

TRANSPORTATION IS THE HEARTBEAT OF EVERYDAY LIFE

Improved transportation opportunities extend from our beaches to cities; from homes to hospitals, doctors' offices and nursing facilities; from school to school; and from neighborhood to neighborhood. People without cars, families, and one in every five elderly persons rely on public transit. People who want to avoid congestion and parking hassles need a responsible alternative. Residents – and especially parents and their children – who enjoy healthy lifestyles, need opportunities to walk and bike. There are very good options to individual car transportation with a wealth of benefits, but they have to be reliable, accommodating and cost-beneficial. The Coalition for Transportation is dedicated to seeing those goals achieved.

The CTC's work has enjoyed the support of the Rhode Island Foundation, The Prospect Hill Foundation, and Third Sector New England's Capacity Building Fund.



COALITION FOR TRANSPORTATION CHOICES

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STUDENTS, PARENTS AND TEACHERS PROMOTE THE INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY IN EAST PROVIDENCE.

THE CTC COMMITMENT AIDING R.I.'S ECONOMY

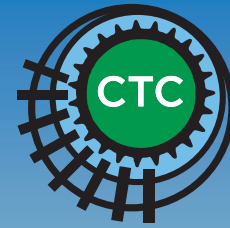
The Coalition for Transportation Choices advocates for increased and sustainable funding to create and maintain a 21st century transportation system that enhances our economy, safeguards the environment, and provides people with healthy and affordable transportation choices. The CTC does so through research, conducting public forums, coordinating transit-improvement efforts within the public and private sectors, and advocating for sound investment, planning, and implementation that will bring benefits to all Rhode Islanders.



"The additional funds generated under (the R.I. Transportation and Debt Reduction Act of 2011) will allow Rhode Island to foster and support an efficient transit system and transportation infrastructure necessary to attract businesses, create jobs and support our economy... If Rhode Island continues to address the situation by relying on borrowing in order to receive matching Federal funds, we will create a debt service that is not only unsustainable, but also a detriment to growing our economy."

— Statement by the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce on the R.I. Transportation and Debt Reduction Act of 2011, which was championed by the CTC.

- AARP
- Amalgamated Transit Union
- American Lung Association of RI
- Apeiron Institute for Sustainable Living
- Audubon Society of Rhode Island
- Aquidneck Island Planning Commission
- Bike Newport
- Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
- Blueways Alliance
- Brown emPower
- Childhood Lead Action Project
- City-State, the Urban Design Lab at RISD
- Clean Water Action
- Conservation Law Foundation
- Cornish Associates
- DOT Watch
- East Coast Greenway Alliance
- Ecolect
- Environment Council of RI
- Environment RI
- Environmental Justice League of RI
- Farm Fresh RI
- Goodwill Industries of RI
- Grow Smart RI
- Head of the Bay Gateway
- LISC-RI
- Narragansett Bay Estuary Program
- Operating Engineers, Local 57
- Opportunities Unlimited, Inc.
- Pawtucket Foundation
- Providence Foundation
- Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Recycle-A-Bike
- RI Bicycle Coalition
- RI Student Climate Coalition
- RI Association of Railroad Passengers
- RICOSH
- RI Consulting Engineers
- RI Interfaith Power and Light
- RI Land Trust Council
- RIPTA Riders
- RI Rehabilitation Council Transportation Consortium
- Save The Bay
- SEIU, District 1199
- Sierra Club
- The Blackstone Valley Partnership
- The Providential Gardener
- U.S. Open Cycling
- Working Rhode Island
- Youth in Action



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Winter 2012

TRANSPORTATION ONLY WORKS WHEN IT WORKS AS A SYSTEM

THE COALITION'S 2012 PRIORITIES



ASSURE THAT THE TRANSIT SYSTEM BENEFITS RIDERS, BUSINESSES AND THE ECONOMY

Rhode Island's educational institutions, businesses, health care and social services, visitors, and most everyone who lives in the state relies upon public transit in one way or another. Moving our workers, students, and residents with better linkages to key destinations that get people where they want to go when they want to go is a critical element of an effective transit system. Clear information for riders, business employee and commuter incentives, and improved intermodal airport and rail links all need to be upgraded to properly serve the state – and its economy – as a whole. Riders must make Rhode Island's system a "user-friendly" service.

MOVE FROM PLANNING TO ACTION: SPEAK UP!

Rhode Island needs to take action on projects by moving from the planning stage to on-the-ground action. Recommendations are emerging from the RIPTA 5-Year Strategic Plan to achieve a wide range of multi-modal, convenient and attractive transportation choices that help accommodate economic growth and support communities

from South County to the Metro Providence area, but they must be supported and funded. Rhode Island's governor, local, state and national legislators need to hear the public's voice loudly and often, through CTC forums and advocacy efforts, to tell them the time to act for enhanced transportation is right now.



ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE AND SAFETY IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

The "Complete Streets" concept of local development helps unify communities. Walkable, bikeable places to live where shopping spots, health care and social services are easily accessible are a boon to residents. The Safe Routes to School Program provides a sense of security for children and families. Adequate and well-repaired sidewalks, sufficient and safe bike lanes, available bike racks, and pedestrian-safe street markings and signals will encourage doing business locally, walking to school safely, living actively for health, and encourage social encounters in a neighborhood environment. Make sure your local officials are developing ways for your community to get involved in these improvement efforts.

WORK TOGETHER FOR INTEGRATED AND MORE EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION

The CTC works with state agencies, regional planning groups and municipalities to lead the way for integrated systems to get residents to the destinations they desire, at the best times. Transit systems must meet evolving needs. Work schedules vary from medical care shifts to manufacturing shifts to traditional business hours, and entertainment venues would benefit from strategically expanded transit service. No one agency can make decisions without working with other affected organizations. Eyes must constantly be on the future, with ears open to new ideas for team planning efforts.



INVEST IN TRANSPORTATION TO MAXIMIZE POSITIVE IMPACTS

Investing in healthy, safe transportation choices enhances the economy as it provides roads and bridges in good repair and modern equipment for public transit. An economy that needs to be revitalized will need an effective and clean transportation system for moving goods and people to assure rising production. A modernized system must direct funding to systems that will reduce Rhode Island's dependence on oil and the resulting harmful air emissions. Transportation must have a dedicated, sufficient budget that is based on something other than slowly vanishing federal funding or an outmoded gas tax. Rhode Island needs to explore progressive, alternative funding streams to match the needs of its residents and businesses: something that the CTC has done with its Transportation and Debt Reduction Act, that will be introduced at the 2012 session of the R.I. General Assembly.

