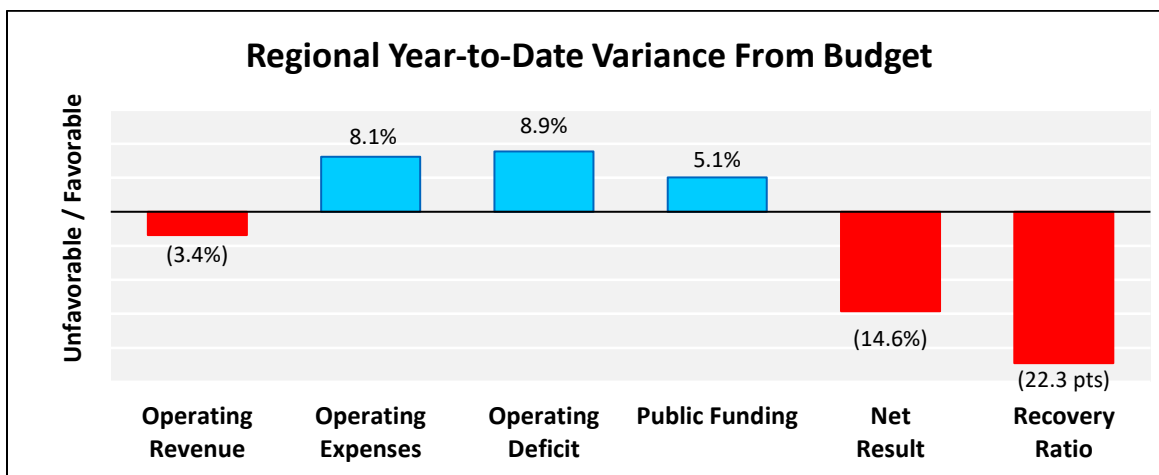# Financial Results Summary – YTD through February 2022

Total operating revenue was 3.4% unfavorable to budget through February, as ridership and fare revenue generally came in lower than budget due to COVID variants. However the Service Boards' operating expenses were favorable to budget by $42.3 million, or 8.1%. The good expense performance more than offset the unfavorable operating revenue, resulting in favorable to budget operating deficits for each Service Board and ADA Paratransit.

Total public funding through February was $12.5 million, or 5.1%, favorable to budget due to strong PTF and Real Estate Transfer Tax results. Indications are that January sales tax will surpass $100 million, a sign of continued strength given that January is typically the lowest month of the year. Because the January sales tax results are not yet available due to the normal 3-month lag, Metra and Pace have temporarily slowed their relief funding drawdowns to avoid over-requisitioning. Through February, the region has drawn down 34.3% of the available relief funding.

Since relief funding is included in the net result and recovery ratio calculations, the lower than expected drawdowns at each Service Board are temporarily negatively impacting both of these metrics in the dashboard. This is most apparent in the Metra results, but is not at all an indication of unsatisfactory financial performance. Through February, the system-wide net result was -$79.1 million, 14.6% unfavorable to budget due solely to the paused relief funding drawdowns.

The lower than budgeted relief funding drawdowns are also dragging recovery ratios down, since relief funding is counted towards the recovery ratio in both the budget and actual results. The year-to-date regional recovery ratio of 40.4% was 22.3 percentage points below budget, with each Service Board falling under budgeted recovery ratio levels. Recovery ratios should increase after relief funding drawdowns resume as actual sales tax results become available for the year.

Regional Year-to-Date Variance From Budget

❖ *Bars below the line indicate unfavorable results, red if greater than 3%, and bars above the line indicate favorable results, light blue if greater than 3%.*

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