



MEDIA ALERT

For immediate release: February 20, 2012

PSTA Sets Yet Another Ridership Record for January!

Who: Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA)

What: Sets new record for ridership

When: January 2012

How: Due to an increase in ridership of 8% over January 2011

Transit ridership in Pinellas County reached an all-time high of 1,126,563 rides for the first month of 2012.

That's a jump of 8% over January, 2011. "We've seen strong ridership across the board," says PSTA CEO Brad Miller. "This is the second month in a row where we've set record ridership with an average increase of 8.5%...

it's very encouraging and proof that people in Pinellas County are willing to ride." Transit officials suspect that higher fuel prices may play a role in the ridership increase, but other factors, such as the economy and [increased tourism](#), can also affect ridership.

In the near future, PSTA is hoping to expand bus service, increasing access to public transit service throughout Pinellas County. Those improvements are part of a new, comprehensive plan featuring [light rail](#) service between St. Petersburg, Gateway and Clearwater. Improved bus services and park and ride facilities will make it easy for citizens in outlying communities to take advantage of this newly designated light rail corridor.

The plan is the result of the recently completed "[Alternatives Analysis](#)" study done by PSTA, the [Metropolitan Planning Organization](#), [Florida Department of Transportation](#) and the [Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority](#). To learn more about the plan, visit www.PinellasOnTrack.com. To learn how to plan a trip and ride PSTA you can visit the agency website at www.PSTA.net or you can call the PSTA InfoLine at (727) 540-1900.

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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 www.PSTA.net. PSTA is an equal opportunity employer.