

What is OPTA?

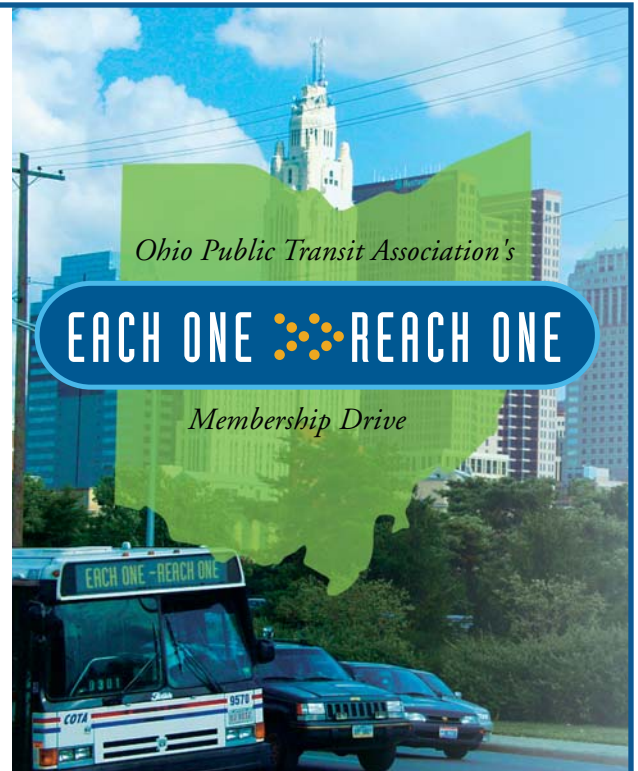
The Ohio Public Transit Association (OPTA) is a professional association which provides leadership, resources, support and technical assistance to public and private transit agencies in Ohio.

OPTA's mission is to act as a unified voice advocating and strengthening the role of public transportation in improving the quality of life for all Ohio citizens. OPTA's role in achieving the best possible transit system in Ohio is to be:

- ❖ a respected voice in legislative affairs
- ❖ an effective influence on public policy and a builder of active coalitions for transit
- ❖ an internal communicator of legislative professional and technical information
- ❖ an external communicator with news media government and civic leaders
- ❖ an organization dedicated to achieving its goals while embracing the highest ethical standards



Ohio Public Transit Association



Membership Categories

- **TRANSIT** membership is open to public or private transit systems which operate in the State of Ohio. Only **ACTIVE** members shall be entitled to vote and hold office in OPTA.

Membership is for a calendar year. Annual dues for **TRANSIT** members are based on fleet size.

- ❖ Transit systems with 100 or more revenue vehicles pay a base fee of \$1,500 plus \$47 per vehicle owned.
- ❖ Transit systems with less than 100 but more than 50 revenue vehicles pay a base fee of \$1,500 plus \$47 per vehicle owned.
- ❖ Transit systems with 50 or less revenue vehicles pay a base fee of \$150 plus \$40 per vehicle owned.
- **ASSOCIATE** membership is open to businesses which offer products or services which directly or indirectly serve the transit industry.

Membership is for a calendar year. Annual dues for **ASSOCIATE** members are \$350.

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 www.ohiopublictransit.org

OPTA Organization

The Ohio Public Transit Association is a non-profit organization serving Ohio's transit industry. OPTA provides a variety of professional representation in the state legislature.

An elected Board of Directors, together with an Executive Director and Government Relations Counsel guide OPTA's operations. Members serve on a number of committees that deal with a variety of issues affecting the transit industry in Ohio.

Member Benefits

Membership in OPTA will strengthen your transit organization through improved access to government decision makers and other transit professionals.

Benefits Include:

❖ Web-Site

OPTA's web-site www.ohiopublictransit.org is packed with information about regulatory issues, funding, calendar events, and coalition building. Being a member, you will be featured on the web and have access to all transit agencies and organizations including the Ohio General Assembly.

❖ Legislation and Strategic Planning

OPTA staff and members work to achieve a priority status for transit in state policies and programs.

OPTA retains a government relations counsel to assure that member interests are known to state legislators and the Ohio Department of Transportation. Increased funding for transit is of highest priority.

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❖ Staff

OPTA has a full-time Executive Director to coordinate and guide the association activities, including implementation of the association's strategic goals. The Board of directors meets quarterly to discuss issues of importance and to plan for future association programs and activities. Staff is available to help you solve problems by putting you in touch with other OPTA members.

❖ Annual Conference

Held each May, OPTA's annual conference provides an opportunity for professional growth through education and training. The conference promotes the sharing of experiences and concerns with other transit agencies. The annual conference is held in Columbus with the State of Ohio, Office of Public Transit as our main sponsor. Each year time is set aside to meet with elected officials.

❖ Training

OPTA offers training in the various areas of transit management and operations.

❖ Coalition Building

OPTA encourages the creation of transit coalitions and will provide assistance in establishing local coalitions.



President

Mark Donaghy
Executive Director
Greater Dayton RTA

Vice President

Jim Gee
General Manager
Toledo Area
Regional Transit
Authority (TARTA)

Vice President- Associate Members

Jim Ryan
Regional Sales Manager
Gilliig

Vice President- Small Urban/Rural Systems

Patti Manfull
Transit Director
Carroll County Transit

Secretary/Treasurer

Kirt Conrad
CEO,
Executive Director
Stark Area RTA
(Stark)

Government Relations Counsel

Richard Ayish
Ohio Public
Transit Association

Executive Director

Judith Will Fleming
Ohio Public
Transit Association