



Annual Report on Progress Toward SB 953 Goals

Presented to the Environmental Review Commission
By Tamra Shaw, NCDOT, Public Transportation Division
Dec. 18, 2008



The Ambient Air Quality Improvement Act of 1999

- **Directed NCDOT to develop a plan to reduce the growth of commuter VMT by 25 percent by July 1, 2009.**



Reducing VMT Using TDM

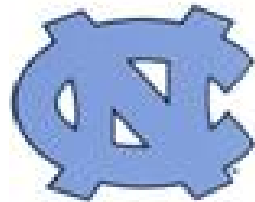
- The goal of TDM is to focus on efforts to **reduce demand for roadway space** by influencing travel choices and the amount and timing of travel, encouraging more walking, cycling, use of public transit, carpooling, vanpooling and telecommuting.



First Steps - 2004

- Publication of the **Statewide TDM Plan**.
- Initial **state funding** to local TDM programs. (Earlier support helped to fund vanpool programs in the Charlotte area, the Triad and the Triangle.)

TDM Programs





While each TDM program has locally focused TDM activity, ALL PROMOTE:

- **A commuter challenge**
- **Vanpool programs in the Charlotte area, the Triad and the Triangle**
- **Best Workplaces for Commuters**
- **The statewide rideshare matching Web site, www.SharetheRideNC.org**

Commuter Challenge

A commuter challenge is a campaign designed to increase general public awareness of alternate commuting options through aggressive marketing and employer site visits.





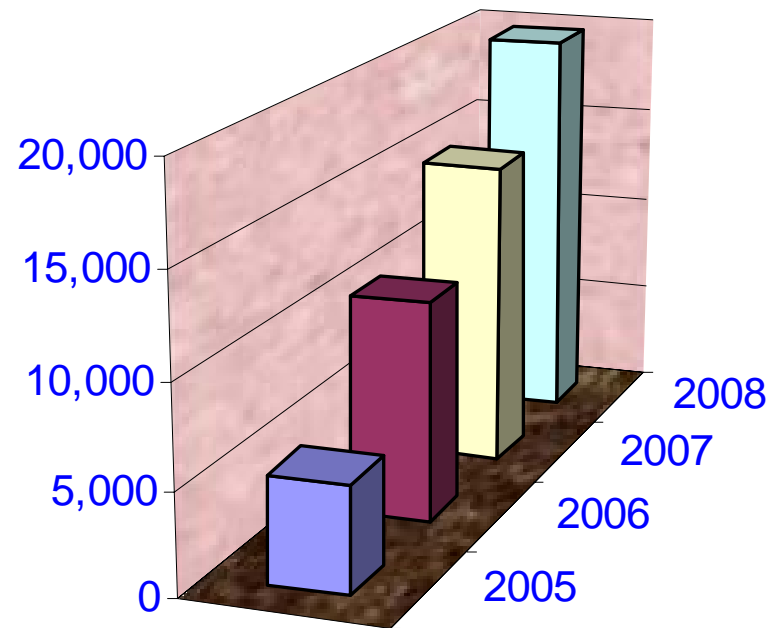
Best Workplaces for Commuters

The Best Workplaces for Commuters Program is a public/private partnership that recognizes employers with outstanding commuter benefits. North Carolina's 66 BWC employers represent more than 100,000 employees.



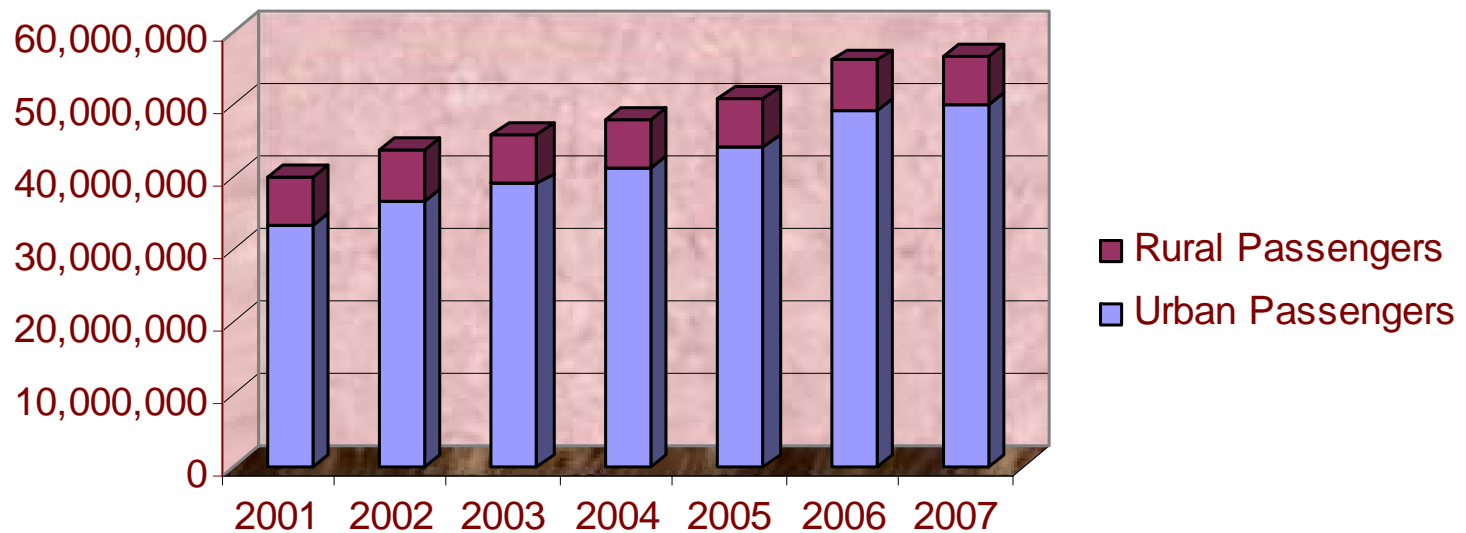
Share the Ride NC

Growth in Share the Ride NC Registrants



Public Transportation

Public Transportation Passengers



Public Transportation



GoPass



The GoPass Program, introduced for state employees in 2003, is a program that allows state employees at participating agencies to ride Triangle Transit and Capital Area Transit fare free. In July and August of 2008, parking coordinators at participating state agencies distributed 4,400 GoPass cards to state employees.

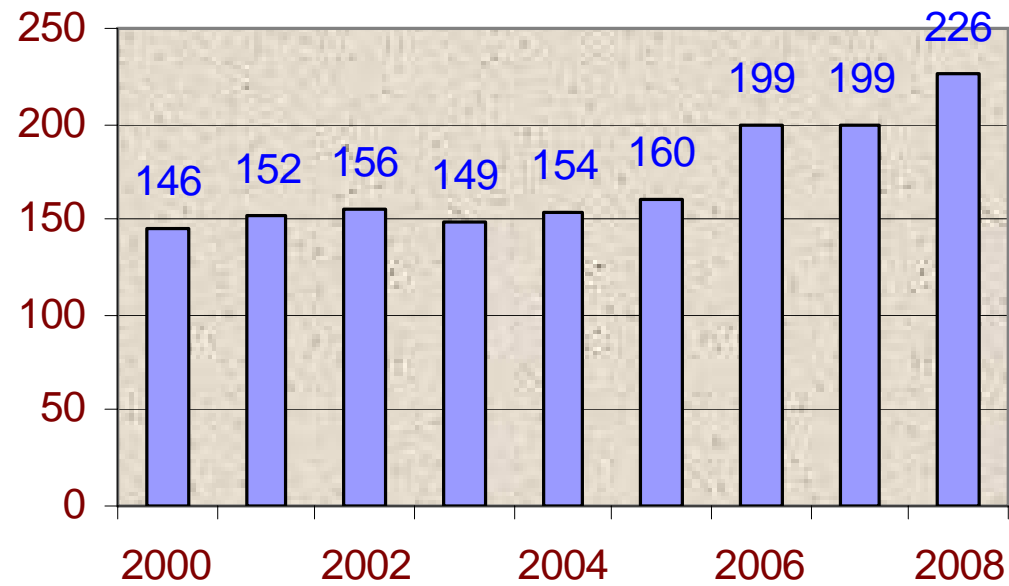
Charlotte's LYNX Blue Line



With initial service in late November 2007, the LYNX Blue Line **quickly surpassed ridership estimates.** Between service inauguration and June 30, 2008, LYNX carried a total of 2.8 million passengers.

Vanpools

Increasing Number of Vanpools





The Bottom Line

- From 2000 to 2008, the projected growth of commuter VMT has been **REDUCED by 24.6 percent.**
- All indications are that the **25 percent target will be met in 2009.**



Innovations & Future Activities

- Triangle area's **seven-year TDM plan** – first of its kind in the **state** – provides strategies to sustain 25 percent reduction in growth of commuter VMT through 2015.
- **Statewide employee commuter survey** every two years.
- Initiative to involve local/regional/state chambers of commerce and economic development entities to raise awareness of TDM programs and benefits to employers and employees.
- **Systematic methodology** to calculate emission reduction and other demand reductions associated with teleworking.
- Standardized **ShareTheRideNC.org** highway signs statewide.



Innovations & Future Activities

continued

- **Public service announcements** produced by the state and distributed by local TDM coordinators to use on local media.
- **Coordination** of local TDM commuter challenges and reporting.
- Possible **partnership with health advocacy groups** to market the health benefits of TDM.
- **Individualized marketing maps and information** focused on a specific neighborhood or geographic area.
- **Cellular phones used by vanpool drivers** to send data regarding vanpool mileage and other information.



Alternative Fuel Vehicles In N.C. Urban Transit

- **As of October 2007, North Carolina's urban transit bus fleet consisted of 818 alternative fuel vehicles:**
 - 682 (83%) ultra-low sulfur diesel buses
 - 124 (15%) bio-diesel buses
 - 5 (<1%) hybrid diesel electric buses
 - 4 (<1%) hybrid electric trolleys
 - 2 (<1%) kerosene buses
 - 1 (<1%) compressed natural gas bus
- **Systems with hybrids** or those awarded grants to purchase hybrids include Asheville, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Durham, Greensboro, Raleigh and Winston-Salem.
- The N.C. Board of Transportation awarded **\$25 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program funds** to seven urban and regional transit systems in May 2008.



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