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Commuter Services Designates Five Employers as "Best Workplaces for Commuters"

York, Pa. (April 23, 2015) – Commuter Services of Pennsylvania, in partnership with the National Center for Transit Research (NCTR) at the University of South Florida, has designated five local employers as "Best Workplaces for Commuters" for 2015. The employers are receiving this national recognition for the standard of excellence they have set while offering an extensive list of commuter benefits and a wide range of transportation options to their employees. Companies who pursue "Best Workplaces for Commuters" status must meet a stringent set of national guidelines established by NCTR. Only a small percentage of employers nationwide possess the willingness and ability to attain this exceptional standing.

The "Best Workplaces for Commuters" designation acknowledges employers who have excelled at implementing green commuter programs. These programs include ridesharing, transit benefits, biking/walking, teleworking, flexible work schedules and other transportation demand management strategies designed to decrease traffic congestion and improve traffic related air pollution levels. By offering these commuter benefits, these five employers are committing to regional pollution reduction, greater economical savings related to commuting costs and lessening employee stress caused by single occupant vehicle travel to and from work. The employers receiving this recognition include:

- Fleetwood Fixtures, Berks County
- PetSmart, Berks County
- County of Dauphin, Dauphin County
- Bayer HealthCare, Lebanon County
- United Natural Foods, Inc., York County

"Best Workplaces for Commuters recognizes employers who offer commuter benefits such as subsidized transit passes, vanpool subsidies, ridematching services or telework programs," said Phil Winters, NCTR's national transportation demand management program director and comanager for Best Workplaces for Commuters. "Offering commuter benefits is a win-win situation for employees who change their commuting habits save time, money and stress and employers who gain a competitive edge in employee recruiting and retention."

Commuter Services will be holding an awards ceremony later this summer to congratulate these employers and publicly recognize their efforts. For more information on "Best Workplaces for Commuters" please visit www.bestworkplaces.org.

Connect with Commuter Services on Facebook (<u>www.facebook.com/CommuterServicesPA</u>) and on Twitter (<u>twitter.com/SaveOnCommutePA</u>).

About Commuter Services 1-866-579-RIDE, www.PaCommuterServices.org

Funding is provided by the Federal Highway Administration through PennDOT and the region's metropolitan planning organizations.

Commuter Services board includes transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations and chambers:

- Capital Area Transit (CAT, Cumberland-Dauphin-Harrisburg), Lebanon Transit (LT), South Central Transit Authority (BARTA, Berks & RRTA, Lancaster) and York Adams Transportation Authority (rabbittransit, York & Freedom Transit, Adams).
- Adams, Franklin, Harrisburg (Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties), Lancaster, Lebanon, NEPA (Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe and Pike counties), Reading and York MPOs.
- The Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC; the Gettysburg Adams, Greater Chambersburg and Lebanon Valley Chambers of Commerce; the Greater Reading and Lancaster Chambers of Commerce & Industry and the York County Economic Alliance.

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