Email template - Demand COTA free during heatwave

Send to:

Name	Position	Email	Phone
Garth Weithman	Chief of Staff	weithmanGS@cota.com	614-275-5849
Patrick Harris	VP Government Relations	harrisPW@cota.com	N/A
Andrew Biesterveld	Interim Chief Development Officer	biesterveldac@cota.com	614-275-5969
Craig Treneff	Chair of Board of Trustees	ctreneff@treneff.com	N/A

SUBJECT: COTA must be free to ride until the end of this heatwave
(feel free to modify any of this)

Good morning.

My name is _____ and I am a resident of Columbus, Ohio. During this unprecedented heat wave combined with city-wide power outages, I am writing to request that COTA waive their fares for the remainder of this week so that they can be accessed without obstacle by people needing to (1) stay cool and (2) travel to the other resources in columbus which are not always centrally located. So many people rely on COTA for transportation and the COTA buses are in a unique position to be a widely available refuge for people exposed to dangerous heat.

I implore you to take the life-saving step to make all COTA buses free to all for the remainder of this week.

Please respond as soon as possible as this is an emergency situation

Response after COTA said no:

Thanks for responding.

I know that COTA is free during snow emergencies and during extreme cold events.

Why is it not free during extreme heat, especially when a majority of the city is still without power? Catching a ride on a bus might be someone's only opportunity for air conditioning yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Extreme heat causes death every year in our city.