

PRESS RELEASE

Adirondack Regional Ride Share Program, Tri-County Transportation Coordination

Essex County Transportation, Clinton County Public Transit (CCPT) and Franklin County Public Transportation are working together to provide more transportation options for the North Country through a website that provides opportunities to share rides..

Elizabethtown, NY - November 15, 2010 -- Beginning Monday November 22, 2010 a ride share website sponsored by Essex County will allow North Country residents to find rides throughout the three counties. Clinton, Essex and Franklin county's public transportation coordinators have joined together to identify various means and methods to help riders travel throughout the community. Once such solution identified was a ride & drive share website. The website allows users to create a profile where they list what days, times and places that they are looking to share a ride or drive. While public transit has been a low cost, green option for many years in all three counties, there are still a number of residents that are not able to utilize this service due to time of day or area served. It is the hope of the public transit systems that this project to share rides will help encourage North Country residents to conserve fuel, go green, and save money. To enroll to share rides, please visit: <https://www.co.essex.ny.us/AdirondackRegionalRideShare>.

CCPT, formerly known as CART, began its operation on Valentine's Day 1983 with three 12-passenger vans going out to rural locations that served a total of 7,215 passengers. It has since expanded to 16 vehicles in its fleet including 2 senior and 2 paratransit busses. Routes include three in the city of Plattsburgh as well as rural routes to Rouses Point, Champlain, Mooers, Churubusco, AuSable, Riverview, Standish, Peru and a number of other places within Clinton County serving approximately 150,000 passengers yearly. CCPT (518) 561-1452 www.clintoncountypublictransit.com

ECT, had a two bus operation for many years, in 2006 Essex County hired a Transportation Coordinator and has since expanded service to reach 13 of our 18 towns. Passengers have increased from 2,000 annual rides to 10,000. ECT now connects with CCPT and FCPT, allowing riders to cross county lines to work, shop or more. We pride ourselves on public service and a friendly ride. ECT 1-800-914-9266 www.co.essex.ny.us/CrossingCommunities.asp

Franklin County Public Transportation **FCPT** has grown in leaps and bounds over the years. It first originated back in 1997 with a three bus demand service, trips averaged between 10-12,000 slowly the service area increased along with trips and fleet. In 2007 there were 60,016 trips, 2008 there were 62,922, in 2009 there were 90,766 in 2010 we are up to a fourteen bus service and anticipate over 100,000 trips. www.franklincony.org