

TBARTA and PSTA Award AGR Employee for Best Bus Ride Story

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tampa, FL. (October 27, 2016) – On October 26, 2016, the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA) and Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) awarded an employee of the telemarketing firm AGR Group in St. Petersburg, Florida, a 30-day bus pass for submitting the best story about the experience of riding the bus to and from work.

TBARTA asked AGR Group employees to submit their bus riding stories during a “Transportation Extravaganza” event held by the company back in early September. Both TBARTA and PSTA staff participated in the event, which showcased alternative transportation options to driving alone, including carpooling, vanpooling, bicycling, walking, transit, and PSTA’s special services, including the new “Direct Connect” and “Transportation Disadvantaged Late Shift” programs.

The winner of the contest, Timothy Presley (left), heartwarmingly spoke about how walking to the bus stop in the morning with his son provides them special time together for bonding prior to parting ways for work and school. He writes:

“Every morning I wake up @ 6 a.m. to prepare myself and my son for our day. The bus stop we walk to is conveniently located 2 blocks from our house. It’s this time that we have our early morning bonding session. We listen to music and encourage each other on our day.” He continues, “in that brief time in the morning, is the best time of day for me because not only do I have the time to enjoy my son... I’m there for him to explore the world with.” The full letter is available to read [here](#).

TBARTA provides commute options through its myCOMMUTE program, which is focused on encouraging individuals to engage in sharing a ride to and from work by carpool, vanpool, or transit. TBARTA also provides the Emergency Ride Home program, which gives four taxi rides home from work per year, up to \$100 one-way, to individuals that use transit or ridesharing at least twice a week to get to work.



For more information about this story, or the myCOMMUTE or Emergency Ride Home programs, contact TBARTA Principal Planner and Project Manager, Michael Case, at Michael.Case@tbarta.com