

# Green Paper



## Senate Bill 315 (As Passed by Senate)

# Supplemental DOT Funds

## Sponsored by Senator Gayle Manning

### Summary

According to ODOT officials, SB 315 includes the following supplemental appropriations for State Fiscal Year 2017:

\* \$6.8 million from Federal TIGER grants to be distributed mostly to rural public transit agencies for equipment to improve transit agency communications and dispatching efficiency.

\* \$2.0 million for public transportation support, to be distributed among all local transit agencies, both rural and urban.

### OEC's Perspective

## SUPPORT

This is a welcome infusion of funding that will help deliver more public transportation benefits: cleaner air, less traffic congestion, and safe, reliable, affordable transportation. ODOT's 2015 Statewide Transit Needs Study found Ohio has a current unmet demand for an additional 37.5 million annual public transit trips; that number is projected to rise to 140 million additional unmet annual transit trips by 2025. The report recommended a substantial increase in state funding support. Public transit is an underappreciated asset. In addition to reduced air emissions per passenger mile, reduced highway congestion, and commuter savings, it also can deliver a potent economic stimulus from transit-oriented development, spurring residential and commercial development.

### Recommendation

**The OEC supports this legislation.**

#### Bill Ratings



This legislation will help resolve a serious problem that threatens Ohio's environment and demonstrates significant leadership for Ohio's future.



This legislation will cause substantial harm to Ohio's environment and demonstrates serious disregard for Ohio's future.



This legislation will benefit Ohio's environment or shows foresight in setting future environmental policy.



This legislation will harm Ohio's environment or sets the state on the wrong path for future environmental policy.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - benefit Ohio's environment.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - harm Ohio's environment.