**OFFICIAL STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BJCTA Actively Working to Fill Personnel Vacancies**

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala.** (December 5, 2018)– The Birmingham-Jefferson Transit Authority is committed to providing our riders with the best possible service, our partners with the best value in public transportation and our employees with a stable and fulfilling work environment. It is true that the BJCTA has experienced personnel issues in the last few weeks, but the board is taking the necessary steps to stabilize the organization for our partners, staff and the riders who rely on MAX. Our first action is finalizing the details necessary to hire Frank Martin as interim executive director, which was voted on and approved by the board today. He has more than 40 years of transit experience, including time at the BJCTA. Mr. Martin has committed to spend four to six months at the organization, allowing the board to conduct a thorough and extensive search for the right candidate to fill the role of executive director. We are also actively looking for a new chief financial officer. Until that role is filled, we have a qualified consultant in to ensure the responsibilities of the finance department are handled in a timely and efficient manner. The board approved a motion to engage with Warren Averitt to conduct a thorough financial assessment designed to perform a comprehensive review of the organization’s operational areas. The BJCTA Board is determined to provide a transit agency that will take Birmingham into the future and having the right people in place is critical to our success.