**Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority** 



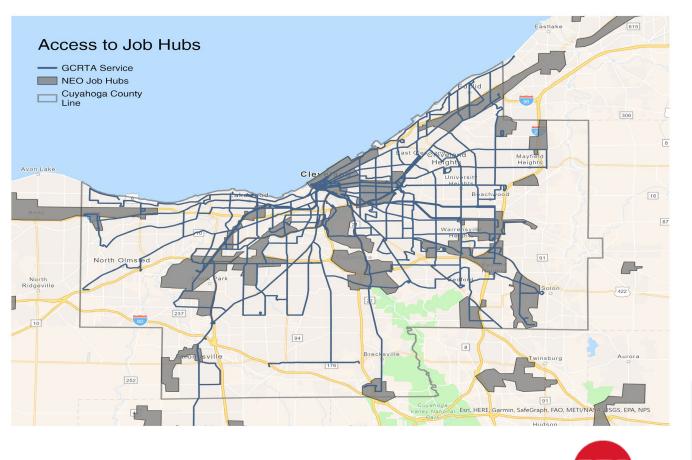
# **RTA ConnectWorks-Micro Transit Program Organizational**, Services and **Performance Monitoring Committee** August 13, 2024

# Job Access

### <u>Issue</u>

- People without cars need to live in areas with pedestrian amenities and frequent transit service
- Policy needs to grow family-sustaining jobs in those areas
- Many jobs are located in outlying areas, where the first/last mile of a commute is not easily navigated, especially in the winter
- Essential industries demand for employees is growing





## **GCRTA Micro Transit**

- A short-term program to connect work sites with RTA service
- Helpful where the first/last mile of a commute trip is not easily navigated
- Must pick-up/drop off at an RTA Facility
- Work Site needs to be within Cuyahoga County
- Route/schedule is flexible
- Memorandum of Understanding with Union
  - Cannot replace RTA existing service
  - Term cannot extend beyond 18 months
  - Recently extended to December 14, 2025



## **GCRTA Micro Transit**

- GCRTA received \$600,000 of ODOT OTP2 Funds
- Program required 50/50 match from contractor
- GCRTA awarded 2 contracts @ \$300,000
  - Share Mobility for Solon service-April 2022
  - Share Mobility for Aerozone- July 2023





### **RTA Solon Connection**

Service Began December 14, 2022

- Participating employers:
  - Wrap Tite
  - Amazon







# Celebration

### Micro Transit service initiation

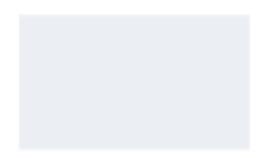
Southgate Transit Center



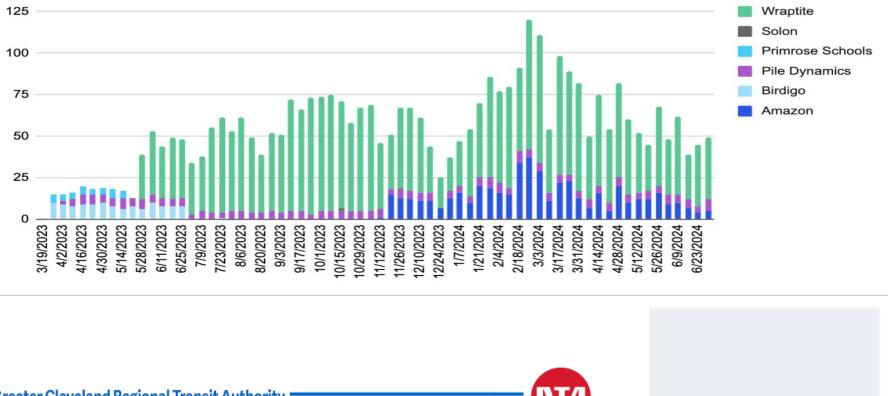












#### Solon - ConnectWorks Weekly Ridership

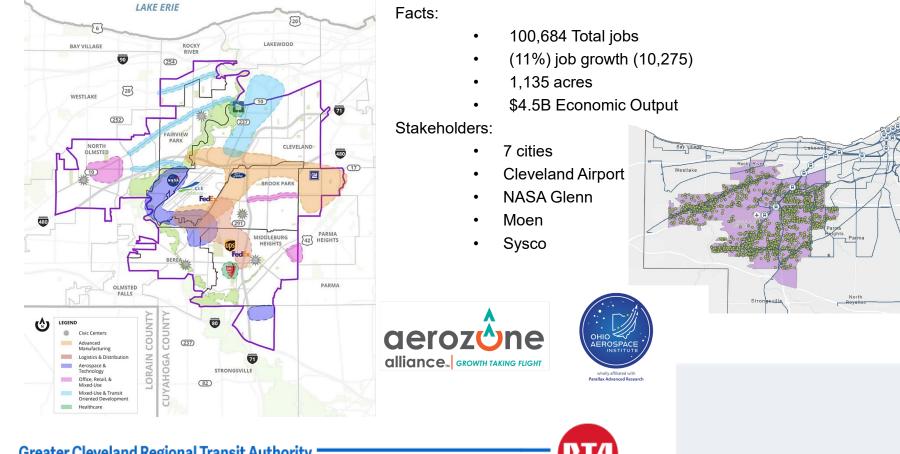
# Summary of Solon Program

- Staff analyzed Jan-June 2024 (to exclude ramp-up period)
- Served 3 employers at 5 work sites (incl. Amazon-Glenwillow)
- Provided 2,511 rides using 1,025 in-service vehicle-hours
- Two other employers had no rides taken in these 6 months
- RTA paid contractor \$101,497; ODOT will reimburse half
- All work sites are within 0.4 mile of a bus stop



# **Summary of Solon Program**

- Ridership has stagnated
- Decreasing number of participating companies
- GCRTA extended contract for 3 months to August 31, 2024
- Operations will cease after August 31
- Communicating with Solon's Mayor and Staff
- GCRTA working with NOACA's Van Pool program to assist customers using this service
- GCRTA has applied for grants to operate & study Micro Transit Program.
- GCRTA working to "tweak" program



Aerozone - ConnectWorks Weekly Ridership

27 27 27 <sub>32</sub> 33 <sup>38</sup> 26 24 31 31 27 28 16 17 16 16 16 12 12 10 10 11/1/2023 1/1/2024 3/1/2024 5/1/2024 7/1/2024

Polaris Career Center

BrookPark (Open Rides)



## Aerozone Summary

- Aerozone companies are served by 4 Red Line stations and several bus routes
- Service began in October, 2023
- Many work sites are more than a mile from a stop
- Some streets lack sidewalks
- Microtransit can provide "first mile/last mile" service
- Program is continuing with additional marketing support



### **Outreach Activities**

- Job Fairs
- Program Breakfast
- Aerozone Lunch & Learns
  - May 28, June 3, and June 12, 2024
- Email Blasts
  - Campaign 1 (Reminder campaign) April 3 July 3
    - 4 email series, sent in batches
  - Campaign 2 (New pricing) July 2 Sept 4
    - 4 email series, sent in batches

## Summary

- GCRTA evaluating the current program to "tweak" it
- Consistent pricing/cost
- Working with SHARE for "boots on the ground"
- Assisting with marketing & outreach
- Reviewing Lorain County Micro Transit as it proceeds
- Increasing outreach activities
- Surveyed Employees and Employers

## Questions

