

Moving Every Life Forward

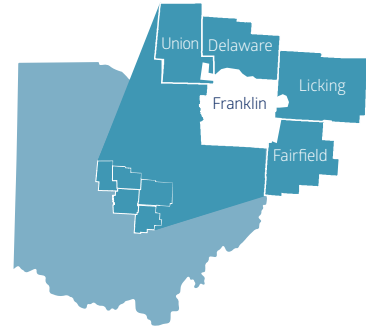


OUR TEAM



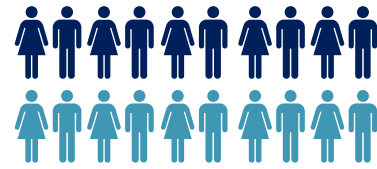
PRESIDENT/CEO OF COTA
MONICA TÉLLEZ-FOWLER

OUR SERVICE AREA



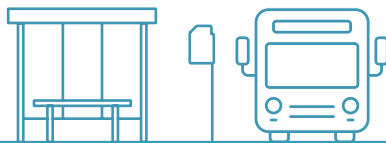
- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| Bexley | Hilliard |
| Columbus | New Albany |
| Dublin | Reynoldsburg |
| Gahanna | Upper Arlington |
| Grandview | Westerville |
| Heights | Whitehall |
| Grove City | Worthington |

OUR RIDERSHIP



11,912,895
2024 total rides

+7%
FROM 2024



LinkUS
Moving our region. Together.

LinkUS will provide a complete mobility system along key regional corridors.

linkuscolumbus.com

Our Services



Our Partnerships

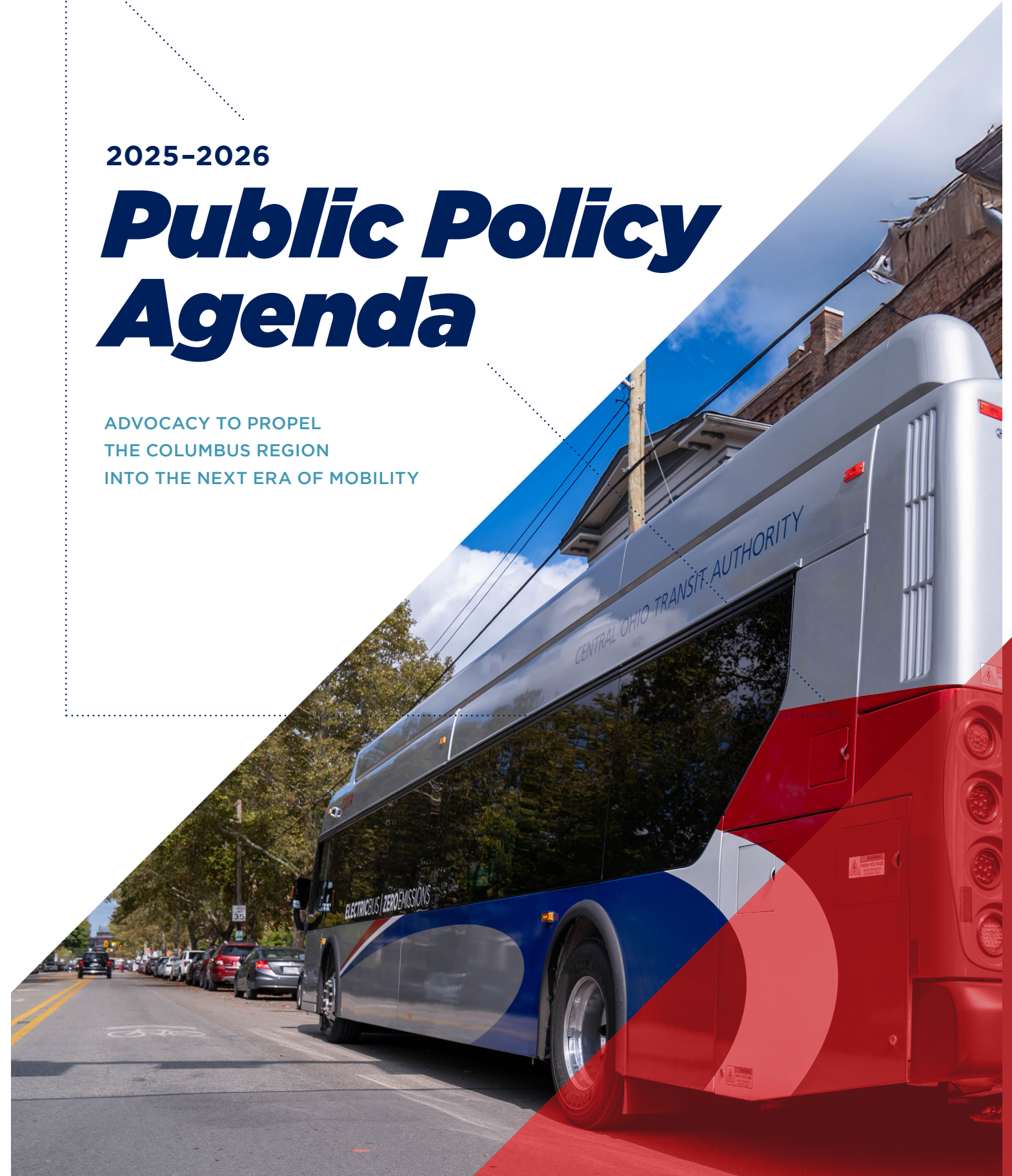


100+ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

2025-2026

Public Policy Agenda

ADVOCACY TO PROPEL
THE COLUMBUS REGION
INTO THE NEXT ERA OF MOBILITY



The Central Ohio region is expanding rapidly, bringing jobs and economic opportunity to our residents. By 2050, the 15-county region is projected to reach 3.15 million residents. To meet this growing demand for transportation, we will need a robust public mass rapid transportation system and the infrastructure investment to support it. **Here's how COTA is moving Central Ohio into the future:**



FEDERAL FUNDING: Maintain and grow federal funding for public transit serving Central Ohio.



LOCAL AND STATE FUNDING: Expand state, local and private-sector funding sources for public transit.



REGIONAL CONNECTIONS: Foster robust regional transit corridors and connections as well as supportive land use.



COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY: Advance comprehensive safety solutions for Operators, customers and all roadway users.

Federal Funding

- Continue to participate in the regional partnership to strategically and successfully compete for federal funds through discretionary grants and available programming.
- Advocate for a fully funded Federal Transit Administration Capital Investment Grants Program to support multi-year funding for major transit capital projects.
- Protect the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's historic investment levels in public transit during the next reauthorization of surface transportation legislation. Federal funds are key to supporting comprehensive and equitable corridor development within the region.
- Advocate for policies and funding at the federal level for first- and last-mile on-demand service, including microtransit and paratransit services.
- Pursue funding and grant opportunities that support alternative fuel and low- to no-emission transit vehicles, including compressed natural gas (CNG), battery electric, hydrogen fuel cell and related infrastructure to support COTA's sustainability goals of a zero-emissions bus fleet by 2035 and net-zero emissions by 2045.



Local and State Funding

- Increase the \$70 million investment in public transit through the state transportation budget.
- Identify state revenue and private sources to aid in the development of rapid transit corridors to support economic development and workforce growth in the region.
- Advocate for increased state investment in the Ohio Department of Transportation grant programs.
- Advocate for policies and funding at the state and local levels for first- and last-mile on-demand service, including microtransit and paratransit services.

Regional Connections

- Advocate for programs, policies and funding that foster regional transit connections leading to economic growth, efficient use of resources and shared prosperity for all.
- Ensure efficiency and reliability of service within future rapid transit corridors by exploring policies governing dedicated lane enforcement and transit signal prioritization.
- Support economic development policies and incentives that encourage equitable transit-oriented development, including dense, mixed-use development that connects housing, job centers, child care and schools.
- Encourage communities to adopt a complete streets policy in accordance with Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) guidelines.
- Advocate for enhanced transit signal priority utilization for both existing fixed-route service and future rapid transit corridors.
- Advocate for continued investment in intercity passenger rail planning projects across the state leveraging multimodal connections.
- Improve access to transit by operationalizing the transit supportive infrastructure program financed by the 2024 COTA levy, which includes sidewalk, bikeway and trail projects within the service area.

Comprehensive Safety

- Pursue state legislation to increase the penalty of assault on a transit Operator to a fifth-degree felony.
- Promote COTA's transit stop design guide with local communities to encourage collaboration, adoption and safety.
- Pursue policies and funding that measurably improve transportation safety and equity as well as advance Vision Zero principles.
- Pursue additional funding to continue to support COTA's Strategic Response Specialists, promoting a holistic approach to safety and security on COTA's system.



The Central Ohio Transit Authority's Public Policy Agenda was crafted in partnership with the region's transportation stakeholders, community partners and COTA's Board of Trustees, who are appointed by constituent municipalities in the Columbus Region.