



Village of Minerva Public Meeting March 1, 2022

# Regional Council of Governments (RCOG)

- ► The governing body of the member partnership
- Currently comprised of over 360 member municipalities and JEDDs in 78 Ohio counties
- Each member municipality has one representative and one vote on all matters involving RCOG
- RCOG is managed by a 9-member Board of Trustees, each serving three year staggered terms
- Each municipality retains its right to administer and enforce its own income tax laws concurrently with the Board
- RCOG formed RITA to administer income tax laws/ordinances of member municipalities
- ▶ RITA covers approximately 50% of Ohio municipalities that have an income tax
- Currently, processing approximately \$1.9 billion in annual tax collections (2021)
- RITA office locations Brecksville, Worthington, Youngstown, Cleveland Heights, & Xenia

### RITA Tax Facts

RITA is not a "municipality," and cannot levy its own income tax - there is actually no such thing as the "RITA Tax."

Rather, the municipal income taxes that RITA administers belong to each of the Ohio cities and villages that have joined with RITA. The income tax is created by the laws of each municipality, and RITA administers these taxes on their behalf.

### OHIO INCOME TAX STRUCTURE

Many individuals in Ohio work in a municipality that has an income tax, and live in a different municipality that also has its own income tax.

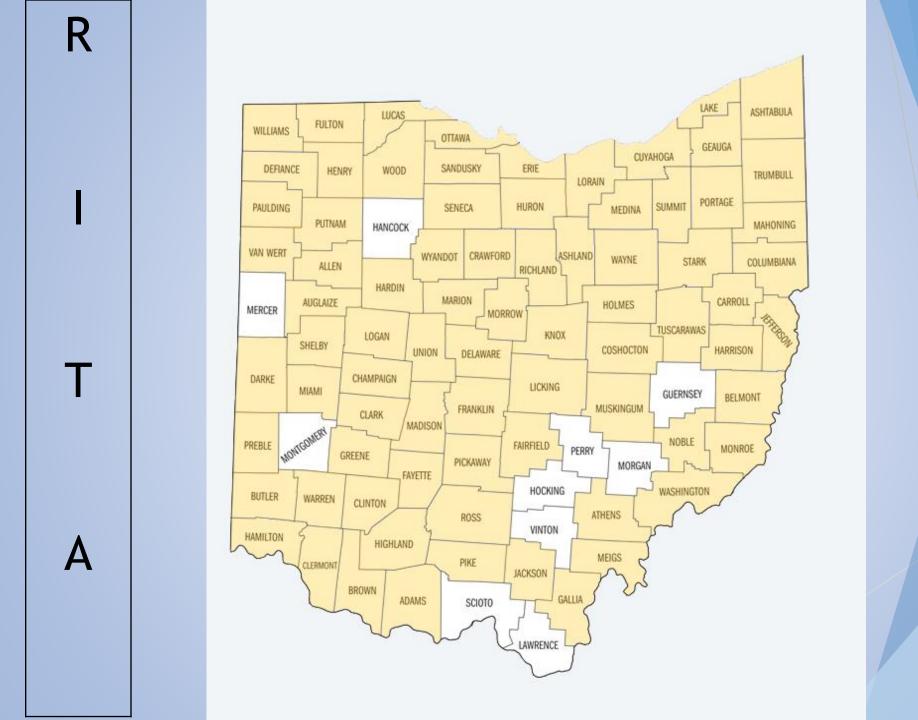




### OHIO INCOME TAX STRUCTURE

- Individuals always owe municipal income tax to the municipality where they work (this is called "work place tax"), but they may or may not owe income tax to the municipality where they live (this is called "residence tax"). Most individuals have the tax owed where they work automatically withheld by their employer.
- RITA provides a **Tax Rates** table that indicates for every RITA member whether, and to what extent, that member provides a "**residence tax credit**" for its residents. Some individuals that owe "**residence tax**" will also have that withheld automatically by their employer (employers are usually not required to do this, but may do so as a courtesy to their employees).

- The Ohio municipality where you live has the right to determine whether to grant a "credit" to its residents who pay income taxes to other municipalities. This "residence tax credit" reduces the income tax residents owe to the city or village where they live when they earn their taxable income in another municipality.
- Other individuals may have to make estimated payments of their residence taxes each year. Of course, if an individual lives and works in the same municipality, the "residence tax credit" is not needed. Residents in these situations only owe tax to one municipality the one in which they both live and earn their taxable income.



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### Software Partners and RITA Resources





#### Professional Tax Software - MeF

- CCH Small Firm ATX
- CCH Inc. CCH Prosystem FX & Prosystem FX
- HRB Development LLC Blockworks
- <u>Drake Enterprises</u> Drake Software
- Thomson Reuters GoSystem/ONESOURCE, Ultra Tax CS, ONVIO TAX
- Intuit Inc. Lacerte & PROCONNECT Tax Online
- TaxAct TaxAct & TaxAct Professional
- On-Line Taxes Inc OLT Pro Desktop, OLT Pro Web, ONLINE Self Prep

#### RITAOhio.com

- E-File
- Fast File
- Fill-in PDF
- Manual forms

### Neighboring RITA Communities

#### **Municipalities in Carroll County:**

Carrollton (14 Miles)

Malvern (5 Miles)

#### **Municipalities in Columbiana County:**

Columbiana (29 Miles)

East Palestine (33 Miles)

Leetonia (26 Miles)

New Waterford (30 Miles)

Salem (22 Miles)

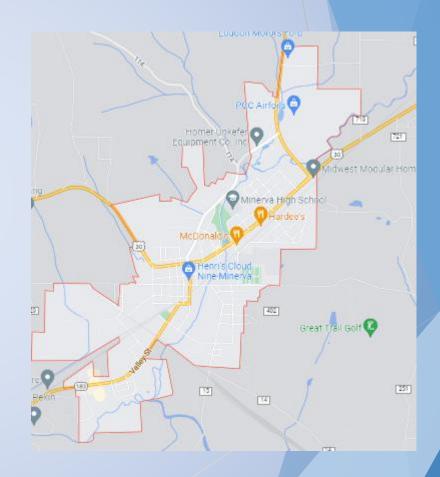
Salineville (20 Miles)

Washingtonville (27 Miles)

Wellsville (32 Miles)

#### **Municipalities in Stark County:**

North Canton (22 Miles)



### **Customer Service**

#### Staffing

- RITA has 200 agents located in Brecksville, Worthington, Youngstown, Cleveland Hts., Mentor & Xenia.
- Servicing taxpayers in person, on the phone, by fax and through our website via secure email or Service Requests.

#### Contacting RITA

- Access our IVR (interactive voice response) 24\7 refund, estimate, payment information
- ▶ Need to talk to an agent? Enter your account number or social security number
- Screen "pops" with taxpayer's account information
- Taxpayer's correspondence is imaged for quick reference
- Account is documented with notes relating to the call
- ► The call is recorded for quality and security
- The taxpayer can choose to complete a survey at the end of the call
- ► Taxpayers are able to send secure e-mail or service requests through our website's "MyAccount"

### Online Services - MyAccount

### See what MyAccount has to offer:

Create MyAccount >

eFile Your Taxes

Make Payments

Check Refund Status

Update Account Profile

View Payment History

Change Your Estimate

Send Secure Messages

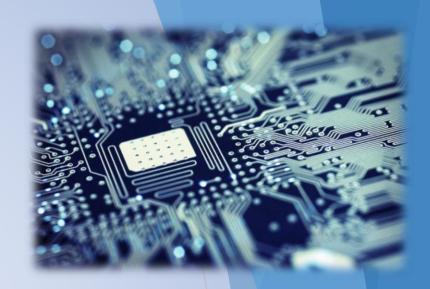
Change Your Address

### Why municipalities partner with RITA?



- Increased Service Levels:
  - Electronic Filing & payment
  - Modernized E-File (MeF)
  - MyAccount (Estimate Payments, Refund Status, Service Requests)
  - ► 24/7 IVR (interactive voice response)
- Increased Collections:
  - Municipalities that join the Regional Income Tax Agency typically experience an increase in income tax collections as a result of RITA's compliance programs.
  - Compliance Programs (delinquency, subpoena, and legal)
  - Access to IRS Data
- Reduced Cost
  - Cost Savings varies depending on your municipality





## QUESTIONS?



