

CT *fastrak*

Overview

CT*fastrak* is Connecticut's bus rapid transit (BRT) solution to improve mobility and reduce congestion in the I-84 New Britain to Hartford corridor. An innovative, high capacity, cost-effective public transit solution, it can significantly improve travel times through heavily-congested areas. BRT uses dedicated transit guideways or exclusive travel lanes to avoid traffic and quickly transport passengers to their destinations.

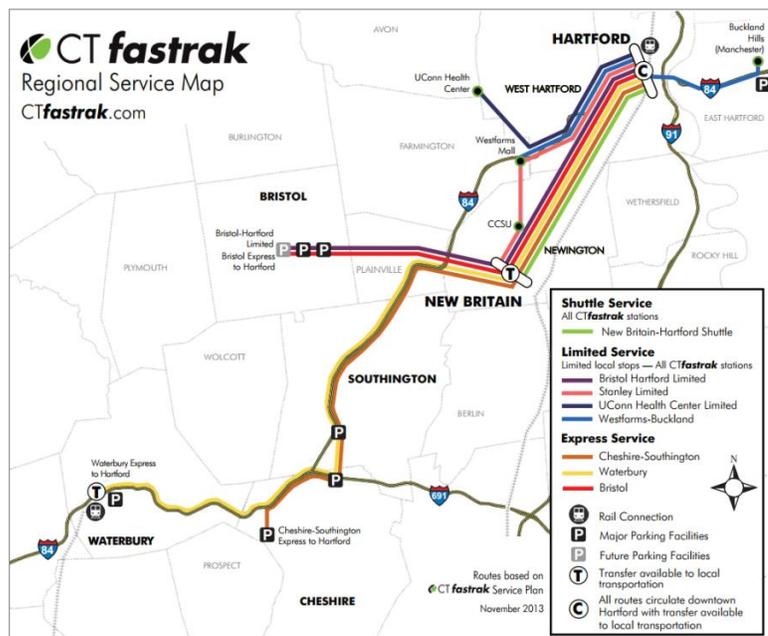


Benefits of CT*fastrak*

CT*fastrak* is a valuable investment in the quality of life in central Connecticut. It is projected to significantly improve travel times for both bus riders and others within the congested New Britain to Hartford corridor. This permanent infrastructure solution will provide fast, dependable travel times in the corridor, regardless of traffic congestion on I-84. CT*fastrak* will greatly increase the convenience of transit as an alternative to automobile travel, enabling riders to get to key employment, educational, cultural and other destinations throughout the region. CT*fastrak* is expected to carry approximately 16,000 riders a day, many of whom will be people who currently drive on I-84. CT*fastrak* will offer a reasonable alternative to driving, using environmentally-friendly transit vehicles, improving our air quality, decreasing fuel usage and reducing wear-and-tear on our roads by 17 million vehicle miles per year. In addition, BRT systems often stimulate economic development around station locations, providing an important boost to the region's economy.

How Will It Work?

CT*fastrak* will function much like a rail line. The buses will travel on their own road (guideway), separate from all other traffic. However, this system will be more flexible than rail because buses can get on or off the guideway at intermediate points or at the end of the line and continue directly to other destinations away from the guideway itself. This allows





CTfastrak to transport riders from doorstep to destination, including express service from origins well beyond the limits of the guideway. Buses will provide reliably frequent service, with arrival times depending on time of day and station location. In general, **CTfastrak** will provide service that is consistent with the CTTRANSIT Hartford Division hours of operation. Currently, service operates from 4:05 a.m. through 1:30 a.m. Likewise, the **CTfastrak** fare will be the same fare charged for the rest of the regional CTTRANSIT bus system. As of January, 2014, the local cash fare is \$1.50 and express bus cash fares range from \$2.70 to \$5.15. Reduced fares are available to seniors and people with disabilities and discounts are offered for 3-day, 5-day, 7-day, ten-trip and monthly or 31-day passes.

Why Bus Rapid Transit?

Several congestion reducing transportation options were studied for the I-84 corridor, including highway widening, high occupancy vehicle lanes, commuter rail and light rail. BRT was selected as the preferred alternative because it provides a cost-effective and feasible solution, offering travelers flexibility and frequency of service. **CTfastrak** routes are designed to take advantage of the travel time savings that are inherent to travel on the dedicated guideway, and with the added flexibility of extending service beyond the guideway. **CTfastrak** can provide a one-seat ride into downtown areas and other destinations beyond the limits of the corridor without the need for a transfer.



For More Information

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