PA <u>RTA</u>
<b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b>
July 27, 2023 @ 7 p.m.

PARTA Administration Building 2000 Summit Road Kent, Ohio 44240

Agenda

 Call to Order Roll Call Oral

2. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from May 25, 2023, Meeting (Motion Required)

Attachment 2a

3. Guest Communications (2-minute limit)

Oral

4. General Manager's Report

Attachment 4

5. Committee Reports

a. Administrationb. Finance

c. Operations d. Personnel

Scheduled to Meet 7/25 Scheduled to Meet 7/27

Scheduled to Meet 7/27

Did Not Meet

- 6. Old Business
- 7. New Business
- 8. Resolutions Roll Call Approval Required
  - #2023-07-01: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) FOR SFY 2024 AND 2025 TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE GRANTS. THESE GRANTS MAY INCLUDE THE OHIO ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSIT FARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THE URBAN TRANSIT PROGRAM, THE OHIO TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (OTP2), THE SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (SECTION 5310), AND THE OHIO WORKFORCE MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.
  - #2023-07-02: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER, OR HER DESIGNEE, TO NEGOTIATE, ENTER INTO, AND SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH DUO-GARD INDUSTRIES FOR DESIGNING, PRODUCING, AND DELIVERING A 730 SQUARE FOOT POLYCARBONATE CANOPY.
  - #2023-07-03: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (*PARTA*) BOARD OF TRUSTEES HONORING RICHARD BROCKETT, BOARD MEMBER, IN APPRECIATION FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE.
- 9. Election of Board Officers Roll Call Vote
- 10. Executive Session, as needed
- 11. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting: August 24, 2023 @ 7 p.m.

## PARTA PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

May 25, 2023

#### **Board Members Present:**

Karen Beck Marge Bjerregaard Richard Brockett Debbie Davison Dave Gynn, President Virginia Harris R. T. Mansfield Frank Vitale Stacey Wilson

#### **Staff Present:**

Claudia Amrhein Denise Baba Marcia Fletcher Kelly Jurisch Rebecca Schrader Greg Springer Brian Trautman

#### **Board Members Not Present:**

Jeff Childers (1<sup>st</sup> unexcused absence) Mike Lewis (5<sup>th</sup> excused absence) Jack Murphy (2<sup>nd</sup> excused absence) Karen Wise (2<sup>nd</sup> excused absence) Marvin Woods (1<sup>st</sup> excused absence)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Dave Gynn called the May 25, 2023, *PARTA* Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7 p.m. He asked for a roll call, after which it was determined that **a quorum was participating**. He thanked everyone for coming and expressed his appreciation to Board members for notifying Ms. Marcia Fletcher about their attendance at the meeting to ensure a quorum. He apologized for missing last month's meeting and thanked Mr. Mike Lewis for handling the meeting in his absence.

Mr. Gynn asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 27, 2023, Board meeting. **Ms. Karen Beck** made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, which was seconded by **Ms. Virginia Harris**. The motion to approve the minutes, as presented, passed unanimously.

#### **GUEST COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Gynn said there were no guests in attendance and moved on to the General Manager's report.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Ms. Claudia Amrhein said it was good to see everyone and noted that Mr. Justin Markey was not attending tonight because his son's lacrosse team made the finals, which were being held at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland. She said the Administration Committee couldn't meet tonight; however, they met last month to start the process of accepting nominations for officer positions. If anyone is interested, they should contact Ms. Karen Wise or Ms. Fletcher. The current officers are Mr. Dave Gynn, as President; Mr. Mike Lewis, as Vice President; and Ms. Karen Wise, as Temporary Presiding Officer. There will be two presentations tonight. First, Ms. Kelly Jurisch will share some information about the FORE! Transit Golf Outing, which occurred last Friday. It was a great event and it turned out to be a beautiful day. Second, she and Mr. Brian Trautman will talk a little bit about the soft launch in June of the new service roll out with the new software platforms. She concluded by saying she would be happy to answer any questions.

Hearing none, Mr. Gynn thanked Ms. Amrhein for her very thorough report and moved on to the committee reports.

#### **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Gynn said the Administration Committee did not meet. He said the only committee that met was the Finance Committee and he asked Mr. Frank Vitale to give that report.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Vitale started with *PARTA* and said total revenue as of April 30 was \$1,164,306. Because government financing and funds come in at different rates, it's hard to look at one month. Looking at the year to date, actual revenue against budget was over by \$78,059, which was good. Expenses were good too as far as actual versus budget through the period. The Kent Central Gateway (KCG) was also tracking very well against the total revenue and only down slightly since last month. There was also a kick in income from the leasing of some of the commercial space. The balance sheet showed that KCG paid a loan back to *PARTA* and he asked Ms. Rebecca Schrader for an explanation.

Ms. Schrader said KCG paid *PARTA* \$166,000. These funds were loaned to KCG. The first two years, 2013 and 2014, when KCG was running at a loss, it was a shared expense per the contract between *PARTA* and the City of Kent. They decided to pay those outstanding payables back from the proceeds from last year into what's called the Waterfall Account.

Mr. Vitale asked how much more was owed.

Ms. Schrader said the whole amount is \$146,000 that KCG needs to pay back. A small portion of that goes to the City of Kent and then the remainder comes back to *PARTA*.

Mr. Vitale concluded his report by clarifying that \$146,000 was still due.

Ms. Schrader said that is what is still due from the more recent COVID deficit year. The long payables that had been sitting on the books were paid.

Mr. Gynn asked if there were any questions for the Finance Committee. Hearing none, he urged anybody who is interested to attend the open Finance Committee meeting the Tuesday before the Board meeting each month.

#### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Moving on, Mr. Gynn said the Operations Committee did not meet.

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Gynn said the Personnel Committee did not meet.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Gynn said there was no Old Business and moved on to New Business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gynn asked Ms. Jurisch for her presentation on the golf outing.

Ms. Jurisch provided her PowerPoint on the golf outing, which is attached.

Following the presentation, Mr. Gynn thanked Ms. Jurisch and said the golf outing is a lot of fun and provides a lot of camaraderie, which is appreciated; but the real benefit is the money that goes to the agencies that provide free transportation for people who can't afford it. It's not too late if anyone on the Board would like to contribute. He then asked Ms. Amrhein and Mr. Trautman for their presentation.

Ms. Amrhein and Mr. Trautman presented a PowerPoint on the soft launch of the new software that has been installed, which is attached.

Following the presentation, Ms. Jurisch asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Karen Beck asked how many students ride buses to the high schools.

Mr. Trautman said he doesn't know what that count would be for Kent and Ravenna schools, which are both serviced by *PARTA*, because youth passes are sold to both schools and to any youth.

Ms. Jurisch said Passio GO! will provide that data because it will log when a rider gets on and off the bus.

Mr. Trautman said there are a lot of cool things about Passio GO! that will be further discussed going forward. Ms. Schrader does a lot of NTD reporting and must figure out the difference between revenue miles and deadhead miles. This program does all that. The driver doesn't hit start until they get to the beginning of the route. From the time the bus starts to the time it gets to that point, it's logging the deadhead miles, which must be reported. There was a lot of NTD reporting and other things that were labor intensive before that will now be available in a reporting function. The available technology will be used in a more economical way. CTS has been handling demand response, even though they're the project lead. Passio GO! is handling AVL and the trip planning function for the buses. They have a device that goes in all the buses, which have all been installed by PARTA, that's called the Vehicle Location Unit (VLU). That VLU works separately from the tablet that's running in the bus. Both are products of Passio GO!, which are shown on the dispatch screen, and provide the ability to see what's going on and where there's trouble. If the signal is lost on both, they're probably in KCG underneath about 20 feet of concrete. There are a couple spots that have some issues that are being worked on. The plus sides are the accountbased ticketing platform; not as much responsibility for money counting; and NTD reporting and tracking of information, like alighting. Overlaying that with the census data coming in and identifying low income or single parents without cars, it turns out that's where there are a lot of people getting on and off the bus. So, maybe service needs to be beefed up in that area. There is the ability to be a lot more analytical now with this new technology and it provides a better understanding of where the needs are and how that's going to be different moving forward because some of these routes are legacy routes that have been in place since the early 80s/late 70s.

Mr. Vitale asked how he would buy a smart pass for his aunt who lives in Detroit.

Mr. Trautman said he would get on the EZfare app and open an account for his aunt in Detroit. He would put his credit card number in and put however much money he wanted in her account. If he had her cell phone ID, like what's used when turning on a hot spot, he could enter her cell phone in there as the device ID and then she could use that account with her cell phone to travel to Akron, from Akron to Cleveland, from Cleveland to Laketran, all the way across. These transits are using the same system and validators so the same account can be used to travel around Cleveland. Anyone can ride on their buses, and it will deficit their account based on their fare structure. When the rider hits *PARTA*'s system, *PARTA*'s fare structure will start. Fare capping has yet to be combined so universally the transits haven't determined what the maximum fare would be if someone rode through all seven systems in a day. Currently, the maximum fare will be whatever the maximum fare is for each transit combined.

Mr. Vitale asked if his aunt would get a pass like a gift card if she didn't have a smartphone and how she would use it.

Mr. Trautman said smart cards do the same thing as a cell phone. She would just tap it like any other chipped card. The smart card is the only thing that he has not personally tested. The only floating piece right now on the supplier's part is a CSV file that they're trying to put together that needs to be put in the system.

Ms. Jurisch said the smart cards say EZfare on the front.

Ms. Beck asked if the new fare box had a slot on top to take coins and bills.

Mr. Trautman said it will take currency. No more tokens will be given out. There is a printable QR code on the EZfare site that can be used to purchase a \$1 regular fare, or 50 cents reduced fare, that is good for one way.

Hearing no further discussion, Mr. Gynn moved on to the resolutions.

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Gynn said Ms. Amrhein's report stated there was potentially one resolution for the construction bids for the entrance to the bus garage, but they came in high, and another avenue was being considered. So, there were no resolutions.

Moving on, Mr. Gynn said the next meeting is scheduled for June 22. Instead of having a meeting, Board and staff members, and their families, are invited to attend the RubberDucks game. Transportation will be provided from *PARTA* to the game, or anyone can provide their own transportation and meet there. He asked if a trolley would be used for transportation.

Mr. Trautman said a trolley could be used if the Board wanted.

Ms. Jurisch said the trolley would leave around 5:30 p.m. from PARTA and dinner is open for two hours.

Mr. Gynn said Ms. Fletcher will send an email with the details. He asked everyone to make sure to respond.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moving on, Mr. Gynn said there was no need for an Executive Session. He asked if anybody else had any other comments.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing nothing further, Mr. Gynn entertained a motion to adjourn. **Ms. Marge Bjerregaard** made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by **Ms. Stacey Wilson**. Mr. Gynn asked all in favor to signify by aye. He asked any opposed the same sign. Hearing none, the **motion to adjourn passed unanimously**.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Fletcher
Executive Assistant

#### PARTA 2000 Summit Road Kent. Ohio 44240

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

TO: PARTA Board of Trustees

FROM: Claudia B. Amrhein, General Manager

DATE: July 2023

Committee Meetings and Resolutions. The July agenda includes annual officer elections and three (3) resolutions for board consideration on <a href="https://doi.org/10.10/10.10/">Thursday, July 27, at 7 p.m.</a>. The operations committee will meet at 6 p.m. to consider Resolution #2023-07-02. The administration committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. to discuss officer nominations and to consider Resolutions #2023-07-01 and -03.

\*\*\* Please note that due to scheduling conflicts, the finance committee will meet on Tuesday, July 25, at 10 a.m. to review May and June financial reports. \*\*\*

#2023-07-01: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) FOR SFY 2024 AND 2025 TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE GRANTS. THESE GRANTS MAY INCLUDE THE OHIO ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSIT FARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THE URBAN TRANSIT PROGRAM, THE OHIO TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (OTP2), THE SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (SECTION 5310), AND THE OHIO WORKFORCE MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

**New ODOT Funding Source and Grant Schedule.** In March, the board passed <u>Resolution #2023-03-01</u> to authorize the filing of SFY 2024 grant applications with ODOT. In April, Governor DeWine signed the SFY 2024-25 Transportation Budget, which included a new grant fund of \$15 million per year to support workforce mobility initiatives by RTAs. Applications for 2024 grants were due in June, except for the new workforce mobility grant. In addition, ODOT has revised its schedule for SFY 2025 grant funding applications, requiring applications by the end of August 2023. <u>Resolution #2023-07-01</u> will authorize and accompany grant applications for the Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership Program in SFY 2024 and all ODOT grant applications in the SFY 2025 grant cycle.

#2023-07-02: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER, OR HER DESIGNEE, TO NEGOTIATE, ENTER INTO, AND SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH DUO-GARD INDUSTRIES FOR DESIGNING, PRODUCING, AND DELIVERING A 730 SQUARE FOOT POLYCARBONATE CANOPY.

Authorizing the Garage Connector/Covered Walkway Project. <u>Resolution #2023-07-02</u> will authorize the covered walkway project to proceed and address FTA requirements to show progress on closing out the 2019 grant awarded to construct the new bus storage garage. You may recall that we have funds remaining in this grant and in April, bid out the covered walkway project. We rejected the single bid received in May because it was 40% higher than our estimates. Duo-Gard, a manufacturer of bus shelters and other canopy structures, will design, produce, and deliver the materials for the project for a cost not to exceed \$160,000, which includes a 14% contingency.

#2023-07-03: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES HONORING RICHARD BROCKETT, BOARD MEMBER, IN APPRECIATION FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE.

**Thank you, Mr. Brockett.** We extend grateful appreciation to Richard Brockett for 14 years of dedicated service on the board of trustees. Mr. Brockett served on committees and actively attended numerous functions during these years as *PARTA* established the Kent Central Gateway multimodal facility, built out retail spaces, held Veterans' Day ceremonies, opened the CNG fueling station, and introduced trolley buses into service.

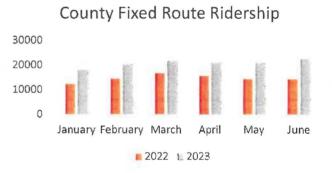
New Transit Scheduling, Routing, and Payment Systems Launch Successfully. The new fixed route software and equipment went live on July 10, following a month of "soft" launch activities designed to smooth the transition for our team and passengers. Free fares from June 4-July 8 allowed old equipment to be replaced in buses and supported promotion of the new fare collection system. Employees from several departments hosted informational tables at KCG and UH Ravenna to communicate the changes and help people set up accounts. We continue working with social service agencies to transition clients to the new system.

Parking System Upgrades. Significant upgrades are also underway to make paying for parking at KCG easier than ever. Mobile pay will allow guests to scan a QR code printed on the ticket and pay with their phone by credit, debit, PayPal, Google Pay or Apply Pay. E-Ticketing will allow guests to pay for parking in advance by scanning a barcode on their phone upon arrival. Preselling e-tickets will allow better planning for special events. Credit card terminal upgrades will allow guests to use credit, Google Pay, and Apple Pay at exit lanes and the pay-on-foot machines, a service frequently requested by deck patrons.

**Service Reports.** Ridership. Total county fixed route and DART ridership increased by 32.77% through June, as compared to June 2022 with total county service performing 146,174 trips as compared to 110,093 trips performed through June 2022.

County fixed route service has increased by approximately 40.39% as compared to last year, with 124,620 trips completed through June as compared to 88,770 trips completed through June 2022.

DART service has increased by 1.08% through June as compared to June 2022, with 21,554 trips completed as compared to 21,323 trips completed through June 2022.



Overall ridership, including campus service, increased by 41.86%, with campus up by 49.83%. Total system ridership totaled 365,809 as compared to 257,858 through June 2022.

On-Time Compliance. <u>ADA Complementary Paratransit Service.</u> ADA on-time compliance was 96.90% in June as compared to 96.76% in May. Of 840 trips, 26 were performed late, with the latest running 27 minutes behind. <u>General Public (non-ADA) DART.</u> On-time performance for general public, non-ADA trips increased to 96.54% for June, as compared to 95.27% in May 2023.

<u>Vehicle Preventative Maintenance (PM).</u> On-time compliance with established PM inspection schedules was 98% in June as compared to 99% in May 2023.

Parking Deck. A total of 7,749 cars used the deck in June, a 7% decrease as compared to May and 3% less than total usage through June 2022. Overall, parking is tracking closely with last year.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. If you have any questions prior to the Board meeting, please feel free to contact me by calling (330) 676-6315, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Amrhein.c16@partaonline.org">Amrhein.c16@partaonline.org</a>.



# Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership Program Fact Sheet

#### What is the Workforce Mobility Partnership Program?

The Workforce Mobility Partnership Program was first established in Section 755.20 of House Bill 23. Through this act, \$15 million is made available each State Fiscal Year for 2024-2025 to support projects in the rural and urban areas of Ohio that easily and efficiently transport resident workforce members to economically significant employment centers or to places of employment outside of their resident community.

#### Who can apply for Workforce Mobility Partnership Program funding?

Eligible applicants of this program are urban and rural transit systems in the state as defined by section 306.30 to 306.53 of the Ohio Revised Code. Eligible applicants may jointly apply for program funding. Additionally, eligible applicants may sponsor applications that include other public bodies, private entities and non-profits to maximize project benefits.

# What are examples of project types that can be considered for Workforce Mobility Partnership Program Funding?

Capital, Planning and/or Operating projects that create more or new access to employment opportunities and have been proven eligible for FHWA Flex funding. Each project will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for eligibility. Examples of projects that may be considered are:

- Planning projects (ex: feasibility study for workforce shuttle service)
- Operating Costs to provide service for workforce transportation needs.
- Infrastructure (ex: multimodal transit centers)
- Equipment (upgrading equipment in transit buses to operate service more efficiently)
- Technology (mobile routers, fare collection systems, communication systems, wi-fi services)

# What are examples of project types that can be considered for Workforce Mobility Partnership Program Funding?

Projects that do not advance the objectives of the program or are deemed ineligible for FHWA Federal Flex and Federal Transit Administration program eligibility. Examples include:

- Operating costs to preserve existing service
- Preventive maintenance costs

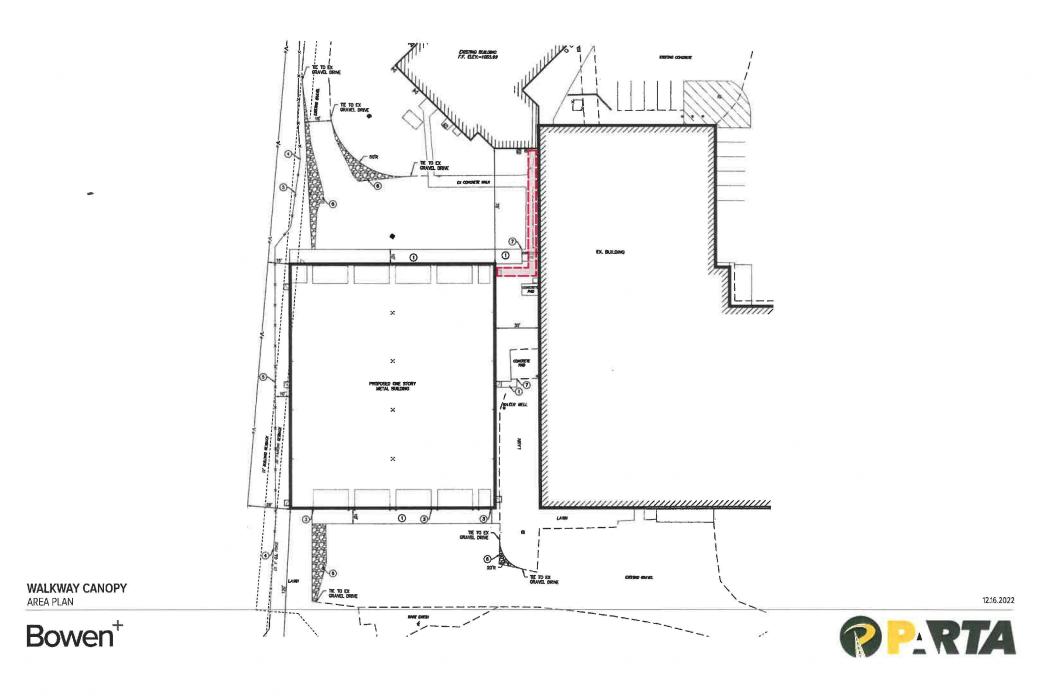
Last Updated: 6/5/2023

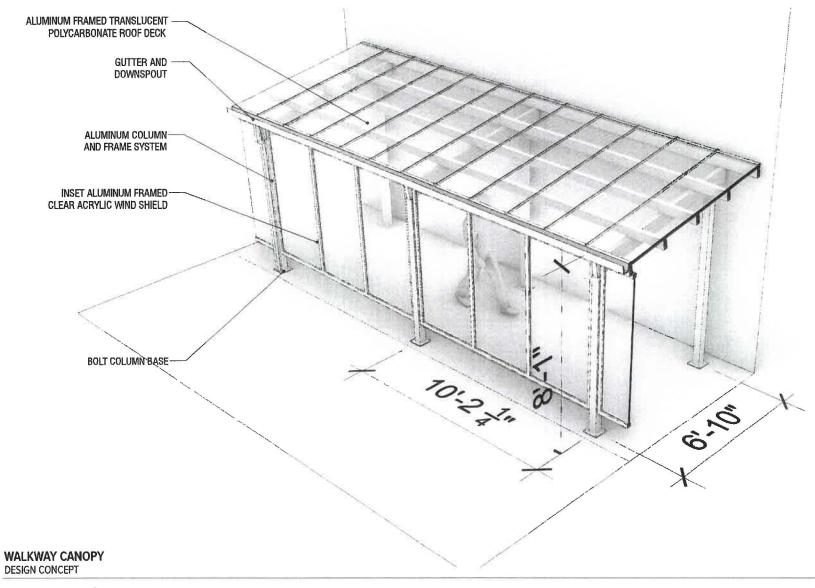
#### How do I apply for Workforce Mobility Partnership Program Funding?

Interested applicants will be required to submit an online Letter of Intent (LOI) prior to applying for funding. The Letter of Intent form can be accessed <u>HERE</u>. SFY 2024 LOI submissions are due by 11:59pm on July 8, 2023.

LOI submissions will be reviewed by ODOT – Office of Transit staff. Applicants will be notified of their LOI submission status and will be given instructions on how to apply for projects deemed eligible for program funding.

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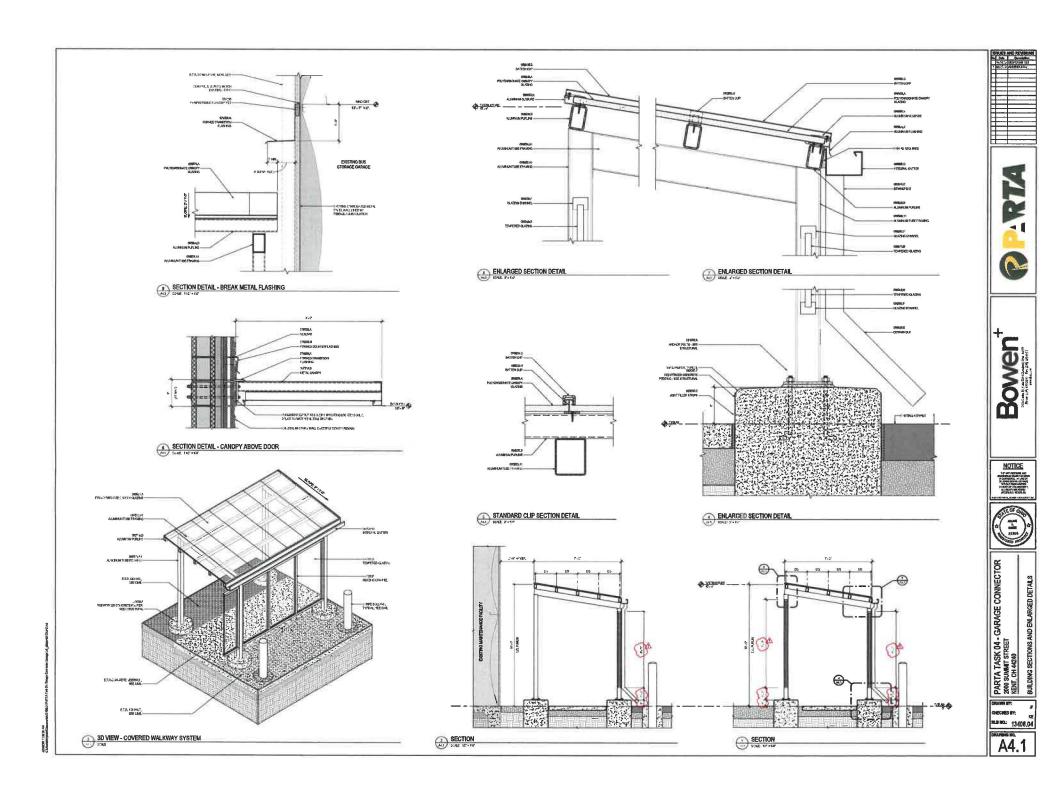


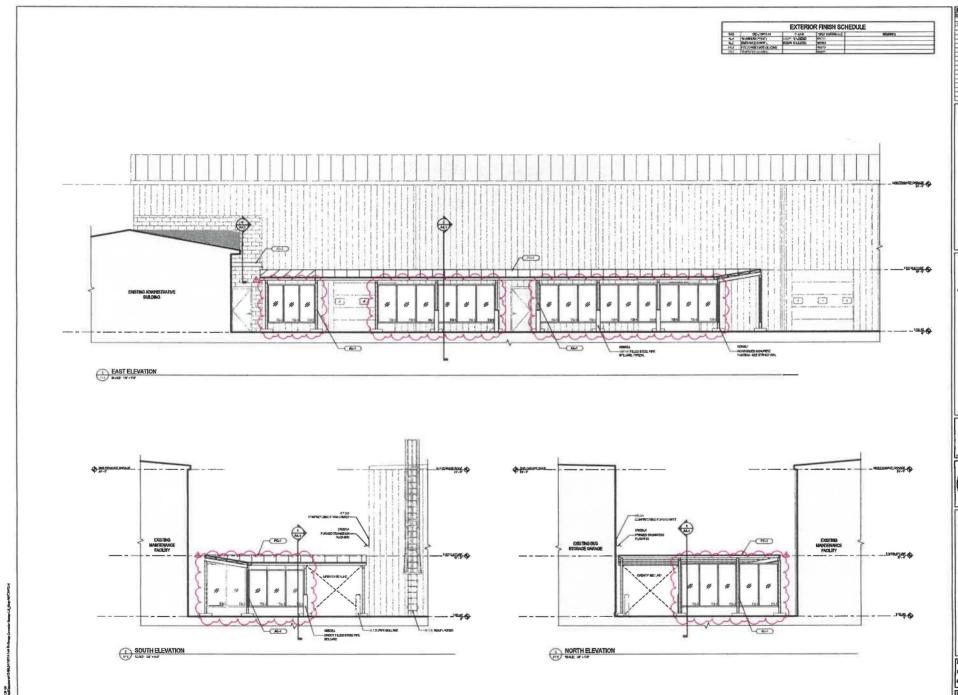






12.16.202





HALL SOPPORTS

(1) 10 2 ACCOMES









PARTA TASK 04 - GARAGE CONNECTOR 2000 SUMAT STRET KENT, OH 4240

DISAMBLES: 13408'04

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MENDO: 13408'04

A3.1

PARTA
Garage Connector
2000 Summit Road
Kent, Ohio



March 21, 2023



#### **Estimate Summary**

	Louinato Can	rrierry		
CSI Division	Division Title	% of Cost		otal Cost
010000	General Requirements	9.81%	\$	17,913
020000	Existing Conditions	0.71%	\$	1,300
030000	Concrete	8.55%	\$	15,600
100000	Specialties	75.01%	\$	136,900
310000	Earthwork	2.11%	\$	3,850
320000	Exterior Improvements	2.71%	\$	4,955
330000	Utilities	1.10%	\$	2,000
Total Dire	ct Construction Cost	100.00%	\$	182,518
Payment	and Performance Bond	1.25%	\$	2,280
General C	ontractor Overhead and Profit	10.00%	\$	18,480
Total Con	struction Cost		\$	203,278
Alternate			unti	
1. Awning	s at Personnel Doors	Add	\$	5,400
2. Pine Bo	ollards with HDPE Covers	Add	\$	5,245

PARTA
Garage Connector
2000 Summit Road
Kent, Ohio



March 21, 2023



#### **Estimate Detail**

CSI Code A BP	Description of Work	Quantity	Unit of Measure		Unit Cost	[	xtended Total
Division 0:	10000 - General Requirements	馬里利德				\$	17,913
013100	Project Management and Coordination					\$	11,700
	project manager [w/GC OH&P]	1	lpsm	\$	s (grammer e puese no robote ususcuesto).	\$	P. N. H. ST. A. P. ST. ST. ST. ST. ST. ST. ST. ST. ST. ST
d (depresa to fu	project superintendent @ 50% time	2	month	\$	5,600.00	\$	11,200
	building permit fee(s)	1	lpsm	\$	500.00	\$	500
015000	Temporary Facilities and Controls					\$	2,100
	field office set-up and breakdown (internal space)	1	lpsm	\$	1,350.00	\$	1,350
	maintenance and protection of traffic/pedestrians	1	lpsm	\$	500.00	\$	500
	temporary construction signage	1	lpsm	\$	250.00	\$	250
017300	Execution				triser	\$	4,113
	construction survey/layout	1.5	day	\$	1,425.00	\$	2,138
	misc. labor, material, supplies, tools, etc.	1	lpsm	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500
	dumpster(s)	1	each	\$	475.00	\$	475
Division O	20000 - Existing Conditions				916 B	\$	1,300
024113	Selective Site Demolition					\$	1,300
	demo concrete sidewalk	65	sqft	\$	20.00	\$	1,300
division 03	30000 - Concrete					\$	15,600
033000	Cast-in-Place Concrete			-		\$	15,600
	Concrete Foundations		1 2 3 PW 30 -01	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	W-7 ( 10		12 72 2
	20" diameter column pier(s) w/reinforcement	24	each	\$	575.00	\$	13,800
1	Miscellaneous Concrete		=		Me experies to		260
	grout column base plates	24	each	\$	75.00	\$	1,800
ivision 10	00000 · Specialties				MILE STATE OF THE	\$	136,900
107326	Walkway Coverings	B 9				\$	136,900
	walkway canopy structure w/glass wind screen walls and roof drainage system	740	sqft	\$	185.00	\$	136,900
Division 3:	10000 · Earthwork		Part of the			\$	3,850
310100	Maintenance of Earthwork					\$	1,500
de santos	misc. site maintenance	1	Ipsm	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500

PARTA Garage Connector 2000 Summit Road Kent, Ohio



March 21, 2023



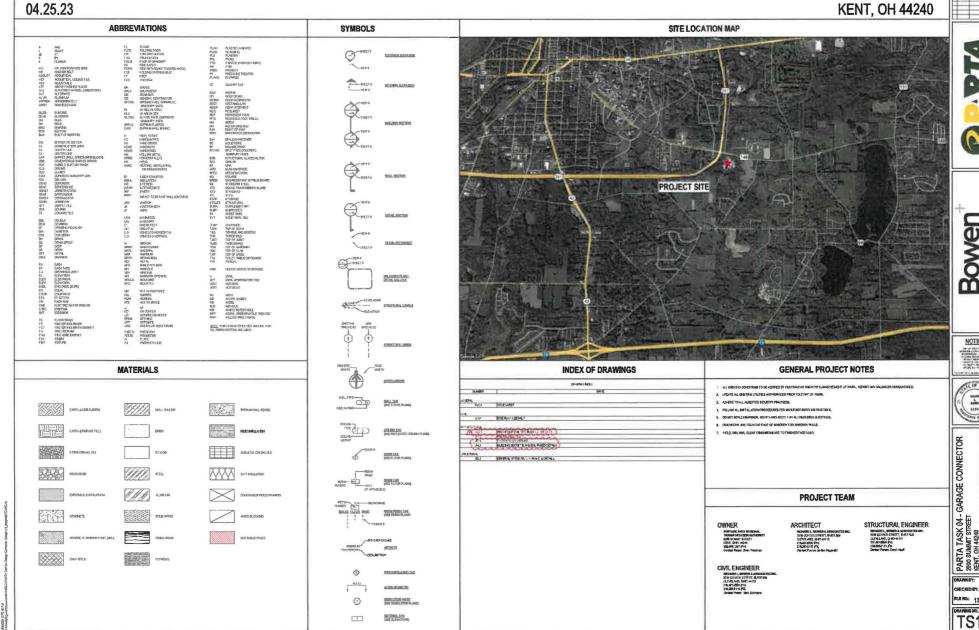
#### **Estimate Detail**

Description of Work	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Б	tended Total
Site Clearing	11.0		BUILTING	\$	1,250
strip and export misc. spoils	25	cuyd	\$ 50.00	\$	1,250
Grading				\$	1,100
establish subgrade	440	sqft	\$ 2.50	\$	1,100
20000 · Exterior Improvements		ē, llu j		\$	4,955
Concrete Paving		me i		\$	3,060
4" concrete sidewalk w/4" stone base	204	sqft	\$ 15.00	\$	3,060
Aggregate Surfacing		AL ATTE		\$	1,770
gravel/stone surfacing	236	sqft	\$ 7.50	\$	1,770
Turf and Grasses		HILL RE		\$	125
lawn restoration	1	lpsm	\$ 125.00	\$	125
30000 · Utilities				\$	2,000
Common Work Results for Utilities		MILI		\$	1,500
location/protection of existing utilities	1	lpsm	\$ 1,500.00	\$	1,500
Stormwater Utilities		717.07		\$	500
storm cleanout	1	each	\$ 500.00	\$	500
	Site Clearing strip and export misc. spoils  Grading establish subgrade  20000 Exterior Improvements  Concrete Paving 4" concrete sidewalk w/4" stone base  Aggregate Surfacing gravel/stone surfacing  Turf and Grasses lawn restoration  30000 Utilities  Common Work Results for Utilities location/protection of existing utilities  Stormwater Utilities	Site Clearing  strip and export misc. spoils  Grading  establish subgrade  440  0000 Exterior Improvements  Concrete Paving  4" concrete sidewalk w/4" stone base  Aggregate Surfacing  gravel/stone surfacing  236  Turf and Grasses  lawn restoration  1  0000 Utilities  Common Work Results for Utilities  location/protection of existing utilities  1  Stormwater Utilities	Description of Work  Site Clearing  strip and export misc. spoils  Grading  establish subgrade  establish subgrade  Concrete Paving  4" concrete sidewalk w/4" stone base  Aggregate Surfacing  gravel/stone surfacing  236 sqft  Turf and Grasses  lawn restoration  1 lpsm  Common Work Results for Utilities  location/protection of existing utilities  1 lpsm  Stormwater Utilities	Description of Work  Quantity  Measure  Unit Cost  Site Clearing  strip and export misc, spoils  25 cuyd \$ 50,000  Grading  establish subgrade  440 sqft \$ 2,500  CO000 Exterior Improvements  Concrete Paving  4" concrete sidewalk w/4" stone base  204 sqft \$ 15,000  Aggregate Surfacing  gravel/stone surfacing  236 sqft \$ 7,500  Turf and Grasses  lawn restoration  1 lpsm \$ 125,000  CO000 Utilities  Common Work Results for Utilities  location/protection of existing utilities  1 lpsm \$ 1,500,000  Stormwater Utilities	Description of Work   Quantity   Measure   Unit Cost

# PARTA TASK 04 - GARAGE CONNECTOR

**ADDENDUM #2** 

2000 SUMMIT STREET **KENT, OH 44240** 



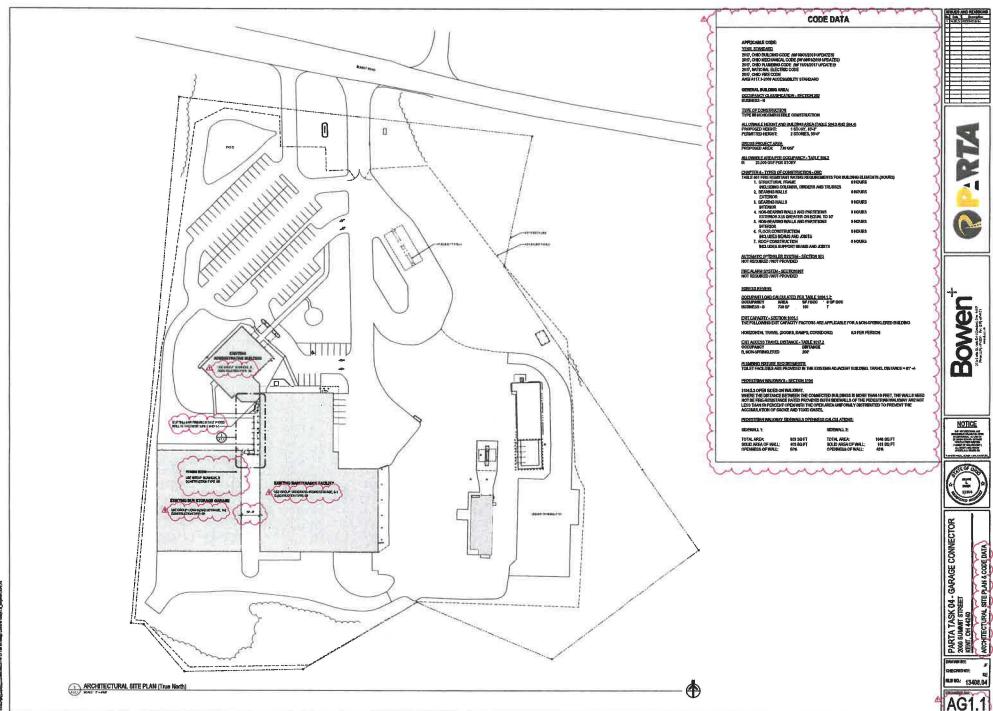
























MESSO: 13408.04

AG1.1



Administrative Offices (330) 678-7745 Fax (330) 676-6310

> Customer Service (330) 676-6701

TTY (Hearing Impaired) (330) 676-5100

Scheduling & Operations (330) 678-1287 or 1-877- RIDE RTA Fax (330) 678-7751

May 12, 2023

CRS Metalworx, Inc. Lea Hlifka, President 1059 Eagon Street Barberton, OH 44203

RE: PARTA Garage Connector Project

Dear Ms. Hlifka:

Thank you for your bid dated May 10, 2023, in response to *PARTA*'s Garage Connector procurement. Unfortunately, your company was not selected to perform the construction on this project. Therefore, we are enclosing your original bid bond that was required with your bid.

As a recipient of federal grant funds, *PARTA* is tasked with being good stewards of public dollars. The estimate of probable cost for the Garage Connector was \$214,000. The CRS Metalworx proposal was more than 40% over our estimate. At that cost, we are unable to accept your proposal.

We appreciate your participation in this procurement and understand the time and effort that developing proposals entails. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Ashley Forbes

Grants & Procurement Manager

Enc. Bid Bond

#### **ACHIEVE 360°**

Date: 05/10/2023 Project Information: **PARTA Task 04 Garage Connector** 

2000 Summit Street

Scope of Work: Quotation #: **Materials Only** 

18663

of

2

Revision #:

Page:

Quotation estimated by: ed

To: PARTA Portage Area Regional Transport Authority

Kent

Phone: Fax:

OH

44240

Mobile:

Attention: Brian Trautman Email: btrautman@partaonline.org

#### Duo-Gard Industries, Inc. is pleased to provide the following Bid:

The following includes an aluminum ground up Covered Walkway to connect the Administrative Building to a new pre-engineered Bus Storage Garage as noted herein. See below for scope clarification. All dimensions listed below are nominal, as shown on documents provided.

#### System Proposed: Series 3100 25mm Low Profile Mullion System

System comprised of multi-cellular panel framed in aluminum channels, pressure cap and low friction gasket. Full aluminum structural package from Duo-Gard attached to foundation provided by others. All foundation and foundation design, provided by others, must be adequate to meet all structural loading requirements for the project.

		WALKW	AY SCH	EDUL	E
Qty	Description	Width	Length	SqFt	Slope :Notes
1	Covered Walkway	7′ 2″	101'9"	730	2:12 includes glass wind walls
1 Total	I Quantity			730	Total Square Footage

#### System Chacifications

DUO-GAR

System Specificati	iulia.										
Aluminum Finish:	Class 1 - Clear Anodized  To closely match aluminum framing			· Glazi	Glazing Color:			Clear or Opal			
Flashing Finish:				Glazing Finish:			Standard				
Steel Finish:	N/A					Glazi	ing Profile:		3 w	all	
System Thickness:		2 1/16"	Channel Width:		2	1/2" Glazi	ing Thicknes	s:	25n	ım	
Design Criteria:	ASSUN	MED ASCE 7-	-16, Risk Category I	I, Exposu	re C						
Design Load:	87	psf	Snow Load:	20	psf	'Snow Load Drift:	61.84	psf	Wind Load:	70	psf
U-value:	0.34	Btu/hr.ft2.F	LT: (Opal)	35	%	SHGC:	0.51	(Opal)	STC Rating:	20	dB
Column Spacing:	8	feet	Rafter Spacing:	7.17	feet	Purlin/Girt Spacin	g: <b>N/A</b>	feet	Mullion Spacing:	24	inches

#### Material Notes and Exclusions:

- · All foundations, concrete slab and masonry/concrete by others assumed to be level and in plane for proper attachment of proposed system.
- · Duo-Gard requires a minimum 2:12 slope.
- · No item may attach, be suspended from or penetrate the proposed system (aluminum extrusions, sub-structure and/or polycarbonate) without coordination.
- · Glazing being provided for wind walls will be 1/4" clear tempered safety glass.
- · Warranty: 10 year polycarbonate: 5 year anodized finish: 1 year system (does not include installation workmanship); 1 year installation.
- Pricing is based on Bowen & Associates drawings A1.1, S0.1 dated 04/04/23, A3.1, A4.1 dated 05/02/23, specification section 08 65 00 Glazed Canopies. addendum # 1 dated 04/24/23 and addendum #2 dated 05/02/23.
- · Shipping is an estimated cost via best way, cost increase due to fuel surcharges, etc. will be assessed at time of shipment.

#### Prevailing Wage Installation Notes and Exclusions:

- · Any associated costs for permits not included. If Duo-Gard has to perform field verification/measuring additional fees will apply.
- · Installation includes one (1) mobilization. Installation services based on expertise to install to our specification.
- · Customer to provide a location for the disposal of all debris, responsibility transfers to GC upon completion of installation.
- · Not responsible for removal/replacement of materials damaged by other trades or weather event.
- · All field labor for installation services will be performed during standard business hours. Labor based on Ironworker and Glazier rates.

Project Pricing and Customer Approval:

Delivered Pricing: \$140,618.00 Prevailing Wage Installation: \$34,744.00

Total: \$175,362.00

Approval - Customer Signature Date Delivered Pricing Includes: Materials, PE calculations, stamped drawings and shipping. Sales/Use tax not included. Duo-Gard Contact: Shawn Mahoney t: 224-571-0794

- · Pricing is valid for 30 days. Due to current market fluctuations, Duo-Gard reserves the right to update pricing based on current market conditions at time of order.
- · All payments made by credit card are subject to a 3% processing fee to be added at time of payment.
- · Duo-Gard will not accept or be held liable for Liquidated Damages of any kind. Current market conditions may dictate lead times for your project.
- Projects that do not deliver within a nine (9) month window from the awarded date of project are subject to repricing.
- · Please discuss lead times for submittals, shop drawings, and production prior to placing your order; due to the custom nature of your project and market conditions, lead times vary.



Date: 05/10/2023
Project Information:

PARTA Task 04 Garage Connector

2000 Summit Street

Kent OH 44240

Scope of Work:

**Materials Only** 

Ouotation #: 18663

2

Revision #:

Page:

of 2

#### Standard Terms of Purchase

- The contract price is based upon the particular specifications or other contract documents which are specifically identified in the quotation/order acknowledgement. Items omitted are excluded.
- The Customer is responsible for providing a deposit at time of purchase unless an option other than stipulated in this agreement is discussed and agreed upon. Payment terms to be determined at time of purchase.
- 3. Duo-Gard may agree to grant credit terms to the Customer. Duo-Gard will not be liable to the Customer for any refusal to grant credit. Any credit terms are subject to Duo-Gard's discretion, the Customer's credit or financial standing becomes unsatisfactory, Duo-Gard may withdraw or modify the credit terms. The Customer shall be responsible for Duo-Gard's costs of collection, including reasonable attorney fees in the event of non-payment.
- If payments due to Duo-Gard are not paid in accordance with the payment schedule in this agreement, Duo-Gard may suspend production, deliveries, installations and release of liens until the scheduled payments are made.
- 5. The Customer will be charged 1.5% interest for each month the final payment has not been received past the date agreed upon per contract
- Pricing includes (1) set of submittal drawings with (1) revision. Additional revisions or resealing of drawings will incur additional costs.
   Any out of scope items required to be included in submittal drawings must be coordinated up front to avoid revisions.
- 7. Finishes, materials, member sizes, steel grades, etc. that are not specified will be assumed. Changes may incur additional costs.
- Structural loading and design values that are not specified will be assumed per ATC Hazards site, loading information required, pricing is subject to change upon final review.
- 9. All additional delivery costs arising from local labor agreements shall be borne by the Customer.
- 10. Should the Customer default on payment to Duo-Gard, and if settlement cannot be reached between the two parties, then both parties agree to settle their dispute in arbitration, regardless of the nature of the dispute. The Customer will assume, all attorney fees, arbitrations cost, collection costs, as well as, expenses incurred by Duo-Gard, regardless of the outcome of the arbitration.
- 11. Duo-Gard reserves the right to investigate and resolve all issues to the most efficient and cost effective methods available.
- 12. All change orders must be in writing and signed by all parties. The Customer agrees that changes resulting in the furnishing of additional labor or materials will be approved prior to the commencement of the extra work.
- 13. Any design changes that affect the original costs estimated for the project or design changes after approved submittals, may result in additional cost to the Customer. Duo-Gard will provide a change order for this cost that must be signed before proceeding. All changes that increase the initial timeline will also change the duration of the original production schedule and installation.
- 14. The timeline for fabrication does not start until Duo-Gard receives final approved submittals from the Customer or the Architect and the deposit.
- 15. There will be a minimum 20% charge for all cancelled orders.
- 16. The quoted timeline is an estimate. Duo-Gard will not be liable for any loss or damage to the Customer or others due to delay or not delivering in accordance with the estimated date.
- 17. The Customer shall inspect the goods immediately upon receipt and within 2 days, notify Duo-Gard of any claim that goods are non-conforming. Duo-Gard shall be allowed reasonable opportunity to inspect and cure any claim default.
- 18. As a service to our Customers, for any completed orders that cannot be accepted within 5-7 days of the original ship date, Duo-Gard can make arrangements to store materials. Fees will be assessed per truckload per week. Duo-Gard will not be liable for concealed damage on materials stored longer than 30 days.
- Material only deliveries are FOB Canton, MI. The Customer accepts responsibility of all materials from the moment the product leaves Duo-Gard's dock.
- 20. This agreement shall be governed and constituted to the laws of Michigan.

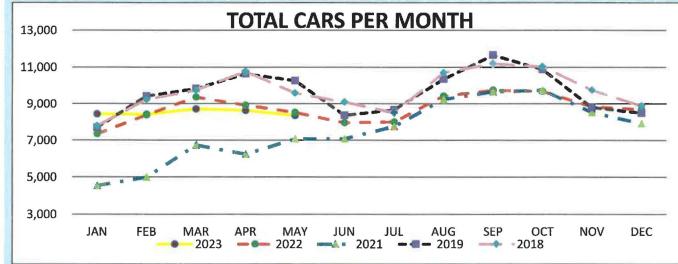
Signed:	Date:
Customer Acceptance	
Company:	

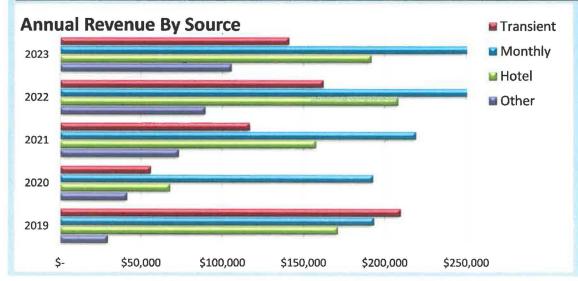


# KENT CENTRAL GATEWAY PARKING SUMMARY -

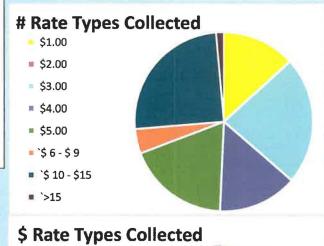
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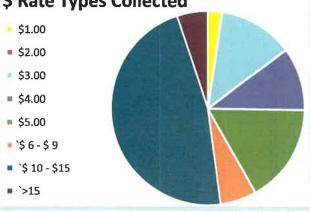
6 Month Lookback						
	Monthly	Transient	Total	Cars/Day	Last	Last Year
Dec-22	3,637	5,057	8,694	280	-2%	10%
Jan-23	4,167	4,278	8,445	272	-3%	15%
Feb-23	4,328	4,093	8,421	301	0%	0%
Mar-23	4,309	4,406	8,715	281	3%	-7%
Apr-23	4,284	4,350	8,634	288	-1%	-3%
May-23	3,921	4,439	8,360	279	-3%	-2%





Annual Comparison								
	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2021</u>					
JAN	8,445	7,349	4,534					
FEB	8,421	8,391	4,982					
MAR	8,715	9,363	6,738					
APR	8,634	8,923	6,249					
MAY		8,529	7,067					
JUN		7,967	7,084					
JUL		8,009	7,762					
AUG		9,437	9,248					
SEP		9,749	9,665					
OCT		9,693	9,749					
NOV		8,840	8,538					
DEC		8,694	7,919					
TOTAL	34,215	104,944	89,535					
	0.6%	17.2%	55.5%					

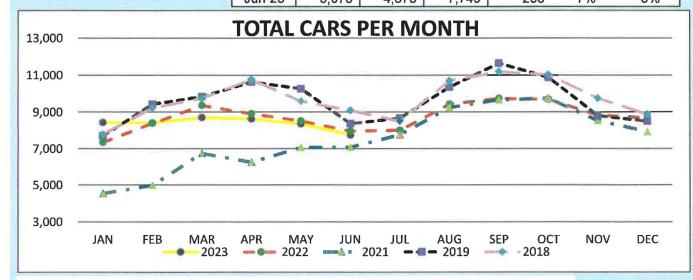


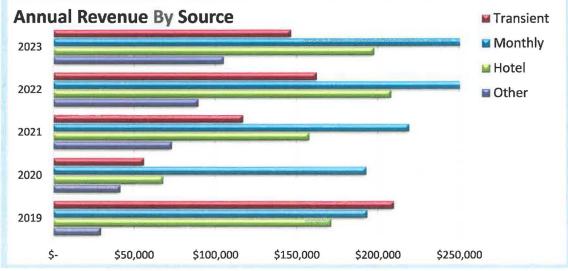




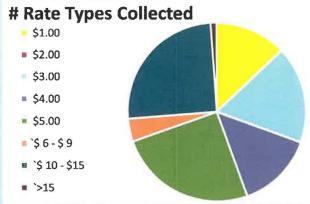
# KENT CENTRAL GATEWAY PARKING SUMMARY - JUNE 2023

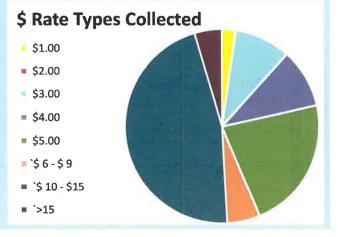
6 Month Lookback						
	Monthly	Transient	Total	Cars/Day	Last	Last Year
Jan-23	4,167	4,278	8,445	272	-3%	15%
Feb-23	4,328	4,093	8,421	301	0%	0%
Mar-23	4,309	4,406	8,715	281	3%	-7%
Apr-23	4,284	4,350	8,634	288	-1%	-3%
May-23	3,921	4,439	8,360	270	-3%	-2%
Jun-23	3.076	4 673	7 749	258	-7%	-3%





Annual Comparison							
	2023	2022	2021				
JAN	8,445	7,349	4,534				
FEB	8,421	8,391	4,982				
MAR	8,715	9,363	6,738				
APR	8,634	8,923	6,249				
MAY	8,360	8,529	7,067				
JUN	7,749	7,967	7,084				
JUL		8,009	7,762				
AUG		9,437	9,248				
SEP		9,749	9,665				
OCT		9,693	9,749				
NOV		8,840	8,538				
DEC		8,694	7,919				
TOTAL	50,324	104,944	89,535				
	-0.4%	17.2%	55.5%				





#### **RESOLUTION #2023-07-01**

A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) FOR SFY 2024 AND 2025 TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE GRANTS. THESE GRANTS MAY INCLUDE THE OHIO ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSIT FARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THE URBAN TRANSIT PROGRAM, THE OHIO TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (OTP2), THE SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (SECTION 5310), AND THE OHIO WORKFORCE MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through its SFY 2024 and 2025 programs, has made funds available to assist public transportation systems in Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (*PARTA*) is the transit operator for Portage County; and

**WHEREAS**, *PARTA* is presently providing transit service and observing all federal and state rules regarding these programs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** by the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (*PARTA*) Board of Trustees that:

- 1. The General Manager, or her designee, is hereby authorized to file applications and execute contracts for the SFY 2024 and 2025 Ohio Elderly and Disabled Transit Fare Assistance Program, Urban Transit Program, Ohio Transit Partnership Program (OTP2), Specialized Transportation Program (Section 5310), and Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership Program on behalf of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (*PARTA*).
- 2. The General Manager, or her designee, is authorized to furnish such additional information as the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) may require in connection with these applications.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

The undersigned duly qualified Board President, acting on behalf of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (*PARTA*), certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 27, 2023.

Date		
Dave Gynn, President	Attested	_
Board of Trustees		

#### **RESOLUTION #2023-07-02**

A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (*PARTA*) BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER, OR HER DESIGNEE, TO NEGOTIATE, ENTER INTO, AND SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH DUO-GARD INDUSTRIES FOR DESIGNING, PRODUCING, AND DELIVERING A 730 SQUARE FOOT POLYCARBONATE CANOPY.

WHEREAS, PARTA received grant funding in FY2019 from the 5339(b) Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program to build a bus storage facility; and

WHEREAS, after completing a bus storage facility with a fitness and storage area, there were still federal grant funds remaining for this project; and

WHEREAS, *PARTA* commissioned Richard L. Bowen & Associates to design plans for a 730 square foot polycarbonate canopy, concrete walkway, and two (2) building mounted aluminum awnings ("garage connector") along with associated site improvements; and

WHEREAS, PARTA issued a Notice to Bidders in April 2023 for furnishing materials and performing labor for the Garage Connector Project; and

WHEREAS, PARTA received one (1) bid on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, that came in more than 40 percent higher than estimated and was subsequently rejected; and

WHEREAS, PARTA worked with a manufacturer, Duo-Gard Industries, to design, produce, and deliver the materials needed for a covered walkway between the two garages; and

**WHEREAS**, *PARTA* will use the remaining funding from the 5339(b) Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program for said services in an amount not to exceed \$160,000 for the total project, which includes local match and a contingency of approximately 14 percent.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** by the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (*PARTA*) Board of Trustees that:

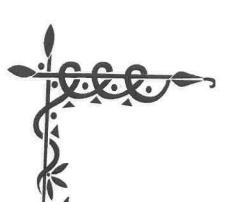
The General Manager, or her designee, is hereby authorized to negotiate, enter into, and sign an agreement with Duo-Gard Industries for designing, producing, and delivering a 730 square foot polycarbonate canopy in an amount not to exceed \$160,000, including local match and approximately 14 percent contingency.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

The undersigned duly qualified Board President, acting on behalf of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (*PARTA*), certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees held on July 27, 2023.

Date	
Dave Gynn, President	Attested
Board of Trustees	

Attachment 8c



#### **R**ESOLUTION #2023-07-03

RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (*PARTA*) BOARD OF TRUSTEES HONORING RICHARD BROCKETT, BOARD MEMBER, IN APPRECIATION FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE.

**Thereas,** Richard Brockett has been a member of the *PARTA* Board of Trustees appointed by the Portage County Board of Commissioners representing Northern Portage County from 2009-2023; and

Othereas, Richard Brockett has been a faithful and valuable member serving as a Trustee, Member of the Administration Committee, and Member of the Personnel Committee; and

**Thereas**, Richard Brockett is highly respected by his fellow Board members and the General Manager and staff of *PARTA*; and

**Thereas**, Richard Brockett has improved the quality of life for the citizens of Portage County through his dedication and service to *PARTA*.

Transportation Authority (*PARTA*) Board of Trustees that they extend their grateful appreciation by this special resolution acknowledging Richard Brockett for his dedicated service and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

The undersigned duly qualified Board President, acting on behalf of the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (*PARTA*), certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Trustees held on July 27, 2023.

Date	
Dave Gynn, President Board of Trustees	Attested
NO CO	

# PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA)

# **2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES Meeting Schedule**

**JANUARY 25, 2024** 

**FEBRUARY 22, 2024** 

**MARCH 28, 2024** 

**APRIL 25, 2024** 

MAY 23, 2024

**JUNE 27, 2024** 

**JULY 25, 2024** 

**AUGUST 22, 2024** 

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2024** 

**OCTOBER 24, 2024** 

**NOVEMBER 21, 2024** 

**DECEMBER 19, 2024** 

The regular Board meetings of PARTA are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, except as noted in red. The dates in red reflect those meetings that have been changed from the normal 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday due to the holidays.

All Board meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Board Room of PARTA at 2000 Summit Road, Kent, OH 44240.

# PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA)

# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024 Finance Committee Meeting Schedule**

**No January Meeting** 

February 20, 2024

March 26, 2024

April 23, 2024

May 21, 2024

June 25, 2024

July 23, 2024

August 20, 2024

**September 24, 2024** 

October 22, 2024

Thursday, November 14, 2024 @ 3 p.m.

**December 17, 2024** 

The PARTA Board of Trustees Finance Committee meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, except as noted in red. The dates in red reflect those meetings that have been changed from the normal 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday.

All Finance Committee meetings are held at 11:30 a.m., except as noted, in the Board Room of *PARTA* at 2000 Summit Road, Kent, OH 44240.

## AMATS approves \$19M for Kent Main Street project

#### **Eric Marotta**

Akron Beacon Journal USA TODAY NETWORK

Regional planners have approved funding for the \$19 million reconstruction of East Main Street (state Route 59) in Kent.

A \$2.9 million reconstruction of the intersection of state routes 14 and 43 in Streetsboro was also cleared as part of nearly \$1 billion allocated Thursday by the Akron Metropolitan Area

#### **AMATS**

Continued from Page 1A

Transportation Study, a regional agency that determines how federal and state transportation dollars are spent.

Spanning fiscal years 2024 through 2027, the new \$938.5 million Transportation Improvement Program includes about \$523 million for highway projects, mostly for resurfacing, nearly \$400 million for public transit needs and \$16 million for bike and pedestrian projects throughout Portage and Summit counties and a portion of northeastern Wayne County.

"Capacity projects to add travel lanes on highways are among the most expensive to build. That's why they only account for about 15% of this latest program. As an agency, we want our region's available funding to be invested in communities based on need given today's fiscal realities," said David Pulay, Transportation Improvement Program coordinator.

#### Roundabouts, left-turns planned for East Main Street

While final plans were not immediately available, improvements to East Main Street in Kent included roundabouts at the eastern and western ends of the project at Willow Street and Overlook Drive. The plans also changed access to many roads intersecting East Main Street from the north, including Willow Street, Lincoln Street, University Drive, Sherman Street, Linden Road, Wilson Avenue, Luther Avenue, Elmwood Drive, Frances Avenue, Fair



Jim Myers of Kent looks at a large drawing of the East Main Street Project roundabout on display at a public forum in this file photo. NICHOLAS MCLAUGHLIN

view Drive and Overlook Drive.

In several locations where left turns are currently allowed, they won't be if the project goes forward as planned. Motorists also would only be able to enter those streets from the eastbound lanes, officials said at a community meeting on the project in 2021.

Most of the length of the project, with the exceptions of intersection approaches, will feature a tree-lined median and street trees on the north side of East Main Street, creating a tree-lined boulevard.

According to the city of Kent, the three-quarter mile stretch of road is one of the worst crash corridors in Summit and Portage counties.

#### I-77 widening expected to take four years

The Interstate 77 project would involve widening the highway from Ghent Road north to the Ohio Turnpike. The highway was built starting in 1961 as a four-lane, divided highway. As part of the widening, third northbound and southbound lanes would be built in the current median.

The first part of the project to be constructed, from Ghent Road to Everett Road, may begin as early as 2024 and should take two years, according to the Ohio Department of Transportation. A minimum of two lanes of traffic in each direction is expected to be maintained

during construction.

A traffic noise analysis indicates construction of one noise wall at the Ghent Road interchange is justified if nearby residents and property owners who will be surveyed by ODOT support the wall's construction.

The department has determined that noise walls along the I-77 corridor do not meet ODOT's reasonable cost criteria, but the department plans to investigate the possible construction of earthen berms to provide some level of noise abatement to residential areas along the highway.

### Metro RTA, PARTA, bike and hike trails funded

Metro RTA of Summit County and the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA) will receive nearly \$80 million in federal funding, with \$64 million going to Summit County and nearly \$14 million to Portage County for various capital projects. These projects include vehicle replacements, facility maintenance and bus stop improvements.

In Akron, Phase 4 construction of a portion of the Freedom Trail will receive \$700,000 in federal funds. Another \$700,000 in federal money will be used to build a connection on the Stow Hike & Bike Trail linking the communities of Cuyahoga Falls, Silver Lake, and Stow. Additional funds are also scheduled for engineering and construction for a portion of the Heartland Trail in Chippewa Township.

Eric Marotta can be reached at emarotta@gannett.com. Follow him on Twitter @MarottaEric.



Today is May 26, 2023.

• Hometown Bank's president, Michael A. Lewis, will serve on American Banking Association's Community Bankers Council. "Community banks play such an important role in our banking industry," Lewis said in a statement. "This appointment gives me the opportunity to represent Ohio and advocate for the continued success of America's hometown banks."

### PARTA bus service free for a month starting Monday

Ravenna Record-Courier USA TODAY NETWORK

Starting Monday, riders can catch a PARTA bus for free on the fixed route big buses.

No fare will be charged through July 8 as the public transportation system prepares to launch a new fare collection system on July 10.

"We're offering a month of free rides to give our customers time to transition to our new fare media," said PARTA General Manager Claudia Amrhein. "Our old trip cards will no longer work with new equipment being installed on our buses. We're also eliminating the use of paper tickets, paper transfers and tokens."

Beginning July 10, PARTA riders will

need to use the EZfare mobile app, a new smart card, or exact change to pay for bus fare. The improved EZfare app and smart cards allow PARTA to introduce fare capping. With fare capping, passengers never pay more per day or per month than the amount of an all-day fare in a single day or 31-day fare over a month. The free EZfare app is available to download now in the Google Play or Apple App stores.

PARTA expects to begin selling its new fare cards in the coming weeks. Riders should check PARTA's social media outlets or its website for more information. Anyone with questions about the new fare system can call PARTA's customer service line at 330-676-6701



A PARTA bus leaves the Kent Central Gateway.
LISA SCALFARO/RAVENNA RECORD-COURIER



**Today is June 28, 2023.** 

Senior Life

## Kelly: Park activities and PARTA discounts

In Sally Kelly's Senior Life column this month, she details outdoor activities and cost-effective transportation options that are available for Portage County's senior citizens.

### Sally says:

- The Portage Park District offers ADA-accessible hikes twice a month that are geared toward seniors.
- If you are 65 or older, you can ride PARTA's fixed route "big bus" in Kent and Ravenna for only 50 cents if you have a reduced fare card and you can even ride for free until July 8!



# Senior Life: Portage Parks Senior Hikes and PARTA perks

Following my column last month, I received a phone call from Chris Craycroft, executive director of Portage County Parks. She reminded me that our county parks system does offer a few hiking excursions which are geared for our senior neighbors. Twice a month, they offer "Senior Hikes" at local parks that are ADA accessible. These are slower-paced walks appropriate for all ages, plus a park staff member always accompanies the group.

The July 6 hike will be at Morgan Park in Shalersville (8828 State Route 44) at 6 p.m. On July 20, the hike will be at Headwaters Trails on state Route 700 at noon.

In August, the first hike will be at noon on Aug. 10 at the Portage Hike and Bike Trail on Cleveland Road in Ravenna. The second monthly hike will be on Aug. 24 at Trail Lake Park, also at noon.

With senior citizens in mind, these hikes are all on ADA-approved sites, you are walking with a group of other senior citizens, and a staff member of the Portage Parks will be with you, if you become ill or fall.

For more information about these hikes, contact the parks office at 330-297-7728 or at portageparkdistrict.org.

Also from last month's column came an inquiry/concern about the cost of transportation in Portage County. Well, I called PARTA to get some information about what is available for senior citizens in our county. My unprofessional interpretation of their fee schedules depends a whole lot on where you are going, where you live, and how old you are.

If you are 65 years old or older, you can ride the "Big Bus" on their fixed routes in Kent and Ravenna for 50 cents, IF you have requested a reduced fare card. The reduced fare card is available at the PARTA office on Summit Road in Kent (by the KSU football stadium). You must appear in person with an ID showing your age and county of residence. Another way to obtain this card is to go online and complete the registration form, showing your driver's license or state ID information. Send the form on your computer to ASTEZENS@PARTAONLINE.ORG. Without a reduced fare card, the big fixed route bus costs \$1 to ride.

If you call the PARTA office to schedule a bus trip (this is called Dial a Ride), the fare is \$6 per destination – \$12 to one destination and then home – unless you are physically impaired or elderly, and then you may qualify for a reduced fare (\$3 each way or for each destination).

If you are going to one of the social agencies in our community, call that agency first to see if they have any subsidized bus passes available that you could have.

Sound complicated? If you need to go somewhere in Portage County and you do not have your own transportation, call the PARTA office at 330-678-1287 and ask for specific information about how they can help you get to your destination and how much it will cost you. It will definitely be cheaper than an Uber.

In fact, I am told that until July 8, you can ride the big bus (fixed route) for free. If you ever wondered what it would be like to ride on one of PARTA's buses, now would be the time to try it!

Contact Sally Kelly at 330-687-9501 or sentrip65@yahoo.com with your senior news.