

Red Rose Transit Authority

2010 Annual Report

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010



*RRTA's New "Green"
Operations Center,
45 Erick Road, Lancaster*



*Solar Panels to help with
energy savings*



*A green roof to help with
energy savings and reduce
storm water runoff.*

Red Rose Transit Authority
45 Erick Road, Lancaster, PA 17601
(717) 397-4246
www.redrosetransit.com

Overview

To say that RRTA had some challenges in fiscal year 2009-2010 may be an understatement. Challenges from a bus fire to multiple blizzards to a building collapsing onto a bus in Downtown Lancaster were a few of the challenges RRTA had to face. RRTA also continued to face and fight the challenges of funding public transit in Pennsylvania through a secure and dedicated funding stream. This fiscal year also saw history making ridership decreases due to the poor economy and high unemployment.

In addition, RRTA also began renovations to the 30 year old Operations Center facility in September 2009. The renovations included installation of a geo-thermal system for heating, solar panels and a green roof. Two waste oil burners were also added to recycle discarded engine oil from the buses to heat and cool the bus storage building. Skylights and energy efficient lighting were installed in the administrative offices to reduce lighting needs. “We wanted to use many different types of green features for the entire facility to generate the most energy savings,” stated Dave Kilmer, RRTA’s Executive Director.



Former Operations Center

The renovation project also included expansion and reorganization of the administrative offices, an addition of a larger upper-level mezzanine in the maintenance area and expansion of the bus storage building. “Prior to the renovations,” stated Kilmer, “We couldn’t park all the buses in the bus storage building. Now with the expansion to the building we can place the entire fleet inside at the end of service each day.” Enhanced security features were also added to the building for the safety and security of employees.

Funding for the project came from The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and a Transit Investment Greenhouse Gas & Energy Reduction grant.



With all the challenges and projects, RRTA continued to provide vital transportation services to Lancaster County. Over 8,000 daily trips were performed on Red Rose Transit bus routes and 1,200 daily trips on Red Rose Access shared ride services, helping people live their lives to the fullest. This Annual Report highlights RRTA’s activities throughout the year - showing RRTA’s importance in the community.

Funding Update

The U.S. Department of Transportation rejected Pennsylvania’s application to toll Interstate 80 which was supposed to be a new state funding source for public transit. As a result, the promises of Act 44 in 2007 to create a growing, reliable and predictable funding source for public transit have failed. RRTA’s state funding again remained stagnant for a third year and resulted in minor service reductions and a fare increase for FY 2011. Without a passage of a long-term federal transportation program, funding again remains uncertain with SAFTEA-LU, the federal authorizing legislation, lapsing on October 1, 2009. Due to the economic recession, the issue of added revenues to support new public transit funding on a long-term basis is a major stumbling block at both the federal and state levels. This will most likely result in further reductions of bus service for the next few years.

Red Rose Access Service

Red Rose Access provided 331,494 door-to-door trips in Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Red Rose Access provides door-to-door, shared-ride transportation to senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The Red Rose Access service is a life-line for many customers to get to critical health care appointments. Many customers use the Red Rose Access service for dialysis and chemotherapy treatments.



Red Rose Transit Service



Red Rose Transit provided 1,811,148 trips in Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

RRTA saw the lowest ridership in its history during the fiscal year and is attributed to the economic downturn and resulting high unemployment. 75% of RRTA's riders use the service to travel to work. Due to many riders losing their jobs, RRTA in turn lost ridership.

The Blizzards of 2010

Yes, the winter of 2010 was a memorable one with two blizzards striking Lancaster County less than a week apart causing major business and road closures. February 2010 was marked as the snowiest month on record - ever. Needless to say, RRTA was forced to shut down operations for two straight days during the snowfall. RRTA's drivers, maintenance and administrative staff took the challenge in stride and continued providing service through the many days it took to dig out from all the snow. Spring was a welcomed season for all after the Winter of 2010.

General Statistics

Service Area	Lancaster County, PA
Square Miles	942
Population	502,370

Ridership

Red Rose Transit (fixed-route) passengers	1,811,148
Red Rose Access (paratransit) passengers	331,494
Total Passengers	2,142,642
Total Hours of Service	292,091
Total Miles Operated	4,239,633
Total Passenger Miles	11,260,883

RRTA Helps Census 2010 To Be Counted

RRTA was happy to help the Census staff in their recruiting efforts for census workers during the 2010 initiative. In February and March, Census staff rode RRTA buses providing riders with information on getting a job to help with the Census campaign. Census staff thought that riding the bus and talking to riders would be a great way for them to get the information out about their employment needs. RRTA supported the Census campaign and recognized the importance of everyone being counted so that our community can get accurate funding in the future.

Queen Street Station Phase II



The Lancaster Museum of Art building after a portion of the building collapsed onto an RRTA bus heading to Queen Street Station on Queen Street.



Foundation being constructed for Queen Street Station Phase II on the corner of Queen and Chestnut Streets in Lancaster City.

The second phase of the Queen Street Station started under construction in October 2009 which will add nearly 400 parking spaces, three additional bus berths that will provide access to Chestnut Street, incidental retail space on the corner of Queen and Chestnut Streets and the opportunity for private development on the top of the structure. This \$18 Million project has experienced several challenges with most notably, the collapse of the Lancaster Museum of Art building next to the site on April 14, 2010. While the cause of the collapse remains under investigation, the project was delayed nearly four months with projected completion now late Spring of 2011.

Future Capital Projects

With the completion of the facility renovation project and the Queen Street Station Phase II under construction, RRTA's future capital projects will focus on vehicle replacements with new hybrid engines to reduce fuel consumption and operating costs. The first purchase of two hybrid buses is expected to occur in early 2011 with delivery in 2012. Hybrid buses are showing from 20 - 30% increases in fuel economy.



Red Rose Transit Authority Board

Jeffrey Wibberley
Chairman

Sandra Thompson
Vice-Chairwoman

June Wolf
Secretary

Jon Farrell
Treasurer

Sarah Jane Cisney

Enid Vazquez-Pereira

Bonnie Glover

Jeffrey Ouellet

Anne Osborn

William Cassidy
Solicitor

David Kilmer
Executive Director