



Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State



**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BUTLER COUNTY**

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# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Butler County Regional Transit Authority  
Butler County  
3045 Moser Court  
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio (the Authority), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Authority's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the respective changes in financial position and where applicable, cash flows, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 19, 2008, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measuring and presenting the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it. As a result of such limited procedures, we believe that the Management's Discuss and Analysis is not in conformity with guidelines established by the *Governmental Accounting Standards Board* because the Authority did not disclose three years of information.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

August 19, 2008

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(UNAUDITED)**

As management of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio (the Authority), we offer readers of the Authority's basic financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2007. This discussion and analysis is designed to assist the reader in focusing on the significant financial issues and activities and to identify any significant changes in financial position. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

**Overview of Financial Highlights**

The Authority has net assets of \$2.59 million. These net assets result from the difference between total assets of \$2.64 million and total liabilities of \$.05 million.

Current assets of \$.92 million primarily consist of non-restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents of \$.42 million; and Intergovernmental/Accounts Receivable of \$.51 million.

Current liabilities of \$.05 million primarily consist of Accounts Payable, Accrued Wages and related Payroll Accruals.

**Basic Financial Statements and Presentation**

The financial statements presented by the Authority are the Statement of Net Assets, the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets and the Statement of Cash Flows. These statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. The Authority is structured as a single enterprise fund with revenues recognized when earned and measurable, not when received. Expenses are recognized when they are incurred, not when paid. Capital assets are capitalized and depreciated, except land, over their estimated useful lives.

The Statement of Net Assets presents information on all the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases and decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Authority is improving or deteriorating. Net assets increase when revenues exceed expenses. Increases in assets without a corresponding increase to liabilities results in increased net assets, which indicate improved financial position.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets present information showing how the Authority's net assets changed during the year. This statement summarizes operating revenues and expenses along with non-operating revenues and expenses. In addition, this statement lists capital grant revenues received from federal, state and local governments.

The Statement of Cash Flows allows financial statement users to assess the Authority's adequacy or ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meet its obligations in a timely manner. The statement is classified into three categories: 1) Cash flows from operating activities, 2) Cash flows from non-capital financing activities, and 3) Cash flows from capital and related financing activities.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(UNAUDITED)  
(Continued)**

**Net Assets**

The largest portion of the Authority's net assets reflect investments in capital assets consisting of buses, an operating facility, and equipment less accumulated depreciation. The Authority uses these capital assets to provide public transportation services in Butler County, Ohio and in adjacent areas. The table below provides a summary of the Authority's net assets:

**(Table 1)  
Butler County Regional Transit Authority  
Condensed Summary of Net Assets  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Current Assets	\$ 922,740	\$ 1,120,309
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	1,719,178	1,908,283
Total Assets	<u>2,641,918</u>	<u>3,028,592</u>
Current Liabilities	<u>52,158</u>	<u>86,999</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>52,158</u>	<u>86,999</u>
Net Assets		
Invested in Capital Assets	1,719,178	1,908,283
Unrestricted	<u>870,582</u>	<u>1,033,310</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 2,589,760</u>	<u>\$ 2,941,593</u>

During fiscal year 2007 the Authority's cash balance declined due to the timing of a payment from SORTA (which is reflected in an off-setting increase in intergovernmental receivables). The funds in question were received during the first week of January 2008. In addition, the Authority's capital assets decreased as we disposed of some surplus vehicles which were no longer need for transit operations.



**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(UNAUDITED)  
(Continued)**

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets**

Table 2 reflects the changes in net assets in 2007 and 2006.

**(Table 2)  
Butler County Regional Transit Authority  
Condensed Summary of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Passenger Fares	\$ 80,955	\$ 65,726
Intergovernmental Funding	1,081,719	1,028,274
Other Income	31,464	26,009
Total Revenues	1,194,138	1,120,009
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Operating Expenses - Net of Depreciation	1,257,012	1,269,347
Depreciation Expense	142,457	133,360
Loss on Sale of Assets	146,502	-
Total Expenses	1,545,971	1,402,707
 Decrease in Net Assets During the Year	 (351,833)	 (282,698)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	2,941,593	3,224,291
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 2,589,760	\$ 2,941,593

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(UNAUDITED)  
(Continued)**

**Financial Operating Results**

**Revenues** - For purposes of this presentation the Authority groups its Revenues into the following categories:

**Operating Revenues**

**Passenger Fares – Demand Response** – Fares paid by the public to ride the county wide curb to curb service.

**Non-Operating Revenues**

**Intergovernmental Funding Agreement** – This represents Urbanized Federal Funds, which are allocated to the Authority, who in turn passes them on to the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA), who then operates park-n-ride express service from Butler County to Downtown Cincinnati. The funds reported are the “gross” funds allocated to the Authority and has increased slightly due to additional federal funds being allocated to the region.

**Loss on Sale of Assets** – Sale of surplus vehicles. These assets were transferred to the Bay Metropolitan Transportation Authority in Bay City, Michigan. This loss reflects the transfer of the federal/state equity in the vehicles.

**Other Income** – Miscellaneous refunds, credits, and revenue earned by providing space and services to the Transit Alliance of Butler County and others.

**Operating Expenses** - For purposes of this presentation, the Authority groups its Operating Expenses into the following categories:

**Labor and Fringe Benefits** - These personnel costs accounted for approximately 28.1% of the Authority operating expenses (excluding depreciation) in 2007 as compared to 26.7% in 2006.

**Contract Services** - Items under this category include Attorney, Audit, and Transit Management Fees as well as miscellaneous professional services.

**Materials and Supplies** - These costs have decreased from prior years mainly due to reductions in service.

**Utilities** - These costs include natural gas, electric, water, and communication services.

**Casualty and Liability** - The Authority is a member of the Ohio Transit Risk Pool, which sets premiums based on service factors and claims experience.

**Purchased Transportation** – This represents the cost of the park-n-ride service operated by SORTA for the Authority and discussed under Intergovernmental Funding in the revenue section.

**Other** - This category summarizes various expenses not included in other expense categories.

**Capital Assets** – At the end of fiscal year 2007, the Authority had \$1,719,178 invested in land, operating facility, and vehicles. Table 3 shows fiscal year 2007 balances in comparison to 2006 balances:

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(UNAUDITED)  
(Continued)**

**(Table 3)  
Butler County Regional Transit Authority  
Statement of Capital Assets  
For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Non-Depreciable Capital Assets</b>		
Land	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
<b>Depreciable Capital Assets</b>		
Operating Facility	1,776,655	1,776,655
Vehicles	656,288	1,149,381
Total Depreciable Capital Assets	2,432,943	2,926,036
 Total Cost	 \$2,732,943	 \$ 3,226,036
 <b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>		
Operating Facility	(467,851)	(396,785)
Vehicles	(545,914)	(920,968)
Total Depreciation	(1,013,765)	(1,317,753)
 <b>Net Value</b>	 \$1,719,178	 \$1,908,283

**Depreciation** – This category includes depreciation on all capital assets, except land.

**Request for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Authority's finances. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or request for additional financial information should be addressed to the Finance Manager, Butler County Regional Transit Authority, 3045 Moser Court, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

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**Butler County Regional Transit Authority**  
**Statement of Net Assets**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Current Assets:		
Cash on Deposit	\$ 415,187	\$ 1,088,473
Intergovernmental Receivable	501,987	20,268
Accounts Receivable	5,566	11,568
Total Current Assets	<u>922,740</u>	<u>1,120,309</u>
Non-Current Assets:		
Property, Facilities and Equipment		
Land - Non Depreciable	300,000	300,000
Operating Facility	1,776,655	1,776,655
Vehicles	656,288	1,149,381
Subtotal	<u>2,732,943</u>	<u>3,226,036</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(1,013,765)</u>	<u>(1,317,753)</u>
Total Property, Facility and Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation)	<u>1,719,178</u>	<u>1,908,283</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$2,641,918</u></u>	<u><u>\$3,028,592</u></u>
 <b>Liabilities</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$17,326	\$46,685
Accrued Payroll & Benefits	34,832	40,314
Total Current Liabilities	<u>52,158</u>	<u>86,999</u>
 <b>Net Assets</b>		
Invested in Capital Assets	1,719,178	1,908,283
Unrestricted	870,582	1,033,310
Total Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 2,589,760</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,941,593</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

**Butler County Regional Transit Authority**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>		
Passenger Fares - Demand Response	\$ 80,955	\$ 65,726
Intergovernmental Funding	1,081,719	1,028,274
Total Operating Revenues	<u>1,162,674</u>	<u>1,094,000</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Labor	257,776	234,056
Fringe Benefits	95,560	105,341
Contract Services	105,361	135,475
Materials & Supplies	45,836	52,556
Utilities	39,912	40,362
Casualty & Liability Insurance	97,588	104,014
Purchased Transportation	600,000	572,222
Depreciation Expense	142,457	133,360
Other	14,979	25,321
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,399,469</u>	<u>1,402,707</u>
<b>Operating Loss</b>	(236,795)	(308,707)
<b>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>		
Loss on Sale of Capital Assets	(146,502)	-
Other Income	31,464	26,009
Total Non-Operating Revenue	<u>(115,038)</u>	<u>26,009</u>
<b>Net Loss</b>	(351,833)	(282,698)
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>2,941,593</u>	<u>3,224,291</u>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<u><u>\$ 2,589,760</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,941,593</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

**Butler County Regional Transit Authority**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Cash Received From Customers	\$ 89,002	\$ 71,625
Cash Payments - Suppliers for Goods & Services	(325,258)	(318,363)
Cash Payments - Employees for Wages & Fringes	(363,295)	(335,131)
Net Cash Used	<u>(599,551)</u>	<u>(581,869)</u>
<b>Non-Capital Financing Activities</b>		
TABC Contributions Received	20,095	-
Intergovernmental Funding Received	2,365	896,175
Other	3,659	9,349
Net Cash Provided	<u>26,119</u>	<u>905,524</u>
<b>Capital and Related Financing Activities</b>		
Purchase of Vehicles	(129,854)	-
Proceeds from Disposal of Fixed Assets	30,000	-
Net Cash Provided	<u>(99,854)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Increase in Cash &amp; Equivalents</b>	<b>(673,286)</b>	<b>323,655</b>
<b>Cash &amp; Equivalents - Beginning of Year</b>	<b><u>1,088,473</u></b>	<b><u>764,818</u></b>
<b>Cash &amp; Equivalents - End of Year</b>	<b><u><u>\$ 415,187</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$ 1,088,473</u></u></b>
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities</b>		
Operating Loss	\$ (236,795)	\$ (308,707)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities		
Depreciation	142,457	133,360
Other Non-Cash Activities	4,914	-
Changes in Assets & Liabilities		
Accounts/Intergovernmental Receivables Affecting Operating Income	(475,286)	(447,022)
Accounts Payable	(29,359)	33,858
Accrued Payroll & Benefits	(5,482)	6,642
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	<u><u>\$ (599,551)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (581,869)</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

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**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Description of Entity** – The Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio (BCRTA, the Authority), is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. It was created pursuant to Sections 306.30 through 306.71 of the Ohio Revised Code. As a political subdivision, it is distinct from, and is not an agency of, the State of Ohio or any other local governmental unit. The Authority is not subject to federal or state income taxes.

The Authority is directed by a nine member Board, appointed by the Board of County Commissioners of Butler County. The Authority is responsible for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of regional transportation within Butler County.

**Management Agreement with Transit Alliance of Butler County** – The BCRTA has a management agreement with the Transit Alliance of Butler County (TABC), which was formed to promote transportation coordination among the various transit providers in Butler County. This agreement was in place through January 2008. At that time, the BCRTA Board of Trustees voted to cease its management services to TABC. Per the agreement, the BCRTA rented office space to TABC and provided accounting services among other services at a predetermined fee per month. The TABC received state and local grant funding. The BCRTA agreed to contribute funds during 2007 in the amount of \$5,000.00, which is recorded as an expense. BCRTA also provided \$4,399 in in-kind management services to the TABC.

**Reporting Entity** - The Authority complies with the provisions of Statement No. 14 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regarding the definition of the financial reporting entity. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements include only the accounts and transactions of the Authority. Under the criteria specified in Statement No. 14, the Authority has no component units. The Authority is, however, considered to be a related organization of Butler County by virtue of the fact that BCRTA's Board of Trustees is appointed by the County Commissioners and the County's ability to impose its will on the Authority.

These conclusions regarding the financial reporting entity are based on the concept of financial accountability. The Authority is not financially accountable for any other organization nor is any other organization accountable for BCRTA. This is evidenced by the fact that the Authority is a legally and fiscally separate and distinct organization under the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code.

**Basis of Accounting** – The Authority's basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Assets, a Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets, and a Statement of Cash Flows. The Authority follows the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues and expenses are recognized in the period earned or incurred. The measurement focus is on determination of net income, financial position and cash flows. All transactions are accounted for in a single enterprise fund.

In accordance with Statement No. 20 of the GASB, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities that use Proprietary Fund accounting, the Authority has elected not to apply the provisions of the Statements and Interpretations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued after November 30, 1989.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(Continued)**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

Non-exchange Transactions - The Authority complies with the provisions of Statement No. 33 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regarding the Accounting and Financial Reporting for Non-exchange Transactions. This statement requires that capital contributions be recognized as revenue. No capital contributions were received and no related revenue was recognized as revenue in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets for the Authority.

The Authority will continue applying all applicable pronouncements issued by the GASB.

**Fiscal Agent** – The Butler County Auditor serves as the Authority’s fiscal agent. The County maintains Authority funds in the County’s cash pool as an agency fund.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents** - For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Authority considers all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity, at date of purchase, of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

**Investments** - The Butler County Auditor’s office maintains all of the Authority’s funds, no interest is credited to the Authority from these funds.

**Materials and Supplies Inventory** - Materials and supplies (including fuel) are purchased as needed and no parts or fuel inventory are maintained.

**Estimates** - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, at and during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Property, Facilities and Equipment** - Property, facilities and equipment are stated at historical cost. The cost of maintenance and repairs is charged to operations as incurred.

**Depreciation** - Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets, as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Years</u>
Building and improvements	20-40
Land improvements	20
Transportation equipment	5-12
Other equipment	3-15

**Net Assets** - Equity is displayed in two components as follows:

Invested in Capital Assets - This consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation.

Unrestricted - This consists of net assets that do not meet the definition of restricted or invested in capital assets.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(Continued)**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**Operating Revenues and Expenses**

The Authority has classified its revenues as either operating or non-operating. Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the Authority. Revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

**Recognition of Revenue and Receivables**

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) provide financial assistance and make allocations directly to the Authority for operations and acquisition of property and equipment. Operating grants and special fare assistance awards made on the basis of entitlement periods are recorded as grant receivables and revenue over the entitlement period. Capital grants for the acquisition of property and equipment (reimbursement type grants) are recorded as revenue when the expenditure has been made and the revenue is available. Capital grant funds received in advance of project costs being incurred are deferred.

When assets acquired with capital grants funds are disposed of, the Authority is required to notify the granting federal agency. A proportional amount of the proceeds or fair market value, if any, of such property and equipment may be used to acquire like-kind replacement vehicles or remitted to the granting federal agency.

**Compensated Absences** - The Authority accrues vacation, eligible sick pay, and other compensated absences as earned by its Employees based upon the policies of Butler County, Ohio, the Authority's Fiscal Agent. Vacation and compensatory benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employee's right to receive compensation is attributable to services already rendered and it is probable the Authority will compensate employees for the benefits through time off or some other means. An accrual for sick leave is made to the extent that it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments.

**2. EQUITY IN CASH AND DEPOSITS**

Butler County, the Authority's fiscal agent, maintains a cash pool for all its funds, including those of the Authority. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The Authority's carrying amount of cash on deposit at December 31, 2007 was \$415,187.

Butler County is responsible for maintaining adequate depository collateral for all funds in the County's pooled cash and depository accounts.

**3. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLANS**

**Ohio Public Employees Retirement System**

The BCRTA participates in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS administers three separate pension plans. The traditional plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The member-directed plan is a defined contribution plan in which the member invests both member and employer contributions (employer contributions vest over five years at 20 percent per year). Under the member directed plan, members accumulate retirement assets equal to the value of the member and vested employer contributions plus any investment earnings. The combined plan is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that has elements of both a defined benefit and a defined contribution plan. Under the combined plan,

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(Continued)**

**3. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLANS (Continued)**

employer contributions are invested by the retirement system to provide a formula retirement benefit similar to the traditional plan benefit. Member contributions, whose investment is self-directed by the member, accumulate retirement assets in a manner similar to the member directed plan.

OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost of living adjustments to members of the traditional and combined plans. Members of the member directed plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to OPERS, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, OH 43215-4642 or by calling (614) 222-5601 or (800) 222-7377.

For the year ended December 31, 2007, the members of all three plans were required to contribute 9.5 percent of their annual covered salaries. The employer contribution rate for pension benefits for 2007 was 13.85 percent (8.85 to 7.85 percent for pension and 5 to 6 percent for post retirement healthcare with the change in distribution ration taking place on July 1, 2007). The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

The RTA's required contributions for pension obligations to the traditional and combined plans for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$38,956, \$35,896, and \$28,680, respectively; 91.7 percent has been contributed for 2007 and 100 percent for 2006 and 2005. Contributions to the member-directed plan for 2007 were \$35,710 made by the RTA and \$24,494 made by the plan members.

**Post-employment Benefits**

The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) provides postretirement health care coverage to age and service retirees with ten or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit with either the traditional or combined plans. Health care coverage for disability benefit recipients and qualified survivor benefit recipients is available. Members of the member-directed plan do not qualify for postretirement health care coverage. The health care coverage provided by the retirement system is considered an Other Post-employment Benefit as described in *GASB Statement No. 12*. A portion of each employer's contribution to the traditional or combined plans is set aside for the funding of postretirement health care based on authority granted by State statute. The 2007 local government employer contribution rate was 13.85 percent of covered payroll; 5 to 6 percent of covered payroll was the portion that was used to fund health care.

Benefits are advance-funded using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. Significant actuarial assumptions, based on OPERS's latest actuarial review performed as of December 31, 2006, include a rate of return on investments of 6.5 percent, an annual increase in active employee total payroll of 4 percent compounded annually (assuming no change in the number of active employees) and an additional increase in total payroll of between 0.50 percent and 6.3 percent based on additional annual pay increases. Health care premiums were assumed to increase at the projected wage inflation rate plus an additional factor ranging from .5 to 5 percent annually for the next eight years and 4 percent annually after eight years.

All investments are carried at market. For actuarial valuation purposes, a smoothed market approach is used. Assets are adjusted to reflect 25 percent of unrealized market appreciation or depreciation on investment assets annually, not to exceed a 12 percent corridor.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(Continued)**

**3. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLANS (Continued)**

The number of active contributing participants in the traditional and combined plans was 374,979. The number of active contributing participants for both plans used in the December 31, 2006, actuarial valuation was 362,130. Actual BCRTA contributions for 2007 which were used to fund post-employment benefits were \$14,064. The actual contribution and the actuarially required contribution amounts are the same. The actuarial value of OPERS's net assets available for payment of benefits at December 31, 2006, (the latest information available) was \$12.0 billion. The actuarially accrued liability and the unfunded actuarial accrued liability were \$30.7 billion and \$18.7 billion, respectively.

On September 9, 2004, the OPERS Retirement Board adopted a Health Care Preservation Plan (HCPP) with an effective date of January 1, 2007. To improve the financial solvency of the Health Care Fund, OPERS created a separate investment pool for health care assets. Member and employer contributions rates increased as of January 1, 2007 and January 1, 2008, which will allow additional funds to be allocated to health care plan.

**4. MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

In 2004, the Authority contracted with the Lakatos Group to provide management services. Specifically, the Lakatos Group is providing the services of Executive Director. The Director works for the Board of Trustees and oversees the day to day operations as well as directing the strategic planning of the organization. The Executive Director also serves as the liaison to local, state, and federal officials.

**5. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Authority participates in the Ohio Transit Insurance Pool Association, Inc. (OTIP), renamed in 2002 as Ohio Transit Risk Pool Association, (OTRP), related to its risk of property and casualty loss. Under this plan, the Authority receives property and casualty loss coverage in exchange for premiums paid. OTRP self-insures the first \$250,000 of any qualified property loss and the first \$1,000,000 of any qualified casualty loss subject to a \$1,000 per loss deductible. Per occurrence, reinsurance coverage is maintained by OTRP equal to approximately \$200,000,000 for qualified property losses and \$7,500,000 for qualified casualty losses. Any underfunding of the plans liabilities is shared pro-rata by the members based on pool contribution factors comprised of: population, full-time employees, vehicles, property values, budget, claims history times two and net operating expenses.

The Authority continues to carry commercial insurance for all other risks of loss, including workers compensation and employee health and accident insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
BUTLER COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(Continued)**

**6. CAPITAL ASSETS**

	January 1, 2007	Additions	Deletions	December 31, 2007
<b>Non-Depreciable Capital Assets</b>				
Land	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000
<b>Depreciable Capital Assets</b>				
Operating Facility	1,776,655	-	-	1,776,655
Vehicles	1,149,381	129,854	(622,947)	656,288
Total Depreciable Capital Assets	2,926,036	129,854	(622,947)	2,432,943
Total Cost	<u>\$ 3,226,036</u>	<u>\$ 129,854</u>	<u>\$ (622,947)</u>	<u>\$ 2,732,943</u>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>				
Operating Facility	(396,785)	(71,066)	-	(467,851)
Vehicles	(920,968)	(71,391)	446,445	(545,914)
Total Depreciation	<u>\$ (1,317,753)</u>	<u>\$ (142,457)</u>	<u>\$ 446,445</u>	<u>\$ (1,013,765)</u>
<b>Net Value</b>	<u>\$ 1,908,283</u>	<u>\$ (12,603)</u>	<u>\$ (176,502)</u>	<u>\$ 1,719,178</u>



# Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Butler County Regional Transit Authority  
Butler County  
3045 Moser Court  
Hamilton, Ohio 45011

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities of the Butler County Regional Transit Authority, Butler County, Ohio (the Authority), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated August 19, 2008. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Authority's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Authority's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Authority's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

We noted certain matters that we reported to the Authority's management in a separate letter dated August 19, 2008.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We did note a certain noncompliance or other matter that we reported to the Authority's management in a separate letter dated August 19, 2008.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Taylor".

**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

August 19, 2008





**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

**BUTLER COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

**BUTLER COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

**This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.**

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2008**