



Have you Signed Up for our
Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon
June 24 at Indian Hill Country Club, Newington
Luncheon Registration Form available at www.cact.info

June 2015 Newsletter

Issue 6

2014-2016

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*A United Voice for Public
Transportation in Connecticut*

Connecticut Transportation Updates



Transit Roundtable

On May 19th, CACT and Transit for CT sponsored the latest in their series of Transit Roundtables at the new Western Connecticut Council of Government offices in downtown Stamford. Mayor David Martin gave the opening remarks noting “Stamford is the payroll for all of Connecticut”.

Joe McGee, Business Council of Fairfield County, spoke about the East Side Access project for Grand Central station and the need to connect to the new jobs in New York City. “The integration of rail lines is critical”, said Joe, “Both New York and New Jersey are investing in innovative transportation projects”.

“I have tolerated traffic growth for 28 years as a commuter” said Nancy Carrol from Norwalk Transit District, “The 7-link and Coastal link are models of innovative transportation”.

“Did you know that Stratford, CT has the oldest population in the nation”, noted Joe Carbone, The Workplace. New jobs are typically low wage and part time and more people are using The Workplace services.

Diane Bilyak, TransitNet said this is an ARC is a program that is working to streamline access to transportation options for seniors and persons with disabilities.

Affordable housing in the Stamford/Norwalk area continues to be an issue. Other parts of the country are knitting the pieces of transportation together said Francis Pickering, WESTCOG, and wondered how can we bridge the transit gaps. “It’s far too hard to get around CT”.

“At some point we have to think beyond the 169 towns....we need to look at getting people to jobs...” said Mike Sanders, CONNDOT, “Every poor land use decision becomes my problem”. A new fare system was installed for CTfastrak and will be implemented at CTTransit by the end of the year. “No one is carrying cash anymore”.

Bethel Mayor Matt Knickerbocker noted the lack of transportation is at the center of every problem the state is trying to address. Bus and rail need to be integrated.

State Representatives Jonathan Steinberg and Gail Lavielle attending along with Darien First Selectman Stevensen and Bethel Mayor Knickerbocker. Karen Burnaska concluded by thanking everyone and reminding them to support the transportation dollars in the upcoming budget.

“Our failure to invest over the decades has artificially held back our economy. We shouldn’t stand for 100-year old bridges and 42 hours per year in traffic on average for every man, woman, and child. Connecticut deserves better....”

Governor Malloy

Post Your Job Opening 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.



CTFastak Ridership

150,000 rides were taken on CTFastrak during the first five weeks of operation. Have you taken a ride on CTFastrak? If not, try it out.

Calendar

■ **Sunday, June 7, The 2015 Annual Connecticut Statewide Bus Rodeo**, Manchester Commuter Lot.
Registration www.ctrta.org or call 860-348-8879.

NOTE: Registration forms for events are available at www.cact.info, on front page, Calendar of Events, left column. Click on registration.

■ **Mon. June 22 & Tues. June 23. 9:00-5:00. Certified Safety & Security Officer Program Training- A Two-Day Course.**

To register: mary.cact@yahoo.com

■ **Wednesday, June 24, 11:30 am. CACT Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon.** Indian Hill Country Club, 111 Golf St., Newington, CT

Registration Forms on www.cact.info

■ **Tuesday, September 22, Annual CACT Golf Tournament.** 18-hole tournament, Blue Fox Run Golf Course, Avon.

Registration Forms on www.cact.info

“A lack of reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation is consistently cited as a barrier to employment by people with disabilities”

The Center for Workers with Disabilities

Transportation Finance Panel Public Hearing

The Governor’s Transportation Finance Panel is a nonpartisan working group comprised of experts in transportation, finance, and economic development. The next meeting is a public hearing on June 23 in New Haven. Time and location to be announced.

Understanding Public Transportation

The Kennedy Center is pleased to be able to offer its “Understanding Public Transportation” workshops in your area. These workshops present the transportation resources available in a region. The purpose of these seminars is to give individuals and human service professionals the information they need to make use of these resources.

We will be holding a seminar on June 10th at the Greater Hartford Transit and one June 23rd at the New Britain Senior Center. Representatives from local providers of transit services will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. Preregistration is preferred but walk-ins are welcome. To register send your name, title, email, organization or agency, address, phone, fax, special accommodations needed to Pat Manzi, fax: 203-365-8533; email: pmanzi@kennedyctr.org; phone: 203-365-8522 x273.

Submitted by Lisa Barney, The Kennedy Center

Short Term Extension Passes the House

H.R. Bill 2353 passed 387-35-1, authorizing a short-term extension for transportation funding through July 31, 2015. This does not increase transportation funding but rather maintains the same level of funding through July.