

RTA removes ban on bikes on trains during rush hours

RTA has again responded to comments made by area cyclists.

With 100 percent of buses sporting bike racks, enthusiasts asked RTA to relax certain rush-hour restrictions for bringing bikes on board the Rapid Transit.

Under new rules that were effective Oct. 16, bikes are permitted on all RTA trains at all hours of operation, based on operator discretion.

If the train is full, or if space at the end of the car is already taken by customers in wheelchairs, cyclists may be asked to wait for the next train.

As always, no tandems, recumbents, mopeds or tricycles are permitted.

Complete bicycle rules are listed on the RTA Web site.

East 121st St. bridge opens

A new and improved East 121th Street bridge over the Shaker rail tracks opened to the public on Nov. 5.

The old bridge, built in 1915, was completely removed and rebuilt for \$1.75 million.

The new bridge, a single span, allows rail operators to have a better view, increasing safety at this location.

The contract was awarded to the Schirmer Construction Co. of North Olmsted. More than 15 percent of the work was done by minority-owned and female-owned subcontractors in Cleveland, Eastlake, Garfield Heights, Strongsville and Warrensville Heights.

RTA rolls out new farebox

RTA officials expect to soon roll out a new state-of-the-art fare collection system.

Just before the new fareboxes hit the street, RTA will distribute a *Special Digest* to help you learn the things you need to pay your fare properly. Please watch for the *Special Digest* on your bus or train.

Similar info will be posted on the RTA Web site.

The new fareboxes will also be on display at major passenger facilities, including Tower City. Feel free to examine the farebox, and ask RTA questions.

Questions?

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

- rideRTA.com contains all timetables, press releases and links to the automated trip planner
- rideRTA.com > riding options > bicycles, for bike rules
- 216-621-9500, the RTAanswerline
- euclidtransit.org, Euclid Corridor Transportation Project
- riderta.com/safety/ectp.asp, Euclid Corridor safety tips
- crockerpark.com, Crocker Park events
- clevelandbrowns.com, Cleveland Browns
- theqarena.com Quicken Loans Arena
- lakeeriemonsters.com, Lake Erie Monsters hockey team
- nba.com/cavaliers, Cavaliers
- crockerpark.com, Crocker Park
- shakersquare.net, Shaker Square
- wolsteincenter.com, Wolstein Center
- hob.com/venues/clubvenues/cleveland/, House of Blues



Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
rideRTA.com

Rider's Digest



A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER CLEVELAND
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Section of Euclid Ave. ready to open soon

Clevelanders will have a lot to be thankful for this month.

- A huge section of Euclid Avenue, from East 17th to East 55th Street, will re-open to traffic.
- All construction work will be completed on Public Square, where candy canes and holiday ornaments will replace the orange barrels, hard hats and safety vests.
- All holiday events downtown will proceed as planned.
- The grand opening for the Euclid Corridor Project is less than a year away – Oct. 25, 2008. Already, the area on or near the Project has seen more than \$2 billion in new and planned construction.

"Although the roadway looks great, this is far from our finished product," says General Manager & CEO Joe Calabrese.

"We have not yet installed many of the amenities this project offers. We are opening the road now for the convenience of our customers."

You will see new pavement, transit-only lanes, special crosswalks, landscaping, and boardings from new stations in the center median strip.

Standard RTA buses will provide service on several routes. Drivers and pedestrians must learn to

See Euclid, inside

Euclid, from front

traverse new traffic patterns, so RTA is stressing safety along the route. Please read and obey all posted signs.

A complete set of safety rules is posted on the RTA web site.

A prototype of the 63-foot articulated Rapid Transit Vehicle (RTV) has held up well under a massive battery of tests required for every new model.

The hybrid-electric vehicle is now undergoing a final series of tests on its heating and air-conditioning unit. Production of the 20 vehicles for Cleveland has started. The first units will be delivered next spring.

Nominate a top volunteer today for RTA award

RTA officials and the Citizens Advisory Board are seeking nominations for the F. Robert Wiesenberg Community Volunteer Award.

The award honors the late Mr. Wiesenberg, who served on RTA's Advisory Board for more than 25 years. He was also active in Rocky River city government, and served on committees throughout the county.

Nominees should be residents of Cuyahoga County and perform volunteer work in this region. They should have demonstrated a willingness to get involved, an unselfish giving of oneself, an ability to lead others and a desire to enhance the quality of life in the community.

Nominations will be accepted from individuals and organizations until March 31. The winner will be announced at an RTA Board meeting, and honored at a banquet in late spring. Nomination forms are available at rideRTA.com. If you have questions, call 216-566-5220.

Send the nomination form to: Volunteer Award Committee, Marketing & Communications Department, RTA, 1240 W. Sixth St., Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

Ride RTA to see Browns, Cavs and holiday fun

SPORTS

Football at Browns Stadium

- **Nov. 4**, Seattle, 4 p.m.
 - **Nov. 25**, Houston, 1 p.m.
- Game times may change.

Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$3.50 All-Day Pass. Ride any rail line to Tower City and ride the Waterfront Line to the West Third Street Station. OR, board a Browns flyer bus at any one of six sites for a non-stop trip to the Stadium.

Basketball at Quicken Loans Arena

See the Cavaliers in action on **Nov. 2, 14, 16, 20, 24 and 27**.

Ice hockey at Quicken Loans Arena

See the Lake Erie Monsters skate on **Nov. 10, 11, 15, 17, 18 and 24**.

Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$3.50 All-Day Pass. Ride any rail line to Tower City and use the Walkway to reach Quicken Loans Arena.

COMMUNITY

Public Square

Nov. 24, Winterfest begins with holiday lighting.

Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$3.50 All-Day Pass. Ride any rail line to Tower City.

At Historic Shaker Square, Cleveland

- **Saturdays, 8 a.m.-noon**, North Union Farmers Market, through Dec. 15
 - **Nov. 17, Santa arrives at 7 p.m.**, with photos to follow in CVS. Come early for free cartoons in the Shaker Square Cinemas at 4:30 p.m., followed by caroling at 6:30 p.m.
- Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$3.50

All-Day Pass. Ride the Blue or Green light-rail lines to Shaker Square, or hop on bus routes #48/48A, #25B/W or #823.

At Crocker Park, Westlake

- **Saturdays**, North Union Farmers' Market, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., next to Trader Joe's, through Dec. 15.
 - **Nov. 17**, Holiday lighting ceremony, 7:30-9 p.m.
- Use bus routes #46 or #822.

MUSIC

At Quicken Loans Arena

- **Nov. 3**, Scott Hamilton ice show, 5 p.m.
 - **Nov. 4**, Bruce Springsteen concert, 7:30 p.m.
 - **Nov. 6**, Stevie Wonder concert, 7:30 p.m.
 - **Nov. 9**, Keith Urban concert, 8 p.m.
- Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$3.50 All-Day Pass. Ride any rail line to Tower City and take the Walkway to Gateway.

At the House of Blues, 308 Euclid Ave.

- Concerts held nightly
- Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$3.50 All-Day Pass, ride any rail line to Tower City, and walk east on Euclid Avenue for two blocks.

Wolstein Center at CSU, 2000 Prospect Ave.

- **Nov. 2-3**, Acquire the Fire, Christian youth event
 - **Nov. 4, 1:30 and 5 p.m.** Wiggles, children show
 - **Nov. 8, 7 p.m.**, Signs of Life Christian rally
 - **Nov. 10, 8 p.m.**, Dane Cook comedy concert
 - **Nov. 23, 8 p.m.**, Holiday Jam
- Park free at most rail stations. Buy a \$3.50 All-Day Pass, ride any rail line to Tower City. Ride bus routes #8, #25B/W, #55X.