CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT – FOR BOARD ACTION

900 East Gwinnett Street · Savannah, GA 31401

AGENDA NO: 2027-07-19-001

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 28, 2026

PROJECT NAME: Board Action Item – Summer 2026 Service Change

DEPARTMENT: Planning and Infrastructure Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

This Board Action Item recommends Summer 2026 service changes for Routes 14 (Abercorn), 25 (MLK), 31 (Skidaway/Sandfly), 3 (West Chatham), 10 (East Savannah), 28 (Waters), 3B (Augusta Avenue), 4 (Barnard), 6 (Cross Town), 11 (Candler), and 12 (Henry).

DATE AND IDENTIFICATION OF PRIOR BRIEFING OR AUTHORIZING ACTION *[If applicable]*:

This request follows the July 2025 Service Change AGENDA NO: 2026-08-11-004 presented and approved by the Board on May 27, 2025, and minor service changes in November 2025 AGENDA NO: 2026-10-019-009; AGENDA NO: 2026-10-019-013 presented and approved on October 28, 2025, and the April 2026 Service change AGENDA NO: 2026-10-019-013 presented and approved by the Board on March 24, 2026.

ISSUE:

In preparation for the Summer 2026 changes CAT has worked with a consultant from Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP, seeking adjustments to various routes across the footprint. Consistent with previous systemwide service changes, the Scheduling Committee will review stop requests, eliminations, and minor routing adjustments in a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 30th at 10am. The Staff recommendations for adjustments are detailed by route in this memorandum.

DISCUSSION:

The changes below are considered minor transit adjustments per CAT's Transit Service Policy Guidelines. Upon Board approval, staff will implement these changes in the operational systems to preserve schedule integrity and data quality. The term "trippers" used below are doing specialized shorter runs during morning or evening rush hours to accommodate rush hour demand. The table below provides an overview of planned minor route modifications.

Routes	March 2026 Weekly Revenue Miles	Proposed July 2026 Weekly Revenue Miles	Proposed Change in Weekly Revenue Miles	Difference (+/-)	March 2026 Weekly Revenue Hours	Proposed July 2026 Weekly Revenue Hours	Proposed Change in Weekly Revenue Hours	Difference (+/-)	March 2026 Weekday Start	March 2026 Weekday End	March 2026 Span of Service	Proposed July 2026 Weekday Start	Proposed July 2026 Weekday End	Proposed July 2026 Span of Service	Proposed Changes Span of Service	Difference (+/-)	Description of Change
10	2,950.35	2,504.15	-446.20	-15.1%	184.9	157.4	-27.5	-14.8%	5:54	21:35	15:41	5:54	21:35	15:41	0:00	0.0%	WKDY: 2 --> 1 bus all day with AM (7AM-10:30AM) and PM (2:30PM-7:30PM) trippers; Saturday route ends at 7:21PM at PennWaller/Johnny Mercer; regular Sunday service
11	510.05	431.85	-78.20	-15.3%	59.3	50.2	-9.2	-15.4%	6:25	18:17	11:52	6:25	18:17	11:52	0:00	0.0%	WKDY: AM and PM tripper -AM (6:25-11:30am) and 1:50-6:17pm) trippers only
12	906.52	766.99	-139.53	-15.4%	84.6	72.5	-12.1	-14.3%	6:24	18:46	12:22	6:24	17:18	10:54	-1:28	-11.9%	WKDY: AM and PM trippers - (6:24-12:46) and PM (1:50-5:18) trippers only
14	5,133.63	4,861.67	-271.96	-5.3%	494.5	424.9	-69.6	-14.1%	5:22	22:12	16:50	5:30	22:05	16:35	-0:15	-1.5%	WKDY: 5 --> 4 buses all day with PM 92:30PM -6:30PM) tripper SAT: 4 --> 3 buses all day with PM (1:30 PM - 5:30PM) tripper; regular Sunday service
17	3,821.16	3,821.16	0.00	0.0%	188.5	188.5	0.0	0.0%	6:00	21:47	15:47	6:00	21:47	15:47	0:00	0.0%	No changes
25	4,027.74	3,754.44	-273.30	-6.8%	272.3	234.1	-38.2	-14.0%	5:06	21:22	16:16	5:06	21:05	15:59	-0:17	-1.7%	WKDY: 3 --> 2 buses all day with PM (12:00PM - 8:00PM) PM tripper; regular Saturday and Sunday service
27	1,759.61	1,759.61	0.00	0.0%	181.3	181.3	0.0	0.0%	5:20	21:20	16:00	5:20	21:20	16:00	0:00	0.0%	No changes
28	1,246.88	1,166.44	-80.44	-6.5%	120.9	101.7	-19.2	-15.9%	6:00	19:48	13:48	6:00	19:43	13:43	-0:05	-0.6%	WKDY: (1) bus all day; WKDY Eliminate AM tripper, travel to Hodgson's Memorial on both IB and OB trips
3	3,054.63	2,626.93	-427.70	-14.0%	174.6	149.2	-25.4	-14.6%	5:00	20:55	15:55	5:00	20:55	15:55	0:00	0.0%	WKDY: 2 --> 1 bus all day with AM (6:00AM - 11:00 AM) tripper and PM (2:00 PM to 6:00 PM)trippers; Saturday/Sunday regualr service
31	3,481.37	3,159.83	-321.54	-9.2%	274.2	234.5	-39.7	-14.5%	5:50	22:25	16:35	5:50	22:35	16:45	0:10	1.0%	WKDY: 3 --> 2 buses all day with 3rd bus between 10:30am and 6:30pm SAT: 2 --> 1 bus after 7pm; regular Sunday service
3B	1,182.19	1,017.62	-164.57	-13.9%	91.9	78.1	-13.8	-15.0%	5:00	20:24	15:24	5:00	18:54	13:54	-1:30	-9.7%	WKDY: Eliminate two midday trips and last three trips; end route at 7:24PM at ITC; Eliminate 1st trip at 5:00AM outbound an last 8:00 PM trip Inbounnd ending route at 7:58 PM at Groves HS
4	940.91	803.14	-137.77	-14.6%	74.5	63.5	-11.0	-14.8%	8:00	19:55	11:55	7:00	17:55	10:55	-1:00	-8.4%	WKDY: (1) bus all day ending at ITC at 5:55PM; lasttrip Saturday ends at 4:55 PM at Walmart Montgomery Crossroads
5	2,638.02	2,638.02	0.00	0.0%	158.0	158.0	0.0	0.0%	5:30	21:25	15:55	5:30	21:25	15:55	0:00	0.0%	No changes
6	2,181.65	1,867.05	-314.60	-14.4%	132.1	112.8	-19.3	-14.6%	5:55	20:55	15:00	5:55	20:55	15:00	0:00	0.0%	WKDY: (1) bus all day; Eliminate AM tripper and start PM (3:55 PM tripper trip at Hodgson Memorial
7D-C	[redacted]																Proposed changes forthcoming for November 2026, in compliance with service enhancements requested by the City of Savannah; providing 100% funding support for Operating and Capital cost associated with the *dot* Shuttles.
7F																	
Total	**33,834.71**	**31,178.90**	**-2,655.81**	**-7.8%**	**2,491.43**	**2,206.57**	**-284.87**	**-11.4%**	**5:00**	**22:25**	**17:25**	**5:00**	**22:35**	**17:35**	**0:10**	**1.0%**	

Staff will continue their operational analysis in preparation for the next service change which will be in late fall of 2026. For Routes 7D and 7F staff proposes moderate modifications planned for implementation during the fall board change to allow time for a public hearing update on DOT Shuttle service enhancements.

PROCUREMENT | COMPLIANCE *(provided by the Procurement Officer)*:

In compliance with Authority policy and the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Chatham Area Transit and Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1324, provides guidance for the service change process. Article 23 Section 1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement states "shall be such additional board changes as may be necessary. Regular board changes will be made as near to March 1st, July 1st, and November 1st as conditions permit."

Staff is presenting and recommending to the Board of Directors the approval of this service change.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Staff recommends minor transit service adjustments for Summer 2026. The proposed changes are consistent with Chatham Area Transit's FY2027 Proposed Operating Budget and Five (5)-Year Capital Plan and will be implemented with no additional operating or capital expenses. These adjustments are intended to enhance service reliability, preserve schedule integrity, and improve data quality.

Staff respectfully request Board approval to accept the Summer 2026 Service Schedule including the proposed minor service changes.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Transit Service Guidelines provides CAT with the ability to implement service changes to its bus service system three (3) times a year. Additionally, per CAT policy requirements for service changes, we must evaluate changes to route schedules, change of route revenue hours/miles and span of service in compliance with CAT's Transit Service Policy Guidelines.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff will implement service adjustments and observe ridership and operational effectiveness of the reconfigurations.

ATTACHMENTS:

Supporting Documentation and Sources attached (included as one single file)

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT:

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION: (to be read into the minutes)

Move to: Staff implementation of the July 2026 Service Changes proposed above with appropriate hours of operation.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES
Department Item Preparer – Prepared by: Mark Gladhill, It Manager/Interim Planning Officer
Department Chief – Reviewed by: Stephanie Cutter, Executive Director / CEO

Procurement | Compliance – Procurement and Compliance Reviewed by: Victor Colon, Procurement/Compliance Manager

Chief Financial Officer – Financial Impact and Budget Reviewed by: Gloria Royal, Interim CFO

Executive Director/CEO - Final Reviewer Stephanie Cutter, Executive Director / CEO

Board of Directors – Final Approval [insert board action]

This section is completed by the Board Administrator
Passed and approved this [insert date] of [insert Month and Year]
Motioned by:
Seconded by:

AGENCY BOARD DESIGNEE:

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Board Approval (signed by Board Chair or Board Administrator)