



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Ridership continues significant upward climb on train and regional buses *Music City Star sets record with 26,989 passenger trips taken in June*

NASHVILLE – Ridership on the Regional Transportation Authority’s (RTA) Music City Star and regional bus routes just keeps on growing.

For the third time this year, the Music City Star set a single-month record for ridership with 26,989 passenger trips taken in June. In June, Music City Star ridership was up 53 percent compared to June 2010. RTA’s regional bus routes also experienced a significant increase in June, up 30 percent compared to ridership on the same routes a year ago.

Ridership on all RTA services increased 42 percent in June 2011 compared to June 2010. For the year, Music City Star ridership is up 40 percent and ridership on RTA regional bus routes is up 38 percent.

“We are very pleased more people are riding the Music City Star and RTA’s other regional services,” RTA Board Chair Jo Ann Graves said. “Middle Tennesseans realize how affordable the service is and that it’s easy to use. Of course, this creates a greater demand to grow our transportation network and the board and staff are working very hard on this.”

Train ridership has been on the rise in 2011 prior gas prices spiking earlier this year and despite 2010 being a record year for ridership on the Star. A previous record of 25,321 passenger trips were taken in March, eclipsing the record of 20,465 set one month earlier in February.

RTA Passenger Trips

June 2010 vs. June 2011			
Route	June 10	June 11	Increase
Music City Star	17,620	26,989	53%
91X Franklin/Brentwood Express	1,908	2,900	52%
92X Gallatin/Hendersonville Express	2,266	2,728	20%
93 Music City Star West End Shuttle	5,171	6,747	30%
95X Spring Hill Express	1,230	1,649	34%
96X Nashville/Murfreesboro Relax & Ride	6,807	8,534	25%

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Year To Date Through June 2010 vs. 2011			
Route	2010	2011	Increase
Music City Star	100,895	141,325	40%
91X Franklin/Brentwood Express	9,530	15,736	65%
92X Gallatin/Hendersonville Express	13,010	17,232	32%
93 Music City Star West End Shuttle	30,643	40,067	31%
95X Spring Hill Express	5,548	8,284	49%
96X Nashville/Murfreesboro Relax & Ride	36,330	49,466	36%

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