appointed/elected process to transition from an appointed to a fully elected Chicago School Board.
- Legalize “Magic Mushrooms”: Senator Ventura filed [SB 3695](#) which would allow for the sale, use, or personal possession of psilocybin (commonly referred to as magic mushrooms) in Illinois. Companion legislation, [HB 1](#) (Ford), is assigned to the House Executive Committee. Read more [here](#).

- Foreign Countries of Concern: Republicans in both chambers filed legislation to regulate the influence from foreign countries of concern. A summary is [here](#).
- Prescription Medication: The cost of and access to prescription medications is the subject of several pieces of legislation filed last week. See a recap [here](#).
- IML Agenda: The Illinois Municipal League’s Legislative Agenda is [here](#).
- Captive Audience Meetings: The Illinois AFL-CIO spring agenda includes [SB 3649](#) (Peters) and [HB 5572](#) (Evans) which protect all workers from unwanted religious and political speech in the workplace. According to the union, these mandatory captive audience meetings subject employees to the religious or political views of the employer during work hours.
- Fantasy Sports Regulation: Legislation creating the Fantasy Sports Consumer Protection Act would authorize the Illinois Gaming Board to regulate the conduct of fantasy contest operators. The companion bills are [HB 5648](#) (Delgado) [SB 3710](#) (Collins). The bills codify into state law that fantasy sports games are a game of skill, not sports wagering. A statement from Senator Collins says, “The proposed legislation aims to not only protect the hundreds of thousands of fantasy sports fans across Illinois but also the integrity of the games they enjoy ... while promoting innovation and removing barriers to growth that threaten the fantasy sport industry.”
- Warehouse Worker Protection: Companion bills were filed to create the Warehouse Worker Protection Act - [SB 3272](#) (Villanueva) and [HB 4825](#) (Olickal).
- Consumer Legal Funding: [SB 3314](#) (Cunningham) allows for refinancing of consumer legal funding; the House has a companion bill in Representative Tarver’s [HB 4614](#).
- College Athletes: [HB 5625](#) (Buckner) allows collegiate athletes to be eligible for worker’s compensation.
- Abortion/Gender Affirming Care: [HB 4876](#) (Stava-Murray) The Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act would apply to parents and guardians who refuse to allow their children access to “necessary medical care, including, but not limited to, primary care services, abortion services, or gender-affirming services.” Further allows minors to consent to the performance of abortion services and gender-affirming services.
- [HB 5152](#) (Cassidy) allows individuals and health care providers who leave states with laws limiting access to gender-affirming medical care and abortion to receive a \$500 tax credit if they move to Illinois. The tax credit would also be extended to public school teachers who relocate to Illinois because of “content-based restrictions” in their home state that prevent them from addressing subjects like race, gender identity or sexual orientation in the classroom.
- Assisted Suicide: Creating the End-of-Life Options for Terminally Ill Patients Act is the focus of [SB 3499](#) (Holmes). Under the measure, qualified patients with a terminal disease could request aid-in-dying medication from physicians.

- Carbon Dioxide Pipeline Moratorium: [HB 4835](#) (Moeller) and [SB 3441](#) (McClure) creates the Safety Moratorium on Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Act.
- Hospital Staffing Levels: [SB 3709](#) (Collins) and [HB 5320](#) (Buckner) address staffing levels in hospitals. [SB 3217](#) (Ventura) increases the fine for a hospital that fails to implement a written staffing plan for nursing service.
- Minors Consumption of Alcohol: [HB 4945](#) (Cabello) allows individuals aged 18 and 21 to consume alcohol, including at licensed establishments, as long as they are with their parents.

### **2024 Key Dates and Session Deadlines:**

March 15: Senate Committee Deadline for Senate Bills

March 19: Primary Election

April 5: House Committee Deadline for House Bills

April 12: Senate Third Reading Deadline

April 19: House Third Reading Deadline

May 3: Committee Deadline for Bills in the Opposite Chamber

May 17: House and Senate Third Reading Deadline for Bills in the Opposite Chamber

May 24: Adjournment

May 25 – 31: Contingent Session Days

### **GOVERNOR’S HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Department on Aging:** Governor JB Pritzker appointed Mary Killough, a lifelong advocate for seniors, as the next director of the Illinois Department on Aging. She currently is Vice President of Operations and Government Relations for AccentCare, a national home health and hospice services provider. Killough is a licensed attorney with over 30 years' experience serving Illinois' senior population, including being Deputy Director of IDoA from 2011-2015.

**Illinois Works Funding Awarded:** Over \$18 million in funding was awarded to 36 recipients to expand the Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program – an undertaking to ensure a qualified talent pipeline of diverse candidates in construction and the building trades. Specifically, DCEO uses Illinois Works to expand its statewide network of providers to recruit, prescreen, and provide pre-apprenticeship skills training. The Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program also helps its graduates transition to a full apprenticeship program in construction and building trades. Read more [here](#).

**Lead Service Line Replacement Grants:** The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is offering nearly \$6.6 million to help communities meet the requirements of the Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification Act (LSLRN Act). This is the fourth offering of the Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI) Grant Program. Through it, local governments receive between \$20,000 - \$50,000 to create a complete lead service line inventory.

The latest LSLI Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), and all required forms and information, can be found on the Illinois EPA website at: <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/drinking-water/public-water-users/lsl-grant-opportunity.html>. Applications for the LSLI Grant Program will be accepted from **February 15, 2024 until funding has been expended**. All applicants must pre-qualify through the [Grant Accountability and Transparency Act Grantee Portal](#). Read more [here](#).

**Paratransit Vehicles:** The Illinois Department of Transportation announced that more than 500 paratransit vehicles have been awarded to 113 transit providers through its Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Program. The grants help providers offer safe, reliable and accessible transportation options in their communities. The vehicles will be delivered to public transportation providers as well as nonprofit organizations serving seniors and individuals with disabilities. Read more [here](#). A list of awardees is [here](#).

**Gubernatorial Appointments:** Governor Pritzker appointed the following:

- Beverly Potts will continue to serve as a Member of the Capital Development Board.
- Shaneal Clayborne will serve as a Member of the Energy Workforce Advisory Council.
- Eric Echevarria will serve as a Member of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.
- Stephani Becker will serve as a Member of the Illinois Health Benefits Exchange Advisory Committee.
- Lila Valinoti will serve as a Member of the Illinois Health Benefits Exchange Advisory Committee.
- Raychel Wesley will serve as a Commissioner on the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission.
- Esther Sciammarella will continue to serve as a Member of the State Board of Health.

## **OTHER NEWS:**

**Assault Weapons Ban:** Two gun rights organizations are asking the Supreme Court of the United States to review Illinois' Assault Weapons Ban. The National Association for Gun Rights and the Firearms Policy Coalition both filed petitions Monday asking the court to reverse a decision of the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. Read more [here](#).

**Migrant Update:** On Thursday, Governor JB Pritzker and Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle pledged their commitment to a joint funding plan to ensure shelter, wraparound services and healthcare remain available for migrants sent from the Texas border. Officials estimate that an additional \$321 million is needed to maintain shelter and services for 2024. Pritzker and Preckwinkle are pledging over \$250 million to help close this gap; the allocation is on top of previously committed funding. Read more [here](#).



## MEMO

Date: February 27, 2024  
To: Board of Trustees  
From: Brady Lange, Procurement Director  
Subject: Insurance Brokerage Services

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### Recommendation:

Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Marsh McLennan Agency (MMA) for Employee Benefits and Property/Casualty Insurance Brokerage Services for a term of five years for a not-to-exceed total of \$78,300 annually.

### Background:

Connect Transit has used the services of a brokerage firm to solicit and contract for all our insurance needs. Brokerage firms have the expertise needed to negotiate preferred insurance rates with various carriers, assist employees throughout open enrollment, offer many value-added services to help manage costs, and provide risk assessment services to prevent claims.

### Discussion:

Connect Transit issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking proposals for employee benefits and property/casualty brokerage services. The RFP allowed for a single contract for both services or for them to be split into separate contracts. Six proposals were received but one was deemed unresponsive. The accepted proposals were received from the following vendors: Aurthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Clemens & Associates, Cottingham & Butler, Ledgestone, and MMA. All but one proposal received was for both services, so each service was evaluated individually to allow for independent ranking of services. The proposals were evaluated on the qualifications of each firm, their approach to addressing the needs identified in the scope of work, interviews conducted with the primary account representatives, contract cost, and value-added services offered. MMA was identified as the top proposal for both services because they:

- developed a public sector group to better serve municipal and government clients.
- provide HR compliance and employee training resources.
- provide unique insurance options for future potential cost savings.

MMA is currently the incumbent contract holder for the property/casualty brokerage services and has over 170 offices across the U.S. and Canada with their local office being in Schaumburg, and has a team of over 10,000 people. Upon award, they will begin evaluating current insurance offerings and solicit proposals on our behalf for the various insurance products offered as part of

our employee benefits packages. This contract award is contingent upon IDOT Pre-Award concurrence.

### **Financial Impact**

The total not-to-exceed value for these services over the term of the five-year contract utilizing operating funds is \$78,300.



## MEMO

Date: February 27, 2024  
To: Board of Trustees  
From: Brady Lange, Procurement Director  
Subject: Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Joint Consultancy

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### Recommendation:

Authorize the General Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD), Rockford Mass Transit District (RMTD), and MetroLINK (Quad Cities) to enter into a joint consultancy effort to assist in facilitating the procurement of an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to replace their existing Avail Technology (FleetNet) ERP System.

### Background:

The current Avail/FleetNet software has become increasingly unstable, even upon moving the software to the cloud hosted version, which was supposed to improve compatibility, stability, and provide frequent updates including modernization. Recent challenges experienced with Avail/FleetNet include various user interface problems that have gone unrepaired for many months, database design flaws allowing for duplicate entry of data, and inability to resolve issues with support in a timely manner. There is no timeline for these proposed improvements and many previous timelines have not been achieved.

### Discussion:

Many other peer agencies throughout Illinois use Avail/FleetNet and have experienced similar challenges with the software that have created concerns about the long-term viability of the product. This led to a group of agencies beginning discussions regarding our plans and needs for an ERP software replacement. MTD took the lead in defining the needs of each agency and worked to contract with a consultant to help facilitate the replacement of the software. MTD executed a contract with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and intends to proceed through this process either alone or jointly with peer agencies.

Working with peer agencies has many advantages over proceeding alone in this process. First, by working jointly the cost of the project will be substantially less for all agencies. We anticipate learning valuable process improvements by participating in a thorough evaluation of financial, maintenance, and human resources processes and systems the peer agencies utilize. In addition, working with peer agencies to procure the same or similar software will provide future support cost savings and efficiencies through the ability to share problems and solutions with colleagues.

## Timeline

We anticipate this project will last over the next 18 to 24 months. This timeline includes all the tasks identified in GFOA's proposal which include:

- Project Planning
- Interviews of Agency Stakeholders and Information Gathering
- Requirements for Software and Business Processes
- Readiness Guide
- Feedback from Agency Stakeholders
- RFP Development
- Evaluation Criteria Development
- Facilitation of Agency Evaluation of RFP Responses
- Facilitation of Contract Negotiations Between Agencies and Chosen Vendors
- Implementation Oversight
- Business Process Workshop

## Financial Impact

The MTD Board of Trustees has approved a contract with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for a not-to-exceed total of \$350,000 for the entirety of the joint contract. The IGA allows agencies to participate in only the stages of the project that are needed for their agency so it is unlikely that all agencies will split the costs evenly. Each agency will split each phase amongst those that participate. In addition, the implementation phase of this project is still undefined due to not knowing the level of work required to implement unknown software. As such, we are seeking approval for this as not-to-exceed total of \$150,000 to apply to this joint consultancy effort. The project is an allowable operating expense through the Illinois Downstate Operating Assistance Program and will be accounted for in our upcoming operating budget(s).

Of note, this joint consultancy IGA does not include the software itself and we anticipate bringing contract recommendations for various software to the Board of Trustees within the next 12 – 18 months.