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*A United Voice for Public
Transportation in Connecticut*

Connecticut Transportation Updates

URGENT: \$1 Million Proposed Cut for TEIP Funding

The proposed budget cuts \$1 million in the DSS budget under the Transportation for Employment Independence Program (TEIP). This funding would impact bus service on the Coastal Link along with other transit districts who provide transit under this funding. This bus service reduction disproportionately affects those very people who rely on public transportation. Electronic testimony for the Appropriations Committee will be accepted either in Word or PDF format via email at appropriationtestimo@cga.ct.gov between Feb. 11 and Feb. 19th. CACT will be submitting testimony to restore this funding.



Employment Law Workshop A Success

CACT Chairman Jonathan Rubell introduced Attorneys Lorraine Cortese-Costa and Joshua Wyatt at CACT's first 2014 Training Workshop on "Employment Law" held on January 16 at the Greater Hartford Transit District. The training educated employers on the various laws and union contract provisions that come into play when making decisions as to discipline and/or discharge of employees and best practices for avoiding challenges and adverse outcomes in arbitration, administrative proceedings and court. Lorraine talked about issues involving employees whose job performance and/or qualification may be limited due to a medical condition and what the employer's legal obligations are in those situations. Audience members related their own stories of employee issues and how they dealt with them, along with asking questions about the best ways to handle individual situations. At the end, Wage and Hour laws specific to Connecticut were covered.

February 20th - Annual Legislative Breakfast

On Thursday, February 20, CACT and WTS will be co-sponsoring our Annual Legislative Breakfast in the Old Judiciary Room at the State Capitol. DOT Commissioner Jim Redeker will be the keynote speaker, articulating his core values for DOT and the progress made in 2013 along with an update on the budget.

Registration is encouraged and attendees can send an email registration with their name, phone number, employer and email address to: mary.cact@yahoo.com.

Registration is at 8:30 am, the event runs from 9:00 – 10:00 am. Mark your calendars!

Be sure to contact your legislator(s) and invite them to attend this important event.

“We applaud Orlando’s vision and support for an efficient, reliable and connected transportation network that gives thousands of hard-working families greater access to jobs and other opportunities,”

-Deputy Federal
Transit Admin.
Therese McMillan
Commenting on the nearly
completed East-West Circulator
Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project
in downtown Orlando

ACTION Training Session & ADA Questions Conference

United We Ride is offering a free online course on the fundamentals of Travel Training Administration beginning on May 12. The registration deadline is May 7. For further information you can contact Course Instructor Kristi McLaughlin at 800-659-6428.

A “Frequently Asked Questions on the ADA: Fixed Route and ADA Paratransit” online conference is being held on Feb. 26th. To register:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FAQontheADA>

Calendar

Tuesday, Feb. 18’ 7:30 p.m. Metro-North Riders SPEAK OUT, Pequot Library, 720 Pequot Avenue, Southport, CT. Com. Redeker will listen to comments and concerns and answer questions. Connecticut Citizens’ Transportation Lobby (CCTL), and its supporting organizations are hosting this event.

Thursday, Feb. 20, 8:30 am, CACT & WTS Annual Legislative Breakfast, Old Judiciary Room at the State Capitol.

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6 pm, ITBD building at 185 Main Street in New Britain. Learn about a proposed new affordable housing project in downtown New Britain. A short presentation will be followed by Q & A. The meeting is being organized by the Housing Committee of the Mayor’s Plan to End Homelessness.

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6 pm, The Lyceum Resource & Conference Center, 227 Lawrence St, Hartford. Transform CT Public Open House Meetings. All invited.

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 7 pm, Housatonic Community College, Beacon Hall Events Center, 700 Lafayette St, Bridgeport. Transform CT Public Open House Meetings. All invited.

Thursday, Feb. 27, 6 pm, Public Library of New London, 63 Huntington St, New London. Transform CT Public Open House Meetings. All invited.

“...America THINKS 2014 Mobility Survey that shows overwhelming support for transportation infrastructure funding. 95% of respondents think it's important to rebuild the physical infrastructure of our nation's transportation system so that it survives increasingly intense weather patterns such as last week's storms in Atlanta....”

-Center for Transportation Excellence