



## Ohio Hub Train System Fact Sheet

Imagine you are in downtown Cleveland at a morning meeting, and you need to get to downtown Cincinnati for a meeting that same afternoon. Now, imagine walking to the train station, boarding a 110-mph train, and getting off ten minutes from the riverfront in less than 3 ½ hours.

This dream may become a reality, if Governor Taft supports the Ohio Hub passenger train proposal. The Ohio Hub train system would serve four intercity travel corridors and would be integrated into local air, highway and transit networks connecting passengers to suburbs and other outlying areas. The Ohio Hub passenger train proposal was developed by the Ohio Rail Development Commission.

### Environmental Benefits

Our lawmakers have the responsibility to protect us from dangerous air pollution, much of which comes from congested highways and long commutes. In a typical urban area at least half of the hydrocarbon and nitrogen oxide pollutants come from mobile sources, such as cars, planes and trucks. A passenger train would be three times as energy efficient as cars and six times as energy efficient as planes. Adopting the Ohio Hub proposal would work to reduce the public health impacts of aircraft, bus and auto emissions.



### Economic Benefits

Every dollar taxpayers invest in public transportation generates \$6 or more in economic returns. The Ohio Hub train system would revitalize urban areas and it would create jobs in Ohio's manufacturing, construction, railroad and service industries. The Ohio Hub will also save Ohioans money. Congestion costs Americans commuters 4.5 billion hours of delay, 6.8 billion gallons of wasted fuel, and \$78 billion in 1999, and the problem has only gotten worse.

The Ohio Hub passenger train system will give Ohioans the freedom to travel throughout the state while reducing the pollution caused by congested highways. The proposal would also have a positive impact on regional and local business and will create new jobs for Ohioans. Take action today to make the Ohio Hub a reality. Call or write Governor Taft urging him to support this proposal. More information is on the reverse side of this fact-sheet.

~Over~

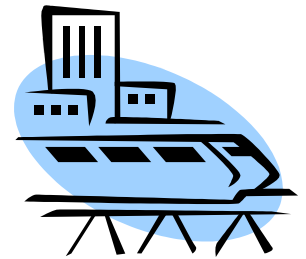
## Act Now to Make your Voice Heard!

Help make the Ohio Hub a reality by:

- Attending a public hearing on the Ohio Hub proposal. Voice your support for passenger trains and provide comments on the proposal! For meeting times and dates, please check out the Ohio Chapter's website at <http://ohio.sierraclub.org/>. If you have questions or if you are planning to attend a public meeting, please contact Ellen Hawkey at [ellen.hawkey@sierraclub.org](mailto:ellen.hawkey@sierraclub.org) or 614-461-0734.
- Call or write your lawmakers. The Ohio Hub train system will go nowhere – if it doesn't have the support of Governor Taft and the Ohio General Assembly. Take a few minutes to write Governor Taft and call your Ohio Senate and House representatives to urge them to support funding of the Ohio Hub passenger train system. *Please remember: short, hand-written letters & phone calls are the best way to communicate with your lawmaker. A sample letter and call script are below:*

### Sample letter

Governor Bob Taft  
77 South High Street, 30th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6117



To the Honorable Governor Taft:

I am writing to ask for your support of the Ohio Hub passenger train proposal. The Ohio Hub passenger train system will give Ohioans the freedom to travel throughout the state while reducing the pollution caused by congested highways. The proposal would also have a positive impact on regional and local business and will create new jobs for Ohioans.

The Ohio Hub is well worth the State's investment. A passenger train would be three times as energy efficient as cars and six times as energy efficient as planes. In addition, every dollar taxpayers invest in public transportation generates \$6 or more in economic returns. Ohio cannot afford to pass up the benefits of a statewide passenger train system. I urge you to support the funding and timely completion of the Ohio Hub.

### Sample call script

You can reach your State Senator and Representative by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-282-0253. If you don't know who your State Senator and Representative are, just visit the following website <http://www.legislature.state.oh.us/>

“Hi, this is \_\_\_\_\_, I am a constituent of Representative/Senator \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling today to ask for his/her support of funding the Ohio Hub passenger train proposal. Passenger trains will greatly benefit Ohio's environment and economy. I would greatly appreciate a response, my address is \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for your time and have a great day.”

**Additional Information:** For more information, please check-out one of the following websites:

<http://ohio.sierraclub.org>  
<http://www.elpc.org/>

<http://www.ohioansforpassengerrail.com/>  
<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/ohiorail/>