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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Lucie County Offers Free Public Transportation Pilot Program

FORT PIERCE – Effective Friday, Sept. 1, the Treasure Coast Connector will begin offering free public transportation trips within St. Lucie County as part of a two-year pilot, thanks to a grant from the Florida Department of Transportation.

A new study by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) recently revealed that 87 percent of public transit trips directly impact the economy by connecting people to employers needing workers, educational opportunities and to retail and entertainment ventures. In St. Lucie County, the public transportation system provided nearly 500,000 annual trips, impacts land use and development patterns, generates jobs, enables economic growth and supports public policies regarding energy use, air quality and carbon emissions.

Because of the success of St. Lucie County's award-winning Students Ride Free program, officials successfully obtained a grant to help cover the transportation costs for the next two years, allowing anyone to ride the Treasure Coast Connector fixed route buses for free for the next two years.

To learn more about public transportation services in St. Lucie County, visit us at SLCRide.org. Riders can also download the smart phone app [Route Shout](#) to obtain bus stop and route information, map your trip, save your favorites and track the current location of buses and access real time information.

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