



DECEMBER 2012 Newsletter

Connecticut Transportation Updates

Transit Forum on December 10th

The December 10th "Transportation Funding in Connecticut: Where We Are and What is Next" opens with featured speaker Governor Malloy followed by Keynote Speaker Jack Basso, Director of Finance and Management, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. The panelists include Emil Frankel, Bipartisan Policy Center; Oz Griebel, MetroHartford Alliance; Joe McGee, The Business Council of Fairfield County Commissioner; James Redeker, ConnDOT and Moderator: Stewart Hudson, Emily Hall Tremain Foundation. The event will be held at the State Capitol, Old Judiciary Room, 9 am – 12 noon (registration begins at 8:30). Attendees should rsvp to vwormely-radford@ctenvironment.org.

Mobility Management Website

The Kennedy Center just announced the launch of their Mobility Management website: www.knowhowtogoc.org. The site has information about transit options in southwestern Connecticut for veterans, people with disabilities and seniors.

Taxi Voucher Program

The Kennedy Center, Metro Taxi and Greater Bridgeport Transit have initiated a Regional Mobility Management Project Taxi Voucher Program, funded under the FTA's 5317 New Freedom Program in conjunction with Connecticut DOT. For more information contact Margaret Mixon, Regional Mobility Manager at 203-365-8522 x 263 or email at mmixon@kennedyctr.org.

Greater New Haven Transit District in partnership with Metro Taxi and Connecticut DOT began a Taxi Voucher Program in May of 2011. Each month ADA eligible riders can purchase up to \$50.00 of taxi transportation and GNHTD will match those funds for a total of \$100.00 utilizing New Freedom Funds. The rider is given a debit card which is easily filled for subsequent purchases. Since the inception the program has grown steadily to about 50 rides per month. At least half of the rides are taken by a rider with a wheel chair.

Hartford Bus Circulation

CROCOG and the City of Hartford are holding a public meeting on Monday, December 10 from 5:30-7:30 pm to present their findings of a "study of downtown bus circulation and proposals for improvements. The recommendations from this work will be incorporated in the TIGER funded intermodal Triangle Project." For more information, www.crcog.org.

Recycle and Reuse

Business, non-profits, institutions and towns in Connecticut can participate in the Reuse Marketplace www.reusemarketplace.org to donate, sell or find surplus and reusable materials. Just think of how much less will end up in our landfills if everyone participated.

CROCOG has an Opening

The Capitol Region Council of Governments, located in Hartford, CT has an opening for a principal transportation planner, with experience in transit and 'complete streets' planning. To apply, please send a cover letter and your resume addressed to Lyle D. Wray, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments, 241 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106 or to kolson@crcog.org. Electronic transmission preferred, but hard copy will receive equal consideration. No phone calls please. **Cover letter and resume due by 12/21/2012.** CROCOG is an Equal Opportunity Employer. EOE MHF.

National Transportation Updates

NEPTA Convention

The 2013 Northeast Passenger Transportation Conference will be held in Hartford Monday March 25-27. Further information is available on their website: <http://nepta.org/>

DOT News

Anna Barry, a former 24 year employee for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority is the new DOT deputy commissioner.

Understanding MAP-21

This Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) bill is a transformative piece of federal legislation that has significant changes in how transportation is funded. For further info: <http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/12853.html>



CACT Updates

Workshop A Success

The workshop “Mobility Management & New Freedoms: Optimizing Your Funds” was held on Thursday, November 29th at the Greater Hartford Transit District Meeting Room before a packed audience. Moderator and CACT Chairman Jonathan Rubell introduced the panelists: Lisa Rivers, CONNDOT; Alan Naudus, GNHTD; John Roode III, ECTC; and Margaret Mixon, The Kennedy Center. Lisa noted the town of Enfield will have public transportation, funded with a New Freedoms grant, and as noted in previous CACT newsletters, Waterbury now has evening bus service. The new MAP-21 has combined the 5310 and New Freedoms programs which are administered by CONNDOT. John Roode noted that by utilizing the New Freedoms Grants, ECTC was able to hire a Mobility Information Specialist, produce the “Getting

Around Eastern CT Guide”, tailored their website to be a one point access for info on transit options in southeastern CT; and provide subsidized taxi service for seniors and people with disabilities 24 hours a day. Margaret Mixon is looking into new services, working on a Guide Book and project website along with a Regional Vehicle Inventory utilizing 5310 funding. The Kennedy Center has worked with Metro Taxi and Greater Bridgeport Transit to offer the Taxi Voucher Program in their region. Alan Naudus noted how successful the New Haven Taxi Voucher Program has been particularly since customers don’t have to plan in advance.

During the question and answer period Lisa Rivers noted that CONNDOT has 2 new programs relating to mobility management in south central CT funded is: a study to look at what they want to do about mobility management and how best to implement the recommendations. In north central CT, the North Central Region Mental Health Board will be providing mobility management and purchasing touch screen kiosks for trip planning.

Opinions & Opportunities

Share Your News & Updates.

If you have news of interest, please email a brief update to mary.cact@yahoo.com.



L to R: Jonathan Rubell, Alan Naudus, Lisa Rivers, John Roode III, Margaret Mixon

Advertising in the CACT Newsletter

CACT is now accepting ads for our monthly newsletter. The rates are full page \$300; ½ page \$150; and ¼ page \$100. CACT members receive a 10% discount. All ads must be camera ready in either a tiff or jpeg format and received by the 25th of each month. The newsletter is emailed during the first week of each month. Email your ad to mary.cact@yahoo.com.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

It's Not Pretty Just Pretty Effective



What's In Your Wall?

This cross section of our galvanized steel roll cage makes a bus "a bus". These steel sidewalls extend beneath the floor and when welded and bolted in place, provide added strength and safety in the event of an accident. It may seem strange, but we spend considerable time thinking about safety, because although your passengers take it for granted, we can't. That's why we build it in from the ground up, then test it—specifically the FMVSS 214 side impact test.

At a proving facility in Wisconsin, a 4,000 lb. steel sled approaching 35 m.p.h. slammed into the side of our bus. The concussion was mind blowing—the damage to the bus was minimal. In fact, we drove the bus back home! Steel cage design is unique to our buses and as noted above, it's not pretty, just pretty effective.

Here are just a few more features:

- Low center of gravity that reduces rollover potential.
- Floor frame of 11 gauge steel Z members.
- Laminated walls for structural integrity.

For more information check us out on the web or call **Paul Hubbard at: 585-330-2402** or email: phubb18281@aol.com

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