

## ***From Our Director***

As you have probably heard, RRTA and BARTA (Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority) have been in discussions for the last six months about the potential for merging the two transit systems. Those discussions have led to actions taken by both the Lancaster County Commissioners and the Berks County Commissioners to begin the process of forming a new transit authority that will be named the "South Central Transit Authority". Public hearings on the merger are scheduled for November 12, 2014 in Lancaster County and November 13, 2014 in Berks County.

One of the main concerns by both Board of Directors and County Commissioners was that the services provided in both counties would not be affected. The plan will consist of five board members from each county and the formation of an advisory committee from each county to ensure that we involve our customers from both systems. In fact, the service names for both counties will remain the same, so Red Rose Transit will stay Red Rose Transit and the color schemes of the buses will not change. Our customers will not notice any changes to service on the street if the merger is approved, which is exactly what we all wanted. The only effect of the merger is that both transit systems will save on expenses from becoming more streamlined and taking advantage of the combined purchasing power of both systems that will save taxpayers money, which is always a good thing. If everything is approved by both boards and both counties, you will see the new authority become active by the end of the calendar year.

**David W. Kilmer**  
**Executive Director**

## ***Final Draft of Transit Development Plan is Completed***

RRTA's Transit Development Plan final draft was presented to the RRTA Board for acceptance at the October Board Meeting. The report provides an evaluation of RRTA's existing bus service and presents recommendations for improving service to the Lancaster County community for better service coverage, productivity and efficiency. A copy of the report is on RRTA's website on the "News" page.

## ***New Design for RRTA Website***

RRTA has recently redesigned our website. It's been several years since RRTA updated the site and reviewed its functionality. Over the last several months, RRTA has been working on a new design to streamline the site for our customers. Since many of RRTA customers access the website on mobile devices, RRTA wanted to design the site with mobile devices in mind. The new site will be easier to view on any device so customers can access the info. quickly. The new site is also designed for viewers who have disabilities to make it easier to view and navigate.

## ***New Red Rose Access Services Guide Booklet***

To help explain all the services that Red Rose Access provides, RRTA created a Red Rose Access Services Guide in one easy-to-use booklet. The guide provides all the various programs that the shared-ride service has available to those who qualify. RRTA used to have individual brochures but thought it may be easier for customers to see all the programs in one booklet to help determine which program they may be eligible for. The guide will be distributed to customers and to organizations that work closely with the Red Rose Access services.






## ***RRTA to Honor Veterans***

This Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11, 2014, RRTA will honor veterans and allow them to ride FREE on any RRTA bus when they show a Lancaster County Veterans ID card. The FREE ride is a small way to say “thank you” for their service. If veterans do not have an ID Card, they can contact the Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds to apply for one. For more information call 299-8238 or [www.lancasterdeeds.com](http://www.lancasterdeeds.com).



## ***2014 Holiday Service Hours***

Please note the following holiday service changes for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s holidays.

	<u><b>RRTA Bus Service</b></u>	<u><b>Red Rose Access</b></u>	<u><b>RRTA Offices</b></u>
 <b><u>Thanksgiving</u></b>			
Thursday, November 27	No Service	No Service	Closed
Friday, November 28	Regular Service	Regular Service	Open
 <b><u>Christmas</u></b>			
Wednesday, December 24	Regular Service	Regular Service	Open
Thursday, December 25	No Service	No Service	Closed
Friday, December 26	Regular Service	Regular Service	Open
 <b><u>New Year’s Day</u></b>			
Wednesday, December 31	Regular Service	Regular Service	Open
Thursday, January 1	No Service	No Service	Closed
Friday, January 2	Regular Service	Regular Service	Open

Please note that on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve some routes will end service early.

## ***Extended Park City Service Set To Begin For Holidays***

Park City is extending mall hours for the 2014 holiday shopping season. RRTA will also extend operating hours on all three Park City routes beginning Friday, November 28, 2014. RRTA’s extended service hours are based on Park City’s mall hours. Individual retailers at the mall may be open or closed on different schedules.

Rider Alert brochures will be available on board buses and on the RRTA website in November.

## ***Attention Customers***

**Due to ongoing vandalism, RRTA continues to restrict access to the rest rooms at Queen Street Station. If RRTA continues to experience problems, rest rooms may be closed permanently for public use.**