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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC, COTA, car2go and CoGo partner to Challenge Commuters *Commute, Log & Win!*

(Columbus - May 3) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), car2go and CoGo is teaming together to challenge commuters during the month of June. The first ever Make Your Miles Matter Commuter Challenge encourages commuters to vanpool, carpool, take the bus, walk and bike to work, social events and run errands from June 1 through June 30. When using an alternate mode of transportation, commuters simply log their miles to www.morpc.org/commuterchallenge which makes them eligible to win daily and grand prizes. Each commute logged improves the chances of winning a prize. The first 100 people to log a trip will win a pair of Gateway Film Center movie passes. Registration begins May 1st.

The campaign is set to target all of Central Ohio, with an emphasis on Downtown employees and residents, young professionals, and new transit users in an effort to reduce congestion and improve air quality. By having more people using one vehicle, or using alternate forms of transportation, individuals can reduce the amount of fuel purchased, reduce congested roadways, and improve regional air quality.

“In Central Ohio, the single biggest contributor to harmful ozone pollution is emissions from cars and trucks. Ozone pollution can be especially harmful to sensitive groups of people such as children, the elderly, those with respiratory disease such as asthma, and outdoor workers. As we take strides to be healthier, greener, and strengthen our community, these multimodal partners within Central Ohio are excited to work together and host the Commuter Challenge,” states Evelyn Ebert, MORPC Air Quality Program Supervisor.

To learn more about the challenge or to register, visit www.morpc.org/commuterchallenge or go to #MakeYourMilesMatter. **Commute, Log & Win!**

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The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of local governments and regional organizations which envisions and embraces innovative directions in economic prosperity, energy, the environment, housing, land use, and transportation. Our transformative programming, services and innovative public policy are designed to promote and support the vitality and growth in the region.

Working to Build a Better Region

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The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) is the regional public transit provider for greater Columbus and central Ohio. With a service area of 1.2 million residents, COTA employs more than 950 people, and provided more than 19 million passenger trips in 2015. COTA operates throughout Franklin County, and parts of Delaware, Fairfield, Licking and Union counties. For more information about COTA, visit COTA.com or call (614) 228-1776.

CoGo is Columbus' bike transit system operated by Motivate International. CoGo provides residents and visitors convenient access to bicycles on-demand at 41 stations locations in the downtown Columbus area. CoGo serves as both transportation and a recreational amenity offering its customers convenient, fun and affordable transit rentals. Since launching in late July 2013, riders have taken more than 116,000 trips riding over 322,000 miles, collectively burning over 13 million calories and offsetting 219,000 pounds of carbon.

car2go N.A., LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Daimler North America Corporation, offers an innovative mobility solution in rapidly growing urban areas via a carsharing network of eco-friendly smart fortwo vehicles around the world. A flexible and "on demand" mode of transportation, car2go complements existing public transportation by bridging the gaps between the "first and last mile" of a member's commute. Further information on car2go is available at car2go.com and media.daimler.com/ms/car2go/e.