



Merger of BARTA and RRTA

Equitable Transit Summit in Northeast PA
October 17, 2017



How We Got to This Point

- ▶ September, 2013 BARTA Executive Director passes away unexpectedly
- ▶ BARTA Board contacts RRTA for potential assistance
- ▶ PADOT provides technical assistance grant for management services
- ▶ RRTA enters into management agreement with BARTA for six months starting Oct.



Joint Board Retreat – April 8, 2014

- ▀ Options Moving Forward

1. BARTA moves to hire new Executive Director.
2. Continue Management Contract with RRTA.
3. **Explore Merging the two transit systems.**



Joint Board Committee Formed

▶ **Two members from each Board, plus an Alternate**

BARTA: Kevin Barnhardt
Tim Snyder

(alt) Michael Roeberg

RRTA: Jeff Wibberley
Jeff Ouellet

(alt) June Wolf



Joint Board Committee

- ▶ Met nearly every two weeks from May – June.
- ▶ First Task – Merge or No Merge.
- ▶ Recommended Merger by vote of 5-1.
- ▶ RRTA Resolution endorsing Merger 7-28-14 (Vote 8-0, 1 Member Absent).
- ▶ BARTA Resolution endorsing Merger 7-31-14 (Vote 7-1, 1 Member Absent).
- ▶ JBC Meeting Regularly to Review Merger Options – (August-November).

Background Information

Articles of Incorporation – Tab 1

	BARTA	RRTA
Formation	October 1, 1973 Joint City/County-50 yrs	November 28, 1973 Joint City/County – 50 yrs
	Amended July 9, 2010 County Only/Name Change	Amended April 2, 1975 Broader powers to operate
		Amended April 7, 1976 Change to RRTA 7 members
		Amended May 6, 1994 Merged with LISTS -9 members
		Amended February 20, 1997 County Only/Changed 13(c)

Background Information

Operating Budget – Tab 5

BARTA

RRTA

Combined Budget	\$17,260,029	\$16,766,999
Fixed-Route Budget	\$11,102,376	\$9,847,670
Shared-Ride Budget	\$6,157,653	\$6,919,329
Federal Apportionment	\$3,575,544	\$4,793,600
PADOT Act 44 Apportionment	\$7,931,351	\$5,832,842
County Match	\$483,318	\$297,502

Background Information

Vehicle Fleets – Tab 9

	BARTA	RRTA
Fixed-Route Buses	57	42
Average Age	7.89	8.01
Shared-Ride Vans	BARTA - 42 Subcontractor – 9 Total – 51	73
Average Age	1.95	3.80
Service Vehicles	4	3
Administrative Vehicles	6	4
Facilities	Operations Center (Renovated 2005)	Operations Center (Renovated 2009)
	BARTA Transportation Center 2003	Queen Street Station 2005
	Park-n-Transit Garage 2005	Queen Street Station Garage 2012
	Franklin Street Station 2013	

STATEWIDE STATISTICS RANKINGS –FY 2013

SYSTEM	TOTAL BUDGET RANK	TOTAL FR PASS RANK	TOTAL FR SENIOR RANK	TOTAL FR MILES RANK	TOTAL FR HOURS RANK	TOTAL SR PASS RANK
<u>URBAN</u>						
SEPTA - Philadelphia	1	1	1	1	1	2
PACC - Pittsburgh	2	2	2	2	2	1
<u>SMALL URBAN</u>						
AMTRAN - Altoona	16	15	15	17	17	NA
BCTA - Beaver County	14	14	13	14	13	11
BARTA - Reading	7	6	4	6	5	5
CAMTRAN - Johnstown	13	12	5	10	10	15
CAT - Harrisburg	4	7	9	5	7	7
CATA - State College	9	3	19	8	6	17
COLTS - Scranton	11	13	10	11	11	14
COLT - Lebanon	19	19	17	19	19	16
EMTA - Erie	5	5	11	4	4	8
FACT -Fayette County	18	21	21	18	20	10
HPT - Hazleton	20	20	16	20	18	NA
LANTA -Allentown	3	4	3	3	3	3
LCTA -Wilkes Barre	10	11	8	12	12	9
MMVTA -Charleroi	17	17	18	16	16	NA
PART -Pottstown	22	18	20	21	21	NA
RRTA -Lancaster	6	8	6	7	8	4
SVSS - Hermitage	21	22	22	23	23	13
CITY OF WASHINGTON	23	23	23	22	22	NA
WCTA - Westmoreland County	12	16	14	13	15	6
RVT -Williamsport	15	10	7	15	14	NA
YCTA -York	8	9	12	9	9	12
COMBINED AGENCY	3	4	4	4	4	3



POTENTIAL MERGER STRUCTURE

- ▶ BARTA and RRTA consolidate only Management/Administrative Services.
- ▶ Both BARTA and RRTA will remain in existence as operating agencies providing the service.
- ▶ All drivers and mechanics will remain employees of the existing Authorities.
- ▶ All existing assets/liabilities and federal grants will remain with respective Authorities.
- ▶ Management/Administrative Staff at BARTA and RRTA will move over to the new Authority.
- ▶ BARTA and RRTA amend Articles of Incorporation to reduce each Board to five members.
- ▶ New Authority to be created jointly by Berks and Lancaster Counties.
- ▶ New Joint Board will consist of five members from each County; the same five members will serve on their respective new Board for either BARTA or RRTA.
- ▶ BARTA and RRTA will contract with new Authority for management/administrative services.

Cost Savings Goal - Local Match

- Act 89 allows Counties to save the local match for Act 44 funds for five years if systems consolidate.

Current Local Match Projections (Required to increase 5%/yr)

Fiscal Year	Berks	Lancaster	TOTAL
*2015 (Current)	\$483,318	\$297,502	\$780,820
2016	\$507,484	\$312,377	\$819,861
2017	\$532,858	\$327,996	\$860,854
2018	\$559,501	\$344,396	\$903,897
2019	\$587,476	\$361,616	\$949,092
2020	\$616,850	\$379,696	\$996,546
5 Year Savings	\$2,804,169	\$1,726,081	\$4,530,250

Potential Annual Cost Savings

<u>ITEM - NON STAFFING</u>	<u>COST SAVINGS</u>
1. Legal Services - 1 Solicitor	\$6,000
2. APTA Dues	\$7,000
3. IT - TS Tech Monthly Fee \$2,696 Eliminated	\$32,352
4. IT - Yearly off-site backup storage	\$1,000
5. IT - MAS 90 license fee	\$2,500
6. IT - Shoretel Maintenance - phones	\$2,146
7. IT -Point to-Point wireless @ Franklin Street – Eliminate Comcast	\$1,320
8. IT -Maintenance software support	\$2,000
9. Reducing cell phones (3)	\$1,689
10. Health Care	\$35,000
11. Joint Bus Part Procurement – Approx.	\$83,326
Subtotal	<u>\$174,333</u>

Potential Annual Cost Savings

Non Staffing Cost Savings	\$174,333
Staffing Cost Savings (7-8 positions)	\$656,214

Total Potential Annual Cost Savings	<u>\$830,540</u>
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Combined Local Match Berks/Lancaster	\$780,820
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Difference	\$49,720
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OVERALL POTENTIAL 5 YR SAVINGS	<u>*\$4,778,850</u>
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Potential Five Year Savings – Berks County	\$2,804,169
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Lancaster County	\$1,726,081
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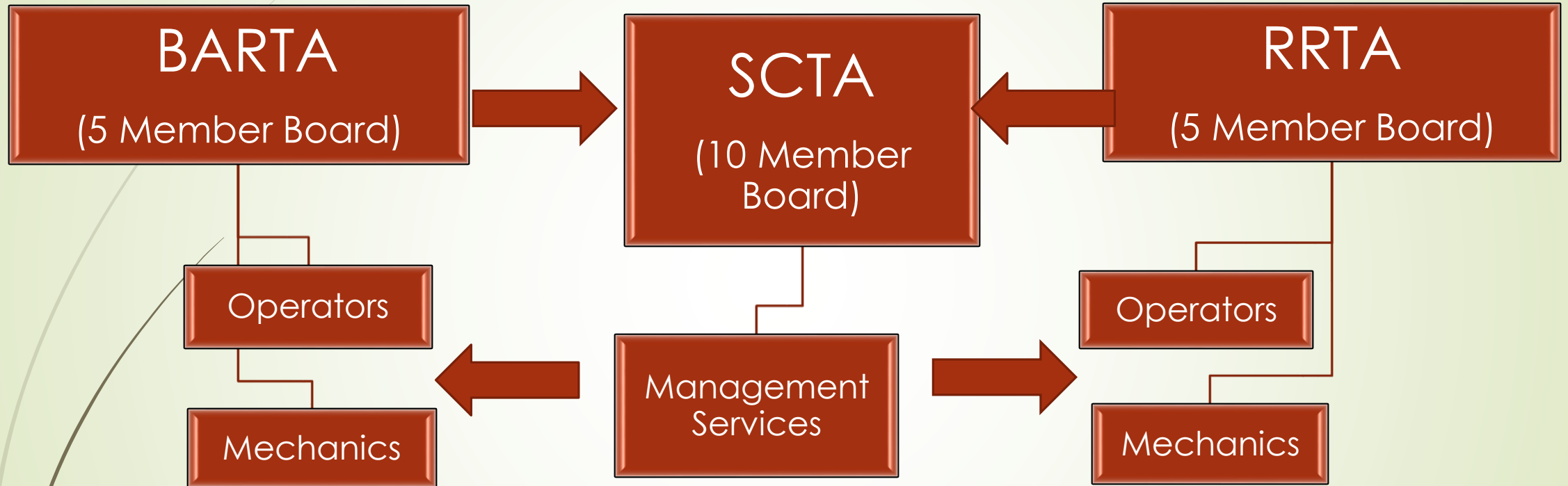
*Local Match under Act 44 required to increase 5% per year until 15% level is reached



RECOMMENDED NEW AUTHORITY STRUCTURE

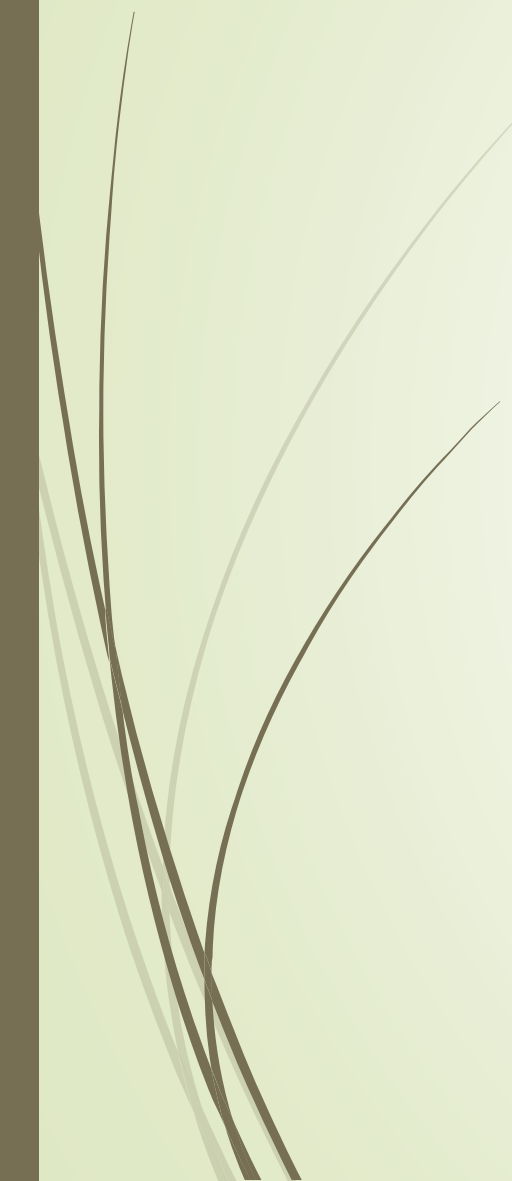
- ▶ Recommended by Joint Board Committee, BARTA and RRTA.
- ▶ Both Counties save on entire local match for five years - \$4,530,250 (Act 89).
- ▶ After five years the local match picks up at the FY 2015 level – \$780,820, without consolidation, local match would be \$379,696 Lancaster/\$616,850 Berks.
- ▶ After five years, the local match is split 50/50 between Berks/Lancaster Counties.
- ▶ New Authority Headquarters will be at RRTA due to health care consortium.
- ▶ New Authority becomes designated recipient for federal transit funds and state operating/capital funds.
- ▶ New Authority will be named **"South Central Transit Authority"**.

NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE





South Central Transit Authority

- ▶ Articles of Incorporation filed December 1, 2014
 - ▶ Inaugural Meeting held on December 11, 2014
 - ▶ Board of Directors meet third Wednesday at 6:00 PM
 - ▶ Alternate meeting locations between Reading & Lancaster
 - ▶ BARTA and RRTA Boards meet as needed
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Inaugural Board Meeting



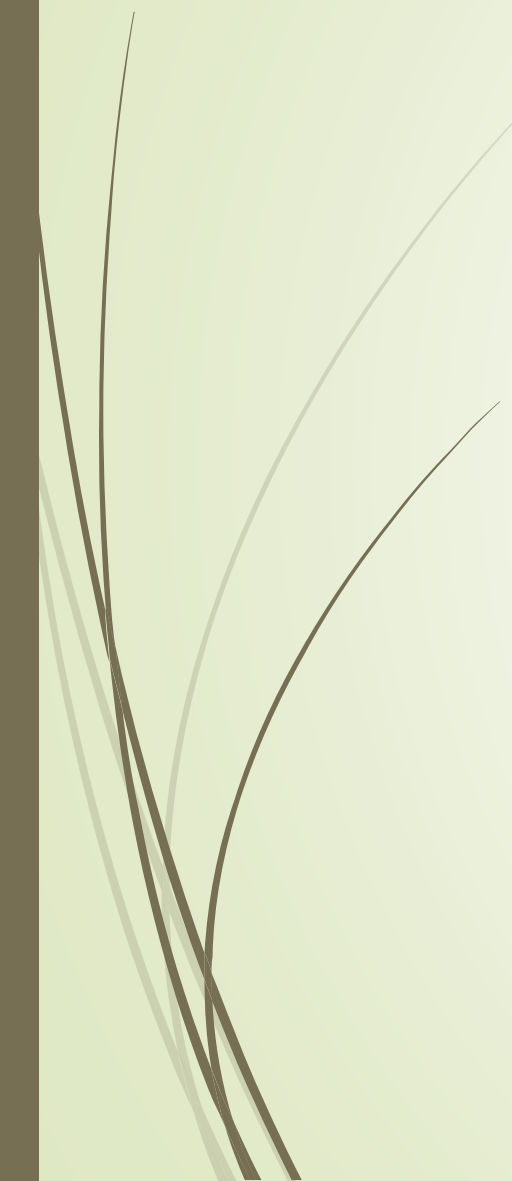


South Central Transit Authority

- ▶ Combined Administrative Staffs beginning January 1, 2015
- ▶ Headquarters is in Lancaster, 45 Erick Road
- ▶ SCTA now has its own website "SCTAPA.COM"
- ▶ BARTA and RRTA websites still exist – "bartabus.com & redrosetransit.com"



Joint Project – AVL System

- ▶ Joint purchase of an Automatic Vehicle Locator System (AVL)
 - ▶ Tracks buses in Lancaster and Reading along bus routes
 - ▶ Schedule information available on websites and has an “i-phone” app.
 - ▶ Lancaster’s system went “Live” April 13, 2015 – “*BusFinder*”
 - ▶ Reading’s system will be going “Live” May 13, 2015 – “*BusFinder*”
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Thank You!

