FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 18, 2019

Joint Statement from RTA Chairman Paul Hillegonds and General Manager Matt Webb on today’s Municipal Partnership Act Legislation Announcement

Royal Oak, Mi - The Regional Transit Authority's (RTA) mission has been since its inception to manage and secure additional transportation resources that significantly enhance mobility options for all people of Southeast Michigan. Today’s announcement regarding the Municipal Partnership Act legislation provides another potential option to increase investment levels for mobility and transit. The RTA has been saying for many years, Southeast Michigan continues to fall behind other comparable peer regions when it comes to investment in transit. This underinvestment means people in our region have difficulty meeting their daily mobility needs and it puts our region as a whole at a disadvantage from an economic development attractiveness.

If the MPA legislation is passed, it would provide the region with another transportation financing tool that can potentially help us close the revenue gap with our peer regions. The RTA continues to work cooperatively and in partnership with our region’s elected leadership, our public transit providers and the far-reaching list of stakeholders across all four-counties that we interact with who are interested in improving transit and mobility across Southeast Michigan.

About the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA)

The RTA was created in 2012 to plan for and coordinate public transportation in the four-county Southeast Michigan region, including developing a plan for rapid transit. It has a 10-member board whose members are appointed for three-year terms by the county executives of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, the chair of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, the Mayor of Detroit, and the Governor of Michigan. The Governor’s appointee serves as chair and without a vote. For more information, visit www.rtamichigan.org

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