

SCTA Helps RRTA Celebrate 40 Years

On Friday, April 1, 2016, SCTA officials gathered at RRTA's Queen Street Station to celebrate RRTA's 40 years as Lancaster's public transit system. April 1, 1976, marked when Red Rose Transit Authority officially began operating the public bus system in Lancaster, PA after transitioning the service from the private operator, Conestoga Transportation Company (CTC). Over those 40 years RRTA has carried over 80 Million passengers to their various destinations.

As part of the celebration, Queen Street Station was rededicated and renamed The James J. Lutz Queen Street Station in memory of Jim Lutz, former RRTA Executive Director, who helped with the vision of Queen Street Station. Lutz served RRTA for 29 years and passed away in 2013. In a brief ceremony at Queen Street Station, SCTA officials and members of Lutz's family joined to unveil the new name and plaque that was hung in the Information Center at the transit center.

Queen Street Station was rededicated and renamed The James J. Lutz Queen Street Station



From left to right: Lancaster County Commissioner Dennis Stuckey; Sally Lutz; Executive Director, Dave Kilmer; Keith Lutz and Amy Wright

BARTA Community Highlights

BARTA participated in several community events throughout the year showing support and presence in Berks County. From the Junior League Annual Touch a Truck Event to the Midday Cafe Concert Series to sponsoring the Senior Citizen Reading Phils Game, BARTA showed an active involvement in the community.

BARTA was the site sponsor for the July 29, 2015 MidDay Cafe at Franklin Street Station.



General Statistics

South Central Transit Authority

Total Fixed-Route Ridership: 4,802,740

Total Paratransit Ridership: 539,614

Total Revenue Hours: 432,861

Total Miles Operated: 6,952,110

Total Passenger Miles: 23,328,018

Total Operating Revenues, Federal & State Funding: \$31,590,370

Total Operating Expenses: \$31,296,326

RRTA - Lancaster Division

Ridership

Red Rose Transit (fixed-route buses)

1,911,379 one-way trips

Red Rose Access (paratransit)

296,155 one-way trips

Total Passengers: 2,207,534

Total Revenue Hours of Service: 224,004

Total Miles Operated: 4,031,985

Total Passenger Miles: 12,406,368

Financial Statistics

Operating Revenues: \$7,653,051

Federal Funding: \$1,668,392

State Funding: \$6,550,842

Lancaster County Funding: \$0

Operating Expenses: \$15,430,111

Service Area: Lancaster County, PA

Square Miles: 942

Population: 519,445 (2010 census data)

BARTA - Reading Division

Ridership

BARTA (fixed-route buses)

2,891,361 one-way trips

BARTA Special Services (paratransit)

243,459 one-way trips

Total Passengers 3,134,820

Total Revenue Hours of Service: 208,857

Total Miles Operated 2,920,125

Total Passenger Miles: 10,921,650

Financial Statistics

Operating Revenues: \$5,740,407

Federal Funding: \$1,266,320

State Funding: \$8,711,358

Berks County Funding: \$0

Operating Expenses: \$15,866,215

Service Area: Berks County, PA

Square Miles: 857

Population 413,521

(www.quickfacts.census.gov)



Serving Berks and Lancaster Counties

www.sctapa.com

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

South Central Transit Authority Board

Kevin Barnhardt, Chairman Jeffrey Wibberley, Vice Chairman Timothy Snyder, Treasurer

June Wolf, Secretary Bonnie Glover Gail Landis Cynthia Lonergan

Jeffrey Ouellet Dennis Rex James Schlegel

David Kilmer, Executive Director Jill Nagy, Solicitor

SCTA Headquarters - 45 Erick Road, Lancaster, PA 17601

South Central Transit Authority



Dave Kilmer,
SCTA Executive Director

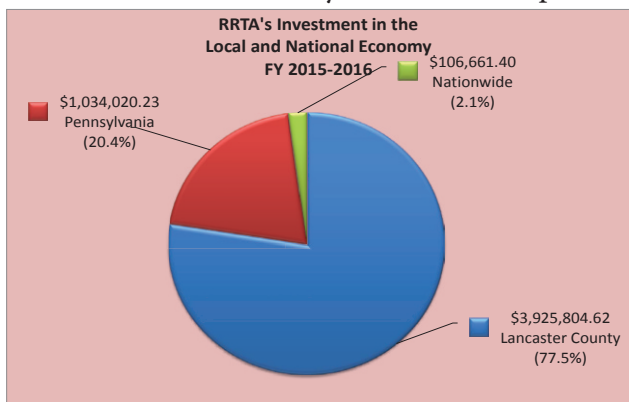
This was the first full fiscal year as South Central Transit managed the operations of both the Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA) and the Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority (BARTA). The merger of the two systems administrative staff continued to progress and identify additional opportunities to improve efficiency and reduce operating costs. Fixed route service in both communities expanded this past year with Sunday service being provided in Reading for the first time in some 25 years and has proven to be very successful with good ridership levels. In Lancaster, service was expanded to Urban Outfitters and Nordstrom which provided good job opportunities in the extreme ends of the county that were not previously served. We continued to acquire new buses in both areas to replace buses beyond their useful life with 16 hybrid electric buses that have improved fuel economy by nearly 30%. There were also 16 new shared ride vehicles purchased this year to keep that service up to date.

One of the big factors affecting the expenses of both services was the continuing drop in the price of fuel. SCTA was able to lock in prices for two years with diesel fuel at \$1.3163 per gallon and gasoline at \$1.1669 per gallon in year one and \$1.5055 per gallon and gasoline at \$1.3214 the second year. Between the two systems, the reductions in fuel cost saved nearly \$750,000; however, the low fuel costs also had a negative effect on overall ridership with both services showing a reduction over the previous year of 4% in Reading and 8% in Lancaster. Part of this loss in ridership was also due to the major snow storm that shut down all services for three days as over 30" of snow fell on the region which hasn't happened since the blizzard of 1996! The harsh winter brought to light the need for renovations at the Queen Street Station in Lancaster and the need for additional inside storage space in Reading, both areas of concern and focus for the upcoming year.

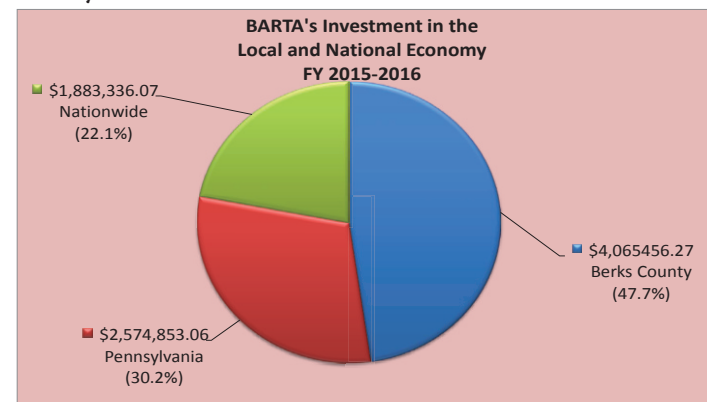
Another opportunity brought about by the merger was a renewed focus on customer service with the Board of Directors adopting performance measures for all aspects of both the fixed-route and shared-ride services. The measuring of performance and the monthly reporting has proven to be a challenge in adopting a uniform set of data collection for both systems, but continuing progress is being made with the end goal of having monthly stats reported to the Board and posted on the website by the end of FY 2017.

Community Investment

SCTA is focused on the communities we serve. Below shows the purchases of the goods and services locally, state-wide and nationally that in turn help boost our economy.



Total Investment: \$5,066,486.25



Total Investment: \$8,523,645.40

Red Rose Transit Authority

Red Rose Transit fixed-route bus services provided 1,911,379 trips in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 on 17 bus routes in Lancaster County.



In August 2015, RRTA approved their annual Route and Schedule changes with changes geared toward helping more people get to work. A brand new route was created to serve Gap with the newly built Urban Outfitters warehouse along Route 30. The schedule was created to try and serve shift changes for riders needing to get there for jobs. Nine trips operate Monday through Saturday on the Route 21/Gap route. As part of this new route, RRTA modified the existing Route 14/Rockvale Square route to only travel to Rockvale Outlets, shortening the route instead of traveling out to Paradise. The Route 21/Gap route serves the area outbound beyond Rockvale Outlets to Urban Outfitters.

The Route 18/Elizabethtown route was extended to provide service to the new Nordstrom facility. The Route 18/Elizabethtown route was also modified to provide service to the Jay Group in Landisville.

Red Rose Access provided 296,155 door-to-door trips in Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

- Senior Citizen Trips: 118,216
- ADA Trips: 27,397
- Persons With Disabilities (PWD): 10,829
- Access to Jobs Trips: 7,352



Red Rose Access provides door-to-door, shared-ride transportation to senior citizens and persons with disabilities in Lancaster County. Red Rose Access is a vital service for many customers to get to critical health care appointments.

Red Rose Transit Authority Board

Jeffrey Wibberley, Chairman Cynthia Lonergan, Vice Chairwoman
Jeffrey Ouellet, Treasurer June Wolf, Secretary Bonnie Glover

Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority



BARTA fixed-route bus services provided 2,891,361 trips in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 on 20 bus routes in Berks County.

Added Sunday Service

On August 24, 2015 BARTA brought back Sunday service to eight bus routes as part of the annual service changes. For several years BARTA did not have any Sunday service. The reaction from customers has been very positive and ridership has been doing well.

Buttonwood Street Bridge Closure

To help the community efforts for alternative commuting options during the Buttonwood Street Bridge Closure, BARTA offered a Park-N-Ride shuttle service from the VF Outlets Parking Lot to Downtown Reading. BARTA offered the shuttle for FREE during the first two weeks of service to allow customers to try it. The shuttle service began in July 2015 but after only two months was cancelled due to lack of ridership.

On-Line BARTA Pass Sales

In October 2015, BARTA began selling bus passes on-line. Customers now have a convenient option to purchase passes if they are not able to visit the BTC or BARTA Offices. BARTA staff process the orders and mail them to the customers within 2 business days.



BARTA Special Services provided 243,459 door-to-door trips in Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

- Senior Citizen Trips: 89,740
- ADA Trips: 55,381
- Persons With Disabilities (PWD): 2,724

BARTA Special Services provides door-to-door, shared-ride transportation to senior citizens and persons with disabilities. BARTA Special Services is a life-line for many customers to get to critical health care appointments.

Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority Board

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