

## PRESS RELEASE

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#### Title: GTA IV Announces Winners of the Annual Green Transit Awards

[City, Date] — In a landmark assessment of environmental efficiency and innovation, the GTA IV Green Transit Awards today announced the winners across four distinct categories, celebrating the most sustainable transit agencies in the United States. These awards recognize those who are leading the way in reducing environmental impact through innovative practices and efficient operations.

**1. Greenest Transit Agency** The Greenest Transit Agency award is given to the agency with the lowest emissions per passenger mile, demonstrating outstanding efficiency in sustainable transit operations. This year, the award goes to **Westmoreland County Transit Authority** with an impressive emissions rate of only **65.7 lbs of CO2 per UPT**, significantly lower than the median rate of 89.3 lbs of CO2 per mile among evaluated agencies.

**2. Most Emissions Avoided** This award highlights the agency that has prevented the most emissions by offering public transit options as opposed to driving. The winner, **Rhode Island Department of Transportation**, avoided an astounding **2,471,303 tons of CO2** this year, which far exceeds the average emissions avoided across all agencies. The emissions avoided are calculated based on the difference between emissions from public transit and hypothetical emissions if the same passengers had traveled by personal vehicles, using the average U.S. vehicle emissions factor of 411 grams of CO2 per mile.

**3. Lowest Emissions Intensity Award** Recognizing the agency that achieves the lowest emissions relative to their total energy consumption, the Lowest Emissions Intensity Award goes to two Agencies i.e. **Alaska Railroad Corporation & Rhode Island Department of Transportation**. With an emissions intensity of only **22.45 lbs of CO2 per megawatt-hour**, these agencies stand out from the median intensity of **56**, showcasing efficient use of energy in providing public transit services. This metric was derived by dividing total CO2 emissions by the total energy used by the transit agency.

**4. Highest Emissions per Passenger Mile Award (Worst Of)** Conversely, the award for the Highest Emissions per Passenger Mile is given to the agency that has room for improvement in their environmental performance. This year, **Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority** earned this distinction with **10.43 lbs of CO2 per mile**, which is considerably higher than most agencies' performance, encouraging a focus on strategic improvements in the coming year.

**About GTA IV** GTA IV (Green Transit Authority IV) is dedicated to promoting sustainable urban mobility solutions. Through annual assessments and recognitions, GTA IV encourages transit agencies across the nation to adopt more environmentally friendly practices and technologies.

For more information about the GTA IV Green Transit Awards and details on the winners, visit [GTA IV website] or contact [Contact Information].

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