



What is PART?

- ORGANIZATION** The Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation was created in 1997. The existence of PART is based on regional cooperation and the improvements to the transportation systems in the Piedmont Triad Region of North Carolina.
- MISSION STATEMENT** Our mission is to enhance the quality of all forms of transportation for each of our citizens through efficient use and protection of our natural, economic and human resources.
- BOARD OF TRUSTEES** The PART Board of Trustees is a twenty-three member body comprised of representatives of the four largest cities (Greensboro, Winston-Salem, High Point & Burlington), representatives of the four Metropolitan Planning Organizations of the four urbanized areas, a commissioner from each of the 10 member counties, representatives of the two regional airports, and three representatives of the NCDOT Board of Transportation. The Board meets on the second Wednesday of every month at the PART Office.
- STAFF** PART has a current staff of 14 full-time employees who are responsible for the day-to-day operation of finance management, marketing, operations, mobility management, transportation and land use planning.
- AREA OF OPERATION** PART has 10 member counties comprised of Alamance, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin. The 10 county area represents 4,984 square miles or 9.5% of the state's total area. PART provides connections between major cities and counties in the Piedmont Triad. PART works in cooperation with the city bus systems of Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA), Greensboro Transit Authority (GTA) and High Point Transit (Hi tran) who provide transportation access within the city limits.
- PROVISION OF PART PROGRAMS** PART Express: PART Express is the regional bus system connecting the major cities of the Piedmont and bringing people from the outlying counties into the urban areas. 14 PART Express Routes are offered during weekdays with 2 Routes running on the weekend. PART vehicles drive 60,000 revenue miles per year. There are 23 Park & Ride lots scattered across the Piedmont Triad. PART served 544,061 passenger trips in FY '09 with an average length of 26 miles.
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM): The goal of our TDM program is to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and emissions by encouraging people to try alternative forms of transportation such as carpooling, vanpooling, biking, walking, telecommuting and transit, instead of driving alone. During FY 2009, TDM efforts reduced VMT by 17.7 million miles and Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) by 43.8 tons. To achieve its TDM goals, PART serves as a resource to both employers and individual commuters. 15 and 7-Passenger vans are leased to commuters who live at least 10 miles from their workplace. PART hosts Share the Ride NC, a free rideshare matching service, which allows commuters to find other individuals who are interested in sharing a ride and have similar needs. PART manages a guaranteed emergency ride home program for commuters who either live or work in a PART member county and use an alternate form of transportation on the day that an emergency arises.

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PROVISIONS OF PART PROGRAMS (CONT.)

Triad Commute Challenge: The Triad Commute Challenge is an annual TDM effort conducted by PART and Triad Air Awareness in coordination with local area transit systems. Participants are encouraged to try an alternate form of transportation at least one time over a three-month period instead of driving alone. Results have shown that once people try an alternative mode of transportation one time, they continue to do so in the future!

Triad Air Awareness: Triad Air Awareness is an outreach and education program housed at Forsyth County Environmental Affairs Department and partnered with PART to bring air quality information and solutions to the Triad Region. Triad Air Awareness works closely with the PART TDM Program and Marketing Program.

Regional Transportation Planning: PART staff is involved in a number of regional projects related to transit planning, congestion management along regionally significant highway corridors, and impacts of growth and development on mobility and our transportation network. In the area of transit PART is participating in the Regional Transit Technology Project along with GTA, Hi tran and WSTA. PART led the Piedmont Triad Seamless Mobility Study which included all transit and community transportation systems in its region. The study made 54 recommendations as to how the systems could operate more efficiently with enhanced coordination. PART is the custodian of the Regional Travel Demand Model for four MPO's and NCDOT. The model is a transportation planning tool that evaluates the effectiveness of transportation and transit enhances. PART is the facilitator of a multi-jurisdictional land use and transportation plan for an area located along the Guilford-Forsyth county line southeast of Kernersville and northwest of High Point.

Safety Awareness: PART facilitates the Accident Safety Awareness Program (ASAP) to inform the public of the statistics and show them how easy it is to become a responsible driver. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15-20 year olds in the United States. Recognizing the problem is the first step to finding a solution. New programs such as "Click it or Ticket" and "You Booze You Lose" are campaigns North Carolina started to combat the dangers on the road.

SERVICE VEHICLES

There are currently 38 vehicles in the PART fleet, consisting of Orion, Daimler Chrysler and StarTrans makes. 19 Orion VII 40" buses with 39 passenger seats, 8 Orion VII 35" buses with 31 passenger seats, 3 Dodge Sprinters with seating 16 passenger seats, 6 Daimler CL 100's with 18 passenger seats, 2 StarTrans Tour Liners with 31 passenger seats. All vehicles are wheelchair accessible except the Dodge Sprinters. All vehicles also have bike racks.

OPERATING COSTS AND FUNDING

Annual Operating and Capital budgets currently exceed \$15 million. Revenues are received from the Federal Transit Administration, NC Department of Transportation, the Counties in the Partnership, fare box, and the local Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

CONTRACTED SERVICES

PART Express bus service is provided by contract through Coach America. The contractor is responsible for operations to include drivers, supervisors, PART Hub staff, and maintenance. Coach America provides 60,000 hours of service annually. PART also has a contract agreement with Veolia Transportation for the Route 5 NC Amtrak Connector. Veolia provides approximately 2,000 hours of service annually.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional Information is available at www.partnc.org or by contacting Brooke Kochanski at (336) 662-0002 brookek@partnc.org