## Central Ohio Transit Authority

Financial Statements for the Years Ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 and Reports Issued Pursuant to OMB Circular A-133 for the Year Ended December 31, 2006



## Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Board of Trustees Central Ohio Transit Authority 1600 McKinley Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43222-1093

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditors' Report* of the Central Ohio Transit Authority, Franklin County, prepared by Deloitte & Touche LLP, for the audit period January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Central Ohio Transit Authority is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

August 14, 2007



## **CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Trustees Central Ohio Transit Authority and Mary Taylor, Auditor of State of Ohio:

We have audited the balance sheets of Central Ohio Transit Authority (the "Authority") as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets and eash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Authority. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and the changes in net assets and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 2-13 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by GASB. This supplementary information is the responsibility of the Authority's management. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements of the Authority taken as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for the purpose of additional analysis as required by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. This schedule is the responsibility of Authority management. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated June 22, 2007, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

June 22, 2007

Delotte ? Touche LLP

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As the management of the Central Ohio Transit Authority (the Authority or COTA), we offer readers of the Authority's basic financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2006. This discussion and analysis is designed to assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues and activities and identifying any significant changes in financial position. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here, in conjunction with the basic financial statements and notes to the financial statements, which follows this section and provides more specific detail.

#### Overview of Financial Highlights

- The Authority has net assets of \$92.9 million. These net assets result from the difference between total assets of \$104.4 million and total liabilities of \$11.5 million.
- The Authority's net assets decreased by \$15.3 million in 2006 mainly due to impairment of the North Corridor Project and the transfer of certain revenue vehicles to another transit system. The Authority's net assets decreased by \$5.9 million in 2005 primarily due to an operating loss driven by a combination of factors including flat operating revenue, increased fuel and natural gas costs, and the transfer of certain revenue vehicles to other transit systems.
- Current assets of \$32.5 million primarily consist of non-restricted cash and cash equivalents
  of \$12.3 million; sales tax receivables of \$12.7 million, inventory of \$2.3 million, and Board
  designated assets of \$3.4 million.
- Current liabilities of \$10.8 million primarily consist of accrued payroll and fringe benefits of \$4.8 million, and accounts payable of \$2.2 million.
- The Authority has no long-term debt.

#### Basic Financial Statements and Presentation

The financial statements presented by the Authority are the Balance Sheets, the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets and the Statements of Cash Flows. These statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. The Authority is structured as a single enterprise fund with revenues recognized when earned and measurable, not when received. Expenses are recognized when they are incurred, not when paid. Capital assets are capitalized and depreciated, except land, over their estimated useful lives.

The Balance Sheets present information on all of the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases and decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Authority is improving or deteriorating. Net assets decrease when expenses exceed revenues. A decrease in assets without a corresponding decrease to liabilities results in decreased net assets, which indicate a deteriorated financial position.

The Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets on page 16 presents information showing how the Authority's net assets changed during the year. This statement summarizes operating revenues and expenses along with non-operating revenues and expenses. In addition, this statement lists capital grant revenues received from federal and state governments.

The Statements of Cash Flows on pages 17-18 allow financial statement users to assess the Authority's adequacy or ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meet its obligations in a timely manner. The statements are classified into four categories: 1) cash flows from operating activities, 2) cash flows from non-capital financing activities, 3) cash flows from capital and related financing activities, and 4) cash flows from investing activities.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 19-35.

#### Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Central Ohio Transit Authority's financial status and performance. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to:

Office of Chief Financial Officer Central Ohio Transit Authority 1600 McKinley Avenue Columbus, OH 43222-1093 www.COTA.com

#### Financial Analysis of the Authority

#### Condensed Summary of Net Assets

The Authority's comparative analysis of the condensed summary of Net Assets is as follows:

Description		2006	2005	2004	
Assets					
Current Assets	\$	29,145,271	\$ 23,905,364	\$ 26,527,017	
Board Designated Assets (current)		3,401,490	1,969,885	2,721,804	
Restricted Assets (current)			649,631	536,110	
Total Current Assets	-	32,546,761	26,524,880	29,784,931	
Board Designated Assets (non-current)		10,597,104	11,535,204	11,918,260	
Capital Assets (net of accumulated					
depreciation)		61,349,114	82,895,537	82,607,483	
Total Non-Current Assets		71,946,218	 94,430,741	 94,525,743	
Total Assets	4	104,492,979	120,955,621	124,310,674	
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities		10,760,880	11,600,596	9,835,968	
Non-Current Liabilities		766,456	1,134,144	383,559	
Total Liabilities		11,527,336	12,734,740	10,219,527	
Net Assets					
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets		61,349,114	82,895,537	82,607,483	
Net Assets Restricted for Capital Assets			649,631	536,110	
Net Assets Unrestricted		31,616,529	24,675,713	30,947,554	
Total Net Assets	\$	92,965,643	\$ 108,220,881	\$ 114,091,147	

Most of the Authority's net assets reflect investment in capital assets such as buses, maintenance equipment, and operating facilities. The Authority uses these capital assets to provide public transportation services for Franklin County and portions of the cities of Columbus, Reynoldsburg, and Westerville that are located in counties adjacent to Franklin County. The Authority's investment in capital assets as of December 31, 2006 amounts to \$61.3 million (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, revenue vehicles, transit centers, other equipment, and construction in progress. The total decrease in COTA's investment in capital assets for 2006 was \$21.5 million.

Major capital asset events during 2006 included the following:

- Identified \$17.5 of impaired projects within construction in progress.
- Transferred six buses with a net book value of \$.7 million to another transit system.

Contributions to construction in progress including the following projects:

- Continued progress toward completion of the final phase of the replacement of the roof at the 1600 McKinley Avenue facility amounted to \$.8 million.
- Continued progress toward several small projects including ADA improvements and transit enhancements.

Additional information on the Authority's capital assets can be found in Note 4 in the Notes to the Financial Statements located on pages 28-29.

The Authority's current assets at the end of 2006 are composed of cash and cash equivalents (48%), receivables (42%), inventory (7%), and other assets (3%) consisting predominately of prepaid expenses.

#### Expenses by Functional Category

The Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets are presented on the next page with explanations and analysis following. The Authority's expenses, excluding depreciation, can also be classified by functional category as defined by the Authority's <a href="National Transit Database Report">National Transit Database Report</a> (NTDR) and summarized in the following table:

### EXPENSES BY FUNCTION (Excluding Depreciation)

Description		2006	2005		2004		
Transportation	\$	38,352,438	\$	42,942,412	\$	40,853,870	
Vehicle Maintenance		12,050,062		12,768,801	1.4	12,054,086	
Facilities Maintenance		3,848,133		4,375,327		4,492,409	
General & Administrative		13,469,858		13,752,089		14,076,576	
Total	\$	67,720,491	\$	73,838,629	\$	71,476,941	
	-						

In accordance with NTDR guidelines, the 2006, 2005 and 2004 expenses include additional costs of \$29,132, \$25,908 and \$10,934 respectively, collected directly by the service provider from the Authority's customers during implementation of a new Sedan Voucher Service for disabled passengers.

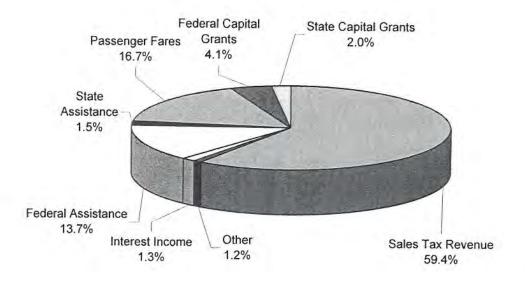
## Condensed Summary of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets:

Description		2006		2005		2004	
Operating Revenues Passenger Fare Revenues	\$	10 040 045		44 404 545		12 121 111	
Special Services Revenue	Ф	12,816,845 359,886	\$	11,404,545	\$	11,420,919	
Other: Auxiliary Transportation Revenues		243,138		337,661		380,907	
Total Operating Revenues	_	13,419,869	_	371,971 12,114,177	-	514,923	
		15,415,009		12,114,177		12,316,749	
Non-Operating Revenues							
Sales Tax Revenues		47,007,395		44,821,588		44,984,894	
Federal Assistance		10,866,698		11,055,758		10,687,631	
State Assistance		1,455,882		1,184,646		941,703	
Investment Income		1,008,101		649,640		293,186	
Non-transportation and Other Revenues	-	549,046		538,547		402,391	
Total Non-Operating Revenues		60,887,122		58,250,179		57,309,805	
Total Revenue before Capital Grants		74,306,991		70,364,356		69,626,554	
Operating Expenses							
Labor		27,522,282		31,829,043		32,052,900	
Fringe Benefits		18,476,176		21,155,637		20,776,073	
Materials and Supplies		9,236,317		8,588,212		6,858,978	
Purchased Transportation		4,608,078		4,530,514		4,411,484	
Services		3,737,526		3,722,092		3,951,600	
Other Expenses		4,110,980		3,987,223		3,414,972	
Operating Expenses before Depreciation		67,691,359		73,812,721		71,466,007	
Depreciation Expense		8,564,858		9,114,603		9,859,816	
Total Operating Expenses		76,256,217		82,927,324		81,325,823	
Loss before Capital Grants and Special Item		(1,949,226)		(12,562,968)		(11,699,269)	
Capital Grant Revenues:							
Federal		3,215,213		6,302,087		8,323,292	
State		1,608,175		2,783,162		2,690,281	
Other		7,156				366,884	
Total Capital Grant Revenues		4,830,544		9,085,249		11,380,457	
Special Item: Loss on Transfer of Assets		(665,492)		(2,392,547)		(1,803,954)	
Special Item: Loss on Project Impairment		(17,471,064)				T. Johnston A.	
Total Special Item	,	(18,136,556)		(2,392,547)	-	(1,803,954)	
Change in Net Assets during the Year		(15,255,238)		(5,870,266)		(2,122,766)	
Net Assets, Beginning of Year		108,220,881		114,091,147		116,213,913	
Net Assets, End of Year	\$	92,965,643	\$	108,220,881	\$	114,091,147	
A De Contra la Carta de Sala de Carta d	=				-	114,001,141	

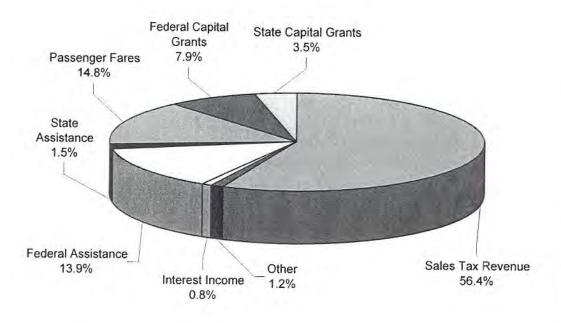
## **CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

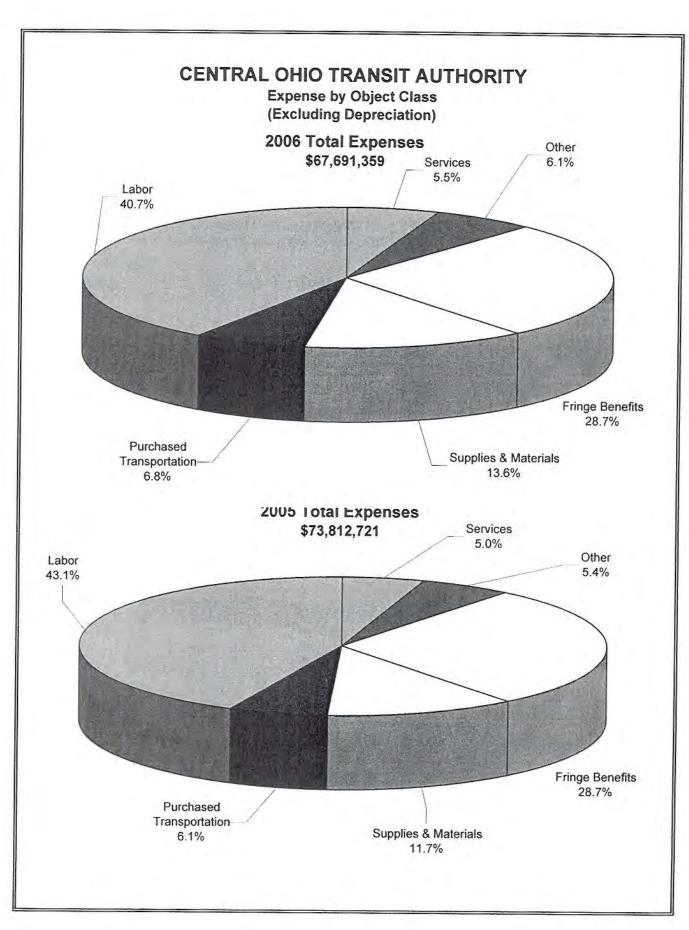
Revenues by Source

2006 Total Revenues \$79,137,535



### 2005 Total Revenues \$79,449,605





#### **Financial Operating Results**

#### Revenues

For purposes of this presentation, the Authority groups its operating revenues into the following categories:

Passenger Fares are comprised of farebox revenues and special services revenues. The 2006 increase from 2005 is attributed to a fare increase in January 2006. The slight 2005 decrease from 2004 is attributed to a reduction in bus service levels initiated in May 2004, causing ridership levels to decrease during the first half of 2005.

Sales Tax Revenues are received from a permanent 1/4% sales tax levy approved by voters in November 1999 and applicable to the Authority's service area. The increase of 4.8% in 2006 from 2005 is due in part to a one-time state sales tax amnesty program. The slight decrease in 2005 is due to slowing economic growth in COTA's taxing district. The increase in 2004 revenues is due to positive economic factors and a one-time program implemented by the State of Ohio to compel electronic fund transfer (EFT) filers to become current in filing sales tax returns.

Federal Assistance is received from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for general operating expenses and capital programs. With the passage of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21), regional transit authorities were given the latitude to use their Section 5307 Federal Formula Assistance on the capitalization of maintenance instead of the purchase of capital assets. The Authority has elected to use its Section 5307 funds on vehicle maintenance, permitting the full use of this allocation each year, and freeing local funds for future capital projects. The decrease in Federal Assistance in 2006 was due to a reduction in TEA-21 due to funding requirements for Katrina recovery efforts. The increase in Federal Assistance in 2005 was due to an increase in funding the total allocation to all public transit agencies for Section 5307 funds by the Federal government. The decrease for Federal Assistance in 2004 was due to a reduction in funding for Section 5307 funds by the Federal government.

Federal Capital Grants are received from the FTA for capital projects and capital acquisitions. Federal Capital Grants reimburse the Authority in part for the purchase of new buses and equipment. The reduction in Federal Capital Grants in 2006 is due to the discontinued North Corridor Light Rail Project. The reduction in Federal Capital Grants in 2005 is due to the completion of the Easton Daycare Center and the Near East Transit Center construction projects and a decrease in funding for the North Corridor Light-Rail project. The increase in Federal Capital Grants in 2004 is attributed to increases for funding the North Corridor Light-Rail project, reimbursement for the construction of the Easton Daycare Center, the annunciator (automatic voice messaging system) project, the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) planning and standards development project, facility improvements, and the purchase of buses and paratransit vehicles.

State Assistance is received from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for elderly and disabled rider reduced-fare subsidies, and for reimbursement of State fuel taxes. COTA is required to remit State taxes on diesel fuel, but is refunded \$0.27 of the \$0.28 per gallon paid. The increase for State Assistance in 2006, 2005 and 2004 was due primarily to an increase in the elderly and disabled passenger fare assistance program.

State Capital Grants are received from ODOT for capital projects and capital acquisitions. State Capital Grants reimburse the Authority in part for the purchase of new buses and equipment. The decrease in State Capital Grants in 2006 was due to the discontinuation of the North Corridor Light Rail Project. The increase in State Capital Grants in 2005 and 2004 was for funding the North Corridor Light-Rail project, reimbursement for the construction of the Easton Daycare Center, the implementation of the annunciator and automatic passenger counter projects, and the purchase of buses. In 2005, the increase is also attributable to reimbursement for the construction of the Near East Transit Center. In 2004, the increase is attributable to reimbursement for the Front Street Bridge portion of the Downtown Multimodal Transportation Terminal (MMTT) project and the purchase of paratransit vehicles.

**Investment Income** is earned on invested funds. The 2006 and 2005 Investment Income is significantly higher due to higher investment rates and higher cash balances than in 2004. During 2004, lower cash balances in the investment accounts along with a decrease in interest rates in the fixed income financial markets contributed to decreasing investment income.

Non-Transportation and Other Revenues consist of auxiliary transportation revenues and non-transportation revenues. Auxiliary transportation revenues represent fees collected for advertising placed in and on buses increased slightly in 2006 and decreased in 2005 and 2004 due to economic conditions. Non-transportation revenues include all other various miscellaneous income items.

#### Expenses

Labor comprises nearly half of the total Authority expenses and includes hourly wages paid to union-represented employees (bus operators, mechanics and facility maintenance personnel), and salaries and wages paid to administrative staff (clerical, supervisory and management personnel). In 2006, reductions in service coupled with improved efficiency resulted in a 14% reduction in labor cost. During May 2005, COTA eliminated fifteen administrative positions as part of a reorganization of the Authority's administrative departments, thereby reducing labor expense below 2004 levels. In 2004, an average pay rate increase of 2% was offset by increases in the employee attrition rate.

**Fringe Benefits** consist primarily of vacation, sick and holiday pay, required Authority contributions to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), and employee medical benefits. Required employer contributions to OPERS were made at the rate of 13.55% of total gross taxable wages.

In 2006, fringe benefit expense was reduced by nearly 13% through a corresponding reduction in direct payroll costs and no growth in medical premiums. Additionally, in 2005, an OPERS "pickup" of 5.5% of the individual's gross taxable wages was contributed for collective bargaining units and administrative employees. The increase in fringe benefits in 2005 is due to rising medical insurance costs and an increase in Workers' Compensation expense caused by a significant adjustment to the liability reserve to recognize future liabilities. In 2004, a "pickup" was contributed ranging from 4.0% to 5.5% dependent upon the collective bargaining unit for represented employees and 5.5% for administrative employees. The increase in fringe benefits in 2004 was due to rising medical insurance costs, increased OPERS "pickup" contribution, and increased workers compensation expense.

Materials and Supplies include the Authority's diesel fuel expense and parts used in the maintenance of buses and facilities. In 2006, materials and supplies increased 7.5% from 2005 due to increased fuel price per gallon of 21.4% and the impact of maintaining an aging bus fleet. The primary factor for the 2005 increase in expenses is a 44.2% increase in the average price per gallon of diesel fuel along with a slight increase in fuel consumption of approximately 36,000 gallons. Another factor that also increased expenses was the write-off of the ABI bus parts inventory. The primary factor for the 2004 increase is a 28.8% increase in the average price per gallon of diesel fuel despite the reduction in fuel consumption of over 134,000 gallons due to reduced bus service hours.

Purchased Transportation expense is comprised of amounts paid to a private local contractor to provide the Authority's Project Mainstream service (door-to-door, service-on-demand in wheelchair lift-equipped minibuses for disabled riders). In 2006, purchased transportation expense increased by 1.7% over 2005, but was substantiated by an increase in ridership of 2.9%. For 2005, the total Project Mainstream ridership was only a slight increase of less than 1% as a result of challenges with scheduling that led to decreased productivity. The 2004 increase was driven by a 6.2% billing rate increase that became effective August 1, 2004 which offset a 1.9% decrease in the number of revenue hours provided.

**Professional Services** are provided by outside contractors to the Authority for a wide variety of professional, technical, consulting and maintenance needs. These costs remained fairly constant from 2005 to 2006 with just a .4% increase. The decrease for 2005 is due to a reduction in legal expense. The slight increase for 2004 is due to increased legal activity.

Other Expenses consist primarily of utilities, taxes, interest, leases and rentals, claims and insurance and other miscellaneous expenses. In 2006, other expenses increased 3% over 2005 primarily due to increase self-insurance claims from increased liability reserves. Taxes were paid to the State on diesel fuel consumption at the rate of \$0.26 per gallon until July 2005, and at the rate of \$0.28 thereafter, which was responsible for the increase in fuel taxes paid in 2005 and 2006. Real estate taxes are paid on non-exempt Authority property. Leases and rentals are paid on the downtown COTA Connection customer service center, the COTA Business Development Division office on Lake Shore Drive, the Project Mainstream paratransit offices on Phillipi Road, certain parkand-ride facilities, and miscellaneous equipment. The 2004 expenses decreased slightly due to cost-reducing measures implemented related to the use of copying machines. In addition, 2004 claims and insurance expense decreased due to reduced self-insurance claims for property damage.

#### Analysis of 2006 Financial Results

The year 2006 can be considered a turning point for COTA, with many of the recent year's challenges reaching resolution, providing a clear direction for the future expansion of transportation services in central Ohio for the next 10 years. On the heels of operating deficits in the past two years, COTA management implemented decisive measures to return the Authority to financial stability. As part of the 2006 operating budget, the following measures were incorporated and implemented to improve the financial condition of the Authority:

- Service reductions of 10% were made in January 2006, resulting in lower direct operating expenses.
- Fares were increased an average of 11%, resulting in increased fare revenue, net of service reductions.
- Consolidating Bus and Vehicle Maintenance operations into one facility, reducing operating expenses.
- Early termination of an operating lease for Paratransit operations at the Phillipi Rd. location and relocating the operation into a more-centrally located COTA owned facility.
- Fully implemented the terms of the new three-year labor agreement, negotiated in December of 2005.

These measures coupled with an increase in sales and use tax of 4.8% led to an operating surplus of \$6.6 million (excluding depreciation) for the year, signaling a strong financial recovery.

In July of 2006, the COTA board reviewed and accepted the completion of the DEIS (Draft Environmental Impact Statement) that was part of the NCLRT (North Corridor Light Rail Project) that had been advancing slowly over the past few years. At that time, the Board voted to accept the "No build" alternative that was one of four alternatives studied. The project was put on hold indefinitely in recognition that the projects' merits no longer met recently amended Federal criteria and therefore had little chance of receiving funding. This decision resulted in a \$17.5 million decrease in net assets as of December 31, 2006.

The 2006, 2005 and 2004 Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets include a Special Item for the loss on transfer of assets. These items represent the continuation of a 2004 initiative to dispose of 38 revenue vehicles prior to the end of their useful life. In 2006, the loss of \$665,492 resulted from the transfer of the federal interest in six Advanced Bus Industries (ABI) buses to Jackson State University, a transit eligible to receive FTA funding. In 2005, the loss of \$2,392,547 resulted from the transfer of the federal interest of nineteen Advanced Bus Industries (ABI) buses to transit systems in Colorado and Florida, both eligible to receive FTA funding. In 2004, the loss of \$1,803,954 resulted from the transfer of the federal interest of thirteen Advanced Bus Industries (ABI) buses to transit systems in California and South Dakota, both eligible to receive FTA funding. Several factors led to the decision to transfer these buses, including the high maintenance costs and other challenges experienced by the Authority and its passengers. Additional information on this Special Item may be found on Note 10 in the Notes to the Financial Statements located on page 35.

Overall, the Authority's decrease in net assets in 2006 of \$15.3 million represents a 14% reduction in the Authority's Net assets compared to a \$5.9 million reduction representing 5% in 2005 and a \$2.2 million reduction representing a 1.8% change in 2004. To counteract this trend and increase transportation services to central Ohio, the Authority sought and was granted an additional 1/4% sales and use tax for a 10-year period beginning in 2007 and ending in 2016.

### **CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

### Balance Sheets December 31, 2006 and 2005

ASSETS	7	2006		2005
CURRENT ASSETS:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	12,278,782	\$	8,937,160
Sales tax		12,735,719		11,944,616
Federal capital grants receivable		73,262		506,343
Federal operating assistance		44,218		
State capital grants receivable		216,182		143,288
Other		444,973		869,175
Inventory of materials and supplies		2,327,942		1,737,755
Other		1,024,193		416,658
Total		29,145,271		24,554,995
Board designated:				
Cash and cash equivalents - capital grants		1,625,585		1,366,749
Cash and cash equivalents - self insurance		1,775,905		603,136
Total		3,401,490		1,969,885
Total current assets	_	32,546,761	-	26,524,880
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:				
Board designated:				
Cash and cash equivalents - self insurance		10,597,104		11,535,204
Total		10,597,104		11,535,204
Property and equipment				
Cost		157,555,256		178,388,367
Less accumulated depreciation		(96,206,142)		(95,492,830)
Total		61,349,114		82,895,537
Total non-current assets		61,349,114	_	94,430,741
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	104,492,979	\$	120,955,621

### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## Balance Sheets (continued) December 31, 2006 and 2005

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2006	2005
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accrued payroll and fringe benefits	\$ 4,841,938	\$ 5,042,377
Accounts payable	2,187,297	4,166,044
Accrued payroll taxes	612,342	655,850
Estimated workers compensation claims	483,454	130,208
Estimated claims payable	1,292,451	472,928
Other current liabilities	1,343,398	1,133,189
Total current liabilitites	10,760,880	11,600,596
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accrued fringe benefits	409,675	617,990
Deferred revenue lease property	37,024	50,908
Estimated workers compensation claims	210,907	390,746
Estimated claims payable	108,850	74,500
Total non-current liabilitites	766,456	1,134,144
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,527,336	12,734,740
NET ASSETS:		
Invested in capital assets	61,349,114	82,895,537
Restricted for capital assets	4	649,631
Unrestricted	31,616,529	24,675,713
TOTAL NET ASSETS	92,965,643	108,220,881
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 104,492,979	\$ 120,955,621

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets Years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005

ODEDATING DEVENUES		2006		2005
OPERATING REVENUES:			7	an malo me
Passenger fares for transit service	\$	12,816,845	\$	11,404,54
Charter conject revenue		359,886		326,018
Charter service revenue		0		11,643
Auxiliary transportation revenue	_	243,138	-	371,971
Total	-	13,419,869		12,114,177
OPERATING EXPENSES OTHER THAN DEPRECIATION:				
Labor		27,522,282		31,829,043
Fringe benefits		18,476,176		21,155,637
Materials and supplies		9,236,317		8,588,212
Purchased transportation		4,608,078		4,530,514
Services		3,737,526		3,722,092
Utilities		1,435,646		1,570,945
Taxes		726,764		742,924
Leases and rentals		359,145		570,504
Claims and insurance, net of settlements		1,117,833		595,191
Advertising		122,695		155,080
Miscellaneous		348,897		352,579
Total	-	67,691,359	-	73,812,721
DEPRECIATION		TOTAL TOTAL STREET	_	
	-	8,564,858	-	9,114,603
Total operating expenses.		76,256,217	_	82,927,324
OPERATING LOSS	(6	32,836,348)		(70,813,147)
NON-OPERATING REVENUES:				
Sales tax revenues	4	17,007,395		44,821,588
Federal operating grants and reimbursements		10,866,698		11,055,758
State operating grants, reimbursements and				
special fare assistance		1,455,882		1,184,646
Investment income		1,008,101		649,640
Nontransportation and other revenue		549,046		538,547
Total	6	60,887,122		58,250,179
Loss before capital grants & special item		(1,949,226)		(12,562,968)
CAPITAL GRANT REVENUES:				
Federal		3,215,213		6,302,087
State		1,608,175		2,783,162
Other		7,156		2,703,102
Total		4,830,544	_	9,085,249
SPECIAL ITEM -		111-1		0,000,210
Loss on transfer of assets		(665,492)		(2 202 547)
Loss on project impairment	3.0			(2,392,547)
	(1	7,471,064)	_	(2,392,547)
Total	(1	8,136,556)		(2,392,547)
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	(1	5,255,238)		(5,870,266)
IET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	757	8,220,881		114,091,147
IET ASSETS, END OF YEAR		2,965,643		108,220,881
	Ψ 5,	2,303,043	Ψ	100,220,001

See notes to financial statements.

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Statements of Cash Flows Years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005

CACHELOWS FROM OPERATION AND THE COMMENTS OF T	2006	2005
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash received from customers		\$ 11,742,206
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(23,625,579)	(18,916,429)
Cash payments to employees for services	(27,706,365)	(31,836,063)
Cash payments for employees benefits	(18,527,440)	(21,280,279)
Cash payments for casualty and liability	(246, 177)	(843,592)
Other receipts.	1,225,486	1,139,405
Net cash used in operating activities	(55,703,344)	(59,994,752)
CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Sales taxes received	46,216,292	44,786,841
Federal operating assistance received	10,822,480	15,321,316
State operating and other assistance received	1,455,882	1,593,635
Net cash provided by non-capital financing activities	58,494,654	61,701,792
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED		
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Federal capital grants received	3,648,294	6,235,209
State capital grants received	1,542,437	2,736,519
Acquisition and construction of fixed assets	(5,155,015)	(10,749,066)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	(0,:00,010)	308,100
Net cash provided by (used in) capital and related financing	35,716	(1,469,238)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Interest received from investments	1,008,101	649,640
Purchases of investments	1,000,101	(9,100)
Sales of investments		1,983,498
Net cash provided by investing activities	1,008,101	2,624,038
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	3,835,127	2,861,840
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	22,442,249	19,580,409
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR\$	26,277,376	\$ 22,442,249

### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Statements of Cash Flows (continued) Years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005

	_	2006	_	2005
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Operating Loss	\$	(62,836,348)	\$	(70,813,147)
Depreciation Inventory obsolescence reserve adjustments Deferred Revenue Other receipts Change in assets and liabilities:		8,564,858 (88,110) (13,884) 549,046		9,114,603 500,000 64,792 538,547
Decrease in other receivables		433,302 (502,077) (616,635)		228,887 (300,893) (23,835)
Net cash used in operating activities	\$	(1,193,496) (55,703,344)	\$	696,294 (59,994,752)
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF NONCASH ACTIVITY Property purchases in accounts payable	\$	50,962	\$	1,597,390

### (1) Organization and Reporting Entity

#### (a) Organization

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA or the Authority) is an independent, special purpose subdivision of the State of Ohio. The Authority was created on February 17, 1971, pursuant to Sections 306.30 through 306.53 of the Ohio Revised Code for the purpose of providing public transportation in Central Ohio, primarily Franklin County and surrounding areas. The Authority commenced operations on January 1, 1974. As a political subdivision, the Authority is distinct from, and is not an agency of, the State of Ohio or any other local government unit.

Under Ohio law, the Authority is authorized to levy a sales and use tax for transit purposes, including both capital improvement and operating expenses, in 0.25% increments up to a maximum rate of 1.5% if approved by a majority of the electors residing within the territorial boundaries of the Authority. Such a sales and use tax is in addition to the sales and use taxes levied by the State of Ohio and Franklin County. On November 5, 1999, the voters of Franklin County approved a permanent 0.25% sales and use tax. On November 2, 2006, the voters of Franklin County and surrounding counties within the COTA district approved a 10 year additional 0.25% sales and use tax.

The Authority also has the power, under Section 306.40 of the Ohio Revised Code, to levy and collect both voted (after approval at an election) and unvoted ad valorem taxes on all the taxable property within the territorial boundaries of the Authority, in order to pay debt service on its bonds and notes issued in anticipation thereof. Ad valorem taxes were not levied during fiscal years 2006 and 2005.

The Authority is governed by a 13-member Board of Trustees. Members are appointed by the mayors of COTA's chartering municipal corporations and by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and serve overlapping 3-year terms.

The Authority is not subject to federal or state income taxes.

#### (b) Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements comply with the provisions of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, The Financial Reporting Entity. This statement requires that financial statements of the reporting entity include all of the organization, activities, functions and component units for which the reporting entity is financially accountable. Financial accountability is defined as the appointment of a voting majority of the component unit's board and either (1) the reporting entity's ability to impose its will over the component unit, or (2) the possibility that the component unit will provide a financial benefit to or impose a financial burden on the reporting entity. COTA does not have financial accountability over any entities.

The City of Columbus (the City) is a related organization to COTA as the Mayor of the City, with the approval of City Council, appoints a voting majority of COTA's Board. However, the financial statements of COTA are not included within the City's "Reporting Entity" as the City cannot impose its will and there is no financial benefit or financial burden relationship between the City and COTA.

#### (2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues and expenses are recognized in the period earned or incurred. All transactions are accounted for in a single enterprise fund.

Pursuant to GASB Statement No. 20 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities that Use Proprietary Fund Accounting, the Authority follows GASB guidance as applicable to proprietary funds and Financial Accounting Standards Board Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board Opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins issues on or before November 30, 1989, that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The Authority also has the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance, subject to this same limitation. The Authority has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance as it relates to its operations.

### (b) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Authority considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased and deposits in the State Treasurer's Asset Reserve investment pool (STAR Ohio) to be cash equivalents.

#### (c) Grant and Assistance

The federal government, through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Ohio Department of Transportation, (ODOT) provides financial assistance and makes grants directly to the Authority for operations and the acquisition of property and equipment. Grants for operating assistance and preventative maintenance are recorded as revenues during the entitlement period to which the grants apply.

#### (d) Investments

Pursuant to GASB Statement No. 31, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and External Investment Pools, investments are carried at fair value based on quoted market prices. Any unrealized gains or losses are recognized as adjustments to investment income. The Authority's policy is to hold investment securities to their scheduled maturities.

#### (e) Inventory of Materials and Supplies

Inventory items are stated at cost using the weighted average method. Inventory generally consists of maintenance parts and supplies for transportation equipment and inventory items are expensed when consumed.

### (f) Board Designated Assets

These assets are designated for the payment of public liability claims under the Authority's self-insurance program and for future capital expenditures.

### (g) Designated for Capital Grant Expenditures

These assets are restricted under the Authority's capital grants for certain capital projects. The Authority also includes in designated capital grant asset amounts relating to its local share requirements for active capital grants.

### (h) Net Assets - Equity displayed in three components as follows:

<u>Invested in capital assets, net of related debt</u> – This consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, less the outstanding balances of any bonds, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets.

Restricted – This consists of net assets that are legally restricted by outside parties or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, generally it is the Authority's policy to use restricted resources first, and then use unrestricted resources when they are needed.

<u>Unrestricted</u> – This consists of net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt".

(continued)

#### (i) Classifications of Revenues

The Authority has classified its revenue as operating, non-operating or capital grant. Operating revenue includes activities that have the characteristics of exchange transactions including passenger fares and advertising. Non-operating revenue includes activities that have the characteristics of non-exchange transactions, such as sales tax proceeds and most federal, state, or other reimbursement or donation for the acquisition of property and equipment.

#### Recognition of Revenue and Receivables

The federal government, through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), provide financial assistance and make grants directly to the Authority for operations and acquisition of property and equipment. Operating grants and special fare assistance awards made on the basis of entitlement periods are recorded as grant receivables and revenues over the entitlement periods. Capital grants for the acquisition of property and equipment (reimbursement type grants) are recorded as grant receivables and credited to non-operating revenues in the period operating expenditures are incurred. Capital grants received in advance of project costs being incurred are deferred.

When assets acquired with capital grant funds are disposed of before their useful life, the Authority is required to notify the granting federal agency. A proportional amount of the proceeds or fair market value, if any, of such property and equipment, may be used to acquire like-kind replacement vehicles or remitted to the granting federal agency.

#### (j) Property and Depreciation

Property and equipment are stated at historical cost and include expenditures that substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets. Routine maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred. An asset is capitalized if its value exceeds \$2,000 and it has an economic life of greater than one year. The asset capitalization level for projects funded by grants is the full cost of the assets acquired regardless of the \$2,000 threshold. The capitalization cost of a physical asset is defined to be the full cost of placing the asset into productive service.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets, as follows:

Description	Years
Land and leasehold improvements	5-20
Buildings and improvements	20-40
Revenue vehicles	4-12
Transit shelters	5-8
Other equipment	3-10

(continued)

#### (j) Property and Depreciation (continued)

Assets acquired with capital grants are included in property and equipment and depreciation on those assets is included in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets.

#### (k) Estimated Claims Payable

The Authority has a self-insurance program for public liability, personal injury, property damage and worker's compensation (see Note 7). Claims are accrued in the year the expenses are incurred, based upon estimates of the claim liabilities made by management and the legal counsel of the Authority. Also provided for are estimates of claims incurred during the year but not yet reported. These estimates are based on past experience and current outstanding claims.

#### (I) Compensated Absences

The Authority accrues vacation and sick pay benefits as earned by its employees. Non-current accrued fringe benefits are estimated based on the average vacation and sick expense from the previous five years.

		Current	No	on-current
Compensated Absences Liability December 31, 2004	\$	4,036,607	\$	199,910
Vacation & Sick Liability Earned		3,757,201		Α.
Vacation & Sick Liability Paid		(4,299,923)		418,080
Compensated Absences Liability December 31, 2005	\$	3,493,885	\$	617,990
Vacation & Sick Liability Earned		3,177,283		4
Vacation & Sick Liability Paid		(3,193,640)		(208,315)
Compensated Absences Liability December 31, 2006	\$	3,477,528	\$	409,675

#### (m) Passenger Fares

Passenger fares are recorded as revenue at the time services are performed.

#### (n) Budgetary Accounting and Control

The Authority's annual budget is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting as permitted by law. The Authority maintains budgetary control by not allowing total expenditures to exceed total appropriations without approval of the Board of Trustees.

#### (o) Use of Estimates

The accounting and reporting policies of COTA conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results differ from those estimates.

#### (p) Non-exchange Transactions

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Authority receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include sales tax revenue and grants. On an accrual basis, revenue from sales taxes is recognized in the period when the underlying exchange transaction occurs. Therefore, taxes on items sold in 2006 will be recognized as revenue in 2006. Revenue from grants is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Authority on a reimbursement basis.

#### (q) New Accounting Pronouncements

In November 2003, GASB issued Statement No. 42, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Impairment of Capital Assets and for Insurance Recoveries, which establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for impairment of capital assets. This Statement also clarifies and establishes accounting requirements for insurance recoveries. The provisions of this statement were implemented by the Authority in 2005. Significant items identified as impaired were written off (See Note No. 11 - Special Item).

In June 2004, GASB issued Statement No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions. This statement established standards for the measurement, recognitions, and display of OPEB expense/expenditures and related liabilities (assets), note disclosures, and, if applicable, required supplementary information in the financial reports of the state and local government employers. This statement will not be effective for the Authority until periods beginning after December 15, 2007, and as such, the Authority has not determined the impact that this statement will have on its financial statements.

### (q) New Accounting Pronouncements (continued)

During December 2004, the GASB issued Statement No. 46, Net Assets Restricted by Legislation, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 34. This statement clarifies that a legally enforceable enabling legislation restriction is one that a party external to a government, such as citizens, public interest groups, or the judiciary-can compel a government to honor. The Statement states that the legal enforceability of an enabling legislation restriction should be reevaluated if any of the resources raised by the enabling legislation are used for a purpose not specified by the enabling legislation or if a government has other cause for reconsideration. Although the determination that a particular restriction is not legally enforceable may cause a government to review the enforceability of other restrictions, it should not necessarily lead a government to the same conclusion for all enabling legislation restrictions. This statement also specifies the accounting and financial reporting requirements if new enabling legislation replaces existing enabling legislation or if legal enforceability is reevaluated. Statement requires governments to disclose the portion of total net assets that is restricted by enabling legislation. The requirements of this statement are effective for the Authority for 2006, and as such, the Authority has determined that this statement has no impact on its financial statements.

In June 2005, GASB issued Statement No. 47, Accounting for Termination Benefits. This statement provides accounting and reporting guidance for state and local governments that offer either voluntary termination benefits (e.g. early retirement incentives) or involuntary termination benefits (i.e., severance). The significant requirements of Statement 47 include the recognition in accrual basis financials as a liability and expense for involuntary termination benefits when (1) a termination plan has been approved by those with the authority to commit the government to the plan, (2) the plan has been communicated to the employees, and (3) the amount can be estimated. A liability and expense for voluntary termination benefits should be recognized when the offer is accepted and the amount can be estimated. Statement 47 also requires employers to disclose a description of the termination benefit arrangements, the cost of the termination benefits, and the significant methods and assumptions used to determine termination benefit liabilities. Statement 47 is effective for the Authority in 2006, and as such, the Authority has determined that there is no material impact on its financial statements.

Lastly, in September 2006, GASB issued Statement No. 48, Sales and Pledges of Receivables and Future Revenues and Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets and Future Revenues and Statement No. 49, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pollution Remediation Obligations. The requirements for these Statements become effective in fiscal years 2007 and 2008, respectively, and as such, the Authority has not determined the impact that these statements will have on its financial statements.

#### (3) Cash and Investments

The investment and deposit of Authority monies are governed by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. In accordance with these statutes, only financial institutions located in Ohio are eligible to hold public deposits. The statutes also permit the Authority to invest its monies in certificates of deposit, savings accounts, money market accounts, the State Treasurer's Asset Reserve investment pool (STAR Ohio), and obligations of the United States government or certain agencies thereof. The Authority may also enter into repurchase agreements with any eligible depository for a period not exceeding thirty days. The Authority is prohibited from investing in any financial instrument, contract, or obligation whose value or return is based upon or linked to another asset or index, or both, separate from the financial instrument, contract, or obligation itself (commonly known as a derivative). The Authority is also prohibited from investing in reserve purchase agreements.

STAR Ohio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office, which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the Securities Exchange Commission as an investment company, but does operate in a manner similar to Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAR Ohio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price, which is the price the investment could be sold for on December 31, 2006 and 2005.

Public depositories must give security for all public funds on deposit. These institutions may either specifically collateralize individual accounts in addition to amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), or may pledge a pool of government securities with a market value equal to 105% of the total value of public monies on deposit at the institution. Repurchase agreements must be secured by the specific government securities upon which the repurchase agreements are based. These securities must be obligations of or guaranteed by the United States and mature or be redeemable within five years of the date of the related repurchase agreement. State law does not require security for public deposits and investments to be maintained in the Authority's name.

#### (a) Deposits With Financial Institutions

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned. Public depositories must give security for all public funds on deposit. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105% of the carrying value of the deposit. Such collateral, as permitted by Chapter 135 of the Ohio Revised Code, is held in financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the Federal Reserve System, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the Authority.

At December 31, 2006, the carrying amount of the Authority's deposits with financial institutions was \$4,351,860 and the bank balance was \$5,741,075. The difference results mainly from outstanding checks. Based on criteria as described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure", as of December 31, 2006, \$100,789 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance. The \$5,640,286 exposed to custodial risk was collateralized by a pool of securities maintained by the Authority's financial institutions but not in the Authority's name. In addition, the Authority had \$5,220 of cash on hand.

At December 31, 2005, the carrying amount of the Authority's deposits with financial institutions was \$4,472,967 and the bank balance was \$6,007,501. The difference results mainly from outstanding checks. Based on criteria as described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure", as of December 31, 2005, \$100,919 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance. The \$5,907,501 exposed to custodial risk was collateralized by a pool of securities maintained by the Authority's financial institutions but not in the Authority's name. In addition, the Authority had \$5,220 of cash on hand.

### (b) Investments and Other Deposits

As of December 31, 2006 and 2005, the Authority held equity of \$21,920,296 and \$17,964,062, respectively, in the STAR Ohio investment pool. As of March 2006, Star Ohio has maintained the highest Standard and Poors rating of AAA. This investment has not been categorized based on a custodial risk because it is not a security. The relationship between the Authority and the investment asset is a direct contractual relationship and the investments evidence ownership or creditorship. In 2004, the Authority held U.S. Treasury notes and federal agency obligations of \$1,983,498 which matured in 2005.

### (4) Capital Assets

Capital asset activities for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 are as follows:

	Ja	nuary 1, 2006	Additions		Disposals		Transfers	C	ecember 31, 2006
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				_	1.				
Land	\$	5,445,576	\$ 	\$	3	S	3,330	S	5,448,906
CIP		19,693,961	4,312,465	21	(17,471,064)		(4,304,126)	-	2,231,236
Total		25,139,537	4,312,465		(17,471,064)		(4,300,796)		7,680,142
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:									
Land and leasehold improvements		9.097.046			(367,447)		57,843		8,787,442
Building and improvements		44,949,807	513,463		(007,117)		(1,073,168)		44,390,102
Revenue vehicles		69,326,152	7,11,000		(1,895,729)		147,207		67,577,630
Transit shelter		2,120,905			(1,214,842)		1,075,190		1,981,253
Other equipment		27,754,920	329,063		(5,039,020)		4,093,724		27,138,687
Total		153,248,830	842,526		(8,517,038)		4,300,796		149,875,114
Less Accumulated Depreciation:									
Land and leasehold improvements		(6,281,408)	(528,033)		227,344		1.5		(6,582,097)
Building and improvements		(17,628,582)	(1,351,902)		-		121		(18,980,484)
Revenue vehicles		(44,330,217)	(3,987,684)		1,230,236		-		(47,087,665)
Transit shelter		(2,094,689)	(281,714)		1,214,842				(1,161,561)
Other equipment		(25, 157, 934)	(2,415,525)		5,179,124		12		(22,394,335)
Total		(95,492,830)	(8,564,858)		7,851,546		-		(96,206,142)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	_	57,756,000	(7,722,332)		(665,492)		4,300,796		53,668,972
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$	82,895,537	\$ (3,409,867)	\$	(18,136,556)	\$		\$	61,349,114

For discussion of the \$665,492 transfer of revenue vehicles, see Note 10, Special Item.

### (4) Capital Assets (continued)

	Ja	nuary 1, 2005	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	D	ecember 31, 2005
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:							
Land	\$	5,540,116	\$ 	\$ (94,540)	\$ -	\$	5,445,576
CIP		19,007,340	3,525,037	(91,220)	(2,747,196)	1	19,693,961
Total	$\equiv$	24,547,456	3,525,037	 (185,760)	(2,747,196)		25,139,537
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:	-						
Land and leasehold improvements		8,945,518	-	7.6	151,528		9.097.046
Building and improvements		38,675,598	3,678,541		2,595,668		44,949,807
Revenue vehicles		68,728,879	4,697,629	(4,100,356)	-		69,326,152
Transit shelter		2,120,905			2		2,120,905
Other equipment		28,290,500	33.244	(568,824)	-		27,754,920
Total		146,761,400	8,409,414	(4,669,180)	2,747,196		153,248,830
Less Accumulated Depreciation:							
Land and leasehold improvements		(6,077,564)	(203,844)	-			(6,281,408
Building and improvements		(16,430,817)	(1,197,765)	-			(17,628,582
Revenue vehicles		(40,715,897)	(5,281,506)	1,667,186	1		(44,330,217
Transit shelter		(2,037,608)	(57,081)	-			(2,094,689
Other equipment		(23,439,487)	(2,271,485)	553,038	-		(25,157,934)
Total		(88,701,373)	(9,011,681)	2,220,224	-		(95,492,830)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net		58,060,027	(602,267)	(2,448,956)	2,747,196		57,756,000
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$	82,607,483	\$ 2,922,770	\$ (2,634,716)	\$ -	\$	82,895,537

For discussion of the \$2,392,547 transfer of revenue vehicles, see Note 10, Special Item.

#### (5) Leases

COTA leases certain property and office equipment under operating leases. Rental expense for all operating leases was approximately \$359,000 in 2006 and \$653,000 in 2005. No lease commitments exist after 2008. Future minimum payments, by year, and in the aggregate, under these leases with initial or remaining terms of one year or more, consists of the following at December 31, 2006:

Operating Leases		
\$	118,608	
	4,929	
\$	123,537	
	Oper	

(continued)

### (6) Grants, Reimbursements and Special Fare Assistance

Grants, reimbursements and special fare assistance included in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, consist of the following:

Federal:	2006			2005		
FTA Operating Assistance FTA Capital Assistance	\$	10,866,698 3,215,213	\$	11,055,758 6,302,087		
Total	\$	14,081,911	\$	17,357,845		
State:						
ODOT Elderly and Disabled Fare Assistance ODOT Fuel Tax Reimbursement	\$	817,978 627,351	\$	533,172 651,474		
ODOT Capital Assistance Other Local Operating Assistance		1,608,175 17,709		2,783,162		
Total	\$	3,071,213	\$	3,967,808		

#### (7) Risk Management

COTA is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or destruction of assets, injuries to employees and natural disasters. The Authority purchases commercial insurance for employee bonding, flood, fire, property, crime, travel and general liability. There have been no reductions in coverage nor have there been any settlements exceeding insurance coverage for the past three years.

COTA is self-insured for all public liability, personal injury and property damage claims. The estimated liability for such claims of \$1,401,301 at December 31, 2006, and \$547,428 at December 31, 2005, are included in estimated claims payable in the accompanying balance sheets. At December 31, 2006, and 2005, \$12,373,009 and \$12,138,340, respectively, were restricted by the Board of Trustees to fund the self-insurance program. Such funds are included in board designated assets in the accompanying balance sheets.

Prior to June 30, 1998, COTA was insured through the State of Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) for injuries to its employees. On July 1, 1998, the Authority entered into an agreement with the BWC to become self-insured for claims pertaining to work-related injuries to Authority employees occurring on or after that date. The BWC agreed to continue to administer and pay all compensation claims arising on or before June 30, 1998. The estimated liability for all such claims occurring since July 1, 1998, is \$694,361 at December 31, 2006, and is included as a liability in the accompanying balance sheet.

### (7) Risk Management (continued)

The general claims liability was calculated by establishing reserves on a case-by-case basis after analysis by in-house counsel and outside attorneys. The workers' compensation liability was determined by analyzing claim lag information provided by COTA third party administrators. A summary of changes in self-insurance claims liability for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 follows:

	Ger	neral Liability	Workers' Compensation		
Claims liability at December 31, 2004 Incurred claims, net of favorable settlements Claims paid	\$	376,394 529,127 (358,093)	\$	237,918 768,535 (485,499)	
Claims liability at December 31, 2005 Incurred claims, net of favorable settlements Claims paid Claims liability at December 31, 2006		547,428 1,100,050 (246,177)		520,954 719,317 (545,910)	
Claims liability at December 31, 2006	\$	1,401,301	\$	694,361	

#### (8) Pension Plan

#### (a) Plan Description

COTA contributes to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), which administers three separate pension plans as described below:

<u>The Traditional Pension Plan</u> - a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan.

The Member-Directed Plan - a defined contribution plan in which the member invests both member and employer contributions (employer contributions vest over five years at 20% per year). Under the Member-Directed Plan, members accumulate retirement assets equal to the value of member and (vested) employer contributions, plus any investment earnings.

The Combined Plan - a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. Under the Combined Plan, OPERS invests employer contributions to provide a formula retirement benefit similar in nature to the Traditional Pension Plan benefit. Member contributions, the investment of which is self-directed by the members, accumulate retirement assets similar to the Member-Directed Plan.

### (a) Plan Description (continued)

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost-of living adjustments to members of the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans. Members of the Member-Directed Plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the OPERS Board of Trustees (Board). OPERS issues a standalone financial report that includes the financial statements. That report may be obtained by writing to Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215-4642, or by calling 1-614-222-6701 or 1-800-222-PERS (7377).

### (b) Funding Policy

The ORC provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions. For 2006, member and employer contribution rates were consistent across all three plans. The 2006 member contribution rates were 9.0% of their annual covered salary and COTA is required to contribute an actuarially determined rate. The 2006 the employer contribution rate for local government employer units was 13.7% of annual covered payroll. The 2005 and 2004 employer contribution rate for local government employer units was 13.55% of annual covered payroll. The Authority's contributions to OPERS for the years ending December 31, 2006, 2005, and 2004 were approximately \$4,390,000, \$4,887,000, and \$5,020,000 respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year. Required employer contributions are equal to 100% of the dollar amount billed to each employer.

### (c) Other Post-employment Benefits

OPERS provides post-retirement health care coverage to age and service retirees under the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans with 10 or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by the retirement system is considered an Other Post-employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement No. 12. A portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside for funding of the post-retirement health care. The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for employer contributions. For local government employer units, the 2006 rate was 13.55% of covered payroll; and 4.00% was the portion that was used to fund health care for the year. COTA's contributions actually made to fund post-employment benefits totaled \$1,282,000 in 2006, \$1,443,000 in 2005, and \$1,482,000 in 2004. The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund post-retirement health care through their contributions to OPERS.

### (c) Other Post-employment Benefits (continued)

### Summary of assumptions:

Actuarial Review – The assumptions and calculations below were based on OPERS' latest actuarial review performed as of December 31, 2005.

<u>Funding Method</u> – The individual entry age actuarial cost method of valuation is used in determining the present value of OPEB. The difference between assumed and actual experience (actuarial gains and losses) becomes part of unfunded actuarial accrued liability.

<u>Assets Valuation Method</u> – All investments are carried at market value. For actuarial valuation purposes, a smoothed market approach is used. Under this approach assets are adjusted annually to reflect 25% of unrealized market appreciation or depreciation on investment assets annually, not to exceed a 12% corridor.

Investment Return – The investment assumption rate for 2005 was 6.50%.

Active Employee Total Payroll – An annual increase of 4.00% compounded annually is the base portion of the individual pay increase assumption. This assumes no change in the number of active employees. In addition, annual pay increases over and above the 4.00% base increase, were assumed to range from 0.50% to 6.30%.

<u>Health Care</u> – Health care costs were assumed to increase at the projected wage inflation rate plus an additional factor ranging from .5% to 6% for the next 9 years. In subsequent years (10 and beyond) health care costs were assumed to increase 4% (the projected wage inflation rate).

OPEBs are advanced funded on an actuarially determined basis. The Traditional Pension and Combined Plans had 369,214 active contributing participants as of December 31, 2006. The number of active contributing participants for both plans used in the December 31, 2005, actuarial valuation was 358,804. The actuarial value of the Retirement System's net assets available for OPEB at December 31, 2005 was \$11.1 billion. Based on the actuarial cost method used, the Actuarial Valuation as of December 31, 2005, reported the actuarial accrued liability and the unfunded actuarial accrued liability for OPEB at \$31.3 billion and \$20.2 billion, respectively.

On September 9, 2004, the OPERS Retirement Board adopted a Health Care Preservation Plan (HCPP) with an effective date of January 1, 2007. OPERS took additional actions to improve the solvency of the Health Care Fund in 2005 by creating a separate investment pool for health care assets. Member and employer contribution rates increase as of January 1, 2006 and January 1, 2007 which will allow additional funds to be allocated to the health care plan.

### (c) Other Post-employment Benefits (continued)

Under the HCPP, retirees eligible for health care coverage will receive a graded monthly allocation based on their years of service at retirement. The Plan incorporates a cafeteria approach, offering a broad range of health care options that allow benefit recipients to use their monthly allocation to purchase health care coverage customized to meet their individual needs. If the monthly allocation exceeds the cost of the options selected, the excess is deposited into a Retiree Medical Account that can be used to fund future health care expenses.

### (9) Contingent Liabilities

### (a) Litigation

It is the Authority's policy to act as self-insurer for certain insurable risks consisting primarily of public liability and property damage. At December 31, 2006, COTA has been named in various public liability and property damage claims and suits, some of which seek significant damages. The ultimate outcome of the claims and suits cannot be determined; however, it is the opinion of management that any resulting liability to the Authority in excess of that provided for in the accompanying balance sheet will not have a material adverse effect on the Authority's financial position.

### (b) Federal and State Grants

Under the terms of the Authority's various grants, periodic audits are required where certain costs could be questioned as not being an eligible expenditure under the terms of the grants. At December 31, 2006, there were no material questioned costs that had not been resolved with appropriate federal and state agencies. Questioned costs could still be identified during audits to be conducted in the future. In the opinion of COTA's management, no material grant expenditures will be disallowed.

FTA grant stipulations also require the granter to retain assets acquired by FTA funds for the full estimated asset life (as determined by the FTA). If this provision is not met, the granter must refund FTA's un-depreciated basis in assets disposed.

### (10) Special Item - Loss on transfer of assets

In 2001, the Authority purchased 38 low-floor 30-foot diesel powered buses from Advanced Bus Industries (ABI). In the fall of 2001, ABI filed for bankruptcy and the company's assets were liquidated. During the next three years, COTA experienced a multitude of equipment failures on the ABI buses including chassis structure cracks, passenger door controller problems, engine compartment seal defects, and premature brake wear. In 2003, the ABI buses were the costliest in the fleet to operate at \$0.55 per mile. Service calls on ABI buses amounted to 23% of all fleet breakdowns. The COTA Board of Trustees authorized the transfer of the Federal interest and title. The transfer of the thirteen ABI buses resulted in a \$1,803,954 loss in 2004 of the remaining net book value of the buses. In December 2004, the Authority received permission from the FTA to transfer the remaining Federal interest in nineteen of the ABI buses to other FTA grant recipient transit systems and the COTA Board of Trustees authorized the transfer of the Federal interest and title. The transfer of the nineteen ABI buses resulted in a \$2,392,547 loss in 2005 of the remaining net book value of the buses. In June 2005, the Authority received permission from the FTA to transfer the remaining Federal interest in six of the ABI buses to other FTA grant recipient transit systems and the COTA Board of Trustees authorized the transfer of the Federal interest and title. The transfer of the remaining six ABI buses resulted in a \$665,492 loss in 2006 of the remaining net book value of the buses. The Authority purchased new replacement buses in 2004 and 2005 with lower operating and maintenance costs.

### 11) Special Item - Loss on project impairment

Since 2002, COTA staff has been working with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), consultants, local government officials, and the general public to study the feasibility of constructing a fixed guideway transit project in the North Corridor.

In 2003, the project scoping was completed and four (4) alternatives emerged for further analysis: (1) a "No build" alternative and three "Build" alternatives including (1) Bus Rapid Transit, (2) Streetcar, and (3) Light Rail Transit. COTA Staff, working in concert with the various stakeholders, conducted the Alternative Analysis (AA) and Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) identifying the impacts, benefits, and cost effectiveness of the alternatives as outlined by the FTA criteria.

The financial feasibility of any North Corridor fixed guideway option relies upon a 50% contribution of federal funding. The FTA currently requires that projects have a Cost Effectiveness Index (CEI) lower than \$23 per hour of user benefit in order to receive federal funding for construction. None of the fixed guideway options under consideration in the North Corridor achieved this standard. The corridor may be reconsidered for fixed guideway development at such time as there are significant changes in travel within the corridor, fuel costs, or FTA project evaluation criteria. At December 31, 2006, the Authority has concluded that \$13,785,824 of costs that have been capitalized as a result of the efforts mentioned above are impaired under GASB Statement No. 42. In addition, the Authority has identified additional projects related to the North Corridor Project that are also impaired in the amount of \$3,685,240 as of December 31, 2006.

(concluded)



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Trustees Central Ohio Transit Authority:

We have audited the financial statements of Central Ohio Transit Authority (the "Authority") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated June 22, 2007. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Audit Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and

material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to management of the Authority in a separate letter dated June 22, 2007.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees, others within the entity, and the Auditor of State of Ohio, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

June 22, 2007

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Board of Trustees Central Ohio Transit Authority:

### Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Central Ohio Transit Authority (the "Authority") with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2006. The Authority's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the Authority's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Authority's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Authority's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Authority's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Authority complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2006.

### Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the Authority is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirement of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over compliance with the requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on the internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants caused by error or fraud that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of, management, the Board of Trustees, others within the entity, the Auditor of State of Ohio, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

June 22, 2007

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### SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

Grantor/Title:	CFDA#	Grant #	Total Grants Recognized	
Federal Transit Cluster				
U.S. Department of Transportation— Federal Transit Administration (FTA): Direct Urbanized Area Formula Program				
and Capital Grants—	20.500 20.500 20.500 20.507 20.507 20.507 20.507 20.507	OH-03-0213 OH-04-0003 OH-03-0263 OH-90-X402 OH-90-X403 OH-90-X411 OH-90-X449 OH-90-X522 OH-90-X525	\$ 18,111 347,775 300,766 159,307 160,999 2,222,970 36,314 10,318,674 351,996	
Indirect Capital Grants Passed Through Ohio Department of Transportation—			0	
Total Federal Transit Cluster			13,916,912	
Federal Transit Administration	20.205 20.516	OH-26-7004 OH-37-X021	198,821 689,228	
Total Federal Transit Administration			888,049	
Total Federal Financial Assistance			\$ 14,804,961	

See notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

### NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

### 1. GENERAL

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activity of all federal financial assistance programs of the Authority. The Authority's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the Authority's financial statements.

### 2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented using the modified cash basis of accounting.

### 3. RELATIONSHIP OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Amounts reported in the accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards agree with the amounts reported in the related federal financial reports.

### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

### Part I—Summary of Auditors' Results

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

### Financial Statements Type of auditors' report issued Unqualified Internal control over financial reporting: Material weakness(es) identified? Yes X No Significant deficiency(ies) identified not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes N/A Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? Yes X No Federal Awards Internal control over major programs: Material weakness(es) identified? Yes X No Significant deficiency(ies) identified not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes N/A Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major programs Unqualified Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 (Section .510(a))? Yes X No Identification of major programs: CFDA Number Name of Federal Program or Cluster Number 20.500 and 20.507 Federal Transit Cluster 20.516 Federal Transit JARC Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs \$444,149

Yes

No

### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 (Concluded)

### Part II—Financial Statements Findings

Findings relating to the financial statements, which are required to be reported in accordance with Government Auditing Standards

No matters are reportable.

### Part III—Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

No matters are reportable.

### Central Ohio Transit Authority

Independent Accountants' Report on Information Reported to the Federal Transit Administration for the Year Ended December 31, 2006



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### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED- UPON PROCEDURES

Board of Trustees Central Ohio Transit Authority:

We have performed the applicable procedures enumerated in the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics Form (901), which were agreed to by the Central Ohio Transit Authority (the "Authority") and the Federal Transit Administration ("FTA"), solely to assist you in complying with the reporting requirements of the Declarations section of the 2006 Reporting Manual, for the year ended December 31, 2006. Management of the Authority is responsible for compliance with the requirements of the Uniform System of Accounts and Records and Reporting System, Final Rule, as specified in 49 CFR Part 630, Federal Register, January 15, 1993, and as presented in the 2006 Reporting Manual. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the Authority and the FTA. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described in the attached appendix either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The FTA has established the following standards with regard to the data reported to it in the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics Form ("FFA-10") of the Authority's annual National Transit Database ("NTD") report:

- A system is in place and maintained for recording data in accordance with NTD definitions. The correct data is being measured and no systematic errors exist.
- A system is in place to record data on a continuing basis and the data gathering is an ongoing
  effort.
- Source documents are available to support the reported data and are maintained for FTA review
  and audit for a minimum of three years following the FTA's receipt of the NTD report. The data
  is fully documented and securely stored.
- A system of internal controls is in place to ensure the accuracy of the data collection process and that the recording system and reported amounts are not altered. Documents are reviewed and signed by a supervisor, as required.
- The data collection methods are those suggested by the FTA or meet FTA requirements.
- The deadhead miles, computed as the difference between the reported total actual vehicle miles data and the reported total actual vehicle revenue miles data, are properly calculated.
- Data is consistent with prior reporting periods and other facts known about the Authority's operations.

The procedures were applied separately to each of the information systems used to develop the reported vehicle revenue miles, passenger miles, and operating expenses of the Authority for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, for each of the following modes:

· Motor Bus-directly operated

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Demand Response—purchased transportation

This report relates only to the information described above and does not extend to the Authority's financial statements taken as a whole, or the forms in the Authority's NTD report, other than the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics Form (FFA-10), for any date or period.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the Authority's compliance with the requirements of the *Uniform System of Accounts and Records and Reporting System, Final Rule*, as specified in 49 CFR Part 630, *Federal Register*, January 15, 1993, and as presented in the *2006 Reporting Manual* for the year ended December 31, 2006. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Also, we do not express an opinion on the Authority's system of internal control taken as a whole. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Authority's management, the Auditor of State of Ohio and federal agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

June 22, 2007

### SECTION 9 CERTIFICATION—AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

The results of the agreed-upon procedures performed in conjunction with the requirements of the *Uniform System of Accounts and Records and Reporting System, Final Rule*, as specified in 49 CFR Part 630, Federal Register, January 15, 1993, and as presented in the 2006 Reporting Manual, are identified below.

### Step

- a. Inquired of the Authority's procedures related to the system for reporting and maintaining data in accordance with the NTD requirements and definitions set forth in 49 CFR, Part 630, Federal Register, January 15, 1993, and as presented in the 2006 Reporting Manual, with the personnel assigned responsibility of supervising the preparation and maintenance of National Transit Database ("NTD") data.
- b. Inquired of the Authority's procedures with the personnel assigned responsibility of supervising the preparation and maintenance of NTD data to determine;
  - · The extent to which the Authority followed the procedures on a continuous basis, and
  - Whether the procedures result in accumulation and reporting of data consistent with the NTD
    definitions and requirements set forth in 49 CFR Part 630, Federal Register, January 15, 1993,
    and as presented in the 2006 Reporting Manual.
- c. Inquired of the same person concerning the retention policy that is followed by the Authority with respect to source documents (Section 15 Survey, Service Changes Report, Pullout Summary Report, Special Service Mileage Report, Total Vehicle Miles Report, Time and Miles by Line Report, DRS Vehicle Trip Sheet, and Daily Summary Report) supporting the NTD data reported on the Federal Funding Allocation Statistics Form ("FFA-10").
- d. Based on a description of the Authority's procedures obtained in Items a. and b. above, identified all the source documents (Section 15 Survey, Service Changes Report, Pullout Summary Report, Special Service Mileage Report, Total Vehicle Miles Report, Time and Miles by Line Report, DRS Vehicle Trip Sheet, and Daily Summary Report) which are to be retained by the Authority for a minimum of three years.
  - For each type of source document, randomly selected the months of January, May and September, 2006 and observed that each type of source document existed for each of these periods.
- e. Inquired of the Authority's system of internal controls with the person responsible for supervising and maintaining the NTD data. Inquired whether individuals, independent of the individuals preparing the source documents and posting the data summaries, review the source documents and data summaries for completeness, accuracy and reasonableness and how often such reviews are performed.
- f. We did not review selected source documents to ascertain whether signatures were present as the Authority does not review hard copy documents. Data is prepared using the scheduling and Automatic Passenger Counters ("APC") system. The annual analytical review is performed online by someone independent of data entry in lieu of signatures. Evidence of this online review was noted.

- g. Obtained the worksheets utilized by the Authority to prepare the final data which are transcribed onto the FFA-10. Reviewed actual revenue miles calculations per the hubodometer system and passenger mile information calculated using APC data. Compared the data per driver manifests obtained from Authority personnel to that included on the system generated summary data and recalculated the summarizations.
- h. Inquired of the Authority's procedures for accumulating and recording passenger mile data in accordance with NTD requirements with the Authority's staff, noting that the Authority uses an estimate of passenger miles based on statistical sampling meeting the FTA's 95% confidence and 10% precision requirements. The Authority uses an alternative sampling procedure and, therefore, we inquired whether the procedure has been approved by the FTA. The FTA approved the sampling procedure on April 27, 1987.
- Inquired of Authority's eligibility to conduct statistical sampling for passenger mile data every third
  year. Ascertained that the Authority meets one of the three criteria which allow reporters to conduct
  statistical samples for accumulating passenger mile data every third year rather than annually.
  However, the Authority has elected to conduct statistical samples on an annual basis.
- j. Obtained a description of the sampling procedures for estimation of passenger mile data used by the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2006. We were informed that the Authority's sampling procedures for the estimation of passenger mile data is substantially as described in the Authority's letter, submitted to the FTA, dated April 27, 1987. We noted no exceptions to the stated sampling procedures described in the above letter.
- k. Obtained the passenger mile sample information generated from the automatic passenger count system and, based on this information, recalculated the passenger miles for the year ended December 31, 2006.
- 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- m. For vehicle revenue mile data, documented the collection and recording methodology and ascertained that deadhead miles are systematically excluded from the computation. Vehicle revenue miles are calculated using a hybrid system of scheduling and hubodometer. Reviewed calculation of vehicle revenue mileage data for January, May and September, 2006 and performed recalculations.
- n. 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- p. 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- q. 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.

- s. 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- t. Compared operating expenses with audited financial data. No deviations were noted.
- u. Inquired of personnel responsible for reporting NTD data regarding the amount of purchased transportation ("PT") generated fare revenues. Noted the purchased transportation fare revenues agreed to the amounts reported on the Contractual Relationship Form B-30.
- v. 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- w. Obtained a copy of the purchased transportation contract and ascertained that the contract (1) specified the specific mass transportation services to be provided by the contractor; (2) specified the monetary consideration obligated by the agency contracting for the service; (3) specified the period covered by the contract and that this period is the same as, or a portion of, the period covered by the agency's NTD Report; and (4) was signed by representatives of both parties to the contract. Inquired of the person responsible for maintaining the NTD data regarding the retention of the executed contract, and ascertained that copies of the contracts are retained for three years based upon copies obtained.
- x. 2006 Reporting Manual Section 9 test procedure was not applicable to the Authority and, therefore, was not performed.
- y. Compared the data reported on the FFA-10 to comparable data for the prior report year for Motor Bus and Demand Response and calculated the percentage change from the prior year to the current year. Noted that actual vehicle revenue miles for Motor Bus decreased by more than 10% in 2006 relative to the prior reporting period due to a reduction in scheduled service.



# 2006

### **COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2006



#47 Brice Road "No Stress" Express



Bus Shelter unveiling - September 2006



"Moving Solutions" -COTA's Long-Range Transit Plan Executive Summary

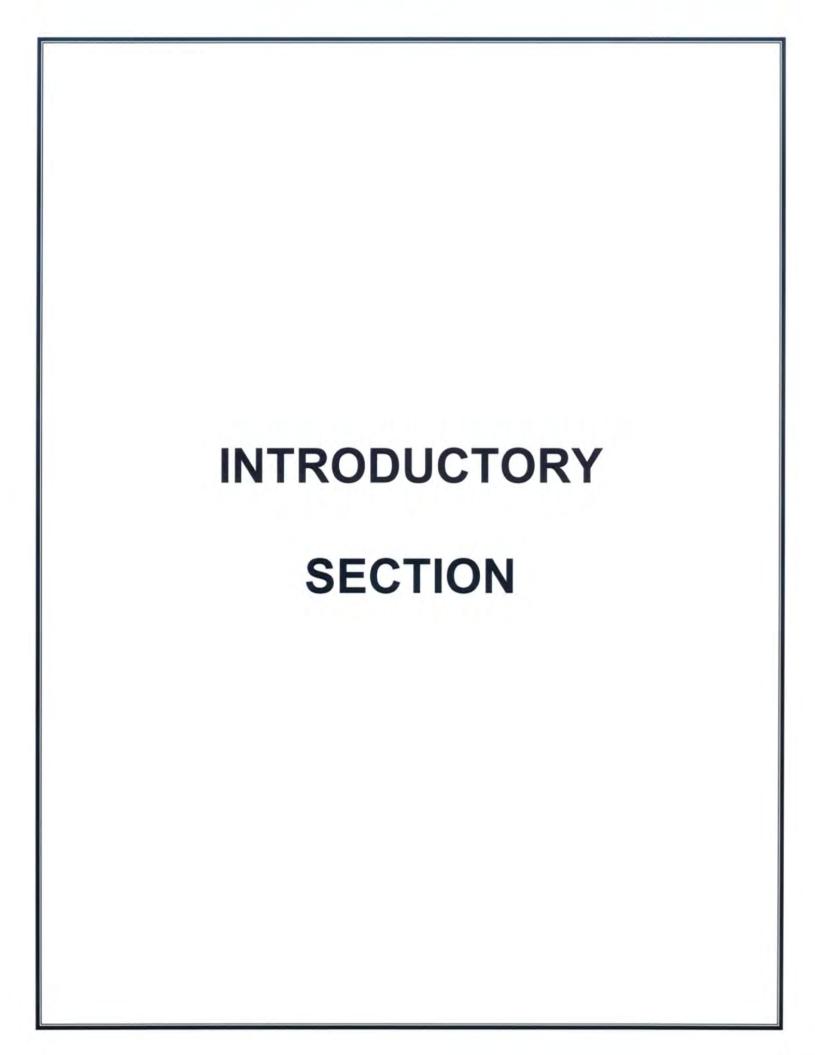


Travel/Training Program in Linden Community

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Franklin County, Ohio

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2006

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### Central Ohio Transit Authority

Connecting Communities

1600 McKinley Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43222 614.275.5800 www.cota.com

W □- J. Lhota President/CEO

June 22, 2007

Board of Trustees of the Central Ohio Transit Authority and Residents of Central Ohio:

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of the Central Ohio Transit Authority (the Authority or COTA) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, is hereby respectfully submitted. This CAFR was prepared by the Finance Division and represents the Authority's commitment to provide accurate, concise and high quality financial information to its Board of Trustees and interested parties.

The presentation of this CAFR contains financial statements and statistical data that provide full disclosure of all the material financial operations of the Authority. The financial statements, supplemental schedule, statistical information and all data contained herein are the representations of the Authority's management. The Authority's management bears the responsibility for the accuracy, completeness and fairness of the CAFR presentation.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Central Ohio Transit Authority for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005. This was the seventh consecutive year that the Central Ohio Transit Authority has achieved this prestigious award. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we are submitting the 2006 report to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

### LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

This CAFR is divided into the following three sections:

Introductory Section – contains this Letter of Transmittal, a Table of Organization, a listing of the members of the Board of Trustees and Senior Management, and a reproduction of the Certificate of Achievement awarded to the Authority by the GFOA for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005.

**Financial Section** – includes the Independent Auditors' Report, Management's Discussion and Analysis, the financial statements (with related footnotes) for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, and a supplemental schedule disclosing actual revenues, expenses and changes in net assets for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, compared to budgeted amounts.

**Statistical Section** - provides financial, economic and demographic information useful for indicating historical trends for comparative fiscal periods.

#### REPORTING ENTITY

### General

The Authority's reporting entity has been defined in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 14 and 39. The financial statements contained within this CAFR include all of the organizations, activities, functions and component units for which the Authority is financially accountable. Financial accountability is defined as the appointment of a voting majority of the component unit's board and either 1) the reporting entity's ability to impose its will over the component unit or 2) the possibility that the component unit will provide a financial benefit to or impose a financial burden on the reporting entity. On this basis, the Authority does not have financial accountability over any other entity, and no governmental units other than the Authority itself are included in the reporting entity. Furthermore, the Authority is not included as a component unit in the reporting entity of any other governmental unit's financial statements. A complete discussion of the Authority's reporting entity is included in Footnote 1 to the financial statements.

The Central Ohio Transit Authority is an independent political subdivision of the State of Ohio with its own taxing power. The Authority is not dependent upon appropriations from Franklin County, the City of Columbus, or any other political subdivision for local funding. The Authority is empowered by the Ohio Revised Code to issue general obligation debt secured by its own taxing power.

The Authority was created by an agreement executed on February 17, 1971, with Franklin County and the cities of Bexley, Columbus, Gahanna, Grandview Heights, Grove City, Hilliard, Reynoldsburg, Upper Arlington, Westerville, Whitehall and Worthington. The Authority's territorial boundaries are conterminous with Franklin County, except for a small portion of the Authority's territory in adjacent Delaware, Fairfield and Licking Counties.

### Commencement of Operations

A purchase agreement was executed on June 29, 1973, providing terms for the transfer of the properties, rights and obligations of the Columbus Transit Company (a now-defunct subsidiary of the American Electric Power Company) to the Authority. An interim operating agreement permitted the Columbus Transit Company to continue to provide transit services until December 31, 1973. The Authority commenced operations on January 1, 1974.

The Central Ohio Transit Authority's vision and mission statements are respectively:

The Central Ohio Transit Authority will be the transportation provider for central Ohio with safe, reliable, convenient, affordable and user-friendly transportation for every resident and visitor.

The Central Ohio Transit Authority is committed to excellence and will deliver superior transportation services and conduct our business courteously, safely, ethically and reliably. We will demonstrate leadership that is fiscally responsible and maintain a work environment that is safe and productive. All employees are expected to embrace and practice our values and standards to achieve the objectives of our vision.

These statements are the focus of all operations and support functions.

### Management – Board of Trustees

The Authority is managed by a Board of Trustees (the Board) vested by Ohio law with the powers necessary to manage the Authority. The legislation and agreements establishing the Authority provide for a thirteen-member Board serving overlapping three-year terms. Board membership is apportioned as follows: City of Columbus, seven members; Franklin County, two members; and one member each from the following groups of municipal corporations: Group A, Upper Arlington and Grandview Heights; Group B, Worthington, Gahanna and Westerville; Group C, Whitehall and Bexley; and Group D, Grove City, Reynoldsburg and Hilliard. When one Board member represents several cities, the appointments are made on a rotational basis. Members are appointed by the mayor of the appropriate municipal corporation with the consent of its city council. The Board of County Commissioners appoints the Franklin County representatives.

#### Administration

The President/CEO, who is appointed by the Board, directs the administration of the Authority, subject to the policies and supervision of the Board of Trustees. The President/CEO selects the senior administrative personnel. A Table of Organization depicting the key functional responsibilities is shown on Page 16 of this Introductory Section.

### Transportation Services - Fixed-Route Bus Service

The Authority provides public transportation services within Franklin County, as well as portions of Delaware, Fairfield and Licking Counties that are included within the municipal corporation limits of Columbus, Westerville and Reynoldsburg. For 2006, this service included 54 fixed bus routes comprised of 11 local routes (including 1 link route), eight cross-town routes, and 28 express routes. The span of service provided on these fixed-routes is from 4:51 a.m. to 1:51 a.m. on weekdays, 5:16 a.m. to 11:51 a.m. on Saturdays, and 7:06 a.m. to 1:51 a.m. on Sundays and holidays. Bus route schedules can be obtained from the COTA Connection located at 60 East Broad Street in downtown Columbus. An itinerary planner to help plan a customer's bus trip can be accessed at COTA's web site, <a href="www.cota.com">www.cota.com</a>. Monthly, weekly and day passes to ride the buses can be purchased from the COTA Connection and other pass sales outlets. The Authority also implemented a new way for customers to purchase adult day passes by acquiring them on the bus.

In November 2006, COTA in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MOPRC) initiated a pilot project to operate fixed-route buses on the freeway shoulders of I-70 East. This project allowed COTA buses to use the freeway shoulder lane when traffic slowed to 35 mph. The main purpose was to maintain bus schedules and improve on-time performance. The program proved to be very beneficial.

### Transportation Services – Paratransit Service

Project Mainstream is a demand response shared-ride paratransit service available to individuals whose disabilities prevent them from accessing COTA's fixed-route bus system. Project Mainstream provides transportation when a customer's origin and destination addresses are within ¾ of a mile of an operating fixed-route bus route. The contracted service for Project Mainstream operates during the same hours as the fixed-route bus service. Individuals wishing to use this service must complete an eligibility process and obtain an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ID card. Certified customers must maintain their eligibility by re-certifying every three years. Once a customer is determined eligible, a reservation call center is available to assist in reserving and scheduling their trips. Reservations can be made one to seven days in advance. For more information or to request an application for Project Mainstream services, call (614) 275-5828 or send an e-mail to the web address paratransit@cota.com.

Plans for the Project Mainstream bus fleet for 2007 include purchasing 18 paratransit buses and one sedan vehicle as replacements for existing vehicles. COTA estimates that it will provide 105,000 vehicle hours and 1,888,000 vehicle miles of paratransit service in 2007.

COTA continues to offer a Sedan Voucher Program utilizing a transportation company to provide optional services to eligible paratransit demand response program customers. Approximately 800 sedan vouchers are distributed monthly and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. With the Sedan Voucher Program customers can travel by making a reservation less than twenty-four hours in advance.

### LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

### **Facilities Owned**

**1600 McKinley Avenue** was constructed in 1980 and is the site of the Authority's administrative headquarters. This 390,000 square foot facility also houses both heavy (major) and light (routine) bus maintenance operations, and has an indoor storage capacity for 240 buses.

1333 Fields Avenue opened in September 1984 with a 283,000 square foot facility that during 2005, provided indoor storage for 200 buses, space for several light maintenance work areas, and the radio control room to support transit communications. As part of COTA's January 2006 service reductions, all fixed-route operations located at the Fields Avenue facility were transferred to the 1600 McKinley Ave. facility. However, COTA's radio system and facilities maintenance areas remained. During April 2006, COTA relocated the Paratransit Services division to the more centrally located Fields Avenue location in order to increase operational efficiencies and reduce costs. The facility is now utilized to operate Project Mainstream dispatch and reservation activities, and to store and maintain COTA-owned Project Mainstream vehicles.

Linden Transit Center is a 20,500 square-foot facility located at the corner of Cleveland and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues that opened for service in October 1999. The transit center houses a Children's Hospital medical center, a day care center, and an ATM, as well as other amenities. Five express routes and two local bus routes presently serve the transit center and the Linden LINK neighborhood circulator route, which provides improved neighborhood transportation and connections to COTA's fixed-route services. Express routes serving the Linden Transit Center also offer vital connections to job centers around the I-270 Outerbelt, such as the Polaris area located in Delaware County just north of I-71 and I-270, and the Easton development area near Morse Road and I-270 as well as the New Albany Business Park.

Easton Transit Center is a 1,352 square-foot facility that opened for service in May 2002 that includes an 8,953 square foot overhead canopy with four bus bays, a 50-space park and ride lot, and an adjacent 9,648 square-foot day care center that was completed in June 2005, along with other passenger amenities located just north of Morse Road at the southeast corner of Transit Drive and Stelzer Road. This transit center helps COTA serve commuters in northeastern Franklin County. Presently one express route, one crosstown route, and one local bus route serve this terminal.

**North Terminal** is an outdoor facility located on Spring Street between High and Front Streets in downtown Columbus. This terminal has six bays for express routes. Currently eight express routes and one local bus route utilize the terminal to serve passengers in the north downtown area.

**Near East Transit Center** is a 9,600 square-foot facility located at the corners of East Main Street and Champion Avenue in the heart of the Columbus Empowerment Zone (an economically disadvantaged area with high unemployment) that opened for service in September 2005. The Near East Transit Center includes a Children's Hospital "Close to Home" facility as a major tenant in a 4,824 square-foot section of the building to provide neighborhood medical services. Revol, a cell phone service provider, became a tenant in summer 2006.

### LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

### **Facilities Leased**

City Center Terminal is a 41,000 square foot facility completed and opened for service in November 1989. The terminal is located in the downtown City Center Mall Parking Garage between Rich and Main Streets. Elevators and escalators provide pedestrian and disabled access to the terminal from all floors in the City Center parking garage. Presently nineteen express routes and one local bus route use this terminal.

**60 East Broad Street** in downtown Columbus houses the COTA Connection. The COTA Connection is the main customer service center as well as sales outlet for day, seven-day, and monthly passes. At this location, passengers may also obtain their Senior Discount Cards, Key Cards and ADA Cards. This office provides route information through the distribution of published transit maps and timetables, and maintains a staff of service representatives (from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays) as well as an interactive voice response system to assist customer queries on the Authority's telephone information line (614-228-1776).

101 Phillipi Road opened in May 2002 and housed the Paratransit Services division of COTA in a leased 22,282 square foot building. The purpose of the facility is to operate Project Mainstream dispatch and reservation activities, and to store and maintain COTA-owned Project Mainstream vehicles. COTA relocated the Paratransit Services Operation to its owned facility at 1333 Fields Avenue in April 2006.

### ECONOMIC CONDITION AND OUTLOOK

Franklin County (the Authority's primary service area) is located in the central part of Ohio, and the City of Columbus (the capital of the state) is located within its boundaries. The Columbus Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of eight counties: Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Morrow, Pickaway and Union. Based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, this combined area's population is 1,725,570, with Franklin County's population of 1,095,662 making it the MSA's largest county in terms of population.

Franklin County is served by diverse transportation modes. Interstate Highway I-270 forms an Outerbelt surrounding Columbus, while Interstate Highways I-70 and I-71 intersect in the center of the county. Interstate Highway I-670 connects I-70 on the west side of Columbus with Port Columbus International Airport on the east side of the city. Four U.S. highways and thirteen state highways are also located in the county. The major airport authority is the Columbus Regional Airport Authority comprising two large airports, an international airport and separate air-freight/cargo facility. Two small municipal airports also serve general and light aviation. Although growth has slowed during the recession that occurred in the first half of this decade, Franklin County had experienced rapid growth during the decade of the nineties. Further commercial, office and residential development is continuing in northeastern Franklin County (Easton), northern Columbus (Polaris), southeastern Franklin County (Rickenbacker), and in the downtown areas of Columbus known as the Arena District and the Brewery District.

### Population

Population in the Authority's primary service area since 1960 has been as follows:

Year	Columbus	Franklin County
1960	471,316	682,923
1970	540,025	833,249
1980	565,032	869,126
1990	632,910	961,437
2000	711,470	1,068,978
	Source: U.S. Census B	ureau

### Employment

The following table shows average employment in Franklin County, and comparative unemployment statistics for Franklin County, the State of Ohio and the United States for the last five years:

	Average	Average Unemploy		nt Rate
Year	Labor Force in Franklin County	Franklin County	Ohio	<u>u. s.</u>
2001	604,800	2.8%	4.3%	4.8%
2002	596,900	4.4	5.7	5.8
2003	601,000	4.9	6.1	6.0
2004	603,900	5.4	6.1	5.5
2005	604,400	5.3	5.9	5.1
2006	609,700	4.7	5.5	4.6

Source: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

### Housing and Building Permits

According to U.S. Bureau of Census figures, the median value in 2000 of owner-occupied homes in Franklin County was \$116,200, compared with \$103,700 for urban housing in Ohio and \$119,600 in the United States. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of housing units in Franklin County increased 16.2%, from 405,418 to 471,016.

#### Economic Outlook

While the local economy mirrors the national economy, Franklin County has remained stable as a regional economic center. Columbus continues to be the most populous city in Ohio and the only major municipality in the state still experiencing population growth. This is attributable to Columbus' aggressive annexation policies and a pro-growth economic emphasis in city government. Franklin County's sizable institutional component, stemming from the presence of Ohio's capital and The Ohio State University, lends considerable stability to the local economy. The overall countywide assessed property valuation has continued to increase as a result of ongoing residential, office and retail development. The economic climate of Franklin County directly affects COTA due to the reliance on sales tax receipts as a major source of revenue. Growth is expected to continue into the future, with the MSA population projected to exceed 1.8 million by the year 2010.

### 2007 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In 2006, COTA focused on operational excellence and financial stability by operating within a balanced budget and consolidating fixed-route bus operations to McKinley Avenue. In addition, the Authority focused on developing and planning a Long-Range Transit Plan (LRTP). The COTA Board of Trustees approved the plan in August 2006. The key components in the LRTP include a focus on providing safe, reliable, convenient, affordable and user-friendly transportation for every resident and visitor to the central Columbus area. In November 2006, voters approved a 10-year renewable ¼ percent sales tax levy to implement the LRTP. Until COTA begins receiving additional revenue in 2008, modest service enhancements are planned for 2007. In early 2007, COTA will develop a Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) that describes planned service improvements for the first five years of the LRTP, identifies capital projects to support the planned service improvements, and summarizes COTA's financial plan for the next five years.

**Fixed-Route Bus Service** - The LRTP's initiative to provide safe, reliable, and convenient transportation includes assessing the service we provide in depth. This includes examining the geographical coverage of our bus routes and the hours of service including the frequency of local, crosstown, circulator and express route bus service. This on-going analysis allows us to consider fixed route variations to allow flexibility to our riders.

Paratransit Bus Service – We are analyzing service options for Project Mainstream demand response service to meet the needs of those riders under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition, we are exploring the possibility of expanding our partnerships with community organizations to provide better demand response services for specific communities.

**Fixed Guideway Options** – We are identifying and analyzing travel corridors where fixed guideway transit modes, such as bus rapid transit (BRT), streetcar, light rail transit (LRT), or commuter rail would complement fixed-route bus service. Transit modes will not be specified in the plan, but will be evaluated at a later time following the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) process, currently under way in the North Corridor.

Intelligent Transportation Systems – We will continue to examine technologies to improve customer service, quality of service and efficiency which includes real-time bus arrival information at busy bus stops and signal priority to adjust traffic signal timing to expedite bus service.

### North Corridor Transit Project (formerly known as North Corridor Light Rail Project)

In July 2006, COTA completed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the North Corridor Transit Project (NCTP) and incorporated the findings in the LRTP. The COTA Board of Trustees decided to place the project on hold indefinitely. For additional information on the NCTP, please refer to the section titled *Analysis of 2006 Financial Results in Management's Discussion and Analysis* located on pages 30-31 of this CAFR.

### **Operational Support Facilities**

COTA's facility at 1600 McKinley Avenue in 2006 completed the final stage of a multi-year roof replacement project, replacing approximately 82,000 square feet of roof, replacing twenty-four skylights and twelve gravity ventilators to increase ventilation in the maintenance and bus storage areas.

Two other major projects at the McKinley Avenue facility that were completed in 2006 are the upgrade of the 175 kilowatt diesel backup generator that is used in case of electrical power disruptions and the replacement of the air handling system that supplies the heat and air conditioning for the transportation and day room and administrative areas. By installing a new 350 kilowatt generator, the additional power capacity would provide continual electricity to COTA's computer room reducing the risk from power outages lasting longer than ninety minutes that the 175 kilowatt generator was not able to support. The existing air handler was part of the original building construction in 1978 and had exceeded its life expectancy. Along with the mechanical scope of work, new ductwork, lighting, and suspended ceiling was an integral part of the project.

A proposed new Paratransit and Small Bus facility estimated at 104,000 square foot and currently proposed to be built adjacent to the Fields Avenue facility would centralize COTA's operations and reduce the logistical inefficiencies for the paratransit service. The facility would house small bus maintenance and storage area, paratransit buses and operations, and communications and training facilities. In 2006, COTA was able to combine the fixed route services into one facility at McKinley Avenue, allowing COTA to move the Paratransit services into the COTA owned Fields Avenue facility from a leased facility at 101 Phillipi Road. The move reduced operating and leased costs previously incurred with the leased facility.

### Information Technology Projects

The Authority, in cooperation with the Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) has developed the Central Ohio Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Integration Strategy, which serves as the mechanism by which COTA can demonstrate a well thought out and fiscally conservative plan for ITS deployment. Building upon this framework to enhance operations, allow for integration with other stakeholders, and achieve conformity with the National ITS Architecture, COTA continues to document current ITS projects, to identify future ITS projects, to demonstrate COTA's commitment to regional ITS integration, and to clearly establish that COTA's plan is in compliance with both the regional and ITS standards components of the National ITS Architecture. Enhancing the experience of riding a COTA vehicle is a major component of the ITS program. Concurrent with this strategic planning initiative, the Authority continues to enhance and deploy funded ITS initiatives.

### Information Technology Projects (Continued)

The Automatic Passenger Counter (APC) component of the ITS technology infrastructure completed in 2005 provides the capability to count passengers getting on and off a bus along with the time of day and the location of those boardings and alightings. This raw APC data is stored in an on-board computer file. When the bus returns to the garage, the raw APC data is transferred via wireless communications to stationary servers (called base stations) at COTA's garages. A central APC application server pulls the raw APC data from the base stations on a nightly basis. The data is then correlated to COTA's routes and schedules and available for reporting. Users can choose from an array of standard APC reports or design their own using an "ad hoc" reporting tool. COTA personnel will use these reporting capabilities to generate statistical data for inclusion in the National Transit Database Report (NTDR) that is submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). COTA's Planning Department will use this data when planning service changes. Historical data will be continually reviewed to make sure that service changes that have already been implemented have had the desired effect. Giving COTA planners this type of high fidelity tool provides them the capability to design routes that are based not on estimates but accurate ridership activity throughout central Ohio.

The Automated Voice Annunciator (AVA) system makes bus travel easier for all passengers, especially those with hearing and vision disabilities. Its operation is conceptually straightforward. As a bus approaches a stop on its assigned route, the AVA system uses a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver to determine its location and then automatically announce and display the next stop name. Announcements are made using the bus' public address system that has speakers inside and outside the bus. A text message containing the next stop name is displayed on a variable message sign mounted on the ceiling at the front of the bus. The vehicle's destination is announced every time the front door is opened. Approximately 460 route patterns have been programmed to announce on 224 AVA equipped buses. The system was completed in February 2006.

In January 2007, COTA implemented a major upgrade of its asset management business application. The application, Ellipse, is used for purchasing, inventory management, accounts payable and managing vehicle maintenance. MIMS is based on obsolete proprietary technology and the vendor has discontinued support for it, so COTA will be replacing MIMS with the newest version of the application that is built on the latest open standards technology. The new version is Windows based and supports e-procurement and e-sourcing as well as provides a web interface for users. In addition to being easier to support, Ellipse will provide additional enhanced functionality that will improve operating efficiencies and reduce costs.

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Internal Control Structure

The management of the Authority is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure that the Authority's assets are protected from loss, theft or misuse. Management's responsibility is also to ensure that accurate accounting data is compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In developing and evaluating the Authority's accounting system, emphasis is placed on the adequacy of internal controls. Internal accounting controls are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance regarding the reliability of financial records used to prepare financial statements, and the protection of assets against loss from unauthorized use or disposition. The concept of "reasonable assurance" recognizes that the cost of the control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived, and that the evaluation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management.

All internal control evaluations occur within the above framework. Management believes that the Authority's internal accounting controls adequately safeguard assets and provide reasonable assurance that financial transactions are properly recorded. Management also believes that the data in this CAFR, as presented, is accurate in all material respects, that it presents fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the Authority, and that all disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain the maximum understanding of the Authority's financial affairs have been included.

### Basis of Accounting

The Authority's financial records are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting. The activities are accounted for in a single enterprise (proprietary-type) fund. Additional information on the Authority's accounting policies can be found in Note 2 in the Notes to the Financial Statements located on pages 38-43.

### **Budgetary Controls**

The annual accrual basis operating and capital budgets are proposed by the Authority's management and adopted by the Board of Trustees in a public meeting usually held in the month preceding a new fiscal year. The annual budget is prepared using overall guidelines established after consideration of the Authority's long-range financial plan. This plan, updated annually, projects revenue sources over the next ten years and establishes service levels and growth commensurate with such revenue limits.

Management control for the budget is maintained by not permitting total expenditures to exceed total appropriations without approval of the Board of Trustees. It is the responsibility of each department to administer its operations in such a manner as to ensure that the use of funds is consistent with the goals and programs authorized by the Board of Trustees. Financial statements prepared on a budgetary basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been provided on page 52 to demonstrate budgetary compliance.

### LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

#### Retirement Plans

Full-time, permanent employees (current or retired) of the Authority are covered under the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), a statewide public retirement (including disability retirement) system.

Employees covered by OPERS contribute for the year 2006 at a statutory rate of 8.5% of earnable salary or compensation, and the Authority contributes 13.55% of the same base. These contribution rates are actuarially determined and statutorily mandated.

The Authority has a "pickup" (assume and pay) program with respect to all of the statutorily required contributions of the employees covered by OPERS. These "pickups" defer the employees' federal and state income taxes on those contributions at no extra cost to the Authority. OPERS is not subject to the funding and vesting requirements of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

OPERS was created by, and operates pursuant to, the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio General Assembly could decide to amend the format of OPERS and could revise rates or methods of contributions to be made by the Authority into the pension fund and revise benefits or benefit levels.

Federal law requires Authority employees hired after March 31, 1986 to participate in the federal Medicare program, which requires matching employer and employee contributions, each being 1.45% of taxable wages. Otherwise, Authority employees are not currently covered under the federal Social Security Act.

### **Debt Administration**

Only capital projects are eligible for debt financing under the Ohio Revised Code. Management believes that existing cash and investment balances and projected cash flows of the Authority are adequate to cover future operating costs. As of December 31, 2006, the maximum annual debt service charges permitted by law for new, unvoted debt issuance was \$29.2 million. However, the Authority currently intends to fund capital improvements through federal grants, state grants, and local sales tax revenues.

### Cash Management and Investments

The Authority utilizes a cash management and investment policy intended to maximize financial return while minimizing risk of loss. Cash balances are invested at the best interest rates available in the money markets within the constraints imposed by the investment policy of the Authority and the Ohio Revised Code. In accordance with these provisions, only banks located in Ohio and domestic building and loan associations are eligible to hold public deposits. These provisions also permit the Authority to invest its funds in certificates of deposit, savings accounts, money market accounts, the State Treasurer's Investment Pool (STAR OHIO), obligations of the United States government or certain agencies thereof. The Authority may also enter into repurchase agreements with any eligible depository for a period not exceeding thirty days. Otherwise, investments in "derivatives" are forbidden.

#### LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

#### Cash Management and Investments (Continued)

As defined by the criteria developed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, most of the Authority's deposits are either uncollateralized, or are collateralized by securities held by the pledging financial institutions' trust department or agent (but not in the Authority's name). The Authority's deposits are, however, secured in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code. Because the Authority's deposits are held by large, financially sound banks, management believes that the security supporting the Authority's deposits is adequate.

Effective January 1, 1998, the Authority adopted GASB Statement No. 31, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and External Investment Pools. Pursuant to Statement No. 31, at December 31, 2006, investments are carried at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices. Any unrealized gains or losses are recognized as adjustments to investment income. The Authority's policy is to hold investment securities to their scheduled maturity date.

#### **Risk Management**

The Authority is self-insured for public liability and property damage claims. Claims are normally paid with the operating revenues of the Authority. The Authority, by resolution of the Board of Trustees, designated assets in fiscal year 1987 to accumulate funds to satisfy catastrophic or extraordinary losses. The designated assets for self-insurance as of December 31, 2006, were approximately \$12.4 million.

The Authority is under contract with an insurance carrier who provides fully-insured group coverage for employee general health and hospitalization benefits. Blanket insurance coverage is maintained for property and equipment. In addition, the Authority has insurance to protect against internal losses.

Prior to June 30, 1998, COTA was insured through the State of Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) for injuries to its employees. On July 1, 1998, the Authority entered into an agreement with the BWC to become self-insured for claims pertaining to work-related injuries to Authority employees occurring on or after that date. The BWC agreed to continue to administer and pay all compensation claims arising on or before June 30, 1998. The estimated liability for all such claims occurring since July 1, 1998, was \$694,361 at December 31, 2006, and is included as a liability in the accompanying balance sheet.

#### LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

#### OTHER INFORMATION

#### Independent Audit

The Authority's independent certified public accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP has rendered an unqualified audit report on the Authority's financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006. This report is included in the financial section of this CAFR.

The Authority also participates in the federal single audit program, which consists of a single audit of all federally funded programs administered by the Authority. As a requirement for continued funding eligibility, participation in the single audit program is mandatory for most local governments, including the Authority. The single audit performed by Deloitte & Touche LLP met the requirements set forth by the State of Ohio and the federal Single Audit Act of 1984 (including the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996) and related Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133 (Revised).

It is the intention of the Authority's management to submit this and future CAFRs for review under the GFOA's "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" program. Management believes the current report conforms to the program requirements, and expects that participation will result in continued improvement in the Authority's financial reporting in future years.

#### Acknowledgements

The publication of this report is a reflection of the level of excellence and professionalism the Authority has attained. It significantly improves the accountability of the Authority to its taxpayers and creditors.

This report would not have been possible without the hard work and high standards of the entire staff of the Finance Division. The Authority wishes to thank all who contributed to this project.

William J. Lhota

President / CEO

Marion White

CFO / Vice President of Finance

# Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

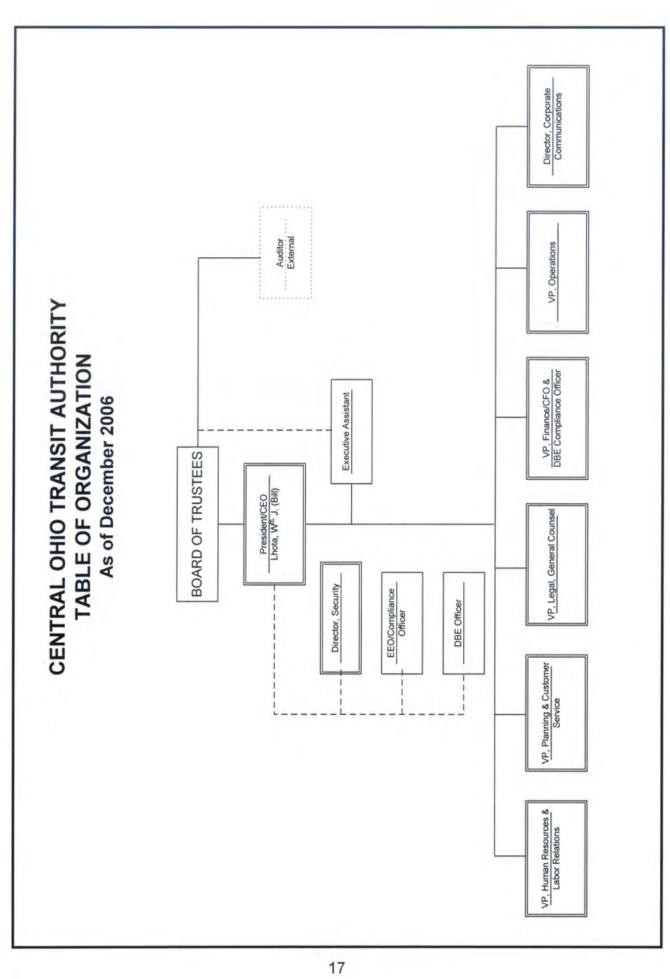
Presented to

## Central Ohio Transit Authority

For its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2005

A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada to government units and public employee retirement systems whose comprehensive annual financial reports (CAFRs) achieve the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting.

President



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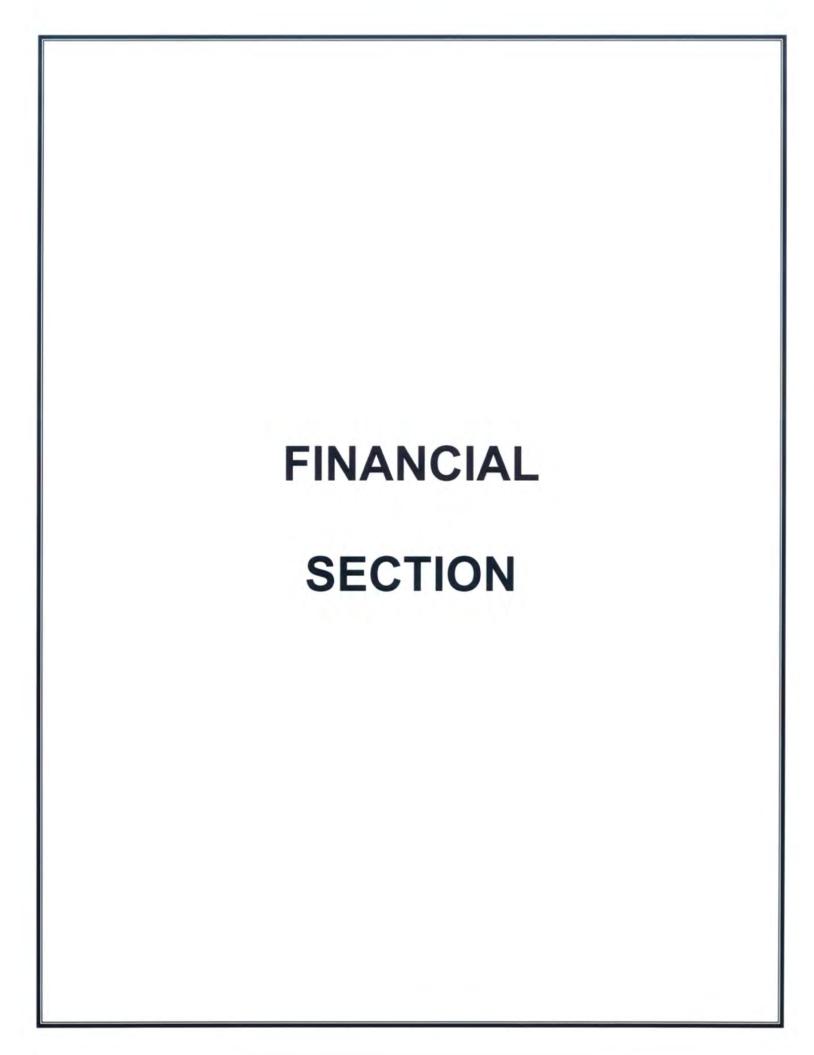
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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Trustees Central Ohio Transit Authority and Mary Taylor, Auditor of State of Ohio:

We have audited the balance sheets of Central Ohio Transit Authority (the "Authority") as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Authority. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and the changes in net assets and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 21-32 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by GASB. This supplementary information is the responsibility of the Authority's management. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements of the Authority taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements of the Authority. The supplemental schedule is also the responsibility of Authority management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The statistical data presented on pages 56-71 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements of the Authority. The statistical data is the responsibility of Authority management. Such additional information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audits of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

June 22, 2007

Delotto & Touche LLP

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#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As the management of the Central Ohio Transit Authority (the Authority or COTA), we offer readers of the Authority's basic financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2006. This discussion and analysis is designed to assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues and activities and identifying any significant changes in financial position. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here, in conjunction with the basic financial statements and notes to the financial statements, which follows this section and provides more specific detail.

#### Overview of Financial Highlights

- The Authority has net assets of \$92.9 million. These net assets result from the difference between total assets of \$104.4 million and total liabilities of \$11.5 million.
- The Authority's net assets decreased by \$15.3 million in 2006 mainly due to impairment of the North Corridor Project and the transfer of certain revenue vehicles to another transit system. The Authority's net assets decreased by \$5.9 million in 2005 primarily due to an operating loss driven by a combination of factors including flat operating revenue, increased fuel and natural gas costs, and the transfer of certain revenue vehicles to other transit systems.
- Current assets of \$32.5 million primarily consist of non-restricted cash and cash equivalents
  of \$12.3 million; sales tax receivables of \$12.7 million, inventory of \$2.3 million, and Board
  designated assets of \$3.4 million.
- Current liabilities of \$10.8 million primarily consist of accrued payroll and fringe benefits of \$4.8 million, and accounts payable of \$2.2 million.
- The Authority has no long-term debt.

#### Basic Financial Statements and Presentation

The financial statements presented by the Authority are the Balance Sheets, the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets and the Statements of Cash Flows. These statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. The Authority is structured as a single enterprise fund with revenues recognized when earned and measurable, not when received. Expenses are recognized when they are incurred, not when paid. Capital assets are capitalized and depreciated, except land, over their estimated useful lives.

The Balance Sheets present information on all of the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases and decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Authority is improving or deteriorating. Net assets decrease when expenses exceed revenues. A decrease in assets without a corresponding decrease to liabilities results in decreased net assets, which indicate a deteriorated financial position.

The Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets on page 16 presents information showing how the Authority's net assets changed during the year. This statement summarizes operating revenues and expenses along with non-operating revenues and expenses. In addition, this statement lists capital grant revenues received from federal and state governments.

The Statements of Cash Flows on pages 17-18 allow financial statement users to assess the Authority's adequacy or ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meet its obligations in a timely manner. The statements are classified into four categories: 1) cash flows from operating activities, 2) cash flows from non-capital financing activities, 3) cash flows from capital and related financing activities, and 4) cash flows from investing activities.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 19-35.

#### Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Central Ohio Transit Authority's financial status and performance. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to:

Office of Chief Financial Officer Central Ohio Transit Authority 1600 McKinley Avenue Columbus, OH 43222-1093 www.COTA.com

## Management's Discussion and Analysis Year Ended December 31, 2006

#### Financial Analysis of the Authority

#### Condensed Summary of Net Assets

The Authority's comparative analysis of the condensed summary of Net Assets is as follows:

Description		2006	2005	2004			
Assets							
Current Assets	\$	29,145,271	\$ 23,905,364	S	26,527,017		
Board Designated Assets (current)		3,401,490	1,969,885		2,721,804		
Restricted Assets (current)		0.4167541.75	649,631		536,110		
Total Current Assets		32,546,761	26,524,880		29,784,931		
Board Designated Assets (non-current)		10,597,104	11,535,204		11,918,260		
Capital Assets (net of accumulated		A SYSTEM A MATTER	0.000				
depreciation)	_	61,349,114	82,895,537		82,607,483		
Total Non-Current Assets		71,946,218	94,430,741		94,525,743		
Total Assets		104,492,979	120,955,621		124,310,674		
Liabilities							
Current Liabilities		10,760,880	11,600,596		9,835,968		
Non-Current Liabilities		766,456	1,134,144		383,559		
Total Liabilities		11,527,336	12,734,740		10,219,527		
Net Assets							
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets		61,349,114	82,895,537		82,607,483		
Net Assets Restricted for Capital Assets		44.45 444.4	649,631		536,110		
Net Assets Unrestricted		31,616,529	24,675,713		30,947,554		
Total Net Assets	\$	92,965,643	\$ 108,220,881	\$	114,091,147		

Most of the Authority's net assets reflect investment in capital assets such as buses, maintenance equipment, and operating facilities. The Authority uses these capital assets to provide public transportation services for Franklin County and portions of the cities of Columbus, Reynoldsburg, and Westerville that are located in counties adjacent to Franklin County. The Authority's investment in capital assets as of December 31, 2006 amounts to \$61.3 million (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, revenue vehicles, transit centers, other equipment, and construction in progress. The total decrease in COTA's investment in capital assets for 2006 was \$21.5 million.

Major capital asset events during 2006 included the following:

- Identified \$17.5 of impaired projects within construction in progress.
- Transferred six buses with a net book value of \$.7 million to another transit system.

Contributions to construction in progress including the following projects:

- Continued progress toward completion of the final phase of the replacement of the roof at the 1600 McKinley Avenue facility amounted to \$.8 million.
- Continued progress toward several small projects including ADA improvements and transit enhancements.

Additional information on the Authority's capital assets can be found in Note 4 in the Notes to the Financial Statements located on pages 28-29.

The Authority's current assets at the end of 2006 are composed of cash and cash equivalents (48%), receivables (42%), inventory (7%), and other assets (3%) consisting predominately of prepaid expenses.

#### Expenses by Functional Category

The Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets are presented on the next page with explanations and analysis following. The Authority's expenses, excluding depreciation, can also be classified by functional category as defined by the Authority's <u>National Transit</u> Database Report (NTDR) and summarized in the following table:

#### **EXPENSES BY FUNCTION** (Excluding Depreciation)

Description		2006	_	2005	2004			
Transportation	\$	38,352,438	\$	42,942,412	\$	40,853,870		
Vehicle Maintenance		12,050,062		12,768,801		12,054,086		
Facilities Maintenance		3,848,133		4,375,327		4,492,409		
General & Administrative		13,469,858		13,752,089		14,076,576		
Total	\$	67,720,491	\$	73,838,629	\$	71,476,941		

In accordance with NTDR guidelines, the 2006, 2005 and 2004 expenses include additional costs of \$29,132, \$25,908 and \$10,934 respectively, collected directly by the service provider from the Authority's customers during implementation of a new Sedan Voucher Service for disabled passengers.

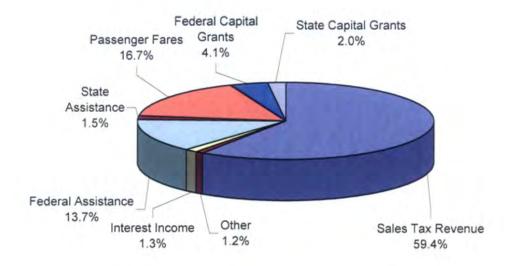
Condensed Summary of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets:

Description		2006		2005	2004		
Operating Revenues Passenger Fare Revenues Special Services Revenue Other: Auxiliary Transportation Revenues Total Operating Revenues	\$	12,816,845 359,886 243,138 13,419,869	\$	11,404,545 337,661 371,971 12,114,177	\$	11,420,919 380,907 514,923 12,316,749	
				1701 111111		2715 (31) 25	
Non-Operating Revenues Sales Tax Revenues Federal Assistance State Assistance Investment Income Non-transportation and Other Revenues Total Non-Operating Revenues		47,007,395 10,866,698 1,455,882 1,008,101 549,046 60,887,122	_	44,821,588 11,055,758 1,184,646 649,640 538,547 58,250,179		44,984,894 10,687,631 941,703 293,186 402,391 57,309,805	
Total Revenue before Capital Grants		74,306,991		70,364,356		69,626,554	
Operating Expenses Labor Fringe Benefits Materials and Supplies Purchased Transportation Services Other Expenses Operating Expenses before Depreciation  Depreciation Expense Total Operating Expenses	_	27,522,282 18,476,176 9,236,317 4,608,078 3,737,526 4,110,980 67,691,359 8,564,858 76,256,217	_	31,829,043 21,155,637 8,588,212 4,530,514 3,722,092 3,987,223 73,812,721 9,114,603 82,927,324	_	32,052,900 20,776,073 6,858,978 4,411,484 3,951,600 3,414,972 71,466,007 9,859,816 81,325,823	
Loss before Capital Grants and Special Item		(1,949,226)		(12,562,968)		(11,699,269)	
Capital Grant Revenues: Federal State Other Total Capital Grant Revenues	_	3,215,213 1,608,175 7,156 4,830,544	_	6,302,087 2,783,162 9,085,249		8,323,292 2,690,281 366,884 11,380,457	
Special Item: Loss on Transfer of Assets Special Item: Loss on Project Impairment Total Special Item	_	(665,492) (17,471,064) (18,136,556)	_	(2,392,547)	_	(1,803,954)	
Change in Net Assets during the Year Net Assets, Beginning of Year Net Assets, End of Year	\$	(15,255,238) 108,220,881 92,965,643	-\$	(5,870,266) 114,091,147 108,220,881	\$	(2,122,766) 116,213,913 114,091,147	

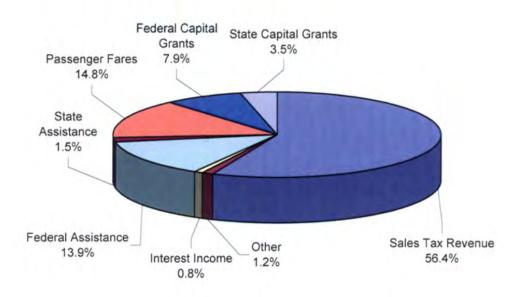
### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

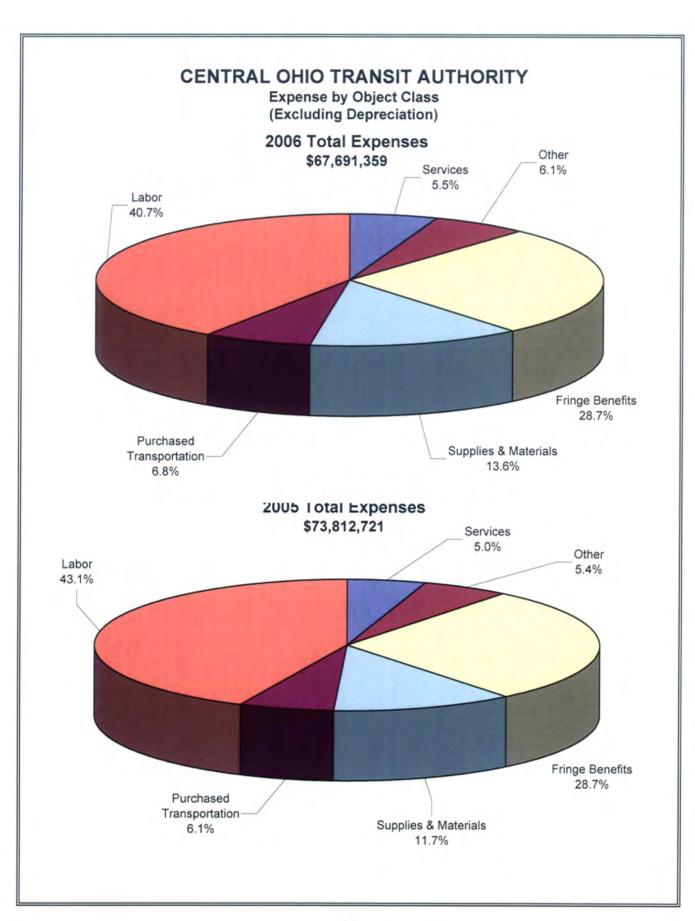
Revenues by Source

### 2006 Total Revenues \$79,137,535



### 2005 Total Revenues \$79,449,605





#### **Financial Operating Results**

#### Revenues

For purposes of this presentation, the Authority groups its operating revenues into the following categories:

**Passenger Fares** are comprised of farebox revenues and special services revenues. The 2006 increase from 2005 is attributed to a fare increase in January 2006. The slight 2005 decrease from 2004 is attributed to a reduction in bus service levels initiated in May 2004, causing ridership levels to decrease during the first half of 2005.

Sales Tax Revenues are received from a permanent 1/4% sales tax levy approved by voters in November 1999 and applicable to the Authority's service area. The increase of 4.8% in 2006 from 2005 is due in part to a one-time state sales tax amnesty program. The slight decrease in 2005 is due to slowing economic growth in COTA's taxing district. The increase in 2004 revenues is due to positive economic factors and a one-time program implemented by the State of Ohio to compel electronic fund transfer (EFT) filers to become current in filing sales tax returns.

Federal Assistance is received from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for general operating expenses and capital programs. With the passage of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21), regional transit authorities were given the latitude to use their Section 5307 Federal Formula Assistance on the capitalization of maintenance instead of the purchase of capital assets. The Authority has elected to use its Section 5307 funds on vehicle maintenance, permitting the full use of this allocation each year, and freeing local funds for future capital projects. The decrease in Federal Assistance in 2006 was due to a reduction in TEA-21 due to funding requirements for Katrina recovery efforts. The increase in Federal Assistance in 2005 was due to an increase in funding the total allocation to all public transit agencies for Section 5307 funds by the Federal government. The decrease for Federal Assistance in 2004 was due to a reduction in funding for Section 5307 funds by the Federal government.

Federal Capital Grants are received from the FTA for capital projects and capital acquisitions. Federal Capital Grants reimburse the Authority in part for the purchase of new buses and equipment. The reduction in Federal Capital Grants in 2006 is due to the discontinued North Corridor Light Rail Project. The reduction in Federal Capital Grants in 2005 is due to the completion of the Easton Daycare Center and the Near East Transit Center construction projects and a decrease in funding for the North Corridor Light-Rail project. The increase in Federal Capital Grants in 2004 is attributed to increases for funding the North Corridor Light-Rail project, reimbursement for the construction of the Easton Daycare Center, the annunciator (automatic voice messaging system) project, the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) planning and standards development project, facility improvements, and the purchase of buses and paratransit vehicles.

**State Assistance** is received from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for elderly and disabled rider reduced-fare subsidies, and for reimbursement of State fuel taxes. COTA is required to remit State taxes on diesel fuel, but is refunded \$0.27 of the \$0.28 per gallon paid. The increase for State Assistance in 2006, 2005 and 2004 was due primarily to an increase in the elderly and disabled passenger fare assistance program.

State Capital Grants are received from ODOT for capital projects and capital acquisitions. State Capital Grants reimburse the Authority in part for the purchase of new buses and equipment. The decrease in State Capital Grants in 2006 was due to the discontinuation of the North Corridor Light Rail Project. The increase in State Capital Grants in 2005 and 2004 was for funding the North Corridor Light-Rail project, reimbursement for the construction of the Easton Daycare Center, the implementation of the annunciator and automatic passenger counter projects, and the purchase of buses. In 2005, the increase is also attributable to reimbursement for the construction of the Near East Transit Center. In 2004, the increase is attributable to reimbursement for the Front Street Bridge portion of the Downtown Multimodal Transportation Terminal (MMTT) project and the purchase of paratransit vehicles.

**Investment Income** is earned on invested funds. The 2006 and 2005 Investment Income is significantly higher due to higher investment rates and higher cash balances than in 2004. During 2004, lower cash balances in the investment accounts along with a decrease in interest rates in the fixed income financial markets contributed to decreasing investment income.

Non-Transportation and Other Revenues consist of auxiliary transportation revenues and non-transportation revenues. Auxiliary transportation revenues represent fees collected for advertising placed in and on buses increased slightly in 2006 and decreased in 2005 and 2004 due to economic conditions. Non-transportation revenues include all other various miscellaneous income items.

#### Expenses

Labor comprises nearly half of the total Authority expenses and includes hourly wages paid to union-represented employees (bus operators, mechanics and facility maintenance personnel), and salaries and wages paid to administrative staff (clerical, supervisory and management personnel). In 2006, reductions in service coupled with improved efficiency resulted in a 14% reduction in labor cost. During May 2005, COTA eliminated fifteen administrative positions as part of a reorganization of the Authority's administrative departments, thereby reducing labor expense below 2004 levels. In 2004, an average pay rate increase of 2% was offset by increases in the employee attrition rate.

**Fringe Benefits** consist primarily of vacation, sick and holiday pay, required Authority contributions to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), and employee medical benefits. Required employer contributions to OPERS were made at the rate of 13.55% of total gross taxable wages.

In 2006, fringe benefit expense was reduced by nearly 13% through a corresponding reduction in direct payroll costs and no growth in medical premiums. Additionally, in 2005, an OPERS "pickup" of 5.5% of the individual's gross taxable wages was contributed for collective bargaining units and administrative employees. The increase in fringe benefits in 2005 is due to rising medical insurance costs and an increase in Workers' Compensation expense caused by a significant adjustment to the liability reserve to recognize future liabilities. In 2004, a "pickup" was contributed ranging from 4.0% to 5.5% dependent upon the collective bargaining unit for represented employees and 5.5% for administrative employees. The increase in fringe benefits in 2004 was due to rising medical insurance costs, increased OPERS "pickup" contribution, and increased workers compensation expense.

Materials and Supplies include the Authority's diesel fuel expense and parts used in the maintenance of buses and facilities. In 2006, materials and supplies increased 7.5% from 2005 due to increased fuel price per gallon of 21.4% and the impact of maintaining an aging bus fleet. The primary factor for the 2005 increase in expenses is a 44.2% increase in the average price per gallon of diesel fuel along with a slight increase in fuel consumption of approximately 36,000 gallons. Another factor that also increased expenses was the write-off of the ABI bus parts inventory. The primary factor for the 2004 increase is a 28.8% increase in the average price per gallon of diesel fuel despite the reduction in fuel consumption of over 134,000 gallons due to reduced bus service hours.

Purchased Transportation expense is comprised of amounts paid to a private local contractor to provide the Authority's Project Mainstream service (door-to-door, service-on-demand in wheelchair lift-equipped minibuses for disabled riders). In 2006, purchased transportation expense increased by 1.7% over 2005, but was substantiated by an increase in ridership of 2.9%. For 2005, the total Project Mainstream ridership was only a slight increase of less than 1% as a result of challenges with scheduling that led to decreased productivity. The 2004 increase was driven by a 6.2% billing rate increase that became effective August 1, 2004 which offset a 1.9% decrease in the number of revenue hours provided.

**Professional Services** are provided by outside contractors to the Authority for a wide variety of professional, technical, consulting and maintenance needs. These costs remained fairly constant from 2005 to 2006 with just a .4% increase. The decrease for 2005 is due to a reduction in legal expense. The slight increase for 2004 is due to increased legal activity.

Other Expenses consist primarily of utilities, taxes, interest, leases and rentals, claims and insurance and other miscellaneous expenses. In 2006, other expenses increased 3% over 2005 primarily due to increase self-insurance claims from increased liability reserves. Taxes were paid to the State on diesel fuel consumption at the rate of \$0.26 per gallon until July 2005, and at the rate of \$0.28 thereafter, which was responsible for the increase in fuel taxes paid in 2005 and 2006. Real estate taxes are paid on non-exempt Authority property. Leases and rentals are paid on the downtown COTA Connection customer service center, the COTA Business Development Division office on Lake Shore Drive, the Project Mainstream paratransit offices on Phillipi Road, certain parkand-ride facilities, and miscellaneous equipment. The 2004 expenses decreased slightly due to cost-reducing measures implemented related to the use of copying machines. In addition, 2004 claims and insurance expense decreased due to reduced self-insurance claims for property damage.

#### Analysis of 2006 Financial Results

The year 2006 can be considered a turning point for COTA, with many of the recent year's challenges reaching resolution, providing a clear direction for the future expansion of transportation services in central Ohio for the next 10 years. On the heels of operating deficits in the past two years, COTA management implemented decisive measures to return the Authority to financial stability. As part of the 2006 operating budget, the following measures were incorporated and implemented to improve the financial condition of the Authority:

- Service reductions of 10% were made in January 2006, resulting in lower direct operating expenses.
- Fares were increased an average of 11%, resulting in increased fare revenue, net of service reductions.
- Consolidating Bus and Vehicle Maintenance operations into one facility, reducing operating expenses.
- Early termination of an operating lease for Paratransit operations at the Phillipi Rd. location and relocating the operation into a more-centrally located COTA owned facility.
- Fully implemented the terms of the new three-year labor agreement, negotiated in December of 2005.

These measures coupled with an increase in sales and use tax of 4.8% led to an operating surplus of \$6.6 million (excluding depreciation) for the year, signaling a strong financial recovery.

In July of 2006, the COTA board reviewed and accepted the completion of the DEIS (Draft Environmental Impact Statement) that was part of the NCLRT (North Corridor Light Rail Project) that had been advancing slowly over the past few years. At that time, the Board voted to accept the "No build" alternative that was one of four alternatives studied. The project was put on hold indefinitely in recognition that the projects' merits no longer met recently amended Federal criteria and therefore had little chance of receiving funding. This decision resulted in a \$17.5 million decrease in net assets as of December 31, 2006.

The 2006, 2005 and 2004 Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets include a Special Item for the loss on transfer of assets. These items represent the continuation of a 2004 initiative to dispose of 38 revenue vehicles prior to the end of their useful life. In 2006, the loss of \$665,492 resulted from the transfer of the federal interest in six Advanced Bus Industries (ABI) buses to Jackson State University, a transit eligible to receive FTA funding. In 2005, the loss of \$2,392,547 resulted from the transfer of the federal interest of nineteen Advanced Bus Industries (ABI) buses to transit systems in Colorado and Florida, both eligible to receive FTA funding. In 2004, the loss of \$1,803,954 resulted from the transfer of the federal interest of thirteen Advanced Bus Industries (ABI) buses to transit systems in California and South Dakota, both eligible to receive FTA funding. Several factors led to the decision to transfer these buses, including the high maintenance costs and other challenges experienced by the Authority and its passengers. Additional information on this Special Item may be found on Note 10 in the Notes to the Financial Statements located on page 35.

Overall, the Authority's decrease in net assets in 2006 of \$15.3 million represents a 14% reduction in the Authority's Net assets compared to a \$5.9 million reduction representing 5% in 2005 and a \$2.2 million reduction representing a 1.8% change in 2004. To counteract this trend and increase transportation services to central Ohio, the Authority sought and was granted an additional 1/4% sales and use tax for a 10-year period beginning in 2007 and ending in 2016.

# CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Balance Sheets December 31, 2006 and 2005

<u>ASSETS</u>	_	2006		2005
CURRENT ASSETS:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	12,278,782	\$	8,937,160
Sales tax		12,735,719		11,944,616
Federal capital grants receivable		73,262		506,343
Federal operating assistance		44,218		
State capital grants receivable		216,182		143,288
Other		444,973		869,175
Inventory of materials and supplies		2,327,942		1,737,755
Other		1,024,193		416,658
Total	_	29,145,271		24,554,995
Board designated:				
Cash and cash equivalents - capital grants		1,625,585		1,366,749
Cash and cash equivalents - self insurance		1,775,905		603,136
Total		3,401,490		1,969,885
Total current assets		32,546,761	_	26,524,880
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:				
Board designated:		A3000.00.00.00		DATE OF THE PARTY
Cash and cash equivalents - self insurance		10,597,104		11,535,204
Total		10,597,104		11,535,204
Property and equipment				
Cost		157,555,256		178,388,367
Less accumulated depreciation		(96, 206, 142)	100	(95,492,830)
Total		61,349,114		82,895,537
Total non-current assets		61,349,114		94,430,741
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	104,492,979	\$	120,955,621

### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

### Balance Sheets (continued) December 31, 2006 and 2005

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2006	2005
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accrued payroll and fringe benefits	\$ 4,841,938	\$ 5,042,377
Accounts payable	2,187,297	4,166,044
Accrued payroll taxes	612,342	655,850
Estimated workers compensation claims	483,454	130,208
Estimated claims payable	1,292,451	472,928
Other current liabilities	1,343,398	1,133,189
Total current liabilitites	10,760,880	11,600,596
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accrued fringe benefits	409,675	617,990
Deferred revenue lease property	37,024	50,908
Estimated workers compensation claims	210,907	390,746
Estimated claims payable	108,850	74,500
Total non-current liabilitites	766,456	1,134,144
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,527,336	12,734,740
NET ASSETS:		
Invested in capital assets	61,349,114	82,895,537
Restricted for capital assets	2 37 41 42	649,631
Unrestricted	31,616,529	24,675,713
TOTAL NET ASSETS	92,965,643	108,220,881
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 104,492,979	\$ 120,955,621

# CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets Years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005

		2006		2005
OPERATING REVENUES:		1 72 No 16 16 16 1		
Passenger fares for transit service	\$	12,816,845	\$	11,404,545
Special transit fares		359,886		326,018
Charter service revenue		0		11,643
Auxiliary transportation revenue	_	243,138	_	371,971
Total	_	13,419,869		12,114,177
OPERATING EXPENSES OTHER THAN DEPRECIATION:				
Labor		27,522,282		31,829,043
Fringe benefits		18,476,176		21,155,637
Materials and supplies		9,236,317		8,588,212
Purchased transportation		4,608,078		4,530,514
Services		3,737,526		3,722,092
Utilities		1,435,646		1,570,945
Taxes		726,764		742,924
Leases and rentals		359,145		570,504
Claims and insurance, net of settlements		1,117,833		595,191
Advertising		122,695		155,080
Miscellaneous		348,897		352,579
Total		67,691,359		73,812,721
DEPRECIATION		8,564,858		9,114,603
Total operating expenses		76,256,217		82,927,324
OPERATING LOSS		(62,836,348)		(70,813,147
NON-OPERATING REVENUES:				
Sales tax revenues		47,007,395		44,821,588
Federal operating grants and reimbursements State operating grants, reimbursements and		10,866,698		11,055,758
special fare assistance		1,455,882		1,184,646
Investment income.		1,008,101		649,640
Nontransportation and other revenue		549,046		538,547
Total		60,887,122	_	58,250,179
Loss before capital grants & special item		(1,949,226)		(12,562,968
		(1,040,220)	_	(12,002,000
CAPITAL GRANT REVENUES: Federal		3,215,213		6 202 007
				6,302,087
State		1,608,175		2,783,162
Other	_	7,156	_	
Total	_	4,830,544	_	9,085,249
SPECIAL ITEM -				
Loss on transfer of assets		(665,492)		(2,392,547
Loss on project impairment		(17,471,064)		(2,392,547
Total		(18,136,556)		(2,392,547
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		(15,255,238)		(5,870,266
		108,220,881		114,091,147
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	-		_	- THE R. P. LEWIS CO., LANSING
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$	92,965,643	\$	108,220,881
See notes to financial statements.				460 /42000

(continued)

# CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Statements of Cash Flows Years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005

Andre St. Wall Attended to the State of Land Control of the Contro	2006	2005
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	I TALLON MAN	Total Sales Bu
Cash received from customers		\$ 11,742,206
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(23,625,579)	(18,916,429)
Cash payments to employees for services	(27,706,365)	(31,836,063)
Cash payments for employees benefits	(18,527,440)	(21,280,279)
Cash payments for casualty and liability	(246, 177)	(843,592)
Other receipts	1,225,486	1,139,405
Net cash used in operating activities	(55,703,344)	(59,994,752)
CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Sales taxes received	46,216,292	44,786,841
Federal operating assistance received	10,822,480	15,321,316
State operating and other assistance received	1,455,882	1,593,635
Net cash provided by non-capital financing activities	58,494,654	61,701,792
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Federal capital grants received	3,648,294	6 225 200
State capital grants received		6,235,209
Acquisition and construction of fixed assets	1,542,437	2,736,519
	(5,155,015)	(10,749,066)
	25.740	308,100
Net cash provided by (used in) capital and related financing	35,716	(1,469,238)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Interest received from investments	1,008,101	649,640
Purchases of investments	- 1000	(9,100)
Sales of investments		1,983,498
Net cash provided by investing activities	1,008,101	2,624,038
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	3,835,127	2,861,840
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	22,442,249	19,580,409
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 26,277,376	\$ 22,442,249

#### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Statements of Cash Flows (continued) Years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005

2005
70,813,147)
9,114,603
500,000
64,792
538,547
228,887
(300,893)
(23,835)
696,294
59,994,752)
1,597,390
5

#### (1) Organization and Reporting Entity

#### (a) Organization

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA or the Authority) is an independent, special purpose subdivision of the State of Ohio. The Authority was created on February 17, 1971, pursuant to Sections 306.30 through 306.53 of the Ohio Revised Code for the purpose of providing public transportation in Central Ohio, primarily Franklin County and surrounding areas. The Authority commenced operations on January 1, 1974. As a political subdivision, the Authority is distinct from, and is not an agency of, the State of Ohio or any other local government unit.

Under Ohio law, the Authority is authorized to levy a sales and use tax for transit purposes, including both capital improvement and operating expenses, in 0.25% increments up to a maximum rate of 1.5% if approved by a majority of the electors residing within the territorial boundaries of the Authority. Such a sales and use tax is in addition to the sales and use taxes levied by the State of Ohio and Franklin County. On November 5, 1999, the voters of Franklin County approved a permanent 0.25% sales and use tax. On November 2, 2006, the voters of Franklin County and surrounding counties within the COTA district approved a 10 year additional 0.25% sales and use tax.

The Authority also has the power, under Section 306.40 of the Ohio Revised Code, to levy and collect both voted (after approval at an election) and unvoted ad valorem taxes on all the taxable property within the territorial boundaries of the Authority, in order to pay debt service on its bonds and notes issued in anticipation thereof. Ad valorem taxes were not levied during fiscal years 2006 and 2005.

The Authority is governed by a 13-member Board of Trustees. Members are appointed by the mayors of COTA's chartering municipal corporations and by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and serve overlapping 3-year terms.

The Authority is not subject to federal or state income taxes.

#### (b) Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements comply with the provisions of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, The Financial Reporting Entity. This statement requires that financial statements of the reporting entity include all of the organization, activities, functions and component units for which the reporting entity is financially accountable. Financial accountability is defined as the appointment of a voting majority of the component unit's board and either (1) the reporting entity's ability to impose its will over the component unit, or (2) the possibility that the component unit will provide a financial benefit to or impose a financial burden on the reporting entity. COTA does not have financial accountability over any entities.

The City of Columbus (the City) is a related organization to COTA as the Mayor of the City, with the approval of City Council, appoints a voting majority of COTA's Board. However, the financial statements of COTA are not included within the City's "Reporting Entity" as the City cannot impose its will and there is no financial benefit or financial burden relationship between the City and COTA.

#### (2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues and expenses are recognized in the period earned or incurred. All transactions are accounted for in a single enterprise fund.

Pursuant to GASB Statement No. 20 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities that Use Proprietary Fund Accounting, the Authority follows GASB guidance as applicable to proprietary funds and Financial Accounting Standards Board Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board Opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins issues on or before November 30, 1989, that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The Authority also has the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance, subject to this same limitation. The Authority has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance as it relates to its operations.

#### (b) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Authority considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased and deposits in the State Treasurer's Asset Reserve investment pool (STAR Ohio) to be cash equivalents.

#### (c) Grant and Assistance

The federal government, through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Ohio Department of Transportation, (ODOT) provides financial assistance and makes grants directly to the Authority for operations and the acquisition of property and equipment. Grants for operating assistance and preventative maintenance are recorded as revenues during the entitlement period to which the grants apply.

#### (d) Investments

Pursuant to GASB Statement No. 31, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and External Investment Pools, investments are carried at fair value based on quoted market prices. Any unrealized gains or losses are recognized as adjustments to investment income. The Authority's policy is to hold investment securities to their scheduled maturities.

#### (e) Inventory of Materials and Supplies

Inventory items are stated at cost using the weighted average method. Inventory generally consists of maintenance parts and supplies for transportation equipment and inventory items are expensed when consumed.

#### (f) Board Designated Assets

These assets are designated for the payment of public liability claims under the Authority's self-insurance program and for future capital expenditures.

#### (g) Designated for Capital Grant Expenditures

These assets are restricted under the Authority's capital grants for certain capital projects. The Authority also includes in designated capital grant asset amounts relating to its local share requirements for active capital grants.

#### (h) Net Assets – Equity displayed in three components as follows:

<u>Invested in capital assets, net of related debt</u> – This consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, less the outstanding balances of any bonds, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets.

<u>Restricted</u> – This consists of net assets that are legally restricted by outside parties or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, generally it is the Authority's policy to use restricted resources first, and then use unrestricted resources when they are needed.

<u>Unrestricted</u> – This consists of net assets that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt".

(continued)

#### (i) Classifications of Revenues

The Authority has classified its revenue as operating, non-operating or capital grant. Operating revenue includes activities that have the characteristics of exchange transactions including passenger fares and advertising. Non-operating revenue includes activities that have the characteristics of non-exchange transactions, such as sales tax proceeds and most federal, state, or other reimbursement or donation for the acquisition of property and equipment.

#### Recognition of Revenue and Receivables

The federal government, through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), provide financial assistance and make grants directly to the Authority for operations and acquisition of property and equipment. Operating grants and special fare assistance awards made on the basis of entitlement periods are recorded as grant receivables and revenues over the entitlement periods. Capital grants for the acquisition of property and equipment (reimbursement type grants) are recorded as grant receivables and credited to non-operating revenues in the period operating expenditures are incurred. Capital grants received in advance of project costs being incurred are deferred.

When assets acquired with capital grant funds are disposed of before their useful life, the Authority is required to notify the granting federal agency. A proportional amount of the proceeds or fair market value, if any, of such property and equipment, may be used to acquire like-kind replacement vehicles or remitted to the granting federal agency.

#### (j) Property and Depreciation

Property and equipment are stated at historical cost and include expenditures that substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets. Routine maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred. An asset is capitalized if its value exceeds \$2,000 and it has an economic life of greater than one year. The asset capitalization level for projects funded by grants is the full cost of the assets acquired regardless of the \$2,000 threshold. The capitalization cost of a physical asset is defined to be the full cost of placing the asset into productive service.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets, as follows:

Description	Years
Land and leasehold improvements	5-20
Buildings and improvements	20-40
Revenue vehicles	4-12
Transit shelters	5-8
Other equipment	3-10

(continued)

#### (j) Property and Depreciation (continued)

Assets acquired with capital grants are included in property and equipment and depreciation on those assets is included in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets.

#### (k) Estimated Claims Payable

The Authority has a self-insurance program for public liability, personal injury, property damage and worker's compensation (see Note 7). Claims are accrued in the year the expenses are incurred, based upon estimates of the claim liabilities made by management and the legal counsel of the Authority. Also provided for are estimates of claims incurred during the year but not yet reported. These estimates are based on past experience and current outstanding claims.

#### (I) Compensated Absences

The Authority accrues vacation and sick pay benefits as earned by its employees. Non-current accrued fringe benefits are estimated based on the average vacation and sick expense from the previous five years.

		Current	No	on-current
Compensated Absences Liability December 31, 2004	\$	4,036,607	\$	199,910
Vacation & Sick Liability Earned		3,757,201		
Vacation & Sick Liability Paid		(4,299,923)		418,080
Compensated Absences Liability December 31, 2005	\$	3,493,885	\$	617,990
Vacation & Sick Liability Earned		3,177,283		111112
Vacation & Sick Liability Paid		(3,193,640)		(208,315)
Compensated Absences Liability December 31, 2006	\$	3,477,528	\$	409,675

#### (m) Passenger Fares

Passenger fares are recorded as revenue at the time services are performed.

#### (n) Budgetary Accounting and Control

The Authority's annual budget is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting as permitted by law. The Authority maintains budgetary control by not allowing total expenditures to exceed total appropriations without approval of the Board of Trustees.

#### (o) Use of Estimates

The accounting and reporting policies of COTA conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results differ from those estimates.

#### (p) Non-exchange Transactions

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Authority receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include sales tax revenue and grants. On an accrual basis, revenue from sales taxes is recognized in the period when the underlying exchange transaction occurs. Therefore, taxes on items sold in 2006 will be recognized as revenue in 2006. Revenue from grants is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Authority on a reimbursement basis.

#### (q) New Accounting Pronouncements

In November 2003, GASB issued Statement No. 42, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Impairment of Capital Assets and for Insurance Recoveries, which establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for impairment of capital assets. This Statement also clarifies and establishes accounting requirements for insurance recoveries. The provisions of this statement were implemented by the Authority in 2005. Significant items identified as impaired were written off (See Note No. 11 - Special Item).

In June 2004, GASB issued Statement No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions. This statement established standards for the measurement, recognitions, and display of OPEB expense/expenditures and related liabilities (assets), note disclosures, and, if applicable, required supplementary information in the financial reports of the state and local government employers. This statement will not be effective for the Authority until periods beginning after December 15, 2007, and as such, the Authority has not determined the impact that this statement will have on its financial statements.

#### (q) New Accounting Pronouncements (continued)

During December 2004, the GASB issued Statement No. 46, Net Assets Restricted by Legislation, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 34. This statement clarifies that a legally enforceable enabling legislation restriction is one that a party external to a government, such as citizens, public interest groups, or the judiciary-can compel a government to honor. The Statement states that the legal enforceability of an enabling legislation restriction should be reevaluated if any of the resources raised by the enabling legislation are used for a purpose not specified by the enabling legislation or if a government has other cause for reconsideration. Although the determination that a particular restriction is not legally enforceable may cause a government to review the enforceability of other restrictions, it should not necessarily lead a government to the same conclusion for all enabling legislation restrictions. This statement also specifies the accounting and financial reporting requirements if new enabling legislation replaces existing enabling legislation or if legal enforceability is reevaluated. Statement requires governments to disclose the portion of total net assets that is restricted by enabling legislation. The requirements of this statement are effective for the Authority for 2006, and as such, the Authority has determined that this statement has no impact on its financial statements.

In June 2005, GASB issued Statement No. 47, Accounting for Termination Benefits. This statement provides accounting and reporting guidance for state and local governments that offer either voluntary termination benefits (e.g. early retirement incentives) or involuntary termination benefits (i.e., severance). The significant requirements of Statement 47 include the recognition in accrual basis financials as a liability and expense for involuntary termination benefits when (1) a termination plan has been approved by those with the authority to commit the government to the plan, (2) the plan has been communicated to the employees, and (3) the amount can be estimated. A liability and expense for voluntary termination benefits should be recognized when the offer is accepted and the amount can be estimated. Statement 47 also requires employers to disclose a description of the termination benefit arrangements, the cost of the termination benefits, and the significant methods and assumptions used to determine termination benefit liabilities. Statement 47 is effective for the Authority in 2006, and as such, the Authority has determined that there is no material impact on its financial statements.

Lastly, in September 2006, GASB issued Statement No. 48, Sales and Pledges of Receivables and Future Revenues and Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets and Future Revenues and Statement No. 49, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pollution Remediation Obligations. The requirements for these Statements become effective in fiscal years 2007 and 2008, respectively, and as such, the Authority has not determined the impact that these statements will have on its financial statements.

#### (3) Cash and Investments

The investment and deposit of Authority monies are governed by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. In accordance with these statutes, only financial institutions located in Ohio are eligible to hold public deposits. The statutes also permit the Authority to invest its monies in certificates of deposit, savings accounts, money market accounts, the State Treasurer's Asset Reserve investment pool (STAR Ohio), and obligations of the United States government or certain agencies thereof. The Authority may also enter into repurchase agreements with any eligible depository for a period not exceeding thirty days. The Authority is prohibited from investing in any financial instrument, contract, or obligation whose value or return is based upon or linked to another asset or index, or both, separate from the financial instrument, contract, or obligation itself (commonly known as a derivative). The Authority is also prohibited from investing in reserve purchase agreements.

STAR Ohio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office, which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the Securities Exchange Commission as an investment company, but does operate in a manner similar to Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAR Ohio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price, which is the price the investment could be sold for on December 31, 2006 and 2005.

Public depositories must give security for all public funds on deposit. These institutions may either specifically collateralize individual accounts in addition to amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), or may pledge a pool of government securities with a market value equal to 105% of the total value of public monies on deposit at the institution. Repurchase agreements must be secured by the specific government securities upon which the repurchase agreements are based. These securities must be obligations of or guaranteed by the United States and mature or be redeemable within five years of the date of the related repurchase agreement. State law does not require security for public deposits and investments to be maintained in the Authority's name.

## (a) Deposits With Financial Institutions

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned. Public depositories must give security for all public funds on deposit. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105% of the carrying value of the deposit. Such collateral, as permitted by Chapter 135 of the Ohio Revised Code, is held in financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the Federal Reserve System, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the Authority.

At December 31, 2006, the carrying amount of the Authority's deposits with financial institutions was \$4,351,860 and the bank balance was \$5,741,075. The difference results mainly from outstanding checks. Based on criteria as described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure", as of December 31, 2006, \$100,789 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance. The \$5,640,286 exposed to custodial risk was collateralized by a pool of securities maintained by the Authority's financial institutions but not in the Authority's name. In addition, the Authority had \$5,220 of cash on hand.

At December 31, 2005, the carrying amount of the Authority's deposits with financial institutions was \$4,472,967 and the bank balance was \$6,007,501. The difference results mainly from outstanding checks. Based on criteria as described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure", as of December 31, 2005, \$100,919 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance. The \$5,907,501 exposed to custodial risk was collateralized by a pool of securities maintained by the Authority's financial institutions but not in the Authority's name. In addition, the Authority had \$5,220 of cash on hand.

### (b) Investments and Other Deposits

As of December 31, 2006 and 2005, the Authority held equity of \$21,920,296 and \$17,964,062, respectively, in the STAR Ohio investment pool. As of March 2006, Star Ohio has maintained the highest Standard and Poors rating of AAA. This investment has not been categorized based on a custodial risk because it is not a security. The relationship between the Authority and the investment asset is a direct contractual relationship and the investments evidence ownership or creditorship. In 2004, the Authority held U.S. Treasury notes and federal agency obligations of \$1,983,498 which matured in 2005.

(continued)

#### (4) Capital Assets

Capital asset activities for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 are as follows:

	Jai	nuary 1, 2006	Additions		Disposals		Transfers	D	ecember 31, 2006
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:									7 11 11
Land	S	5,445,576	\$ 	\$		5	3,330	\$	5,448,906
CIP		19,693,961	4,312,465		(17,471,064)		(4,304,126)		2,231,236
Total	$\equiv$	25,139,537	4,312,465		(17,471,064)		(4,300,796)		7,680,142
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:									
Land and leasehold improvements		9,097,046			(367,447)		57,843		8,787,442
Building and improvements		44,949,807	513,463				(1,073,168)		44,390,102
Revenue vehicles		69,326,152			(1,895,729)		147,207		67,577,630
Transit shelter		2,120,905			(1,214,842)		1,075,190		1,981,253
Other equipment		27,754,920	329,063		(5,039,020)		4,093,724		27,138,687
Total		153,248,830	842,526	_	(8,517,038)		4,300,796		149,875,114
Less Accumulated Depreciation:									
Land and leasehold improvements		(6,281,408)	(528,033)		227,344		y.		(6,582,097)
Building and improvements		(17,628,582)	(1,351,902)				-		(18,980,484)
Revenue vehicles		(44,330,217)	(3,987,684)		1,230,236				(47,087,665)
Transit shelter		(2,094,689)	(281,714)		1,214,842				(1,161,561)
Other equipment		(25, 157, 934)	(2,415,525)		5,179,124		- 8		(22,394,335)
Total		(95,492,830)	(8,564,858)		7,851,546		-		(96,206,142)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	_	57,756,000	(7,722,332)		(665,492)		4,300,796		53,668,972
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$	82,895,537	\$ (3,409,867)	\$	(18,136,556)	\$	-	\$	61,349,114

For discussion of the \$665,492 transfer of revenue vehicles, see Note 10, Special Item.

#### (4) Capital Assets (continued)

	Ja	nuary 1, 2005	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	D	ecember 31, 2005
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:							
Land	\$	5,540,116	\$ 	\$ (94,540)	\$ -	\$	5,445,576
CIP		19,007,340	3,525,037	(91,220)	(2,747,196)		19,693,961
Total		24,547,456	3,525,037	(185,760)	(2,747,196)		25,139,537
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:							
Land and leasehold improvements		8,945,518	4	4	151,528		9,097,046
Building and improvements		38,675,598	3,678,541		2,595,668		44,949,807
Revenue vehicles		68,728,879	4,697,629	(4,100,356)	-		69,326,152
Transit shelter		2,120,905	-		-		2,120,905
Other equipment		28,290,500	33,244	(568,824)	-		27,754,920
Total		146,761,400	8,409,414	(4,669,180)	2,747,196		153,248,830
Less Accumulated Depreciation:							
Land and leasehold improvements		(6,077,564)	(203,844)	-	-		(6,281,408
Building and improvements		(16,430,817)	(1,197,765)		*		(17,628,582
Revenue vehicles		(40,715,897)	(5,281,506)	1,667,186	-		(44,330,217
Transit shelter		(2,037,608)	(57,081)	-	~		(2,094,689
Other equipment		(23,439,487)	(2,271,485)	553,038	-		(25,157,934
Total		(88,701,373)	(9,011,681)	2,220,224	- 4		(95,492,830
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net		58,060,027	(602,267)	(2,448,956)	2,747,196		57,756,000
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$	82,607,483	\$ 2,922,770	\$ (2,634,716)	\$ -	\$	82,895,537

For discussion of the \$2,392,547 transfer of revenue vehicles, see Note 10, Special Item.

#### (5) Leases

COTA leases certain property and office equipment under operating leases. Rental expense for all operating leases was approximately \$359,000 in 2006 and \$653,000 in 2005. No lease commitments exist after 2008. Future minimum payments, by year, and in the aggregate, under these leases with initial or remaining terms of one year or more, consists of the following at December 31, 2006:

Operating Leases	
\$ 118,608	
4,929	
\$ 123,537	
Opera	

(continued)

#### (6) Grants, Reimbursements and Special Fare Assistance

Grants, reimbursements and special fare assistance included in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, consist of the following:

-0.004	_	2006	_	2005
Federal: FTA Operating Assistance	\$	10,866,698	\$	11,055,758
FTA Capital Assistance		3,215,213		6,302,087
Total	\$	14,081,911	\$	17,357,845
State:				
ODOT Elderly and Disabled Fare Assistance	\$	817,978	\$	533,172
ODOT Fuel Tax Reimbursement		627,351		651,474
ODOT Capital Assistance		1,608,175		2,783,162
Other Local Operating Assistance		17,709		
Total	\$	3,071,213	\$	3,967,808

#### (7) Risk Management

COTA is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or destruction of assets, injuries to employees and natural disasters. The Authority purchases commercial insurance for employee bonding, flood, fire, property, crime, travel and general liability. There have been no reductions in coverage nor have there been any settlements exceeding insurance coverage for the past three years.

COTA is self-insured for all public liability, personal injury and property damage claims. The estimated liability for such claims of \$1,401,301 at December 31, 2006, and \$547,428 at December 31, 2005, are included in estimated claims payable in the accompanying balance sheets. At December 31, 2006, and 2005, \$12,373,009 and \$12,138,340, respectively, were restricted by the Board of Trustees to fund the self-insurance program. Such funds are included in board designated assets in the accompanying balance sheets.

Prior to June 30, 1998, COTA was insured through the State of Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) for injuries to its employees. On July 1, 1998, the Authority entered into an agreement with the BWC to become self-insured for claims pertaining to work-related injuries to Authority employees occurring on or after that date. The BWC agreed to continue to administer and pay all compensation claims arising on or before June 30, 1998. The estimated liability for all such claims occurring since July 1, 1998, is \$694,361 at December 31, 2006, and is included as a liability in the accompanying balance sheet.

#### (7) Risk Management (continued)

The general claims liability was calculated by establishing reserves on a case-by-case basis after analysis by in-house counsel and outside attorneys. The workers' compensation liability was determined by analyzing claim lag information provided by COTA third party administrators. A summary of changes in self-insurance claims liability for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 follows:

	Gen	eral Liability	Norkers' npensation
Claims liability at December 31, 2004 Incurred claims, net of favorable settlements Claims paid	\$	376,394 529,127 (358,093)	\$ 237,918 768,535 (485,499)
Claims liability at December 31, 2005 Incurred claims, net of favorable settlements Claims paid Claims liability at December 31, 2006	\$	547,428 1,100,050 (246,177) 1,401,301	\$ 520,954 719,317 (545,910) 694,361

#### (8) Pension Plan

#### (a) Plan Description

COTA contributes to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), which administers three separate pension plans as described below:

The Traditional Pension Plan - a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan.

The Member-Directed Plan - a defined contribution plan in which the member invests both member and employer contributions (employer contributions vest over five years at 20% per year). Under the Member-Directed Plan, members accumulate retirement assets equal to the value of member and (vested) employer contributions, plus any investment earnings.

<u>The Combined Plan</u> - a cost sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. Under the Combined Plan, OPERS invests employer contributions to provide a formula retirement benefit similar in nature to the Traditional Pension Plan benefit. Member contributions, the investment of which is self-directed by the members, accumulate retirement assets similar to the Member-Directed Plan.

(continued)

#### (a) Plan Description (continued)

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost-of living adjustments to members of the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans. Members of the Member-Directed Plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the OPERS Board of Trustees (Board). OPERS issues a standalone financial report that includes the financial statements. That report may be obtained by writing to Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215-4642, or by calling 1-614-222-6701 or 1-800-222-PERS (7377).

#### (b) Funding Policy

The ORC provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions. For 2006, member and employer contribution rates were consistent across all three plans. The 2006 member contribution rates were 9.0% of their annual covered salary and COTA is required to contribute an actuarially determined rate. The 2006 the employer contribution rate for local government employer units was 13.7% of annual covered payroll. The 2005 and 2004 employer contribution rate for local government employer units was 13.55% of annual covered payroll. The Authority's contributions to OPERS for the years ending December 31, 2006, 2005, and 2004 were approximately \$4,390,000, \$4,887,000, and \$5,020,000 respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year. Required employer contributions are equal to 100% of the dollar amount billed to each employer.

#### (c) Other Post-employment Benefits

OPERS provides post-retirement health care coverage to age and service retirees under the Traditional Pension and Combined Plans with 10 or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor recipients is available. The health care coverage provided by the retirement system is considered an Other Post-employment Benefit (OPEB) as described in GASB Statement No. 12. A portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside for funding of the post-retirement health care. The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for employer contributions. For local government employer units, the 2006 rate was 13.55% of covered payroll; and 4.00% was the portion that was used to fund health care for the year. COTA's contributions actually made to fund post-employment benefits totaled \$1,282,000 in 2006, \$1,443,000 in 2005, and \$1,482,000 in 2004. The Ohio Revised Code provides the statutory authority requiring public employers to fund post-retirement health care through their contributions to OPERS.

#### (c) Other Post-employment Benefits (continued)

#### Summary of assumptions:

<u>Actuarial Review</u> – The assumptions and calculations below were based on OPERS' latest actuarial review performed as of December 31, 2005.

<u>Funding Method</u> – The individual entry age actuarial cost method of valuation is used in determining the present value of OPEB. The difference between assumed and actual experience (actuarial gains and losses) becomes part of unfunded actuarial accrued liability.

<u>Assets Valuation Method</u> – All investments are carried at market value. For actuarial valuation purposes, a smoothed market approach is used. Under this approach assets are adjusted annually to reflect 25% of unrealized market appreciation or depreciation on investment assets annually, not to exceed a 12% corridor.

Investment Return - The investment assumption rate for 2005 was 6.50%.

Active Employee Total Payroll – An annual increase of 4.00% compounded annually is the base portion of the individual pay increase assumption. This assumes no change in the number of active employees. In addition, annual pay increases over and above the 4.00% base increase, were assumed to range from 0.50% to 6.30%.

<u>Health Care</u> – Health care costs were assumed to increase at the projected wage inflation rate plus an additional factor ranging from .5% to 6% for the next 9 years. In subsequent years (10 and beyond) health care costs were assumed to increase 4% (the projected wage inflation rate).

OPEBs are advanced funded on an actuarially determined basis. The Traditional Pension and Combined Plans had 369,214 active contributing participants as of December 31, 2006. The number of active contributing participants for both plans used in the December 31, 2005, actuarial valuation was 358,804. The actuarial value of the Retirement System's net assets available for OPEB at December 31, 2005 was \$11.1 billion. Based on the actuarial cost method used, the Actuarial Valuation as of December 31, 2005, reported the actuarial accrued liability and the unfunded actuarial accrued liability for OPEB at \$31.3 billion and \$20.2 billion, respectively.

On September 9, 2004, the OPERS Retirement Board adopted a Health Care Preservation Plan (HCPP) with an effective date of January 1, 2007. OPERS took additional actions to improve the solvency of the Health Care Fund in 2005 by creating a separate investment pool for health care assets. Member and employer contribution rates increase as of January 1, 2006 and January 1, 2007 which will allow additional funds to be allocated to the health care plan.

(continued)

#### (c) Other Post-employment Benefits (continued)

Under the HCPP, retirees eligible for health care coverage will receive a graded monthly allocation based on their years of service at retirement. The Plan incorporates a cafeteria approach, offering a broad range of health care options that allow benefit recipients to use their monthly allocation to purchase health care coverage customized to meet their individual needs. If the monthly allocation exceeds the cost of the options selected, the excess is deposited into a Retiree Medical Account that can be used to fund future health care expenses.

#### (9) Contingent Liabilities

#### (a) Litigation

It is the Authority's policy to act as self-insurer for certain insurable risks consisting primarily of public liability and property damage. At December 31, 2006, COTA has been named in various public liability and property damage claims and suits, some of which seek significant damages. The ultimate outcome of the claims and suits cannot be determined; however, it is the opinion of management that any resulting liability to the Authority in excess of that provided for in the accompanying balance sheet will not have a material adverse effect on the Authority's financial position.

#### (b) Federal and State Grants

Under the terms of the Authority's various grants, periodic audits are required where certain costs could be questioned as not being an eligible expenditure under the terms of the grants. At December 31, 2006, there were no material questioned costs that had not been resolved with appropriate federal and state agencies. Questioned costs could still be identified during audits to be conducted in the future. In the opinion of COTA's management, no material grant expenditures will be disallowed.

FTA grant stipulations also require the granter to retain assets acquired by FTA funds for the full estimated asset life (as determined by the FTA). If this provision is not met, the granter must refund FTA's un-depreciated basis in assets disposed.

#### (10) Special Item – Loss on transfer of assets

In 2001, the Authority purchased 38 low-floor 30-foot diesel powered buses from Advanced Bus Industries (ABI). In the fall of 2001, ABI filed for bankruptcy and the company's assets were liquidated. During the next three years, COTA experienced a multitude of equipment failures on the ABI buses including chassis structure cracks, passenger door controller problems, engine compartment seal defects, and premature brake wear. In 2003, the ABI buses were the costliest in the fleet to operate at \$0.55 per mile. Service calls on ABI buses amounted to 23% of all fleet breakdowns. The COTA Board of Trustees authorized the transfer of the Federal interest and title. The transfer of the thirteen ABI buses resulted in a \$1,803,954 loss in 2004 of the remaining net book value of the buses. In December 2004, the Authority received permission from the FTA to transfer the remaining Federal interest in nineteen of the ABI buses to other FTA grant recipient transit systems and the COTA Board of Trustees authorized the transfer of the Federal interest and title. The transfer of the nineteen ABI buses resulted in a \$2,392,547 loss in 2005 of the remaining net book value of the buses. In June 2005, the Authority received permission from the FTA to transfer the remaining Federal interest in six of the ABI buses to other FTA grant recipient transit systems and the COTA Board of Trustees authorized the transfer of the Federal interest and title. The transfer of the remaining six ABI buses resulted in a \$665,492 loss in 2006 of the remaining net book value of the buses. The Authority purchased new replacement buses in 2004 and 2005 with lower operating and maintenance costs.

#### 11) Special Item - Loss on project impairment

Since 2002, COTA staff has been working with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), consultants, local government officials, and the general public to study the feasibility of constructing a fixed guideway transit project in the North Corridor.

In 2003, the project scoping was completed and four (4) alternatives emerged for further analysis: (1) a "No build" alternative and three "Build" alternatives including (1) Bus Rapid Transit, (2) Streetcar, and (3) Light Rail Transit. COTA Staff, working in concert with the various stakeholders, conducted the Alternative Analysis (AA) and Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) identifying the impacts, benefits, and cost effectiveness of the alternatives as outlined by the FTA criteria.

The financial feasibility of any North Corridor fixed guideway option relies upon a 50% contribution of federal funding. The FTA currently requires that projects have a Cost Effectiveness Index (CEI) lower than \$23 per hour of user benefit in order to receive federal funding for construction. None of the fixed guideway options under consideration in the North Corridor achieved this standard. The corridor may be reconsidered for fixed guideway development at such time as there are significant changes in travel within the corridor, fuel costs, or FTA project evaluation criteria. At December 31, 2006, the Authority has concluded that \$13,785,824 of costs that have been capitalized as a result of the efforts mentioned above are impaired under GASB Statement No. 42. In addition, the Authority has identified additional projects related to the North Corridor Project that are also impaired in the amount of \$3,685,240 as of December 31, 2006.

(concluded)

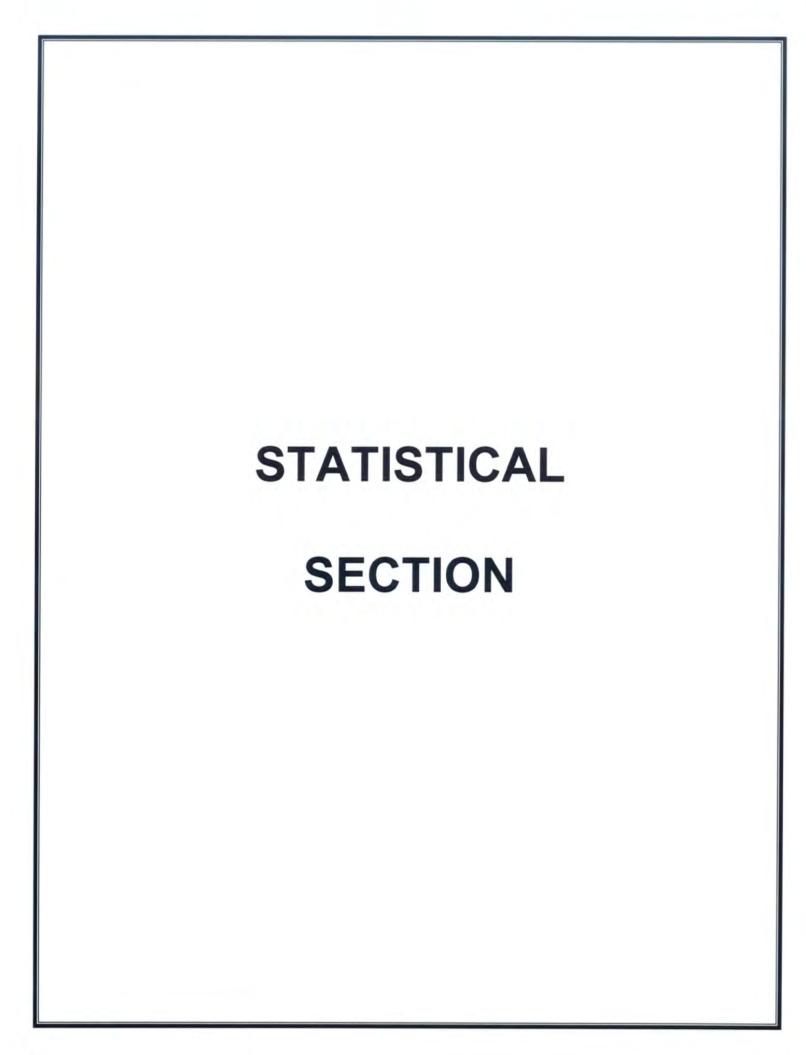
#### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## Supplemental Schedule of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets - Budget vs. Actual (Accrual Basis) Year ended December 31, 2006

		BUDGET	ACTUAL	FAVORABLE / INFAVORABLE VARIANCE
OPERATING REVENUES	\$_	12,082,279	\$ 13,419,869	\$ 1,337,590
OPERATING EXPENSES OTHER THAN DEPRECIATION:				
Labor		36,362,482	27,522,282	8,840,200
Fringe benefits		16,393,308	18,476,176	(2,082,868)
Materials and supplies		7,792,474	9,236,317	(1,443,843)
Purchased transportation		4,426,489	4,608,078	(181,589)
Services		3,846,131	3,737,526	108,605
Utilities		1,424,669	1,435,646	(10,977)
Taxes		691,929	726,764	(34,835)
Leases and rentals		527,218	359,145	168,073
Claims and insurance, net of settlements		280,160	1,117,833	(837,673)
Advertising		305,400	122,695	182,705
Miscellaneous		378,814	348,897	29,917
Total		72,429,074	67,691,359	4,737,715
DEPRECIATION	4	12,623,862	8,564,858	4,059,004
Total operating expenses	Ē	85,052,936	76,256,217	8,796,719
OPERATING LOSS		(72,970,657)	(62,836,348)	10,134,309
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES): Sales tax revenues Federal operating grants and reimbursements State operating grants, reimbursements and special fare assistance Investment income Nontransportation and other revenues		46,461,639 10,607,935 1,143,095 337,500 332,895	47,007,395 10,866,698 1,455,882 1,008,101 549,046	545,756 258,763 312,787 670,601 216,151
Total		58,883,064	60,887,122	2,004,058
Loss before capital grants	Π	(14,087,593)	(1,949,226)	12,138,367
CAPITAL GRANT REVENUE:				
FederalState		11,960,177 4,066,744	3,215,213 1,608,175	(8,744,964) (2,458,569)
Other	_	10 000 001	7,156	7,156
Total		16,026,921	4,830,544	(11,196,377)
SPECIAL ITEM  Loss on transfer of assets  Loss on project impairment  Total		.1.	(665,492) (17,471,064) (18,136,556)	(17,471,064) (17,471,064)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		1,939,328	(15,255,238)	(16,529,074)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		108,220,881	108,220,881	
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$_	110,160,209	\$ 92,965,643	\$ (16,529,074)

See accompanying Independent Auditors' report.





CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Revenues by Source Last Ten Fiscal Years

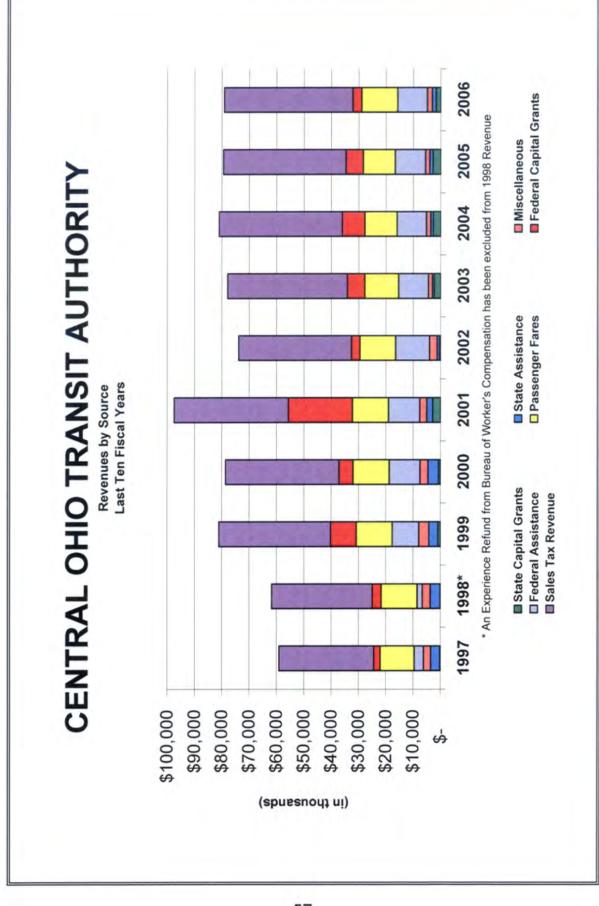
(in thousands)

OPERATING REVENUES:	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Passenger fares for transit service	\$ 12,143	\$ 12,680	\$ 12,795	\$ 12,779	\$ 12,762	\$ 12,773	\$ 12,013	\$ 11,421	\$ 11,405	\$ 12,817
Special transit fares	258	431	385	476	433	291	374	347	326	360
Charter service revenue	21	24	22	30	21	18	23	34	12	0
Auxiliary transportation revenue	814	939	983	880	887	730	568	515	372	243
Total operating revenues	13,236	14,074	14,185	14,165	14,103	13,812	12,978	12,317	12,115	13,420
NON-OPERATING REVENUES:										
Sales tax revenues	34,699 (1)	36,804	(1) 40,911 (1)	41,543 (1	41,748	41,245	43.774	44.985	44.821	47.007
Federal operating grants and reimbursements	3,426			-	11,389	12,400	10.874	10.688	11,056	10.867
State operating grants, reimbursements										
and special fare assistance	3,367	3,655	3,342	3,920	2,136	860	722	942	1,185	1.456
Investment income	1,476	1,686	1,528	1,781	1,310	006	423	293	650	1,008
Nontransportation and other revenues	255	185	142	252	400	1,184	440	402	538	549
Experience Refund from Bureau of Workers'										
Compensation (BWC)		2,022	,	,	4		•	1	•	,
Planning study assistance revenues	46	55	30	17	•		,			1
Total nonoperating revenues before capital										
gifts and grants.	43,269	46,327	55,680	58,724	56,983	56,589	56,233	57,310	58,250	60,887
Capital gifts and grants;										
Federal capital grants	2,378	3,312	9,386	5,138	23,475	3,125	6,399	8,323	6,302	3,215
State and other capital grants	152	34	876	617	2,850	351	2.275	2.690	2.783	1.615
Transfer of local share on capital funding earned	٠									
Donated capital		٠	942	ì	+	•	٠	367		
Total non-operating revenues	45,799	49,673	66,884	64,479	83,308	60,065	64,907	069'89	67,335	65,717
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 59.035	\$ 63,747	\$ 81,069	\$ 78.644	\$ 97.411	\$ 73.877	\$ 77.885	\$ 81,007	\$ 79.450	\$ 79.137

Amounts are presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, on an accrual basis

Source: The Authority's independently audited annual financial statements

(1) Sales Tax Revenues are restated prior to 2001 due to changes in the recording of the revenue when earned, rather than when payment is received.



## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Revenues and Operating Assistance Comparison to Industry Trend Data Last Ten Fiscal Years

#### TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY (1)

9	PERATING AND	OTHER RE	/ENUE	7-27-200-0-17-18-2	RATING ASSIST	TANCE	TOTAL
YEAR	PASSENGER	OTHER	TOTAL	STATE & LOCAL	FEDERAL	TOTAL	ALL REVENUES
1997	40.1	15.6	55.7	41.3	3.0	44.3	100.0
1998	40.8	15.2	56.0	40.1	3.9	44.0	100.0
1999	37.3	16.4	53.7	42.4	3.9	46.3	100.0
2000	36.1	17.4	53.5	42.4	4.1	46.5	100.0
2001	35.2	14.1	49.3	46.2	4.5	50.7	100.0
2002	32.5	17.3	49.8	45.3	4.9	50.2	100.0
2003	32.6	18.1	50.7	43.5	5.8	49.3	100.0
2004	32.9	16.7	49.6	43.4	7.0	50.4	100.0
2005	*	*	*	*	*	*	
2006	*	*		*	*	*	*

#### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY (2)

2	PERATING AND	OTHER REVE	NUE	I who was a visit of the same of	RATING ASSIST	TANCE	TOTAL
YEAR	PASSENGER	OTHER (3)	TOTAL	STATE & LOCAL (5)	FEDERAL	TOTAL	ALL REVENUES
1997	21.0	8.7	29.7	64.5	5.8	70.3	100.0
1998	21.3	10.1 (4)	31.4	65.5	3.1	68.6	100.0
1999	16.3	17.1	33.4	54.6	12.0	66.6	100.0
2000	16.9	11.0	27.9	57.8	14.3	72.1	100.0
2001	13.6	29.7	43.3	45.0	11.7	56.7	100.0
2002	17.7	8.5	26.2	57.0	16.8	73.8	100.0
2003	15.9	13.0	28.9	57.1	14.0	71.1	100.0
2004	14.6	15.5	30.1	56.7	13.2	69.9	100.0
2005	14.8	13.4	28.2	57.9	13.9	71.8	100.0
2006	16.7	8.4	25.1	61.2	13.7	74.9	100.0

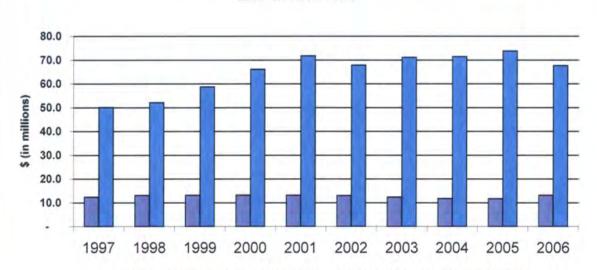
<sup>\*</sup> Information not available

- (1) Source: The American Public Transit Association, APTA Transit Fact Book
- (2) Percentages are derived from the Authority's independently audited annual financial statements, restated prior to 2001 due to changes in the recording of local sales tax revenue and the recognition of capital grants and gifts as revenues
- (3) Includes auxiliary transportation revenues, interest income, planning study assistance revenue, nontransportation, other revenues and capital grants
- (4) Excludes experience refund from the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC)
- (5) Includes local sales tax revenues, and state operating grants, reimbursements, and special fare assistance



Farebox Revenues vs. Operating Expenses

Last Ten Fiscal Years



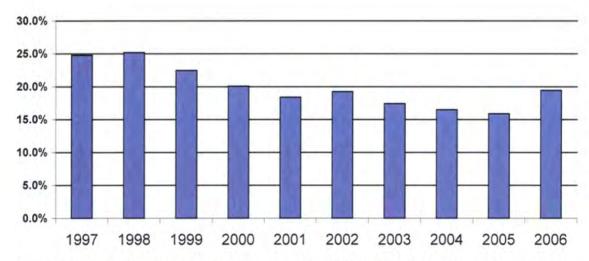
Farebox revenues include passenger, special transit, and charter revenues; operating expenses exclude depreciation

Farebox Revenues

Operating Expenses

#### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Farebox Recovery Ratio Last Ten Fiscal Years



Recovery ratio is calculated as farebox revenues (as defined above) divided by operating expenses (as defined above)

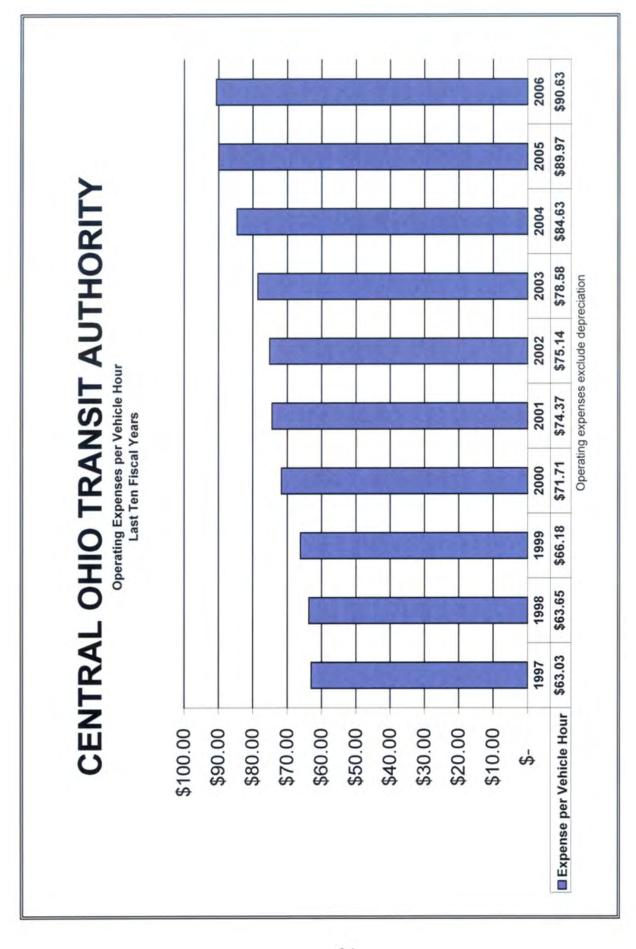
# CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Expenses by Object Class Last Ten Fiscal Years

(in thousands)

OPERATING EXPENSES OTHER THAN DEPRECIATION:	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Labor	\$ 24,729	\$ 26,551	\$ 28,518	\$ 31,218	\$ 34,037	\$ 32,590	\$ 32.752	\$ 32.053	\$ 31.829	\$ 27 522
Fringe benefits	13,579	12,790	14,233	14,694	18,504	18,769				
Services	2,413	2,913	5,003	6,184	4,714	3,765	3,808	3,952	3,722	3.738
Materials and supplies	2,006	2,538	2,690	3,350	3,572	3,364	4,177	3,869	4,224	4.319
Fuel	1,635	1,317	1,621	2,793	2,713	2,119	2,478	2,990	4,364	4.917
Utilities	887	892	970	1,137	1,369	1,173	1,337	1,307	1,571	1.436
Claims and insurance	106	66	224	276	440	337	390	275	595	1,118
Taxes	269	594	635	649	969	621	654	692	743	727
Purchased transportation	2,942	3,023	3,268	3,912	4,077	3,877	4,257	4,411	4,531	4,608
Leases and rentals	191	151	132	285	399	558	523	517	570	359
Miscellaneous	1,090	1,275	1,392	1,578	1,255	677	781	624	508	471
Total	50,117	52,143	58,686	920'99	71,776	67,850	71,091	71,466	73,813	67,691
DEPRECIATION	7,370	7,750	8,252	8,635	10,851	13,644	10,939	9,860	9,114	8,565
Total operating expenses	57,487	59,893	66,938	74,711	82,627	81,494	82,030	81,326	82,927	76,256
NONOPERATING EXPENSES: Interest expense	298	221	140	53	0	0	0	0	0	0
Planning study expense	28	89	37	21	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 57,843	\$ 60,182	\$ 67,115	\$ 74,785	\$ 82,627	\$ 81,494	\$ 82,030	\$ 81,326	\$ 82,927	\$ 76,256

Amounts are presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, on an accrual basis

Source: The Authority's independently audited annual financial statements



## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Operating Expenses - Comparison to Industry Trend Data Last Ten Fiscal Years

#### TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY(1)

YEAR	LABOR AND FRINGES	SERVICES	MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	UTILITIES	CLAIMS AND INSURANCE	PURCHASED TRANS- PORTATION	OTHER	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (2)
1997	72.2%	5.6%	9.4%	3.7%	2.7%	9.1%	(2.7%)	100.0%
1998	71.7%	6.0%	9.4%	3.5%	2.4%	10.1%	(3.1%)	100.0%
1999	70.9%	5.9%	9.2%	3.3%	2.2%	11.5%	(3.0%)	100.0%
2000	69.8%	5.7%	10.0%	3.2%	2.2%	12.2%	(3.1%)	100.0%
2001	69.5%	5.9%	10.0%	3.3%	2.1%	12.6%	(3.4%)	100.0%
2002	70.2%	6.2%	9.2%	3.1%	2.5%	12.0%	(3.2%)	100.0%
2003	69.1%	6.0%	9.0%	3.0%	2.6%	13.4%	(3.1%)	100.0%
2004	68.7%	5.8%	9.1%	3.0%	2.6%	13.4%	(2.6%)	100.0%
2005	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
2006	*	*	*	*	*	*		*

#### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY(3)

YEAR	LABOR AND FRINGES	SERVICES	MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	UTILITIES	CLAIMS AND INSURANCE	PURCHASED TRANS- PORTATION	OTHER	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (2)
1997	76.4%	4.8%	7.3%	1.8%	0.2%	5.9%	3.6%	100.0%
1998	75.4%	5.6%	7.4%	1.7%	0.2%	5.8%	3.9%	100.0%
1999	72.8%	8.5%	7.3%	1.7%	0.4%	5.6%	3.7%	100.0%
2000	69.5%	9.4%	9.3%	1.7%	0.4%	5.9%	3.8%	100.0%
2001	73.2%	6.6%	8.7%	1.9%	0.6%	5.7%	3.3%	100.0%
2002	75.7%	5.5%	8.2%	1.7%	0.5%	5.7%	2.7%	100.0%
2003	74.1%	5.4%	9.3%	1.9%	0.5%	6.0%	2.8%	100.0%
2004	73.9%	5.5%	9.6%	1.8%	0.4%	6.2%	2.6%	100.0%
2005	71.9%	5.0%	11.6%	2.1%	0.8%	6.1%	2.5%	100.0%
2006	68.0%	5.5%	13.6%	2.1%	1.7%	6.8%	2.3%	100.0%

<sup>\*</sup> Information not available

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: The American Public Transit Association, APTA Transit Fact Book

<sup>(2)</sup> Total operating expenses exclude depreciation

<sup>(3)</sup> Percentages are derived from the Authority's independently audited annual financial statements

#### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Legal Debt Margin December 31, 2006

(in thousands)

Total assessed property valuation of Authority (2005 tax year valuation) (1)	\$	29,193,652
Multiplied by: Legal overall debt limitation (%)		5.00%
Equals: Total legal voted and unvoted debt limitation	\$	1,459,683
Less: Nonexempt general obligation debt (voted and unvoted) (2)	\$	17011
Equals: Legal overall debt margin (maximum amount permitted for new voted and unvoted nonexempt general obligation debt issuances)	s	1,459,683
CALCULATION OF LEGAL UNVOTED DEBT MARGIN:		
Total assessed property valuation of Franklin County	\$	20 103 652
		29,193,652 0.10%
Total assessed property valuation of Franklin County (2006 tax year valuation) (1)		
Total assessed property valuation of Franklin County (2006 tax year valuation) (1)  Multiplied by: Legal unvoted debt limitation (%)  Equals: Legal unvoted debt limitation  Less: Maximum aggregate amounts of principal and interest	\$	0.10%
Total assessed property valuation of Franklin County (2006 tax year valuation) (1)  Multiplied by: Legal unvoted debt limitation (%)  Equals: Legal unvoted debt limitation	\$	0.10%

#### Sources:

- (1) Franklin County Auditor's Office
- (2) The Authority's independently audited annual financial statements

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Ratio of General Bonded Debt to Assessed Value and Net Bonded Debt per Capita Last Ten Fiscal Years

YEAR	POPULATION	N	ASSESSED VALUE	BONDE	NERAL ED DEBT (4)	RATIO OF BONDED DEBT TO ASSESSED VALUE	BONDED DEBT PER CAPITA
1997	1,056,654	(2)	\$ 17,916,289,322	\$ 3,8	40,000	0.02%	\$ 3.63
1998	1,067,002	(2)	\$ 18,607,708,184	\$ 2,6	40,000	0.01%	\$ 2.47
1999	1,079,204	(2)	\$ 21,032,111,000	\$ 1,3	60,000	0.01%	\$ 1.26
2000	1,068,978	(1)	\$ 22,321,127,505	\$		0.00%	\$ -
2001	1,071,524	(1)	\$ 22,705,244,424	\$	-	0.00%	\$ -
2002	1,086,814	(1)	\$ 25,447,191,720	\$	-	0.00%	\$ -
2003	1,088,944	(1)	\$ 25,474,792,681	\$		0.00%	\$ -
2004	1,088,971	(1)	\$ 26,007,315,683	\$		0.00%	\$ -
2005	1,112,880	(1)	\$ 29,101,151,990	s	4	0.00%	\$ -
2006	1,095,662		\$ 29,193,651,687	\$		0.00%	\$ -

#### Sources:

- (1) U. S. Department of Commerce Bureau of the Census
- (2) Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission estimate for year ended
- (3) Franklin County Auditor's Office
- (4) The Authority's independently audited annual financial statements

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Long-Term Debt Coverage Last Ten Fiscal Years

(\$3,448,365) (5) \$ - \$ - \$ N/A \$6,615,632 \$ - \$ - \$ N/A	a a	\$50,174,869 \$6,330,491 \$52,212,282 \$8,188,416 \$52,723,178 \$11,141,290 \$66,098,090 \$6,790,866 \$71,775,532 \$8,188,415 \$71,775,532 \$8,790,111) \$67,850,330 \$2,550,021 \$71,466,007 \$1,839,453) (61,879,903)	9,386 \$50,174,869 6,323 \$52,212,282 4,322 \$58,723,178 4,983 \$66,098,090 6,162 \$571,775,532 6,162 \$67,850,330 3,569 \$71,091,115 10,457 \$71,466,007
\$6,615,632 \$ - \$ - \$	\$73,812,721	33	\$9,085,249
	\$67,691,359	\$6	\$4,830,544 \$6

Source: The Authority's independently audited financial statements

- (1) Revenues include all operating revenues, nonoperating revenues, capital grant revenues, and an Experience Refund from the Bureau of Workers Compensation (1998)
- (2) Total expenses exclude depreciation and interest expense
- (3) Excludes principal and interest paid on capital lease obligations
- (4) Revenues are restated prior to 2001 due to changes in the recording of sales tax revenue and the recognition of capital grants as revenue
- (5) Excludes Special Item (2004, 2005, and 2006)

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Computation of Direct and Overlapping Debt December 31, 2006

Political Subdivision	General Obligation	Applicable to Percentage	the Authority Amount
Central Ohio Transit Authority	\$ -	100.00%	\$ -
Franklin County	149,431,221	100.00%	149,431,221
Cities wholly within COTA Cities with Overlapping:	1,800,799,504	100.00%	1,800,799,504
City of Dublin	43,929,244	85.80%	37,691,291
City of Pickerington	11,885,000	0.40%	47,540
Villages wholly within COTA	33,627,456	100.00%	33,627,456
Villages with Overlapping: Village of Canal Winchester	9,483,480	89.73%	8,509,527
Townships wholly within COTA	4,202,398	100.00%	4,202,398
Townships with Overlapping: Washington Township	210,000	86.06%	180,726
School Districts wholly within COTA	438,375,354	100.00%	438,375,354
School Districts with Overlapping:	10 121 126	427.501	NU 130-282
Canal Winchester Local S.D.	61,375,901	76.81%	47,142,830
Dublin City S.D.	194,223,830	81.97%	159,205,273
Hilliard City S.D.	177,105,885	99.99%	177,088,174
Licking Heights Local S.D.	21,363,937	54.77%	11,701,028
Olentangy Local S.D.	50,595,000	0.10%	50,595
Pickerington Local S.D.	94,769,626	1.45%	1,374,160
Plain Local S.D.	83,665,906	99.99%	83,657,539
Reynoldburg City S.D.	0	0.00%	0
South-Western City S.D.	111,371,188	99.85%	111,204,131
Teays Valley Local S.D.	21,110,286	0.09%	18,999
Westerville City S.D.	111,139,586	64.98%	72,218,503
Delaware County Joint Vocational S.D.	80,000	0.06%	48
Eastland Joint Vocational S.D.	0	63.99%	0
Licking County Joint Vocational S.D.	3,611,887	7.22%	260,778
Special District with Overlapping:	100000	ar ar au A	
Delaware County District Library	920,000	0.06%	552
New Albany/Plain Joint Park District	4,519,992	99.84%	4,512,760
Total			\$3,141,300,387

Source: Debt schedules submitted by political subdivisions to the Franklin County Budget Commission and Settlement Division.

Note: Percentages determined by dividing the assessed valuation of the Authority by the total assessed valuation which includes all overlapping. Valuations used are the 2005 tax year.

## (continued on next page)

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Operating Statistics Last Ten Fiscal Years

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
SYSTEM RIDERSHIP Motor bus	17,762,583	18,326,115	18,790,187	18,742,704	18,388,361	16,193,336	15,626,090	14,543,962	14,625,379	14,841,320
Demand responsive	106,125	106,398	120,959	132,083	145,472	144,149	159,047	159,044	164,167	168,899
AVERAGE WEEKDAY SYSTEM RIDERSHIP										
Motor bus	61,183	62,410	64,152	64,195	62,727	55,388	53,564	49,524	50,035	50,649
Demand responsive	377	377	430	448	494	491	545	533	929	559
VEHICLE MILES OPERATED										
Motor bus.	9,663,430	10,192,042	10,857,075	11,071,394	11,733,569	10,841,703	10,436,511	10,020,080	9,791,598	8,866,548
Demand responsive	1,651,280	1,612,679	1,657,429	1,972,276	2,261,162	2,300,019	2,425,583	2,390,622	2,503,071	2,425,008
AVERAGE WEEKDAY										
OPERATED										
Motor bus	32,360	34,667	36,554	37,611	39,685	36,773	35,334	33,560	32,819	29,465
Demand responsive	5,790	5,648	5,812	6,815	7,658	7,827	8,211	7,938	8,452	8,001
REVENUE MILES										
Motor bus	7,887,056	8,323,748	8,837,544	8,976,194	9,613,569	8,969,438	8,673,312	8,270,619	8,026,651	7,157,710
Demand responsive	1,328,320	1,314,432	1,376,978	1,794,407	1,910,178	1,840,470	1,974,203	2,019,314	2,135,309	2,133,486
PASSENGER MILES										
Motor bus	70,436,988	73,676,286	77,630,395	74,871,624	73,620,822	66,760,008	59,179,326	48,218,184	58,685,850	59,508,735
Demand responsive	991,220	993,803	1,197,628	1,137,037	1,210,873	1,167,147	1,233,606	1,475,482	1,596,026	1,677,786

Source: The Authority's annual National Transit Database Report , filed with the Federal Transit Administration

CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Operating Statistics
Last Ten Fiscal Years (continued)

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
VEHICLE HOURS OPERATED (1)										
Motor bus	701,934	727,710	793,260	806,190	838,841	776,011	759,778	714,525	692,438	623,987
Demand responsive	93,220	91,490	96,238	116,232	126,211	127,016	136,795	129,909	127,981	124,675
VEHICLE REVENUE										
HOURS (1)										
Motor bus	631,904	654,377	713,514	723,458	754,911	704,603	691,262	649,005	628,815	566,343
Demand responsive	78,304	79,515	83,043	100,346	108,908	103,217	112,263	110,153	109,141	106,225
DIESEL & BIODIESEL FUEL USAGE										
(IN GALLONS)(2)	(2) 2,346,910	2,511,320	2,818,479	2,539,085	2,780,251	2,665,189	2,607,032	2,460,343	2,496,363	2,092,315
FLEET REQUIREMENTS										
(DUKING PEAK HOURS;(1)										
Motor bus	252	258	266	277	282	250	247	230	228	195
Demand responsive	32	32	36	36	36	38	43	43	47	
TOTAL REVENUE										
VEHICLES DURING										
PERIOD (1)										
Motor bus	325	312	321	322	346	299	308	276	274	234
Demand responsive	38	38	43	43	43	43	58	58	257	55
NUMBER OF										
EMPLOYEES(1)	710	747	962	815	843	775	757	722	069	616

Source:

<sup>(1)</sup> The Authority's annual National Transit Database Report, filed with the Federal Transit Administration

<sup>(2)</sup> The Authority's Ohio Motor Fuel Tax Refund Claim for Transit Buses filed with the Ohio Department of Taxation

#### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

#### Fare Rate Structure December 31, 2006

CASH OR TICKET FARES:			
Express	\$	2.00	
Local and crosstown		1.50	
Project Mainstream ADA Trip1)		2.25	
Project Mainstream Non-ADA Trip1)		3.00	
COTA LINK (2)		0.50	
Transfer		Free	
DAY PASSES (3):			
Adult (4)	\$	3.50	
Human Service Agency (5)		3.00	
Children over 48" and under 12 years old, Senior Discount Card(6			
or Key Card (7)		1.75	
Seven-Day Pass		18.00	
MONTHLY PASSES:			
Express	\$	62.00	
Local		45.00	
Project Mainstream (1)		70.00	
Senior Discount Card (6), or Key Card (7)		22.00	
SPECIAL FARES:			
Children over 48" and under 12 years old, Senior Discount Card(6),			
or Key Card (7)	\$	0.75	
Children under 48" tall	12	Free	
All ADA Card (8) recipients on fixed-route bus service only		Free	
나는 그들은 아니다는 이 이 이렇게 하면 가지가 그 얼마를 하면서 그 아이들이 아니는 아니라 아이들이 아이들이 되었다면 하게			

- (1) Door-to-door service on demand, in wheelchair lift-equipped paratransit mini-buses, for eligible disabled riders holding an "ADA" card. ADA Trips are defined as trips originating 3/4 of a mile or less from an existing fixed-route bus line that is in operation within the time of day and day of the week. All other trips are considered a Non-ADA Trip.
- (2) Shuttle-type service available in the Linden area during weekdays only
- (3) Good for unlimited travel on all local/crosstown routes from time of validation until midnight
- (4) Additional \$0.50 required for express service
- (5) Distributed by approved nonprofit service agencies for use by their clientele
- (6) Photo identification card, for riders aged 65 and over
- (7) Photo identification card, for eligible disabled riders
- (8) Photo identification card, for physically or mentally disabled riders eligible for Project Mainstream service

## CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Demographic Statistics Last Ten Fiscal Years

YEAR	POPULATION (1)	F	PER CAPITA INCOME	MEDIAN AGE (4)	-	K - 12 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (6)	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (7)
1997	1,056,654		\$26,647	33.0	(5)	183,351	2.7%
1998	1,067,002		\$29,425	32.9	(5)	188,704	2.5%
1999	1,079,204		\$30,214	32.9		190,857	2.5%
2000	1,068,978	(2)	\$31,908	32.5		192,794	2.4%
2001	1,071,524		\$32,361	*		197,731	2.8%
2002	1,086,814	(2)	\$32,947	*		197,300	4.4%
2003	1,088,944	(2)	\$34,471	*		197,914	4.9%
2004	1,088,971	(3)	\$35,108	*		207,485	5.4%
2005	1,112,880	(3)	\$37,547	•		205,660	5.3%
2006	1,095,662		*			*	4.7%

Note: All information presented is for Franklin County

#### Sources:

- (1) Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission estimate for the year ended
- (2) U. S. Department of Commerce Bureau of the Census
- (3) U. S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis
- (4) "Survey of Buying Power", special issue published annually by "Sales and Marketing Management' magazine
- (5) "Sourcebook of County Demographics", 10th & 11th ed., published by CACI Marketing Systems, Arlington, VA
- (6) Ohio Department of Education Division of Information Management Services
- (7) Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

<sup>\*</sup> Information not available

### CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY Miscellaneous Statistics

#### As of, or for, the Year ended December 31, 2006

Date of creation of Authority by local county and municipal governments	February 17, 1971
Date of acquisition of assets of Columbus Transit Company (C.T.C.)	June 29, 1973
Date of commencement of Authority operations	January 1, 1974
Form of government	Board of Trustees, with fulltime President/CEO
Number of Trustees	13
County in which Authority operates	Franklin County and small portions of adjacent Delaware, Fairfield and Licking Counties, Ohio
Type of tax support	Service Area Sales Tax - 1/4% (permanent)
Size of Authority	556 square miles
Miles of route	889
Number of routes	55
Number of bus stop locations	4,216
Number of bus stop passenger shelters	387
Number of Park-and-Ride facilities	26
Parking capacity, all Park-and-Ride facilities	2,166 automobiles
Number of active fleet buses	234
Average bus vehicle age	8.25 years
Average fixed-route system speed	14.21 miles per hour
Average fixed-route system fuel economy	4.24 miles per gallon
Number of customer information calls received	853,621



Central Ohio Transit Authority Columbus, Ohio

Administrative Offices & Bus Facility

1600 McKinley Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43222 614.275.5800 www.COTA.com



## Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

#### **CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

#### **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

#### **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED AUGUST 23, 2007