

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### STREAMLINE PROVIDES POSITIVE IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT

#### *Record Ridership Numbers Increase Environmental Benefits*

Bozeman, Mont., March 10, 2008 – Boasting record highs of 800 riders per day, almost three times initial expectations, Streamline is proud to announce an estimated carbon savings of 195 tons, or 395,000 pounds, per year. Streamline has proven to be an enormous benefit to the community. Carbon savings, stemming from high ridership and long distance routes such as the Belgrade route, is a unique and often overlooked benefit of a public transportation system.

“Every ride Streamline provides benefits the community by reducing congestion, improving air quality, and providing safe and affordable transportation,” stated Montana Department of Transportation Director Jim Lynch. “Bozeman should be extremely proud of Streamline, I am.”

Streamline’s fixed route daytime ridership has increased dramatically in 2008, averaging 792 rides per day in January and February, with a record high of 922 rides on February 3, 2008. Incorporating all other services including Latenight, Bridger Bowl, Reach and Galavan, Bozeman’s public transportation service is providing an average of 947 rides per weekday.

The high visibility of the yellow buses, increased community efforts by Streamline, and initiatives to better inform the student population are just three of the reasons for the increase in public awareness and ridership. “Many residents who live and work near the bus lines have begun to use the system on a regular basis for work, school and pleasure,” stated Streamline Coordinator Lisa Ballard, “and much of this has to do with the comfort of the buses and the savings in gas money.”

Streamline intends to participate in various community and environmental activities throughout the year including Bike Week 2008, and Dump the Pump Day. For more information, please contact Montica Willmschen at 585-5996, ext 106 or [montica@45degreesnorth.com](mailto:montica@45degreesnorth.com). Route and schedule information is available online at [www.streamlinebus.com](http://www.streamlinebus.com) or by calling 587-2434.

**About Streamline:** Streamline is a year round public transportation system providing fare free service throughout the Gallatin Valley. Streamline operates under the umbrella of the Human Resource Development Council District (HRDC), and is supported by the Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU) and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT). Local funding continues to leverage substantial funds through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 program, granting Bozeman and Belgrade residents the benefit of transit service free of charge. For more information, please visit [www.streamlinebus.com](http://www.streamlinebus.com).

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