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Title: To Reaffirm Columbus City Council's Commitment to Transportation Workers and a World-Class Transportation System

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6/12/2018	1	MAYOR	Signed	
6/11/2018	1	COUNCIL PRESIDENT	Signed	
6/11/2018	1	Columbus City Council	Adopted	Pass

To Reaffirm Columbus City Council's Commitment to Transportation Workers and a World-Class Transportation System

Whereas, the City of Columbus is committed to providing all Columbus residents access to reliable, efficient, convenient and - above all - safe public transportation options; and

Whereas, the City of Columbus, COTA, Columbus City Schools and other large institutions employ thousands of bus operators and mechanics, providing middle-class jobs to workers across our region; and

Whereas, we recognize the important role bus operators, mechanics and other personnel play in providing vital transportation services and assistance to thousands of residents traveling each day to work, school, medical appointments, and other important destinations; and

Whereas, full-time employment as a commercial driver, transit or school bus driver and similar positions has provided and continues to provide living wages and benefits for blue-collar workers that help create and sustain middle-class families; and

Whereas, the City of Columbus, as part of its winning proposal in the Smart City Challenge, is committed to utilizing data and technology to address critical problems in Columbus, including the lack of economic opportunity for many residents through enhanced mobility via our public transit system; and

Whereas, we believe Columbus can be a national leader in building collaborative, data-focused systems and training the workforce for newly created transportation, logistics, maintenance and operations jobs, while we also maintain existing and future middle-class bus operator and maintenance jobs; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

That we will continue working with COTA, Transport Workers Union Local 208, our municipal labor force, and all partner agencies in the Smart Columbus effort to improve our local public transportation system by investing in training and employment opportunities based on the understanding that smart technology is designed to uplift people and workers, not replace them.