



1-866-579-RIDE, www.PaCommuterServices.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IRS hikes 2009 commuter benefit tax incentive
All four regional transit agencies participate

York, Pa. – Commuter Services of South Central Pennsylvania today alerted employers to an increase in the 2009 federal transportation fringe benefit. The IRS is raising the amount that can be set aside in a worker’s qualified, tax-free transportation fringe benefit plan to \$120 per month from \$115.

“This is an excellent way to encourage commuting alternatives and help workers save money,” said Brandy Heilman, director of Commuter Services.

Federal law allows employers to provide this benefit for workers who commute via bus, train or registered vanpool. Companies can offer employees:

1. a tax-free employer-paid subsidy
2. a pre-tax employee-paid payroll deduction, or
3. a combination of the two in a shared employee-employer-paid program

Commuter Services help employers set up these plans as part of its free services and partners with transit agencies for transit benefits. All four regional transit agencies (County of Lebanon Transit, rabbittransit, Red Rose Transit Authority and Capital Area Transit) distribute and accept passes that qualify for the benefit.

Employers also may purchase TransitChek® vouchers for use in the program.

Employers can contact Commuter Services at 1-866-579-RIDE or visit the Web site, www.PaCommuterServices.org, to learn more.

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About Commuter Services of South Central Pennsylvania:

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Commuter Services is a program of the non-profit Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership, whose board includes the Harrisburg Regional Chamber; the Gettysburg Adams, Lebanon Valley and York County Chambers of Commerce; Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Adams County Transit Authority (ACTA); County of Lebanon Transit Authority (COLT); Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA, Lancaster); York County Transportation Authority (rabbitransit); Capital Area Transit (CAT, Cumberland-Dauphin-Harrisburg); the Lancaster, Lebanon and York metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs); Harrisburg MPO (Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties) and Adams Rural Planning Organization (RPO). Funding is provided by the Federal Highway Administration and PennDOT.
