

## Shape the Future of Public Transportation in Central Ohio

### ***COTA Hosting NextGen Forums September 28, 29 & 30***

**COLUMBUS, OH**—The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) is extending the opportunity for the public to participate in *NextGen* and share their vision for the future of public transportation in central Ohio.

The central Ohio region expects 500,000 more people and 300,000 more jobs over the next 35 years. Last spring, COTA asked community members to share their vision for how transit can support and improve quality of life and strengthen our growing region as a world-class destination for residents, businesses and visitors.

This September, COTA is inviting the public to a series of forums to share what they heard from the community and ask the next question: ***Where do you want to go first?***

Join COTA at an upcoming forum for a presentation and discussion, followed by an open house:

**Monday, September 28 – Far East**

Far East Neighborhood Pride Center  
2500 Park Crescent Dr., Columbus, OH 43232  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, September 29 – Hilltop**

Columbus Metropolitan Library Hilltop Branch  
Hilltop Meeting Room  
511 S. Hague Ave., Columbus, OH 43204  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, September 30 – Downtown**

COTA, William J. Lhota Building  
William G. Porter Boardroom  
33 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43215  
**12:00-1:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, September 30 – Gahanna**

Gahanna Lincoln High School  
Clark Hall Student Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
380 Granville St., Gahanna, OH 43230  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

If you cannot make it to a meeting, please participate online by taking the survey Sept. 28-Oct. 30 at [COTA.com/NextGen](http://COTA.com/NextGen).

COTA's *NextGen* project is a long-range visioning effort to identify public transportation needs and opportunities for the next 10, 15, 25 years and beyond. The project will analyze how the region's growth trends will influence opportunities and demand for public transportation. *NextGen* will also identify – with extensive community guidance – transit investments and creative ways to pay for them.

COTA is coordinating closely with the City of Columbus on the Connect ColumbUS Multimodal Plan and with MORPC on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The outcome of all three planning efforts will drive future transportation funding priorities for years to come.

*All interested people are encouraged to attend and participate. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability or familial status.*

