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February 23, 2026

Honorable J.B. Pritzker
Governor, State of Illinois
207 Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

RE: Annual Certification of Compliance with the Publication of Operational Performance Results and Resolutions Certifying Financial Results for the Service Boards and the RTA Region through the Fourth Quarter of 2025

Dear Governor Pritzker,

Illinois Public Act 103-0281 required the RTA Service Boards (CTA, Metra, and Pace) to publish monthly operational performance results, and for the RTA Board to vote and annually certify to the State that the agencies are in substantial accordance. Failure to certify that the data is published would result in RTA withholding the State reimbursement of free and reduced fares. This requirement was in effect for calendar years 2024 and 2025. The RTA Board had previously found the Service Boards to be in compliance with the Act for 2024.

At their February 19, 2026 meeting the RTA Board found that CTA, Metra, and Pace were also in compliance with the requirements of P.A. 103-0281 for RTA fiscal year 2025. A copy of the adopted ordinance (2026-07) is attached.

Monthly Performance Reporting

CTA, Metra, and Pace are providing monthly metrics on staffing levels, service delivery, and public safety on transit and are working closely with the RTA to ensure compliance and solicit public feedback. The RTA and Service Boards will continue to partner in 2026 to publish monthly performance measures and enhance and/or expand areas of reporting where possible.

The webpage links to each agency's performance measures are listed below:

CTA: <https://www.transitchicago.com/performance/#kpis>



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Metra: <https://metra.com/performance-measures>

Pace: <https://www.pacebus.com/performance-measures>

RTA: <https://www.rtachicago.org/dashboards>

Quarterly Financial Results

As required by Section 4.11(e) of the RTA Act, this letter also conveys the unaudited financial results of the RTA system through the fourth quarter of 2025, compared to the budgets adopted by the RTA Board on December 19, 2024, and amended on December 18, 2025. Due to the temporary recovery ratio relief provided by P.A. 103-0281, the fourth quarter Service Board results were evaluated based solely on operating deficit performance.

CTA

The CTA's operating deficit of \$1.637 billion was \$63.9 million or 3.8% favorable to budget, and its recovery ratio of 47.1% was 8.5 percentage points unfavorable. System-generated revenues of \$465.3 million were \$9.4 million favorable to budget, and operating expenses of \$2.102 billion finished favorable to budget by \$54.5 million. CTA's recovery ratio result includes \$375.9 million of federal relief reserves. Without federal relief funds, the CTA achieved a system-generated revenue recovery ratio of 26.9%.

Metra

Metra's operating deficit of \$751.7 million was \$79.2 million or 9.5% favorable to budget, and its recovery ratio of 40.1% was 10.8 percentage points unfavorable. System-generated revenues of \$280.5 million were \$23.6 million unfavorable to budget and operating expenses of \$1.032 billion were \$102.8 million favorable to budget. Metra's recovery ratio result includes \$102.9 million of federal relief reserves. Without federal relief funds, Metra achieved a system-generated revenue recovery ratio of 29.4%.

Pace Suburban Service



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Pace's operating deficit of \$250.3 million was \$36.9 million or 12.8% favorable to budget, and its recovery ratio of 22.7% was 5.7 percentage points favorable. System-generated revenues of \$51.3 million were \$0.4 million unfavorable to budget and operating expenses of \$301.6 million were \$37.3 million favorable to budget. Pace's recovery ratio result does not include any federal relief reserves.

Regional ADA Paratransit

Following the RTA Board's second quarter finding of not in substantial accordance with budget, Pace was required to submit an amended 2025 budget for ADA Paratransit incorporating the RTA funding amendment adopted on August 21, 2025. The actual results stated below are compared to that amended budget, which the RTA Board approved on December 18, 2025.

ADA Paratransit's operating deficit of \$301.4 million was \$9.9 million or 3.2% favorable to the amended budget, and its recovery ratio of 11.0% was 3.5 percentage points favorable. System-generated revenues of \$18.0 million were \$0.8 million unfavorable to budget and operating expenses of \$319.4 million were \$10.7 million favorable to budget. ADA Paratransit's recovery ratio result does not include any federal relief reserves.

Regional Results and Findings

The regional operating deficit of \$2.940 billion was \$189.9 million or 6.1% favorable to budget. System-generated revenues of \$815.2 million, which do not include federal relief reserves, were \$15.4 million unfavorable to budget and operating expenses of \$3.755 billion were \$205.4 million favorable to budget.

The regional system-generated revenue recovery ratio of 42.5% was 7.3 percentage points unfavorable to the adopted budget due to lower than anticipated federal relief reserve usage. The RTA regional recovery ratio result includes \$478.3 million of federal relief reserves, \$382.1 million lower than was budgeted through December. Without federal relief funds, the region achieved a system-generated revenue recovery ratio of 27.3% after applying approved revenue and expense adjustments.

Enclosed are copies of the adopted resolutions.



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Sincerely,

Jill Leary

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cc: Brandon Johnson, Mayor, City of Chicago
Frank Mautino, Auditor General, State of Illinois
Emanuel Welch, Speaker of the House
Tony McCombie, House Republican Leader
Don Harmon, Senate President
John Curran, Senate Republican Leader

**Ordinance No.
2026-07**

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WHEREAS, for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, Illinois Public Act 103-0281, provides that the Service Boards (Chicago Transit Authority, Metra, and Pace Suburban Bus) must publish a monthly comprehensive set of data regarding transit staffing, service, and safety.

WHEREAS, subsection (b-5) of Public Act 103-0281 identifies the specific data to be published for (1) staffing levels, (2) scheduled service and delivered service, and (3) safety on the system.

WHEREAS, Public Act 103-0281 provides that the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) shall file a statement certifying that the Service Boards published the data described in subsection (b-5) with the General Assembly and Governor after adoption of the Annual Budget and Two-Year Financial Plan.

WHEREAS, if the RTA fails to file a statement certifying publication of the data, then the appropriations of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for grants to the RTA intended to reimburse the Service Boards for providing free and reduced fares shall be withheld.

WHEREAS, the RTA and Service Boards shall solicit input and ideas on publishing the data from the public and groups representing transit riders, workers, and businesses.

WHEREAS, the RTA and Service Board staff collaborated to identify and publish data in substantial compliance with Public Act 103-0281, solicited and received public input on the data, and enhanced the reporting of the efficiency of security measures in 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY THAT:

1. The RTA certifies that the Service Boards are in substantial compliance with Public Act 103-0281.
2. The Executive Director is authorized and directed to file a statement with the General Assembly and Governor certifying that the Service Boards are in substantial accordance with the requirements of Illinois Public Act 103-0281.

**Resolution No.
2026-02**

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WHEREAS, pursuant to section 4.11(c)(2) of the Regional Transportation Authority Act (the RTA Act) the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) determines whether the quarterly financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) are substantially in accordance with the CTA's approved budget for that period, not by way of audit but rather through the assessment of data compiled from the financial statements and reports required by section 4.11(c)(2) to be provided by the CTA for such purpose.

WHEREAS, Illinois P.A. 103-0281 waived the RTA Act requirement for a budgeted regional recovery ratio of 50% and waived the financial penalty associated with a year-end regional recovery ratio result below the 50% requirement through RTA fiscal year 2025.

WHEREAS, the RTA Board adopted the 2025 CTA operating budget on December 19, 2024 and amended the 2025 Regional operating budget on December 18, 2025.

WHEREAS, the adopted budget for the CTA includes a budgeted operating deficit and a budgeted system-generated revenue recovery ratio, which reflects and measures the financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of the CTA.

WHEREAS, the year-to-date operating results of the CTA, through the fourth quarter of 2025, compared to the current adopted budget, were:

	<u>YTD</u>
Operating Deficit (in billions)	
Actual	<u>\$1.637</u>
Budget	<u>\$1.701</u>
System-Generated Revenue Recovery Ratio	
Actual	<u>47.1%</u>
Budget	<u>55.6%</u>

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the RTA hereby finds that the year-to-date financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of the CTA, through the fourth quarter of 2025, are in substantial accordance with CTA's budget as adopted by the RTA Board on December 18, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Governor, the Mayor of Chicago, and the Auditor General of Illinois in accordance with Section 4.11(e) of the RTA Act.

**Resolution No.
2026-03**

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WHEREAS, pursuant to section 4.11(c)(2) of the Regional Transportation Authority Act (the RTA Act) the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority (the RTA) determines whether the quarterly financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of the Commuter Rail Division of the RTA (Metra) are substantially in accordance with Metra's approved budget for that period, not by way of audit but rather through the assessment of data compiled from the financial statements and reports required by section 4.11(c)(2) to be provided by Metra for such purpose.

WHEREAS, Illinois P.A. 103-0281 waived the RTA Act requirement for a budgeted regional recovery ratio of 50% and waived the financial penalty associated with a year-end regional recovery ratio result below the 50% requirement through RTA fiscal year 2025.

WHEREAS, the RTA Board adopted the 2025 Metra operating budget on December 19, 2024 and amended the 2025 Regional operating budget on December 18, 2025.

WHEREAS, the adopted budget for Metra includes a budgeted operating deficit and a budgeted system-generated revenue recovery ratio, which reflect and measure the financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of Metra.

WHEREAS, the year-to-date operating results of Metra, through the fourth quarter of 2025, compared to the current adopted budget, were:

	<u>YTD</u>
Operating Deficit (in millions)	
Actual	<u>\$751.7</u>
Budget	<u>\$830.9</u>
System-Generated Revenue Recovery Ratio	
Actual	<u>40.1%</u>
Budget	<u>50.9%</u>

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the RTA hereby finds that the year-to-date financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of Metra, through the fourth quarter of 2025, are in substantial accordance with Metra's budget as adopted by the RTA Board on December 18, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Governor and the Auditor General of Illinois in accordance with Section 4.11(e) of the RTA Act.



**Resolution No.
2026-04**

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WHEREAS, pursuant to section 4.11(c)(2) of the Regional Transportation Authority Act (the RTA Act) the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority (the RTA) determines whether the quarterly financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of the Suburban Bus Division of the RTA (Pace) are substantially in accordance with Pace’s approved budget for that period, not by way of audit but rather through the assessment of data compiled from the financial statements and reports required by section 4.11(c)(2) to be provided by Pace for such purpose.

WHEREAS, Illinois P.A. 103-0281 waived the RTA Act requirement for a budgeted regional recovery ratio of 50% and waived the financial penalty associated with a year-end regional recovery ratio result below the 50% requirement through RTA fiscal year 2025.

WHEREAS, the RTA Board adopted the 2025 Pace operating budget on December 19, 2024 and amended the 2025 Pace operating budget and Regional operating budget on December 18, 2025.

WHEREAS, the adopted budget for Pace Suburban Service includes a budgeted operating deficit and a budgeted system-generated revenue recovery ratio, which reflect and measure the financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of Pace Suburban Service.

WHEREAS, the year-to-date operating results of Pace Suburban Service, through the fourth quarter of 2025, compared to the current adopted budget, were:

	<u>YTD</u>
Operating Deficit (in millions)	
Actual	<u>\$250.3</u>
Budget	<u>\$287.3</u>
System-Generated Revenue Recovery Ratio	
Actual	<u>22.7%</u>
Budget	<u>17.0%</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the RTA hereby finds that the year-to-date financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of Pace Suburban Service, through the fourth quarter of 2025, are in substantial accordance with Pace's budget as adopted by the RTA Board on December 18, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Governor and the Auditor General of Illinois in accordance with Section 4.11(e) of the RTA Act.



**Resolution No.
2026-05**

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WHEREAS, pursuant to section 4.11(c)(2) of the Regional Transportation Authority Act (the RTA Act) the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority (the RTA) determines whether the quarterly financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of the Suburban Bus Division of the RTA (Pace) are substantially in accordance with Pace’s approved budget for that period, not by way of audit but rather through the assessment of data compiled from the financial statements and reports required by section 4.11(c)(2) to be provided by Pace for such purpose.

WHEREAS, the RTA Board adopted the 2025 Pace Regional ADA Paratransit operating budget on December 19, 2024 and approved an amended 2025 ADA Paratransit operating budget and Regional operating budget on December 18, 2025.

WHEREAS, the adopted budget for Pace Regional ADA Paratransit includes a budgeted operating deficit and a budgeted system-generated revenue recovery ratio, which reflect and measure the financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of Pace.

WHEREAS, the year-to-date operating results of Pace Regional ADA Paratransit, through the fourth quarter of 2025, compared to the current adopted budget, were:

	<u>YTD</u>
Operating Deficit (in millions)	
Actual	<u>\$301.4</u>
Budget	<u>\$311.3</u>
System-Generated Revenue Recovery Ratio	
Actual	<u>11.0%</u>
Budget	<u>7.5%</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the RTA hereby finds that the year-to-date financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of Pace Regional ADA Paratransit, through the fourth quarter of 2025, are substantially in accordance with Pace's Regional ADA Paratransit budget as amended by the RTA Board on December 18, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Governor and the Auditor General of Illinois in accordance with Section 4.11(e) of the RTA Act.



**Resolution No.
2026-06**

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WHEREAS, section 4.01(b) of the Regional Transportation Authority Act (the RTA Act) requires the Board of Directors of the Regional Transportation Authority (the RTA) to prepare an annual budget and financial plan that show that the level of fares and charges for mass transportation provided by, or under grant or purchase of service contracts of the Service Boards, is sufficient to cause the aggregate of all projected revenues from such fares and charges received in each fiscal year to equal at least 50% of the aggregate costs of providing such public transportation in such fiscal year.

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 4.11(c)(2) of the RTA Act, the Board of the RTA determines whether the quarterly financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of its Service Boards - the Chicago Transit Authority, the Commuter Rail Division, and the Suburban Bus Division - are substantially in accordance with the RTA's approved budgets for the Service Boards for that period, not by way of audit but rather through the assessment of data compiled from the financial statements and reports required by section 4.11(c)(2) to be provided by the Service Boards for such purpose.

WHEREAS, Illinois P.A. 103-0281 waived the RTA Act requirement for a budgeted regional recovery ratio of 50% and waived the financial penalty associated with a year-end regional recovery ratio result below the 50% requirement through RTA fiscal year 2025.

WHEREAS, the RTA Board adopted the 2025 Service Board and Regional operating budgets on December 19, 2024 and amended the 2025 Pace Suburban Service, ADA Paratransit and Regional operating budgets on December 18, 2025.

WHEREAS, the budgets approved by the RTA for the Service Boards include a budgeted operating deficit and a budgeted system-generated revenue recovery ratio, which reflect and measure the financial condition and results of operations of the public transportation services subject to the jurisdiction of the Service Boards.

WHEREAS, the year-to-date combined operating deficit of the Service Boards, including Pace Regional ADA Paratransit, through the fourth quarter of 2025, was:

	<u>YTD</u>
Operating Deficit (in billions)	
Actual	<u>\$2.940</u>
Budget	<u>\$3.130</u> ; and

WHEREAS, the system-generated revenue recovery ratio of the entire regional public transportation system, apart from ADA Paratransit services, through the fourth quarter of 2024, was:

	<u>YTD</u>
System-Generated Revenue Recovery Ratio	
Actual	<u>42.5%</u>
Budget	<u>49.8%</u>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the RTA hereby finds that the operating results of the entire regional public transportation system, apart from ADA Paratransit services, through the fourth quarter of 2025, are in substantial accordance with the regional operating budget as adopted by the RTA Board on December 19, 2024 and amended on December 18, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Governor, the Mayor of Chicago, and the Auditor General of Illinois, in accordance with Section 4.11(e) of the RTA Act.