



## **Port Authority of Allegheny County: Green Facts**

### **Hybrid Buses**

- As of July 2010, Port Authority has 28 hybrid diesel-electric buses in its fleet.
- A diesel-electric hybrid drive system stores energy in batteries when the vehicle is de-accelerating and at times of low engine load. This energy is used to supplement the diesel engine when needed and offers many benefits:
  - Compared to diesel buses, hybrids produce fewer emissions of nitrogen oxides and fewer particulate, hydrocarbon and carbon monoxide emissions due to their increased fuel economy. On average, hybrid buses attain 25 percent greater fuel mileage than diesel-only buses and also achieve better acceleration.
  - A hybrid's brakes and engine experience less wear-and-tear, and consumables such as engine oil and filters need to be changed less often.
  - Hybrids don't just help to alleviate air pollution – noise pollution is also reduced thanks to the hybrid's quieter engine.

### **Benefits of Public Transit**

- Across the country, public transportation reduces carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons annually – equivalent to the electricity used by 4.9 million households. *Source: American Public Transportation Association (APTA).*
- According to APTA data, transit use in the U.S. saves 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline annually.

### **Bikes and Transit**

- Port Authority is working to encourage eco-friendly intermodal commuting. Approximately 600 out of about 850 buses are equipped with bike racks and Port Authority continues to pursue funding to meet its goal of having a 100-percent bike-friendly fleet. Bicycles are also allowed on the T and Monongahela Incline during certain times. [Click here for more information about bikes on transit.](#)
- Port Authority is partnering with Bike PGH to promote the "Car Free Fridays" campaign and will help spread the word at neighborhood street fairs throughout Summer and Fall 2010.

### **Fuel Facts**

- Since 1991, Port Authority has continually purchased the cleanest-burning diesel fuel possible and the latest in clean-burning diesel engine technology, resulting in a reduction of particulate matter emissions by 96 percent and emissions of nitrogen oxides by 81 percent.
- Port Authority began using ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD) on select buses in April 2005, and went system-wide with ULSD in October 2007 as required by law.
- The Authority has also been using a biodiesel blend in its buses since October 2009. Use of a two-percent biodiesel blend (B2) became state-mandated on May 1, 2010. Port Authority currently uses a ten-percent blend, or B10 biodiesel.