



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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ODOT Launches New Statewide Transit Study

61 Ohio transit providers will help identify ridership needs over the next ten years

COLUMBUS (November 6, 2013) – The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Ohio’s public transit systems are partnering to create a long-term strategy to meet the needs of current and future urban and rural transit riders. Strategies may include efforts to create more efficient demand response services in rural areas, to more frequent bus service in our larger cities.

The Ohio Statewide Transit Needs Study will examine Ohio’s demographics and travel trends to determine the types of services needed to meet future customer needs. ODOT will also conduct a comprehensive financial analysis to determine how to meet those needs.

Starting the last week of October, a survey associated with the study will begin. The survey is targeted toward people who currently use transit and will be administered with assistance from the 61 transit providers across the state. With a completion date of mid-November, the survey will ask riders about their experiences riding public transit today, and seek their input on what areas could be improved.

“The rider survey is just the first step of our public outreach and technical effort,” said Marianne Freed, administrator with ODOT’s Office of Transit. “Our goal is to evaluate the unique transportation needs for communities statewide, whether it’s Cleveland or Carroll County.”

A project steering committee, which includes a diverse representation of transit agencies, regional councils, environmental experts, chambers of commerce, transit union officials and contractors from around Ohio, will provide advisory input to the study. The first meeting was held October 21 at ODOT headquarters in Columbus. Five additional meetings are scheduled over the course of the study.

The study, along with other information, can be obtained by visiting:
www.TransitNeedsStudy.ohio.gov.

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