

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-7

AUTHORIZING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE
CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
BABY ON BOARD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority ("GCRTA") submitted a grant application to the Ohio Department of Transportation ("ODOT") in collaboration with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health ("CCBH") for the Baby on Board Program; and

WHEREAS, ODOT awarded GCRTA \$400,000 for the Baby on Board Program; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of a portion of this program necessitates the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the parties; and

WHEREAS, the Baby on Board Program is an innovative approach to serving a targeted population that has historically had transportation issues in accessing maternity and well-baby appointments, which contributes to extremely high infant mortality rates; and

WHEREAS, GCRTA and the CCBH desire to enter into a memorandum of understanding governing the use of the grant funding secured from ODOT to implement the Baby on Board Program; and

WHEREAS, GCRTA will provide fare media to CCBH, at market rate, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 and grant funding secured from ODOT will reimburse GCRTA.

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

Section 1. That the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority be and is hereby authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to implement the Baby on Board Program.

Section 2. That funds from the ODOT Ohio Transit Partnership Program SY 2021 grant will be used to provide fare media to the Cuyahoga County Board of Health in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the Baby on Board Program.

Section 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: January 19, 2021



President

Attested: 

Interim Secretary-Treasurer



Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
STAFF SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

TITLE/DESCRIPTION: CONTRACT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE BABY ON BOARD PROGRAM VENDOR: CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AMOUNT: N/A	Resolution No.: 2021-7
	Date: January 14, 2021
	Initiator: Programming and Planning
ACTION REQUEST: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Review/Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

- 1.0 **PURPOSE/SCOPE:** This action will allow the Authority to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (“CCBH”) to implement the Baby on Board Program funded through a grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) Ohio Transit Partnership Program (“OTP2”).

- 2.0 **DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION:** GCRTA and CCBH collaborated on the OTP2 grant application to assist with the transportation needs of expectant and new mothers in three specific zip codes, 44108, 44110, 44112, with high rates of infant mortality. These census tracts were selected by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health through its statistical assessment and analysis process.

 Transportation is often cited as a primary reason for missed maternity medical appointments and well-baby visits. The Baby on Board Program will provide monthly transit passes for clients enrolled in prenatal programs of CCBH partner agencies to assist with transportation costs to maternity and Healthy Baby related appointments. The grant funds will be used to supply the CCBH with up to \$100,000 in fare media, at market rate. GCRTA will also upgrade transit-waiting areas throughout the target area to assist in creating safe transit waiting environments.

- 3.0 **PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND:** N/A

- 4.0 **DBE/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BACKGROUND:** N/A

- 5.0 **POLICY IMPACT:** Entering into this agreement is consistent with GCRTA’s Strategic Plan. It can create additional ridership while assisting in addressing a critical social need in the community.

- 6.0 **ECONOMIC IMPACT:** The additional grant funds will allow GCRTA to enhance transit-waiting environments throughout the targeted area without expenditure of Authority funds.

- 7.0 **ALTERNATIVES:** Reject the MOU. Rejection of this MOU will prevent GCRTA and CCBH from providing transportation assistance to the clients of this programming.

- 8.0 **RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the MOU with CCBH be approved by the Board of Trustees at its January 19, 2021 meeting.

- 9.0 ATTACHMENT: Attachment A - MOU with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health.
Attachment B – Map of Target area

Recommended and certified as appropriate to the availability of funds, legal form and conformance with the Procurement requirements.



General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

DRAFT

ATTACHMENT A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
Cuyahoga County Board of Health (“CCBH”)
And
The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (“GCRTA”)

GCRTA received a grant in the amount of \$400,000 from the SFY2021 Ohio Transit Partnership Program through the Ohio Department of Transportation (“ODOT”) for the Baby on Board – A Healthy Baby Initiative program (“Program”). A portion of this funding is to be used for the cost of providing bus passes to CCBH for distribution to agencies serving pregnant women living in the specific zip codes of 44108, 44110 and 44112 to provide transportation to these women and children to access healthcare services. This area has very high rates of infant mortality and 85% of women identified transportation as a barrier to accessing healthcare. The Program is approved for a period of twenty-two months, with 50% of the funds to be spent by May 30, 2021 and 50% to be spent by May 30, 2022 (“Program Period”).

GCRTA will serve as the grant manager and fiscal agent, and CCBH will ensure the enrollment of all program participants, as required by the grant documentation. GCRTA will provide monthly bus/rapid passes to CCBH who will distribute passes to the participants of the Program for the purpose of reducing infant mortality in the zip codes identified. GCRTA will request reimbursement from ODOT for the value of the fare media (based on GCRTA’s fare schedule) documented by CCBH as distributed to participants of the Program, for a total amount not to exceed \$100,000.

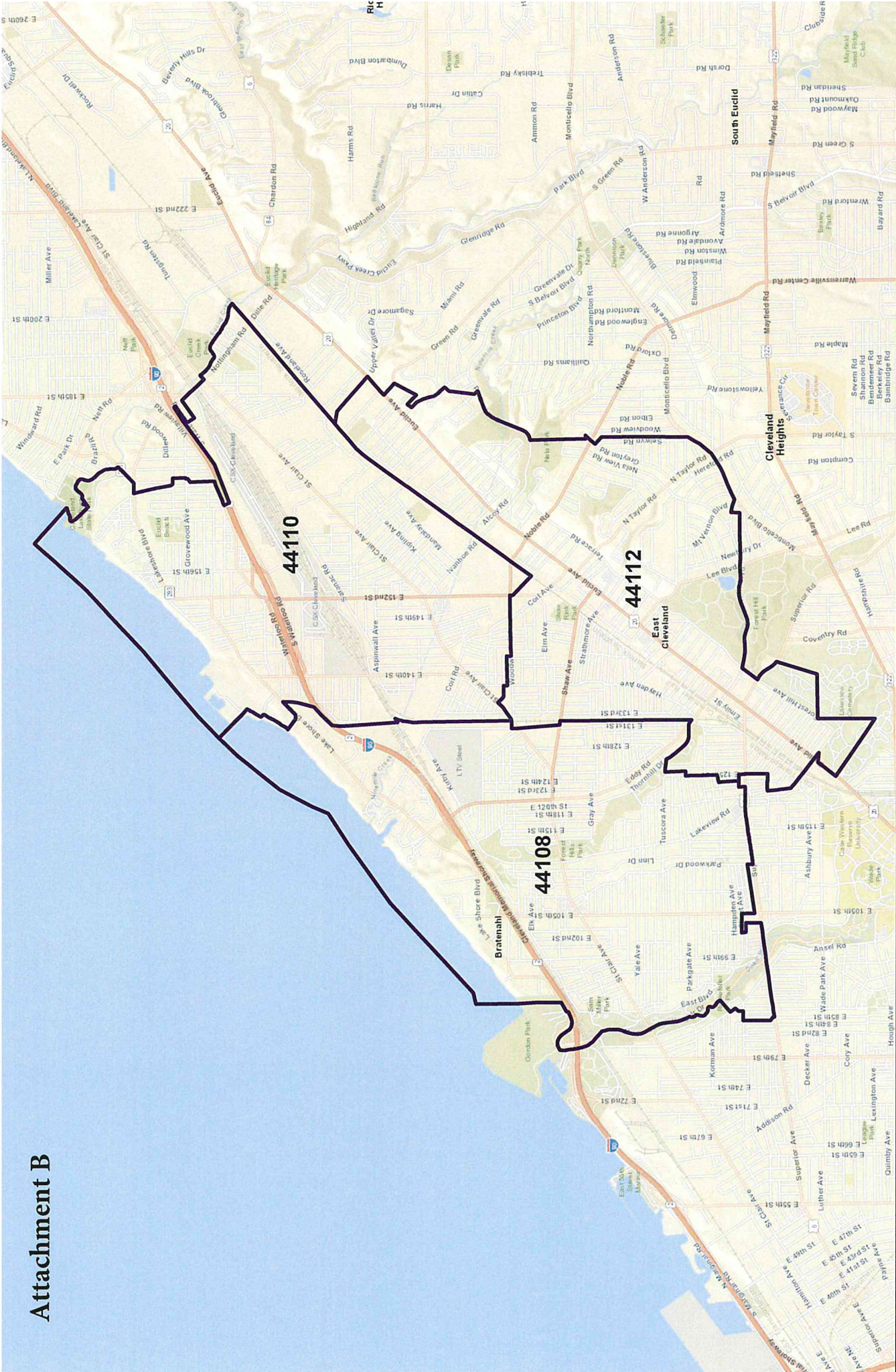
The responsibilities of CCBH under this agreement are as follows:

1. Track the distribution of GCRTA fare media to the program participants and report the amounts to GCRTA on a monthly basis.
2. Provide travel training to educate clients on how to navigate and ride GCRTA services if required by the participant.
3. Collect and analyze data from program recipients.
4. Complete a written report of findings.
5. Designate management staff to participate in monthly program meetings to discuss and facilitate the achievement of Program goals including fare equity.

The responsibilities of GCRTA under this agreement are as follows:

1. Distribute GCRTA fare media to CCBH.
2. Report Participation Numbers to ODOT on a Quarterly basis.
3. Provide customized travel training to CCBH staff to educate clients and staff on how to navigate and ride GCRTA buses and/or trains if this is requested by any of the participating agencies.

Attachment B



Baby on Board Program Area



every baby deserves a 1st birthday