

P lanning Bus Rapid Transit for the Capital District



CDTA BRT buses will have a unique paint scheme

Welcome to the first newsletter for the Capital District Transportation Authority NY5 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. While full implementation of all BRT elements will take several years to be completely operational, you will start to notice key changes along Route 5 in the near term.

The opening of the new park and ride lot at 1216 State Street (across from St. Luke's Church) is an example of one such project. The 60 parking spaces are currently served by CDTA's routes 55 and 55X. The site will eventually become a station for future BRT service.

In addition, there are several simultaneous projects happening this winter that will further support the Route 5 BRT service as it moves from conceptual design to implementation. These projects include the development and implementation of more shared use park and ride lots as well as three on-going consultant studies, which include:

- Station Planning and Design;
- Operations and Management Plan; and
- BRT Service Branding and Marketing

Each of the consultant studies has complementary yet independent schedules, deliverables and goals. The individual study teams are working together through CDTA to support the agency as BRT service begins operating on Route 5.



While the project will be implemented in phases over the next couple of years, we have set three major service milestones, based on the assumption that required regulatory clearances are obtained in 2006-2007 as planned:

- June 2007 – Six (6) Hybrid Electric Buses arrive and go into test service on Express routes for evaluation purposes
- Spring 2008 – Operate interim BRT schedules from priority stations (without traffic signal priority)
- Summer 2009 – Additional 6 vehicles arrive, traffic signal priority and remaining stations open, BRT schedules put into service

Be Involved and Stay Informed

There will be several opportunities for you to stay informed and get involved as BRT commences service and operation. These one-page electronic newsletters, for example, will be sent out every other month to keep you informed about project status and upcoming meetings and events.

If you would like more information about this project or have additional questions, please contact **Kristina Younger** at CDTA (518-437-6582) or **Bethany Whitaker** at Nelson Nygaard (802-658-3247 or bwhitaker@nelsonnygaard.com).