



DATE: February 22, 2008

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Greater Akron Chamber Supports METRO Sales Tax Increase

The Board of Directors of the Greater Akron Chamber unanimously agreed to support the county sales tax increase for the Metro Regional Transit Authority (METRO).

The tax increase, appearing as Issue 8 on the ballot on March 4, would increase the sales tax by one quarter of one percent, raising approximately \$18 million a year. If passed, the total sales tax in Summit County will raise to 6.5 percent.

METRO has already cut a third of its service since 2000. Without the tax increase, service after 5:50 p.m. on nine routes could be cut and all weekend buses could be eliminated. Cuts for next year will include the curb-to-curb service (SCAT) that assists people with disabilities or anyone over the age of 62.

For more information about the tax issue, visit the campaign web site at www.voteformetroscat.org.

For additional information on the Chamber's position, contact Connie Krauss, Vice President, Government Affairs with the Greater Akron Chamber at (330) 237-1247.

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The mission of the Greater Akron Chamber is to drive economic development and prosperity for the people of the Greater Akron Region.