



2014-2016

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Mary Tomolonius

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*A United Voice for Public  
Transportation in Connecticut*

## Connecticut Transportation Updates

### Bond Commission

The Bond Commission met on September 29 and approved Department of Transportation Special Tax Obligation Bonds to repair state bridges, state roads and LOCIP in the amount of \$170, 444,006, and \$17,550,000 to finance Let's Go! CT initiatives and projects.

### Transit Public Hearing

The Connecticut Public Transportation Commission (CPTC) is holding a series of public hearings around the state for transit supporters and advocates to voice their opinions on transit needs and services in the state. Following the public hearings, the CPTC will outline their recommendations (as they do every year) to the General Assembly's Transportation Committee, the Governor and the DOT Commissioner. The next hearing will be held at 7:00 pm on Oct. 13 at Stamford Town Hall. Comments will also be accepted via email to [james.stutz@ct.gov](mailto:james.stutz@ct.gov) or emailed to the DOT Bureau of Public Transportation, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111.

[www.ct.gov/dot/lib/dot/CPTC](http://www.ct.gov/dot/lib/dot/CPTC)

### Government Shutdown

The threat of a government shutdown was averted on September 30 when Congress voted to fund the government until December 11. Congress has until then to try and negotiate a longer term budget to prevent a potential shutdown. The passed bill provides for the extension of funding for government agencies at current levels.

### CACT Annual Golf Tournament a Success

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual CACT Golf Tournament was held at Blue Fox Run Golf Course in Avon under blue skies with a bit of chill in the air. Blue Fox Run Golf Course staff did a great job of preparing the greens, getting the golfers out on time and recording the scores.

Congratulations to the Contest winners: *Closest to the Pin*, Phil Scarrozo (24'8"); *Men's Longest Drive*, Bryan Jacobowitz; *Women's Longest Drive*, Maressa Geryk; *Team Low Gross*, Mark Pandolfi, Rick Dunne, Ron Nault, Mark Lauretti with a score of 56 and *Putting Contest*, Rick Dunne.

Thanks to Jim Gallagher, John Blazi, Dixon Golf and Blue Fox Run for Prize Donations. Many thanks to the various sponsors for their generous support:

Gold Lunch Sponsor: **SPX Genfare**

Bronze Drink Sponsors: **CDM Smith, Ecolane, Hocon Auto Gas, Kenny, Brimmer & Mahoney, LLC, Roush Clean Tech, ThingTech**

Silver Breakfast Sponsors: **Santa Energy; Monstream & May, LLP**

Par 3 Sponsors: **Bus Stuf, Inc., Cusson Automotive, Duhamel Auto Appraisers, O'Straint/Sure-Lok, SEON, Shepard Bros., Inc., USSC Group**

Tee Sponsors: **CH Bus Sales, Inc. (TEMSA), Freedman Seating Company, Laz Parking, Matthew Buses, NAFI/ALTRO, Quality Foods, Shepard Bros., Inc., Strunk, Dodge, Aiken, Zovas, LLC.**

Thanks to Dixon Golf who let golfers try out their eco- friendly golf balls. And finally thanks to the volunteer CACT members, Joe Comerford, DJ Gonzalez, Nicole Rohan, and Stephanie Scavelli who helped out during the tournament.



## CACT Member Highlight

**Darren Reame, Q'Straint Sure-Lok, Northeast Regional Manager**



As the Colorado & Northeast Regional Manager for Q'Straint and Sure-Lok, Darren's duties include representing both product lines for all School Bus and Paratransit applications. In addition, Darren oversees the highly successful bi-annual National Training Seminar for Q'Straint and Sure-Lok. He has been invited by numerous agencies throughout the country to speak on safe and effective wheelchair securement practices and regulatory issues. Prior to entering the transportation industry, Darren spent 10 years working in higher education at Tufts University and Amherst College, focusing on issues of diversity and student access. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Amherst College (Ma).

[dreaume@qstraint.com](mailto:dreaume@qstraint.com) (716)523-1135.

### 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](mailto:mary.cact@yahoo.com).

### Advertising in the CACT Newsletter

The rates are full page \$300; ½ page \$150; and ¼ 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](mailto:mary.cact@yahoo.com).

### Transportation Publications

*Evaluating Public Transportation Benefits and Costs: Best Practices GuideBook*, by Todd Litman, Victoria Transport Policy Institute, August 15, 2015. [www.vtpi.org](http://www.vtpi.org).  
*2015 Pocket Guide to Transportation*, US Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, January 2015. [www.rita.dot.gov](http://www.rita.dot.gov).

*How One City Will Change It's Entire Bus System Overnight*, Josh Stephens, Next City, July 24, 2015. <https://nextcity.org>

*Rerouting HoustonBuses*, Houston Public Media,

<http://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/hpmnews/rerouting-houston-buses/>  
*I-84 Project*, Inforamtion and updates about the ongoing highway project. [www.i-84waterbury.com](http://www.i-84waterbury.com)

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### Public Transportation Facts

- Residential property values perform 42 percent better on average if they are located near public transportation with high-frequency service  
- Access to public transportation gives people transportation options to get to work, go to school, visit friends, or go to a doctor's office

- [www.publictransportation.org](http://www.publictransportation.org)

### M.O.R.E. Commission

On Sept. 2 CACT members met with Commissioner Redeker to discuss his July meeting with the M.O.R.E. Commission. Redeker discussed his years at NJ Transit, the ADA Paratransit system, customer service, streamlining and simplifying transit in CT. Jennifer Carrier, Dir. Of Transportation Planning from CRCOG said they are presently working on a transit study (bus fares, etc). John Filchak noted that the M.O.R.E. Commission was establishing a transportation subcommittee and looking for members.

## Calendar

■ **Wednesday, October 13, CPTC Public Hearing on Transit**, 7:00 pm,. WESCOG Offices, Stamford Town Center.

■ **Thursday, October 15, Monthly CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting**. 9 am. Middletown Area Transit Maintenance Facility.

■ **Thursday, November 5, CT. Public Transportation Commission**, 1:30 pm. DOT Headquarters, Conference Room B

■ **Thursday, November 19, Monthly CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting**. 9 am. Middletown Area Transit Maintenance Facility.

## Golf Tournament 2015



**JOB POSTING**

### 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.