



For Immediate Release

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Triangle Commuters Take Home the Gold
Annual Golden Modes Ceremony Honors Businesses and Individuals

Chapel Hill, N.C. (November 9, 2012) – The Triangle’s Best and Brightest Commuters and Employers have been honored in this year’s Golden Modes Awards. The Awards highlight those who have gone the extra mile by advocating for and using public transportation and commuting alternatives.

Commuters from around the Triangle gathered today at The Great Room at the Top of the Hill for the annual Golden Modes Awards ceremony, sponsored by GoTriangle and SmartCommute@rtp. During the ceremony, GoTriangle staff announced winners of this year’s Golden Modes, and results and winners of the SmartCommute Challenge. This year’s Golden Modes was in Chapel Hill to honor the transit referendum that was held in Orange County on November 6. Tuesday’s referendum passed with 58% of the vote.

This year’s Golden Mode and Employer Commuter Honors nominees were nominated by the public. Over 160 commuters and organizations were nominated and six were honored for their passion and commitment to using sustainable travel. This year’s winners were:

- **Horace Rozier, *BD Technologies - Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC) Honors***
- **Kelly Chambers, *NC Department of Justice - The Golden Sneaker***
- **Dan Clever, *GlaxoSmithKline* and Richard Sloane, *NIEHS - The Golden Spoke (tie)***
- **Bryan Ryan, *Wake Technical Community College - The Golden Ticket***
- **Bennie Encarnacion, *NIEHS- The Pool Party Award***

Companies and organizations were nominated for their efforts promoting sustainable travel to their employees and for making it easier for them to choose another option that driving alone to work. Local employers **IBM, Wake Tech Community College Campus Police, US EPA, NC State Bar, NC Department of State Treasurer, Town of Chapel Hill, RTI International**, and **NC State University**, were lauded for their support of

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commuter benefits and dedication to providing their employees with transit subsidies and commuter-friendly facilities.

Along with the awards, GoTriangle shared the results of this fall's SmartCommute Challenge. **During this year's SmartCommute Challenge, commuters saved over \$100,000 on fuel costs. Transit use reduced 218,533 miles travelled, the equivalent of driving to each of the lower 48 state capitals more than 18 times.** This year's challenge encouraged Triangle commuters to not only pledge to take a different commute over a six week period; they also had to track their trips using an online commuting calendar.

GoTriangle and SmartCommute@rtp appreciate those who participated in this year's Challenge, especially the sponsors, whose in-kind gifts and donations made the incentives possible. For more information about the SmartCommute Challenge and the Golden Modes, visit <http://smartcommutechallenge.com>.

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About GoTriangle (www.gotriangle.org) — As a regional transportation resource, GoTriangle coordinates and promotes the services of local and regional transportation providers with a goal to provide a more seamless transit system for people traveling between cities and counties in the Triangle region. All of the services and information of GoTriangle are provided through the GoTriangle family of services— Cary's C-Tran, Durham's DATA, Raleigh's CAT, NC State University's Wolfline, Chapel Hill Transit, Triangle Transit, local universities and municipalities.

About SmartCommute @rtp —The Research Triangle Park's transportation management association (TMA) established in 1999 in coordination with the NC Department of Transportation to address common transportation concerns, reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality in RTP. The SmartCommute@rtp program has 26 member employers that represent the majority of the Park's 42,000 full-time workers.

2012 SmartCommute Challenge Sponsors:

Gold Sponsors: Cisco and RTI International

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