

# RTA Work Access Program

Presentation to the Finance Committee

RTA Board of Trustees

August 5, 2014



# RTA Work Access Program

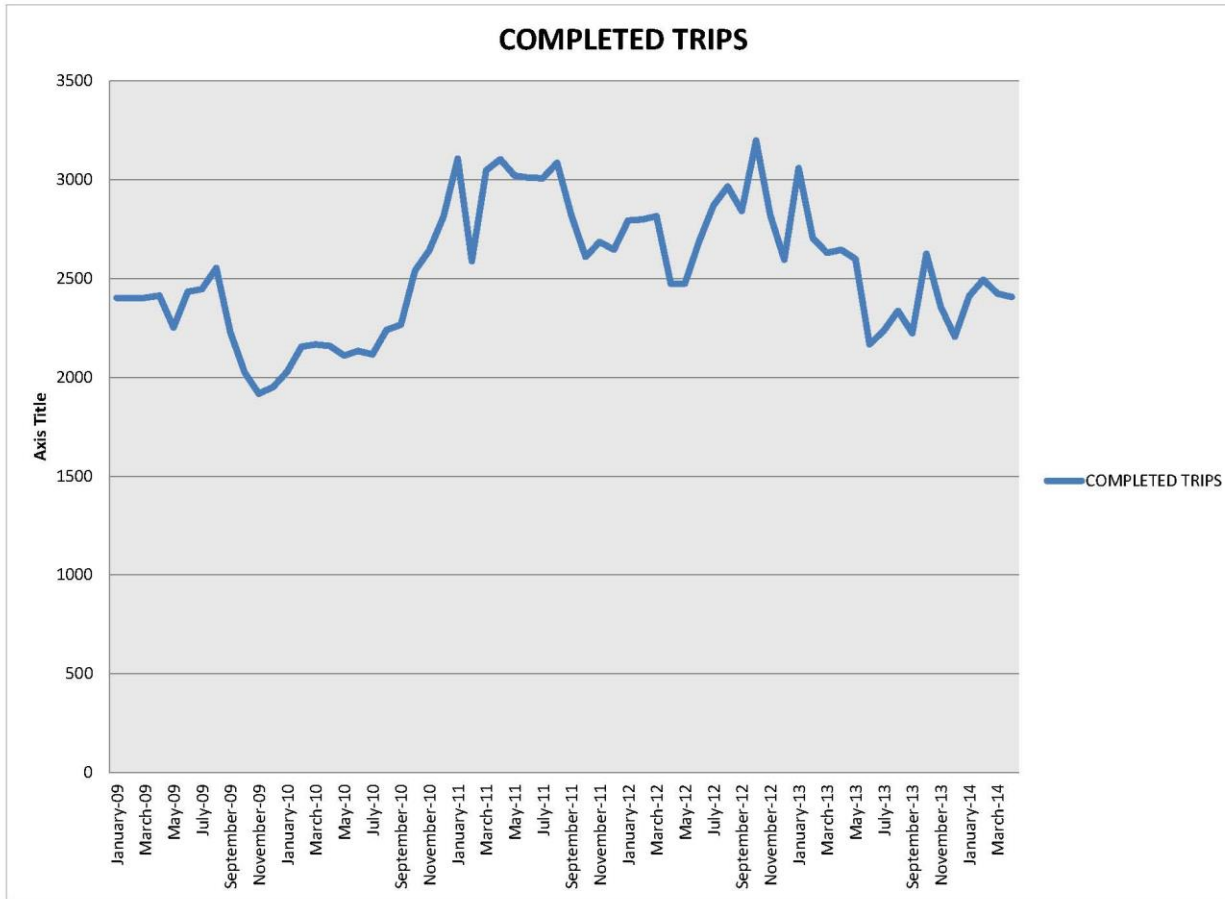
- Program began more than 15 years ago
- Designed for Welfare-to-Work clients
- Now provides work access for all residents
- Reduced impact of 2008-10 bus service cuts
- Customers have no alternative transportation

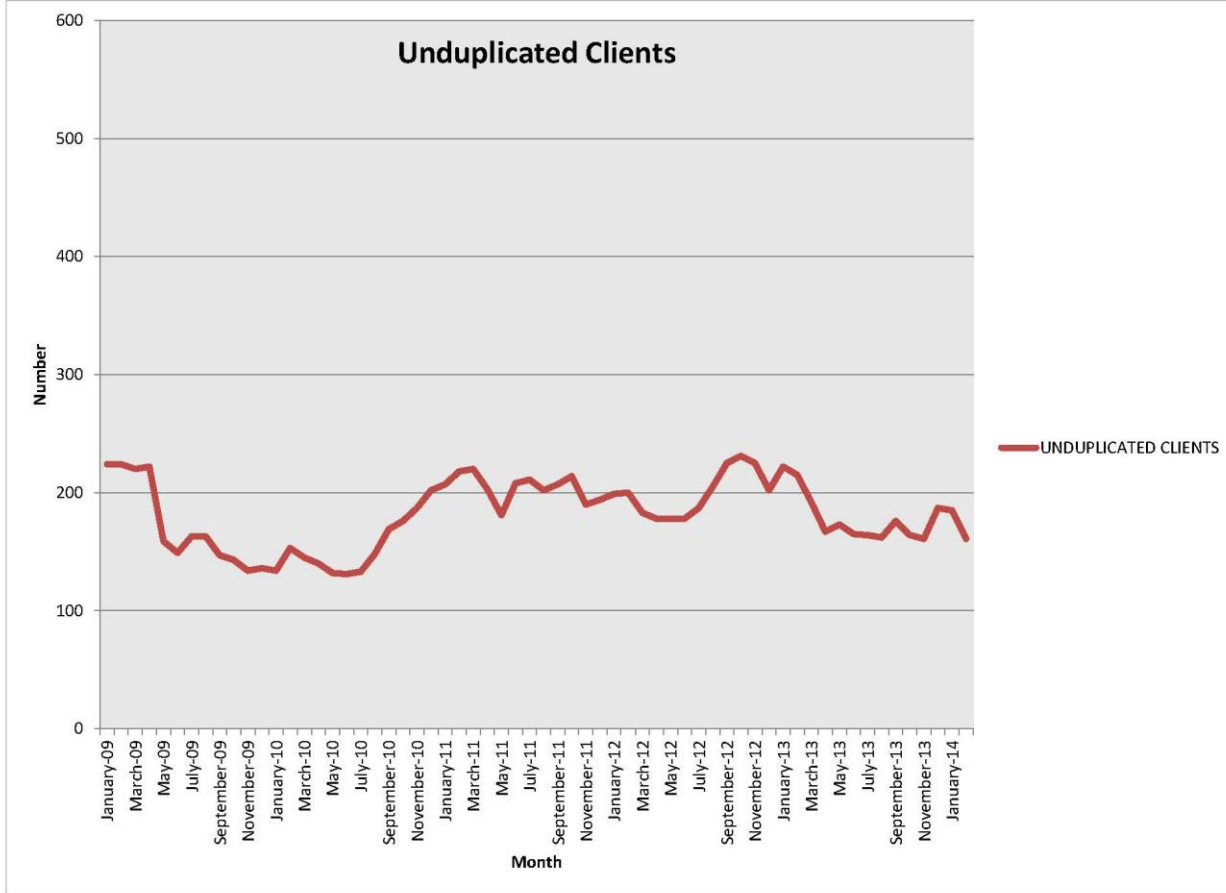
# RTA Work Access Program

- Vans provide missing link of work trip
- Many customers need van only 1-way
- Provide A Ride (PAR) is the current contractor
- 2 RTA employees staff the program
- \$1.1 million annual cost is grant-funded

# RTA Work Access Program

- Congress discontinued JARC grant program
- Current grant will be depleted mid-2015
- If service is continued, it would use the same funds as bus service
- RTA must decide relative importance





# RTA Work Access Program

- In 13 years, served 4,817 workers in retail, industrial, health care, and call center jobs
- Most current customers could not stay in their current jobs without the van service
- Some customers use work experience gained to obtain a new job with bus service

# RTA Work Access Program

- High cost per passenger trip (\$35)
- Still less costly than expanding bus service to low-density areas and time periods
- Decision on the program's future must be reflected in the 2015 budget



# RTA Work Access Program

## Options:

- Continue the program with general funds or find a new funding source
- Run program unchanged until grant runs out
- Slow spending by adding no new clients except those with virtually no added cost

# RTA Work Access Program

Assisting clients if program is to end

- Seek help from Ohio Means Jobs
- As much as possible, help clients change to a work shift or new job with bus service