

# CDTA iRide

**User Guide**

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# Introduction

**W**elcome to CDTA iRide: the official iPhone application of the Capital District Transit Authority. CDTA iRide was designed to help provide our riders with a faster, more enjoyable public transit experience.

The following guide is meant to help riders get the most out of CDTA iRide. The application's tools are introduced individually, using examples to illustrate specific features. The sections are brief – helping you to get up and running quickly.

CDTA iRide is freely available to any rider with an iPhone or iPod Touch device. If you have downloaded and installed iPhone applications before, you may want to skip ahead to **Section 2: Using the Application**. If you are new to these devices, you may benefit from the installation walk-through in the **Getting Started** section.

Please remember that CDTA iRide was created to enhance your public transit experience. If you have any questions or comments about the application, we would love to hear your feedback. Our contact information is included at the end of this guide.

We hope that CDTA iRide will become a valuable addition to your CDTA commute.

Enjoy the ride!

# Getting Started

## Installation

CDTA iRide is freely available for download from the iPhone App Store. To install, first download the application from CDTA's iTunes store account:

**[INSERT LINK HERE]**

The application will be automatically added to your iTunes library.

To load the application onto your iPhone or iPod Touch, connect the device to your computer and open iTunes. Next, sync the device with your current iTunes library.

**[INSERT SYNC IMG HERE]**

After loading, iCDTA can be accessed by pressing the following application icon:

**[INSERT SYNC IMG HERE]**

# Getting Started

## Anatomy of the Application



CDTA iRide has five major sections. To access a particular section, simply press the corresponding tab in the application's tab bar. In this image, the tab bar is highlighted in red.

**Trip Planner:** The trip planner allows you to find available bus trips between an origin and destination in the CDTA system. Once you have selected a trip, the trip planner will provide you with detailed walking and riding directions.

**Maps:** CDTA iRide offers a variety of route maps – separated by region. On GPS enabled devices, a rider can also find his or her current location by using the “Locate Me” feature.

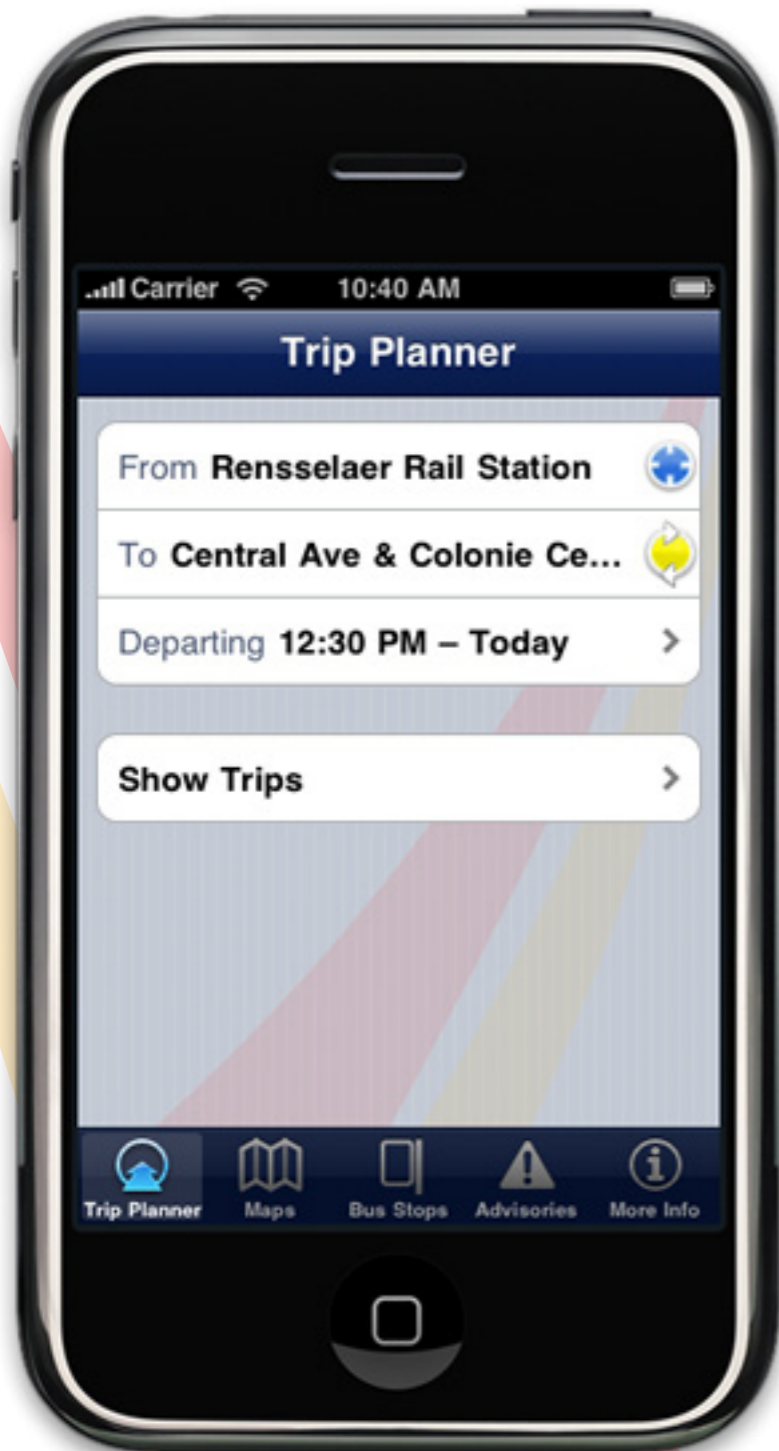
**Stops:** The Stops component of CDTA iRide allows riders to quickly browse stops in the CDTA system. Riders can access information about arrival times and stop amenities.

**Service Alerts:** Service Alerts keep you up to date on system-wide delays and notifications. Whenever CDTA posts a service advisory, the notification will be displayed on your device.

**More Info:** CDTA iRide provides a collection of important phone numbers, websites, and contact information in its More Info section.

# Using the Application

## Trip Planning



One of the most important features of iCDTA is its built-in Trip Planner. By default, CDTA iRide will display the Trip Planner when the application launches.

From this screen, you can request a list of CDTA bus trips for a specific origin, destination, and time.

### Selecting an Origin and Destination

To select an origin for your trip, tap the field labeled “From”. After selecting this field, a new “Stop Group” screen will allow you to pick a starting location in three ways:

**Locate Nearby Stops:** Pressing “Locate Stops” will use the device’s GPS signal to find a list of nearby CDTA bus stops. Use this feature when you would like to get on a bus close to your current location.

**Search Stops and Landmarks:** “Search” allows riders to look for a particular bus stop by name or landmark. This feature is useful when you already know the name of the stop you are looking for.

**Browse by Route:** Below “Search”, riders have the option to browse through all stops on a particular route. Selecting a route will produce a list of available stops for you to choose from.

Selecting a stop will automatically return you to the Trip Planner home screen and update the “From” field. To specify a destination for your trip, repeat this procedure by tapping on the “To” field.

# Using the Application

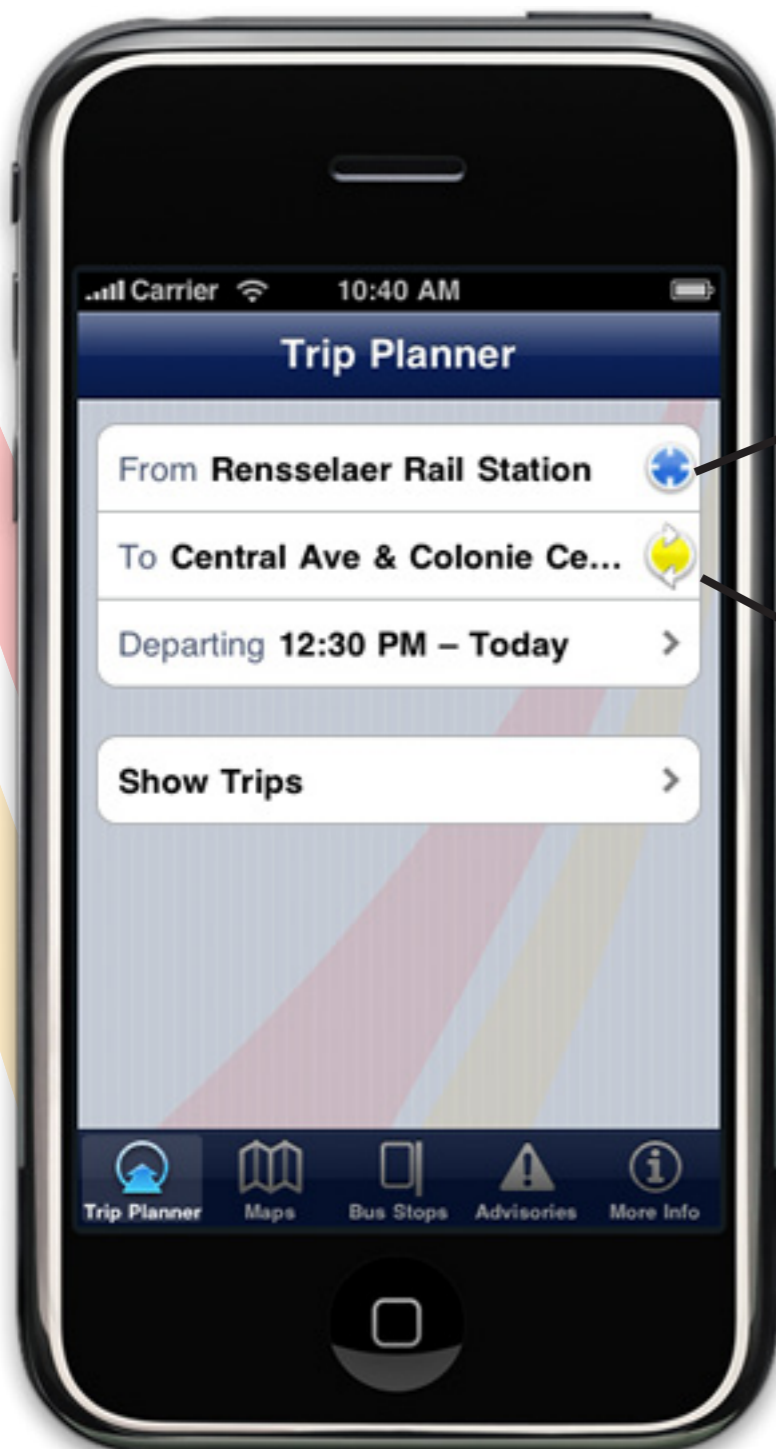
## Trip Planning

### Additional Origin and Destination Features

CDTA iRide also has some shortcuts for selecting a trip's origin and destination:

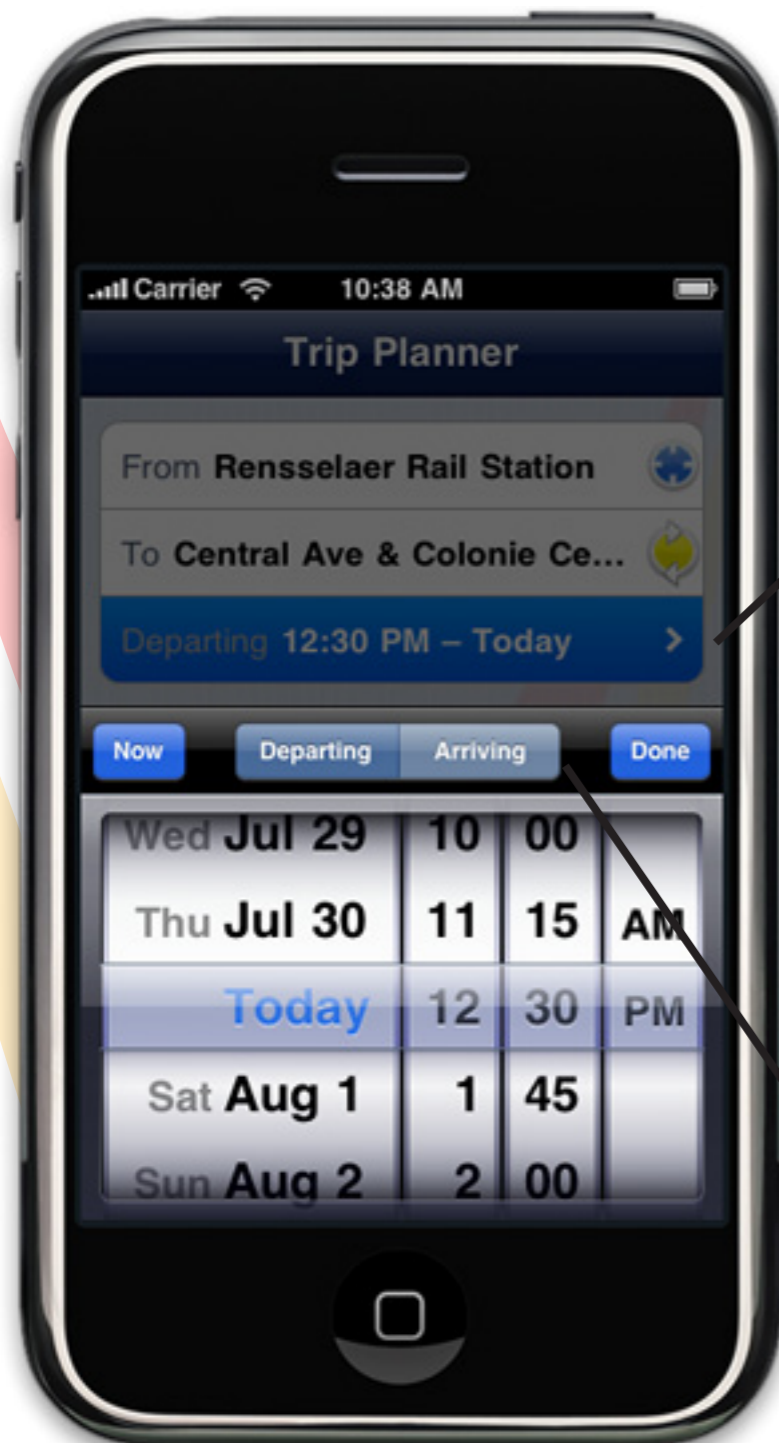
**Nearest Stop:** On the right side of the "From" field, you will notice a blue location button. By pressing this button, the device's GPS will try to find the nearest CDTA stop to your current location. If a stop is found, the "From" field will be automatically updated for you.

**Reverse Trip:** On the right side of the "To" field, you will notice a yellow "Reverse Trip" button. Pressing this button will automatically switch the current origin and destination. Use this feature when you have a taken a trip in one direction and want to quickly find a list of return trips.



# Using the Application

## Trip Planning



### Selecting a Trip Time

After selecting an origin and destination for your trip, you can also choose to specify a trip time. By default, the Trip Planner will try to calculate a trip that is departing "Now".

To select a different time, tap the "Departing Now" field. A new trip time selector will appear.

Here, you can change the date and time of your trip, as well as the trip type. To change the trip's time, simply scroll the selector's wheel to the desired date and time.

Each trip you plan can have one of two trip types: **Departing** or **Arriving**. By selecting "Departing", the Trip Planner will try to find trips that are **leaving** at the time you have specified. By selecting "Arriving", the Trip Planner will attempt to find trips that will **arrive by** the time you have specified.

To set a trip's type, select either Arriving or Departing from the button at the top of the time selector. The selected type will be shaded with a darker color:

When you have finished changing the time, date, and type of your trip, press the "Done" button to return to the Trip Planner home screen.

# Using the Application

## Trip Planning

### Finding and Viewing Trips

Congratulations! You are now ready to plan your first CDTA iRide trip.

With an origin, destination, and time specified, go ahead and press the "Show Trips" button. If available trips are found for your request, a new 'Trips' screen will appear:

Each trip entry in the list has a starting and ending time, a list of routes, and a total trip time and distance calculation.

To view a trip in more detail, press any of the available trip entries.



# Using the Application

## Trip Planning



### Trip Detail Screen

The Trip Detail screen provides detailed walking and riding directions for a particular trip. Bus stops, route numbers, and transfer points are presented in a step-by-step set of instructions. The Trip Detail screen will also display the trip's total fare and estimated travel time.

From a 'Trip Detail' screen, you can always navigate back to the list of all available trips. Just tap the "Trips" button in the upper left hand corner of the screen.

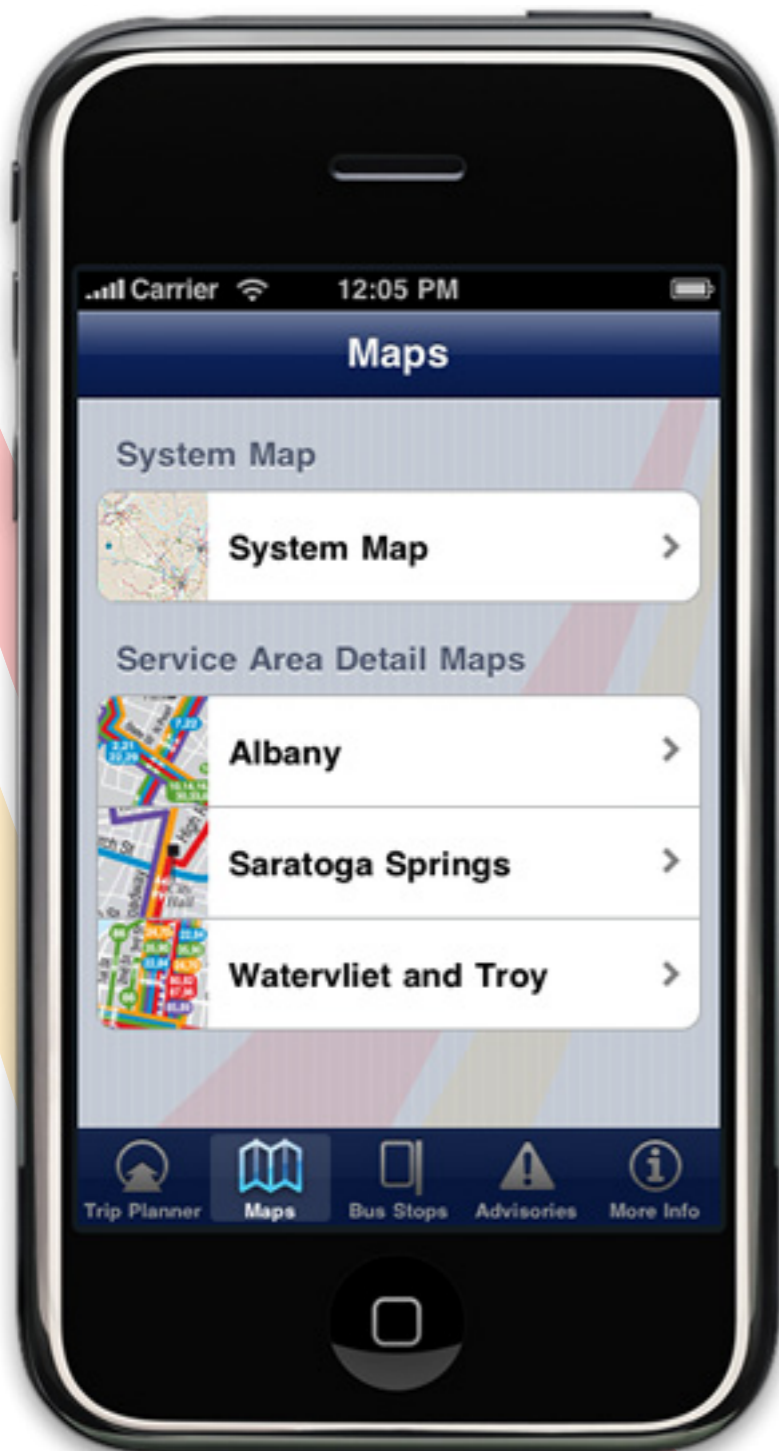
### Walking Map Directions

In some cases, the trip planner will require you to walk short distances between CDTA bus stops. On iPhone 3.0 devices, you can access a supplementary map for these parts of the trip. Simply tap the walking man icon below the corresponding walking instruction.

Each walking map shows a starting bus stop, a destination bus stop, and your current GPS location.

# Using the Application

## Maps



### Map Selection

Maps can be an invaluable resource for the public transit rider. CDTA iRide offers a variety of route maps that can be accessed through the Maps tab on the bottom of the screen.

When you first select the Maps tab, you will be presented with a list of available route maps. There are two types of maps in CDTA iRide:

**System Map:** This map covers the majority of CDTA's bus system. It is primarily useful for identifying the coverage area of particular routes.

**Detail Map:** Detail Maps show a particular region of the CDTA system. Typically, these are areas that have too much detail to be included in a single System Map. In CDTA iRide, there are Detail Maps for Albany, Saratoga Springs, and Troy.

To view a particular map, simply select its entry on the Maps screen. The desired map will slide into place.

# Using the Application

## Maps



### Using the Maps

The maps in CDTA iRide have built-in zooming and scrolling capabilities. This makes it easier for riders to achieve a desired level of map detail. To navigate a map, use the following techniques:

**Pinch Zoom:** The Pinch Zoom is the standard zoom technique on an iPhone/iPod Touch device. To **zoom in** on the map, place two fingers on the screen and slide them apart. To **zoom out** on the map, slide two fingers together in a pinching motion.

**Double Tap:** A single-finger, double-tap will cause the map to zoom in on a particular point. To zoom in further on a given point, repeat the double-tap.

**Two Finger Tap:** Tapping the screen once with two fingers will partially zoom out on the map. To zoom out further, repeat the two-finger tap.

**Scrolling:** To scroll a map, simply drag your finger in the direction you would like to the map to move. Scrolling indicators will appear along the edges of the map to show you how much further you can move in a particular direction.

# Using the Application

## Maps

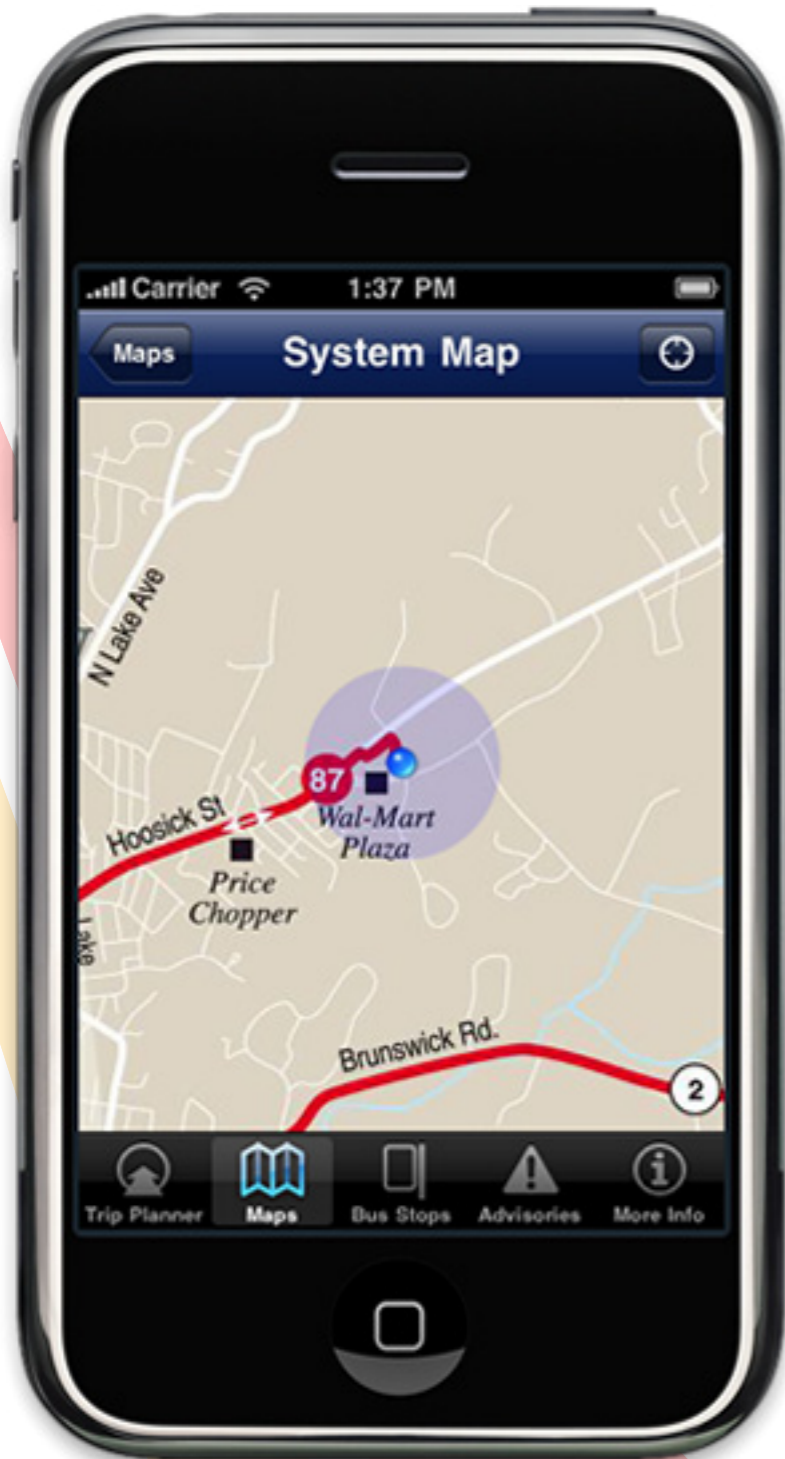
### Making the Most of the System Map: “Locate Me”

The System Map offers an additional “Locate Me” feature for riders using an iPhone 3.0 device. This feature allows riders to find their exact location on the CDTA System Map.

The first time the CDTA System Map is loaded, the device will try to find the rider’s current GPS location. This process is indicated by the presence of a transparent black “Locating...” screen.

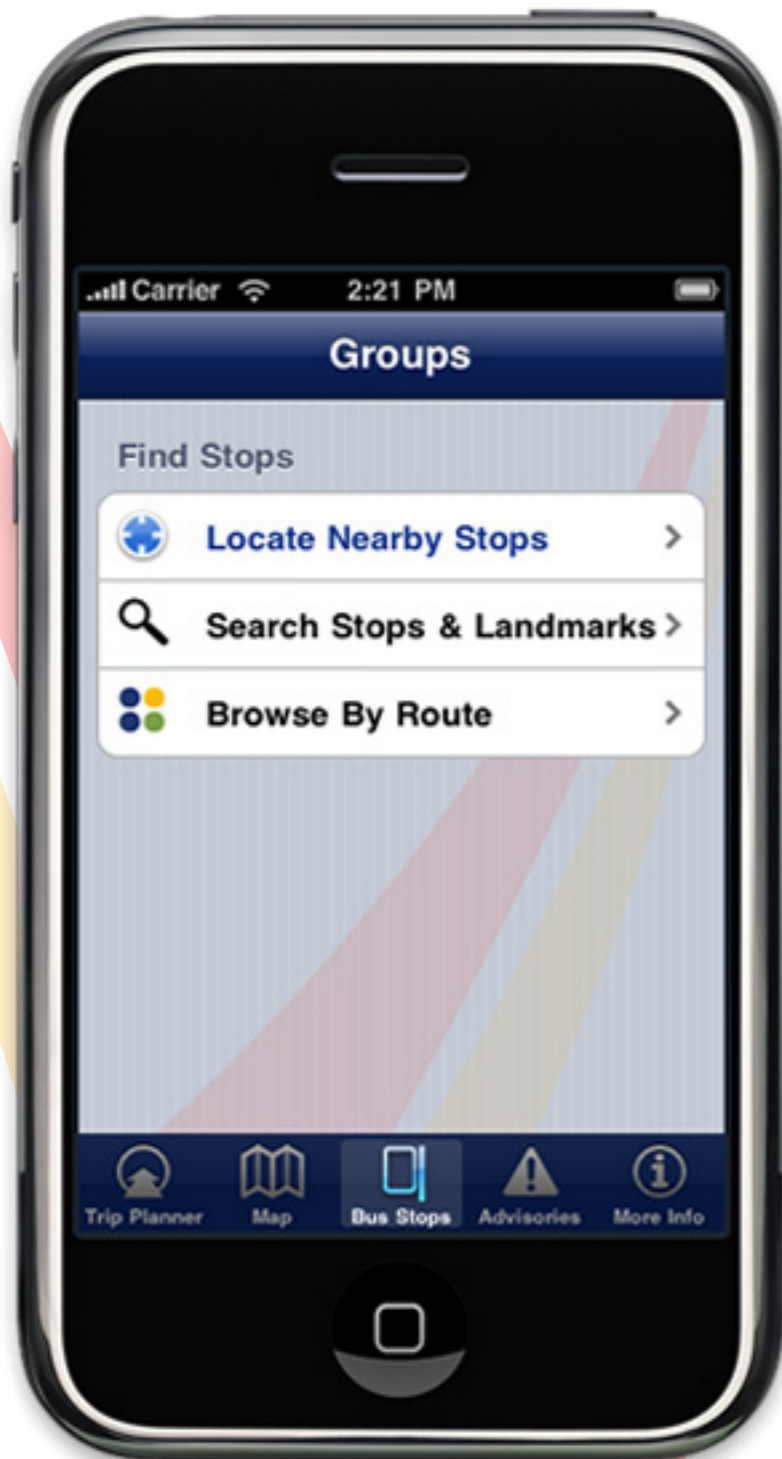
If the device finds an acceptable GPS location, the map will zoom in on a blue location indicator. If an acceptable location is not found, the CDTA iRide will alert the rider, and leave the map in its default location.

You can get a more recent location at any time by pressing the “Locate Me” button in the upper right hand corner of the screen.



# Using the Application

## Bus Stops



### Browsing Stops

CDTA iRide allows riders to browse through all available stops in the CDTA system. For a particular stop, riders can access scheduled arrival times and compare stop amenities.

To access CDTA's stop information, press the Bus Stops tab. When the section loads, you will see a new "Stop Groups" screen.

The "Stop Groups" screen provides three browsing options for finding stops. Notice that these options are the same ones offered in the Trip Planner:

**Locate Nearby Stops:** Pressing "Locate Stops" will use the device's GPS signal to find a list of nearby CDTA bus stops. Use this feature when you would like to find a stop close to your current location.

**Search Stops and Landmarks:** "Search" allows riders to look for a particular bus stop by name or landmark. This feature is useful when you already know the name of the stop you are looking for.

**Browse by Route:** Riders have the option to browse through all stops on a particular route. Selecting a route will produce a list of available stops for you to choose from.

# Using the Application

## Bus Stops



### Stop Information

To access detailed information about a particular stop, select its entry from the stop list. The result will be a new “Stop Detail” screen.

For each stop, riders can view two types of information: scheduled arrivals and stop amenities.

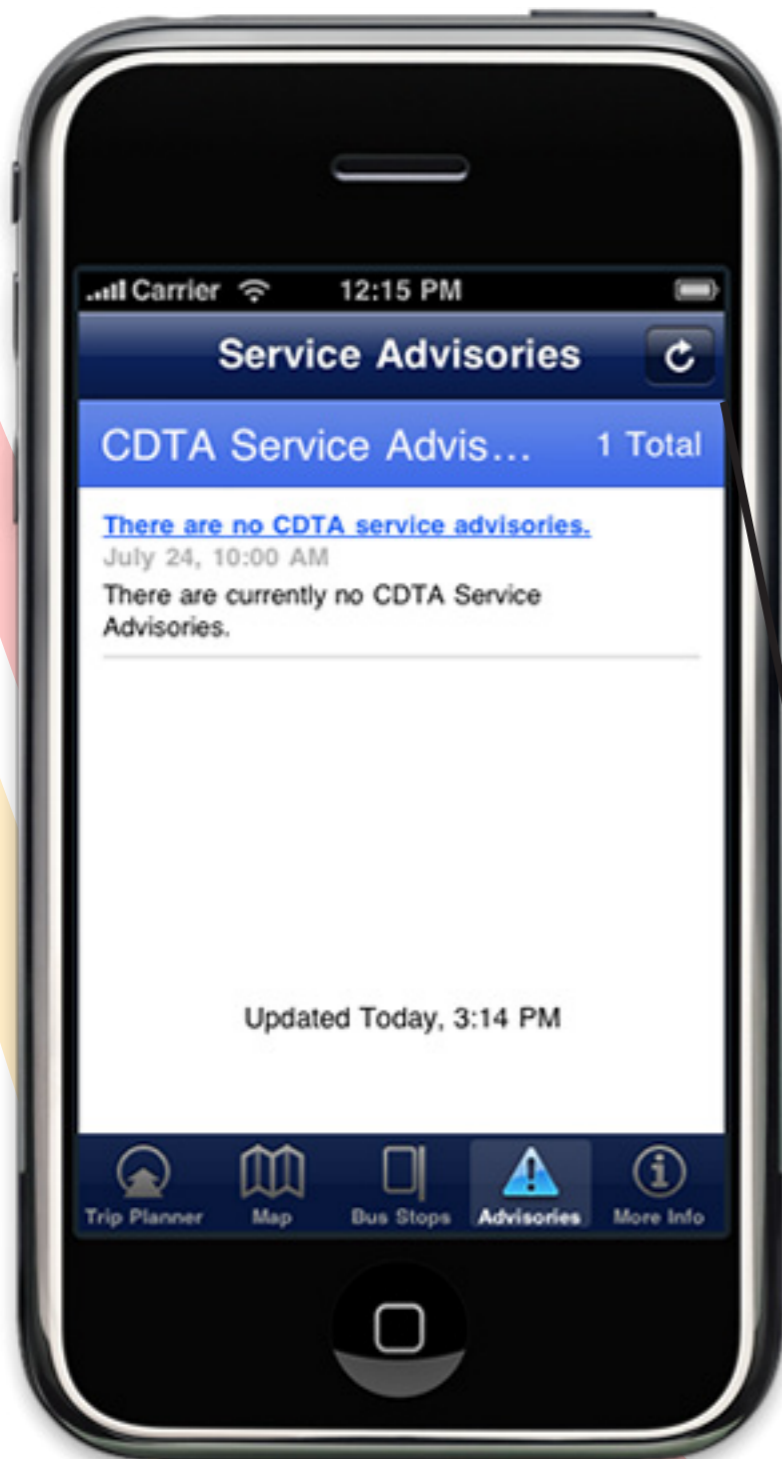
**Arrivals:** Scheduled arrivals for a particular stop are displayed for you in a list. The arrival information includes the destination of an incoming bus, as well as the time remaining before its scheduled arrival at your stop. Arrival times are updated to reflect system-wide changes to the CDTA bus schedule.

**Stop Amenities:** For each stop, a rider can also explore the stop’s amenities. CDTA iRide tells the rider whether or not the stop offers a ‘Shelter/Bench’, a ‘Bike Rack’, or ‘Park & Ride’ availability.

At any point, you can return to the complete list of stops by hitting the back button in the upper left hand corner of the screen.

# Using the Application

## Service Alerts



CDTA iRide has the ability to alert riders of system-wide service notifications. These notifications can include delays, detours, and other temporary service changes.

To access system notifications, press the “Alerts” tab at the bottom of the screen. A new “System Alerts” screen will appear.

“System Alerts” displays any notifications currently posted by CDTA. Clicking on an advisory entry will launch the device’s web browser and redirect you to CDTA’s alerts page.

### Updating Advisories

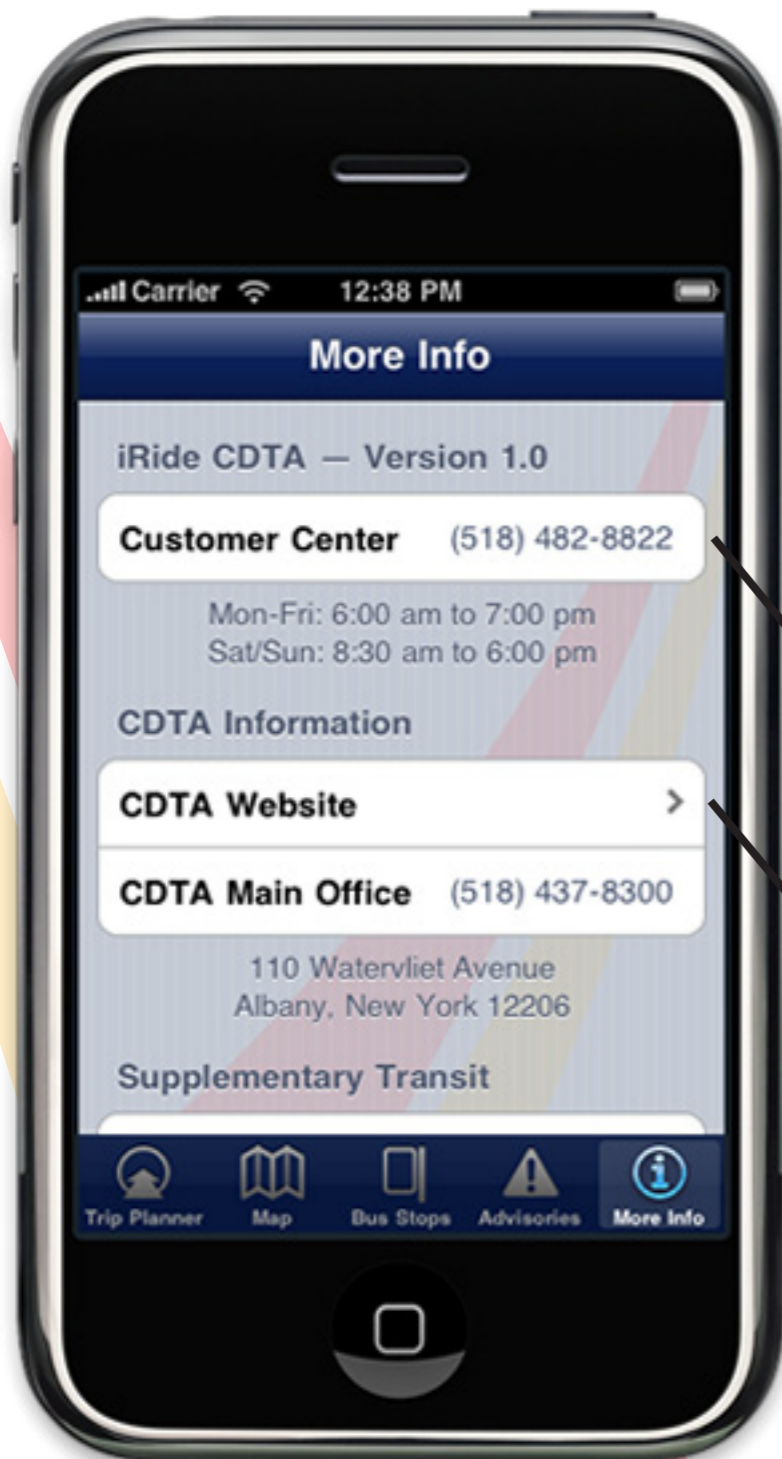
Each time you visit the ‘Alerts’ section of CDTA iRide, the application will attempt to find the most recent alerts.

To refresh the advisory list manually, press the “Refresh” button in the upper right hand corner of the screen.

**Note:** Updating service advisories requires a network connection. The advisories will be unable to update if you are not connected to Wi-Fi or a cellular network.

# Using the Application

## More Information



The 'More Info' section is included as a helpful travel reference. It contains CDTA contact information, a list of emergency phone numbers, and other useful pieces of travel information.

To access the 'More Info' section, press the 'More Info' tab on the bottom of the screen.

The 'More Info' page has two types of entries:

**Calling Entry:** A calling entry contains both text and a phone number. If you are using an iPhone device, pressing a calling entry will start a phone call with the displayed number. Before making the call, the application will prompt you to proceed.

**Web Entry:** A web entry in the 'More Info' section is indicated by an arrow on the right hand side. Pressing a web entry will exit iCDTA and open your device's web browser. The browser will be redirected to the appropriate web page.

# Application Updates

## Service Updates

CDTA makes system-wide changes to its service schedule approximately three times per year. When large schedule changes are made, riders can expect an update to the CDTA iRide application as well. This ensures that the application's trip planning will remain correct.

Updates to iCDTA will be announced on CDTA's website: [ URL ]

Riders can sign up for email notifications here: [URL]

### **Keeping Your App in Sync**

To install the latest version of CDTA iRide, visit CDTA's App Store account on iTunes [LINK].

Simply download the latest version of the application and sync your device with your current iTunes library.

# User Support

## Contact Information

CDTA iRide was designed to enhance your public transit experience. As such, we would love to hear your questions, comments, and feedback concerning the application. Please feel free to contact us using the information below:

### **CDTA iRide Support:**

[ LINK HERE ]

### **CDTA Contact Info:**

[ WHAT SHOULD WE PROVIDE HERE ]

# CDTA iRide User Guide

This guide is a freely available reference for the  
CDTA iRide iPhone Application.

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