

Citizens Transportation Committee of Saratoga County



- **"A COUNTYWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE TO PROVIDE EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION MODES AND INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WILL CONSIDER BOTH CURRENT NEEDS AND BY PROJECTING THIRTY YEARS OUT, FUTURE NEEDS, USING THE EXPERTISE OF EXISTING AGENCIES, INFORMED INDIVIDUALS, AND ORGANIZATIONS AS SUPPORT RESOURCES."**

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The Citizens Transportation Committee



Progress Report

The Little Committee That Could

When Supervisor Keyrouze formed the Citizens' Transportation Committee of Saratoga County, she reasoned, who better to know the current needs for public Transportation than the very people who would be riding the bus?

The committee poured over maps, discussed possible routes, pointed out areas which did not appear to be serviced by a given plan. OK, was the attitude, if plan A won't do the job than let's create a plan B.

CDTA was a generous and determined partner at the table. They returned to the table time after time. A sense of what was needed and a sense of what was possible began to grow. They began to feel like a team and thus they worked like a team.



Not unlike that little engine that thought it could, this little committee has played a leading role in acquiring the new bus services around the city and the county. The committee will continue to pull together all the transportation service providers throughout the county to provide ever better public transportation.

MEETINGS

MEETINGS



MEETINGS



AND



**MORE
MEETINGS**

Connectivity

The Committee began to bring CDTA and city and county officials to the table together.

Officials from the service providers discussed transportation needs.

Transportation providers came to the table to add to the dialogue.



A Joint Meeting of Service Providers, Transportation Committee Members and CDTA Officials

UPSTATE

- Committee member, Cliff Ammon, introduced us to Christine Kulls, Tour Charter Manager of UPSTATE, a transportation bus company which serves the Capitol District and Adirondack Region of New York.
- We learned about the tours and alternative transportation that this company provides to our area. It is diverse and extensive and is easily accessible.
- UPSTATE works collaboratively with CDTA and other transportation companies.
- UPSTATE can also create charter trips to meet the requirements of groups.

UPSTATE TOURS - 208 Geyser Road, Saratoga Springs, NY

518-584-5252 – 1- 800-237-5252

Special Needs

The committee looked at the needs of:

- Commuters
- Senior Citizens
- Medical transportation needs
- Physically challenged transportation needs
- Outer city citizens transportation needs
- Tourists transportation
- Student transportation

CDTA was very thoughtful and cooperative as we assessed each of these areas of concern. They went back to their drawing board to accommodate some of these transportation needs.

Saratoga County Office for the Aging

- **Committee members, Ann Sheppard and Kathie Gorman interviewed Sandra Cross, Executive Director of the Office for the Aging. They learned about some of the different transportation options available from this agency.**

-TRANSPORTATION- (Shopping)

- **Transportation is available in the following areas. Please call 24 hours in advance to make reservations.**
- **Ballston, Malta, Milton, Greenfield and Wilton- Stanski Transportation 884-4100**
- **Clifton Park Town of Clifton Park and Shenendehowa Srs. 371-4444**
- **Corinth Senior Center 654-2040**
- **Halfmoon Town of Halfmoon Call 9-1pm 371-0959**
- **Mechanicville City of Mechanicville 664-5651**
- **Moreau Town of Moreau 792-6007**
- **Providence, Galway and Charlton – Stanski 884-4100**
- **Saratoga Springs Capitaland Taxi**
- **Waterford Town of Waterford 237-7531, 235- 8282 Scheduled bus routes CDTA 482-3371**

Senior Transport (Cont'd)

- Senior Transport Office for the Aging, Retired and Senior volunteer Program
- This transportation is possible through a grant from the NY State Office for the Aging.

Riders must be 60 years of age

Residents of Saratoga County

Able to access the vehicle without assistance

Service is for medically related appointments only.

This is a free service

Donations will be accepted'.

Medical equipment cannot be transported.

Reservations are required.

Appointments must be made a minimum of 7 days in advance.

Riders will be called prior to appointment for verification and time of pick up.

Senior Needs

- **The Citizens Transportation Committee arranged for CDTA to transport seniors to and from their homes to the Senior Center in order to have their half price picture ID's made.**
- **Over 60 seniors responded and were helped to receive their passes in this collaborative effort.**



SENIOR IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

Every Tuesday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. picture identification cards are issued at the Office for the Aging. Discount cards are issued to those 60 and over and CDTA Half-Fare cards to those 65 and over. Please bring proof of age and county residency when applying. For more information call 884-4100.

The Depot Becomes a Hub

We worked to achieve a hub of transportation at our beautiful train depot



CONNECTIVITY

The depot now acts as a transfer point for most of the new bus routes.



You can catch a train, Park and Ride, make local bus connections, transfers, and now connections to Grey Hound and Trailways may be made at the train depot.

The Committee Works to Connect

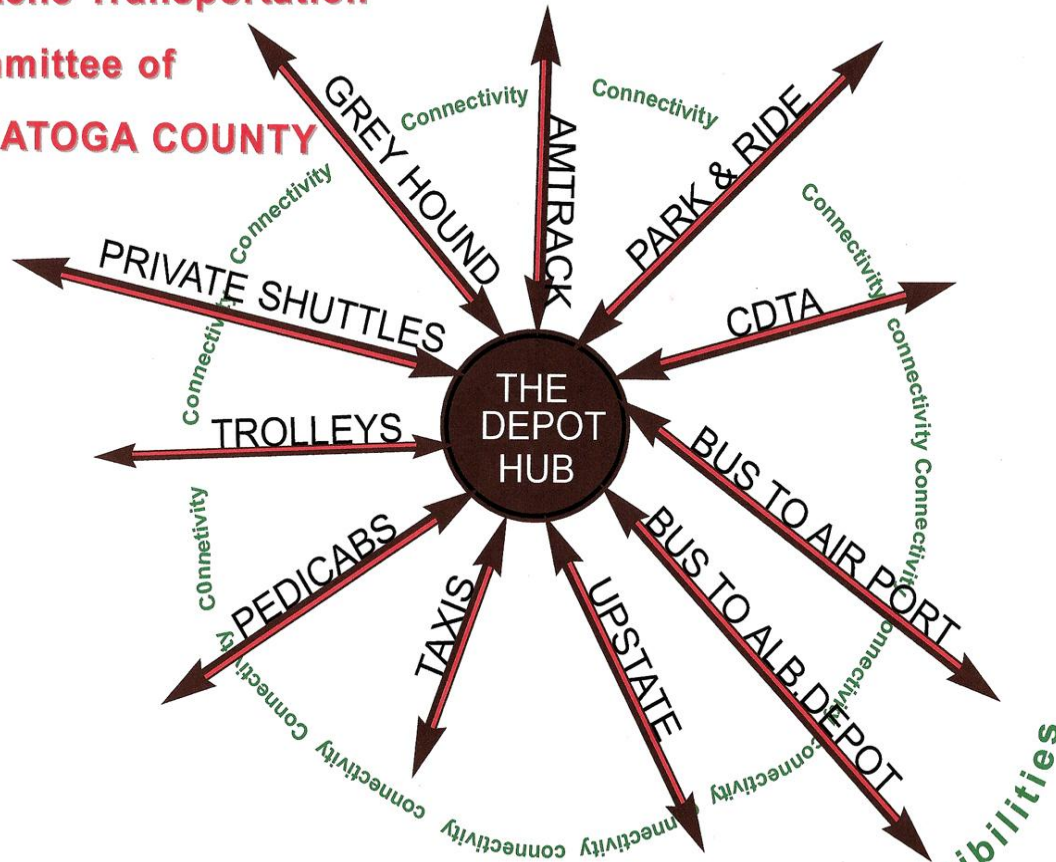
We have made the Depot our home for noon meetings, as we continue to work toward connecting services to each other and to the people.



A little pizza or a bagel fuels creativity

THE HUB of CONNECTIVITY

**Citizens Transportation
Committee of
SARATOGA COUNTY**



Saratoga County - Public Transportation

Growth and Possibilities

Get2There

- Committee member, Kent Stanton has generously donated his considerable talent and skill to create a unique map which allows us to locate the stops of the bus routes as well as identify many of the businesses and services that are useful to the public.
- Education in regard to using public transportation is a major item on our agenda.

<http://www.get2there.com/busbeta>

A Vision Goes Forward



- **Committee member, Jim Zack, is working on providing the following themes for inclusion in the Get2There application:**
- **The network of "commuter" (to distinguish from purely recreational) bicycle routes in, around, and through the City of Saratoga Springs, color-coded by level of safety/comfort**
- **A series of recreational bicycle rides in the county, courtesy of the Mohawk-Hudson Cycling Club, including cue sheets (written directions) and elevation profiles for each ride**
- **An overlay of pedestrian alleyways, non-vehicular paths, trails, and shortcuts that are not part of GoogleMap's street network, as well as those portions of the street network that prohibit pedestrian traffic (eg, CV Whitney Arterial and the Northway)**
- **A series of walking tours in the city (probably based on the book "Hoofing It")**
- **Some of the more common seasonal pedicab routes in the city**
- **The network of roads that permit, by law, the use of Low Speed Vehicles, such as GEM and ZENN electric vehicles to assist owners of such vehicles plan access to various parts of the city and county**
- **A pet project of mine of Jim's is a social equity map and a set of charts illustrating the areas and the number of citizens that are serviced by the CDTA routes based on some thresholds of walking time to the nearest bus stop. But that will most likely not be part of Get2There.**

Pedi-Cabs, An Alternative Transportation

There are three Pedicab companies in Saratoga Springs. Cycle Cabs, Saratoga Pedicabs and Saratoga Chariots.

- **Each company offers alternative transportation and service which add to the charm of the city as well as contributing to a greener alternative mode of transportation.**
- **Kristine Healy and Will Manzueta of Saratoga Chariots came to our Round Table meeting. They contributed exciting suggestions for accomplishing connectivity among both the existing and the future transportation options.**
- **Kristine suggested the creation of the “Book of Routes” a directory or collection of the necessary information about existing forms of transportation.**



Saratoga Horse and Carriage Tony and Kathy Canzone



Saratoga's Premiere Horse and Carriage Company is another mode of alternate transportation which not only adds to the charm of our city but contributes as well to the being a part of the traffic solutions. They offer horse-drawn carriage rides, tours, convention entertainment, weddings, promotional events and horse-drawn trolley services. Public rides from The Wine Bar on Broadway. This family operated business has provided service for over fifteen years.

CDTA

- No report would be accurate without expressing our appreciation and high regard for the CDTA, and their dedicated experts, who met time after time with the Citizen's Transportation Committee of Saratoga Springs. They made the perfect working partnership. It is with much thanks, that this committee salutes them for their professionalism, their vision, their dedication and their determination to meet every challenge.
 - **Raymond J. Melleady, Executive Director**
 - **Kristina Younger, Director of Strategic Planning**
 - **Anthony Grieco, Director of Service Planning**
 - **Carm Brasile, Director of Business Development**
 - **Luis Acosta, Manager of Sales and Customer Services**
 - **John Rich, Facility Manager**
 - **Vera Converse Nuspliger**
 - **Margo Janack, Manager of Corporate Communications**
- Thank you, all for being a major part of the transportation solution as Saratoga Springs grows and moves into the future.**

Our Agenda Into The Future

- To continue to work for expansion of bus service throughout the county.
- To continue to work to improve existing services by increasing connectivity.
- To expand education and publicity to help riders learn about and use the existing services
- To continue to Lobby our elected officials to increase funding as the need grows.

A Note To Our Legislators

- Each of you plays a vital role in continuing the good work of this committee.
- None of what we have accomplished will remain if it is not fully funded.
- No growth will be possible if it is not funded.
- Good transportation increases the quality of life of all citizens, the health of business and attracts tourism and new business to our area.
- Investing in infrastructure and transportation is not just a smart thing it is both a necessity and sound investment.

get2there

- Committee member, Kent Stanton has generously donated his considerable talent and skill to create a unique map which allows us to locate the stops of the bus routes as well as identify many of the businesses and services that are useful to the public.

<http://www.get2there.com/busbeta>

We petitioned our Legislators

Excerpts from a petition we sent to both houses of the State Legislators

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- **An investment in public transportation in our area is an investment in a healthy growth and development for all of us.**
- **The Capitol District should be the indisputable leader in smart growth and green transportation.** We should be setting the high water mark for how city and rural transportation is meeting the needs of safe, efficient and affordable public transportation, now and in the future.
- **Cuts and cost saving actions in the area of public transportation is simply bad business.**
- Failure to protect our investments in transportation will come at a great cost to the public, the region, the state and yes, the country, for often the eyes of the country and even the world are turned to New York State. **As our economic situation worsens the need for increased transportation grows.**
- **I petition my legislators to make the transportation experience for all who enter our region a State of the Art experience which will be second to none and in so doing encourage more industry and more tourism.**
- **Please work to add at least \$6 million in state operating assistance for CDTA. The Capital Region needs to have more and improved services, and CDTA is ready to provide it.**
- Thank you.
- **Mary Marsicano, Chair**
- Citizens Committee of Saratoga County

On the Agenda

- Facilitate a once a month transportation loop connecting downtown business and tourist trade with First Night in the Art District.
- Collaborate with various groups through out the northern sector of up state in order to bring Light Rail into reality.
- Continue to monitor transportation needs in Saratoga County and act as liaison and collaborator between the city, the county and CDTA
- Explore the possibility of an Aldi and Job Lot shuttle in Ballston Spa which would connect with the existing CDTA run on Rt. 50

Contact Us

- We meet **on the 2nd Thursday of each Month** at the Saratoga Springs Train Depot at 12 noon.

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- **The last Thursday** of each month, at the Saratoga Springs, Library, 7PM.

- By Phone: Mary Marsicano, Chair

518-587-2684

- E-mail: **chiamamary@aol.com**

Visit our Website

<http://www.get2there.com/busbeta>