



2014-2016

CACT EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

Joseph Comerford

Chairman
Estuary Transit District

Vacant

Vice Chairman
Greater New Haven Transit

Steven Demichele

Secretary
Greater Bridgeport Transit

Richard Bangs

Treasurer
Norwalk Transit District

CACT EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mike Carroll

Southeast Area Transit

Mark Pandolfi

Valley Transit District

Henry Jadach

Milford Transit District

Nicole Rohan

CTTransit

Stephanie Scavelli

Housatonic Area Regional Transit

PAST CHAIRMAN

vacant

CACT Executive Director

Mary Tomolonius

148 Bahre Corner Road
Canton, CT 06019
860.693.0368

www.cact.info

A United Voice for Public Transportation in Connecticut

Connecticut Transportation Updates



Annual Transportation Funding Forum

The next in our series of Transportation Forums “*Keeping Transportation Investment on Track in Connecticut*” will be held on Wednesday, December 16th in Room 2C at the Legislative Office Building. The event is co-sponsored by the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), Connecticut Association for Community Transportation (CACT), Connecticut Construction Industries Association (CCIA), Transit for CT, CT Fund for The Environment (CFE) and Tri-State Transportation Campaign. Registration begins at 8:30 am and the program runs from 9 am- 12 noon.

Governor Malloy will give the opening remarks. James Corless, Director, Transportation For America will give a national overview of transportation including regional tax incentives, transportation lockboxes and transportation funding measures being utilized by other states.

Following James presentation, a panel including Commissioner Redeker will discuss the importance of investing in transportation infrastructure.

To Register or for more information contact Mary Tomolonius at 860-693-0368 or mary.cact@yahoo.com.

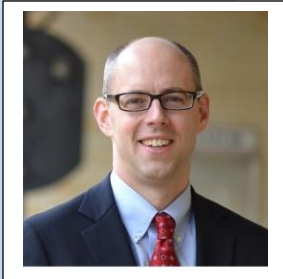
TRIP Report Released

The national transportation advocacy group released a report that shows how the country is failing to fund and maintain our transportation infrastructure. They note that due to the deteriorated roads and congestion it costs drivers in the Stamford-Bridgeport area an extra \$1,875 annually. The report is online at www.tripnet.org.

Governor’s Transportation Finance Panel

The Governor’s Panel has been meeting since April 28, 2015 and was “charged with examining funding options and developing recommendations that will make Governor Malloy’s 30-year, \$100 billion vision to modernize Connecticut’s transportation infrastructure a reality”. The committee is expected to release their findings in December. To view the meeting agendas and minutes along with the meeting documents, go to

[http://portal.ct.gov/Departments and Agencies/Office of the Governor/Learn More/Working Groups/Governor s Transportation Finance Panel/](http://portal.ct.gov/Departments_and_Agencies/Office_of_the_Governor/Learn_More/Working_Groups/Governor_s_Transportation_Finance_Panel/)



CACT Member Highlight

Richard Andreski, CONNDOT, Bureau Chief for Public Transportation

Richard W. Andreski was recently appointed to lead the DOT's Bureau of Public Transportation. His appointment followed a nationwide search.

The DOT's Bureau of Public Transportation oversees the operation of Connecticut's commuter rail and bus services. On the train side, this includes the New Haven commuter rail line; the construction of the Hartford Line Rail Program between New Haven and Springfield; and the New Haven Rail Yard Improvement Program. On the bus side of public transit, responsibilities include CTtransit and CTfastrak, Connecticut's first bus rapid transit system; the implementation of CTfastrak East; and a variety of ridesharing programs. The Bureau of Public Transportation also oversees the operations of two Connecticut River ferries, between Rocky Hill and Glastonbury, and between Chester and Hadlyme.

Richard began his career with NJ TRANSIT in 1999, following several years as a public transportation advocate seeking improvements in trans-Hudson rail service for New Jersey. In his nearly 17 years with NJ TRANSIT, he has held positions of increasing responsibility, including Chief of Staff for Rail Operations where he was responsible for negotiating new business agreements with Amtrak that will require greater transparency and accountability in railroad performance. Most recently, he served as Director, Trans-Hudson Project Planning.

He also has worked in bus and rail operations, capital planning, strategic planning, policy and talent development.

Rich Andreski earned a Bachelor's Degree from Lafayette College in 1996 and a Master's in City & Regional Planning from Rutgers University in 2005. He is founder and co-chair of the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Early Career Program, an innovative new leadership development program developing the industry's next generation of leaders.

CACT Member Highlights

If you or a staff member would like to be featured in an upcoming issue, please send your bio and a jpeg photo to Mary Tomolonius at mary.cact@yahoo.com.

Advertising in the CACT Newsletter

The rates are full page \$300; 1/2 page \$150; and 1/4 page \$100. CACT members receive a 10% discount. All ads must be submitted prior to the last week of the month to mary.cact@yahoo.com.

It's So Much More Than The Sum Of Its Parts.

Call or email Paul Hubbard:
(585) 330-2402 • phubb18281@aol.com

Shepard Bros., Inc.

20 Eastern Blvd. • Canandaigua, NY 14424
tel. (585) 394-1000 • fax (585) 396-1323 • www.shepardbrosinc.com

OVER 50 BODY VARIATIONS TO MEET YOUR NEEDS



CT Statewide Bus Study

The state is updating its plan for bus transit in the state for the first time since 2000 to find areas for better coordination between providers, improve rail connections, develop statewide efficiency standards, analyze current services for effectiveness and determine a strategy for the 25% increase in bus service called for in the Let'sGoCT program. Transit providers will be included as stakeholders groups. It will be very important for transit providers, users and advocates to be involved in the process.

www.ctbusstudy.com

(Website not live yet, so keep checking)

-submitted by Joe Comerford

"... If we don't start to move to solve the funding crisis we are clearly doomed to destroy the lifeblood of our economy the transportation system"

Jack Basso, July 29, 2015 Documents from the Governor's Transportation Finance Panel

Calendar

- **Wed., Dec. 9, DOT Quarterly Meeting.** 10:30 am. DOT Headquarters, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington
- **Wed., Dec. 16, Protecting Transportation Funding.** 9 am. Legislative Office Building, Room 2C.
- **Thurs., Dec. 17, Monthly CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting.** NOTE NEW TIME: 9:30 am. Middletown Area Transit Maintenance Facility.
- **Wed., Feb. 4, 2016, Legislative Session convenes**
- **Tues., Feb. 23, 2016, Annual Legislative Breakfast,** Old Judiciary Room
- **Wed., Apr. 20, 2016, Understanding ADA workshop,** 9:00 am, GHTD
- **Wed., June 22, 2016, Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon**
- **Tues., Sept., 2016, Annual Golf Tournament,** Blue Fox Run Golf Course, Avon

State Transportation Lockbox

More than 25 organizations sent the following letter to members of the Connecticut General Assembly urging them to establish a constitutional lockbox to secure transportation funding.

"As representatives of organizations from across the state, we believe that transportation investments are critically important for the future of the state and reiterate our call for the members of the General Assembly to support the establishment of a constitutional lockbox to secure the revenues needed to address Connecticut's pressing transportation challenges.

During the summer of 2014 the undersigned groups agreed on four fundamental priorities for addressing transportation challenges:

- Protect transportation funding,
- Expedite transportation projects,
- Plan for an uncertain future, and
- Invest wisely.

The pressing need for transportation investments only grows greater over time as the systems we rely on deteriorate due to age, weather, and constant heavy usage. Publicly acknowledged failures in various modes of transportation and in-depth analysis by the Department of Transportation clearly show that billions of dollars are needed to merely ensure that Connecticut's transportation infrastructure is properly maintained and operating efficiently. Congestion on our roads and failures on our rails and bridges are costing residents millions of dollars a year, not to mention risking the safety of the traveling public. In the recent legislative session, the General Assembly acted to address the state's inadequate transportation systems. Investments were enacted to slow the deterioration, build for the future, and overcome years of neglect.

Improvement and expansion of our roads, bridges, and transit network is essential to assure Connecticut's economic future. With federal funding stagnating, if not declining, Connecticut will have to carry a heavier share of the investment burden for infrastructure needed for our future. Polls have shown that citizens are willing to help pay for transportation costs when they are assured the revenue will be used for those investments.

Transportation investments have a long lead time in planning and implementing and need long-term funding reliability. The time to act is now!

In the upcoming budget negotiations, we ask legislators to address the state's transportation challenges and provide safe, reliable transportation system and state's economic future."

Your Job Opening Posting Could Be in the CACT Newsletter. We are adding a new feature to our monthly newsletter: Job Postings. If you have an opening at your organization, let us know and we will include it in our newsletter. All postings must be emailed 7 days before the end of the month. The rates are full page \$300; ½ page \$150; and ¼ page \$100.