

## Another Corridor section opens ahead of schedule

Work on the Euclid Corridor Transportation Project continues to progress, RTA will open another section of the project this month, ahead of schedule.

On Nov. 26, RTA opened the section of Euclid Avenue from East 17th Street to East 55th Street. In March, RTA plans to open the section from East 55th Street to East 86th Street.

That means all orange barrels will be gone from East 17th Street to East 86th Street.

In the area, Euclid Avenue will boast a new look with:

- New pavement.
- Transit-only lanes.
- Special crosswalks
- Landscaping.
- Boarding from stations in the center median strip.

Standard RTA buses modified with a state-of-the-art precision docking system will provide service on the #6 route along the stretch.

"This is far from the finished product," says RTA CEO & General Manager Joe Calabrese. "We are still going to install many of the amenities this project offers. We are opening the roadway now for the convenience of our customers."

The new look of Euclid Avenue is going to take some getting used to for pedestrians, drivers and RTA customers alike. With the changes, RTA urges everyone to obey all traffic signals and use the designated crosswalks adjacent to each station. Pedestrians and drivers are urged to read the Euclid Corridor safety tips.

Funding partners for the project include the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), the City of Cleveland, and the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA).

## Ride RTA to Film Festival, MAC basketball tourney

The 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Cleveland International Film Festival returns to Tower City Cinemas from March 6-16.

RTA customers who show their Monthly Pass will receive a \$1 discount on all tickets purchased. Ticket prices for most films are \$11 in advance and \$12 the day of the show.

More than 290 films will be shown.

Mid-American Conference basketball returns to Quicken Loans Arena from March 9-15. Each of the 12 colleges will send a men's and women's team.

RTA offers convenient service to both games and the films with free parking, direct Rapid service to Tower City, and the convenient walkway to the Arena.

Here is the MAC schedule:

### Men's Basketball

**Wednesday, March 12:** 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8 p.m.

**Thursday, March 13:** Noon and 2:30 p.m.

**Thursday, March 13:** 7 and 9:30 p.m.

**Friday, March 14:** 7 and 9:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 15:**(Men's Final) 7 p.m.

### Women's Basketball

**Sunday, March 9:** 7 and 9:30 p.m.

**Monday, March 10:** Noon and 2:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 11:** 12:30, 3, 5:30 and 8 p.m.

**Friday, March 14:** Noon and 2:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 15:** (Women's Final) 1 p.m.



Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority  
rideRTA.com

# Rider's Digest



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## Goodbye: Silver Line Hello: HealthLine

RTA's Silver Line on Euclid Avenue is now the RTA HealthLine, courtesy of The Cleveland Clinic Foundations and University Hospitals of Cleveland.

That announcement was made in late February at the Cleveland Auto Show, where the ultra-modern Rapid Transit Vehicle (RTV) was on display.

The 25-year agreement for naming rights will generate \$250,000 annually that RTA will use to maintain Corridor stations and planters on the median strip. The total value of the sponsorship is \$6.25 million. The sponsorship is one of the first in U.S. transit history.

Each institution will also sponsor three stations on their respective campuses. Individual naming rights for stations along the HealthLine will be announced later.

For more information on your health, visit RTAHealthLine.com – a cooperative effort of RTA and both sponsors.

The Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals are two of the top-ranked medical facilities in the nation. They are also two of Cleveland's largest employers. Both are located on the HealthLine route.

Another section of Euclid Avenue opens in March. **See story inside.**

A grand opening for the entire project is set for Oct. 25, 2008.

## How to ride RTA safely on St. Patrick's Day

1. RTA will add extra rail service to meet the increased demand.
2. You are encouraged to use a \$4 All-Day Pass. It is good for unlimited use from its first use until 3 a.m. the next day.
3. No matter what pass or farecard you use, try to purchase it ahead of time. That will reduce the large number of people trying to purchase fare media that day.
4. If you plan on paying cash, bring exact change.



5. Because of the large number of people using the Rapid, cyclists may want to consider another mode of transportation. Bicyclists will not be allowed on trains that carry full loads.
6. RTA offers more than 8,000 free parking places, but do not try to "squeeze in" if a lot is full. Look for an alternative station. Obey all signs. Transit Police will ticket and tow cars that block normal operations.
7. The parade will be on Superior Avenue, but crowds will be everywhere. If you are on Euclid Avenue between East 17th and East 86th streets, know that new traffic patterns are in effect. Use all crosswalks. Obey all signs.
8. Buses will be detoured off parade routes to nearby streets. Normal operations will resume as soon as possible.
9. Open beverage containers are not permitted on RTA vehicles or property. Transit Police will enforce regulations with uniformed and plain clothes officers.
10. For more info, use the automated trip planner at [rideRTA.com](http://rideRTA.com), or call the RTAnswerline, 216-621-9500.

## RTA gets high bond rating

RTA's cost-cutting measures and efficient operations have won the attention of the financial community. Moody's Investors Services has upgraded RTA's rating to "Aa3" as it prepares to sell \$35 million in general obligation bonds for capital improvements.

Moody's says RTA's financial outlook is "stable" for several reasons, including the two-tier fare adjustment.

Moody's noted that the population of RTA's service area is declining, and that revenue from a one percent countywide sales tax depends largely on the state of the local economy.

Moody's says RTA "benefits from a strong, proactive management team and board, which are both committed to preserving the authority's financial health. Management has also taken numerous measures to reduce costs, such as reductions in personnel, changes to the health-care plan and a systematic review of service levels. RTA is in the midst of an aggressive and strategic capital program, which will help to modernize and expand the system."

## 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](http://rideRTA.com) contains all timetables, press releases and links to the automated trip planner
- 216-621-9500, the RTAnswerline
- [euclidtransit.org](http://euclidtransit.org), Euclid Corridor Transportation Project
- [riderta.com/safety/ectp.asp](http://riderta.com/safety/ectp.asp), Euclid Corridor safety tips
- [clevelandfilm.org](http://clevelandfilm.org), Cleveland International Film Festival, or call 1-866-865-FILM
- [theqarena.com](http://theqarena.com), all events at Quicken Loans Arena

## New timetables needed for March 23 changes

New timetables are needed for a number of service changes that will begin on Sunday, March 23.

New timetables are needed for these routes: #3, #4/38, #5, #6, #10, #11, #12/13, #14, #15, #20A, #22, #24, #25, #26, #28, #35/36, #39/39F, #239, #40, #45Y/R, #49, #50, #51/251/451, #52, #55 (formerly known as #55x), #66 (Red Line), #67 (Blue/Green/Waterfront Lines), #77F, #79A/B, #86, #94, #246.

Most of these changes involve minor schedule adjustments. However, a few deserve special mention.

On the #22, late-night service west of the West Park Station (to Fairview General Hospital, the Brookpark Red Line Station and Hopkins Airport) is being replaced with #52 service.

Service on the #5 and #24 routes is being adjusted to better connect with the Blue Line. Mill Creek will be served by the #24 during the business day only, and only in the eastbound direction.

On the #25 route, weekend departures from downtown are being moved to 10 minutes after the hour to offer a better connection to other routes.

### Where to Get Timetables:

New timetables are being posted on [rideRTA.com](http://rideRTA.com).

They are also be available at:

- RTA's Main Office, 1240 W. 6th St.
- Customer Service Center at Tower City

For more information, or to receive a new timetable by mail, call the RTAnswerline, 216-621-9500.