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# Milepost

A periodic update from the Peachtree Corridor Partnership

## STREETCARS CAN PROVIDE ATLANTANS AN OPTION TO REDUCE THEIR ENERGY CONSUMPTION

APTA, the American Public Transportation Association, recently released a report outlining the ways that “public transportation is reducing energy consumption and harmful carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions that damage the environment.” In making the case for [bringing a streetcar system to Atlanta](#), here are a few key points from the study to consider. Public transit:

- Is estimated to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 37 million metric tons annually.
- Saves fuel, reduces an individual's carbon footprint, and reduces congestion.
- Provides an immediate option for individuals to reduce their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Provides an affordable alternative to driving. Households that use public transportation save an average of \$6,251 every year.

According to the study, 37 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions that public transit reduces annually in America is equivalent to the electricity used by 4.9 million households. To achieve a similar reduction in carbon emissions, every household in Atlanta, Denver, Los Angeles, New York City, and Washington, D.C. combined would have to completely stop using electricity.

In recognition of Earth Month, please share these facts with others. While many use Earth Month as the opportunity to introduce small steps towards a sustainable future, we must remember that big steps raise the possibilities of what we can each achieve individually. Imagine what kind of impact we can make by shifting some of our car trips to riding a streetcar along the Peachtree corridor. Imagine the message we'll send by making Atlanta's signature boulevard the location of Atlanta's new iconic streetcar system.

For more information on public transportation's impact on the environment, please visit [APTA's web site](#).



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