RESOLUTION NO. __

A RESOLUTION TO REPLACE PRIOR RESOLUTION 581 ESTABLISHING A POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR ORAL PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AT BOARD MEETINGS OF THE CHATTANOOGA AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority, which also serves as the Chattanooga Parking Authority ("CARTA"), holds regular Board meetings at least six (6) times per calendar year, which meetings are open to attendance by members of the general public; and

WHEREAS, members of the general public from time to time request the opportunity to address the CARTA Board pertaining to items which may or may not be part of the scheduled business agenda for the Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide an appropriate structure for submission of oral public comments at CARTA Board meetings while also promoting the efficient management of the business to be addressed by the Board at such meetings, the Board of Directors of CARTA previously deemed it advisable to establish policies and procedures to govern oral presentations at Board meetings when requested by members of the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Board also previously deemed it advisable that such policies and procedures promote the conveyance of information to CARTA's Board but do not become disruptive of CARTA's ability to carry out the business of the Board;

WHEREAS, CARTA's Board previously adopted Resolution 581 at its meeting on August 16, 2018, to establish such policies and procedures, and now desires to update these policies and procedures and to replace prior Resolution 581 with this amended statement of policies and procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of CARTA hereby adopts and implements the following revised and updated statement of policies and procedures with respect to oral public presentations at CARTA's Board meetings, and hereby replaces the provisions of prior Resolution 581:

1. The CARTA Board of Directors monthly meetings are designated and limited public forum for members of the public to share thoughts and opinions related to specified subject matters. This policy is intended to allow members of the public a fair and adequate opportunity to be heard; to assure that the regular agenda, goals, and purpose of the Board are completed; to recognize the voluntary nature of the Board's time; and to use that time efficiently.

2. Each speaker wishing to address CARTA's Board shall identify the subject matter and topic of the requested presentation to CARTA's Board Chair and Vice Chair.

3. Subject matters and topics which may be addressed in oral presentation to CARTA's Board shall be limited to matters reasonably connected to the business, operations, and policies of CARTA.

4. Subject matters and topics involving personal matters, personal concerns, and/or disagreements regarding CARTA personnel decisions, internal office politics, and operational decisions properly addressed by CARTA management will not be permitted unless they are of public concern and outweigh CARTA's interest as an employer, in promoting the efficiency of its public services.

5. The subject matters and topics are confined because of (a) CARTA's limited role as a regional transit authority and parking authority for the City of Chattanooga, and (ii) CARTA's Board's desire to conduct meetings in a timely, productive, efficient, and orderly fashion.

6. CARTA' s Board will not interfere with or discriminate on the basis of the content of a speaker's presentation; however, the Board Chair, or Vice Chair if the Chair is unavailable, may stop a presentation for any of the specific reasons permitted by this Resolution.

7. Each speaker shall limit his or her remarks to no more than five (5) minutes, unless permission for additional time is granted by CARTA's Board Chair, or Vice Chair if the Chair is unavailable.

8. Subject matters and topics will not be addressed in back-to-back meetings unless the Board Chair and Vice Chair determine it necessary and/or appropriate, and the Board Chair and Vice Chair may deny additional speaking requests if the request to speak will be repetitive to previous speeches covering the same subject matter and/or topics by the same or different presenters.

9. No speaker shall use vulgar or obscene language.

10. No speaker shall use disruptive and antagonistic speech.

11. No speaker shall be allowed to appear before CARTA's Board more than two times during any consecutive four-month period.

12. No speaker shall be allowed to address the Board more than once at a Board meeting.

13. A speaker may only address the Board from a location within the Board meeting room.

14. Unless due to a disability, no sound amplification system or illumination system may be used by any speaker to address the CARTA Board inside the meeting room without prior approval by CARTA.

15. No more than three (3) persons shall be allowed to address the same topic at any one Board meeting, unless approval is given by the Board Chair and Vice Chair in advance.

16. Regardless the number of appearances permitted and/or presentations scheduled during a board meeting, the Board Chair, or Vice Chair if the Chair is unavailable, may limit, stop or prevent appearances that are frivolous, repetitive, and/or irrelevant at any time. The Board

Chair, or Vice Chair if the Chair is unavailable, may also limit, stop or prevent appearances that are harassing and have the potential to disrupt the meeting or threatens illegal acts.

17. Any presentation made to the Board may be terminated by the Chair, or Vice Chair if the Chair is unavailable, if the speaker violates or fails to comply with the foregoing procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing policies and procedures are adopted to be implemented immediately upon approval.

ADOPTED:

_____, 2026
Date

_____
Johan de Nysschen, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Secretary – CARTA Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

_____
Miller & Martin PLLC
CARTA Legal Counsel