

ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

As of July 1st, 2002 our contract provider is the Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. (“ECSI”) located on Main Street in Old Saybrook. All of the vehicles used to provide our public transportation services will be wheelchair lift equipped shuttle buses. Our fleet includes five ETD-owned vehicles plus several of the ECSI-owned vehicles. Capital funding for replacement vehicles comes from State & Federal Department of Transportation Grants. The ECSI will be responsible for the physical provision of our services to include drivers, training, scheduling, dispatching, fleet maintenance and repair.

Our funding sources consist of Federal and State Department of Transportation grants, the Regional Growth Connection grant, municipal contributions to transportation as well as fares and contributions received by the operator.

“The affairs of the district are managed by a board of directors chosen from among the electors of the constituent municipality. Appointment by the Board of Selectmen is documented by the Selectmen’s office to the District and the Town Clerks’ office. Delegates serve in a voluntary capacity to adopt bylaws and rules for the conduct of the affairs of the district”. Current delegates on the ETD Board are Chairman Donald Croteau, Chester; Vice Chairman Doris Sanstrom, Westbrook; Secretary Virginia Zawoy, Clinton; Treasurer Cornelius McCrudden, Old Saybrook; Raymond Mozzochi, Deep River; Bill Foster, Essex; Eleanor Becker of Killingworth and David Jones of Old Lyme. One vacancy exists in the town of Lyme. Regular Meetings are Quarterly (March, June, September and December) on the third Monday of the month at 8:00 A.M. in the CRERPA office at Saybrook Junction Market Place, 455 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, CT. All meetings are open to the public.

860 / 388 - 1919

Estuary Transit District Administrative Office
Post Office Box 424, 455 Boston Post Road, Unit 1
Old Saybrook CT 06475

The Shoreline Shuttle Public Bus has provided service along the Route One Corridor since 1999. We meet the New Haven Dattco bus at the Scranton Memorial Gazebo in Madison. This coordination of service allows residents opportunities to access employment, recreation, cultural resources, social activities, as well as shopping and sightseeing along the Shoreline.



All of the vehicles used to provide the Shoreline Shuttle service proudly display new graphic designs that incorporate our new logo. The Old Saybrook Point lighthouse and a view of the coastline were designed to capture the attention of the community. Once we got your attention with this appealing design, we attempted to identify ourselves as “public transit” service providers rather than “elderly and handicap” service providers.

Since we provide public transportation in a beach community, we installed bicycle racks as a means of offering additional recreational use of public transit. Riders may load their bicycles – at no additional charge – and be transported from one end of town to another for the regular fare!

Most of the operational costs for the Shoreline Shuttle are funded by the federal and state Department of Transportation. We also have a contract with the Regional Growth Connection, a division of the Regional Workforce Development Board in New Haven. As part of the Jobs Access Reverse Commute Program (JARC) we provide coordinated transportation to the labor pool in the city by meeting the Dattco Bus in Madison. We provide access to employment opportunities in the Shoreline. Overall Shoreline Shuttle ridership increased this year to over 57,800 round-trips.



The ridership aboard the EMOTS (Estuary Medical Outpatient Transportation Service) service was on the rise again this year. In the Spring of 2002, we were advised that our funding for the EMOTS program would no longer be continued. When our fleet was reduced by one-third, ridership was negatively impacted. Even with the unanticipated elimination of funding, EMOTS round-trip rides numbered 2,030.

We have implemented “**THE PUBLIC BUS**”. This is a **FREE** in-region **public** transportation service which will operate on ‘Tuesdays’, ‘Wednesdays’ & ‘Fridays’ from 8:00am – 4:00pm. Please call 24 hours in advance to place your reservation at 388-1919. New schedules are being designed and will be distributed throughout the community upon completion.



For almost 30 years, **FIRST STUDENT TRANSPORTATION**, of Chester, was our contract provider for the **Tri-Town Shuttle**. Together, we served the needs of the transit dependent residents in Chester, Deep River & Essex. This year, we provided 3,408 trips. Thank You First Student for your long-term dedication and support of public transportation!

During the reorganization of the services we provide we consulted with the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency to update the Regional Transit Plan. As a result of this planning process, the Estuary Transit District has been able to clearly identify and outline transit needs, current issues and ways to improve the effectiveness and use of all our resources. This Regional Transit Plan has been submitted to the Connecticut Department of Transportation accordingly. Here you will find a description of the public services we provide as well as projected opportunities for growth.