



**Media Release**

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**PARTA receives 18th consecutive clean audit**

**Kent, Ohio – Tuesday, September 29, 2020** – Ohio Auditor of State Keith Faber has recognized the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) with an award for excellence in financial reporting. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year PARTA has received a clean audit and the 6<sup>th</sup> time PARTA has received the Auditor of State Award. The transit agency also achieved a four-star rating – the highest possible – from Faber for best practices associated with open and transparent government.

“These awards highlight the tremendous effort put forward year after year to ensure the accuracy of PARTA’s financial reporting,” said PARTA General Manager Claudia Amrhein. “It’s a testament to the diligence of the entire PARTA team, particularly our Finance Department and the regular monthly oversight provided by the PARTA Finance Committee and Board of Trustees.”

To receive an Auditor of State Award, an organization’s financial statements must fairly and accurately represent its financial position based on generally accepted accounting principles. This includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements free of misstatements due to fraud or error.

The award for transparency in government was introduced by Faber’s office last year to encourage adoption of best practices that exceed minimum standards outlined by the state’s open records Sunshine Law. One star is awarded if a public office meets basic Sunshine Law requirements. Additional stars are bestowed for meeting progressively higher standards.

Organized in 1975 under Section 306.32 of the Ohio Revised Code, PARTA provides fixed-route, ADA Complementary Paratransit and Demand Response service throughout Portage County. PARTA also

operates the Kent Central Gateway Transit Center and parking deck in downtown Kent. In 2018, PARTA constructed the first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station in Portage County.

For more information contact PARTA Communications and Public Advocacy Advisor Denise Baba at 330.678.7745 or email [dbaba@partaonline.org](mailto:dbaba@partaonline.org).

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