FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Township Senior Transportation Program Re-authorized *METRO; Township Continue Cooperative Arrangement for 2012*

Twinsburg Township, Summit County, Ohio – January 9, 2012 – The Board of Twinsburg Township Trustees at its January 4, 2012 regular meeting unanimously voted to re-authorize the Township Senior Transportation Program for 2012. The 2012 Township Senior Transportation Program pays for METRO SCAT trips by Township residents meeting METRO SCAT age and/or disability requirements, with a 2012 benefit of up to \$72.00 per resident (18 round trips or 36 individual trips @ \$2.00/trip). To participate, an applicant must verify Township residency and present a valid METRO SCAT card. To remain in the Program a participant must agree to comply with METRO SCAT Policies & Procedures and reimburse the Township immediately for any cost incurred in excess of the maximum benefit.

Public transportation in Summit County began with three twelve-passenger horse-drawn carts that ran on light rails mounted to ties running over the muddy streets of Akron in 1882. The Akron Metropolitan Regional Transit Authority (METRO) was established nearly a century later – in 1969 – after a period that saw street cars, trackless trolleys, and even double-decker buses running through a rapidly growing Summit County. County voters first passed a property tax levy to support METRO in 1972. Ensuing years saw facility construction, fleet upgrades, fixed route expansions, and establishment of SCAT, a personalized, pre-arranged, origin-to-destination transportation for older adults and persons with disabilities. Today, using customized vehicles

and specially-trained drivers, METRO SCAT transports nearly 400,000 passengers each year. More information about METRO and METRO SCAT can be found at www.akronmetro.org.

The Township Senior Transportation Program began in 2011 as a way to facilitate Township resident access to existing senior transportation services. In response to Township resident requests, the Board of Trustees established the Program to defray Township residents' costs to utilize the METRO SCAT service offered by METRO RTA. METRO SCAT provides dial-ahead, door-to-door transportation services for Summit County residents who meet METRO SCAT age (62+) and/or disability requirements. The Board of Trustees is pleased to be able to facilitate Township resident access to this existing and outstanding senior transportation service.

Program application forms and other 2012 Program information, including a link to the METRO website, can be found on the Township website, <u>www.twinsburgtwp.com</u>, under Departments – Seniors, and at Township Hall at 1790 Enterprise Parkway, or by calling (330) 425-4497.

About Twinsburg Township

Twinsburg Township was founded in 1817, had a population of 2,828 in 2010, and will soon celebrate its bicentennial with great pride. The Township is home to an unparalleled combination of rich history, abundant natural resources, outstanding parks, well-planned neighborhoods, thriving businesses, and top-notch institutions. Whether you're looking for a great place to live or do business, or just a spot to spend a quiet afternoon, you'll find it all right here in Twinsburg Township. So stop by and see us sometime, and if you can't make it in person, please check out <u>www.twinsburgtwp.com</u> to get a glimpse of all that Twinsburg Township has to offer. For more information, contact Robert S. Kagler, Township Manager, via telephone at (330) 425-4497 or via e-mail at rkagler@twinsburgtwp.com.

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