



News Release

PARTA and Geauga County Transit Receive Special Recognition at State Transportation Conference

Ohio House of Representatives Deliver Proclamations for Coordinated Regional ITS System Design Efforts

COLUMBUS, OHIO, MAY 16, 2007 – Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) today announced the Ohio House of Representatives recognized PARTA and Geauga County Transit (Gauga) for their work to design a Coordinated Regional ITS system to improve transportation service for older Americans and persons with disabilities. Proclamations were made this week during the 2007 Ohio Public Transit Association (OPTA) Annual Conference in Columbus, OH.

“We are honored to receive special recognition from our Ohio State Representatives, and hope that our final system design can be a model for other regions in the State of Ohio,” said Bryan Smith, Manager of Business Development for PARTA. “Our final design will provide the citizens of Portage and Geauga counties one convenient access point for all transportation services while keeping the costs of coordination to a minimum by sharing access to transportation services among all participants.”

The PARTA project is funded and administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation over two phases. Phase 1 of the project was awarded to PARTA in February 2007 with final system designs scheduled to be complete in July 2008. Agencies interested in learning more about the regional ITS project should contact Bryan Smith at 330.676.6703.

About PARTA

The Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) in Kent, Ohio is committed to providing safe, dependable, courteous and affordable transportation services that help Portage County residents meet their travel needs. PARTA is the provider of a multimodal alternative transportation network that sustains the region's economic vitality and air quality, provides mobility and accessibility to all constituencies of the population, and preserves and enhances the region's quality of life. PARTA's Dial-A-Ride service performs 500-700 door-to-door trips per day. Visit www.partaonline.org.



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About Geauga County Transit

Gauga County Transit in Chardon, OH strives to provide the highest quality of delivery services to all users of the transit system. Geauga works hard on the development of new ideas, which are responsive to the needs of the community, based on input and feedback from users and non-users of the system. Geauga County Transit provides professional transportation services within Geauga County performing over 225 demand response trips daily. Visit www.geaugatransit.org.

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