

Planning Bus Rapid Transit

Welcome to the third newsletter for the Capital District Transportation Authority NY5 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project.

New BRT Buses are Here!

CDTA just received six new, clean fuel 40' buses for the new BRT. These vehicles offer:

- Hybrid-electric engines – new buses are equipped with a state-of-the-art diesel hybrid propulsion system that produces 90% less pollution and increases fuel efficiency by 30%.
- Increased passenger comfort - vehicles are equipped with high-backed seats, wider doors, large windows, high visibility handholds, security cameras, and more seats.
- Distinctive vehicle appearance – the buses incorporate CDTA's new branding scheme, high visibility electronic destination signs, and have a more modern look.

The first six new vehicles are being tested on CDTA express routes beginning this Summer, continuing into the Fall and Winter. Six more vehicles arrive next year, at which time all 12 vehicles will be assigned exclusively to the BRT. CDTA has added a new section to its website – www.cdta.org – that provides more information about hybrid technology and other ways CDTA is going "green".

On-Going BRT Efforts

Progress continues with the on-going projects supporting the Route 5 BRT service as it moves from conceptual design to implementation.

for the Capital District



E-BLAST NEWSLETTER NO.3

Station Planning and Design

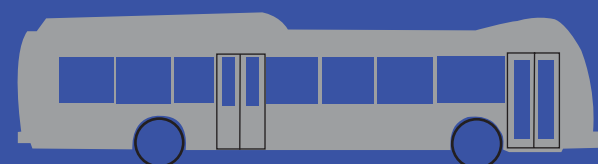
- Preliminary concepts for shelter designs and station layouts are being reviewed and refined. CDTA is working closely with local communities to ensure that BRT stations meet expectations.
- CDTA is working with landowners and developers at specific locations to integrate BRT station planning into site design, including the proposed Albany Convention Center in downtown Albany.
- A "centerpiece" station at Colonie Center is being planned with an indoor waiting area, restrooms and concession space.
- Environmental analysis documents are in the final stages of preparation and their release for public review is anticipated this summer.

Operations and Management Plan

- Maintenance and deployment plans for the new hybrid-electric vehicles are available.
- Results of a passenger study collected on existing NY Route 5 services will be available later in July. This survey will support design of BRT schedules, feeder routes and connections with regional services.
- CDTA is reviewing BRT management and operation techniques used by industry peers, and will release a start-up operating plan this Fall.

Be Involved and Stay Informed

As the BRT service moves forward there will be more opportunities to learn about our efforts and get involved. Watch for our Fall E-Blast for more about project status and upcoming meetings and events.



If you would like more information about this project or have additional questions, please contact:

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