

## THREE SAMPLES LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

These sample letters are intended only to offer ideas on getting started on writing. Please add your own text to personalize the letter. It is more important that you get the letter done and send it than to spend hours perfecting a masterpiece.

\*\* See the bottom of this file for contact information for newspapers throughout Ohio.

**Tips:** Keep your letters to fewer than 200 words. Some papers allow up to 350 words; others to less than 100. All the sample letters below are 200 words or less. Sign your printed/faxed letter, or use a script font to sign your e-mailed letter (do not attach it, copy and paste it into your e-mail!). Be sure to include your address, city, zip and a daytime phone number as the newspaper will want to confirm you wrote/sent the letter.

**Topics:** There are three basic topics presented here – jobs, subsidies and traveler issues. If you would like more ideas or information for your letter(s), please see All Aboard Ohio's 3C Talking Points...

**For travelers:** <http://freepdfhosting.com/38fe6d024a.pdf>

**For policymakers:** <http://freepdfhosting.com/ef73f8e911.pdf>

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### **About Jobs...**

Dear Editor:

I am writing to voice my support for Ohio's proposal to link eight initial stations between Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati with modern, 79 mph passenger trains. This infrastructure project will immediately create 255 construction jobs and result in thousands more indirect and spin-off jobs, as has happened in less populous states like Maine, Michigan, Oregon and Wisconsin.

The 3C rail project will raise property values around stations, promote redevelopment in our town centers, modernize the freight rail system and reduce shipping and travel costs for Ohio's employers.

There are more than 200 rail industry supplier companies here, employing over 25,000 Ohioans. They have built rail systems for other states and nations. Now they can build one in their own backyard to link Ohioans regardless of their age, income or physical ability with new economic opportunities.

Ohio was fortunate to win \$400 million in federal rail funds for the 3C project. Let's use this to expand Ohio's economy, add jobs and provide low-cost transportation between the

state's universities, tourism sites, employers and the people of this state. I doubt Ohio will see an opportunity like this come down the track again.

Sincerely,

*My Signature*

MY FULL NAME

MY DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER

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**About Subsidies...**

Dear Editor:

I support Ohio's proposal to link eight initial stations between Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati with modern, 79 mph passenger trains. Ohio won \$400 million in federal rail funds to build a foundation for higher-speed trains and enhanced freight rail infrastructure in America's ninth-most densely populated state.

Ohio's 3C trains will be the most comfortable, productive, least expensive way to travel and be America's fastest trains for a new-start rail service in 20 years. AECOM, one of the most respected transportation planning firms, predicts 3C will be the nation's 12<sup>th</sup> busiest rail service.

Stimulus funding for trains and transit creates twice as many jobs as the same funding for roads, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group says. Yet some complain that public funding will go to rail. What a double-standard. Our rail system is mostly privately funded while our highway system is the real ward of the state. Annual funding for 3C trains will be just 0.005 of ODOT's budget. The rest is for highways.

The 3C trains will mean thousands of jobs and \$1.2 billion in benefits for Ohioans. Would Ohio have refused federal highway construction money because it meant having to hire more state troopers or operate more snow plows?

Sincerely,

*My Signature*

MY FULL NAME

MY DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER

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## **About Traveler Issues...**

Dear Editor:

I am writing to voice my support for Ohio's proposal to link eight initial stations between Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati with modern, 79 mph passenger trains. Ohio's 3C trains will be the most comfortable, least expensive way to travel and offer the fastest trains for a new-start rail service in the U.S. in 20 years, All Aboard Ohio says.

I want to use 3C trains because (keep to 20 words) . Based on Midwest rail fares, 3C will be one-fifth the cost of driving and less than a cramped, slow bus. Flying requires taking a second mortgage. No wonder this will be America's 12<sup>th</sup> most popular train service in its first year, according to AECOM, a well-respected transportation planning firm.

ODOT says the transit systems serving all communities with 3C stations have already committed to providing local bus connections to the trains. There would also be taxis, pay-by-hour station cars, bike rentals and urban rail transit in some cases.

This train service is long overdue, especially in the nation's ninth-most densely populated state. I hope my elected officials will let me ride it soon.

Sincerely,

*My Signature*

MY FULL NAME

MY DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER

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See next pages for newspaper contact information.....

**Newspaper contact information**

**Akron Beacon Journal**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, The Akron Beacon Journal • 44 E. Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44308

**Fax:** N/A

**E-mail:** [vop@thebeaconjournal.com](mailto:vop@thebeaconjournal.com)

**Cincinnati Enquirer**

**Mail:** Letters, Enquirer Editorial Page, 312 Elm St., Cincinnati, OH 45202

**Fax:** 513-768-8569

**E-mail:** [letters@enquirer.com](mailto:letters@enquirer.com)

**Cleveland Plain Dealer**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, The Plain Dealer, 1801 Superior Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114.

**Fax:** 216-999-6209

**E-mail:** <http://www.cleveland.com/plaindealer/letter-to-editor/>

**Columbus Dispatch**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, The Columbus Dispatch, 34 S. 3rd St., Columbus, OH 43215

**Fax:** 614-461-8793

**E-mail:** [letters@dispatch.com](mailto:letters@dispatch.com)

**Dayton Daily News**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Dayton Daily News, 1611 S. Main St., Dayton, OH 45409

**Fax:** (937) 225-7302

**E-mail:** <http://www.daytondailynews.com/opinion/65916.html>

**Delaware Gazette**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, The Delaware Gazette, 18 E. William St., Delaware, OH 43015

**Fax:** N/A

**E-mail:** [dimmelt@delgazette.com](mailto:dimmelt@delgazette.com) (call to confirm: 740-363-1161)

**Hamilton Journal News**

**Mail:** Letters to the editor, JournalNews, 228 Court St., Hamilton, Ohio 45011

**Fax:** N/A

**E-mail:** <http://www.journal-news.com/opinion/65960.html>

**Mansfield News Journal**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, The Mansfield News Journal, 70 W. Fourth St., Mansfield, OH 44903

**Fax:** N/A

**E-mail:** <http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/section/CUSTOMERSERVICE03>

**Middletown Journal**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, The Middletown Journal, P.O. Box 490, Middletown, OH, 45042

**Fax:** N/A

**E-mail:** <http://www.middletownjournal.com/opinion/65971.html>

**Springfield News-Sun**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Springfield News-Sun, 202 N. Limestone St, Springfield, OH, 45503

**Fax:** N/A

**E-mail:** <http://www.springfieldnewssun.com/opinion/65954.html>

**Sun Newspapers (Cleveland-area)**

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Sun Newspapers, 5510 Cloverleaf Pkwy, Cleveland, OH 44125

**Fax:** 216-986-6071

**E-mail:** [kinsey@sunnews.com](mailto:kinsey@sunnews.com)

Thank you for writing and sending your letter(s) about 3C passenger rail!