



## ABBREVIATED PACKET IN LIEU OF A BOARD MEETING

*Information not viewable is available upon request through the Clerk of the Board phone: 813-384-6552 or e-mail: [petitl@goHART.org](mailto:petitl@goHART.org)*

### AGENDA

#### MEMBERSHIP

##### City of Tampa Representatives

Michael English ~ President  
Brandon Campbell  
Brad Cooke  
Councilmember Guido Maniscalco  
David Mechanik

##### Hillsborough Transit Authority

Melanie Williams ~ Secretary-Treasurer  
Councilmember Alan Clendenin  
Adam Nebrich  
Councilmember Gil Schisler ~ *Alternate*

#### 1. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- 1.a. Regular Board of Directors Meeting ~ January 27, 2026  
[Meeting Minutes](#)

#### 2. MARKETING SERVICES REPORT

- 2.a. January 2026  
[Report](#)

#### 3. STREETCAR SYSTEM PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 3.a. January 2026  
[Report](#)

#### 4. COMPLIANCE REPORTS (REVIEW AND FILE)

- 4.a. City of Tampa Financial Statements Beyond the Month Ending September 30, 2025  
FY2025 year-end financial reports beyond the month of September 30, 2025 will be audited by the City of Tampa external auditors. They will be submitted to the THS Board of Directors for final approval in Spring 2026.



**Meeting Minutes**

*\*Pending Approval\**

**Attendance via Communications Media Technology (CMT)**

**Attendance in Person**

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>HART - Staff Members</b>	<b>(14)</b>
Michael English, President		Melissa Ajabshir	
Brandon Campbell		Brian Allan	
Councilmember Alan Clendenin		Richard Campbell	
Brad Cooke		Scott Drainville	
Councilmember Gil Schisler		Danielle Jackson	
Melanie Williams		Lena Petit	
		Moise Pluviose	
		Melonie Williams	
		Frank Wyszynski	
<b>Board Member Absent</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>Others Present</b>	<b>(2)</b>
		Chris Hutchcraft, City of Tampa	
		David Smolker	

**Attendance via Communications Media Technology (CMT)**

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>HART - Staff Members</b>	<b>(0)</b>
David Mechanik			
Councilmember Guido Maniscalco			
		<b>Other Present</b>	<b>(1)</b>
		Bill Taulbee, The Baldwin Group	

The January 27, 2026, THS Board of Directors meeting was held in hybrid format with quorum physically present in the Florida Conference Room at the HART Administrative Office, 1201 East 7th Avenue, Tampa, Florida, with the rest of the Board members participating via Communication Media Technology (CMT).

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Michael English called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Roll call was performed, and there was a physical quorum present to take action.



**Meeting Minutes**  
**\*Pending Approval\***

**WELCOME NEW AND REAPPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS**

President English welcomed new HART Board Appointee Councilmember Alan Clendenin, reappointed Member HART Board Director Melanie Williams; and HART appointed Alternates Councilmember Gil Schisler and HART Board Member Adam Nebrich.

**PUBLIC INPUT (3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)**

There was no one pre-registered or present to provide public comment.

**ELECTION OF BOARD VICE CHAIR**

***Director Clendenin moved to hold off on the election until the HART Board finalized its appointment. Director Mechanik seconded. All Board members present voted aye. The motion carried unanimously.***

*The Election of the Board Vice Chair was deferred until the time when the HART Board finalizes its appointments.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular Board of Directors Meetings ~ August 26, 2025, and November 18, 2025

***Director Schisler moved and Director Williams seconded approval of the August 26, 2025 and November 18, 2025, Board of Directors meeting minutes. All Board members present voted aye. The motion carried unanimously.***

**ACTION ITEM**

**Resolution #R2026-01-01 ~ To Ratify President English Authorization for Extra Service During Gasparilla Parade on Saturday, January 31, 2026**

Brian Allan presented the service levels and the historic ridership to support the operations of the extra service during the Gasparilla Parade.

***Director Schisler moved and Director Clendenin seconded a motion to approve Resolution #R2026-01-01 ~ To Ratify President English Authorization for Extra Service During Gasparilla Parade on Saturday, January 31, 2026. All Board members present voted aye. The motion carried unanimously.***



**Meeting Minutes**  
**\*Pending Approval\***

**MARKETING SERVICE REPORT**

Mr. Frank Wyszynski, HART Manager of Communications and Marketing, presented the Marketing Services Report for December 2025.

**STREETCAR PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Mr. Allan presented the Streetcar Performance Report for December 2025.

**LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mr. David Smolker, THS Board General Counsel, reported on two potential claims filed against THS that were allegedly the result of an accident that occurred on January 3, 2026, around 3:30 p.m. He continued that their law firm gave notice to produce the insurance policy for their two clients. Mr. Smolker asked Mr. Allan to provide more details on the incident.

Mr. Allan stated that each streetcar had eight cameras installed to catch any accidents and incidents. He explained that it was a rainy day when a car pulled in front of the streetcar carrying approximately 40 passengers near the Port of Tampa Bay. Mr. Allan summarized that the streetcar struck the private vehicle and pushed it out of the way as it came to a gradual stop. He stated that all the interior pictures showed that nobody inside the car even stumbled in the accident.

Mr. Smolker stated that the next steps were to forward this to the insurance carrier to investigate to determine the validity of the claim and report it to their insurance company.

Director Mechanik asked about the nature of the claim, whether it was personal injury or vehicle damage.

Mr. Smolker clarified that the claimants were passengers on the streetcar, not the owners of the vehicles. He added that any possible damage to the vehicles was investigated by the Tampa Police Department that cited the driver of the car. Mr. Smolker noted that, preliminarily, the claim did not look particularly strong, but they were claiming that they as passengers on the streetcar during this accident, allegedly suffered some injuries, which was the extent of the information know at that point. He ended that he would report back as it developed.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

**CXS Insurance Policy**

President English introduced Mr. Bill Taulbee from The Baldwin Group, who handled the insurance for the THS Board and asked Mr. Smolker to provide context for the insurance.

Mr. Smolker summarized that the THS was required by contract each year to provide an



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**\*Pending Approval\***

insurance policy for the benefit of the CSX rail lines, which was a very expensive policy. He further summarized that the current policy expired on February 10, 2026 so approval for a new policy would be needed and added that the premium would not change in expense. He referred to Mr. Taulbee for details.

Mr. Taulbee agreed that the CSX insurance policy was a very expensive policy and had gone up significantly in price over the past few years; but the good news was that a flat renewal with no increase was received. He spoke about the limited insurance market and the average of a 26% increase for railroad liability year over year, which explained the benefit of the flat renewal. Mr. Taulbee explained that the variable for the insurance was the exposure base, which included updated ridership, payroll and revenue which all increased. He stated that the policy will meet the requirements of the CSX agreement and he was hopeful to come in at a lower expense with some overseas insurance brokers.

Director Williams asked for clarification that all conversations and other avenues in order to get this policy down had been exhausted.

Mr. Smolker confirmed, noting the contractual relationship with CSX that requires the insurance.

Director Clendenin asked for confirmation that the rest of the policy would remain the same, including the limits and coverage.

Mr. Taulbee answered affirmatively and detailed the layers of the policy.

Director Mechanik asked if the retention amount was the same.

Mr. Taulbee answered affirmatively noting that the retention on the policy since 2020 was \$300,000 as opposed to \$2 million prior.

Director Mechanik inquired if the drop in retention amount was a reflection of no accidents at the crossing.

Mr. Taulbee stated that it would factor in, but it was more a function of the limit of liability being lowered.

Director Mechanik asked if the policy covered instances not involving the railroad crossing.

Mr. Taulbee answered affirmatively noting that the policy was a liability policy for Tampa Historic Streetcar, noting that even the previously mentioned claims could impact future premiums if found to be substantial, even though they do not involve the crossing.

Director Schisler asked about the amount budgeted for insurance expense and if the expense included both the insurance premium and the secondary invoice for risk



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management.

Mr. Drainville stated that staff would return with that information.

Director Schisler asked if the policy was split in terms of liability.

Mr. Taulbee confirmed that the policy was split with limits of liability at two separate amounts to equal the full amount required.

Ms. Melonie Williams, Director of Budget and Grants, responded that the expense budgeted for the CSX insurance was \$1,260,000.

Director Mechanik moved to approve or ratify President English's decision on the insurance. Director Schisler seconded.

Director Cooke asked about the insurance limits if there was no CSX Agreement, and about the resultant premium estimate differential.

Mr. Taulbee stated that \$25 million per occurrence with \$50 million aggregate was more than the streetcar should have and made the service a target with exposure. He recommended \$10 million per occurrence with \$20-25 million aggregate, which would probably drop the premium by \$250,000.

Director Campbell inquired if the quotes from the remaining carriers were expected to be received before the current policy expired, and if not, was there a contingency.

Mr. Taulbee explained that he expected the remaining quotes by the end of the current week noting that insurance can not be accepted once President English binds the policy.

***Director Campbell offered a friendly amendment to approve President English's execution of the renewal pending the receipt of any additional quotes that may be below cost. Director Williams seconded the amendment. All Board members present voted aye. The motion carried unanimously.***

Update on the Streetcar Extension Project

President English asked Director Campbell for an update on the streetcar extension project.

Director Campbell stated that City staff recently provided two different reports to City Council on the ongoing project development effort for the streetcar extension study; the first was a written quarterly report, and the second was a more comprehensive, major project written report for this week. He continued that there were two different ongoing work orders with a consultant, HDR, the first was a study, due in April, of the existing special assessment which accumulated about \$1.7 million and options to modify considering the future alignment the additional area and the purpose of commuting over



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tourism. Director Campbell explained that the other ongoing work order was a draft schedule for tasks such as the alignment study, expected in the next three weeks, which he summarized and an operational analysis, expected in the summer. He mentioned that the project was no longer intending to modernize the streetcar, but rather extend the historic replica system, which complicated the project due to the high block loading system for ADA access. Director Campbell stated that the biggest question was how to pay for the extension and service, which HDR would complete by September. He stated that there were a lot of steps in between now and the end of the year, to ensure that the concerns of the system and the potential drawbacks were addressed, hurdles were handled in a comprehensive and effective way.

Director Clendenin noted that this was one of the agenda items that he pursued after winning his election and explained that it was hard to find traction the first year; but Director Campbell, in his capacity at the City of Tampa, with his staff have moved the project forward and has been extraordinarily responsive even through the challenges. He spoke to the modernization noting that it would be preferable by most, but was too cost-prohibitive.

Director Campbell added that the project was mindful of the potential needs should a future modernization effort be put forth.

Director Schisler asked about the earliest date to turn dirt.

Director Campbell stated that he could not answer that question in a way that is both accurate and honest.

Director Schisler stated that he was not a fan of the previous plan to modernize the system and thanked Director Campbell for keeping the historic streetcars.

Director Clendenin agreed that he preferred the historic vehicles versus the modernized ones, but the modernization could provide faster, quicker loading vehicles to become a real transportation option for expansion east or west as opposed to the contained system, what currently serves.

Director Campbell added that City staff was simultaneously looking at a better connection between the airport and downtown, and do not believe that a historic replica streetcar could perform well.

Director Cooke inquired if the modern streetcars had greater capacity.

Director Campbell answered affirmatively noting that the ADA boardings could be done more quickly to maintain the schedule.

Director Cooke asked if the increased ridership accommodated by the larger cars could affect the funding received for an operating basis as well.



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Director Campbell responded that part of the ratings process with the Federal Transportation Agency, FDA, was projected ridership numbers because they want to ensure that the investment would serve a user base worth their money. He added that he intended to have a sufficient user base for that ratings process.

Director Clendenin mentioned bicycle capacity noting that the historic cars would have to be backward compatible to have other mobility options to bring with them to finish their trips. He noted that modernize the fleet would solve that problem.

**Change of Meeting Time**

President English noted that the meeting time had been changed last year to start at 1:00 p.m., but he suggested moving the meeting time to 2:00 p.m. He noted a conflict with the Downtown Partnership Board, which met the same day at 12:00 p.m.

Director Maniscalco noted a conflict with the Tampa Theater Board Meeting and that he usually had to miss part of the meeting to arrive at the THS Board Meeting.

***Director Mechanik made a motion, seconded by Director Schisler, to move the meeting start time to 2:00 p.m. All Board members present voted aye. The motion carried unanimously.***

**HART CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mr. Scott Drainville, HART Chief Executive Officer, reported that HART staff were scheduled to meet with the City of Tampa Finance Department to discuss the upcoming FY 2027 streetcar and THS budget. He also reported that, on November 13, 2025, the City of Tampa did pay the FY25 indirect costs in full of \$881,720.12.

**COMPLIANCE REPORT (REVIEW AND FILE)**

City of Tampa financial statements for the month ending September 30, 2025, was included in the packet.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Director Cooke requested an updated presentation on any of the future reports on the streetcar extension at the appropriate times.

**ADJOURNMENT**



**Meeting Minutes**  
**\*Pending Approval\***

The meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

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**Michael English, President**  
**THS Board of Directors**

**ATTEST:**

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**Melanie Williams, Secretary-Treasurer**  
**THS Board of Directors**

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**David Smolker**  
**THS Board General Counsel**

## *THS Marketing Services Report ~ January 2026*

### **THS Marketing Collateral and Graphic Support**

Collateral and graphic support included: Gasparilla Service Material (Maps, Signage, Station Kiosks, Patron Notices, Social, Web) | Streetcar Live January Entertainment – Black & Tenn (X, Facebook, Instagram)

### **Gasparilla**

With an estimated 300,000 pirates descending on downtown Tampa for the Gasparilla Parade, HART staff and local officials encouraged attendees to choose transit—utilizing HART bus services and the TECO Line Streetcar—to travel to and from the festivities.

The TECO Line Streetcar operated continuous service throughout the day, and HART supplemented operations with free bus and van shuttles to accommodate high demand and support overflow streetcar riders.



In total, **15,185 passengers** rode the TECO Line Streetcar and HART shuttle services during Gasparilla:

- TECO Line Streetcar: 7,993 riders
- HART Bus Shuttle: 7,191 riders

### **Streetcar Live**

The Streetcar Live series kicked off 2026 with island vibes from **Black & Tenn**, a roots reggae duo who brought their signature sound aboard the TECO Line Streetcar.

The long-running program showcases local musical talent aboard the TECO Line Streetcar and is presented in partnership with the Gasparilla Music Festival. The series continues to draw strong community interest and supports our ongoing efforts to enhance the rider experience and engage the local arts community.



## Streetcar Service to Downtown/Ybor Events

Staff promoted streetcar service in support of several downtown and Ybor City events:

- Ringling Bros
- Winter Jam
- Florida Music Education Association Conference
- PBR
- Bert Kreischer
- Kings of Leon
- Tampa Bay Lightning games
- Mayor’s Food Truck Fiesta
- Rock the Park



## Media Coverage

- **National Geographic** – [Taste your way around Tampa Bay, Florida’s emerging food hotspot | National Geographic](#) (streetcar referenced)
- **Islands Magazine** - [Between Busch Gardens And The Iconic Ybor City Is Tampa's Secret Trendy Neighborhood](#) (streetcar referenced)
- **FOX 13** - [Gasparilla 2026 Guide: Here’s what you need to know | FOX 13 Tampa Bay](#)
- **Tampa Bay Times** - [With pirates, hockey and more, Tampa preps for packed Gasparilla weekend](#)
- **WFLA** - [Heavy traffic in Tampa this weekend for Gasparilla, NHL Stadium Series and other events | WFLA](#) (streetcar referenced)
- **Florida Politics** - [Jane Castor braces for pirate raid as Gasparilla approaches Tampa](#)
- **Spectrum News 9** - [Gasparilla transportation](#)
- **WUSF** - [What to know about 2026 Gasparilla | WUSF](#)
- **WTSP** - [Transportation to Gasparilla](#)

Prepared by: Frank Wyszynski, Manager of Marketing and Communications

Attachment: Vector Media Monthly Sales Report – January 2026





## STREETCAR SYSTEM PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2026

### MISSED TRIPS

The TECO Line Streetcar System delivered 96.7 % of the contracted 4,238 trips for January with 138 reported missed trips. The missed trips were caused by mechanical issues (92 trips), a shortage of manpower (32 trips), the accidents listed below (12 trips) and a shortage of vehicles (2 trips).

### ON-TIME DEPARTURES

In January, there were 53 reported late departures; On Time Performance (OTP) was 98.7 %.

### ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

There were two accidents in January:

January 3 – Streetcar 435 was travelling northbound at Kennedy Boulevard and Channelside Drive when a Honda Accord turned in front of the streetcar and was struck by Streetcar 435. There were 40 passengers on Streetcar 435, and none of them claimed injury. TPD responded and cited the driver of the Honda for the accident. Streetcar 435 received only minor damage in the accident.

January 26 – at 10:31PM, the motorman of Streetcar #431 reported being involved in an accident on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 19<sup>th</sup> Street. A mid-sized black hatchback traveling westbound on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue turned northbound onto 19<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the Streetcar causing contact to the passenger side of the vehicle and the front of the Streetcar. The vehicle left the scene traveling westbound on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There were 2 patrons on the car at the time of the accident and neither reported injury. Tampa Police responded, but could not locate the vehicle.

### SPECIAL SERVICE

The Streetcar System provided 6 hours additional service in January for the Gasparilla Pirate Festival.

### COMPONENT PERFORMANCE

- Ridership for January

<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
118,218	106,187	112,430

Gasparilla Ridership: 7,993

- Right of way and Interlocking Report – all track inspections/maintenance were completed as scheduled. The right of way and CSX Interlocking are inspected every morning by HART personnel.
- OCS Report – All inspections were completed as scheduled.
- ADA Bridge Mechanism – There were 166 ADA boardings with no reported problems.
- Substations – All monthly service was completed on the Substations.



**VEHICLE MAINTENANCE**

- All maintenance on the streetcars is current.
- 48 service calls were performed in January.
- 2 streetcars required a tow and in January.

**SYSTEM CHANGES**

Three motormen started training on January 20, 2026. One mechanic position remains open.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The one remaining tree, and all of the tree grates were removed from Dick Greco Plaza and the former tree locations were filled in with concrete to eliminate tripping hazards.

Service	Performed in January
A	20
B	2
C	1
E	5
AC PM	0

*Prepared by: Brian Allan, HART Director of Streetcar Operations*

*Reviewed by: Sean M. McCarthy, HART Chief Operations Officer*