



The Time For Trains is Now !

**1-Thousand Friends of
Central Ohio
Annual Meeting
January 22, 2008**

2008: Realities



- \$4/Gallon Gasoline
- Bridge Collapse In Minneapolis
- Cost of Personal Transportation More Than Food
- Recession Straining Family Budgets
- Traffic Congestion, Global Warming
- US Leading Air Polluter

2008: What's Changing?



- Governor Strickland Supports Rail In **“Turn Around Ohio Plan”**
- First-ever Federal Legislation To Create Long-term Passenger Rail Funding Program (S-294)
- \$1.9 Billion/Year for 6 Years
- Grants For Projects Like **“Ohio Hub”**
- Puts Amtrak On Long-Term Funding Plan
- Establishes Performance Standards & Reforms

2008: What's Changing?

- Amtrak Funding Bill Passed
- \$1.325 Billion For One Year
- \$30-Million State Grant Program
- Could Allow Start-up Service In Ohio
- ORDC / Amtrak Talks



National Transportation Policy Commission Report



- **Critical Needs: \$225-\$340 Billion/year on all modes**
- **U.S. Under-Investing: Less Than 40% of What's Needed**
- **Must Invest More \$\$ to Move People & Freight To Remain Competitive**
- **Recommends \$8.1-B Annual Spending On Passenger Rail Over Next 40-plus years**

Why Is 2008 A Unique Moment?



November

2008:

New

President

How Can 1KCO Seize the Moment?



2008: Knowledge Is Power

- **Know federal & state legislation in progress**
- **Know National Transportation Policy Committee Final Report**
- **Know the status of the Columbus Street Car Program**
- **Know the candidates and their contact information**
- **Know the 1000 Friends Advocacy Program, use and follow it**
- **Know the ODOT 2008 Business Plan**
- **Know ORDC's 2008 Priorities**

ORDC 2008 Priorities



- **Systems Approach To All Rail Initiatives.**
- **Federal/State: Seek Action To Obtain \$\$\$ For Freight & Passenger Rail Investment**
- **Ohio Hub: Identify & Pursue \$\$\$ to Incrementally Implement Service**
- **Amtrak Start-Up Service**
- **Develop State Rail Plan**
- **Emphasize Economic Benefits of Rail Investments**

ORDC 2008 Priorities



- **Strengthen & Continue ORDC's Public-Private Partnerships**
- **Continue to Strengthen ORDC Safety Programs**
- **Communicate Clearly, Concisely, Completely, Transparently & Timely**
- **Engage Commissioners in Attaining ORDC Goals**

2008: Advocacy Tools



- [Facebook](#)
- [My Space](#)
- [Urbanohio.com](#)
- [Modeshift.org](#)
- [Allaboardohio.org](#)
- [X-ingColumbus.wordpress.com](#)
- and of course! [1KCO.org!](#)

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Thank You 1KCO !

