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Primary Health Solutions

Mr. Corey Watt  
Resident

#### Executive Director

Mr. Matthew M. Dutkevicz

#### Legal Counsel

Mr. Mark Landes  
Isaac Wiles  
Burkholder & Teetor, LLC

**\*\*\* PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE \*\*\***

## **Butler County Regional Transit Authority Board of Trustees**

**The BCRTA Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. In compliance with state mandates, this meeting will be held in the Board Room, at the BCRTA office located at 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, OH 45011 and will also be held electronically. Connection details may be found at: <https://www.butlercountyrta.com/about/board-meetings/>**

In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, if anyone has a disability and requires assistance or, in accordance with the Limited English Proficiency Executive Order, requires translation services, please call Mr. Matthew Dutkevicz at 513.785.5237 or 800.750.0750 (Ohio Relay Service).

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 17, 2021, 8:00 AM**

**Butler County Regional Transit Authority**

**3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, OH 45011**

**Microsoft Teams Meeting**

[Join on your computer or mobile app: Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only): [+1 614-695-4307](tel:+16146954307),[873692375](tel:+1873692375)# • Phone Conference ID: 873 692 375# • \*6 to mute/unmute

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order & Roll
- II. Consideration of Absences
- III. Approval of the Agenda (Motion Requested)
- IV. Approval of the February 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Motion Requested)
- V. Comments from Citizens
- VI. Secretary/Treasurer's Report – January 2021
- VII. Committee & Staff Reports
  - a. OKI
  - b. Metrics
  - c. Title VI
  - d. Marketing & Outreach
- VIII. Director's Report
  - a. Healthcare
  - b. Financial Projections
- IX. Action Items
  - a. Resolution No. 21-03-01: Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an Agreement for Information Technology Services.

**Next Meeting Date:**

**April 21, 2021 @ 8:00 AM**

**Butler County RTA – Hamilton Board Room**

**3045 Moser Court**

**Hamilton, OH 45011**

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 17, 2021, 8:00 AM**

**Butler County Regional Transit Authority**

**3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, OH 45011**

- b. Resolution No. 21-03-02: Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute a Five (5) Year Contract for the Purchase, Service, Support, Maintenance and Hosting of a Fixed Route Scheduling, Dispatch and Passenger Information Software and Required Equipment.
- X. Adjourn (Motion Requested)

**Next Meeting Date:**

**April 21, 2021 @ 8:00 AM**

**Butler County RTA – Hamilton Board Room**

**3045 Moser Court**

**Hamilton, OH 45011**

## 2021 Butler County RTA Board of Trustees Attendance

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bautz, Travis	X	X										
Chandler, Jessica	X	X										
Fehr, David	X	X										
Foster, Jim	X	X										
Gordon, Perry	X	X										
Lawson, Chris	E	X										
Schmitt, Nancy	X	X										
Scott Jones, Anita	E	X										
Watt, Corey	X	X										

X = Present

E = Excused

A = Absent



## **VI. Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Weidner presented the treasurer's report for the month of December 2020 in addition to a yearend summary and the 2020 custodial credit card report:

For the month ended December, Ms. Weidner highlighted some of the variances to budget that occurred. With the suspension of the 42X in early June, SORTA refunded approximately \$293K of the funds transferred to them at the start of 2020. This refund pushed Local Funding over budget where it had been under-budget due to less service at Miami University. The reduction of the ACA Fine accrual decreased Misc. Items and increased the negative variance to budget.

For the year ended December 2020, Ms. Weidner explained that most of the year end adjustments had been made, but adjustments to the Net Pension Liability, and Net OPEB Liability were not included in the presented upper-level financial statements. For the year, revenues were \$259K over budget due to CARES Act funds and Bureau of Workers' Comp premium refunds compensating for the lack of funds received from Miami and other contracted service. Expenses ended the year under budget by approximately \$891K. The decrease in service provided to Miami and other agencies, and the related decrease in wages, fuel needs, and revenue vehicle parts contributed to this variance to budget, as well as the decrease in funds provided to SORTA for the operation of the 42X.

The Transaction logs were included in the packet presenting all cash transactions for the period. The balance sheet for December 2020, was presented with normal balances for assets, as well as liabilities and equity. All accounts had been adjusted for year-end, including the Net Pension/OPEB Liability and related Inflows and Outflows, Property & Equipment, and Accumulated Depreciation.

At the end of December, Available Funds were approximately \$3.34M. The local match required for current grants was \$493K. Current Non-Restricted Funds were \$663K. With current funding and awards not yet on a grant, we are set to cover our local share of projects through 2024. Non-Restricted Funds are expected to grow and be used to cover any potential match needed for any additional or unforeseen costs related to the Chestnut Fields facility, and new large bus replacements needed beginning in 2025.

Ms. Weidner also presented the detailed financials for year end 2020. The detailed financials include each account's percentage of its category and the total revenues or expenses. Although the pandemic had an effect on BCRTA's revenue and expenses, the percentages remained consistent.

As required by BCRTA Policy and Procedure 3-01 Credit Cards, Ms. Weidner reported that all credit cards' limits had been reviewed and all cards had been accounted for as per policy during the year by the Executive Director. She further reported that the credit cards earn rewards at 1.5%, which for 2020, totaled \$1,322.73, and were redeemed by applying them to the open balance on December 16th.

Mr. Fehr inquired if COVID related expenses were being tracked separately for the purposes of future audit. Ms. Weidner indicated that some supplies but not all were being tracked. Mr. Dutkevicz explained that BCRTA would not be required to submit such information in an audit under FTA's grant rules.

Mr. Lawson requested a motion to approve the December 2020 Treasurer's Report. Mr. Scott Jones made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Chandler seconded the motion. The report was approved.

## **VII. Committee & Staff Reports**

### **a. OKI**

Mr. Dutkevicz summarized the February 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting mentioning that alternates were elected, and

that Mr. Policinski again reviewed recent traffic counts. Mr. Dutkevicz also noted the recent CVG Connect project funded with a DOE grant that will fund some first/last mile transportation at the airport. FHWA and FTA also completed certification of OKI's planning process for the next evaluation period.

**b. Metrics**

Mr. Morgan was unable to present the metrics. Mr. Dutkevicz provided the metrics report:

Leveraging Competitive Funding & Partnerships

- Average Fleet Age
  - 3.35 years – This is a decrease of 19.4 percent from December 2019.
- Subsidy per Passenger
  - The subsidy per passenger increased in December of 2020 in comparison to last December by \$35.68 or 281.2 percent. This is directly related to COVID – 19, reduced ridership and going fare free on the fixed routes.
- Admin Cost Per Revenue Hour
  - Administrative Overhead cost per hour has increased by \$1.19 or 6 percent comparing December of 2019 to December of 2020.

Enhancing Connectivity

- Fixed Route EZfare Rides/ Total Rides
  - BCRTA fixed route fares are suspended.
- BGO Efare/ BGO Fares
  - 29.1 percent of all BGO trips were paid for utilizing the mobile application.
- BGO App Rides/ Total BGO Rides
  - 29.51 percent of all BGO trips were booked using the mobile application.
- BGO App Downloads/ Rides
  - 5.22 percent of the app downloads for the month of December turned into a BGO ride.

Improving Mobility & Eliminating Barriers

- Passengers Per Revenue Hour
  - Fixed and Commuter routes had 2.72 passengers per revenue hour in December of 2020, this is 69 percent lower than December of 2019.
  - Demand Response service had 1.66 passengers per revenue hour in December of 2020, this is a 9.3 percent decrease from December of 2019.

Accidents and Injuries

- Fault Total – BCRTA had 1 at fault accident in December of 2020.
- No Fault Total – BCRTA also had 3 no fault accidents.
- Operator Headcount/ Revenue Hours
  - .01681 this number has increased by 16.29 percent since December of last year and an increase of 31.18 percent from the prior month. Our current goal for total vehicle operators is 85.

- Denials and Refusals/ Total BGO Trips
  - 1.21 percent of all requested BGO trips were refused or denied in December of 2020 due to time and capacity limitations. This is a 2.24 percent decrease from December of 2019.

Supporting Employers

- 42x Park and Ride Total Trips
  - The 42x did not operate in December of 2020. We received confirmation from SORTA that the 42x will resume regular service on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- BGO Employment Trips
  - BCRTA completed 1,297 BGO trips for the purpose of employment in December of 2020, this is a 30.45 percent increase from December of 2019.

Developing Multimodal Infrastructure

- This field is to show the progress of our upcoming Chestnut Fields Multi-Modal Transit Station. BCRTA has secured funding for our \$11,468,750 goal. We have a project completion date of 1.83 years.

**c. Title VI**

Mr. Gardocki noted that he will be preparing the Board's annual Title VI report for the March meeting, including preparation of passenger survey information.

**d. Marketing & Outreach**

Mr. Gardocki noted that he and Ms. Cowan will be giving regular marketing and outreach updates as part of the board meeting moving forward.

Mr. Gardocki provided an update on the real time display at the Oxford Kroger location including photos. He also shared the recent video productions to be launched on social media for Ohio Loves Transit Week, including a new video advertising BCRTA's free rides.

Mr. Watt queried about the placement of the display and what would be desirable in the future. Mr. Gardocki explained that the units are meant for the outdoors and should be able to handle the local weather. Mr. Gardocki agreed to investigate other mounting options if the program is expanded.

**e. Nominating**

Mr. Foster reported that the nominating committee had met to recommend a slate of officers and was proposing to re-elect the existing officers.

**VIII. Governance**

**a. Confirm/Reconsider January Election of Officers**

Mr. Landes indicated that no further action was necessary based on the nominating committee's report.

**b. Appointments**

Mr. Lawson appointed himself to OKI Board of directors and Mr. Dutkevich as alternate. He also reappointed Mr. Foster as the chair of the Audit, Procurement & Finance Committee.

**IX. Director's Report**

Mr. Dutkevich provided a brief report including a summary of the 2020 Workplace Strength Survey



results included as a supplement to these minutes.

## Metrics & Service

### Miami University Service Levels

BCRTA has launched near full service at Miami University. Staff also negotiated a deal with MU to provide quarantine and isolation transportation due to COVID 19. BCRTA is providing about 22 trips per week currently.

### Vaccination Trips

BCRTA is discussing, internally, the capability to provide services to mass vaccination sites if need develops. Although BGo is currently available for \$5.00 to potential sites, staff is evaluating sites that may not be located on free fixed routes. Currently the County is only supporting drive-through sites which present logistical issues for transit riders.

### Real-Time Signage Pilot

In concert with the BCRTA Board of Trustees' strategic plan, BCRTA has cooperated with the City of Oxford to use a 2020 City appropriation to implement real-time signage at the Kroger bus stop within the City. The solar-powered real-time sign was installed early in February. If the pilot is successful, staff will investigate a rollout at other high volume stops throughout the county.



## Staffing & Facility

### Staffing

BCRTA is currently seeking CDL and non-CDL drivers, driver trainers, a procurement and compliance specialist, and maintenance technicians. A biweekly email digest of open positions is available. Please contact Kristin Fryer, BCRTA HR Manager ([fryerk@butlercountyrta.com](mailto:fryerk@butlercountyrta.com)) if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

## Planning

### Safety & Security

For visitors and staff, please note that BCRTA expects to have a contractor onsite installing the new automatic pivot gates with access control at the Moser Court entrance beginning in late January through February. Traffic will be interrupted intermittently for two weeks. The final project will greatly improve security at the Moser Court facility.

### Marketing & Advertising

At the direction of the Board, staff have added marketing funds to the 2021 budget to address the education, advertising and outreach regarding free fixed routes services and

the availability of BCRTA services. Staff anticipate bringing a third-party advisor/agency on to help address these needs in the most efficient manner. Staff are currently pricing options and trying to develop a scope that fits with BCRTA's budget.

Look for the launch of BCRTA's first video campaign on free fares around "Ohio Loves Transit Week," February 8-12, 2021

Staff will also begin providing a Marketing and Outreach Update at the regular board meetings as needed.

### **Transit Studies**

City of Middletown and Middletown Transit (MTS) are presently engaged with WSP to provide a transit study evaluating some novel transit solutions and also examining existing routes and hub locations. BCRTA is also assisting. Staff expect a completed report by Q2 2021.

John Gardocki, Planning & Special Projects Manager, is working with staff to prepare a scope for a transit study to examine BCRTA R routes and other services to identify efficiencies and unmet needs in the system. A contract to examine and prepare changes in the system may result, subject to Board approval and public comment.

### **42X**

BCRTA has executed an agreement with SORTA to reintroduce 42X service beginning March 8, 2021. BCRTA did receive a cash return of \$293,687 for services not operated in 2020.

Complaints and demand for 42X service continue to be low. BCRTA is currently making BGo rides available to 42X riders affected by the service change. A very limited numbers of reservations have been made.

Staff are recommending a new strategy to provide Cincinnati commuter service beginning in 2022. City of Middletown now has funding for commuter buses on a grant and City leadership has approved the plan concept. Mr. Dutkevich presented to Middletown City Council in early December. Responses were positive. City Council will still need to approve bus purchases.

In addition to purchasing vehicles and hiring operators, BCRTA will need to undertake branding and outreach efforts on behalf of the City and address infrastructure needs at the Moser Court facility including parking and traffic flow.

### **Chestnut Street Multimodal Station**

BCRTA released an RFP/Q for A&E services for this project on September 1, 2020. The BCRTA Board of Trustees approved award of the contract in November. Staff are presently negotiating with the highest ranked proposer, RL Bowen & Associates. Negotiations should conclude and work begin in February 2021.

Information regarding conceptual plans and estimates on the Chestnut Street Multimodal Station is available at

<https://www.butlercountyrta.com/oxford-multimodal-facility/>.

BCRTA expects to have a conceptual design by mid Q2 2021 which will allow BCRTA and Miami to move forward with land agreements that include legal descriptions. BCRTA is still working with the Talawanda School District to determine needs of the district and whether they will participate in a portion of the project. BCRTA and the District have tentatively set end of Q1 to make determinations and commitments to move forward. BCRTA may provide some creative proposals to engage Talawanda, improve the project and ease financing for the partners.

#### Outreach & Communications

##### **American Public Transportation Association (APTA)**

BCRTA has rejoined APTA after many years not participating in the association. APTA lobbies on behalf of the industry and provides a wealth of training and development opportunities for staff as well as trustees. Trustees interested in receiving an APTA account may speak with Matt.

##### **StreetSpark Partnership**

BCRTA's partnership with StreetSpark and the Fitton Center continues to move forward. BCRTA and Fitton Center have scheduled a launch event for February 12, 2021.

##### **BGo Awareness Campaign**

BCRTA staff will be implementing a direct mail campaign this spring to increase awareness of the BGo program. City of Oxford supported portions of City mailings financially and created the local match to draw grant funds that support additional county-wide mailings. The campaign was originally planned for fall but pushed back due to pandemic and limited staffing.

##### **COVID-19**

COVID 19 continues to dominate day-to-day activities. BCRTA is well-stocked on PPE and cleaning supplies although some things, like aerosol disinfectant, continue to be difficult to come by.

Exposure on BCRTA buses continues to be negligible, but BCRTA has experienced isolated outbreaks. Administrative staff continues to work from home with alternating days in the office to reduce cross-over exposure and protect business continuity.

BCRTA has been working recently with the County and BCVSC to transport suspect positive cases of COVID 19 while following all prescribed protocols to mitigate disease transmission.

Staff have been unable to coordinate with local health departments regarding vaccines for employees. Since Governor DeWine broke with CDC recommendations and excluded essential transit workers from phase 1b, local health officials seem uninterested in speaking or planning to vaccinate BCRTA staff. BCRTA has shared information regarding vaccinations for those over 65 with relevant employees in an effort to help individual employees and get the word out. Mr. Dutkevich sent a letter to the Governor at the request of the Ohio Public Transit Association summarizing this concern.

#### Funding & Discretionary Grant Availability

## **CRRSAA**

The latest pandemic funding legislated in late December did provide an additional nearly \$42M to the Cincinnati urbanized area. However, legislation provided a cap for total CARES and CRRSAA funds that cannot exceed 75% of 2018 operating expenses for the urbanized area. BCRTA is discussing with regional partners the eligibility of BCRTA to receive funds. FTA has indicated a requirement that these funds be used for staffing and operations, not capital. FTA is also encouraging agencies to spend the dollars very promptly.

## **Integrated Mobility Innovation Demonstration Research Program**

Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) in partnership with committed partners, NEORide, CALSTART, Masabi and Cleveland State University (CSU), along with 9 additional transit agency stakeholders, including BCRTA were awarded \$2M to develop an innovative alternative payment system for mobility, business and personal applications targeted to significantly benefit unbanked, underbanked, low-income, disadvantaged, disabled, student, elderly and other underserved populations. SARTA and NEORide will be leading the project.

BCRTA riders recently completed a survey as part of this program. The survey indicated that BCRTA riders tend to be more employed, but also more underbanked than the other transit system riders throughout the state. 20% of respondents reported being “unbanked.”

## **ODOT Funding**

ODOT calls for projects will be available soon in addition to urban funding apportionments. BCRTA expects to seek funding for new Spooky Nook service in addition to local funding for the planned ITS project. BCRTA will encourage MTS to seek additional vehicles for the proposed commuter service.

## **TABC - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities (5310)**

TABC will seek a 5310 grant to expand the Mobility Management program this year. 5310 projects are eligible for 100% funding this year due to CRRSAA.

On the Horizon ...

## **Code of Conduct**

Operations staff are in the process of drafting a passenger code of conduct to address limited issues associated with loitering, hygiene, and courtesy. Staff expect to implement a policy before yearend.

## **Strategic Plan Roadblocks**

Staff are anticipating some roadblocks or stoppers in some items listed on the latest strategic plan related to hiring drivers. The recent wage increase is helping but still not making BCRTA jobs competitive enough with the rest of the offerings available.

Staff will begin investigating other potential solutions including health insurance, and wage benchmarking as well as associated financial outcomes.

## **Upcoming Procurements >\$25,000**

- a) BCRTA Short Range Planning Study
- b) Marketing/Advertising Support
- c) Mobile Communication Solution
- d) IT Services – Expires 3/31/21
- e) Intelligent Transportation Solution (CAD/AVL, Pax Info, & Pax Counting)
- f) Commuter Coach Purchase on behalf of MTS
- g) Small Bus Purchase x13
- h) Moser Court Landscape Repair/Replace & Annual Service

**X. Action Items**

**a. Resolution No. 21-02-01: Authorizing the Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA) to Participate in the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program.**

Mr. Dutkevicz explained that BCRTA has not previously belonged to the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program but had “piggybacked” with the County in the past. Staff are recommending joining in order to take advantage of the available uniform contract.

Mr. Bautz made a motion to adopt resolution 21-02-01. Ms. Schmitt seconded. No discussion was heard.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Bautz	YES
Ms. Chandler	YES
Mr. Fehr	YES
Mr. Foster	YES
Mr. Gordon	YES
Mr. Lawson	YES
Ms. Schmitt	YES
Ms. Scott Jones	YES
Mr. Watt	YES

The resolution was adopted.

**b. Resolution No. 21-02-02: Authorizing the BCRTA Executive Director to Execute a Contract for Uniform Rental Services through Participation in the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program.**

Mr. Dutkevicz explained that the current uniform contractor was unable to meet the needs of BCRTA. Staff reviewed available options, compared prices and determined the State Cooperative Purchasing Program to provide the best opportunity to address BCRTA’s uniform needs.

Mr. Watt made a motion to adopt resolution 21-02-02. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. No discussion was heard.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Bautz	YES
Ms. Chandler	YES
Mr. Fehr	YES
Mr. Foster	YES
Mr. Gordon	YES
Mr. Lawson	YES
Ms. Schmitt	YES
Ms. Scott Jones	YES
Mr. Watt	YES

The resolution was adopted.

- c. ***Resolution No. 21-02-03: Authorizing the BCRTA Executive Director to File Applications and Execute Contracts with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Ohio Public Transportation Assistance Grants Including, but not limited to, the Ohio Transit Partnership Program (OTP2), the Ohio Elderly and Disabled Transit Fare Assistance Program (E&D), the Rural Transit Program (RTP/5311), Bus & Bus Facilities (5339)program, and the Urban Transit Program (UTP).***

Mr. Dutkevicz explained that this resolution is the standard authorization the board provides to allow staff to apply for ODOT grants. Mr. Dutkevicz did note that the rural transit program had been included in the resolution as ODOT has indicated some willingness recently to fund Oxford capital or operations with rural funds.

Mr. Foster moved to adopt resolution 21-02-03. Mr. Fehr seconded the motion. No discussion was heard.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Bautz	YES
Ms. Chandler	YES
Mr. Fehr	YES
Mr. Foster	YES
Mr. Gordon	YES
Mr. Lawson	YES
Ms. Schmitt	YES
Ms. Scott Jones	YES
Mr. Watt	YES

The resolution was adopted.

**XI. Adjourn**

Mr. Gordon moved to adjourn, and Mr. Bautz seconded. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Matthew M. Dutkevich, Executive Director

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Approved

## Workplace Strength Survey Summary 2020

February 2021



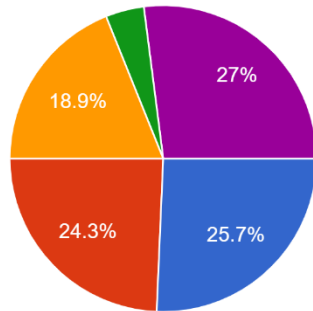
	2019 Score	2020 Score	Δ	Δ%	Δ%
I know what is expected of me at BCRTA.	4.18	4.30	0.12	2.86%	2.86%
I have the training, materials and equipment I need to do my work correctly and safely.	4.19	4.31	0.12	2.91%	2.91%
At BCRTA, I have the opportunity to do what I do best every day.	4.28	4.46	0.18	4.25%	4.25%
In the last seven (7) days, I have received recognition for doing a job well done.	3.12	3.14	0.01	0.41%	0.41%
My supervisor seems to care about me as a person.	4.27	4.05	(0.21)	-4.98%	-4.98%
Someone at BCRTA encourages my professional development.	3.64	3.70	0.06	1.60%	1.60%
My opinions count at BCRTA.	3.27	3.05	(0.21)	-6.51%	-6.51%
The mission/purpose of BCRTA makes me feel that my job is important.	4.00	3.88	(0.12)	-3.04%	-3.04%
My co-workers are committed to doing quality work.	3.88	3.80	(0.08)	-2.08%	-2.08%
I have a best friend at BCRTA.	2.91	3.09	0.18	6.30%	6.30%
In the last six months, someone from BCRTA has talked with me about my progress.	3.30	3.23	(0.07)	-2.13%	-2.13%
This last year, I have had the opportunity to learn and grow at BCRTA.	3.57	3.64	0.07	1.92%	1.92%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>



# Health Insurance

If BCRTA offered medical benefits, would you be interested in enrolling?

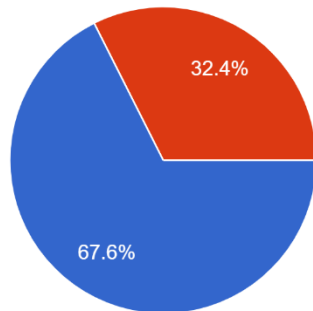
74 responses



- Yes, I need benefits AND would be willing to work FULL TIME.
- Maybe, I would like to evaluate BCRTA's offering and would be willing to work F...
- No, I have benefits that I might lose if BCRTA provided an offer of coverage..
- No, I would like benefits but I am only willing to work PART TIME.
- No, I'm not here for the benefits and offering coverage would not affect me.

If you said "yes" or "maybe," would you be willing to pay 9.5% of your paycheck for those medical benefits AND work FULL TIME?

37 responses

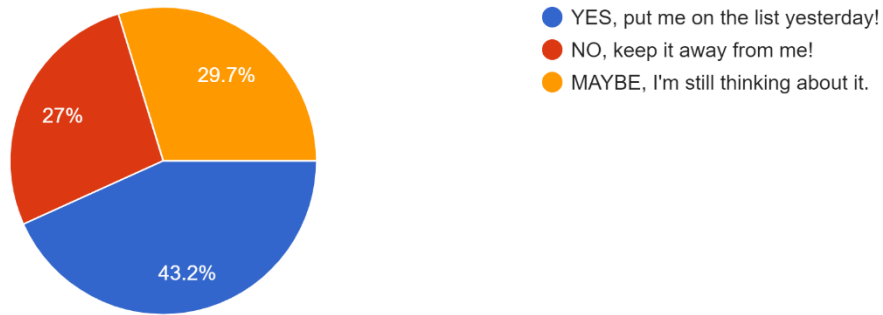


- Yes
- No

# Vaccines

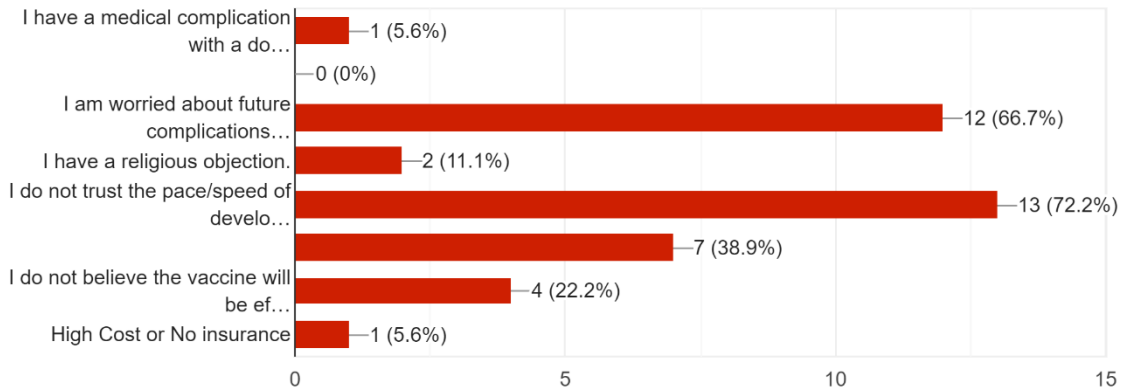
Would you like to receive a coronavirus vaccine if/when it is made available to frontline transit workers?

74 responses



Please help us understand why you are not interested in a vaccine.

18 responses



# Free Comments

## 1. Training & Recognition

- a. Find training for the cummins engines and Allison transmissions so we can get more versed in repairing the gilligs
- b. While driver/passenger safety and training are highlighted during new hire training, other aspects of training seem to be lacking. Example, as a newer employee, I had no idea as to how to report on vehicle maintenance issues upon returning to the hub and beyond driver precheck, where to find necessary vehicle supplies when there is no maintenance personnel on premises, i.e. vehicle fluids.
- c. Still training. Training has been great
- d. We simply need more drivers. I think it is up to you to figure out why they aren't staying past the ridiculous training period. We all know why we can't keep or get CDL drivers. The pay for them is an insult. But if you stick it out, and pay your dues, this job can be an easy and entertaining endeavor. To sum it up, we are in desperate need of more bodies.
- e. There needs to be more incentives given for a job well done, like gift cards or something to acknowledge that person did something good

## 2. Wages, Healthcare & Benefits

- a. Insurance question should probably just be deleted because I've heard they ask that question every year for about the past 10 years now on this and still no insurance.
- b. Good pay, great equipment to work with, overall good place work.
- c. I would need to know the quality of the insurance for the price
- d. If you want more cdl drivers offer at least 2 more dollars on the hour because its more responsibility why should anyone get their call if they get paid the same as driving a cut away
- e. Make affordable health care an option for those interested
- f. Drivers would be more ingaged with benefits, they would not have to worry how to pay for health care and wouldn't be searching for another position that provides health care

## 3. Communication

- a. Communication needs to improve drastically. The Customers/ media knows before drivers
- b. Interdepartmental communication, solidarity and cooperation need improvement, it would seem.
- c. Treat your long time employees better with their medical condition

#### 4. Safety

- a. While I feel our vehicles are operationally safe, but for those who are curb to curb, the tablet mountings are located in such a way that you cannot keep focused on the road when viewing the tablet off to your right as you drive. I would like to see them mounted more closely to the on board controls, or even on the dash, enabling the driver to keep the road in better view.

#### 5. Schedules & Hours

- a. BCRTA has been very flexible in terms of meeting my part time needs in regards to hours, days, and shift schedule. I am truly thankful for the way you all work with us
- b. I wish there were more schedule options available, when we bid, better choice of hours and which hub to work from.

#### 6. Uncategorized

- a. Unfortunately answering this question would likely break the anonymity of the other questions. Since specifics are important to this kind question it is unfortunate that it wasn't its own separate questionnaire.
- b. Make sure all employees are on the same level when it comes to doing their job, and it not falling all on other people. And if it is reported to a supervisor that it is followed up on. No fluffing off on it by them either
- c. I'm a very proud employee love my job and co workers and supervisors! Everyone makes my job easier. Any time i need help with any situation i know i can count on my team!! Thanks BCRTA for all you do!
- d. I am completely satisfied!
- e. All Drivers should take their job more seriously, not just a pay check
- f. Allow for excused absences to be approved long in advance, so as to help employees plan for family trips/upcoming life events a bit better.

**BCRTA**  
**Income Statement**  
**January 2021**

	<b>Current Month Budget</b>	<b>Current Month Actual</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Last Year Current Month</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Passenger Fares	6,250.00	8,671.59	2,421.59	14,304.00
Contract Service	10,791.66	9,544.40	(1,247.26)	17,283.36
Other Transit Rev.	154,166.67	137,877.13	(16,289.54)	112,545.03
Mgt./Cons. Services	20,440.00	20,440.00	-	10,220.00
Maintenance Services	-	-	-	-
Rentals	-	-	-	-
Interest & Other	2,416.66	248,474.09	246,057.43	1,805.03
Local Funding	128,166.67	146,968.54	18,801.87	190,910.85
State Funding	29,581.42	77,242.25	47,660.83	72,000.00
Federal Funding	267,281.34	137,795.00	(129,486.34)	143,669.00
In-Kind Items	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>619,094.42</b>	<b>787,013.00</b>	<b>167,918.58</b>	<b>562,737.27</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Wages	274,890.38	207,195.75	(67,694.63)	259,544.73
Fringes	85,276.43	62,750.32	(22,526.11)	80,689.83
Services	49,766.67	37,096.22	(12,670.45)	49,957.31
Materials & Supplies	47,975.00	35,827.87	(12,147.13)	40,355.99
Utilities	10,208.34	8,353.65	(1,854.69)	7,685.06
Insurance	19,696.67	20,251.66	554.99	16,524.98
Taxes	-	-	-	-
Purchased Transportation	-	-	-	43,209.16
Misc. Items	9,283.35	17,452.75	8,169.40	14,891.29
Leases & Rentals	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>497,096.84</b>	<b>388,928.22</b>	<b>(108,168.62)</b>	<b>512,858.35</b>
Gain / (Loss)	121,997.58	398,084.78	276,087.20	49,878.92
Local Share Depreciation		25,957.84		
<b>Gain / (Loss) with Local Depr.</b>		<b>372,126.95</b>		

**BCRTA**  
**Income Statement**  
**January 2021**

	<b>Year to Date Budget</b>	<b>Year to Date Actual</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Year to Date Last Year</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Passenger Fares	6,250.00	8,671.59	2,421.59	14,304.00
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Maintenance Services	-	-	-	-
Rentals	-	-	-	-
Interest & Other	2,416.66	248,474.09	246,057.43	1,805.03
Local Funding	128,166.67	146,968.54	18,801.87	190,910.85
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Local Share Depreciation		25,957.83		
<b>Gain / (Loss) with Local Depr.</b>		<b>372,126.95</b>		

Date	Reference	Jrnl	Trans Description	Debit Amt	Credit Amt	Balance
<b>Checking - PNC (National City)</b>						
1/1/21			Beginning Balance			113,586.02
1/1/21	PRWE 01/01/21	GENJ			12,165.17	
1/1/21	PRWE 01/01/21	GENJ			72,560.83	
1/1/21	PRWE 01/01/21	GENJ	1409		305.03	
1/1/21	PRWE 01/01/21	GENJ	1411		23.08	
1/1/21	PRWE 01/01/21	GENJ	1410		262.00	
1/4/21	12/15-12/31/20	CRJ	Farebox Receipts	2,542.67		
1/4/21	Draw 8,9,10	CRJ	Federal Transit Administration	186,879.00		
1/6/21	9503	CDJ	ALLDATA		1,500.00	
1/6/21	9504	CDJ	Affordable Pest Control Inc.		48.00	
1/6/21	9505	CDJ	American Public Transit Ass.		8,000.00	
1/6/21	9506	CDJ	BCRTA Petty Cash		239.49	
1/6/21	9507	CDJ	Cincinnati Bell		145.40	
1/6/21	9508	CDJ	City of Hamilton - Utilities		2,820.91	
1/6/21	9509	CDJ	Cornett's Pressure Cleaning		573.00	
1/6/21	9510	CDJ	GemCity Tires, Inc		156.00	
1/6/21	9511	CDJ	Masabi LLC		60,000.00	
1/6/21	9512	CDJ	Miami University Office of the		8,703.58	
1/6/21	9513	CDJ	Ohio Deferred Compensation		657.00	
1/6/21	9514	CDJ	Office Depot Inc.		343.22	
1/6/21	9515	CDJ	Ohio Dept. of Jobs & Family Se		2,191.27	
1/6/21	9516	CDJ	Prefered Fire Protection		275.00	
1/6/21	9517	CDJ	Talawanda School District		6,847.63	
1/6/21	9518	CDJ	Treasurer State of Ohio		330.75	
1/6/21	9519	CDJ	Verizon Wireless		2,670.61	
1/7/21	200613	CRJ	Easter Seals TriState	315.00		
1/7/21	0043476057	CRJ	Ohio Dept of Medicaid	40.00		
1/7/21	6202886	CRJ	BCRTA Items	185,491.99		
1/7/21	AT 1/7/2021	CDJ	Paycom		875.62	
1/7/21	1/7/2021	CRJ	BCRTA Items	10.00		
1/7/21	AT 1/7/21	CDJ	BCRTA PNC Card Purchases		4,106.26	
1/13/21	01077260	CRJ	Butler County Veterans Service	3,507.90		
1/13/21	006167500	CRJ	BCRTA Items	61,675.00		
1/13/21	000123350	CRJ	BCRTA Items	1,233.50		
1/14/21	9520	CDJ	American Red Cross		120.00	
1/14/21	9521	CDJ	Cincinnati Bell Any Distance		1,600.73	
1/14/21	9522	CDJ	Cintas Corporation		925.51	
1/14/21	9523	CDJ	Cornett's Pressure Cleaning		502.00	
1/14/21	9524	CDJ	CenterGrid, LLC		346.61	
1/14/21	9525	CDJ	Fuller Ford		57.22	
1/14/21	9526	CDJ	J&N Auto Electric Inc.		12.80	
1/14/21	9527	CDJ	KOI Enterprises, Inc.		2,082.75	
1/14/21	9528	CDJ	Luxurious Wraps, LLC		1,800.00	
1/14/21	9529	CDJ	Millennium Business Systems		324.85	
1/14/21	9530	CDJ	NEORide		2,000.00	
1/14/21	9531	CDJ	Office Depot Inc.		68.14	
1/14/21	9532	CDJ	PERS		49,057.56	
1/14/21	9533	CDJ	Rose Chevrolet		536.56	
1/14/21	9534	CDJ	Refitt's LLC		200.00	
1/14/21	9535	CDJ	Rumpke Of Ohio Inc.		233.67	
1/14/21	9536	CDJ	Tom Rehtin H&A		366.00	
1/14/21	9537	CDJ	Woodhull		151.93	
1/15/21	ACH 1/15/21	CDJ	Speedway SuperAmerica LLC		15,994.03	
1/15/21	AT 1/15/21	CRJ	BCRTA Items		120,000.00	
1/19/21	ACH 1/19/21	CDJ	Bureau of Workers Compensation		8,599.00	
1/19/21	1/1-1/14/2021	CRJ	Farebox Receipts	2,499.45		
1/21/21	0043513917	CRJ	Ohio Department of Taxation	4,356.20		
1/21/21	AT 1/22/21	CDJ	Paycom		851.16	
1/22/21	PRWE 01/15/21	GENJ	1412		305.03	
1/22/21	PRWE 01/15/21	GENJ			15,394.50	

1/22/21	PRWE 01/15/21	GENJ	1414		23.08	
1/22/21	PRWE 01/15/21	GENJ			84,236.31	
1/22/21	PRWE 01/15/21	GENJ	1413		262.00	
1/25/21	01077704	CRJ	BCDD Master Billing	241.50		
1/25/21	01077704	CRJ	Butler County Veterans Service	3,647.00		
1/25/21	01077705	CRJ	Butler County Veterans Service	3,335.10		
1/25/21	0043523181	CRJ	Ohio Department of Taxation	10,992.63		
1/25/21	1719	CRJ	Boys & Girls Club WC	175.00		
1/27/21	ACH 10378857	CRJ	Miami University	138,301.13		
1/27/21	9538	CDJ	Bethesda Healthcare Inc.		2,661.10	
1/27/21	9539	CDJ	Black Tent LLC		1,872.50	
1/27/21	9540	CDJ	Cincinnati Bell		148.40	
1/27/21	9541	CDJ	Cummins Bridgeway LLC		770.00	
1/27/21	9542	CDJ	City of Hamilton - Utilities		4,157.57	
1/27/21	9543	CDJ	City of Middletown Treasury Di		200.40	
1/27/21	9544	CDJ	Cornett's Pressure Cleaning		1,155.00	
1/27/21	9545	CDJ	ConnectPoint, Inc		6,623.00	
1/27/21	9546	CDJ	Criteria Corp		3,600.00	
1/27/21	9547	CDJ	Dinsmore & Shohl LLP		175.60	
1/27/21	9548	CDJ	Finn All Seasons		257.25	
1/27/21	9549	CDJ	Fitton Center - ArtSpirits, LL		2,700.00	
1/27/21	9550	CDJ	Fuller Ford		502.36	
1/27/21	9551	CDJ	Fleet Pride		415.94	
1/27/21	9552	CDJ	Fox Towing Inc.		225.00	
1/27/21	9553	CDJ	Gillig		455.26	
1/27/21	9554	CDJ	Greater Hamilton Chamber		425.00	
1/27/21	9555	CDJ	Heritage-Crystal Clean LLC		323.02	
1/27/21	9556	CDJ	Hamilton Enterprise Park POA		456.11	
1/27/21	9557	CDJ	Interstate Billing Service		253.80	
1/27/21	9558	CDJ	United States Treasury		132.57	
1/27/21	9559	CDJ	Luxurious Wraps, LLC		6,420.00	
1/27/21	9560	CDJ	Mobilcomm		180.00	
1/27/21	9561	CDJ	My Parts Express		1,020.80	
1/27/21	9562	CDJ	Ohio Deferred Compensation		657.00	
1/27/21	9563	CDJ	Office Depot Inc.		571.08	
1/27/21	9564	CDJ	Ohio Dept. of Jobs & Family Se		3,136.11	
1/27/21	9565	CDJ	Ohio Newspapers, Inc.		66.86	
1/27/21	9566	CDJ	Port Technology LLC		12,878.71	
1/27/21	9567	CDJ	Roetzel & Andress, LPA		875.00	
1/27/21	9568	CDJ	Refitt's LLC		950.00	
1/27/21	9569	CDJ	Verizon Wireless		312.62	
1/28/21	Draw 11,12,13	CRJ	Federal Transit Administration	162,726.00		
1/31/21	01/31/21	GENJ	Service Charge		3.00	
			Current Period Change	767,969.07	546,432.35	221,536.72
1/31/21			Ending Balance			335,122.74

**Savings - PNC (National City)**

1/1/21			Beginning Balance			10,809.81
1/13/21	PP 01/13/21	CRJ	BCRTA Items	99.63		
1/31/21	CC 01/31/21	CRJ	Farebox Receipts	2,682.00		
1/31/21	01/31/21	GENJ	Interest Income	0.29		
1/31/21	01/31/21	GENJ	Service Charge		3.08	
			Current Period Change	2,781.92	3.08	2,778.84
1/31/21			Ending Balance			13,588.65

**Savings - PNC Bank**

1/1/21			Beginning Balance			2,594,228.53
1/15/21	AT 1/15/21	CRJ	BCRTA Items - Transfer to Savings	120,000.00		
1/31/21	01/31/21	GENJ	Interest Income	63.31		
			Current Period Change	120,063.31		120,063.31
1/31/21			Ending Balance			2,714,291.84



**BCRTA  
Balance Sheet  
January 2021**

**Assets**

Current Assets		*Other Assets		
Checking - PNC	335,122.74	Net Pension Asset	31,779.00	
Savings - PNC	13,588.65	Deferred Outflows-Pensions	872,741.00	
Savings - PNC	2,714,291.84	Deferred Outflows-OPEB	573,460.00	
Bid Deposit	-			
M&S Inventory	39,396.94			
Petty Cash	1,000.00	Property & Equipment		
Accounts Receivable	1,305,166.98	Vehicles	12,173,487.01	
Prepays	148,732.27	Buildings & Land	2,724,804.53	
		Furniture & Equipment	1,068,841.45	
		Amenities & Misc.	69,631.89	
		WIP-Technology Upgrade	60,000.00	
		Accum. Depr.	(7,523,027.11)	
	<u>4,557,299.42</u>		<u>10,051,717.77</u>	Total Assets
				<u>14,609,017.19</u>

**Liabilities & Equity**

Current Liabilities		*Long-term Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	134,672.72	Net Pension Liability	3,955,112.00	
Payroll Payables	100,880.15	Net OPEB Liability	2,816,803.00	
Other Payables	-	Deferred Inflows-Pensions	853,338.00	
Accrued PTO	115,289.82	Deferred Inflows-OPEB	413,645.00	
Reserve ACA Fines	131,032.51			
FTA Vehicle Funds	68,131.00	Equity		
Future Match Funds	15,291.66	Balance Equity	2,861,645.23	
Unearned Tickets	27,391.00	Federal & State Capital	13,787,129.00	
		Local Capital	89,410.00	
		Retained Earnings	(11,158,838.68)	
		Net Income	398,084.78	Total Liabilities
	<u>592,688.86</u>		<u>14,016,328.33</u>	and Capital
				<u>14,609,017.19</u>

\*For fiscal year 2018, Bcrta adopted GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

**BCRTA****Cash Reserves**

January 2021

Current Assets	4,557,299.42
Current Liabilities	<u>(592,688.86)</u>
<b>Available Funds</b>	<b>3,964,610.56</b>

**Board Reserves**

Local Share Grant Obligations		
OH-2018-021-00	601,578.50	
FFY Pending Federal	91,610.50	
Oxford Facility Match Pledge	200,000.00	
Less Projected Local Match	<u>(559,153.00)</u>	MU, MED, R6, VA
Match Required or (Overmatch)	334,036.00	
FTA Grants	334,036.00	Match Required
Working Capital Funds (2 Mths.)	999,364.63	
Capital Replacement Funds	1,672,632.40	2021 - 2025 Local Share of Projects Not Yet on Grants
Contingency Funds	<u>-</u>	
<b>Total Board Reserves</b>	<b>3,006,033.03</b>	
<b>Non-Restricted Funds</b>	<b>958,577.53</b>	

# METRIC DASHBOARD

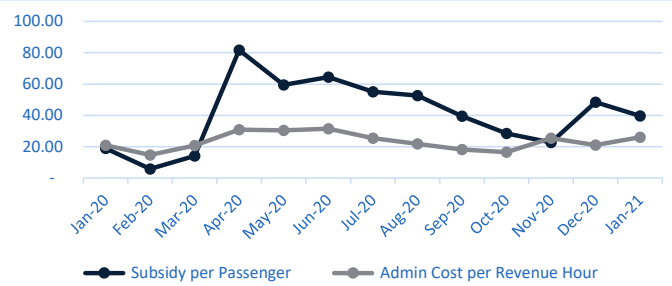
January 2021

## Leveraging Competitive Funding & Partnerships

Average Fleet Age

**3.38**

Since Last Month 0.03 0.89%  
Since Last Year (0.21) -6.21%



## Enhancing Connectivity

BCRTA Transit App Users

-

Since Last Month - NA  
Since Last Year - NA

BGO App Rides/Total BGO Rides

**32.97%**

Since Last Month 3.46% 10.48%  
Since Last Year 29.36% 89.07%

BCRTA Transit App Downloads

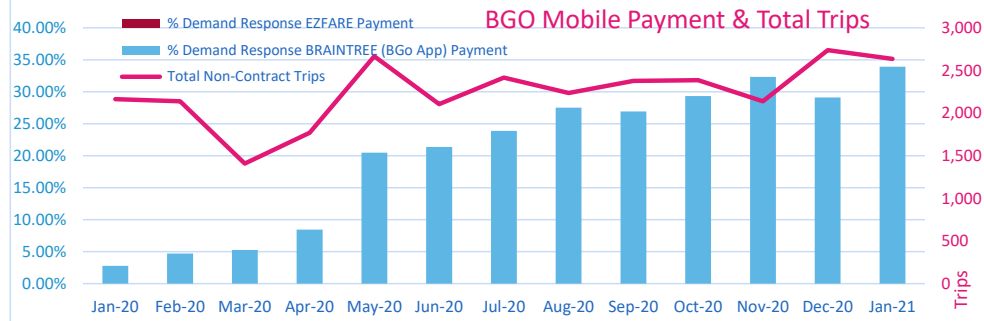
-

Since Last Month - NA  
Since Last Year - NA

BGO App Downloads

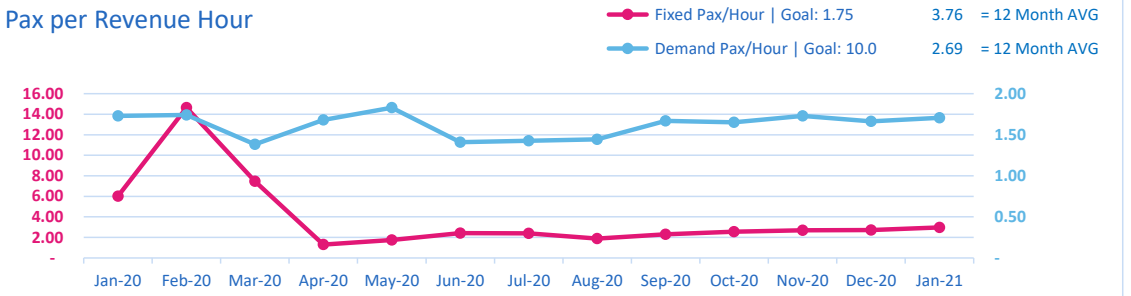
**193**

Since Last Month 50 25.91%  
Since Last Year 158.00 81.87%

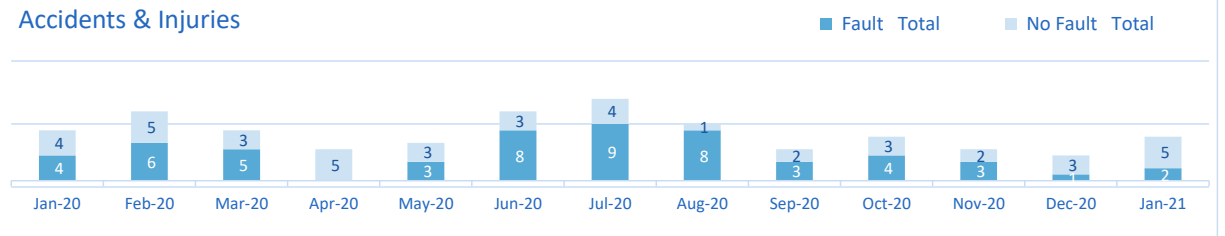


## Improving Mobility & Eliminating Barriers

Pax per Revenue Hour



Accidents & Injuries



Target Operator Staffing

**101%**

Since Last Month -11.50%  
Since Last Year 2.62%  
12 Month Average 96.05%  
GOAL 100.00%

Denials & Refusals/Total BGO

**2.69%**

Since Last Month 1.49%  
Since Last Year -0.13%  
12 Month Average 2.77%  
GOAL 0.00%

## Supporting Employers

42X Park & Ride Total Trips

**0**

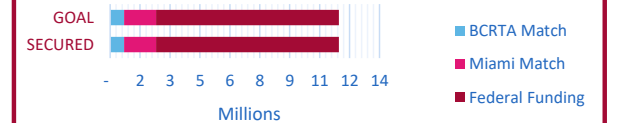
Since Last Month -  
Since Last Year (9,839)

BGO Employment Trips

**1,211**

Since Last Month (86) -7.10%  
Since Last Year 82 6.77%

## Developing Multimodal Infrastructure



Days Until Chestnut Fields Completed

**638**



## Director's Notes – March 2021

### A. Metrics & Service

#### 1. Miami University Service Levels

BCRTA has launched near full service at Miami University. Staff also negotiated a deal with MU to provide quarantine and isolation transportation due to COVID 19. BCRTA is providing about 20.3 trips per week currently.

#### 2. Vaccination Trips

BCRTA is discussing, internally, the capability to provide services to mass vaccination sites if need develops. Although BGo is currently available for \$5.00 to potential sites, staff is evaluating sites that may not be located on free fixed routes.

### B. Staffing & Facility

#### 1. Staffing

BCRTA is currently seeking CDL and non-CDL drivers, driver trainers, a procurement and compliance specialist, and maintenance technicians. A biweekly email digest of open positions is available. Please contact Kristin Fryer, BCRTA HR Manager ([fryerk@butlercountyrta.com](mailto:fryerk@butlercountyrta.com)) if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

#### 2. Healthcare

Given the potential arrival of additional pandemic assistance, management has been considering the capability of BCRTA to provide health insurance to employees consistent with ACA requirements. The Ohio Transit Health Pool expects to provide a quote and staff will also seek a private market quote for evaluation and discussion. Ohio Transit Health Pool will present at BCRTA's April Board of Trustees meeting.

### C. Planning

#### 1. Safety & Security

Work is finally underway! Please note that BCRTA expects to have a contractor onsite installing the new automatic pivot gates with access control at the Moser Court entrance beginning in late February through April. Traffic will be interrupted intermittently for two weeks during the project. The final project will greatly improve security at the Moser Court facility.

#### 2. Marketing & Advertising

At the direction of the Board, staff have added marketing funds to the 2021 budget to address the education, advertising and outreach regarding free fixed routes services and the availability of BCRTA services. Staff anticipate bringing a third-party advisor/agency on to help address these needs in the most efficient manner. Staff are currently pricing options and trying to develop a scope that fits with BCRTA's budget.

Staff will also begin providing a Marketing and Outreach Update at the regular board meetings as needed.

## Director's Notes – March 2021

### 3. Transit Studies

City of Middletown and Middletown Transit (MTS) are presently engaged with WSP to provide a transit study evaluating some novel transit solutions and also examining existing routes and hub locations. BCRTA is also assisting. Staff expect a completed report by Q2 2021.

John Gardocki, Planning & Special Projects Manager, has prepared a scope for a transit study to examine BCRTA R routes and other services to identify efficiencies and unmet needs in the system. A contract to examine and prepare changes in the system may result, subject to Board approval and public comment. BCRTA's study is currently out to bid.

### 4. 42X

42X Service resumed March 8th. Ridership data is still coming in but feedback is positive. Staff met riders the first day with a greeting and welcome-back cookies.

Staff are recommending a new strategy to provide Cincinnati commuter service beginning in 2022. City of Middletown now has funding for commuter buses on a grant and City leadership has approved the plan concept. Mr. Dutkevicz presented to Middletown City Council in early December. Responses were positive. City Council and BCRTA will still need to approve bus purchases.

In addition to purchasing vehicles and hiring operators, BCRTA will need to undertake branding and outreach efforts on behalf of the City and address infrastructure needs at the Moser Court facility including parking and traffic flow.

### 5. Chestnut Street Multimodal Station

BCRTA released an RFP/Q for A&E services for this project on September 1, 2020. The BCRTA Board of Trustees approved award of the contract in November. Staff executed the contract with Bowen+ at the end of February. Bowen+ will be onsite in late March to begin part 1 of the design phases.

Information regarding existing conceptual plans and estimates on the Chestnut Street Multimodal Station are available at

<https://www.butlercountyrta.com/oxford-multimodal-facility/>.

BCRTA expects to have a conceptual design by mid Q2 2021 which will allow BCRTA and Miami to move forward with land agreements that include legal descriptions. BCRTA is still working with the Talawanda School District to determine needs of the district and whether they will participate in a portion of the project. BCRTA and the District have tentatively set end of Q1 to make determinations and commitments to move forward.

## Director's Notes – March 2021

### D. Outreach & Communications

#### 1. American Public Transportation Association (APTA)

BCRTA has rejoined APTA after many years not participating in the association. APTA lobbies on behalf of the industry and provides a wealth of training and development opportunities for staff as well as trustees. Trustees interested in receiving an APTA account may speak with Matt.

#### 2. BGo Awareness Campaign

BCRTA staff will be implementing a direct mail campaign this spring to increase awareness of the BGo program. City of Oxford supported portions of City mailings financially and created the local match to draw grant funds that support additional county-wide mailings. The campaign was originally planned for fall but pushed back due to pandemic and limited staffing. BGo demand has been increasing and staffing is still limited.

#### 3. COVID-19

BCRTA has shared information regarding vaccinations for those who are eligible in an effort to help individual employees and get the word out. BCRTA has also been able to coordinate some transportation for City of Oxford to vaccine sites and has been successful at including eligible staff in some of these trips.

OPTA has indicated to members that vaccinations should be increasing substantially in the next few weeks and Ohio plans to stick to an age based eligibility profile. Based on this information, most BCRTA staff should be eligible for a vaccine by end of April.

### E. Funding & Discretionary Grant Availability

#### 1. CMAQ/STBG for Chestnut Fields

BCRTA was informed by OKI that our recent CMAQ/STBG award for the Chestnut Fields facility is being moved up! The \$4.5M was previously awarded for FFY 2024 but is being moved to FFY 2022 which will allow BCRTA to avoid large phasing of the project.

#### 2. CRRSAA & ARPA

The latest pandemic funding legislated in late December did provide an additional nearly \$42M to the Cincinnati urbanized area. However, legislation provided a cap for total CARES and CRRSAA funds that cannot exceed 75% of 2018 operating expenses for the urbanized area. BCRTA is discussing with regional partners the eligibility of BCRTA to receive funds as BCRTA has reached this cap and SORTA and TANK have not. FTA has indicated a requirement that these funds be used for staffing and operations, not capital. FTA is also encouraging agencies to spend the dollars very promptly.

BCRTA is also following the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) closely with the help of APTA. Initial reviews indicate that ARPA is likely to be more restrictive and cap all urbanized areas at 132% of their FY 2018 operating expenses. More info will become available as the legislation proceeds.

## Director's Notes – March 2021

### 3. ODOT Funding

BCRTA has submitted applications for Urbanized Area Funds and local match related to the proposed Intelligent Transportation System upgrade.

Regarding the SFY 2022-2023 transportation budget, staff are monitoring HB 74 very closely. OPTA has been active in advocating on behalf of transit systems and many transit system leaders, including Matthew Dutkevicz, have provided testimony to the Ohio House of Representatives Finance Committee and the Senate Transportation Committee. The House has restored a portion of the nearly 90% cut proposed by Governor DeWine, although the full Senate has not yet taken up the bill. The proposed cut would present a potential cut to BCRTA of at about \$380,000 or more if discretionary awards are considered.

### 4. TABC - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities (5310)

TABC will seek a 5310 grant to expand the Mobility Management program this year. 5310 projects are eligible for 100% funding this year due to CRSSAA.

### 5. Purchasing @ March Meeting

#### a) Resolution 21-03-01 - IT Services – Expires 3/31/21

This procurement will engage a new 3 year contract with 2 one-year options for planning, design, maintenance, implementation and desktop support of BCRTA's IT environment. The solicitation is substantially similar to the services received by BCRTA today. The contract is being rebid for compliance with FTA competitive purchasing guidelines.

#### b) Resolution 21-03-02 - Intelligent Transportation Solution

Confused about what we're buying? If you would like a better understanding of the scope of this solicitation, please review the following websites of BCRTA's solicitation bidders:

<https://transloc.com/fixed-route/#technology>

<https://qmvsyncromatics.com/product-overview>

<https://www.optibus.com/product/platform/>

This solicitation is also a rebid to be consistent with FTA competitive bidding requirements as the last five-year contract is expiring in May. The product will primarily serve BCRTA's fixed route operations and will equip 44 vehicles. BCRTA does expect this solicitation to considerably expand BCRTA's capabilities, efficiency, and rider amenities. This solicitation calls for Computer aided dispatch (CAD), automatic vehicle location (AVL), real time passenger information via app/API/GTFS-RT/signage (expansion), audio stop announcements, visual stop announcements (expansion), automatic passenger counting (expansion), a robust planning and rostering module (expansion), onboard real-time camera integration (expansion), silent alarm integration (expansion), and a complete management and reporting system compliant with National Transit Database needs.

## Director's Notes – March 2021

### F. On the Horizon ...

#### 1. Code of Conduct

Operations staff are in the process of drafting a passenger code of conduct to address limited issues associated with loitering, hygiene, and courtesy. Staff expect to implement a policy before yearend.

#### 2. Strategic Plan Roadblocks

Staff are anticipating some roadblocks or stoppers in some items listed on the latest strategic plan related to hiring drivers. The recent wage increase is helping but still not making BCRTA jobs competitive enough with the rest of the offerings available.

Staff will begin investigating other potential solutions including health insurance, and wage benchmarking as well as associated financial outcomes.

#### 3. Upcoming Procurements >\$25,000

- c) BCRTA Short Range Planning Study
- d) Mobile Communication Solution
- e) Marketing/Advertising Support
- f) Commuter Coach Purchase on behalf of MTS
- g) Small Bus Purchase x13
- h) Moser Court Landscape Repair/Replace & Annual Service



# Director's Notes – March 2021

## Strategic Vision 2025

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As Ohio's public transit innovator, BCRTA provides smart mobility options and infrastructure that seamlessly connect people to employers, educational, healthcare, and recreational destinations.

Leverage competitive federal funding and forge mutually beneficial partnerships with organizations, including incubators, chambers, universities, start-ups, economic development bodies, and planning professionals.

- Expand participation in NeoRide as appropriate to address needs and improve grant funding
- Sustain Miami University relationship, plan for future
- ~~Retain BCVSC and BCDD contracts~~
- Leverage MTS transit plan and maintain relationship with City of Middletown
- Improve DBE access
- Keep finger on pulse of autonomous tech
- Examine Cincinnati commuter service for ways to reduce cost (42X)

Enhance connectivity with constituents by leading in the implementation of new transit tech (onboard Wi-Fi tools).

- Test and expand onboard WIFI where possible
- Implement onboard validation for EZfare
- ~~Expand BGO app service~~
- ~~Launch new & updated website~~
- Expand use of real-time info signs and kiosks

Improve mobility access and eliminate barriers to ridership, especially for riders who may be elderly or have disabilities.

- ~~Reduce DR fares to \$5.00~~
- Make peak BGO service available
- Hire operators to address demand
- ~~Relocate customer service closer to riders~~
- Pursue payment options for unbanked
- ~~Consider free fixed route fares~~

Support employers with effective workforce transportation in at least 75% of Butler County's densest corridors.

- Evaluate existing R routes for effectiveness and reallocate to improved frequency or BGO as necessary
- Solicit BGO services in employer-dense areas.
- Evaluate options for Spooky Nook connectivity
- Address Butler/Warren connection in Monroe

Develop multimodal infrastructure and wayfinding to create seamless user experiences.

- Accelerate completion/progress for Oxford Multimodal facility
- Improve Hamilton/Warren County connectivity for fixed route and ADA
- ~~Eliminate paper transfers~~
- Address Transit Center convenience and utility (Hamilton, Oxford, Middletown)
- Improve regional connections with commuter service, rail, interurban bus, rideshare, bikeshare, scooters

## BCRTA Resolution No. 21-03-01

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### **Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an Agreement for Information Technology Services.**

**Whereas** BCRTA solicited proposals for Information Technology Services; and

**Whereas** BCRTA has developed a need for expanded technology support services to maintain and advise BCRTA regarding network infrastructure, cyber security, software, hardware, helpdesk and other technology issues that BCRTA may not retain in-house skill to address; and

**Whereas** BCRTA received three (3) proposals from Avero, CenterGrid, and Port Technology covering all work requirements included in the BCRTA request for proposals and rates were proposed by each vendor for a three (3) year period plus two (2) optional one (1) year extensions that were deemed reasonable based on past rates paid for said services; and

**Whereas** a selection committee evaluated all proposals for qualifications, experience, comprehensiveness, reasonability of cost, references, and proposal presentation and also requested a best and final offer from all proposers; and

**Whereas** the selection committee determined the services proposed by Port Technology to provide the most value to BCRTA.

**Now, therefore be it resolved** that the Butler County Regional Transit Authority Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the BCRTA Executive Director to execute a contract between BCRTA and Port Technology, LLC. for the provision of Information Technology Services for the period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2024 at the proposed hourly rates at a cost not to exceed \$200,000 without additional board approval. This contract will include the ability to extend the contract for two (2) additional one (1) year periods based on future needs at the rates proposed.

Approved: March 17, 2021

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BCRTA, Board President

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BCRTA, Executive Director

## BCRTA Resolution No. 21-03-02

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### **Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute a Three (3) Year Contract with Two (2) One (1) Year Options for the Purchase, Service, Support, Maintenance and Hosting of a Fixed Route Scheduling, Dispatch and Passenger Information Software and Required Equipment.**

**Whereas** on November 18, 2020, the BCRTA Board of Trustees authorized 2021 capital item expenditures; and

**Whereas** BCRTA is in need of a fixed route scheduling, dispatch, and passenger information solution; and

**Whereas** BCRTA was awarded section 5307 funds to for capital purposes including technology that requires a 20% match; and

**Whereas** BCRTA solicited proposals for a Fixed Route Scheduling and Dispatch Software solution with real-time passenger information; and

**Whereas** two (2) vendors submitted proposals; and

**Whereas** a BCRTA team evaluated the vendor proposals based on responsiveness, responsibility, qualifications, experience, past performance, reasonableness of cost, and references; and

**Whereas** Syncromatics/Optibus and TransLoc/Optibus were evaluated; and

**Whereas** GMV Syncromatics of Los Angeles, CA with Optibus of San Francisco, CA was determined to provide the most value and functionality to BCRTA, has met all bid requirements, and BCRTA has checked references and has determined responsibility of the proposer.

**Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the BCRTA:**

That the BCRTA Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Executive Director to execute a five (5) year contract for the purchase, service, support, maintenance and hosting of a fixed route scheduling, dispatch and passenger information software and required equipment at a cost of \$1,255,987 plus a 10% contingency for a total contract expense not to exceed \$1,381,585. Any such contract shall be subject to legal review and receipt of the local Section 5307 capital match requirement as an award from Ohio Department of Transportation. Furthermore, the BCRTA Board of Trustees authorizes the Executive Director to take all actions necessary to enact the terms of the agreement and this resolution.

Approved: March 17, 2021

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BCRTA, Board President

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BCRTA, Executive Director