

Dear Community Leader,

Today is not just a historic day for TARTA, but a historic moment for all residents of Lucas County and Rossford. For the first time in TARTA's 50 year history, our community is able to consider expanding public transit service throughout Lucas County and implement a new sustainable local funding source to meet the transportation needs of our thriving region.

I am excited about this possibility and I also absolutely know that Team TARTA is ready for this next chapter. I am just one member of an entirely new management team at TARTA who bring successful careers in public transit to this community. For example, while working at the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), I am proud that in 2018, we won the best mid-size transit system in the country.

Other new faces at TARTA have earned accomplished transit careers in Texas, California, Kansas, Michigan and Georgia. Today's TARTA is nothing like the TARTA of three or four years ago. We are professionals who prioritize engaging with our community; we are problem solvers who know the latest innovations in our industry; and we are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of our Lucas County and Rossford residents.

This past year alone, we adopted a new strategic plan; kicked off a redesign of our bus system with TARTA Next; partnered with the V Project on our Vaccine Mobile; won grant funding for new TARPS vehicles; elevated our brand and image; participated in key events such as Toledo Jeep Fest, Solheim Cup and Roche de Boeuf; and saw our TARTA and TARPS ridership returning post-pandemic as we extended hours of service and introduced 30 minute service on our most popular routes.

But TARTA's revival also requires a new funding system and an expansion so it can serve the entire region. That is why the TARTA Board took a bold step and voted to include Lucas County as a member earlier this year. The Authority is also asking for a 0.5 percent sales tax for Lucas County and Rossford to replace two property levies that total 2.5 mills.

If approved, Issue 12 will generate \$30 million each year, allowing TARTA and TARPS to finally expand the service area and hours we operate, restore Sunday service, provide local matching funds to replace our aging bus fleet, and provide funds for "transit-related" street and sidewalk improvements to Lucas County and its municipalities. Quite frankly, the continued change at TARTA needs resources to meet the expectations of our community.

I am proud and inspired by the way our agency has risen to challenges with flexibility, resilience and professionalism. We are committed to be an asset to the entire region and an essential part of our economic growth. This is the new TARTA.

Best Regards,

Laura Koprowski

Chief Executive Officer
Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority
1127 West Central Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43610
Office: 419.245.5219
Mobile: 419.764.5951



<http://tarta.com/>