

RESOLUTION NO. 1992-29

AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL PUBLIC
HEARING PROCESS FOR ACTIVITIES OF THE GREATER
CLEVELAND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority conducts public hearings annually for its annual capital and operating budgets; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority is required to develop a local process to solicit and consider public comment in accordance with Section 5(i) and Section 9(e)(3)(H) of the Federal Transit Act of 1964, as amended, prior to raising fares or implementing a major reduction in transit service; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority is also required to publish a proposed program of projects in a manner to afford an opportunity to be examined and for a public hearing to obtain the views of citizens on proposed program of projects and grant applications in accordance with Section 9(f)(3) and (4).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cuyahoga County, Ohio:

Section 1. The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority hereby adopts the Public Hearing Process for Activities of the Greater Cleveland Transit Authority, which is attached hereto and fully incorporated as if written herein.

Section 2. That public hearings will be conducted annually in connection with GCRTA's capital and operating budgets.

Section 3. That prior to raising fares or implementing a major reduction or increase in transit service (as defined in the attached process), GCRTA will conduct a public hearing to solicit and consider public comment.

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Section 4. That the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will publish in sufficient detail and in a manner as to afford affected citizens, private transportation providers, and as appropriate, local elected officials, an opportunity to examine the content of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority's proposed program of projects and grant applications and to submit comments.

Section 5. That the Notice of Comment Period and Availability of Public Hearing for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will advise affected parties that a public hearing on the matter will be held only on written request by at least ten (10) individuals, if submitted within two weeks from the date of the notice. If fewer than ten (10) requests for a public hearing are received within two weeks from the appearance of the public notice, no hearing will be held.

Section 6. That once it has been determined that a hearing will be held, a notice will be published in a newspaper with local circulation and a minority newspaper with wide coverage in the minority community not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. Any comments received in response to GCRTA's Program of Projects and grant applications will be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration.

Section 7. That the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will accept written comments on all subject matters for a two (2) week period after publication of a Notice or after a scheduled hearing. The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will respond to comments received on all subject matters within thirty (30) days of receipt.

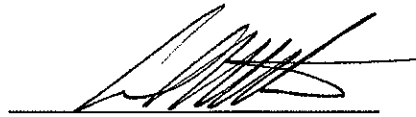
Section 8. The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority hereby adopts the Policies and Procedures for Public Hearing Process which is attached hereto and fully incorporated as if written herein.

Section 9. That this resolution become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Attachment: Public Hearing Process

Adopted: February 18, 1992


Secretary-Treasurer


President

GREATER CLEVELAND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR
PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS**

1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a local process for conducting public hearings in connection with its Annual Budget Appropriations; Federal Grant Applications, Service Changes, Fare Increases and any other activity of the GCRTA which would require a public hearing.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

2.1 To solicit and consider public comment by affording the general public the opportunity to express views and comments concerning certain GCRTA matters.

2.2 Establishing this new process will eliminate the unnecessary cost, which has arisen in the past for public hearings attended by only one or two people.

3.0 POLICY AND SCOPE

Prior to raising fares or implementing a major reduction or increase in transit services GCRTA will conduct a public hearing to solicit comments, as required under Section 9(e)(3)(H) of the Federal Transit Act of 1964, as amended.

A fare increase is defined as:

- a) A change in any fare
- b) The establishment of any fixed route or paratransit service that is not currently in operation and that would charge fares higher than the existing, established fare rate or fare type that is currently in effect for fixed route or paratransit service.

A major reduction or increase in transit service would include:

- a) The elimination of a transit route.
- b) The addition of a new transit route.
- c) A reduction or increase of 25% or more of transit route miles; reduction or increase of 25% or more of transit revenue miles or service frequency of a route computed on a daily basis for the day of the week for which the change is made.

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For program of projects and Federal grant applications a notice will be published in sufficient detail and in a manner as to afford affected citizens, private transportation providers, and as appropriate, local elected officials, an opportunity to examine its content and to submit comments, as required under Section 9(f)(3) and (4) of the Federal Transit Act of 1964, as amended. The notice will advise affected parties that a public hearing on the matter will be held only on written request by at least 10 individuals, if submitted within two weeks from the date of the notice. If fewer than ten (10) requests for a public hearing are received within two weeks from the appearance of the public notice, no hearing will be held.

When it is determined that a public hearing will be held, a Notice of Public Hearing will be published in a newspaper with local circulation and a minority newspaper with wide coverage in the minority community not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. All comments received in response to GCRTA Program of Projects and grant applications will be submitted to the Federal Transit Administration.

The GCRTA will accept written comments on all subject matters for a two (2) week period after publication of a notice or after a scheduled hearing. The GCRTA will respond to comments received on all subject matters within thirty (30) days of receipt.

Copies of any documentation being presented at public hearings conducted by GCRTA, will be available for public inspection at the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority main offices, located at 615 Superior Avenue, N.W., Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION

Public hearings will be conducted as follows:

Annually for GCRTA capital and operating budgets;

Prior to raising fares or implementating a major reduction or increase in transit services; and

For grant applications, if required by at least 10 individuals, (if submitted within two weeks from the date of the notice of comment period and availability of public hearing).