NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Board of Directors
FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director
DATE: January 4, 2019
RE: Resolution 2019-002: Appreciation to Joseph A. Calabrese

ACTION REQUESTED
The Board of Directors is asked to approve Resolution 2019-002, which thanks and recognizes outgoing Board member Joseph A. Calabrese for his dedicated service to NOACA.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR CURRENT ACTION
Joseph A. Calabrese has served NOACA steadfastly for 19 years (since 2000), most notably as chair and vice chair of the Transit Council and a valued member of the External Affairs Committee, Planning and Programming Committee, Transportation Subcommittee, and former Transportation Advisory Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT
There is no financial impact to this action.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS
Following Board adoption, Joseph A. Calabrese will receive a framed copy of the resolution.

GG/glg
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-002
(APPR ECIATION TO JOSEPH A. CALABRESE)

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina, and the City of Cleveland, and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Calabrese has more than 43 years of experience in both the public and private sectors of the transit industry and currently serves the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) as Senior Advisor for Special Projects and Strategic Innovation and served as CEO and General Manager from 2000 until 2018; and

WHEREAS, Joe Calabrese is the longest-serving general manager in RTA history, and the longest-serving general manager of any multimodal transit system in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Under Joe Calabrese’s leadership, RTA strategically focused on providing outstanding customer service, maintaining a positive image and excelling in strong financial management, with the result that GCRTA has become one of the most respected transit agencies in the nation, recently being named Best Large Size Transit System in North America and Joe Calabrese being named the Outstanding Transit Manager of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Joe Calabrese has received numerous other accolades, such as being listed in Crain’s Cleveland Business Who’s Who in Northeast Ohio in May 2017 for his role in making the region a better place to live and do business; and receiving Governing Magazine’s “Public Official of the Year Award” in 2015, becoming the first transit leader in the nation ever to receive that distinction; and receiving Smart Business Magazine’s “Smart 50” Award in 2015, when GCRTA was also named “One of the 50 Smartest Organizations in Northeast Ohio”; and

WHEREAS, his accomplishments include the downtown trolley, the Healthline Bus-Rapid Transit Corridor which has produced more than $6 billion in redevelopment along Euclid Avenue and the surrounding neighborhoods, the Cleveland State University Line and Stephanie Tubbs Jones Transit Center, the MetroHealth Line, many rebuilt stations and tracks, the addition to bicycle racks to buses, and the use of energy-efficient fuels; and

WHEREAS, before joining GCRTA, Joe Calabrese served as president of the Central New York RTA.; and

WHEREAS, through appointments by two U.S. Secretaries of Transportation, Joe Calabrese served on the U.S. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, he was past president of both the New York State and Ohio Public Transit Associations and is on the board of directors and on several committees of the American Public Transportation Association; and

WHEREAS, he has faithfully served on NOACA’s Board of Directors since 2000, notably as chair (in 2014, 2015, and 2017) and vice chair (in 2016 and 2018) of the Transit Council and a valued member of the External Affairs Committee, Planning and Programming Committee, Transportation Subcommittee, and former Transportation Advisory Committee; and
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-002
(APPRECIATION TO JOSEPH A. CALABRESE)

WHEREAS, he won NOACA’s 2018 Walter F. Ehrnfelt, Jr. Award for Outstanding Regional Contribution; and

WHEREAS, Joe Calabrese holds a degree in Economics from Syracuse University and an MBA from the University of Buffalo, and completed Post-Graduate Fellowships at Northeastern University, The University of Chicago, and at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Joe Calabrese has worked tirelessly to collaborate with numerous partners to provide enhanced transit service and better the lives and transportation options of Northeast Ohio residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of 45 principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina, and the City of Cleveland, that a vote of thanks and continued success be conveyed to Joseph A. Calabrese for his dedication to the development of his community, county, and State, together with best wishes for a prosperous and productive future.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 11th day of January 2019.

Secretary

Date Signed: 1-11-2019