

FACT SHEET

Overview

As the primary provider of public transit services in central Ohio, COTA is undertaking a long-range planning effort, COTA NextGen, to identify public transportation needs and opportunities for the next 35 years. Central Ohio's growth has been robust, and this growth is expected to continue into the future. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC) recent study, insight2050, projects central Ohio will add an additional 500,000 residents and 300,000 jobs by 2050. This growth has also been accompanied by new expectations, preferences and priorities for how the community provides housing, locates jobs, develops entertainment and recreation amenities and structures institutions. COTA NextGen will consider how these trends will influence opportunities and demand for public transportation. The goals are to:

- Lead the community in envisioning what our public transportation system needs to accomplish in the coming decades to ensure Central Ohioans have access to jobs, housing, education and services.
- Prepare Central Ohio for future growth by identifying transit investments that integrate with regional plans and goals. Critical regional goals include maintaining regional competitiveness, minimizing sprawl and responding to demographic preferences.
- Create transit investment options to support local and regional efforts to develop transit oriented and multimodal communities.
- Identify conventional and creative revenue options that offer potential to support the recommended plan and ensure the plan can be implemented.



Public and Stakeholder Outreach

- **A Project Advisory Group (PAG)** will serve as a policy level group of diverse, regional leaders to guide the study and serve as liaisons to their constituents.
- **Targeted Stakeholder Meetings** will be held with specialized interests such as seniors, the disabled community, students and young professionals.
- **Three Rounds of Public Meetings** will be held during each of the three project phases.
- **An Interactive Website** will provide opportunities for the public to respond to surveys and submit comments. Visit www.cota.com/nextgen for more details.

Coordination

COTA NextGen will coordinate public involvement and information sharing efforts with the City of Columbus's Connect ColumbUS Multimodal Plan and MORPC's Metropolitan Transportation Plan. All three initiatives are long-range transportation plans. For more information, visit morpc.org/mtp2040 and columbus.gov/ConnectColumbus.