



Chittenden County Transportation Authority



Chris Cole
General Manager

The mission of the Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) is to provide efficient, safe, accessible, reliable, clean, and affordable transportation services to the residents and visitors of Chittenden County. CCTA is governed by a 10-member Board of Commissioners with two Commissioners representing each of the following communities: Burlington, Essex, Shelburne, South Burlington, and Winooski. Burlington's Commissioners to the CCTA Board are Benjamin Truman and Chapin Spencer.

CCTA was pleased to provide full-service public transportation services to the City of Burlington and the greater Burlington area again in FY'06. Services include local fixed-route bus service; commuter parking, supermarket and school shuttles; inter-regional commuter routes; multi-county ridesharing and vanpooling; transportation for Medicaid recipients; and contracted ADA paratransit service for those who are unable to ride the bus.

CCTA's annual operating and capital match expenses in FY'06 were \$9,351,575 (un-audited), up from \$7,131,159 in FY'05. This increase is primarily due to expenses from the Link Express Commuter routes, Medicaid, planning expenditures, and CCTA's management of other Vermont public transit organizations. Equal or greater revenues in FY'06 offset these increased expenses.

Increased Ridership

CCTA is pleased to report that ridership increased by 6.5 percent in FY'06, which represents an additional 122,267 riders for a total ridership of 2,009,371. Much of the increase is due to expanded outreach programs, such as Unlimited Access for UVM, aimed at attracting new riders, as well as enhanced services for current riders.

Additionally, rising fuel costs prompted many customers to look for alternative forms of transportation.

Improved Information and Amenities

CCTA continued to advance several projects to both improve the flow of information to passengers and make our transit system more enjoyable and user-friendly.

- CCTA installed additional schedule holders at stops throughout the system. This is an ongoing project to provide customers with route and schedule information in an effort to increase riders' ability to use the bus system efficiently and confidently; and
- CCTA continues to add to and enhance the quality of the bus shelters in Chittenden County. In FY'06, five new regular sized shelters were constructed along with one extra-large shelter. All new bus shelters have a durable and attractive timber frame and metal roof that meet ADA accessibility requirements.

LINK Express Commuter Routes

In October 2005, CCTA began operating the third LINK route connecting Chittenden and Franklin counties. The new St. Albans LINK Express (Route 96) delivers commuters to FAHC, UVM, Champlain College and Cherry Street in downtown Burlington. LINK routes also provide commuter transit services outside Chittenden County, which reduces local congestion and improves air quality. The St. Albans LINK joins the Montpelier and Middlebury LINKs which have each shown steady growth throughout FY'06. The Middlebury LINK increased to approximately 45 boardings per day while CCTA's Montpelier LINK Express also continued to grow, recording more than 31,000 boardings for the year – a 32% increase over FY'05.

Sailing on Lake Champlain





Route 15 Service Development

The CCTA Board of Commissioners has identified the Essex Junction Route (Route 1) as having the greatest potential for increased ridership. The Essex Junction Route travels from downtown Burlington to Essex Junction. CCTA is actively working to secure funding from the State to support additional service along this corridor. In the meantime, CCTA continues to improve the existing service in an effort to provide Essex residents, shoppers and workers with efficient, reliable transportation service.

Unlimited Access Program

In FY'04, CCTA, UVM and the Campus Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA) created the Unlimited Access Program. This program allows those with a

valid UVM ID card to board any CCTA bus by simply swiping their ID. UVM then reimburses CCTA for the rides. The Unlimited Access Program continued to grow in FY'06 with increased ridership from UVM students, faculty and staff. In addition, CCTA welcomed Champlain College to the Unlimited Access family in April 2006. The UA program was well received by staff and students and will continue for FY'07.

Contact CCTA for Route and Schedule Information

802-864-CCTA (Phone)
info@cctaride.org (E-mail)
www.cctaride.org (Web)



On the bus with CCTA Operations Supervisor Walter Gulfield.



Chittenden Solid Waste District



Thomas Moreau
General Manager

Administration

The Chittenden Solid Waste District owns and oversees 11 solid waste or recycling facilities in Chittenden County for its 18 member municipalities. A Board of Commissioners, that sets policy and oversees financial matters, governs CSWD. One Commissioner is appointed by each member community. The unaudited FY'06 General Fund expenses were \$6,809,344, which is a 9.4% increase from the FY'05 General Fund expenditures.

The Board of Commissioners include: Chairman William Leach of Westford; Vice Chair Bert Lindholm of Jericho, and Secretary/Treasurer Mike Coates of Williston. Executive Board Members include: William Leach, Mike Coates, Ken Nolan of Milton, Paul Stabler of South Burlington, and Steve Goodkind of Burlington.

Significant Changes/Events

FY'06 revolved around the design of the proposed regional landfill. A Landfill Oversight Committee was created to work with Shaw Environmental, the company hired to design and permit the landfill, and their sub-consultants.

Ongoing Operations

- Drop-Off Centers located in Burlington, Essex, South Burlington, Milton, Williston, Richmond, Colchester and Hinesburg are available to those who prefer to self-haul their trash and recyclables. Drop-Off Centers collected 3,206 tons of recyclables, an increase of 0.3% from FY'05, and 7,144 tons of household trash during FY'06 a 1% increase from FY'05.
- The Materials Recovery Facility in Williston is owned by CSWD and is privately operated by Casella Waste Management, Inc. In FY'06, 36,677 tons of recyclables were collected, sorted, baled and shipped to markets, a 12% increase from the previous year.
- The Environmental Depot and the Rover are CSWD's hazardous waste collection facilities for residents and businesses. In FY'06, 8,365 households and 543 businesses participated in the program and 589,413 pounds of waste were collected and processed at these facilities.

- Marketing and promotion of the expanded Electronics Recycling Program, the Rover household hazardous waste collection schedule, the Spring Move Out Project, the Waste Reduction Award, Green Up! Day, school waste prevention, the Tire and Appliance Round Ups, Merry Mulch, Local Color recycled paint, Pedals for Progress, business recycling, and the Creative ReUse Showcase. A guide to trash disposal, recycling, composting, and hazardous waste management was mailed to every resident and business in Chittenden County.
- Educational programs, including the CSWD Hotline (872-8111), website (www.cswd.net), school programs, workshops, informational pamphlets, free recycling bins and signage, and waste assessments for businesses.
- The Business Outreach Program brought in 200 businesses and institutions representing over 3,000 employees, residents of residential complexes, students, volunteers, and clients. 125 school presentations, equipment loans, and waste assessments and facility tours, reached over 5,100 students through the School Outreach Program.
- Research and Development efforts focused on recycling participation, waste composition, marina shrink wrap recycling, management of fats, oil, and grease, construction and demolition debris recycling, organics diversion, and alternative disposal technologies.
- CSWD provides funding and staff time to support Green Up Day efforts in Chittenden County. In May 2006, 63 tons of litter was collected, including 1,741 tires and 28 cubic yards of scrap metal.
- The fall and spring Tire and Appliance Round-Ups brought in 948 major appliances and 6,454 tires at no charge from 2,269 households.
- The Community Clean-Up Fund helps members keep their communities clean and litter free throughout the year. In FY'06, over \$13,000 was distributed to twelve of CSWD's member municipalities through this program.

Winooski Valley Park District

Our mission is to preserve natural areas that are a short walk or bike ride from where 110,000 people live and work. In 1972, the residents of Burlington voted to join the Park District. Our 17 natural areas total 1754 acres and offer 24 miles of trails, canoe and fishing accesses, and over 12 miles of shoreline. Visit WVPD.org to learn more. You will find our office at the Ethan Allen Homestead off route 127 in Burlington. Roger Marshall is the Burlington representative.



Burlington Parks and Recreation's Champ Camp kids discover outdoor wonders at the Ethan Allen Homestead, summer 2006.

Highlights of the year follow:

Range of Biodiversity Confirmed at the Parks

The natural areas contain a far greater variety of flora and fauna than we had imagined. 546 plant species, 139 animal species, and 35 state-listed rare/uncommon species were documented at the parks by a talented field ecologist from UVM's Field Naturalist Programs.

Fun is Learning at the Parks

Forty-one Burlington children created seed art, built a primitive fire, examined forest insects and planted a tree at the Homestead. Another 200 learned how macro-invertebrates help us measure water quality. Seventy children, most from Burlington, were part of the Homestead's Children's Discovery Garden. 400 others gardened at the Homestead, through the "teaching garden," as part of the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program, or as individuals.

Parks Used as Outdoor Classroom by Local Educators

We want local educators to feel comfortable visiting the parks with their students on their own. Educators who rose to this challenge included YMCAs Nature Camp, Hunt Middle School, King Street Youth, the School House, the Home School Group, Mater Christi, and many Parks and Recreation camp programs. Dozens of UVM students brought their studies to the parks.



Jennifer Ely
Executive Director

Burlington Volunteers Helped Steward the Parks

Twenty-five residents maintained our trails. Another 23 removed invasive species. Ten people became official Eco-Stewards. Sixteen others collected data on wildlife track and signs in and around our parks during the four seasons.

Park Improvements Made and Brochures were Printed

Thanks to a grant from the Burlington Lead Program, lead paint inside and outside the caretaker's house at the Homestead has been safely contained. Two popular brochures were reprinted.

Burlington Parks and Recreation's Champ Camp kids discover outdoor wonders at the Ethan Allen Homestead, summer 2006.

