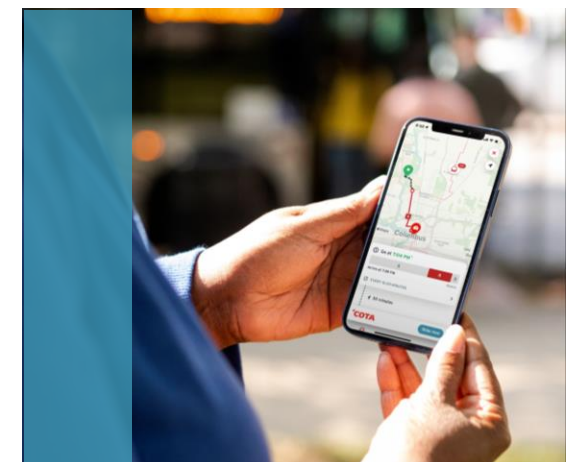
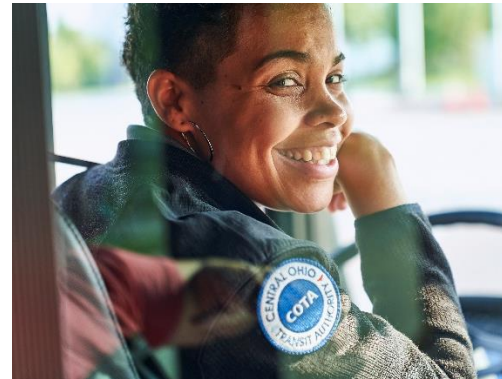


*welcome!*

THIS MEETING  
WILL START  
SHORTLY.



**COTA**

*September 2024*

**SERVICE CHANGE  
PUBLIC COMMENT  
MEETINGS**

May 16 & 21, 2024



# Meeting Format

This meeting is held in person in the COTA Boardroom located at 33 N. High St. It is also streaming on Facebook Live.

We are also recording this public comment meeting. The recording will be posted on our website at **COTA.com** following the meeting.

## HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH COTA

There will be time for questions and comments after the presentation. If joining by Facebook Live, submit comments and questions via the comment box. Please be considerate of meeting attendees and COTA staff.

Feedback can also be submitted at **COTA.com/contact** or by calling the Customer Care Center at **614-228-1776**.





# Increasing & Retaining Our Workforce

COTA has explored creative ways to recruit and hire new Operators. **Thanks to these hiring efforts, COTA has continued to increase service each trimester since September 2023. We are happy to announce we plan to increase service again this September.**

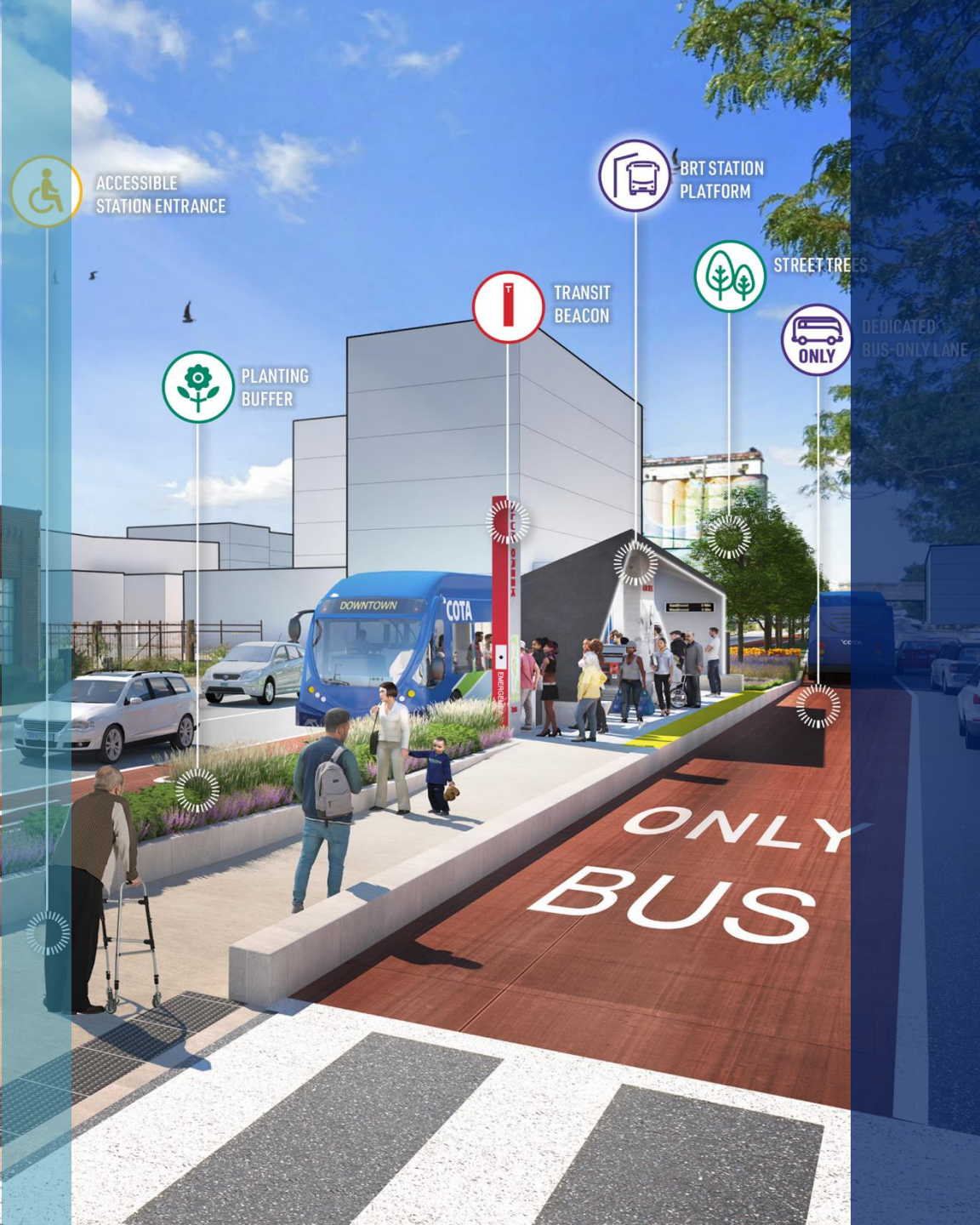
COTA will continue to adjust transit schedules each trimester when we can add more service hours.

# COTA is HIRING!

Anyone interested in a rewarding career at COTA can learn more and apply at [COTA.com/careers](https://www.cota.com/careers).

- **New competitive hourly wages** including annual bonuses
- **Comprehensive insurance:** medical, dental, vision
- Health flexible spending accounts (HSAs)
- **Retirement/savings benefits:** Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), Deferred Compensation Plan
- Vacations, holiday, sick pay
- Full-paid family leave for all full-time and part-time COTA employees
- Domestic partner benefits
- Monthly student loan payment stipend (after six months)
- Biometric screening, fitness and wellness reimbursement
- Personal training and development, job advancement and Employee Assistance Program (EAP)





# LinkUS

## Central Ohio's Comprehensive Transportation & Growth Initiative

By 2050, Central Ohio will grow to 3.15 million people. LinkUS is a carefully researched plan to address that growth while connecting communities and creating opportunities for a more equitable and sustainable region.

### LinkUS means Central Ohio's future will include...

- Faster, more reliable public transportation through Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
- Safe, expanded bike and pedestrian paths
- Walkable communities
- Increased affordable housing options
- 60,000+ new jobs by 2030
- New and enhanced community resources and amenities

Learn more and influence our plans at

[LinkUsColumbus.com](https://LinkUsColumbus.com)



*service*  
**CHANGES**

The following service adjustments are proposed to begin on Monday, September 2, 2024.

# Workforce Outlook for September 2024

COTA's growing ranks of Transit Operators made it possible to increase service for our community in May 2024.

**COTA currently anticipates expanding some service offerings in September 2024. Public input helps COTA prioritize which of the following recommendations will be made in September.**







# Zoo Bus Service

**COTA's seasonal Zoo Bus is back!** Beginning Memorial Day, May 27, and running through Labor Day, Sept. 2, the Zoo Bus will operate seven days a week.

Between Labor Day, September 2 and Halloween October 31st, Zoo Bus will operate Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only with the final day of service on October 27.

Zoo Bus operates according to the holiday/Sunday schedule on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day.

When you ride COTA, you get \$5 admission to the Zoo and \$10 off admission to Zoombezi Bay.

For more information about COTA Zoo Bus service, [visit COTA.com/ZooBus](https://www.cota.com/ZooBus) or call (614) 228-1776. For Zoo and Zoombezi Bay hours, visit [columbuszoo.org](https://www.columbuszoo.org).



# Zoom to BOOM!

**Skip the fuss and ride with us!**

COTA offers the safest, easiest and most affordable way for you and your family to get to **Red, White & BOOM!** on July 3.

For just \$4 round trip, you can skip the traffic and pricey parking and get dropped off and picked up right at the celebration.

Look for more information about Red, White & BOOM! beginning in June on [COTA.com](http://COTA.com).

# Proposed Changes

The following changes are **not** dependent on workforce resources increasing.

LINE	CHANGES	RATIONALE
<i>All lines</i>	Staff will assess options to adjust schedules to improve on-time performance.	Continuous improvement.

Key: rationale / public feedback

# Proposed Service Increases

Not all proposed service increases will be possible, but public feedback will help COTA prioritize which of the following changes will be made in September.

LINE	CURRENT SERVICE	CHANGES	RATIONALE
<b>1</b> Kenny/Livingston	Saturday: every 20 minutes, 40-minute branches	<b>Proposed:</b> Saturday frequency improvement to every 15 minutes & 30-minute branches	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>
<b>5</b> W 5th Ave/Refugee	Weekday: every 30 minutes, 60-minute branches	<b>Proposed:</b> Weekday frequency improvement to every 15 minutes & 30-minute branches	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>
<b>6</b> Sullivant	Weekday: every 30 minutes	<b>Proposed:</b> Weekday frequency improvement to every 15 minutes	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>
<b>9</b> W Mound/Brentnell	Weekday: every 60 minutes	<b>Proposed:</b> Weekday frequency improvement to every 30 minutes	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>
<b>24</b> Hamilton	Weekday: every 60 minutes	<b>Proposed:</b> Weekday frequency improvement to every 30 minutes. Serve Rickenbacker 7 days a week	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>

**Key:** rationale / public feedback

# Proposed Service Increases

Not all proposed service increases will be possible, but public feedback will help COTA prioritize which of the following changes will be made in September.

LINE	CURRENT SERVICE	CHANGES	RATIONALE
<b>31</b> Hudson	Saturday: every 60 minutes	<b>Proposed:</b> Saturday frequency improvement to every 30 min.	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>
<b>75</b> Arlington/1st Ave	Weekday: one AM/one PM Trip	<b>Proposed:</b> Additional AM trip	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>
<b>CMAX</b>	Saturday: every 20 minutes & 40-minute branches	<b>Proposed:</b> Saturday frequency improvement to every 15 minutes & 30-minute branches	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>
<b>102</b> Polaris Pkwy/N High	Saturday: every 60 minutes Sunday: every 60 minutes	<b>Proposed:</b> Saturday and Sunday frequency improvement to every 30 min.	Growing ridership. <b>Customer request.</b>

Key: rationale / public feedback

# Proposed Service Increases

Not all proposed service increases will be possible, but public feedback will help COTA prioritize which of the following changes will be made in September.

LINE	CURRENT SERVICE	CHANGES	RATIONALE
<i>All Lines</i>	Weekdays: 11pm final line-up Saturday & Sundays: 10pm final line-up	<b>Proposed later service:</b> Weekday & Saturday final line-up at midnight, Sunday final line-up remains at 10pm	Evening shift job access. <b>Customer request.</b>

Key: rationale / public feedback

# Q&A Chat

## Have a question about the proposed service changes?

- If joining in person, please wait for the host to call guests up to the podium.
- If joining via Facebook Live, please comment with questions in the livestream.
- Visit [COTA.com/contact](https://COTA.com/contact) to suggest how we can improve COTA's service.



Final service changes will be announced at the August public information meetings. Join in on **Aug. 8 at 6 p.m.** OR **Aug. 13 at noon.**

“ We provide solutions that *connect* people to prosperity through innovation, dedication and teamwork.”

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