

Agenda

1. Call to Order
Roll Call Oral
2. Meeting Minutes
Minutes from September 27, 2018 Meeting (Motion Required) Attachment 2a
3. Guest Communications (limit 2 minutes) Oral
4. General Manager's Report Attachment 4
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Administration Did Not Meet
 - b. Finance Scheduled to Meet on 10/23
 - c. Operations Did Not Meet
 - d. Personnel Did Not Meet
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Resolutions - Roll Call Approval Required

#2018-10-01: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (OHIO EPA) FOR THE 2018 OHIO DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM (DERG).

#2018-10-02: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER, OR HER DESIGNEE, TO PURCHASE TWO (2) TRANSIT BUSES, OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT, AND SPARE PARTS FROM TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT SALES CORPORATION (TESCO).

9. Executive Session - Roll Call Approval Required
10. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting:

November 15, 2018 @ 7 p.m.
PARTA Administration Building
2000 Summit Road
Kent, Ohio 44240

PARTA
PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

PARTA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
2000 SUMMIT ROAD
KENT, OHIO 44240

September 27, 2018

Board Members Present:

Rick Bissler, President
Marge Bjerregaard
Richard Brockett
Jeff Childers

Brian Gray
David Gynn, TPO
Virginia Harris

Timothy Lassar
Frank Vitale
Karen Wise

Staff Present:

Claudia Amrhein
Marcia Fletcher

Frank Hairston
Kelly Jurisch

William Nome, Legal Counsel
Brian Trautman

Members Not Present:

Dominic Bellino (1st excused absence)
Pete Kenworthy (2nd excused absence)

Jeremy Moldvay (3rd excused absence)

Guests Present:

Debbie Redman

Christina West

CALL TO ORDER

President Rick Bissler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. An oral roll call followed, and **a quorum was present.**

Mr. Bissler said the meeting minutes for the August 23, 2018 Board meeting were distributed and he entertained a motion to accept. Mr. Brian Gray made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Marge Bjerregaard seconded the motion. **Motion to approve the minutes, as presented, passed unanimously.**

GUEST COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Bissler asked if anybody would like to address the Board.

Ms. Debbie Redman said she would like to. Her questions were: Who is authorized to cross an empty public transportation bus across a railroad crossing when lights are flashing and gates are down? When a public transportation bus is dropping off passengers, does the bus wait and let passengers cross in front of the bus or does the bus pull away and let passengers cross the street when it's safe to cross?

Mr. Bissler clarified that a guest has two (2) minutes to talk. He thanked Ms. Redman and asked if there were any other guest communications. Hearing none, he moved on to the General Manager's report.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Claudia Amrhein started her report by introducing Ms. Christina West. She said Mayor Seman appointed Ms. West to fill the Ravenna seat that was vacated by Jerry Beach. Just a few days ago, Ms. West indicated that there may be an issue with her appointment due to her employment. Out of an abundance of caution, she will not be sworn in tonight at her request. She's getting independent legal counsel on a question that has been raised. She's anxious to join the Board and PARTA would love to have her join the Board but wants to take a little bit of time and let her sort through this question. Ms. Amrhein thanked Ms. West for her willingness to serve.

Moving on, Ms. Amrhein pointed out that a quick trip will be offered to the Kent Central Gateway after the meeting. One of the new CNG buses will be available to transport anyone who is interested down to KCG to view the passenger amenities that were installed, the monitors that project real time bus information, and a few other things that have changed over the last couple of years. Anyone is welcome to hop on the bus or drive their own car. Those individuals who are on the bus will be brought back to PARTA.

Lastly, Ms. Amrhein was pleased to report that earlier this week PARTA was notified by the FTA that it will be awarded \$165,330 through the Bus and Bus Facilities Grant that was applied for earlier this year. There were only three (3) in Ohio awarded through this grant. It will go towards upgrading the bus wash to be CNG compliant, which is the last big piece of the puzzle that needed funding.

Mr. Bissler said there was a lot of money distributed all over the state of Ohio and the United States through this grant. It was nice to see that PARTA ranked up there.

Mr. Childers asked if the \$165,330 would cover the whole cost.

Ms. Amrhein said it will be close.

Mr. Vitale asked if the Transit Asset Management Plan was a recap of inventory or a strategic plan for next year, what its purpose was, and if future purchases had to be projected.

Ms. Amrhein said it's an academic exercise that is required through FTA regulations. As a transit authority, PARTA receives funds from the Federal Transit Administration. PARTA is required to take good care of its assets and keep them in a state of good repair. Some transit authorities don't do that. Now there are rules that force transits to do it all in the same way and report on it in a national way. PARTA is part of a local, regional, and statewide plan. All that data is reported to a national transit database, which then is used when transits ask for money down the road to determine if assets are in a state of good repair or have exceeded their useful life and are being maintained appropriately. The FTA will use the data to determine if transits are conducting preventative maintenance and handling the grant funds in the way that they were intended. PARTA has plans for future purchases through AMATS for the next four (4) years, which are always being updated.

Mr. Vitale asked if there was a hold back on the CNG fueling station job because of the punch list of items that are not completed yet.

Ms. Amrhein said yes.

Mr. Vitale asked if PARTA must be approved to collect sales tax through the IRS.

Ms. Amrhein said yes and to remit them.

Mr. Vitale asked if PARTA would be supplying Direct Energy with natural gas.

Ms. Amrhein said no, PARTA must purchase natural gas to provide fuel through the fueling station to fuel vehicles.

Mr. Vitale asked about the lack of support of transit in Ohio as noted in the General Manager's Report.

Ms. Amrhein said this is the topic we talked about numerous times last year. The sales tax base was changed by law. Medicaid Managed Care Organizations previously paid sales tax. They were removed from the sales tax base beginning July 1, 2017. State transitional aid offset approximately 72 percent of the loss in 2017-18. The state has not allocated aid for 2019 and beyond, and the loss to PARTA is estimated to be roughly six (6) percent of total sales tax revenue.

Mr. Bissler asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, he moved on to the committee reports and asked who would like to present the Finance Committee report in the absence of Mr. Bellino.

Mr. Jeff Childers said he would present the report.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee did not meet.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Childers said the committee met and the PARTA side of the equation is looking good. Revenues from Kent State University are looking up. The budget amounts to \$101,000, which is \$2.4M divided by 12. Tax Revenues were up. On the expense side, operators' salaries were \$5,000 over budget for the first time in years, because of overtime due to the shortage of drivers according to Ms. Schrader. Kent Central Gateway is up \$42,839 through August. For the year, \$14,031 was budgeted. Parking is up 26% from the previous month and 8% from August of last year. The committee voted to endorse the resolution.

Mr. Bissler asked if there were any questions for Mr. Childers.

Mr. Vitale asked what the \$20,000 for Other Services was.

Mr. Bissler said Ms. Schrader has those answers. Since she is not present, an answer to that question will be provided. He asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, he moved on to the Personnel Committee report.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee did not meet.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Bissler asked Mr. David Gynn to provide the report.

Mr. Gynn said the committee's sole goal was to review the performance of the General Manager and come up with recommendations. The committee was thrilled with the work of Ms. Amrhein. The leadership that Ms. Amrhein is providing and the accomplishments that the organization has made under her leadership have been very interesting. There are not enough superlative adjectives to describe all the things she has done for PARTA. Salary was not discussed because Ms. Amrhein is in the middle of a contract. He asked if there were any questions.

Hearing none, Mr. Bissler said he is just about done with all the committee assignments. Once he is done, it will be provided to everyone.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None

Resolution

#2018-09-01: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT (TAM) PLAN.

Mr. Bissler said the TAM Plan includes some interesting facts. He suggested Board members print it out for their future reference.

Ms. Amrhein said the TAM Plan will be maintained and updated as outlined by the FTA. She does not foresee bringing this back to the Board for regular updates. The goals need to be updated every year and the plan itself every four (4) years. It's not a requirement that the Plan be approved by the Board.

Mr. Bissler then entertained a motion for the resolution.

Motion: Marge Bjerregaard

Second: Frank Vitale

Mr. Bissler asked if there were any additional questions or comments.

Mr. Richard Brockett asked how long it took to compile this report.

Ms. Amrhein said the rule became final two (2) years ago and she, Ms. Schrader, and Mr. Trautman reviewed and discussed it regularly. Once a rule is issued, guidelines and specific requirements flow out of that rule. All of that was finalized this summer. She said the three (3) of them attended a one-day seminar in July to get the bottom line on what PARTA must do to comply. Ms. Schrader and Mr. Trautman put the Plan together between July and August for submission to AMATS. Now, it goes on to the State of Ohio to be incorporated into the statewide transit improvement program.

Mr. Trautman said the TAM Plan is just a different grouping of a lot of the same information that is provided through NTD and many other sources. There's a lot of grant money that gets put out there to buy capital on the front side and then a lot of that capital has a life expectancy that shoots off into 12-20 years, depending on whether it's structure or rolling stock, and there's never an

address made to the capital that's needed to maintain that equipment for the term of its life. The thought is that the FTA is doing this TAM Plan to start to do more forecasting when administering grant funds and may start looking long term when giving out large sums of money in investment and infrastructure as to whether the people they're giving it to can maintain it.

Mr. Bissler said the AMATS policy committee addressed funding the upkeep of current capital. He said hopefully the FTA is doing this with all other transportation avenues.

Mr. Trautman said they are because port authorities were also in attendance at the seminar addressing piers and ferries. It seems to be in its infancy, but there has been a lot of discussion.

Ms. Amrhein said more broadly at AMATS all the other non-transit partners have specific requirements to perform safety planning for roadways and bridges. It's very comprehensive.

Mr. Vitale asked why the report was sent to Akron.

Ms. Amrhein said PARTA is in the Akron urbanized area. It was sent to AMATS, which is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Akron urbanized area designated by the state.

Mr. Bissler said that's where a lot of the federal funds get distributed. He asked if there were any other questions about the TAM Plan and the motion addressed.

Ms. Wise asked if the Plan was a draft and could be sent back for comment.

Ms. Amrhein said it isn't submitted. It is just on file. PARTA may be questioned about it during a Triennial Review or any other review but PARTA is responsible for maintaining it, updating it, setting the goals, and participating through the cooperative planning process through AMATS and ODOT.

Mr. Bissler said that's why it will be consistently maintained and kept up-to-date.

Ms. Amrhein said she does not see it coming back but it's new and the regulations could change once it is enforced.

Mr. Bissler asked if there were any other questions about the motion. Hearing none, he asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call:	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Jeff Childers	<u>X</u>	___	Pete Kenworthy	<u>EXCUSED</u>	___
Marge Bjerregaard	<u>X</u>	___	Timothy Lissan	<u>X</u>	___
Frank Vitale	<u>X</u>	___	David Gynn	<u>X</u>	___
Dominic Bellino	<u>EXCUSED</u>	___	Virginia Harris	<u>X</u>	___
Jeremy Moldvay	<u>EXCUSED</u>	___	Brian Gray	<u>X</u>	___
Karen Wise	<u>X</u>	___	Rick Bissler	<u>X</u>	___
Richard Brockett	<u>X</u>	___			

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bissler said there was no reason for an executive session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Vitale noted the article that Ms. Amrhein shared in her report about the shape of Ohio's roads and bridges. He asked if transit authorities pay for lobbyists.

Ms. Amrhein said yes, PARTA pays dues as a member of OPTA, the Ohio Public Transit Association. She noted that she is the Secretary/Treasurer of the organization for the state. OPTA hires lobbyists and lobbies actively at the state level.

Mr. Gynn said he likes to see guests at Board meetings and asked how questions are answered when guests address the Board.

Mr. Bissler said Ms. Redman's questions are not Board questions. They are management questions; therefore, management will answer those questions. The Board does policy and long-range planning.

Mr. Nome said it's important to have a public comment session, so people know they can approach and address the Board if they have comments and/or questions. Board members aren't transit experts. The people who are in the best position to give accurate answers are the people who are responsible for that. Ms. Amrhein may answer those, or she may have somebody else on senior staff who is more directly involved answer the question. To make sure that people are getting the best and most accurate information possible, they get it from the people who are in the position and know those things

Ms. Wise asked if it was a requirement that the questions start at the Board level.

Mr. Trautman said he plans on answering Ms. Redman's questions before she leaves. PARTA has customer complaint procedures, Facebook, and other social media where comments and/or questions can be submitted. Everything is recorded and tracked.

Mr. Nome said it is important for transparency that the public would have an opportunity to address the Board. Different agencies and organizations have different means of handling questions. The way that PARTA has done it, has worked well. Most of the time, people don't show up at meetings and ask questions or make comments but when they do, it's important for them to know there is a forum where they can do that.

Mr. Bissler asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, he called on Mr. Hairston.

Mr. Hairston said the Veterans Day Ceremony will be held on Monday, November 12. This one is going to be very special. In working with the Kent Historical Society, it was discovered that 100 years ago, there were 12 gentlemen who didn't make it back home. Those 12 gentlemen will be honored at this ceremony.

Mr. Bissler thanked Mr. Hairston for all the time and effort put in for the Portage County Fair.

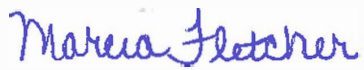
Mr. Hairston said that effort was by all the staff. Everything went well this year. He thanked the Board members who helped.

Mr. Bissler asked if there was anything further. Hearing nothing further, he entertained a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Marge Bjerregaard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Dave Gynn seconded the motion. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marcia Fletcher
Executive Assistant

PARTA
2000 Summit Road
Kent, Ohio 44240

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: **PARTA Board of Trustees** 
FROM: Claudia B. Amrhein, General Manager
DATE: October 2018

Committee Meetings and Resolutions. The finance committee will meet on Tuesday, October 23 at 11:30 a.m. to review September financial reports and Resolutions #2018-10-01 and #2018-10-02. We'll provide lunch and as always, all board members are welcome to attend committee meetings.

#2018-10-01: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (Ohio EPA) FOR THE 2018 OHIO DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM (DERG).

#2018-10-02: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER, OR HER DESIGNEE, TO PURCHASE TWO (2) TRANSIT BUSES, OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT, AND SPARE PARTS FROM TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT SALES CORPORATION (TESCO).

Resolution Supports DERG Grant Funding Application. Resolution #2018-10-01 will accompany an application requesting funding through the 2018 Ohio Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant (DERG) competitive funding program. DERG makes available \$8 million to public transit agencies for replacement of diesel-powered public transit buses to support reduction of diesel emissions in priority counties. Portage County is a designated priority county for DERG funding. The application will request 80% funding support for replacing one or two diesel buses with new clean diesel buses, depending on the status of an application currently pending with Ohio EPA for similar funding to support replacement of diesel buses through the new Volkswagen Mitigation Trust Fund.

Ordering CNG Transit Buses for Delivery in 2019. The second pair of 35-foot CNG transit buses arrived at PARTA earlier this month. Resolution #2018-10-02 requests authority to order the next two (2) natural gas-powered buses, with optional equipment and spare parts, for a total project budget of not to exceed \$1,118,000 (\$80% federal/20% local) including 2% added to cover any unknown contingent expenses. The ordering cycle for bus construction currently requires approximately 12 months lead time to ensure that vehicle delivery coincides with availability of the FTA grant funding secured for this purpose. The new buses will replace diesel-powered buses that have exceeded their useful life and will bring the CNG fleet to six (6) buses. Following finance committee review, we will bring forward Resolution #2018-10-02 on October 25 for full board consideration.

President Bissler Names Committee Members. While all board trustees are welcome to attend committee meetings, those appointed as members agree to participate in meetings, which are scheduled by the committee at times most suitable for members. The Board President is an ex-officio member of all committees. Administration: Jeremy Moldvay, Chair; Karen Wise. Finance: Dominic Bellino, Chair; Virginia Harris, Jeff Childers, David Gynn. Operations: Jeff Childers, Chair; Tim Lassen, Brian Gray, Frank Vitale. Personnel: David Gynn, Chair; Marge Bjerregaard, Richard Brockett. Thank you for your willingness to serve on these committees.

FTA Awards PARTA Funding to Upgrade Bus Wash. As outlined in the August board report, completing design plans in advance to make projects "shovel-ready" enhances our ability to successfully apply for funds to carry out components of our master plan. On September 25, FTA announced that PARTA will receive \$165,330 through the FY 2018 Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program [5339(b)] to bring the bus wash facility to CNG-compliant standards. Our project is one of only three (3) grants awarded in Ohio and of 107 total projects, with FTA awarding just over \$366 million to improve the safety and service reliability of bus systems. Earlier this year, FTA

awarded PARTA \$2,668,750 from FY 2017 5339 (b) competitive funding to support construction of an indoor bus storage facility. The bus storage facility will provide enough additional space to enable all fleet vehicles to be stored indoors, a project on the property master plan since 2009. We expect to issue a formal procurement in spring 2019 to solicit bids for this two-phase construction project.

AMATS 2018 Annual Meeting Features Smart Mobility and Regional Transit. The Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) Annual Meeting held on October 5 focused on how technology innovations are shaping mobility solutions across the state of Ohio and locally, at the area's regional transit authorities – Akron METRO, PARTA, and SARTA. Rich Granger, managing director of workforce development at DriveOhio, addressed the 150 attendees about the state's current initiatives to promote smart mobility systems, such as traffic signal connectivity and self-driving vehicles. Changes as dramatic as the introduction of the automobile 100 years ago are on the horizon, according to Granger, but are coming at a much faster pace than in the past.

A transit panel discussion moderated by AMATS director Curtis Baker offered me the opportunity to collaborate with Akron METRO planning director Valerie Shea and SARTA executive director Kirt Conrad in a discussion about the impact and response by transit systems to changing demographics and technology innovations. Topics included the challenges of getting workers to jobs located in remote areas and reaching people "aging in place" in largely rural areas who no longer drive; the availability of and use of alternative fuels; and regional service innovations such as NEORide and mobile app technology, such as Spot PARTA real-time bus tracking system. A short video of the day's events can be viewed by clicking here: <https://youtube/SG3kR2AzEak>.

Service Reports. Ridership. Total county fixed route and DART ridership increased by 1.4% through September as compared to September 2017, with total county service performing 343,472 trips as compared to 338,725 trips performed through September 2017. County fixed route service has increased by approximately 2.9% as compared to last year, with 280,957 trips completed through September as compared to 273,078 trips completed through September 2017. DART service has decreased 4.8% through September as compared to September 2017, with 62,515 trips completed as compared to 65,647 trips completed through September 2017. Overall ridership, including campus service, increased by less than 1%, with campus up by just over .50%. Total system ridership totaled 871,382, as compared to 865,389 through September 2017.

On-Time Compliance. ADA Complementary Paratransit. ADA on-time compliance was 97.66% in September as compared to 98% in August. Of 855 trips, 20 were performed late with the latest trip 21 minutes behind due to overscheduling on the route. General Public DART. On-time performance for general public, non-ADA trips remained flat at 78.2% in September, as compared to 78.3% in August. Vehicle Preventative Maintenance (PM). On-time compliance with established PM inspection schedules was 86% in September as compared to 97% in August.

Parking. Parking deck usage increased again in September, with 11,197 total cars entering the deck, a 5% increase over August, which increased by 26% as compared to July. Total parking through September decreased by 1% as compared to year-to-date totals through September 2017.

Mark Your Calendars – November Dates to Remember. *The finance committee* will meet on Thursday, November 8 at 3:00 p.m. Our practice has been to push the meeting to late afternoon and provide a meal to allow sufficient time to review the proposed annual budgets and resolutions. *The annual Veterans Day Ceremony* at the KCG Memorial will be held on Monday, November 12, at 2:00 p.m., rain or shine. The KSU Hotel & Conference Center again is offering a \$5 lunch buffet beginning at 11 a.m. and will provide hot beverages for ceremony attendees. *The November Board Meeting* will be held on Thursday, November 15 at 7 p.m. one week earlier than usual, due to Thanksgiving. And last but not least, *the Grand Opening of the CNG Fueling Facility* will be held on Wednesday, November 28 at 11:00 a.m. to formally open the CNG fueling station for public use.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. If you have any questions prior to the Board meeting, please feel free to contact me by calling (330) 676-6315, or via e-mail at Amrhein.c16@partaonline.org.



Kent Central Gateway Report

September 2018

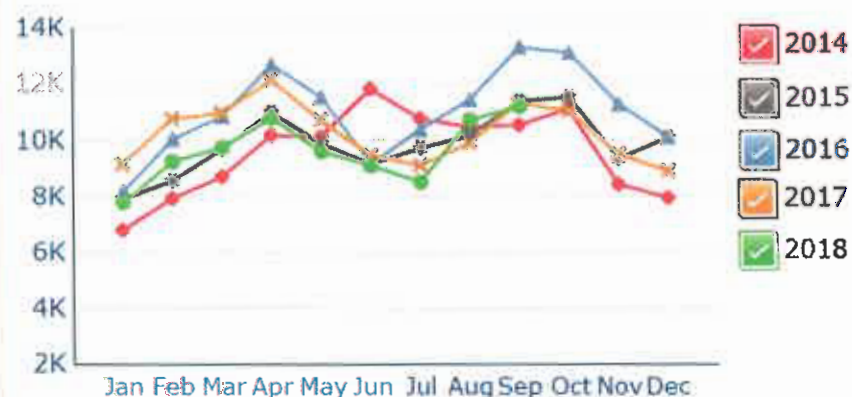
Usage

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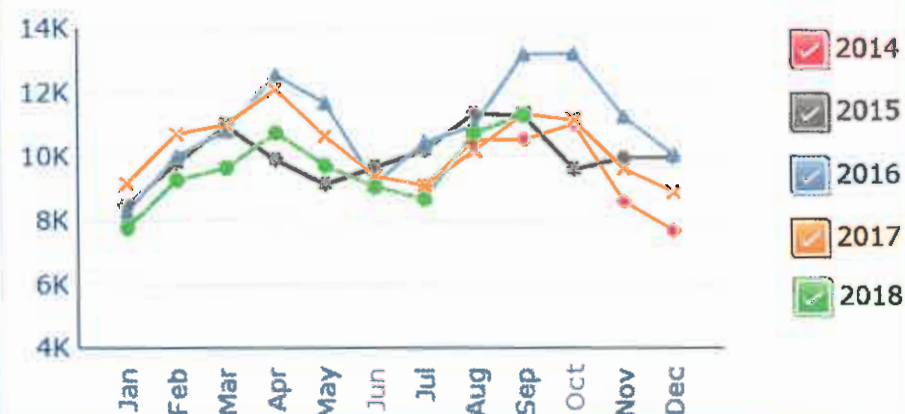
Revenue

Additional

Cars Entering Total

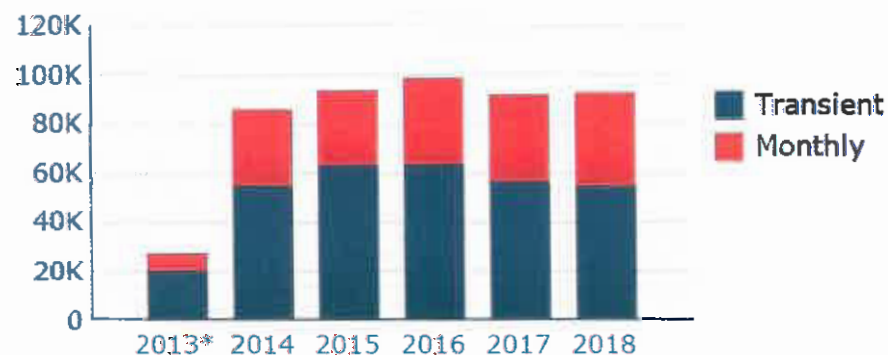


Cars Exiting Total



Entries per type

Previous Years Adjusted to Current YTD



Entries

	Monthly	Transient	A Open	Total	Car/Day	%Last M	%Last YR
Jun-18	2,814	6,284	-	9,098	303	-5%	-10%
Jul-18	2,954	5,556	-	8,510	284	-6%	-7%
Aug-18	3,892	6,810	-	10,702	345	26%	8%
Sep-18	4,594	6,603	-	11,197	373	5%	-1%

Exits

	Monthly	Transient	A Open	Total	Car/Day	%Last M	%Last YR
Jun-18	2,878	6,174	77	9,052	302	-7%	-11%
Jul-18	3,036	5,795	37	8,671	289	-4%	-5%
Aug-18	3,936	6,805	82	10,741	358	24%	6%
Sep-18	4,611	6,684	27	11,295	377	5%	0%



Kent Central Gateway Report

September 2018

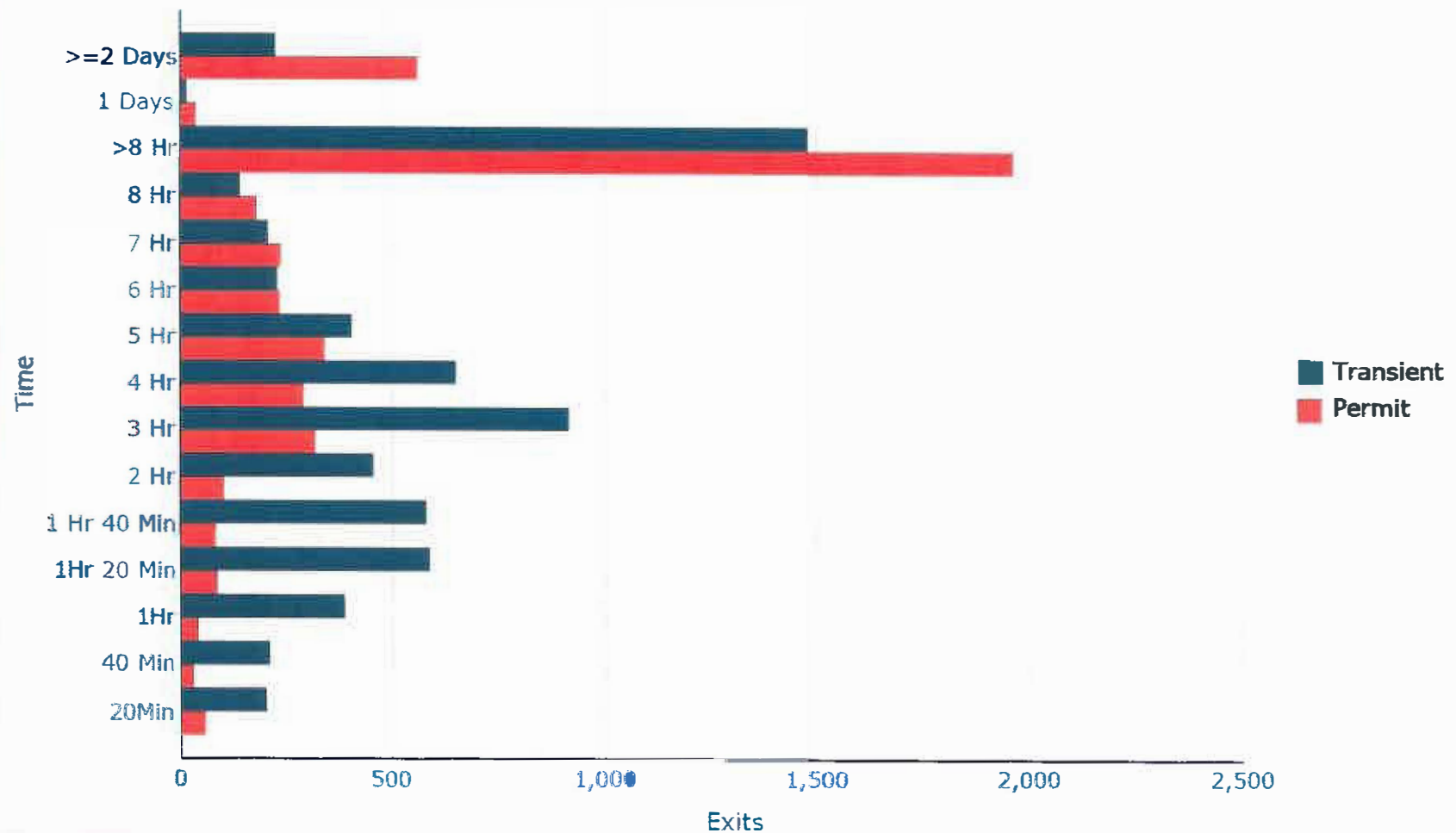
Usage

Duration

Revenue

Additional

Duration Report





Kent Central Gateway Report

September 2018

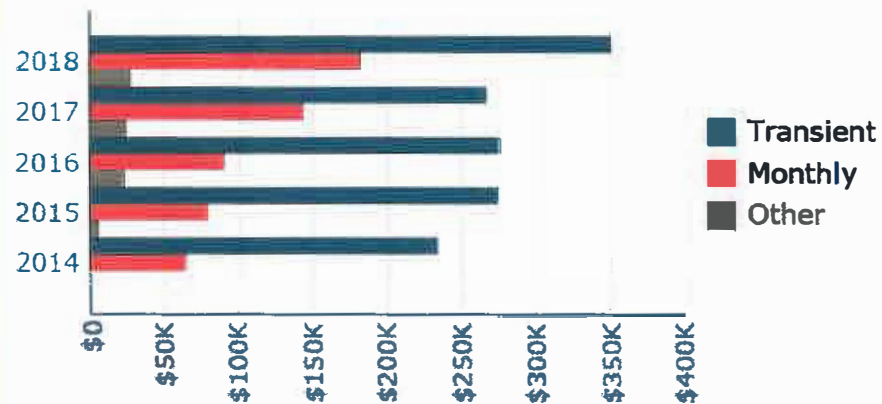
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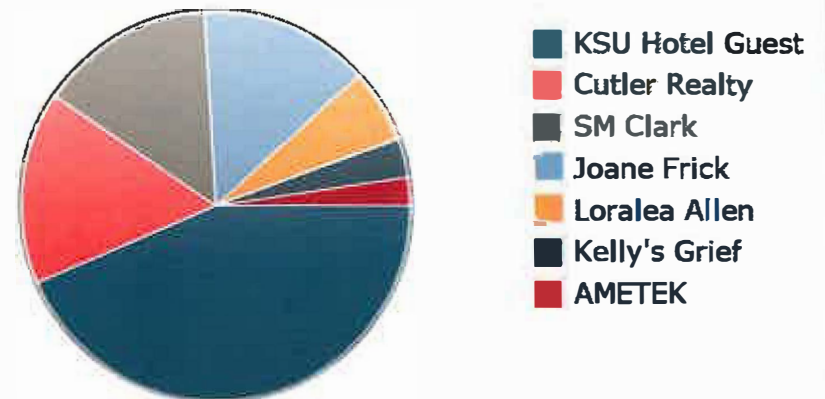
Revenue

Additional

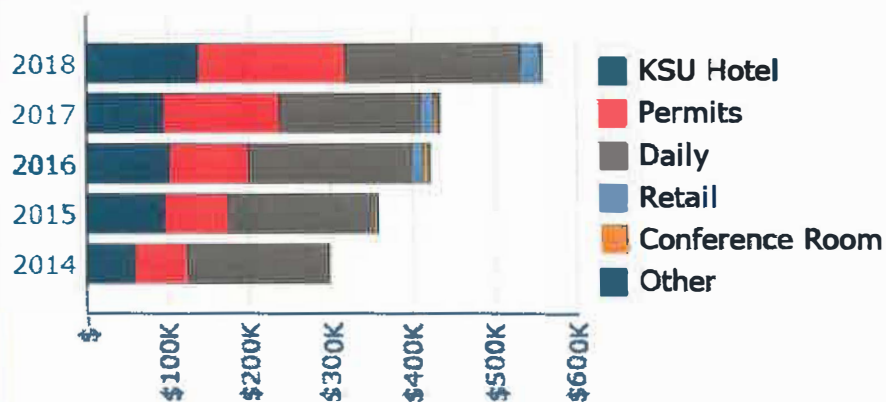
Revenue By Category



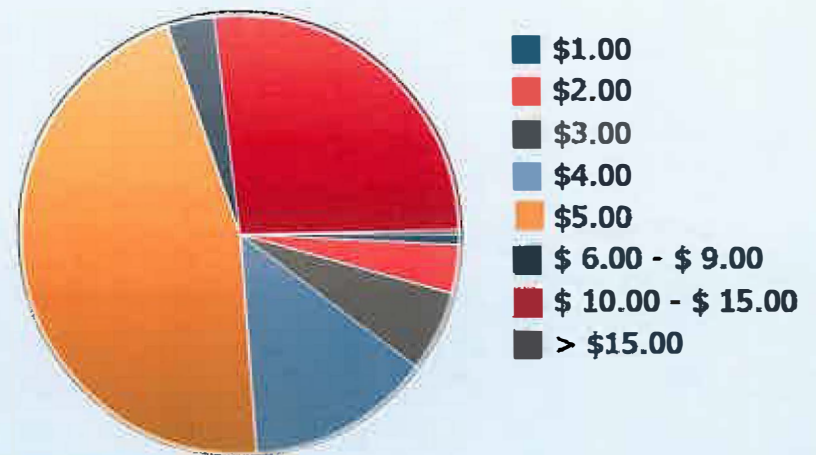
Enet Validation



Revenue By Source



Rate Types Collected





Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority
2000 Summit Road • Kent, Ohio 44240

Administrative Offices

(330) 678-7745

Fax (330) 676-6310

Customer Service

(330) 676-6701

TTY (Hearing Impaired)

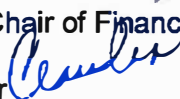
(330) 676-5100

Scheduling & Operations

(330) 678-1287 or 1-877- RIDE RTA

Fax (330) 678-7751

October 25, 2018

To: Dominic Bellino, Vice President and Chair of Finance Committee
From: Claudia B. Amrhein, General Manager 
Re: Amendment of Resolution #2018-10-01

I am requesting to amend Resolution #2018-10-01 to authorize submission of a grant application for DERG funding to support the purchase of up to three (3) clean diesel transit buses.

#2018-10-01: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (Ohio EPA) FOR THE 2018 OHIO DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION GRANT (DERG) PROGRAM.

As noted in the board packet, Resolution #2018-10-01 will accompany an application requesting funding to support replacing old diesel buses with new, clean diesel transit buses through the 2018 DERG competitive funding program. We stated "up to two (2) buses" because we were hoping to hear good news back from the grant application submitted for similar funding for replacement buses submitted last summer through the Volkswagen Mitigation Trust Fund.

After discussing both grants during finance committee on Tuesday, we received notice that Ohio EPA did not select PARTA for funding through the Volkswagen grant. In order to maintain the transit bus fleet in accordance with the Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan and in a state of good repair, I am requesting to amend Resolution #2018-10-01 to authorize the submission of the DERG application to support funding for up to three (3) clean diesel replacement buses.

If selected for funding, a separate resolution will be brought forward to authorize the purchase of the replacement buses. Like tonight's Resolution #2018-10-02, this resolution will specify the number of buses and the not-to-exceed cost for building the buses via the current TESCO contract.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I will be happy to answer any questions you have during tonight's board meeting, or you may reach me this afternoon by calling (330) 676-6315, or by e-mail at Amrhein.c16@partaonline.org.

AMENDED**RESOLUTION #2018-10-01**

A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (OHIO EPA) FOR THE 2018 OHIO DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION GRANT (DERG) PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has set aside monies for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) projects through the 2018 Ohio Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant (DERG) program; and

WHEREAS, the DERG program is jointly administered by the State of Ohio, Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), and the State of Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT); and

WHEREAS, the Ohio EPA awards Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to support projects that reduce air emissions from diesel fleets in priority counties; and

WHEREAS, Portage County is defined as a priority county, and PARTA is eligible to apply for funding through the DERG program for a CMAQ eligible project; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of clean diesel vehicles to replace diesel vehicles is an eligible project under the DERG program, and the replacement of vehicles is consistent with PARTA's fleet replacement schedule; and

WHEREAS, the General Manager requests authorization to file a grant application on behalf of PARTA to replace up to three (3) diesel buses that have exceeded their useful life with up to three (3) new 35' clean diesel buses through the 2018 DERG program; and

WHEREAS, if requested funds are granted, the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) shall be responsible for at least twenty percent (20%) of the eligible costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) that:

1. The Board of Trustees of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) approves and authorizes the General Manager to file the 2018 DERG application to replace up to three (3) diesel buses that have exceeded their useful life with up to three (3) new 35' clean diesel buses.
2. The Board of Trustees of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) acknowledges and confirms, to the best of its knowledge, that the information contained in the project application is accurate, that it intends to diligently pursue that project, and that a local share of at least 20 percent is required to match federal funds.

CERTIFICATION:

The undersigned duly qualified Board Vice President, acting on behalf of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA), certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees held on October 25, 2018.

Date

Dominic Bellino, Vice President
Board of Trustees

Attested

RESOLUTION #2018-10-01

A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (OHIO EPA) FOR THE 2018 OHIO DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM (DERG).

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has set aside monies for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) projects through the 2018 Ohio Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant program (DERG); and

WHEREAS, the DERG program is jointly administered by the State of Ohio, Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), and the State of Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT); and

WHEREAS, the Ohio EPA awards Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to support projects that reduce air emissions from diesel fleets in priority counties; and

WHEREAS, Portage County is defined as a priority county, and PARTA is eligible to apply for funding through DERG for a CMAQ eligible project; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of clean diesel vehicles to replace diesel vehicles is an eligible project under the DERG program, and the replacement of vehicles is consistent with PARTA's fleet replacement schedule; and

WHEREAS, the General Manager requests authorization to file a grant application on behalf of PARTA to replace one (1) diesel bus that has exceeded its useful life with up to two (2) new 35' clean diesel buses through the 2018 DERG program; and

WHEREAS, if requested funds are granted, the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) shall be responsible for at least twenty percent (20%) of the eligible costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) that:

1. The Board of Trustees of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) approves and authorizes the General Manager to file the 2018 DERG application to replace one (1) diesel bus that has exceeded its useful life with up to two (2) new 35' clean diesel buses.
2. The Board of Trustees of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) acknowledges and confirms, to the best of its knowledge, that the information contained in the project application is accurate, that it intends to diligently pursue that project, and that a local share of at least 20 percent is required to match federal funds.

CERTIFICATION:

The undersigned duly qualified Board President, acting on behalf of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA), certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees held on October 25, 2018.

Date

Rick Bissler, President
Board of Trustees

Attested

RESOLUTION #2018-10-02

A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER, OR HER DESIGNEE, TO PURCHASE TWO (2) TRANSIT BUSES, OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT, AND SPARE PARTS FROM TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT SALES CORPORATION (TESCO).

WHEREAS, PARTA has identified a need to purchase transit buses to replace buses that are beyond their useful life and are included in the AMATS approved Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

WHEREAS, PARTA was awarded CMAQ funding to design and build a CNG Fueling Station in 2018 and desires to convert a portion of the fleet to CNG; and

WHEREAS, PARTA conducted a formal joint procurement with Toledo Area RTA, in accordance with the procurement procedures, and awarded a contract to Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation (TESCO) via Resolution #2016-11-08; and

WHEREAS, PARTA will utilize CMAQ funds and local dollars to cover the cost of the transit buses during the term of the contract, consistent with PARTA's bus replacement schedule; and

WHEREAS, the total compensation of the contractor set forth in the contract is determined to be fair and reasonable to PARTA, not to exceed \$1,118,000, which includes 20 percent local match; and

WHEREAS, PARTA will order up to two (2) Eldorado CNG transit buses, optional equipment, and spare parts from Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation (TESCO) for delivery in fiscal year 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED by the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) Board of Trustees that:

1. The General Manager, or her designee, is hereby authorized to purchase up to two (2) Eldorado CNG transit buses, optional equipment, and spare parts from Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation (TESCO).
2. The Board of Trustees authorizes the General Manager, or her designee, to execute agreements with Transportation Equipment Sales Corporation (TESCO) consistent with the award not to exceed \$1,118,000.

CERTIFICATION:

The undersigned duly qualified Board President, acting on behalf of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA), certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees held on October 25, 2018.

Date

Rick Bissler, President
Board of Trustees

Attested

Wheels for workers

By BOB GAETJENS
Reporter

Job and Family Services arranges transportation for job seekers without

In suburbia, some may take car ownership for granted, a necessity for getting to school, work and after-school events.

But Paris Healthcare Linen Production worker Morgan Cross said her old Chevy Malibu was near its end when Portage County Job and Family Services enacted a program aimed at providing transportation for workers last year.

"I was driving a car with the muffler hanging off of it," she said. "The alignment was so bad

you could hardly steer. Something was wrong with one of the tie rods."

She said the car needed \$1,700 in suspension repairs to become road-worthy.

"I just prayed to God to keep me safe," she said. "I just drove it to work and to my house — that's it."

Once she enrolled in JFS' transportation program, she was able to drop her daughter at a

nearby daycare in her Malibu and then catch a ride from PARTA to her work in Ravenna.

Job and Family Services Director Kellijo Jeffries said the program provides transportation for people who have none. In addition to arranging for rides with PARTA and two other companies, JFS added one more incentive for employees to make wise

See Page A2 | Wheels



Bob Gaetjens, Record-Courier

Jason Cushing had no vehicle before joining Portage County Job and Family Services' transportation program. He's now a supervisor at Paris Healthcare Linens. Morgan Cross, a production worker at the company, also benefited from the program, which enabled her to replace an unreliable vehicle.

Wheels

From Page A1

decisions with their money.

"The incentive we added to it was that not only will we provide you with transportation from home to your company but, if you save \$1,200 over six months, then we'll match that."

Cross was one of four of the 27 participants who saved enough money to acquire a reliable car. She now is the proud owner of a Chevy Cruze, which had about 53,000 miles on in March when she bought it.

"Now I have something nice for my money," she said. "This has been such a blessing; it really has been. It has been the nicest car I've had in my life."

Jeffries said transportation is a major hurdle for her clientele.

"It would be my guess that a quarter of the people we serve in the work and training area have transportation problems. Portage isn't a metro area, and buses don't run everywhere."

Lisa Hawkins, who's in human resources at Paris Healthcare Linens, said the transportation program has been a benefit to the company, as well. She said the company began participating in the program last year.

"The majority of [the em-



Bob Gaetjens, Record-Courier
Paris Healthcare Linens Production workers Morgan Cross said she's thankful Portage County Job and Family Services helped her acquire a more reliable car.

ployees] are still on board, and one of them actually got promoted to a driving position, and another got promoted to a supervisor position," she said. "We were just struggling getting candidates, and the candidates we were getting were struggling with transportation routes."

Jason Cushing, who was promoted to supervisor at

Paris Linens in the last month, said that wouldn't have been possible without the program.

"I think it's a very good program," he said. "It helped me out. I didn't have a vehicle."

PARTA Director of Planning Katherine Manning said PARTA has provided a total of 2,324 total trips since developing a contract with JFS

in 2017. Of those, 994 were Supplemental Employment Transportation trips.

"PARTA has not needed to create any special routes to accommodate this contract with JFS," she said. "PARTA schedules these clients within its existing DART schedule."

Manning said JFS receives its transportation funding from the state of Ohio.

"It is an invaluable resource for Portage County which has over 25 percent of its population on Medicaid," she said. "In addition, in a recent study done by the Portage County Health Department, almost two-thirds of Portage County residents regularly reported having transportation problems, and 33 percent of those had never used public transportation."

She said a forum hosted by PARTA, JFS and the health department should help spread the word about the transportation services available.

"We believe this partnership is working well, as it takes advantage of our current transportation and infrastructure and fits PARTA's core mission of serving those individuals in our community who need it most," said Manning.

For more information about this program and others offered by Job and Family Services, call 330-297-3750.



Thank You from Upper Room Ministries

Posted Sep 23, 2018 at 12:01 AM

The Upper Room Ministries annual Community Outreach Day was held in the front parking lot of the church, 3090 S.R. 59, Ravenna on Sept. 1. There were many vendors selling products such as Orgami Owl Jewelry, Plexus Health System, Tupperware, Linda's Bakery, Art by Eddie, Avon, local vendors Chris, Bev and JoAnne, who sold miscellaneous household appliances and items, crafts, and much more. There were Kent State University students on hand with face painting for the kids, free bags of candy, books, toys and fun things to make this a great day for the family. There were free hot dogs available for everyone.

A special thank you to University Hospitals Portage Medical Center for blood pressure screenings and gift bags, PARTA for gift bags and setting up an information table, and Battaglia's Garden Center for donation of flowers. Also to our sponsors, Hometown Bank, 7/17 Credit Union, and Akron Canton Regional Foodbank.

It was a hot, hazy day, but it did not hamper the spirits of the vendors and customers who came out to support the Outreach Day. It was a great event for the community and next year promises to be even bigger and better.

Thank you everyone,

Coordinators: Toni Brown-Harris, Antoinette Austin and Jocelyn Harris