

Design work begins on Blue Line station

RTA has chosen Bialosky + Partners to design the new Lee/Van Aken Rapid Transit Station on the Blue Line in Shaker Heights. It will be ADA-compliant when it opens in late 2010.

The estimated cost is \$3.5 million. The new station will reflect traditional architecture found in Shaker, combined with a contemporary style.

The Lee/Van Aken station has the second highest ridership on the Blue Line. At 30 feet below grade, it is the only Blue Line station below street level. The new station will include elevators, a larger pedestrian/bus interface point and enhanced safety and security systems.

The RTA station is on the Blue Line, at the intersection of Lee Road and Van Aken Boulevard, just north of Chagrin Boulevard. It is in the heart of the municipal center of Shaker Heights, adjacent to City Hall, the Public Library, Community Building and Senior Center and the newly redeveloped Shaker Towne Center.

RTA partnered with the City of Shaker Heights to develop a master plan for the station area, under NOACA's Transit for Livable Communities Initiative. The process involved many community meetings to create the vision for the area. RTA received valuable insight on the amenities, look, style that the residents sought.

The plan was made part of RTA's Request for Proposals for architectural services. RTA General Manager Joe Calabrese attended the Shaker City Council meeting when the plan was approved.

"RTA has enjoyed a very strong relationship of collaboration with the City of Shaker Heights," says RTA's Maribeth Feke, Director of Programming and Planning. "This plan was done as a joint effort to enhance the transit environment of the station, while encouraging supportive development in the adjacent neighborhood. This project is the first to proceed into design after an independent planning study."

Shaker Square recycles

There's more green than ever this spring at Shaker Square, now that area merchants and residents have an outlet for recycling. The Coral Company and the City of Cleveland are partners in the program.

Recycling bins are located in the parking lots behind CVS/Pharmacy and Shaker Square Cinema/Dave's Market. The City will accept cardboard, paper, plastic, glass, and aluminum for recycling. There is no need to separate the items – they can be placed all together in the same bin.

RTA employees also recycle paper at the Main Office Building and the Print Shop.

Where to go for more info

If you have questions about any items mentioned this issue, here is where you can go for help.

- rideRTA.com contains all timetables, press releases and links to the automated trip planner
- 216-621-9500, the RTAanswerline
- riderta.com/safety/ectp.asp, Euclid Corridor safety tips
- Indians.com, Cleveland Indians
- theqarena.com, Quicken Loans Arena
- greatscience.com, Great Lakes Science Center
- wolsteincenter.com, Wolstein Center at CSU
- shakersquare.net, events at Shaker Square
- crockerpark.com, events at Crocker Park
- earthdaycoalition.org or 216-281-6468, Earth Day Coalition
- clemetzoo.com or 216-661-6500, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo info



Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
rideRTA.com

Rider's Digest



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Play Ball! Ride RTA!

If you plan on watching the Tribe this year at Progressive Field, remember three things.

1. Ride RTA
2. Allow extra travel time
3. Plan to arrive early.

The recent sinkhole and water main break on Public Square, coupled with construction on Euclid Avenue, will affect nearly everyone who drives to a game. Some downtown roads are closed.

RTA begins extra rail service several hours before each home game. After the game, extra rail service will stay in place as long as needed to handle crowds – even if the game goes into extra innings.

"Considering the high cost of gasoline and parking, I think fans who hop on the train will really hit a home run with their savings," says Joe Calabrese, RTA General Manager.

Fans can park free in the more than 8,000 spaces at RTA rail stations, and take the Rapid Transit to the game.

RTA's 1,050-foot Walkway protects fans from traffic and the weather. The Walkway begins at the Tower City food court and ends in Quicken Loans Arena, just a short walk from Progressive Field. The Walkway opens two hours before each home game.

See "Baseball" Inside

Ride RTA to these events

At Progressive Field

- **April 2, 11-12, 14-17, 25, 28-30**, 7:05 p.m.
- **April 3**, 12:05 p.m.
- **April 13 and 22**, 1:05 p.m.
- **April 26**, 3:55 p.m.

Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$4 All-Day Pass. Ride any rail line to Tower City and take the Walkway to Gateway.

At Quicken Loans Arena

Lake Erie Monsters

- **April 2 and 8**, 7 p.m.
- **April 4 and 12**, 7:30 p.m.

Cavaliers

- **April 3**, 8 p.m.
- **April 5**, 3 p.m.
- **April 9 and 16**, 7 p.m.
- **April 13**, 1 p.m.

Gladiators Arena Football

- **April 11**, 7 p.m.

Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$4 All-Day Pass. Ride any rail line to Tower City and take the Walkway to Gateway.

Wolstein Center at CSU, 2000 Prospect Ave.

- **April 11**, 7 p.m., Country music concert
- **April 13**, 1-4 p.m., College fair
- **April 19**, 8 p.m., Michael Buble concert
- **April 24**, 7:30 p.m., Alicia Keys concert

Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$4 All-Day Pass, ride any rail line to Tower City. Ride bus routes #6, #8, #11, #12, #13. From Monday- Friday only, ride the #55 or #75X.

At Historic Shaker Square, Cleveland

- **April 12, 19, 26**, 8 a.m.-noon, Farmers Market

Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$4 All-Day Pass. Ride the Blue or Green light-rail lines to Shaker Square, or hop on bus routes #12, #13, #48/48A.

Transit Police receive expanded authority

RTA and the City of Cleveland have agreed to amend their mutual aid agreement.

The revised agreement, which already passed City Council, was approved by the RTA Board.

The original 2005 agreement grants Transit Police authority to enforce the law at all RTA facilities, including bus shelters, bus stations along Euclid Avenue, the transit-only lanes on Superior and St. Clair Avenues, and defined areas of Public Square.

The amendment gives Transit Police authority to issue tickets for parking violations and moving violations at all bus stops and rail crossings and layover zones.

"This amendment will provide Transit Police with the expanded enforcement authority we need to ensure the safety and efficiency of RTA operations," says Police Chief John Joyce.

Baseball *(Continued from front)*

RTA urges customers to buy a \$4 All-Day Pass, which provides unlimited rides until 3 a.m. Use of the All-Day Pass improves crowd flow. All-Day Passes are available where you pay your fare. Please have exact change. Remember:

- Up to three children, age 6-12, pay \$1.75 each for unlimited travel, when accompanied by an adult paying regular fare.
- Up to three children, five years of age and younger, ride for free when accompanied by an adult paying regular fare.
- Senior citizens, disabled persons and Medicare cardholders can apply for a RTA ID card. After they receive their ID card, all rides are just 75 cents. A Senior/Disabled All-Day Pass costs \$1.75 for unlimited rides until 3 a.m.
- You can use your Monthly Pass or 7-Day Flex Pass.

Metroparks Zoo hosts Earth Day on April 20

RTA's state-of-the-art Rapid Transit Vehicle (RTV) will be on display at Earthfest Sunday, April 20, at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

The 63-foot long articulated vehicle was designed specifically for the HealthLine on Euclid Avenue. It will begin operation this fall. RTA has ordered 21 of these hybrid-electric vehicles from New Flyer.

Earthfest, also called a party for the planet, is Ohio's largest environmental education event. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

This year's theme: ***Climate Change Solutions.***

Admission fees are \$7 for adults and \$4 for children age 2-11. Those age 2 and younger are free.

To obtain free admission:

- Ride any RTA bus or train to Tower City, and take the free RTA shuttle from Public Square. Boarding will be on West Roadway at Superior Avenue.

At the Zoo, the shuttle will drop off and pick-up on the upper level, at the Administration Building off Fulton Parkway. The first trip will leave Public Square at 9 a.m., and the last trip will leave from the Zoo around 5:30 p.m.

- Register for the Walk or Bike for the Earth. Registration begins at 7 a.m. The event begins at 9 a.m.
- Ride bus routes #20A, #35, #50 or #79A to the intersection of Pearl Road and Wildlife Way, and walk to the Zoo entrance on Wildlife Way. Upon request, operators will issue a courtesy pass for Earthfest attendees, which can then be exchanged at the ticket office for free admission.

More than 135 exhibitors, including RTA, will participate in Earthfest.

Earth Day has been celebrated nationally since 1970. The local event, sponsored by the Earth Day Coalition, began in 1990.