

Citizens' Advisory Board
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
VAC (Volunteer Action Committee)

Friday, August 1, 2008

Members in attendance: Brad Chase, Carol Johnson, Mary Vada Reese, Vince Reddy

Three visitors: Ron Jackson, Jim Matzorkis, John McGovern

RTA staff: Jerry Masek stopped by to show us a prototype of the information boards with maps that will be installed in the Health Line stations. The board stimulated much discussion about how similar devices would be useful elsewhere in the system, especially at Red Line stations.

Notes

- Plans for station upgrades (Maribeth Feke): Maribeth Feke of RTA updated the VAC on planned upgrades to transit stations—E. 55, Puritas at 90%; Woodhill 60%; Lee-Van Aken 25%; and Woodhill and Mayfield, each 10%. E. 116 also in near future to accommodate bridge rebuild by city. Priority is continued upgrade of designated major stations. It was later noted that new stations are not being built to LEED standards.
- Upcoming public hearings: CAB members will attend as possible and encourage participants to write to their state legislators, stating their own viewpoints in a format provided by RTA.
- Discussion of longer-term strategies for supporting transit funding: Discussed if CAB was adequate as a body advocating for funding and other support for transit. Perhaps an organization like Citizens for Modern Transit in St. Louis is needed.
- Other:
 - Recycling was discussed at length. Jim Matzorkis was present to promote it. VAC will continue to press for rollout of a pilot program, perhaps at major stations. Recycling would fit with RTA image as an environment-friendly system.
 - Possible return of CNG to RTA was discussed. Apparently RTA is seriously considering conversion of some buses to CNG. Value of diverse fuels was mentioned.
 - Bicycle access was discussed again, both in regard to better storage accommodations at stations and better accommodations on transit vehicles.
 - Developing a priority list of activities for the VAC was discussed. Vince will draft a list for review and discussion. Better information and coordination with other modes will be among the items on the list.