



PUBLIC TRANSIT

for the people

 FY2018

Dear BRTA

STAKEHOLDERS,

Growing numbers of people from outside the Berkshires are discovering what we always knew. The Berkshires are a great place to be!

What do you enjoy most about life in the Berkshires? For me, it's the available natural resources. The Berkshire venues always impress.

As BRTA administrator, I see a lot of people who struggle to live here. People who are totally dependent on public transit face significant obstacles.

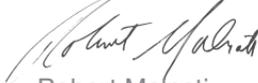
No evening and Sunday service pose challenges. We want to offer the service but increasing operating costs and decreasing state funding have prevented us from doing so.

This year, we analyzed routes and made service changes to create efficiencies and reduce costs.

We believe we ought to be able to provide service that allows people to get to work, go to the doctor, attend church, go shopping, visit friends, and yes, occasionally enjoy some of the attractions that make this region great.

In order to meet these basic transportation needs, funding for public transit must become a priority in Boston. Rest assured, we're working on it.

Best regards,



Robert Malnati

The End of the CAR-DEPENDENCE

Through the 20th century, Americans were dependent on their cars. Today, there are signs that this dependence is on the decline.

Is this good news for the future of public transit? We hope so. Keep in mind, there are many reasons why people choose not to drive. Some people have physical limitations on the ability to drive. There are people who can't afford to drive. There are those who prefer to walk and ride a bike. There are drivers who wish to reduce their carbon footprint and who consciously limit drive time.

16-year-olds
with licenses
declined by **21.7%**
from 1983-2014

EVERY \$1 BILLION
investment in public
transit generates:

50,000
JOBS + **\$642**
MILLION
in tax revenue.

PUBLIC BUSES ARE 99.7% ACCESSIBLE



BRTA BUSES ARE
100% 
accessible

Interest in public transit among policy-makers is increasing. More of them are attuned to what the American Public Transit Association states in its 2017 annual report. Public transit generates jobs and tax revenue.

Public buses are accessible to riders who are wheel-chair bound or who have other physical limitations. Remember, the number of Americans ages 65 and older is projected to more than double by 2060. Finally, bus fleets are being gradually replaced with electric buses or buses that operate with cleaner burning fuels.

There are plenty of reasons to be hopeful about the future of public transit—including RTAs like the BRTA.

Public Transit: More **POSITIVE SIGNS**

There's been an increase in the number of students who are interested in public transit. Some examples include:

An **8th grader** from Great Barrington chose to do his science fair project on the efficiencies within our transit system.

A **BART Charter School senior** chose BRTA for an internship. One of his assignments was to work on the RideMatch website.

BRTA enlisted the help of **BCC students** to help in collecting data on the passenger counter system.

BRTA welcomes the interest of young people in public transit and hopes they'll consider the industry for their future careers.



BRTA Spotlight on

OFFICER DARREN DERBY

Ask Pittsfield residents to name a police officer and chances are great they'll say, "Officer Derby." Among the elementary school set, he's Pittsfield's equivalent of a rock star.

BRTA didn't get to know Officer Derby until two years ago. He wanted to match up kids whose families had financial struggles with police officers. Together, kids and cops would go Christmas shopping for the kids' families. Officer Derby borrowed the idea, Shop with a Cop, from another city.

Year one, BRTA provided a bus and took 15 kids and 15 cops shopping at Target and Walmart. Year two, there were 30 kids and 30 cops. Law enforcement officers were from

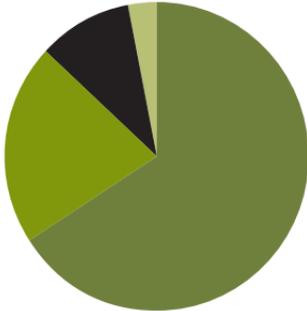
all over the Berkshires, including State Police. Each child received \$100 from a generous donor to shop for their families.

The day started with a pizza party and a stocking filled with goodies. Then off they went to shop. Kids always had enough to buy gifts for the entire family.

Shop with a Cop is one example of Officer Derby's outreach projects in Pittsfield. Be sure to check out his Facebook page for more.

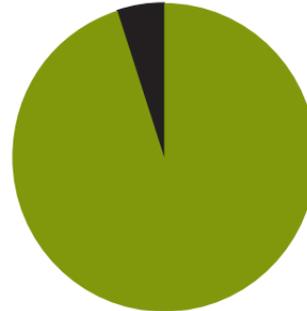
the FINANCIALS

Total Operating +
Non-operating Revenues
of **\$16,700,574** by Source



- Transportation revenues **66%**
- State and local operating grants **21%**
- Federal operating grants **10%**
- Other **3%**

Total Operating +
Non-operating Expenses
of **\$16,730,234** by Source



- Transportation services **95%**
- Administration **5%**

BROKERAGE TRIP HISTORY

DESTINATION	FY18	FY17
DMA (Department of Medical Assistance)	204,569	157,687
DDS (Department of Developmental Services)		
Dayhab	90,777	90,575
Route	13,681	13,243
DPH (Department of Public Health)	3,429	3,957
MRC (Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission)	1,052	1,068
DMH (Department of Mental Health)	3,351	2,814
TOTAL	316,859	269,344

BRTA TRIP HISTORY

	FY18	FY17
BIKES	7,069	7,427
WC	2,019	2,032
TOTAL	9,088	9,459



FY2019 is already looking

BRIGHTER

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