

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-108

EXPRESSING CONGRATULATIONS TO JOSEPH A. CALABRESE ON HIS
SELECTION AS PUBLIC OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR BY GOVERNING MAGAZINE

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Calabrese has been selected to win the prestigious "Public Official of the Year" award from *Governing Magazine*, a cause for great celebration in the local and national community, as he is the first transit general manager to ever receive this distinction; and

WHEREAS, Joe Calabrese is being honored for his exemplary service, and is called "the most credible voice in the public transportation industry" by US Senator Sherrod Brown. Brown said, "That's why his expertise has been called upon at every level, including Congressional hearings, as he encourages national security, promotes environmental initiatives, and advocates for increases in transit funding. We would be wise to heed his advice"; and

WHEREAS, since taking the reins as RTA's CEO and General Manager in 2000, Joe Calabrese is a local, regional and state leader in forging public/private partnerships, and civic leaders note that, "Under his leadership, RTA is an integral player in Cleveland's successful recent development boom, its resurgence to national prominence, and the growth in its travel and tourism industry"; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, innovative transit modes, such as the BRT HealthLine, have not only taken center stage worldwide, but have helped create more than \$6 billion in economic development along the Euclid Corridor; and

WHEREAS, Joe Calabrese is called the energizer bunny as he brings a tireless approach to public service and an extraordinary work ethic, providing distinguished leadership, strong management expertise and good governance. His work is enhancing not just RTA, but all of Cleveland and the transportation industry nationwide; and

WHEREAS, because of Joe Calabrese's creativity and innovative approach to providing efficient public transportation, he helped Cleveland win several international competitive sporting events and conventions, including the 2016 Republican National Convention; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, RTA became the first transit system in the nation to sell naming rights sponsorships for its assets, first with the HealthLine and then with the Cleveland State Line; and

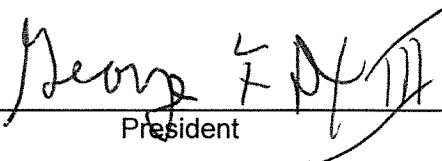
WHEREAS, Joe Calabrese worked with a team to develop the "talking bus" technology, making RTA the lead transit system in the nation for safety innovation. The technology is now being replicated and used by many major transit agencies across the country.

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

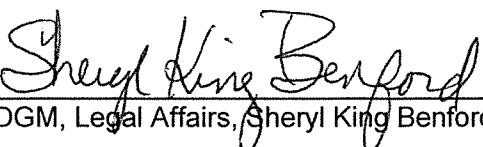
Section 1. That the most sincere congratulations of the Board of Trustees and employees is hereby extended to Joe Calabrese as he accepts this award and continues his dedicated public service to the riding public and citizens of Cuyahoga County.

Section 2. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: November 17, 2015



President

Attest: 

DGM, Legal Affairs, Sheryl King Benford