## To: Chicago Transit Authority Board

From: Jeremy Fine, Chief Financial Officer
Re: Financial Results for August 2023
Date: October 13, 2023

## I. Summary

CTA's financial results for the month and year to date are impacted by the effect of the COVID19 pandemic. CTA's financial results are $\$ 9.8$ million and $\$ 89.1$ million favorable to budget for August and year-to-date, respectively, primarily due to lower than anticipated labor costs. Public funding for 2023 collected year-to-date totaled $\$ 598.5$ million, which is $\$ 1.5$ million favorable to budget. CTA has drawn down the full amount of CARES funding of $\$ 817.5$ million in addition to $\$ 110.1$ million of CRRSAA funding, which is approximately $30.5 \%$ of CTA's CRRSAA allocation, $\$ 207.5$ million of ARP funding, which is approximately $22.7 \%$ of CTA's ARP allocation, and $\$ 24.0$ million of ARP Discretionary funding, which is approximately $20.3 \%$ of CTA's ARP Discretionary allocation.

Ridership for the month was 25.6 million, which was 1.8 million higher than budget and 3.3 million higher than August 2022. Ridership year-to-date was 9.3 million higher than budget and 24.0 million higher than the prior year. The ridership increase over the prior year-to-date was due to continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

## II. Cash \& Liquidity

The chart below highlights CTA's cash position at August 2023 compared to August 2022.

|  | August |  | August | Increase <br> (Decrease) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 2023 |  | 2022 |  |

CTA's total cash/receivables balance was equal to $\$ 1.1$ billion. Unrestricted cash was $\$ 37.4$ million lower than the prior year due to the timing of cash receipts and invoice payments. The Damage Reserve fund was $\$ 4.5$ million lower than last year due to settlement payments offset by deposits into the fund. Funds owed by the RTA were approximately $\$ 329.0$ million which was $\$ 4.0$ million lower than the prior year due to the timing of payments from the State. CTA continues
to work closely with the RTA to monitor their receivable balance owed; Trust Portfolio Assets represents bond proceeds held in Trust for funding capital projects and making required debt service payments and therefore goes down when payments are made.

## III. Revenue

| Category | Current Month |  |  |  | Full Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Actual <br> Aug-23 | Variance to Budget Aug-23 | Variance to Prior Year Aug23 vs. Aug22 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Actual } \\ 2023 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Variance to Budget 2023 |  | Variance to Prior Year 2022 |  |
| Fare \& Pass Revenue | \$ 30,118 | \$ 1,901 | \$ | 3,052 | \$ | 215,271 | \$ | 10,187 | \$ | 26,740 |

- Fare and pass revenue for August was $\$ 1.9$ million favorable to budget due to higher than expected bus and rail full fare revenues in addition to higher pass revenue. It was $\$ 3.1$ million favorable to prior year primarily due to higher fare and pass revenues. The average fare for the month was $\$ 1.18$ per ride and was $\$ 0.01$ lower than budget and $\$ 0.04$ lower than the prior year.
- Year-to-date fare and pass revenue was $\$ 10.2$ million favorable to budget due to higher than expected bus and rail full fare revenue in addition to 7 -day pass revenue. It was $\$ 26.7$ million favorable to prior year due to the continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The average fare for the year was $\$ 1.19$ per ride and was $\$ 0.01$ lower than budget and $\$ 0.01$ lower than the prior year.

- Reduced Fare Subsidy was on par with budget for the month and year-to-date based on expected reimbursements from the State.

- Advertising, Charter and Concessions Revenue was $\$ 0.8$ million unfavorable to budget for the month due to lower than anticipated vehicle and platform advertising revenue. It was $\$ 1.5$ million unfavorable to budget for the year-to-date due to lower than anticipated vehicle and platform advertising revenues received in 2023. This revenue category was $\$ 0.8$ million lower than prior year due to less vehicle and platform advertising revenues received in 2023.

- Investment income was $\$ 0.4$ million and $\$ 4.3$ million favorable to budget for the month and the year-to-date, respectively. It was $\$ 5.0$ million higher than prior year-to-date due to fluctuations in the short-term market rates.

- Other Revenue was $\$ 0.1$ million unfavorable to budget for the month due to lower than expected miscellaneous and non-capital grant revenues and $\$ 0.8$ million favorable for the year-to-date due to higher than expected movie generated and rental revenues. Other revenue was $\$ 0.4$ million unfavorable to August 2022 and $\$ 2.6$ million unfavorable to the prior year-to-date due to lower non-capital grant and miscellaneous revenues. Lower noncapital grant revenue is offset by lower non-capital grant expense in the Other Expenses category.

- Total System-Generated Revenue was $\$ 1.4$ million and $\$ 13.8$ million higher than budget for the month and the year-to-date, respectively, due to higher than expected fare and pass revenue in addition to investment income. It was $\$ 2.6$ million and $\$ 28.3$ million higher than August 2022 and prior year-to-date, respectively, due to higher fare and pass revenue and investment income.


## IV. Expenses



- Labor expense was $\$ 4.8$ million favorable to budget for the month and $\$ 53.2$ million favorable for the year-to-date due to lower than anticipated labor costs. Labor expense was $\$ 8.4$ million
unfavorable to August 2022 and $\$ 52.4$ million unfavorable to prior year-to-date due to the timing of open positions and the impact of contractual wage increases.

- Material expense was $\$ 0.2$ million favorable to budget for the month and $\$ 0.2$ million unfavorable year-to-date due to the timing of vehicle parts usage, most of the bus fleet being out of warranty, and the increase in cost of materials. Material expense was $\$ .1$ million unfavorable to August 2022 and $\$ 7.0$ million unfavorable to prior year-to-date due to the timing of vehicle part usage and the increase in cost of materials.

|  | Current Month |  |  | Full Year |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Actual Aug-23 | Variance to Budget Aug-23 | Variance to Prior Year Aug23 vs. Aug22 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Actual } \\ 2023 \end{gathered}$ | Variance to Budget 2023 | Variance to Prior Year 2022 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Category |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel | \$ 3,410 | \$ 1,178 | \$ (831) | \$ 25,742 | \$ 9,248 | \$ $(7,349)$ |

- Fuel for Revenue Equipment expense was $\$ 1.2$ million favorable to budget in August and $\$ 9.2$ million favorable year-to-date primarily due to lower than anticipated usage. Higher fuel prices account for the unfavorable variance to the prior year-to-date.

- The Electric Power for Revenue Equipment expense was $\$ 0.4$ million favorable to budget for the month of August. In May 2022, CTA began receiving a credit toward traction power expenses from ComEd due to the Carbon-Free Energy Resources Adjustment (CFRA) resulting from a provision in the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) signed by the Governor in September 2021. Year-to-date traction power expense was $\$ 2.1$ million favorable to budget due to lower than anticipated usage. Traction power expense was $\$ 4.5$ million unfavorable to prior year-to-date because of the CFRA charge starting in mid-2023 compared to a credit in 2022. CTA received CFRA credits through May 2023; however, the adjustment is anticipated to result in an additional charge from June through the remainder of the year.

- The Provision for Injuries \& Damages expense was on par with budget for the month and year-to-date. The expense was $\$ 7.7$ million favorable to the prior year-to-date due to funding requirements.

|  | Current Month |  |  |  | Full Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Category | Actual <br> Aug-23 | Variance to <br> Budget <br> Aug-23 | Variance to Prior Year Aug23 vs. Aug22 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Actual } \\ 2023 \end{gathered}$ |  | Variance to <br> Budget <br> 2023 |  | Variance to Prior Year 2022 |  |
| Purchase of Security Services | \$ 5,994 | \$ $(2,564)$ | \$ | $(3,843)$ | \$ | 36,024 | \$ | $(8,591)$ | \$ | $(21,580)$ |

- Purchase of Security Services was $\$ 2.6$ million unfavorable to budget for the month and $\$ 3.8$ million unfavorable to August 2022 due to the timing of invoices and an increase in private security services. Year-to-date, expenses were $\$ 8.6$ million unfavorable to budget and $\$ 21.6$ million unfavorable to prior year due to the timing of invoices for police and the increase in private security services.

|  | Current Month |  |  |  | Full Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Category | Actual <br> Aug-23 | Variance to <br> Budget <br> Aug-23 | Variance to Prior Year Aug23 vs. Aug22 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Actual } \\ 2023 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | Variance to Budget 2023 |  | Variance to <br> Prior Year <br> 2022 |  |
| Other Expenses | \$ 17,137 | \$ 4 4,390 | \$ | 1,204 | \$ | 171,416 | \$ | 19,602 | \$ | $(7,336)$ |

- Other expenses were $\$ 4.4$ million favorable to budget for the month and $\$ 19.6$ million favorable to budget for the year-to-date due to the timing of contractual services invoices. Other expenses year-to-date were $\$ 7.3$ million unfavorable to prior year due to the timing of contractual services invoices. The other expense category includes the pension obligation bond expense, utilities, maintenance contracts, services, and other expenses.

|  | Current Month |  |  |  |  |  | Full Year |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Actual <br> Aug-23 |  | Variance to Budget Aug-23 |  | Variance to Prior Year Aug23 vs. Aug22 |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Actual } \\ 2023 \end{gathered}$ |  | Variance to Budget 2023 |  | Variance to Prior Year 2022 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Category |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$ | 144,858 | \$ | 8,370 | \$ | $(13,073)$ | \$ | 1,135,649 | \$ | 75,373 | \$ | $(92,391)$ |

- Operating Expenses were $\$ 8.4$ million and $\$ 75.4$ million favorable to budget for the month and year-to-date, respectively, primarily due to lower than anticipated labor costs. The unfavorable variance to prior year-to-date was primarily due to higher labor costs in addition to higher security, material, and fuel expenses.


## V. Recovery Ratio



- Recovery Ratio, which measures the percentage of operating expenses CTA funds from internally generated revenues, was $71.25 \%$ for the month. This was favorable to budget by 21.45 percentage points for the month. Year-to-date, the recovery ratio was $50.97 \%$, which was unfavorable to budget by 2.12 percentage points and favorable to the RTA required recovery ratio of $42.00 \%$ by 8.97 percentage points. The RTA is including the Federal stimulus funds under the CARES, CRRSAA, and ARP Acts as replacement fare revenues for recovery ratio purposes. In late 2021, the Illinois legislature granted temporary recovery ratio relief for fiscal years 2021, 2022, and 2023 due to the ongoing pandemic.


## VI. Ridership

| Category | Current Month |  |  | Full Year |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Actual Aug-23 | Variance to <br> Budget <br> Aug-23 | Variance to Prior Year Aug23 vs. Aug22 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Actual } \\ & 2023 \end{aligned}$ | Variance to <br> Budget <br> 2023 | Variance to Prior Year 2022 |
| Bus | 14,529 | 1,528 | 1,887 | 104,457 | 9,429 | 14,157 |
| Rail | 9,444 | 335 | 1,301 | 64,614 | (180) | 8,720 |
| Rail to Rail Transfers | 1,667 | (18) | 161 | 11,580 | 27 | 1,073 |
| Total | 25,640 | 1,846 | 3,349 | 180,650 | 9,276 | 23,950 |

- Ridership for the month of August was 25.6 million and was 1.8 million higher than budget and 3.3 million higher than prior year.
- Calendar adjusted ridership was up $15.2 \%$ from prior year due to continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Ridership for the year-to-date was 180.7 million and was 9.3 million higher than budget and 24.0 million higher than the prior year-to-date.
- Calendar adjusted ridership was up $15.4 \%$ from the prior year-to-date.
- More details on ridership can be found in the August Ridership Report.

Cash \& Liquidity




Cash \& Liquidity Cont'd


Revenue



Revenue Cont'd




Revenue Cont'd




Expenses




Expenses Cont'd




Expenses Cont'd



| Cash | Aug-22 | Sep-22 | Oct-22 | Nov-22 | Dec-22 | Jan-23 | Feb-23 | Mar-23 | Apr-23 | May-23 | Jun-23 | Jul-23 | Aug-23 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unrestricted Cash | 146 | 179 | 186 | 186 | 134 | 119 | 168 | 193 | 158 | 123 | 191 | 118 | 108 |
| Damage Reserve | 73 | 73 | 79 | 79 | 78 | 78 | 78 | 63 | 73 | 73 | 70 | 69 | 69 |
| Funds Owed by RTA | 333 | 342 | 336 | 358 | 383 | 398 | 341 | 312 | 326 | 340 | 361 | 366 | 329 |
| Trust Portfolio Assets | 609 | 680 | 692 | 689 | 524 | 519 | 528 | 542 | 558 | 571 | 419 | 492 | 563 |
| Revenue | Aug-22 | Sep-22 | Oct-22 | Nov-22 | Dec-22 | Jan-23 | Feb-23 | Mar-23 | Apr-23 | May-23 | Jun-23 | Jul-23 | Aug-23 |
| Fare \& Pass Revenue | 27,066 | 27,555 | 28,731 | 25,695 | 20,379 | 24,665 | 23,168 | 26,982 | 25,320 | 29,088 | 28,602 | 27,329 | 30,118 |
| Reduced Fare Subsidy | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 | 1,217 |
| Advertising, Charter, Concession | 2,294 | 2,493 | 2,635 | 2,838 | 4,266 | 2,793 | 3,957 | 2,846 | 2,311 | 2,504 | 2,060 | 1,984 | 1,923 |
| Investment Income | 325 | 359 | 450 | 529 | 1,346 | 633 | 582 | 689 | 1,099 | 901 | 613 | 866 | 602 |
| Statutory Required Contribution | - | - | 2,000 | 3,000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Revenue | 2,406 | 2,729 | 2,792 | 2,468 | 2,155 | 1,768 | 1,860 | 1,800 | 1,888 | 1,966 | 1,920 | 2,162 | 2,038 |
| Total System Generated Revenue | 33,308 | 34,354 | 37,826 | 35,746 | 29,363 | 31,076 | 30,785 | 33,535 | 31,835 | 35,676 | 34,412 | 33,558 | 35,898 |
| Total Public Funding | 98,476 | 104,453 | 93,360 | 95,090 | 108,099 | 115,664 | 107,728 | 113,453 | 104,337 | 104,117 | 109,341 | 105,275 | 108,960 |
| Expenses | Aug-22 | Sep-22 | Oct-22 | Nov-22 | Dec-22 | Jan-23 | Feb-23 | Mar-23 | Apr-23 | May-23 | Jun-23 | Jul-23 | Aug-23 |
| Labor | 96,015 | 95,722 | 98,929 | 96,881 | 99,360 | 100,139 | 96,413 | 103,624 | 94,137 | 97,980 | 99,957 | 99,066 | 104,436 |
| Material | 9,369 | 8,604 | 7,906 | 7,805 | 12,009 | 9,990 | 9,341 | 10,080 | 8,773 | 9,167 | 9,463 | 9,416 | 9,447 |
| Fuel | 2,579 | 2,248 | 2,024 | 2,097 | 2,439 | 3,530 | 3,143 | 3,464 | 2,900 | 3,157 | 3,110 | 3,027 | 3,410 |
| Power | 691 | 998 | 919 | 1,428 | 1,861 | 2,104 | 1,476 | 1,935 | 1,847 | 2,156 | 2,422 | 2,880 | 2,750 |
| Provision Injuries \& Damages | 2,640 | 2,640 | 2,640 | 2,640 | 2,640 | 1,683 | 1,683 | 1,683 | 1,683 | 1,683 | 1,683 | 1,683 | 1,683 |
| Purchase of Security Services | 2,150 | 2,243 | 2,300 | 2,464 | 2,493 | 3,400 | 3,489 | 3,576 | 4,317 | 4,753 | 4,986 | 5,509 | 5,994 |
| Other Expenses | 18,341 | 26,351 | 16,468 | 17,521 | 16,660 | 25,893 | 22,967 | 22,624 | 22,515 | 20,896 | 22,132 | 17,252 | 17,137 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 131,785 | 138,807 | 131,186 | 130,836 | 137,462 | 146,740 | 138,513 | 146,988 | 136,172 | 139,793 | 143,753 | 138,833 | 144,858 |

