



ALONG THE WAY

2014 Annual Report



FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

A Note from the Chairman

Reflecting on the variety of issues and challenges, Executive Director, Matt Boyer dealt with during the past year – outside of the normal running of the Commuter Services program – I'd like to begin by offering him kudos for a job well done. Additionally, I would like to recognize the Commuter Services program staff, who continues to change the “drive-alone” approach to getting to and from work. Their combined effort truly makes the program the success it has become over the years.

In the past year, the SRTP has examined its role in delivering alternative options to commuters, and studied the impact the Commuter Services program has within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Most of my energy and focus through the past year as Board Chair was spent on this critical and sometimes complicated discussion about offering Commuter Services programming to additional regions in the Commonwealth.

We're seeing positive signs in the community, and I feel we are moving in the proper direction. Commuter Services continues to attract interest from PennDOT and other regions in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Because of these efforts, we anticipate a new MPO region will be joining the SRTP in 2015 and allowing even more commuters to benefit from the programs of Commuter Services.

The close of 2014 also brings an end to both my term as Board Chair and my time as a member of the Board. I will be watching and cheering from afar as the SRTP gears up for a new round of strategic planning. Thank you to everyone involved with the SRTP/Commuter Services program.

I've enjoyed the opportunity and privilege to work with such an outstanding group of people.

Beth Artman
*Susquehanna Regional Transportation
Partnership Board Chairman*



Message from Executive Director

This Annual Report for the Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership (SRTP) highlights the exciting experiences of the Commuter Services of Pennsylvania program in 2014 and offers some insight into the vast success the program has achieved over the years.

As the Executive Director of this outstanding organization I've now twice had the opportunity to summarize the thrilling activities from the prior year. This time around I must first pause for a moment and reflect on a far greater accomplishment than what we have accomplished solely in 2014. On a much larger scale, it is important to note the end of 2014 also brings the sunset to the first 10 years of the SRTP/Commuter Services of Pennsylvania program. This decade of service to the many counties of Pennsylvania was facilitated by the cooperation and hard work put forth by the SRTP Board of Directors, our many community partners and the Commuter Services staff and support team.

Many of the founding members of the SRTP remain with the organization today and continue to guide the future of our programming. There are also many other individuals who were key to the formation of the SRTP, reared this organization exceptionally well during the early years and provided the foundation for our future success, who have since moved on to other endeavors. To all of those board members, past and present, I offer my sincerest appreciation for your time, energy and dedication to our mission!

Early in 2014 the Commuter Services staff opened a conversation about the possibility for regional bike sharing. Since that time, several communities such as Lancaster and Harrisburg have continued on the path to developing the first bike share programs in the region. Beyond bike sharing, 2014 also provided the time frame for Commuter Services to release the first phase of our bike rack map. This online listing of bike racks throughout the service area

enables cyclists to identify convenient places to securely park their bikes while traveling through south central PA.

The latter half of 2014 saw the final pieces of the Best Workplaces for Commuters program begin to come together. We anticipate the first BWC awards banquet in Spring 2015. Late in 2014, two of our partner transit agencies, BARTA in Berks County and RRTA in Lancaster, put their respective organizations under one management umbrella and formed the South Central Transit Authority.

The near future will bring refreshing new opportunities for the Commuter Services program in four more counties to the north of our existing service area. As we embark on the introduction of our services to a new region, we look forward to the formation of new friendships, additional community partners, waves of fresh commuters saving money, and most importantly—less traffic congestion and better air quality.

Before fully letting go of the 2014 year I would like to join the entire SRTP Board of Directors in taking a moment to thank Beth Artman for her service to the SRTP. Beth became Chair of the SRTP just as I came into the organization in January 2013. The past two years working with Beth, and the entire Executive Board, have been professionally rewarding and immensely gratifying. As Beth moves on to new challenges and exciting endeavors with other community organizations in 2015, I wish to offer my heartfelt personal “thank you” for her friendship, guidance and leadership. Good luck Beth!

Matt Boyer
Executive Director



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership (SRTP)/Commuter Services of Pennsylvania promotes commuting options that reduce congestion, conserve natural resources, and improve safety and mobility at a regional level, by educating and implementing innovative Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs.

2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD



Ms. Beth Artman, *Chairman, York County Planning Commission*

Mr. Jonathan Fitzkee, *Vice Chairman, Lebanon County Planning Department*

Ms. Teri Giurintano, *Secretary, Lebanon Transit*

Ms. Kimbarley Williams, *Treasurer, Boyer & Ritter*

Mr. Matthew Boyer, *Executive Director, Commuter Services of Pennsylvania*





Commuter Services of Pennsylvania is instrumental in the active transportation work that is taking place in Lancaster County. They have provided data and evaluation measures that will showcase the success of the collaboration with Lighten Up Lancaster. Commuter Services was an integral part of our Lancaster Bike to Work Day and helped coordinate the annual Bike to Work Week Challenge. We would like to recognize them as a valuable partner in our work to increase the number of individuals that commute via alternative modes of transportation.

Beth Koser Schwartz, Lighten Up Lancaster





Adams County MPO (ACTPO)



Franklin County MPO



Harrisburg Area
Transportation Study (HATS)



Lancaster MPO



Lebanon (LEBCO) MPO



Reading Area Transportation
Study (RATS)



York MPO (YAMPO)

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ADAMS COUNTY

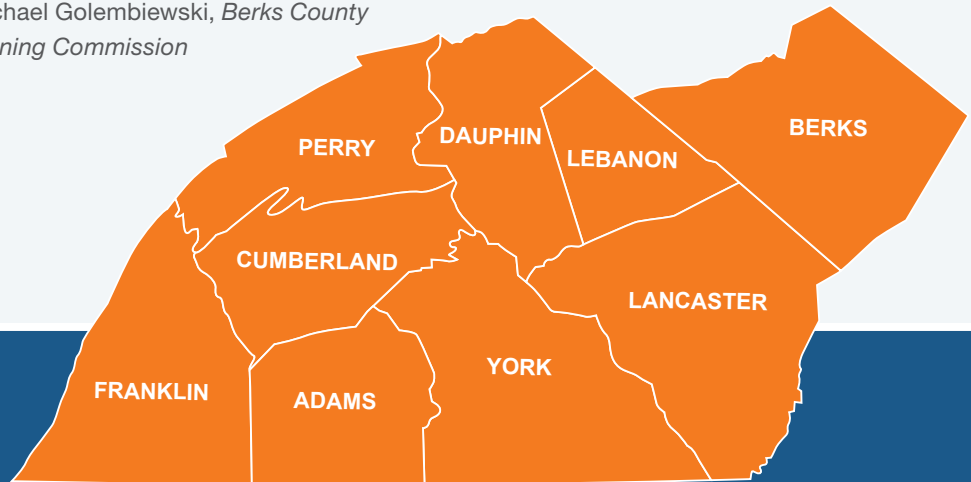
- Ms. Carrie Stuart, *Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce*
- Mr. Andrew Merkel, *Adams Co. Office of Planning & Development*
- Mr. Nick Colonna, *Adams Co. Office of Planning & Development*
- Ms. Chelsea Jeffries, *Adams Co. Office of Planning & Development*

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- Ms. Jackie Iampietro, *Greater Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce*
- Ms. Donna Adkins, *Greater Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce*
- Ms. Sherri Clayton, *Franklin County Planning Department*
- Mr. Larry Camp, *Franklin MPO*

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- Ms. Gail Landis, *Greater Reading Chamber of Commerce & Industry*
- Ms. Natasha Manbeck, *Greater Reading Chamber of Commerce & Industry*
- Mr. Ryan Furgerson, *Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority (BARTA)*
- Mr. Alan Piper, *Berks County Planning Commission*
- Mr. Michael Golembiewski, *Berks County Planning Commission*



HARRISBURG TRI-COUNTY

Ms. Larissa Bailey, *Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC*
Mr. Glen Hair, *Harrisburg Regional Chamber/Gannett-Fleming*
Mr. Bill Jones, *Capital Area Transit (CAT)*
Mr. Tom Young, *Capital Area Transit (CAT)*
Mr. Tim Reardon, *Tri-County Regional Planning Commission*

LANCASTER COUNTY

Ms. Heather Valudes, *Lancaster Chamber of Commerce*
Mr. Thomas Loper, *Lancaster Chamber / Lamar Advertising*
Mr. Thomas Baldrige, *Lancaster Chamber of Commerce*
Mr. David Kilmer, *Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA)*
Mr. Jeff Glisson, *Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA)*
Ms. Harriet Parcells, *Lancaster County Planning Commission*
Mr. David Royer, *Lancaster County Planning Commission*

LEBANON COUNTY

Mr. Dan Logar, *Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce*
Ms. Cindy Binner, *Lebanon Transit*
Mr. Tom Kotay, *Lebanon County Planning Department*
Mr. Dennis Stichter, *Supreme Mid-Atlantic Corporation,
Member at Large*

YORK COUNTY

Ms. Janelle Black, *York County Economic Alliance*
Mr. Richard Farr, *York Adams County Transit Authority
(rabbittransit)*
Ms. Jenna Reedy, *York Adams County Transit Authority
(rabbittransit)*
Mr. Jeph Rebert, *York County Planning Commission*
Ms. Felicia Dell, *York County Planning Commission*



A PLANNED VISION

Our Strategic Plan

The close of the 2014 calendar year brings with it the completion of the first 10 years of the Commuter Services of Pennsylvania program. The success of the first 10 years and the ultimate longevity of this program relies on maintaining a keen focus on the core principles assembled by the SRTP founders a decade ago.

Success of any program is borne from a foundation of common sense, coupled with a targeted energy of the entire team. The SRTP has taken the original team members from Dauphin, Cumberland, Perry, Lancaster, Lebanon and York and strategically expanded the scope of the program into Adams, Franklin and Berks Counties. These counties, representing the south central portion of Pennsylvania, have spearheaded the efforts to decrease traffic congestion and improve air quality for many years. The success generated by this program offers great pride, not only for those in the immediate region, but also for planning and transportation entities across the Commonwealth.

The Transportation Demand Management (TDM) industry has long held that modes of transportation other than the single occupancy vehicle are vital to the development of sustainable communities. In Pennsylvania, we now see new transportation legislation and a growing commitment to the growth and development of multi-modal opportunities. The SRTP looks forward to the common alignment of our core principles of more sustainable transportation modes and the new path of multi-modalism across the state.

As the SRTP looks to the future, the core principles of the Commuter Services of Pennsylvania program will not change. The commitment to educating commuters on all available modes of transportation and actively pursuing new constituencies to implement the usage of carpooling, vanpooling, transit, biking, walking and teleworking remain at the forefront of our efforts. In a similar nature, the Board of Directors for the SRTP will continue to look beyond their current geographic boundaries to search for unserved and underserved localities that may benefit from the implementation of Commuter Services' programming.

While endeavoring to offer a better quality of life for all members of our community, the backbone of our strategic plan continues:

- Pursuing our goals in a fiscally responsible manner
- Working with our partners across the local, state and federal levels of government
- Striving to provide commuters a safer, quicker and less costly ride to work
- Spearheading the efforts to decrease demand on our transportation infrastructure
- Continue to reduce our carbon footprint



BARTA and RRTA form South Central Transit Authority



In December, the Boards of Directors for the Berks Area Regional Transit Authority (BARTA) and the Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA) took action to join the transit agencies and operate under unified management.

After the passing of long-time Executive Director Dennis Louwerse in 2013 left a void in the management hierarchy at BARTA, the leadership began talks with RRTA to consider the possible sharing of its Executive Director, David Kilmer. Initially, David Kilmer served as Executive Director at BARTA through a management agreement with RRTA, and the two sides began to discuss the potential for a merger of the two neighboring agencies.

A number of factors made the merger worth considering:

In addition to their geographic proximity and the common border of Berks and Lancaster Counties, the transit agencies also share individual annual budgets near \$17 million. BARTA has a handful more fixed route buses in their service area, and RRTA maintains a slightly larger fleet of shared vans, however total inventory of vehicles is very comparable.

In April 2014, formal meetings began between the BARTA and RRTA Boards for merging the management components of these transit agencies. Both groups felt a merger would be advantageous in terms of cost savings, and specifically, a management merger would allow each agency to continue to service their community as BARTA and RRTA. A Resolution was drafted that outlined the financial gains to be made by both entities while reassuring the transit service in each community would remain the same.

Through the consolidation of several management positions, and diligent work by the members of the BARTA and RRTA merger committees, the birth of the South Central Transit Authority (SCTA) was finalized in early December 2014. The SCTA will be headed by David Kilmer and the headquarters for the new authority will be at the RRTA offices in Lancaster, Pa.

The immediate cost savings in 2015 is estimated to be \$780,820 by combining the transit agencies. Additionally, the future savings in the next five years has been tallied at \$819,861 in 2016 and grows to an amount of \$996,546 by 2020 for a total five year benefit to taxpayers of \$4,530,250.

“ a total five-year
benefit of
\$4,530,250 ”

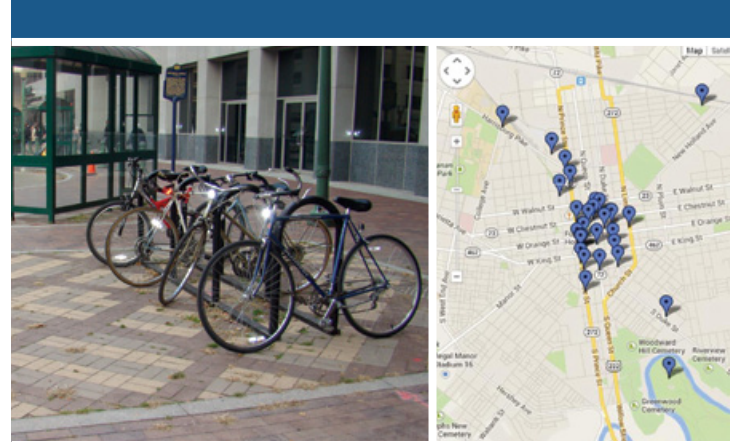


A COMMON ROAD

Regional Bike Rack Map Debuts

Commuter Services consistently looks for ways to assist commuters who make the smart choice to get out of a single occupancy vehicle and utilize a mode of transportation such as bicycling, walking, carpooling, vanpooling, transit or teleworking.

This year, Commuter Services launched its new, interactive Regional Bike Rack Map. The electronic map provides bicyclists with information and locations of more than 120 bike racks throughout the Commuter Services nine-county region. Bicyclists can quickly view photos and site descriptions of each rack and then get directions to the rack, making it easier to find parking while they commute through the area. The map is an ongoing project and will continue to grow with more bike rack locations being added during additional phases of the project.



To view the Bike Rack Map

visit: pacommuterservices.org/bike-rack-map



“Commuter Services provided an opportunity for me to carpool with other people from work. I have also participated in Bike to Work Week since my enrollment in 2011, and I look forward to biking to work again this year. I have found that commuting is a great way to save the environment, save money and it keeps me in shape.”

John Saldibar, Bicycle and Carpool Commuter

Vanpool Appreciation Month

By participating in a vanpool, commuters save money on gas, insurance and wear and tear on their personal vehicle. A typical vanpool consists of eight to 15 riders who have a consistent work schedule and ride more than 20 miles one way to work.

Currently, Commuter Services assists 36 vanpools in a nine-county service area. More than 240,000 miles one-way are eliminated each day by these commuters choosing vanpooling as their commute option rather than driving alone.

During Vanpool Appreciation Month, riders were encouraged to share how vanpooling has impacted their daily commute and a winner was selected from among the submissions.



To view the vanpool entries

visit: www.pacommuterservices.org/vanpoolappreciationmonth2014



IN THE COMMUNITY

Earth Day

In 2014, **336 commuters** logged **69,115 miles** by riding transit, carpooling, vanpooling, bicycling, walking or teleworking during the week of Earth Day, April, 20-26.

Bike To Work Week

A total of **112 participants** logged **3,459 miles** while commuting to work by bicycle during the 2014 annual Bike to Work Week Challenge, May 12-16.

Dump the Pump

The June 19th Dump the Pump Essay Contest encouraged commuters to take a more efficient transportation mode on National Dump the Pump day and to write about it. In 250 words or less, commuters wrote about how much money they have saved and/or how their quality of life has been improved when they "Dumped the Pump" by using a non-single occupancy vehicle commuting option.

Try Transit Month

Commuter Services of Pennsylvania launched its fourth annual 'Try Transit' month in September 2014, encouraging local commuters to try bus or rail transportation options rather than driving alone.

A total of 271 participants, across 16 counties, logged their transit trips. Participants logged a total of 277,656 miles traveled by bus or train instead of their cars during the month of September.



In 2014, Commuter Services...

- Held **63** new employer meetings
- Held **383** follow up employer meetings
- Added **19** employer partners
- Added **13** community partners
- Held **415** worksite events
- Collected **4,716** new applications at events
- Provided **63** emergency rides home
- Has **36** vans in service
- Has **288** current employer and community partners/participants



“ The assistance provided to our vanpool by Commuter Services helps make it affordable for us to commute to work. Our van travels 120 miles round trip each day and some of the riders come from farther away. Thanks for all that you do. ”

David Stein, Vanpool Rider

2014 Commuter Services Staff



New Community Partners in 2014

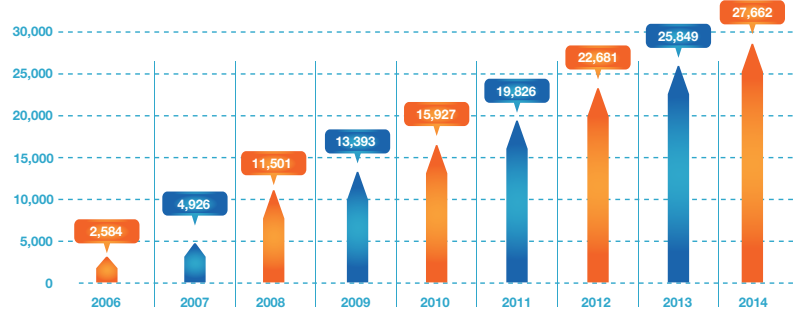
- York Township
- Fairfield Borough
- Bicycle South Central PA
- The Common Wheel
- Lighten Up Lancaster
- Reading Bike Hub
- ReDesign Reading
- Greater Carlisle Chamber of Commerce
- Martin Library
- Springettsbury Township
- Township of Derry
- Union Township
- Elizabethtown Borough

New Employer Partners in 2014

- Comcast
- EDSI Adams, Cumberland, Franklin
- Glaxo Smith Kline – Kenco
- Dollar General
- Southwire Company
- Kmart/Sears Holding Corporation
- Pepsi Beverages
- PetSmart
- Carlisle Carrier Corporation
- Dickinson College
- The Geo Group – Lancaster Reentry Service Center
- Judson Smith
- Environmental Stoneworks
- PSERS
- Hilton Harrisburg
- Amazon Fulfillment Carlisle
- The Performance Group
- Geo Reentry Services (Dauphin County)
- The Geo Group (York County)

Listed clockwise starting from left: Stacy Newcomer, *Deputy Project Manager*, Jessica Bosley, *Outreach Coordinator*, Laura Heilman, *Outreach/Vanpool Manager & Bike/Ped Coordinator*, Tim Beckwith, *Marketing Manager*, Amy Klinedinst, *Programs Coordinator*, Mark Easteadt, *Employer Outreach Manager*, Kandi Fox, *Employer Outreach Manager*, Holly Anderson, *Outreach Coordinator*, Cherylyn Comp, *Employer Outreach Manager*, Matt Boyer, *Executive Director/Project Manager*.

Milestone: 25,000 Commuters in Database



Commuter Services MILESTONES

November 2004

SRTP incorporated as non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

August 2005

Outreach begins to employers and commuters in the 6-county region of York, Lancaster, Dauphin, Lebanon, Cumberland and Perry.

January 2008

Commuter Services announces the launch of its first two vanpools in cooperation with rabbittransit.

February 2005

Brandy Heilman, Executive Director, hired as the first full-time employee. "Commuter Services of South Central Pennsylvania" is chosen as the name for the SRTP's traffic congestion reduction program.

December 2006

Adams County joins the SRTP, expanding Commuter Services' coverage area to seven counties with more than 823,000 commuters.

September 2008

Commuter Services reaches milestone of 10,000 active commuters in the program's database.





April 2009

Berks County joins the SRTP, expanding Commuter Services' coverage area to eight counties with more than 1,000,000 commuters. The program name is changed to "Commuter Services of Pennsylvania."

April 2012

Commuter Services announces the milestone of 20,000 active commuters in the program's database.

October 2013

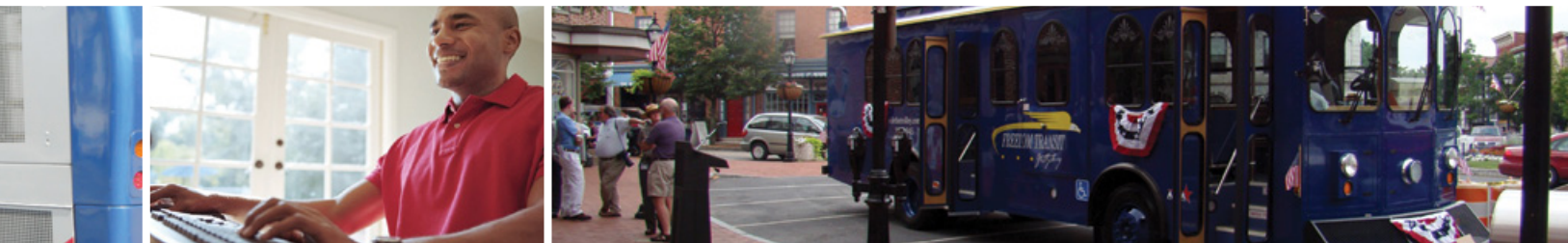
Commuter Services announces the milestone of 25,000 active commuters in the program's database.

June 2010

Franklin County joins the SRTP, expanding Commuter Services' coverage area to nine counties.

January 2013

Matt Boyer succeeds Brandy Heilman as Executive Director.



GET INVOLVED

To find out how you can get involved, visit us at www.PaCommuterServices.org or call us at 1.866.579.RIDE.



[Facebook.com/CommuterServicesPA](https://www.facebook.com/CommuterServicesPA)



[Twitter.com/SaveOnCommutePA](https://twitter.com/SaveOnCommutePA)



Commuter Services is a program of the non-profit Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership, whose board includes:

Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority (BARTA), Capital Area Transit (CAT, Cumberland-Dauphin-Harrisburg), Lebanon Transit (LT), Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA, Lancaster) and York Adams Transportation Authority (rabbitransit, York & Freedom Transit, Adams); Adams, Franklin, Harrisburg (Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties), Lancaster, Lebanon, 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.

Funding is provided by the Federal Highway Administration and PennDOT in partnership with the participating MPOs. ©2015 Commuter Services of Pennsylvania