

Have you Signed Up or Want to be a Sponsor for our Annual Golf Tournament

Sept. 22 at Blue Fox Run Golf Course, Avon, CT
Registration Form available at www.cact.info

August 2015 Newsletter

Issue 8

2014-2016 CACT EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

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CACT EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Stephanie Scavelli

Housatonic Area Regional Transit

PAST CHAIRMAN

vacant

CACT Executive Director

Mary Tomolonius

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A United Voice for Public Transportation in Connecticut

Connecticut & National Transportation Updates

New Haven's New Plan

New Haven launched a new transportation plan to encourage residents to utilitze "NuRides" which allows people to sign up for carpooling as well as a city employees transit pre-tax program. By opting into the program you can earn points which can be used at restaurants and other destinations in New Haven. www.goNHgo.org

FTA Update

Public comments are being sought by August 17, 2015 concerning the FTA's Buy America pre-award and post-delivery audit requirements for rolling stock procurements.

Comments are also being solicited by August 24, 2015 for a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking would "amend the process for testing the safety and reliability of new transit buses funded with Federal dollars, pursuant to the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act." http://www.fta.dot.gov/newsroom/12910 16493.htm

-FTA website

Governor's Transportation Finance Panel Update

The panel met on July 29 and heard various presentations regarding tolls, STF revenue, fares increases and "Mileage Based User Fees". Chair Cameron Staples began the meeting by reminding everyone that the panels roll was "soliciting information on all ranges of revenue options" and no decisions had been made. With the advent of newer, sophisticated modern tolling tolls such as all-electronic, the use of toll plazas and booths is no longer necessary. There continues to be resistance in Congress for raising the gas tax, which hasn't been raised in 22 years.

The meeting is available to view on Connecticut Network (CTN): http://ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=11824

Federal Highway Bill

An \$8 billion stopgap three-month spending bill passed the Senate and Congress on July 30 to fund transportation and federal highway projects.

Revenue for Transportation

The legislature approved a bill that would allow $\frac{1}{2}$ cent from the sales tax to be directed towards transportation.

"Residential property values perform 42 percent better on average if they are located near public transportation with high-frequency service."

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; 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.

CACT Member Highlight



The CACT Board Members

(I to r) Steven Demichele, Secretary, Greater Bridgeport Transit; Richard Bangs, Treasurer, Norwalk Transit District; Mark Pandolfi, Valley Transit District; Nicole Rohan, CTTransit and Mike Carroll, Southeast Area Transit. Unfortunately the following didn't get in the photo at the Annual Meeting: Joe Comerford, Chair, Estuary Transit District; Brandon Foster, Vice Chair, Greater New Haven Transit District; Henry Jadach, Milford Transit District; Stephanie Scavelli, Housatonic Area Regional Transit.



2015 Bond Commission Update

- -Approved \$24.9 million for public transit projects:
- a. \$7 million to install AVL on public buses
- b. \$10 million for I-84 design & engineering in Danbury
- c. CTfastrak expansion to Manchester
- d. design and study large transit projects
- e. \$30 million for Town Aid Road grants

FTA Safety & Resource Website

The newly revised website is now <u>safety.fta.dot.gov</u> and provides safety plans, ability to sign up for courses, create an Individual Training Profile, provide news and event updates and much more.

CACT Golf Tournament Scholarship

CACT will be awarding a \$500 scholarship (with the proceeds from tournament) to a CACT member (or a family member) who is enrolled in a transportation program or takes transit related courses. The scholarship will be awarded at the Annual Meeting on June 22, 2016.

Calendar

- ■Thursday, August 6, CT. Public Transportation Commission, 1:30 pm. DOT Headquarters, Conference Room B
- ■Thursday, August 20, Monthly CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting. 9 am. Middletown Area Transit Conference Room.
- ■Thursday, September 3, CT. Public Transportation Commission, 1:30 pm. Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room 1C
- ■Thursday, September 17, Monthly CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting. 9 am. Middletown Area Transit Conference Room.
- ■Tuesday, September 22, Annual CACT Golf Tournament. 18-hole tournament, Blue Fox Run Golf Course, Avon. Registration Forms on www.cact.info
- ■Thursday, October 1, CT. Public Transportation Commission, 1:30 pm. Union Station, New Haven, 4th Floor West Conference Room A
- ■Thursday, October 15, Monthly CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting. 9 am. Middletown Area Transit Conference Room.
- ■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 Conference Room.

CACT Golf Tournament

The 3rd Annual CACT Golf Tournament will be held on Tuesday, September 22, at Blue Fox Run Golf Course in Avon, CT. Registration begins at 8:00 am and the Shotgun Scramble starts at 9:00 am. *Registration is \$125 before August 15* and \$140 after the 15th.

CACT Golf Tournament Sponsors Needed

We want to thank last year's sponsors: Luchs Consulting Engineers, Santa Buckley Energy, Connecticut Occupational Medicine Partners LLC, Ecolane, Duhamel Auto Appraisers, Kenny, Brimmer & Mahoney, Moonstream & May LLP, First Transit, On Time Screen Printing, Shepard Bros., Inc, Pomeranz, Drayton & Stabnick, LLC, Levistsky & Berney, PC., Matthew Buses, Motor Coach Industries, Inc., Bus Stuf, Inc., and USSC Group for their support..

Please contact Mary Tomolonius (<u>mary.cact@yahoo.com</u>) if you want to be a golf sponsor.

(Golf registration form on our website: www.cact.info)

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 ½ page \$100. With a 10% discount for members.