Americans board public transportation 35 million times every weekday— that’s more than 10 billion trips annually. From large urban centers, to suburbs, small towns and rural areas, public transit is a cornerstone of our nation’s transportation system and it benefits all Americans.

Americans rely on public transit systems for their daily mobility needs. Whether getting to and from work or school, going to the doctor’s, shopping or visiting with family and friends, public transit provides a vital link for residents and their communities.

Public transportation also plays an important role in the economy, as a $54 billion a year industry directly employing 400,000 Americans and supporting 1.5 million additional jobs. It creates jobs, revitalizes business districts and let’s employers tap into a larger workforce.

Public transit use reduces the nation’s dependence on foreign oil. It saves gas, and reduces congestion, and helps cut our carbon emissions.

As America looks for solutions to today’s challenges, public transit takes us there.

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) is a non-profit association of 1,500 public and private sector organizations, engaged in the areas of bus, paratransit, light rail, commuter rail, subways, waterborne passenger services and intercity, and high-speed passenger rail. This includes transit systems; planning, design, construction and finance firms, product and service providers, academic institutions and state departments of transportation.

More than 90 percent of people using public transportation in the United States and Canada ride APTA member systems.

For more information, 202-496-4800
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PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: MOVING AMERICA FORWARD
A Great Return on Investment

For every $1 billion invested in public transportation 36,000 jobs are created or supported.

76 percent of funding for public transit is spent creating and supporting hundreds of thousands of private sector jobs.

Public transportation saves the nation 785 million hours of travel time and 640 million gallons of fuel annually.

Every $1 invested in public transportation yields $4 in economic returns.

Public Transportation Investment:
- Provides travel choices and independence
- Creates and supports jobs
- Boosts economic growth
- Reduces dependence on foreign oil
- Reduces traffic congestion
- Lowers carbon emissions
- Is critical to homeland security and serves as a lifeline during emergency evacuations

Americans Want More Public Transit Options!

Americans not only say they want more public transit, but they are also willing to pay for it. In 2010, 77 percent of public transit ballot initiatives were approved by voters.

The future of America’s public transportation system is at a crossroads. While more Americans than ever are demanding public transit, infrastructure is aging and resources are shrinking.

To ensure that our nation’s needs are being met, Congress must immediately pass a multi-year surface transportation authorization bill to replace SAFETEA-LU, which expired more than one year ago.