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Contacts:
Brandy Heilman 717-718-0015       Pat Wood 717- 236-3700

May 15, 2008

Commuter Services put up signs of the times
New roadside signs promote transit and carpooling

York, Pa. – With gasoline prices at historically high levels, more commuters are seeking information on options for their commute. To help, new signs are being installed along highways in the region promoting 1-866-579-RIDE, the Commuter Services of South Central Pennsylvania toll-free telephone number.

The 52 blue and white signs suggest either “try carpooling” or “try transit.” They are being placed along some of the most congested highways, such as Interstates 83 and 81, and Routes 222, 283, 30, 322, 422, 11 and 15 in York, Lancaster, Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry and Lebanon counties.

The project is being done by Commuter Services in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) District 8-0.

A poll of regional commuters by Commuter Services in November 2007 showed very strong support for promoting options such as carpools and transit to reduce traffic congestion as well as to help commuters reduce gasoline purchases.

Commuter Services matches carpoolers and vanpoolers through its confidential, online ridematching database (www.PaCommuterServices.org) and, with its transit partners, assists commuters with information on transit services.

Commuter Services also promotes options such as shifts that are outside of normal rush hours, telecommuting, biking, or walking where appropriate. The program includes an aggressive outreach to employers to encourage their participation to help their workforces with options other than driving alone to work.

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About Commuter Services of South Central Pennsylvania:

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 (rabbittransit); 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.