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## June Ridership Defies Debby and Beats 2011!

Who: Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA)What: 3% ridership increase for June over June 2011

When: June 2012

*How:* By carrying more riders last month than June 2011

"To endure a period of weather like Tropical Storm Debby and *still* show a ridership increase over last year is nothing short of amazing," That's the reaction PSTA Spokesperson Bob Lasher had when he received PSTA's monthly ridership numbers



for June 2012. Last month the agency gave 1,131,217 rides, which is a 3% increase over June 2011 and just shy of the all time record for June set in 2010.

"This is further proof as to how vital mass transit is for our community and economy," says Lasher. PSTA officials say that last month's ridership was only 544 rides short of an all time record for the month of June and are confident that had it not been for Tropical Storm Debby, they would have easily broken that mark. They are ecstatic with the increase over last year and look forward to setting another new ridership record this month. "Every month is another ridership record ready for breaking," Lasher adds.

If you'd like to plan a trip and help PSTA break yet another ridership record, you can visit the agency website at <u>www.PSTA.net</u> or call the PSTA InfoLine at (727) 540-1900.

For interviews or additional information, please contact:

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The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority is the public transit provider for Pinellas County carrying more than 13.1 million riders a year. PSTA operates nearly 40 bus and trolley routes with a fleet of 188 vehicles. To learn more about the services offered by PSTA, or for schedule and fare information, passengers are invited to call the PSTA InfoLine at (727) 540-1900, or visit <u>www.PSTA.net</u>. PSTA is an equal opportunity employer.