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CLEVELAND PROGRAM PROMOTES CLEAN ENERGY & GOOD JOBS *Cities Innovate for New Energy*

Cleveland's new RTA rail program is highlighted in *New Energy for Cities*, a report released today by the **Apollo Alliance**, as an example of a forward-thinking approach to our national over-reliance on foreign oil. Cities and counties from across the nation are pioneering new clean energy solutions that could help end our nation's oil addiction and create good jobs, according to the report.

"Cleveland is beginning to take steps toward new energy solutions and job creation," said **David Rothstein**, research assistant with Policy Matters Ohio and the Ohio Apollo Alliance. "The city's new rail program will use cleaner fuels and stimulate the downtown economy."

The new "Silver Line" will feature hybrid Rapid Transit Vehicles (RTVs), walking and biking lanes, and a possible fuel cell car project with NASA.

"This means an increase in job access, housing and business opportunities for residents in the Cuyahoga County and beyond," said Joseph Calabrese, CEO of Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. "Clevelanders will see a world-class transit system that is both good for the environment, good for the economy, and a project that once again puts Cleveland on the map as a leader and innovator in the field of transportation."

New Energy for Cities highlights dozens of representative municipal programs that promote renewable power, reduce oil consumption, make buildings more efficient and promote smart growth.

"Our cities are starting to declare energy independence by cutting oil use, investing in clean, homegrown power, and designing energy efficient buildings and communities," said **Jerome Ringo**, President of the Apollo Alliance. "And they're tying these programs to job quality standards, to ensure the benefits of the new energy economy are enjoyed by everyone. These investments are paying big dividends in healthier air and reduced dependence on foreign energy."

The Apollo Alliance is a broad coalition of labor, environmental, business and community organizations that are fighting for energy independence and good jobs. Apollo presents programs for clean energy that will capitalize on American innovation and ingenuity, rebuild our cities, create good jobs for working families and ensure good stewardship of both the economy and our natural environment.

Policy Matters Ohio, a non-profit research group is the Ohio partner for the Apollo Alliance. In a previous study entitled *Generating Energy, Generating Jobs*, Policy Matters found that more than 22,000 manufacturing jobs in renewable energy component parts could come to Ohio through a large national effort to generate wind, solar, and biofuel energy. For more information and reports visit www.policymattersohio.org.

New Energy for Cities is available at: http://www.policymattersohio.org/new_energy_cities_2006.htm

