

**M-1 RAIL
QLINE REPORT
TO DONORS**

FEBRUARY 2020

**QLINE
DETROIT**



A message from our CEO Matt Cullen and President Paul Childs

Dear M-1 RAIL Board Members, Donors and Partners,

It was one of Crain's Detroit Business Top Stories Of The Decade. The Detroit Free Press held a Breakfast Club on January 21, 2020 bringing together Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, Wayne County Executive Warren Evans, Oakland County Executive Dave Coulter, Washtenaw County Commission Chairman Jason Morgan, and Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel to discuss it. Detroit News editor Nolan Finley wrote an opinion piece on December 7, 2019 encouraging it.

"It" is a comprehensive regional transit plan and the time is now to make sure that this key initiative, which has importance to the City of Detroit and the region at large, is placed before the voters in November 2020. The successful implementation of a well organized and fully funded regional transit system was always a cornerstone of the ongoing operations of the streetcar. In order for our region to grow and compete, we must provide transit options for all citizens to navigate the region, and we are optimistic that Michigan's legislature will pass House Bill 5229 and pave the way for voters to agree with its value this November.

In keeping with the theme of regional transit, the DART program, which allows for one ticket to ride the SMART bus system, the QLINE, or the DDOT system, was adopted by the QLINE on October 1, 2019, to great success. QLINE passengers and bus riders now have the ability to take unlimited rides on QLINE, DDOT and SMART during their pass time period, eliminating transfers and other additional fees from the previous payment systems. Passes are available for 4-hour, 24-hour, 7-day, or 31-day periods.

Lastly, many thanks to Dr. Leo Hanifin, Dean Emeritus of the College of Engineering and Science at University of Detroit Mercy. Dr. Hanifin resigned from the M-1 RAIL Board of Directors effective December 3, 2019 after many years of service. In his letter of resignation, Dr. Hanifin stated, “Having studied transportation systems across the nation, I believe (M-1 RAIL) is one of the most innovative and impactful transportation initiatives anywhere. It is a model of (Public-Private) collaboration that is recognized by transportation leaders across the nation.” We agree with this sentiment and commend you, Dr. Hanifin, for your dedication and contributions to the Board and the rail system.

And as always, we thank all those involved in this endeavor, either as stakeholders, partners or donors. We are grateful beyond words for your continued and unwavering support. See you along the line.



Matt Cullen, CEO



Paul Childs, President

Focus on the Support Team



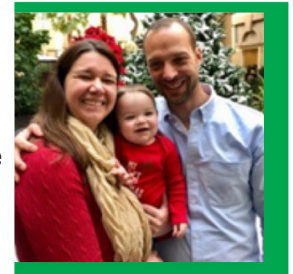
In the last QLINE report to donors, we focused on Lyle W. Dungy, President of Virint, LLC, who provides safety and security services to M-1 RAIL. Continuing to recognize the many groups that contribute to the day to day operations of the streetcar, we're going to focus on the two other service providers who have worked with M-1 RAIL staff for many years.



Apparatus Solutions Inc., through its President Paul Trulik, has been involved with M-1 RAIL from the beginning (back when it was called TRAIL!). Long recognized for its contributions to mission-based entities, Apparatus supplies contract accountants to

many leading non-profits in the Greater Detroit area. Having been part of the organizational meetings right from the start, Paul is a longtime member of the M-1 RAIL Finance Committee. On a day to day basis, three other Apparatus team members, Colette Rizik, Cathy Hilfinger, and Paul Vollmerhausen have provided accounting support to Jenilyn Norman, M-1 RAIL's CFO, for many years. "The Apparatus team provided to me has worked tirelessly to support my role as CFO and their contributions since the beginning of the project have been invaluable to me."

Beyond The Brand, a strategic communications company owned by Dan Lijana, handles communications strategy, media relations, social media and public affairs, and updates the QLINE website. Dan has been the Communications Officer for the QLINE since 2015. Dan says, "Beyond the Brand is proud to contribute to a project with the transformative impact of M-1 RAIL and dedicated to continuing to build public support and a transit legacy for the QLINE and its many supporters." He and his wife Kim live in Ann Arbor with their daughter Isabel and their amazing 3-legged dog Monty.



#wemovedetroit

Fun Facts



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLICKONDETROIT.COM

Rocket Mortgage introduced a new 120-foot float at America's Thanksgiving Parade last November representing all things Detroit. And of course that includes the QLINE! We don't recommend sitting on the roof of the streetcar but we're honored to be a part of the fun!

America fell in love with the Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences Choir as it competed on America's Got Talent last summer. The kids represented their city proudly and have been seen on many shows and at many events nationwide showcasing their infectious enthusiasm and talent. The Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau created a video with the Choir singing "One Nation Under a Groove" filmed at several of the Detroit area's unique landmarks, including the QLINE at the 1:36 mark. Check it out at visitdetroit.com/one-nation-under-a-groove/!



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