## Statement on Rebuild Illinois

This is a historic day, as Governor J.B. Pritzker signs Rebuild Illinois into law. Today's actions end a decade without a capital bill in our state and usher in the largest infrastructure program in our state's history. It will have transformative effects on the regional transit system for which the RTA, the CTA, Metra, and Pace are responsible.

As we had long advocated, Rebuild Illinois provides the first-ever sustainable "pay as you go" funding that will generate about \$227 million per year for capital investments in the transit system of northeastern Illinois and \$25 million for transit elsewhere in the state. Adding a further \$2.7 billion in bonding revenue for our region over the next five years, the bill begins to address an over-reliance on federal funds for capital and provides the type of consistent funding that is essential for effective planning and programming of projects. While the total falls short of the region's \$30 billion in transit capital needs over the next decade, make no mistake: It is a significant step forward.

In our annual capital and budgetary planning that begins later this summer, the RTA and its three transit Service Boards will work closely with the Illinois Department of Transportation to determine how we can maximize this new funding's benefits for residents and communities across the region.

On behalf of this region's millions of transit riders, we thank Governor Pritzker, all four leaders in the Illinois Senate and House, and the other legislative champions who were critical in passing this landmark capital bill.

Leanne Redden

**Executive Director** 

**Regional Transportation Authority** 

Jim Derwinski

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