

Transit for Connecticut
Helping People, the Economy and the Environment

Transportation Committee
Public Hearing
February 24, 2009

In support of Proposed Bill 6208 AAC A Feasibility Study of Providing Commuter Bus Service from Commuter Parking Lots to the Bridgeport Train Station

In support of Proposed Bill 556 AAC The Development of a Shuttle System in Norwalk, Stamford and Greenwich

Dear Sen. DeFronzo, Rep. Guerrera and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Transit for Connecticut, I want to thank you for your continued support of bus transit in Connecticut.

The Transit for Connecticut Bus Needs Analysis Study, published in March of 2007, listed several ways to improve bus transit in Connecticut. One way is to increase commuter connections to rail stations in order to complement and enhance the state's investment in rail service. Commuters need options between where they live and the rail station and between the rail station and their place of employment.

In these difficult economic times, it is more important than ever for employees to get to work. It is also important to get cars off our congested roads and reduce pollutants emitted into the air.

To increase bus/rail interconnectivity, a comprehensive system of shuttles should be developed in Norwalk, Stamford and Greenwich, between train stations and major places of business, to run in tandem with trains in the morning and evening to facilitate rail use by workers in lower Fairfield County. In addition, a feasibility study should be conducted to determine the specifics of running buses between commuter parking lots and the Bridgeport train station. Both proposals would reduce congestion and energy consumption and improve air quality in southwest Connecticut. And both would benefit employees and employers alike.

Thank you for your consideration.

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AARP Connecticut
Bridgeport Regional Business Council
Capitol Region Council of Governments
Career Resources, Inc.
Connecticut Association for Community Transportation
Connecticut Association for Human Services
Connecticut Citizens Transportation Lobby
Connecticut Coalition on Aging, Inc.
Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
Connecticut Fund for the Environment
Connecticut Technology Council
ConnPIRG (Connecticut Public Interest Research Group)
Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency
Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater Waterbury Chamber of Commerce
Hockanum Valley Community Council, Inc.
League of Women Voters of Connecticut
MetroHartford Alliance
Norwalk Chamber of Commerce
Regional Plan Association
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (Western Connecticut)
Southeast Area Transit
Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging, Inc.
South Western Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
South Western Regional Planning Agency
The Business Council of Fairfield County
The Connecticut – State Independent Living Council, Inc.
The Kennedy Center
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