

Ohio's Public Transit - State Budget Updates



Ohio Public Transit Association **MEMBER NEWS**

Ohio's Public Transit - State Budget Updates

To: Ohio's Public Transit System Leadership

As each of you are aware, the upcoming state budget for public transit is at considerable risk due to the challenges of 2020.

For the next transit budget, discretionary funding was cut in the Ohio Department of Transportation budget by 90% to just \$7.3 mil. Two years ago Public Transit was allocated \$70 mil annually.

I want to thank all of our system leaders and OPTA's Government Relations teams who are working tirelessly to protect the necessary funding for Ohio's essential Public Transit systems.

Last week, over 20 of Ohio's systems provided testimony - live or written - to the Ohio House Finance Committee on the importance of public transit.

OPTA will be providing regular updates on the advocacy and lobbying efforts and timelines and tools you can use to communicate with public officials and stakeholders.

We will also share details on how you can continue to support these efforts.

Thank you to all for your time, passion and support.

Together, we CAN make a difference!

Claudia Amrhein
President, OPTA | General Manager & CEO, PARTA

OPTA STATE BUDGET UPDATE CALL

OPTA will host all system calls to provide updates and take questions the State Budget for Public Transit.

These calls will be scheduled on an as-needed basis.

Go To Meetings Call Access

Wednesday, February 24 | 4:00 pm

State Budget Update - OPTA & Ohio Public Transit

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/234812477>

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (571) 317-3112

Access Code: 234-812-477

SHORTSIGHTED BID TO SLASH PUBLIC TRANSIT FUNDING MUST BE REJECTED!



The Laketrans #10 express bus, which drives commuters back and forth from downtown Cleveland to Lake County, pulls up to a bus stop in front of the Mill-Rose Co. in Mentor on March 12, 2019.

In testimony last week, Laketrans CEO Ben Capelle and other transit experts urged an Ohio House committee to reject Gov. Mike DeWine's proposed savaging of the state transit budget, for economic competitiveness and other reasons. The editorial board concurs.

Lisa DeJong/The Plain Dealer

By Editorial Board, cleveland.com and The Plain Dealer

Gov. Mike DeWine has proposed, as part of Ohio's pending 2021-23 budget, [slashing state aid to mass transit](#) systems, including the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority...

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL EDITORIAL](#)

UPCOMING CONFERENCE CALL MEETINGS

OPTA Member Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 | 1:30 - 3:00 pm

Details and documents for Executive Committee and Board Meetings will be posted to Board Book It prior to the meetings. Visit Board Book It to access meeting documents.

All meetings will continue to be scheduled as conference calls.

For more information, contact admin@ohioneedstransit.org

