

Ordinance No. 251053

Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA)

December 16, 2025

Finance, Governance and Public Safety Committee



Background

- Ordinance No. 250679 directed the City Manager to identify \$93.4 million to fully fund the KCATA
 - This **does not** include funding IRIS
- Ordinance No. 251001 – IRIS only
 - Citywide service (May – December) and Northland only service (January – April)
- Ordinance No. 251053 – IRIS and KCATA

\$16 million needed for IRIS and KCATA

	Amount
Fiscal Year 2026 Budget	
KCATA Sales Tax	\$40,680,227
Public Mass Transportation	\$37,212,292
Funding Available	\$77,892,519
Anticipated Expenditures	
2025-2026 KCATA Contract	\$89,892,519
Citywide IRIS Service (May-December)	\$3,368,655
Northland-only IRIS Service (January – April)	\$550,000
Total Costs	\$93,811,174
Additional Funding Needed	(\$15,918,655)

Proposed Funding Summary

(one-time sources)

Fund	Amount
Capital Improvement Sales Tax / Public Mass Transportation	\$5,000,000
Violence Prevention Fund	\$2,586,983
General Fund Contingent Appropriation	\$6,203,729
Unobligated General Fund Balance	\$2,127,943
Available Funding	\$15,918,655

- \$5.0 million Public Mass Transportation Fund available by moving street preservation to Capital Improvement Sales Tax
- \$2.6 million Violence Prevention Funds utilized for KCATA Security
- Utilizes full \$6.2 million General Fund Contingent appropriation and uses fund balance
 - \$830,311 2024-2026 IRIS credit available to offset utilization of unobligated General Fund Balance to \$1,297,632
 - Recommend use of KCATA reserves prior to use of these sources
- KCATA costs reflect route modifications



KCATA Service Modifications

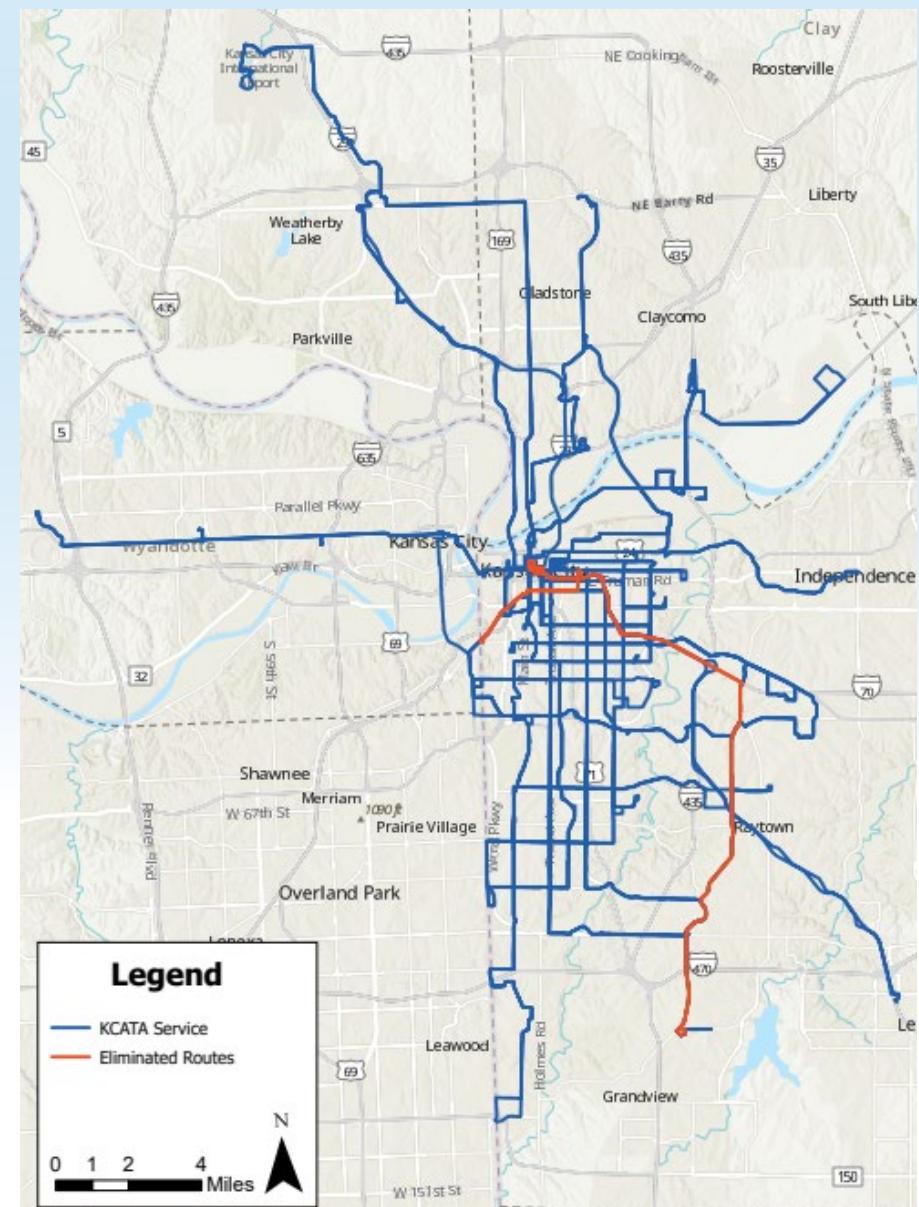


IRIS Service Changes

- IRIS is running as a city-wide operation under a \$500,000/month cap
 - This began May 1, 2025 and will run until next scheduled mark-up, January 4, 2026
- Beginning January 4, 2026 IRIS will experience modifications
 - Service will either be Northland only
 - Northland only = \$3.00 flat fare (\$136,000/month cap)
 - Transportation to fixed-route system is free
 - Will operate in this capacity from January 4, 2026 – April 30, 2026
 - Continuation into 2026-2027 will be discussed in coming months.
 - Opportunities exist to modify the service area as seen fit by City Council

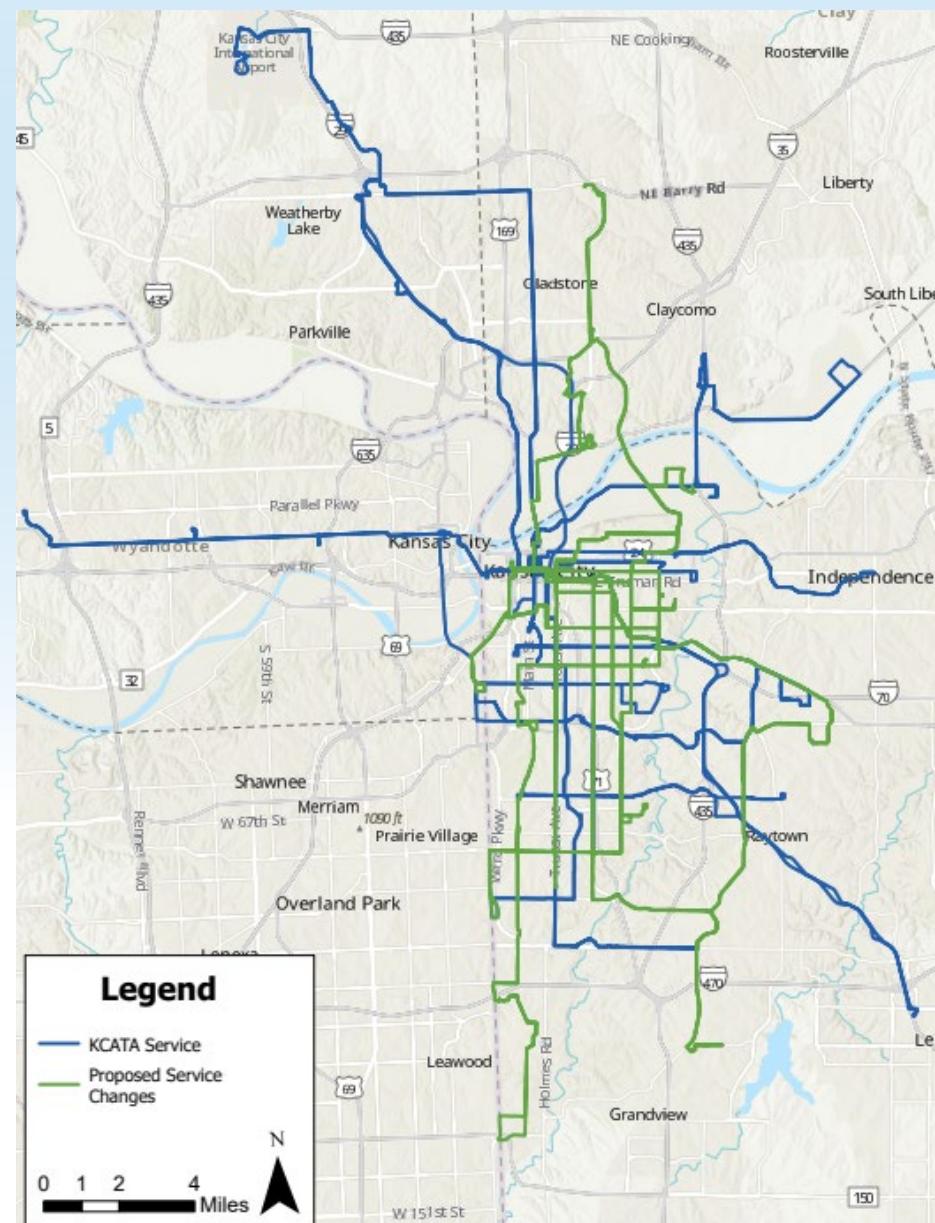
Fixed-route Modifications (Feb 1, 2026-Apr 30, 2026)

- Eliminate Route 19 (~\$131,250)
 - Lowest local fixed-route ridership at 50 daily boardings, \$13.92/boarding
 - Largely duplicative of Route 18 route coverage
- Eliminate Route 29 (~\$198,750)
 - Lowest express fixed-route ridership at 81 daily boardings, \$4.86/boarding
 - Largely duplicative of Route 28 route coverage



Fixed-route Modifications (cont.)

- Modify Hours of Operations (~\$322,500)
 - Select Routes: 11, 12, 18, 21, 23, 25, 27, 28, 50, 57, 71, 75 and 238
 - Operate service on these routes between 6am and 11pm only
 - Affects less than 2% of ridership on select routes



In-service Hours and Frequency

Route Number	Current			Proposed		
	Weekday Hours and Frequency	Saturday Hours and Frequency	Sunday Hours and Frequency	Weekday Hours and Frequency	Saturday Hours and Frequency	Sunday Hours and Frequency
11	5:03am-12:56am 30 minutes	4:51am-10:19pm 62 minutes	4:51am-10:19pm 62 minutes	6:03am-11:35pm 30 minutes	5:55am-10:19pm 62 minutes	5:53am-10:19pm 62 minutes
12	4:40am-11:49pm 45 minutes	4:55am-11:29pm 45 minutes	4:45am-11:17pm 45 minutes	6:10am-11:05pm 45 minutes	6:25am-11:19pm 45 minutes	6:15am-11:07pm 45 minutes
18	6:15am-12:23am 30 minutes	6:43am-12:22am 30 minutes	6:50am-12:23am 60 minutes	6:15am-11:39pm 30 minutes	6:43am-11:22pm 30 minutes	6:50am-11:17pm 60 minutes
19	2:00pm-10:21pm 30 minutes	2:00pm-10:21pm 30 minutes	2:00pm-10:21pm 30 minutes	No service	No service	No service
21	5:15am-7:17pm 60 minutes	7:15am-6:10pm 60 minutes	No service	6:15am-7:17pm 60 minutes	7:15am-6:10pm 60 minutes	No service
23	5:00am-8:32pm 45 minutes	5:05am-8:51pm 60 minutes	5:00am-8:49pm 60 minutes	5:58am-8:32pm 45 minutes	6:05am-8:51pm 60 minutes	6:00am-8:49pm 60 minutes
25	4:42am-6:37pm 30 minutes	5:30am-7:18pm 30 minutes	5:00am-6:37pm 60 minutes	6:00am-6:37pm 30 minutes	6:00am-7:18pm 30 minutes	6:00am-6:37pm 60 minutes
27	5:27am-12:33am 45 minutes	5:17am-12:37am 60 minutes	8:18am-7:38pm 60 minutes	6:12am-11:03pm 45 minutes	6:17am-11:12pm 60 minutes	8:18am-7:38pm 60 minutes

In-service Hours and Frequency (Cont.)

Route Number	Current			Proposed		
	Weekday Hours and Frequency	Saturday Hours and Frequency	Sunday Hours and Frequency	Weekday Hours and Frequency	Saturday Hours and Frequency	Sunday Hours and Frequency
28	5:57am-8:45pm 60 minutes	6:50am-8:35pm 60 minutes	No service	5:57am-8:45pm 60 minutes	6:50am-8:35pm 60 minutes	No service
29	4:49-7:46am, 3:40pm-5:41pm 60 minutes	No service				
50	4:50am-11:16pm 20 minutes	4:50am-11:56pm 20 minutes	6:00am-12:52am 30 minutes	5:55am-11:16pm 20 minutes	5:55am-11:16pm 20 minutes	6:00am-11:21pm 30 minutes
57	5:00am-7:52pm 45 minutes	5:00am-7:51pm 45 minutes	5:10am-7:35pm 60 minutes	6:30am-7:52pm 45 minutes	6:30am-7:51pm 45 minutes	6:09am-7:35pm 60 minutes
71	4:30am-7:15pm 65 minutes	5:05am-7:46pm 60 minutes	5:10am-7:54pm 60 minutes	6:05am-7:15pm 65 minutes	6:05am-7:46pm 60 minutes	6:10am-7:54pm 60 minutes
75	4:28am-7:36pm 65 minutes	5:54am-6:51pm 65 minutes	7:00am-8:42pm 60 minutes	5:54am-7:36pm 65 minutes	5:54am-6:51pm 65 minutes	7:00am-8:42pm 60 minutes
238	4:25am-9:15pm 60 minutes	4:30am-9:28pm 60 minutes	4:30am-9:31pm 60 minutes	6:10am-9:15pm 60 minutes	6:00am-9:28pm 60 minutes	6:00am-9:31pm 60 minutes

Effects on Ridership

Route	Average Daily Boardings		Route Total
	Before 6am	After 11pm	
11	13	9	1,451
12	8	3	857
18	0	7	1,268
21	22	0	521
23	3	0	278
25	12	0	1,592
27	6	3	412
28	9	0	510
35	6	0	594
50	2	2	521
57	5	0	439
71	11	0	431
75	6	0	509
238	6	0	522
Total	108	24	9,905

Other Considerations

- Stair steps into potential service modifications to fit 2026-27 budget
- Provides opportunity for public engagement and equity analyses
 - Allows KCATA to engage riders and community about these and any future changes
 - Allows KCATA to use data to adjust services accordingly to reduce impact to riders
- Provides ample time to evaluate operating costs and needs to allow for future efficiencies to be found

KCATA Fare Update

- Regional Transportation Providers have completed evaluations of 4 qualified technology vendors.
- Recommended vendor to be approved by KCATA board on Wednesday, December 17th.
- Regional Fare Policy to be approved by KCATA Board in January 2026.
- Executed Contract with selected vendor in January 2026.
- Public input/engagement to begin in January of 2026.
- Equity Analysis to begin in January of 2026.
- Fare collection to begin in May/June of 2026.

Additional Considerations

- Funding solutions are one-time and will not be available in FY2027
 - Use of KCATA reserves before City General Fund is recommended
- Route modifications should be considered to achieve long-term savings and reduce future year funding requirements. The City Manager's Office is working with KCATA to provide options.
- Staff from the Finance Department is working with KCATA to ensure proper accounting and transfer of PILOT payments and impact fees resulting from the START program

Questions?