

**Board of Directors of the Kansas City Streetcar Authority**

**May 29, 2025, Meeting Summary Minutes**

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://kcstreetcar-org.zoom.us/j/86452046409?pwd%3DOa9uw09CgY7Dr0R4hbqPQ3FLyvDS26.1&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1743949129321160&usg=AOvVaw1oKC71Uq5otcE-p9c0wXBQ>

600 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64106

**1. Call to Order**

Michael Collins called the meeting to order.

**2. Approval of Previous Meeting Summary Minutes**

Jon Stephens moved to approve the April 3, 2025 meeting summary minutes, Stacey Paine seconded and the motion carried.

**3. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**4. 18<sup>th</sup> Street Streetcar Feasibility Study**

Tom Gerend said conversations have been ongoing with the City interest in studying 18<sup>th</sup> Street. An initial approach has been crafted, that is consistent with how we have approached other studies. They are all centered around partnership and cost share. They are always community led and supported. There is great interest from all sides in advancing the study. This effort would look at overall feasibility cost along with a meaningful public engagement process about how or if Streetcar is the right fit. It will also look at financial strategies on how to move forward.

Councilwoman Melissia Hadley thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak about 18<sup>th</sup> study. The idea started over organically with a conversation about connectivity. There are catalytic projects happening on 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine. There are over 1600 residential and for sale housing in the area. There will be a groundbreaking in two weeks for a \$20m parking garage. The momentum is undeniable. The City of Kansas City have committed their portion for the study as well as private dollars have been raised. She asked the board to support this study for an East-West route

Michael Collins said that when you look at historical photos of the streetcar you see rail going down 18<sup>th</sup> St. This is a good opportunity to further the infrastructure East of Troost. It will be special to have synergy with all entertainment centers connected by the streetcar.

Mr. Gerend added that the 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine study is not in conflict with the current East-West study effort. They are individual and parallel projects. We can do more than one thing at a time.

Alicia Canady moved to authorize issuance of a Request for Proposals for 18<sup>th</sup> Streetcar Feasibility Study, and execution of project partnership and funding agreement with the City of Kansas City, Missouri and the KCATA, contingent upon agreement cost-share and not to exceed \$180,000 in total, Jon Stephens seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

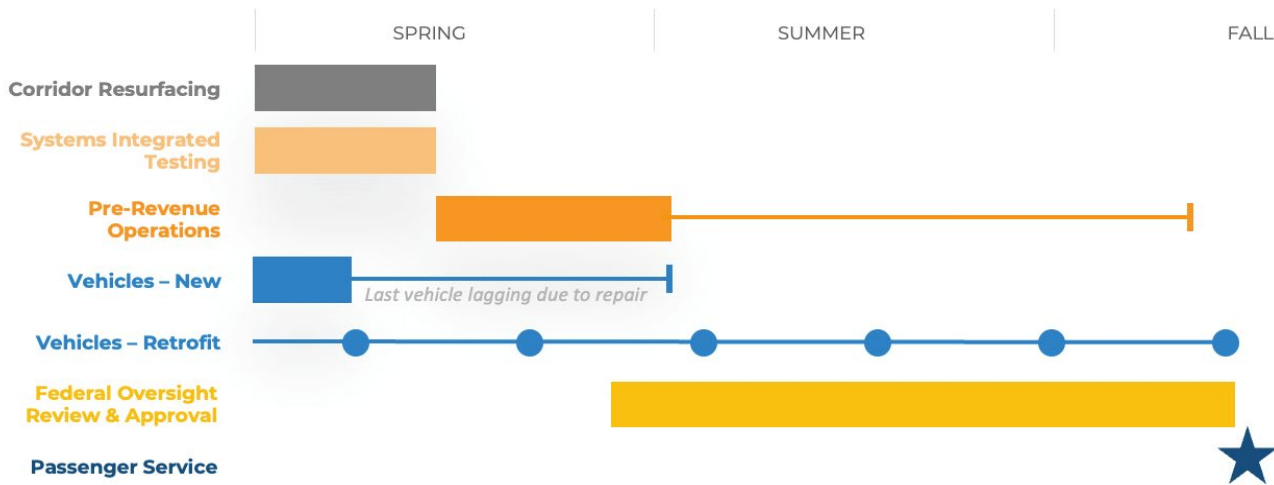
Mr. Gerend said Councilwoman Patterson-Hadley has been asked to help support with some of the community engagement and some of the leadership that will be needed. She said that they had already started convening an advisory group list.

**5. Main Street Extension**

**A. O&M Staffing and Rail Activation Update**

Jason Waldron they are in the last stage in the project and are basically doing punch walks to make sure everything is the way they want them. While June 15<sup>th</sup> is the contractual completion date there are a couple of items that they have agreed to that will extend that date. One of them is the pavement markings. They want the transit only lanes to be striped correctly. They also will be completing the 38<sup>th</sup> and Baltimore Building.

Project critical path to opening to revenue service is the review by the Federal and State oversight teams. A request for readiness review has been submitted.



Lauren Krutty said that transition from System Integrated Testing (SIT) to Pre-Revenue Operations (PRO) are underway and 5 PRO tests have been completed:

- Evacuation in Dedicated Right of Way
- Loss of Traffic Signals
- Loss of OCS Power
- Event/Incident Response
- Multi-Model Accommodations

They are targeting PRO procedure completion by mid-June. Remaining focus on Operator training, exclusive lane familiarization, schedule validation and TSP optimization. Final focus of service ramp-up and simulation will be late summer.

PRO Phase 1 Tests & Procedures	May	June
Operator familiarization and training		
a: Classroom Training - Complete	[Green bar]	
a: On-Route Familiarization	[Green bar]	
Evacuation in Dedicated ROW - Complete	[Green bar]	
Loss of Traffic Signals - Complete	[Green bar]	
Loss of OCS Power - Complete	[Green bar]	
Event / Incident - Complete	[Green bar]	
On-board Multi-Modal Accommodations		
a: Whole Person / Ability KC - Complete		[Green bar]
b: Bike Walk KC / MidtownKC Now - Complete		[Green bar]
Power Down SCADA		[Blue bar]
Passenger Loading Demonstration		
KCMO Council, KCSA Board, TDD Board - Complete	[Blue bar]	
KCMO Public Works		
KCATA		
KCSC - Complete		[Blue bar]
Turnback Operations - Partially Complete		[Blue bar]
Bus & Streetcar Interface and Bus Bridge Scenarios		[Blue bar]
Schedule Verification & Validation		[Blue bar]

Mrs. Krutty gave an update on O&M staffing. The team is expanding and almost fully complete.

- Supervisions-100% filled (11/110)
- Operators-87% filled (34/39)
- Maintenance Technicians- 75% filled (8/11)
- Maintenance Maintainers -70% filled (5/7)

- Inventory- 50% filled (1/2)

Operation Control Center will be activated next week. Starting June 15<sup>th</sup>, KCSA will take over maintenance on the extension.

**B. Security Update**

Tom Gerend said that expanded security presence will be on Main Street beginning in Mid-June. There will be dedication contract security as well as an expansion of the existing KCPD off-duty program.

**C. Operation Lifesaver and Communication Update**

Donna Mandalbaum said that they received a \$20,000 Operation Lifesaver Grant. This grant along with KCSA funding will be used to develop the Respect the Rail campaign to develop 5-6 animated streetcar safety videos, as well as a Streetcar Safety Activity Passport and to do community outreach with route stakeholders, schools, neighborhood associations, media, etc. Funds will need to be spent, and assets developed before September 1, 2025. She shared the first of the animated videos, about exclusive lanes.

**6. Riverfront Extension Update**

Ralph Davis gave the update on the Riverfront Extension. The project is on schedule and on budget.

- Overall Project is 82% complete
- Construction Work is on schedule
- Tracks were built and poured on the Grand Blvd Bridge in March and April
- The Grand Blvd Bridge was reopened at the end of April.

The contractors are working on constructing a two-way cycle track on Grand. They are installing OCS brackets and string wires. Working on sidewalks on the Riverfront as well as 2<sup>nd</sup> St. They will install the Shelters and Markers.

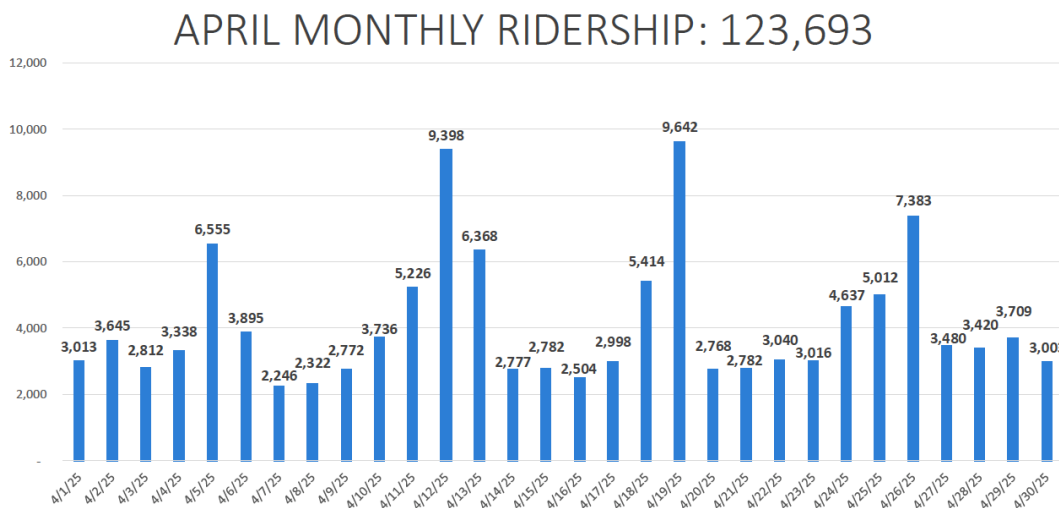
He walked through several pictures to explain what is going on.

The groundbreaking on the Grand Blvd Bike/Ped Bridge took place on May 16<sup>th</sup>. The City gave the notice to proceed and they have started working on exploration work and will start on foundation work in the next month. It will not be open before the Riverfront Opening.

**7. Committee Reports**

**A. Operations and Maintenance**

Lauren Krutty gave the Operations and Maintenance update. She shared the ridership summary. They are about to start the required ridership validation project.

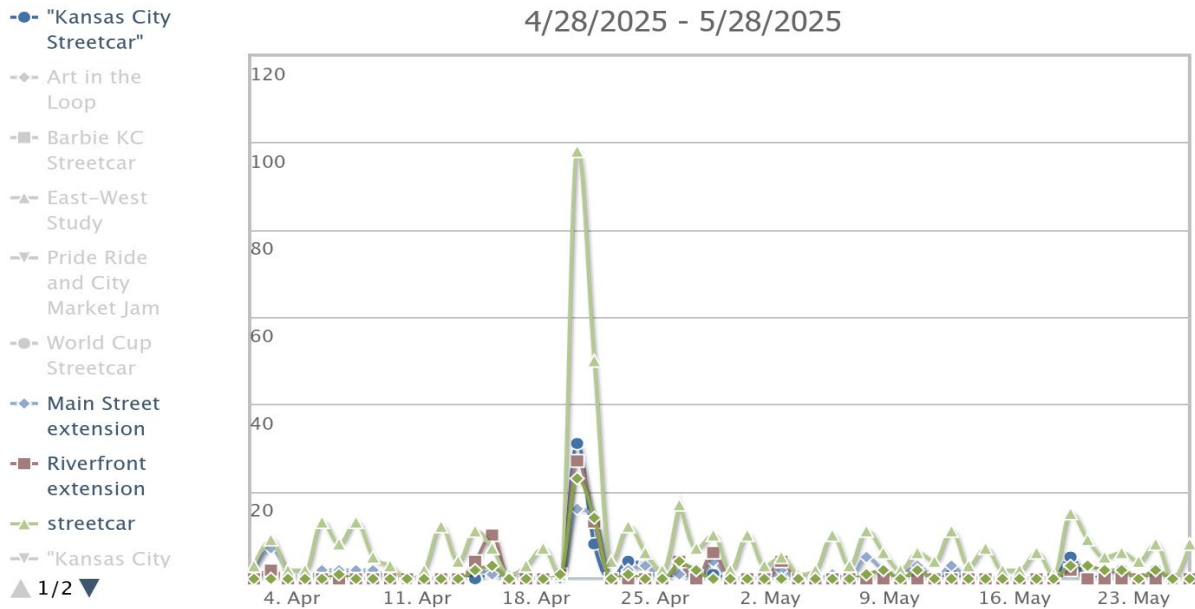


Near term focus and priorities are transit signal priority evaluation and optimization. Data feed to real time arrival  
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signs and activates the Operations Control Center (OCC).

**B. Marketing**

Donna Mandelbaum gave the Marketing report. She reminded the Board that KSHB has the weekly series called “On Track with KC” where they highlight a different streetcar story weekly, primarily Main Street Extension. She also shared some of the media stories from the last 2 months.



\*Peak with 98 Media Hits: RFE 100% Track Completion/Bridge Re-opening

2025 Sponsorship Contracts to Date \$49,125. A media kit is being developed for the sponsorship program. Tom Gerend added that the current plan is not to offer any of the Main Street assets for sponsorship until post opening.

Art in the Loop will kick off on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, KC Public Library’s Central Branch

**WONDER**  
2025 ART IN THE LOOP PROJECT

**2025 VISUAL ARTISTS**

Adrienne Clayton	Max Dlabick
David Morris	Miranda Clark
Edwing Mendez	Miranda Pietzsch
MacKenzie Fulmer	Taylor Fourt

**WONDER**  
2025 ART IN THE LOOP PROJECT

**2025 PERFORMING ARTISTS**

Danielle Ate the Sandwich performing as Jer	Monarch Duo
David Luther	Myself Embodied
EleveN2wenty2	Olivia Michka
Firetale Theatre	The Swallowtails
Jass	Tres Collective
Kathak Aura	True Lions
	Unique Sixteen

Ms. Mandelbaum said they had four events

- Chiefs StreetCAB
- Main Street Movie Club
- United Way and MADE MOBB Collaboration
- Pride Ride and City Market Jam – In June

### **C. Budget and Finance Committee**

Tom Gerend said the Financials are strong and they have been passed most of the large liabilities. The March financial statements were included in the Director's meeting packet. He pointed out that there is a bus bridge anomaly. KCSA paid for the bus bridge and will be reimbursed by the Main Street Project. He said it is budget and audit season and FY27 budget will be ready to approve at the July meeting,

In response to a question raised about will the tariffs and budget talks affect any commitments to the Streetcar, Mr. Gerend said no, that he believes that they are through any outstanding risk mostly on the extension side. They are pursuing a federal formula allocation and drawing down good repair funds. He doesn't believe there is a risk to those funds

Robert McCormack moved to accept the March financial reports, Stacey Paine seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

### **8. Executive Director's report**

Tom Gerend said the discussions with about restructuring the KCSA Board Committee is continuing. The current structure will be similar except the Marketing and Operation committee will become the Neighborhood Advisory Committee.

#### Neighborhood Advisory Committee

- Expanded representation
- 2-way communication
- Operations/ Safety/ Communications/ Etc.
- Special Projects
- Neighborhood, district, and stakeholder reps
- Chaired by KCSA Board appointment

He gave a FIFA 2026 World Cup Update.

KCSA are going through the process of bringing a Financial Manager on board for additional support. Conversation is being had to bring on a Security Manager compacity.

Staff went to Portland to the Community Streetcar Coalition. People are looking to Kansas City as a model as a right way to do it. Starting July 1 Tom Gerend will be installed as President. The Conference is in Kansas City next year.

### **9. Closed Meeting**

Michael Collins moved to close the meeting pursuant to subsections 610.021 of the revised status of Missouri to discuss legal matters, litigation or privileged communication with attorneys (pursuant to subsection 1); Real Estate matters (pursuant to Subsections 3 &13); Specifications for competitive bidding (pursuant to subsection 11); Sealed bids or proposals or documents related to a negotiated contract (pursuant to subsection 12) Stacey Paine seconded and a roll call vote of Alissia Canady, Michael Collins, Jon Copaken, David Johnson, Jan Marcason, Robert McCormack, Edward Merriman, Stacey Paine, Jon Stephens, Jason Swords and the motion passed.

A roll call vote of Alissia Canady, Michael Collins, Jon Copaken, David Johnson, Jan Marcason, Robert McCormack, Edward Merriman, Stacey Paine, Jon Stephens, Jason Swords was taken to come out of closed session.

10. The next meeting will be held on July 31, 2025, in person at VMF 600 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Kansas City, MO 64106 with a virtual Zoom option.

**Board Members Attending**

Alicia Canady  
Michael Collins  
Jon Copaken  
David Johnson  
Jan Marcason  
Robert McCormack  
Edward Merriman  
Stacey Paine  
Jon Stephens  
Jason Swords

**Others attending**

Ralph Davis, KCSA  
Gabi Exendine-KCSA  
Tom Gerend, KCSA  
Councilwoman Melissa Patterson-Hazley, KCMO  
Caroline Hogan, KSHB  
Ebony Jackson, KCSA  
Angie Laurie, KCMO  
Donna Mandelbaum, KCSA  
Gilberto Melgarejo, HTSI  
Eric Rorstrom, KCSA  
Jon Schlegel, HRSI

Doug Stone, Lewis Rice  
Jason Waldron, KCMO