



**britebuzz**

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission  
112 MacTanly Place—Staunton, VA 24401  
540-885-5174  
Bus Phone Number 540-943-9302

**January 2016**

## Ridership:

	Total Passenger Trips			Passenger Trips per Service Hour		
	January, 2016	December, 2015	January, 2015	January, 2016	December, 2015	January, 2015
250 Connector	7,795	7,664	8,048	14.9	12.7	16.0
250 Connector- Sat	859	611	953	9.8	6.9	15.9
Waynesboro	2,542	3,184	2,639	11.8	12.1	10.6
Green Trolley	1,623	1,912	2,109	9.2	9.2	10.1
Silver Trolley	2,142	2,807	2,681	11.9	12.8	12.8
Red Trolley	183	209	347	6.5	7.5	8.7
Staunton On Demand	301	367	246	2.0	2.0	1.4
Augusta On Demand	10	10	12	0.5	0.5	0.4
340 Connector	222	286	263	2.0	2.2	2.1
BRCC North	1,902	1,971	2,610	7.1	6.3	8.8
BRCC South	2,232	2,808	3,051	8.9	9.6	11.1
Total:	19,811	21,829	22,959	9.9	9.3	10.5

## Spotlight:

Semi-Annual Financial Summary (July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015)

			Remaining	
Cost	FY 16 Budget	Actual	Dollars	Percent
<b>Payroll</b>	\$92,762	\$49,734	\$43,028	46.4%
<b>Operating Contract</b>	\$1,081,529	\$531,217	\$550,312	50.9%
<b>Other Contracts</b>	\$61,000	\$5,233	\$55,767	91.4%
<b>Transportation &amp; Training</b>	\$3,000	\$2,010	\$990	33.0%
<b>Communication</b>	\$ - -	\$8	\$(8)	
<b>Printing</b>	\$13,750	\$1,614	\$12,136	88.3%
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$1,750	\$5,191	\$(3,441)	-196.6%
<b>Capital</b>	\$19,500		\$19,500	100%
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	\$48,672	\$26,095	\$22,577	46.4%
<b>Total</b>	\$1,321,963	\$621,102	\$700,861	53.0%
<b>Fares</b>	\$45,000	\$29,718	\$15,282	34.0%

## Service Notes:

- Service did not operate on Friday, January 22nd due to weather, and operated on a reduced schedule on Monday, January 25th. Normal service resumed on Tuesday, January 26th.
- The BTAC met on January 13, 2016.
- Met on January 26th with Staunton City Manager, Stephen Owen, Councilman Curren, Dr. Grande, and students from Mary Baldwin to discuss their project to improve the public transit system for their community, and to increase the awareness and understanding of public transit.



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February 2016

## Ridership:

	Total Passenger Trips			Passenger Trips per Service Hour		
	February, 2016	January, 2016	February, 2015	February, 2016	January, 2016	February, 2015
250 Connector	8,289	7,795	7,637	14.9	14.9	16.7
250 Connector- Sat	944	859	562	10.7	9.8	15.6
Waynesboro	2,926	2,542	2,391	12.4	11.8	10.6
Green Trolley	1,638	1,623	1,692	8.5	9.2	10.0
Silver Trolley	2,182	2,142	2,295	11.0	11.9	12.6
Red Trolley	188	183	234	5.9	6.5	8.4
Staunton On Demand	333	301	255	2.0	2.0	1.6
Augusta On Demand	18	10	8	0.7	0.5	0.3
340 Connector	295	222	244	2.5	2.0	2.2
BRCC North	2,556	1,902	2,909	9.1	7.1	8.9
BRCC South	2,484	2,232	3,067	9.5	8.9	10.5
Total:	21,853	19,811	21,294	10.1	9.9	10.6

## Spotlight:

A team of students from Mary Baldwin College have spent considerable time looking at ways to improve public transit in this area for the community, and especially for students of the College. The following are recommendations that they have provided, based on their observations and experiences:

- Improve communications regarding the transit system
- Clearly mark bus/trolley stops
- Have clear cut routes for the buses/trolleys
- Better identification and supporting materials to help the public distinguish between routes
- Make online and print maps and schedules more user-friendly

## Service Notes:

- On February 1, state grants were submitted for urban and rural operating and capital grants for FY 2017.
- CSPDC and VRT staff participated in an FTA Webinar on ADA and Paratransit Service compliance on February 3.
- On February 15, all service was suspended for the entire day due to the inclement weather.
- FTA went live with their new Transit Award Management System (TrAMS) on February 17. The new system is used for application and administration of all FTA funding. CSPDC staff has been participating in related training webinars throughout the month.
- A second meeting of the Steering Committee of the Inter-Regional Transit Study was held on February 25.



March 2016

## Passenger & Cost Statistics:

Passenger Stats	Passengers Per Hour		Passengers Per Operating Day		Cost Per Passenger		Operating Costs Per Day	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
250 Connector	15.9	16.3	415.1	389.6	\$4.32	\$4.06	\$1,690.68	\$1,478.76
250 Connector- Sat	11.0	13.9	192.0	166.3	\$6.25	\$4.73	\$1,162.40	\$752.58
Waynesboro	14.5	12.6	145.0	126.5	\$4.75	\$5.21	\$633.91	\$612.92
Green Line	10.4	11.4	98.5	106.7	\$6.60	\$5.74	\$632.36	\$591.91
Silver Line	12.3	13.3	122.7	132.0	\$5.61	\$4.94	\$663.31	\$625.37
Red Line	7.9	9.6	31.8	38.5	\$8.68	\$6.81	\$270.43	\$256.75
Staunton On Demand	1.9	1.7	16.2	14.0	\$36.08	\$39.71	\$576.20	\$546.23
Augusta On Demand	0.7	0.4	4.9	2.9				
340 Connector	2.3	2.3	14.0	14.0				
BRCC North	8.0	8.1	114.3	116.1				
BRCC South	10.8	11.0	142.7	145.0				
Total:	95.9	100.5	1,297.1	1,251.6				

## Spotlight on FTA Triennial On-Site Review:

On March 22nd and 23rd, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and its contracted reviewer completed the On-Site Visit portion of the Triennial Review of the CSPDC's transit system. The Triennial Review is an oversight review and forward looking assessment of the grantee's risk in the management and implementation of FTA grant programs. It is also intended to assist the grantee in understanding and meeting FTA requirements. The CSPDC has been working with FTA since November when it responded to the 187-page Triennial Review questionnaire and provided a massive number of supporting documents in preparation for the On-Site visit.

The On-Site review occurred primarily at the CSPDC office, and included a facility and vehicle maintenance review at the transit facility in Fishersville. In addition to staff from CSPDC, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) and Virginia Regional Transit (VRT) were involved in the Triennial Review.

Overall, the CSPDC fared well and we were commended by FTA for our effective and adequate policies, procedures, administrative oversight, and financial record keeping. During the On-Site review, 17 key areas were examined. Of the 17 areas assessed, 12 were in full compliance. Of note, there were no deficiencies identified in the Financial Management and Capacity, which is a key area. Of the five areas where deficiencies were noted, four of them can be corrected within the timeframe provided for corrective action.

One of the areas of concern where a deficiency was noted was in the area of Procurement. Specifically, the lack of required cost/price analysis and omitted justification and documentation for the single-bid award made to VRT in late 2003.

Although this deficiency in itself is administrative in nature and justification for the single-bid can be provided, the finding prompted a series of unresolved questions and concerns regarding the control and ownership of the FTA-funded transit facility in Fishersville controlled by VRT. Unfortunately, this issue must be resolved between the State (DRPT) and FTA before the CSPDC can move forward with its next procurement for services. In the meantime, FTA has instructed the CSPDC that they may not exercise the final one-year contract extension with VRT. The CSPDC has been directed to develop a new short-term, month-to-month contract with VRT to be followed by an FTA compliant procurement.

**April 2016**

## Passenger & Service Hours Statistics:

	Total Passenger Trips			Service Hours			Passengers per Service Hour		
	April, 2016	April, 2015	March, 2016	April, 2016	April, 2015	March, 2016	April, 2016	April, 2015	March, 2016
250 Connector	8,626	8,520	9,917	588.0	528.0	644.0	14.7	16.1	15.4
250 Connector- Sat	1,432	571	879	110.0	48.0	88.0	13.0	11.9	10.0
Waynesboro	2,793	3,002	3,365	252.0	264.0	276.0	11.1	11.4	12.2
Green Trolley	2,419	2,662	2,208	208.0	208.0	216.0	11.6	12.8	10.2
Silver Trolley	2,259	2,962	2,416	210.0	220.0	230.0	10.8	13.5	10.5
Red Trolley	282	217	220	40.0	32.0	32.0	7.1	6.8	6.9
Staunton On Demand	314	360	371	178.5	187.0	195.5	1.8	1.9	1.9
Augusta On Demand	38	17	22	32.5	26.0	26.0	1.2	0.7	0.9
340 Connector	275	266	298	126.0	132.0	138.0	2.2	2.0	2.2
BRCC North	2,436	3,059	2,585	295.0	314.0	329.0	8.3	9.7	7.9
BRCC South	3,000	3,603	2,972	274.0	292.0	306.0	10.9	12.3	9.7
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23,874</b>	<b>25,239</b>	<b>25,253</b>	<b>2,314.0</b>	<b>2,251.0</b>	<b>2,480.5</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>10.2</b>

## Service Notes:

- On Saturday, April 9, 2016, BRITE Operators, Rich Cooper and Kevin Anstine, participated in the Virginia Paratransit Rodeo in Chesterfield, Virginia. Transit professionals from throughout the Commonwealth showcase their driving skills and knowledge of the “Rules of the Road” with elements of the competition consisting of a written exam, wheelchair securement exercise, and an obstacle course. Rich and Kevin ranked in the top 10 of the 38 participating operators. Thank you and great job Rich and Kevin.
- As we greet spring, the Staunton Downtown Trolley extends its service hours. May 1, 2016 service hours for the Staunton Downtown Trolley will extend until 9:00 pm Monday through Saturday.

## Spotlight:

BRITE decals were applied to the Staunton vehicles in advance of the revamping of the Staunton transit service scheduled for May 31st. Service changes will include:

- The Green Trolley route will be renamed the Downtown Trolley, and will operate on extended hours and a hybrid route, incorporating downtown and the West and North Loop stops, as the Saturday Night Trolley.
- The Red Trolley route will be discontinued, and the Saturday Night Trolley will serve most of the stops previously served on this route.
- What was previously the Silver Trolley route will be split into two 30-minute loops—West and North—returning to the Lewis Street Hub every 30 minutes to improve connections to the 250 Connectors and the Downtown Trolley.



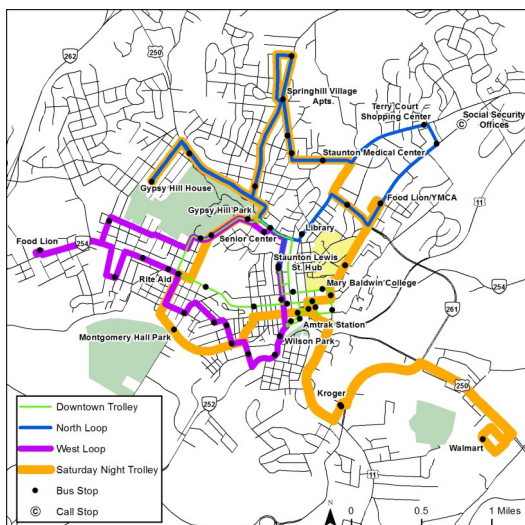
**May 2016**

## Passenger & Service Hours Statistics:

	Total Passenger Trips			Service Hours			Passengers per Service Hour		
	May, 2016	May, 2015	April, 2016	May, 2016	May, 2015	April, 2016	May, 2016	May, 2015	April, 2016
250 Connector	9,127	8,201	8,626	588.0	480.0	588.0	15.5	17.1	14.7
250 Connector- Sat	1,095	915	1,432	88.0	60.0	110.0	12.4	15.3	13.0
Waynesboro	2,781	2,896	2,793	252.0	240.0	252.0	11.0	12.1	11.1
Green Trolley	2,793	3,508	2,419	286.0	286.0	208.0	9.8	12.3	11.6
Silver Trolley	2,382	2,730	2,259	213.0	200.0	210.0	11.2	13.7	10.8
Red Trolley	207	316	282	32.0	40.0	40.0	6.5	7.9	7.1
Staunton On Demand	315	305	314	178.5	170.0	178.5	1.8	1.8	1.8
Augusta On Demand	22	14	38	26.0	32.5	32.5	0.8	0.4	1.2
340 Connector	231	188	275	126.0	120.0	126.0	1.8	1.6	2.2
BRCC North	1,228	1,426	2,436	299.0	280.0	295.0	4.1	5.1	8.3
BRCC South	2,385	2,733	3,000	278.0	260.0	274.0	8.6	10.5	10.9
<b>Total:</b>	<b>22,566</b>	<b>23,232</b>	<b>23,874</b>	<b>2,367.0</b>	<b>2,168.5</b>	<b>2,314.0</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>10.3</b>

## Spotlight:

CSPDC staff has been developing user-friendly, enhanced maps for the use of BRITE bus riders looking for detailed route and bus stop information. The enhanced map features include options for layering of routes and options for base maps that include various streets and imagery options. The initial enhanced map was developed for the revamped Staunton service and is live on the [britebus.org](http://britebus.org) website. An enhanced map for the 250 Connector is being created, and other maps will follow.



## Service Notes:

- The improvements to the BRITE transit routes operating in Staunton were implemented on Tuesday, May 31st, and were well received by riders.
- Kevin Anstine was awarded employee of the month for Virginia Regional Transit (VRT) for his exceptional customer service. Kevin has been with VRT for over four years, and during the day he is a certified trainer and driver for Albemarle County Schools. Each evening he can be found operating the BRCC South route, providing great customer service.
- To better serve the BRITE passengers, several Bus Operators and Operations Supervisors attended a two-day workshop, "Advanced Mobility Device Securement Skills Workshop," provided by the National Transit Institute (NTI). Training and skills development for various mobility devices used by ADA passengers was taught. This ensures continued safe transit service to BRITE riders.





## June 2016 | FY 2016 Year End Summary

### Ridership Composition:

June 2016	Fare Rides	Special Fare Rides	Reduced Fare (Downtown)	WWRC	Tokens	AHC	Kids	Students	Total
250 A Connector	2,592	16	0	1,276	91	677	230	247	5,129
250 B Connector	2,132	12	0	1,163	65	441	132	147	4,092
250 A Connector- Sat	228	2	0	240	12	1	15	10	508
250 B Connector- Sat	239	2	0	232	9	0	43	9	534
Waynesboro Circulator	2,443	7	0	64	51	296	141	144	3,146
Downtown Trolley	2,376	34	147	13	180	37	338	86	3,211
Saturday Night Trolley	89	2	0	1	1	4	21	13	131
North & West Loops	2,267	7	0	0	24	67	340	73	2,778
Staunton On Demand	251	2	0	0	44	33	1	0	331
Augusta On Demand	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
340 Connector	209	4	0	0	1	4	2	43	263
BRCC North	627	15	0	0	5	2	54	509	1,212
BRCC South	1,804	5	0	1	23	32	207	436	2,508
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15,285</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>2,990</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>1,717</b>	<b>23,871</b>

#### Year End Statistical Summary—Urban

	FY 16	FY 15	% Change
Passenger Trips	221,175	215,120	3%
Service Hours	18,260	17,150	6%
Cost per Passenger	\$5.71	\$5.23	9%
Passengers per Hour	12.11	12.54	-3%
Fares	\$58,537	\$56,565	3%

#### Year End Statistical Summary—Rural

	FY 16	FY 15	% Change
Passenger Trips	65,273	69,931	-7%
Service Hours	9,308	9,518	-2%
Passengers per Hour	\$7.41	\$7.76	-5%
Fares	\$14,615	\$12,797	14%

#### Year End Financial Summary—Urban

Expenses	
Administrative	\$162,394
Service Contract (18,259.5 service hours @ \$58.75)	\$1,072,746
Other Costs	\$26,971
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,262,110</b>
<b>Less Fares</b>	<b>\$(58,537)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,203,574</b>
Revenues	
Federal	\$762,702
State	\$236,890
Local	\$203,982
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,203,574</b>

### FY 2016 Transit Highlights:

- Initiated Inter-regional Bus Study to examine feasibility of initiating commuter/inter-regional service between Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro and Charlottesville. Retained a consultant, established stakeholder steering committee, and conducted public survey to establish need.
- Implemented planned changes to the Route 250 Connector service, including timing and reliability improvements, closed the lunch break daily, and extended Saturday service hours.
- Introduced BRITE branding on the Route 250 Connector buses, and coordinated a ribbon-cutting event hosted by Augusta Health.
- Created new format BRITE transit service schedules.
- Added dedicated BRITE transit webpage to the CSPDC website.
- CSPDC staff completed two days of Triennial Review training conducted by FTA in Arlington, VA.
- Submitted the initial Triennial Review Information Request and supporting documents.
- Hosted on-site Triennial Review, and worked with FTA staff and consultant to refine findings and required actions. At fiscal year-end, six of the seven findings have been resolved and closed.
- Completed National Transit Database submission, and state and federal transit grant applications.
- Completed training and transition to the new FTA grant application and administration system—TRAMS.
- Worked with BRITE Transit Advisory Committee to finalize bus stop sign design, and began planning for procurement and installation.
- Planned and implemented significant route changes for the Staunton service, including renaming, branding of buses and trolley, and service schedules.
- Commenced planning for Waynesboro Circulator and 340 Connector route improvements identified in the Transit Development Plan.

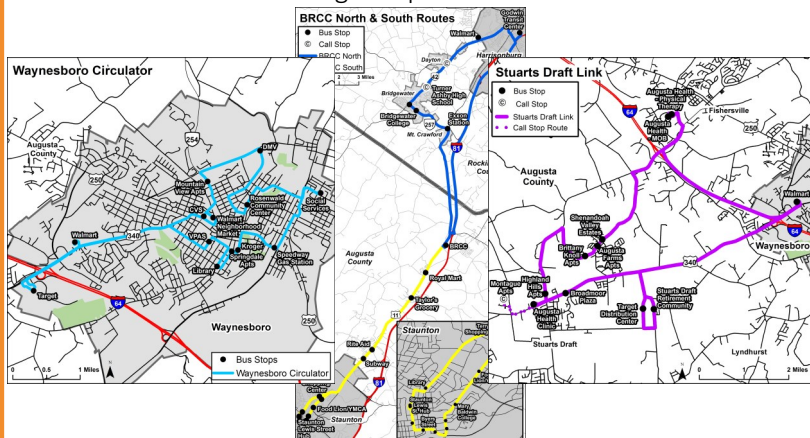
July 2016

## Passenger & Service Hours Statistics:

	Total Passenger Trips			Service Hours			Passengers per Service Hour		
	July, 2016	June, 2016	July, 2015	July, 2016	June, 2016	July, 2015	July, 2016	June, 2016	July, 2015
250 Connector	8,506	9,264	9,606	560	616	552	15.2	15.0	17.4
250 Connector- Sat	1,376	1,042	468	110	88	36	12.5	11.8	13.0
Waynesboro	3,058	3,097	3,050	240	264	264	12.7	11.7	11.6
Downtown Trolley	3,343	3,208	3,860	271	274	297	12.3	11.7	13.0
Saturday Night Trolley	189	131	237	15	12	28	12.6	10.9	8.5
North & West Loops	2,807	2,787	2,967	260	286	220	10.8	9.7	13.5
Staunton On Demand	291	331	330	170	187	187	1.7	1.8	1.8
Augusta On Demand	39	30	13	32.5	26	19.5	1.2	1.2	0.7
340 Connector	219	263	227	120	132	132	1.8	2.0	1.7
BRCC North	959	1,226	1,169	280	314	303	3.4	3.9	3.9
BRCC South	2,290	2,492	2,558	260	292	282	8.8	8.5	9.1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23,077</b>	<b>23,871</b>	<b>24,485</b>	<b>2,318.5</b>	<b>2,491</b>	<b>2,320.5</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>10.6</b>

## Spotlight:

Resources were focused on planning and implementation of the remaining TDP recommended route revisions, including revamping the Waynesboro Circulator to improve on-time performance; redirecting and renaming the 340 Connector to provide better service to the Stuarts Draft community; eliminating the under-performing Augusta County On Demand service; and closing the evening service break on both the BRCC South and North. Multiple meetings were conducted with stakeholders, and route timings and safety checks were completed. Draft schedules were created and a Waynesboro Public Information meeting was planned and advertised.



## Service Notes:

- On July 16th, drivers in the BRITE service received training on Advanced Mobility Devices at the Fishersville office. This was to provide instruction on helping passengers who use mobility devices and how to transport them safely. It was a huge success, and special thanks to WWRC for the loan of the mobility chairs.
- Ms. Donna Mitchell, office dispatcher, received recognition as the Employee of the Month. Donna was recognized for the excellent service that she provides to the public who telephone BRITE with questions regarding service or to make reservations for ADA trips. Whether it is for directions, how to use the service, or helping schedule trips, Donna provides a "BRITE voice" to all callers.
- On July 21st, CSPDC and VRT staff provided a transit presentation to the residents of Gypsy Hill House in Staunton. The facility is served by BRITE transit, and information was provided and then a question and answer session took place.



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Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission  
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**August 2016**

## Passenger & Service Hours Statistics:

	Total Passenger Trips			Service Hours			Passengers per Service Hour		
	August, 2016	July, 2016	August, 2015	August, 2016	July, 2016	August, 2015	August, 2016	July, 2016	August, 2015
250 Connector	9,102	8,506	8,952	644	560	504	14.1	15.2	17.8
250 Connector- Sat	983	1,376	790	88	110	60	11.2	12.5	13.2
Waynesboro	3,145	3,058	3,112	276	240	252	11.4	12.7	12.3
Downtown Trolley	3,115	3,343	3,422	253	231	286	12.3	14.5	12.0
Saturday Night Trolley	129	189	323	44	55	36	2.9	3.4	9.0
North & West Loops	2,985	2,807	2,886	299	260	210	10.0	10.8	13.7
Staunton On Demand	356	291	355	196	170	179	1.8	1.7	2.0
Augusta On Demand	6	39	14	7	33	26	0.9	1.2	0.5
340 Connector	169	219	273	90	120	126	1.9	1.8	2.2
Stuarts Draft Link	119			64			1.9		
BRCC North	2,086	959	1,809	381	280	299	5.5	3.4	6.1
BRCC South	3,184	2,290	2,953	355	260	278	9.0	8.8	10.6
Total:	25,379	23,077	24,889	2,696	2,319	2,256	9.4	10.0	11.0

## Spotlight:

**Service Changes**—On August 22nd, BRITE implemented the remaining route modifications that were recommended in the Transit Development Plan. On both the BRCC North and South routes, the evening service break was closed to allow one hour headways all day, with no interruption. This will provide a better level of service for students at Blue Ridge Community College, and the public who utilize these two very popular bus routes.

The Waynesboro Circulator route was revamped to improve reliability and on-time performance. A new stop was added at the Walmart Neighborhood Market, and a couple of under-utilized stops were removed from the route to insure that timely connections could be made at the Waynesboro Hub to the 250 Connector and the Stuarts Draft Link.

The Stuarts Draft Link was introduced to replace the underperforming 340 Connector route, and will better serve the residents of Stuarts Draft with the addition of stops at retail and medical destinations within Stuarts Draft, and will provide single seat service to the Waynesboro Hub and Augusta Health, running on a one hour headway. At the Hub, riders can transfer to the 250 Connector or the Waynesboro Circulator.

## Service Notes:

- The remaining buses received BRITE branding concurrent with the service changes.
- CSPDC and VRT staff participated in the BRCC Welcome Day for more than 450 new or prospective students, providing information on transit options for commuting to and from the college campus.
- CSPDC and VRT staff blitzed Stuarts Draft and Waynesboro providing schedules and information related to the schedule and route changes.
- Press releases and television interviews were conducted related to the route revisions.
- An update on the implementation of the TDP strategies were presented to the Commission (CSPDC) at their August Annual Meeting at the Highland Center.







# britebuzz

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

112 MacTanly Place—Staunton, VA 24401

540-885-5174

Bus Phone Number 540-943-9302

## September 2016

### Passenger & Service Hours Statistics:

	Total Passenger Trips			Service Hours			Passengers per Service Hour		
	Sept. 2016	Aug. 2016	Sept. 2015	Sept. 2016	Aug. 2016	Sept. 2015	Sept. 2016	Aug. 2016	Sept. 2015
250 Connector	8,556	9,102	9,211	588.0	644.0	504.0	14.6	14.1	18.3
250 Connector- Sat.	1,176	983	825	88.0	88.0	48.0	13.4	11.2	17.2
Waynesboro Circulator	2,838	3,145	3,100	252.0	276.0	210.0	11.3	11.4	14.8
Downtown Trolley	2,827	3,115	2,973	242.0	253.0	286.0	11.7	12.3	10.4
Saturday Night Trolley	130	129	294	44.0	44.0	32.0	3.0	2.9	9.2
North & West Loops	2,935	2,985	2,582	273.0	299.0	210.0	10.8	10.0	12.3
Staunton On Demand	337	356	337	178.5	196.0	178.5	1.9	1.8	1.9
Urban On Demand*	238	6	33	114	7	66	2.1	0.9	0.5
340 Connector		169	392		90.0	131.0		1.9	3.0
Stuarts Draft Link	382	119		168.0	64.0		2.3	1.9	
BRCC North	3,251	2,086	3,704	311	381	314	10.5	5.5	11.8
BRCC South	3,422	3,184	4,080	290	355	291	11.8	9.0	14.0
Total:	26,092	25,379	27,531	2,548.5	2,696.0	2,270.0	10.2	9.4	12.1

\*Prior year numbers are for Augusta County On-Demand Service

### Spotlight:

**Try Transit Week**—The BRITE Transit service participated in the statewide Try Transit Week again this year by offering free rides to all passengers on Wednesday, September 21st. The free day was advertised via social media and websites, press releases, and postings on buses and shelters. The friendly greeting from the driver accompanied by a “no charge today, it’s a free day” was well received. Passengers were grateful, and took advantage of the day with ridership numbers increasing by 116 riders. This is BRITE’s third year participating in Try Transit Week.

Celebrate  
**Try Transit Week**

On Wednesday, September 21st, rides on all Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro BRITE buses will be **Free!**

**Try Transit Week**  
September 19-23, 2016

Participants who go to [trytransitweek.org](http://trytransitweek.org) and pledge to try a form of public transportation are automatically entered for a chance to win a year of free transit service from a participating Virginia transit operator, as well as a pair of round-trip tickets aboard Amtrak's Northeast Regional train.

\* Pledges will be accepted through September 23, 2016.

### Service Notes:

- On September 6th, an additional six hours of on-demand service began operating daily, Monday through Friday. This service will relieve some of the schedule issues that were created by frequent deviations on both the Waynesboro Circulator and the 250 Connector(s).
- CSPDC and VRT staff completed a comprehensive inventory of all bus stop signage throughout the BRITE transit system. Complete bus stop data such as GPS coordinates, pictures, easily identifiable landmarks at or near the stops, amenities at stops such as benches, shelters, trash cans, and lighting, routes served by each stop, and how signs are mounted was gathered. The inventory will provide a comprehensive database to assist with the installation of new BRITE bus stop signs.
- The new Stuarts Draft Link and revised Waynesboro Circulator routes completed their first full month of operations. Response from the riders has been very positive, and ridership on the Link continues to grow as word of the availability of this service spreads. In Waynesboro, riders of the Circulator are appreciative of the addition of the Walmart Neighborhood Market as a stop.



**britebuzz**

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

112 MacTanly Place—Staunton, VA 24401

540-885-5174

Bus Phone Number 540-943-9302

**October 2016**

## Passenger & Service Hours Statistics:

	Total Passenger Trips			Service Hours			Passengers per Service Hour		
	Oct. 2016	Sept. 2016	Oct. 2015	Oct. 2016	Sept. 2016	Oct. 2015	Oct. 2016	Sept. 2016	Oct. 2015
250 Connector	8,506	8,556	9,680	588.0	588.0	528.0	14.5	14.6	18.3
250 Connector- Sat.	1,493	1,176	986	110.0	88.0	60.0	13.6	13.4	16.4
Waynesboro Circulator	2,908	2,838	3,299	252.0	252.0	264.0	11.5	11.3	12.5
Downtown Trolley	2,965	2,827	2,929	231.0	242.0	297.0	12.8	11.7	9.9
Saturday Night Trolley	170	130	333	55.0	44.0	40.0	3.1	3.0	8.3
North & West Loops	2,853	2,935	2,747	273.0	273.0	220.0	10.5	10.8	12.5
Staunton On Demand	353	337	351	178.5	178.5	187.0	2.0	1.9	1.9
Urban On Demand*	171	238	27	126.0	114.0	32.5	1.4	2.1	0.8
340 Connector			369			132.0			2.8
Stuarts Draft Link	373	382		168.0	168.0		2.2	2.3	
BRCC North	2,800	3,251	3,219	316.0	311.0	310.0	8.9	10.5	10.4
BRCC South	2,916	3,422	3,703	295.0	290.0	288.0	9.9	11.8	12.9
<b>Total:</b>	<b>25,508</b>	<b>26,092</b>	<b>27,643</b>	<b>2,592.5</b>	<b>2,548.5</b>	<b>2,358.5</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>11.7</b>

*\*Prior year numbers are for Augusta County On-Demand Service*

## Spotlight:

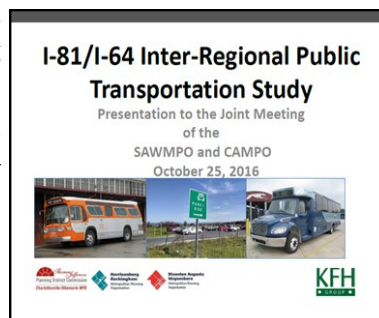
The annual joint meeting of the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro and Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) was held on October 26th at the Fishersville Transit Facility.

The group heard presentations on a number of important studies and programs that are being jointly developed by the MPOs; (1) the Inter-Regional Transit Study, (2) the SPACE 64 Project, and (3) the Claudius Crozet Blue Ridge Tunnel Restoration Project.

For the past year, a steering committee representing the stakeholders on the proposed Inter-Regional Transit service connecting the cities of Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro and Charlottesville has worked with the consultant, KFH Group, on this feasibility study. Lib Rood of the KFH Group presented the history of the proposal; the demonstrated need based on demographics, commuting patterns, and public surveys; and alternative service plans including routing, stops, costs and potential funding sources.

This same presentation will be made to the Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO at their November meeting.

Based on the feedback received at these two meetings, the steering committee will reconvene to finalize the plan documents.



## Service Notes:

- CSPDC and City of Staunton staff met to discuss the recently completed bus stop sign inventory and finalized Staunton bus stop names and sign locations.
- CSPDC and VRT staff met with Blue Ridge Community College to discuss temporary relocation of the bus stop/hub during the parking deck construction period.
- CSPDC staff participated in the kick-off meeting for the update to the Harrisonburg (HDPT) Transit Development Plan.
- CSPDC staff attended the annual Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) workshop in Roanoke where transit grant recipients were informed of DRPT updates and changes in grant submission and administration procedures.



**britebuzz**

Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission

112 MacTanly Place—Staunton, VA 24401

540-885-5174

Bus Phone Number 540-943-9302

**November 2016**

## Passenger & Service Hours Statistics:

	Total Passenger Trips			Service Hours			Passengers per Service Hour		
	Nov. 2016	Oct. 2016	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2016	Oct. 2016	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2016	Oct. 2016	Nov. 2015
250 Connector	8,030	8,506	8,178	588.0	588.0	560.0	13.7	14.5	14.6
250 Connector- Sat.	833	1,493	740	88.0	110.0	88	9.5	13.6	8.4
Waynesboro Circulator	3,022	2,908	2,828	252.0	252.0	240.0	12.0	11.5	11.8
Downtown Trolley	1,733	2,965	1,891	180.0	231.0	184.0	9.6	12.8	10.3
Saturday Night Trolley	320	170	299	42.0	55.0	32.0	7.6	3.1	9.3
North & West Loops	3,152	2,853	2,455	273.0	273.0	200.0	11.5	10.5	12.3
Staunton On Demand	319	353	319	178.5	178.5	170.0	1.8	2.0	1.9
Urban On Demand*	152	171	19	126.0	126.0	26	1.2	1.4	0.7
340 Connector			291			120			2.4
Stuarts Draft Link	347	373		168.0	168.0		2.1	2.2	
BRCC North	2,658	2,800	2,808	295.0	316.0	284.0	9.0	8.9	9.9
BRCC South	2,603	2,916	3,315	316.0	295.0	264.0	8.2	9.9	12.6
Total:	23,169	25,508	23,143	2,506.5	2,592.5	2,168.0	9.2	9.8	10.7

*\*Prior year numbers are for Augusta County On-Demand Service*

## Spotlight:

Virginia Regional Transit (VRT) employee and BRITE Bus Operator, Ryan Campbell, was selected as VRT Employee of the Year 2016 from a group of eleven other employees for going “above and beyond” in their service. Ryan has been driving the BRITE buses since 2015, and is always prepared and willing to drive any of the routes. He exhibits a pleasant and helpful manner to the riders, and brings “shine” to the BRITE system.

Congratulations Ryan.



## Service Notes:

- The BRITE buses adjusted their schedule to accommodate riders during the Veterans Day Parade and the Christmas Parade in Staunton.
- On November 7th, staff from the CSPDC and VRT made a presentation on the BRITE transit service and the new Stuarts Draft Link to the residents and staff of the Stuarts Draft Retirement Community.
- CSPDC and VRT staff met with Augusta County staff to discuss the possibility and alternatives for relocating the current Verona bus stop on the BRCC South route.
- On November 15th, CSPDC and VRT staff met with Waynesboro staff to discuss the potential location for a bus shelter to serve the residents of Springdale.
- On November 17th, the Inter-Regional Transit Study was presented to the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO).



Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission  
 112 MacTanly Place—Staunton, VA 24401  
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**December 2016**

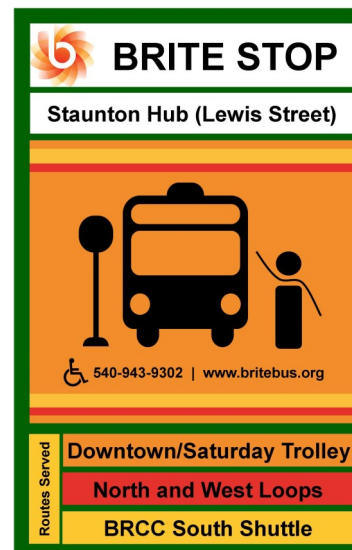
## Ridership Per Operating Hour Statistics:

URBAN								
	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16	FY 17	FY 16
Staunton Demand	1.71	1.82	1.89	1.98	1.79	1.49	1.78	1.89
Urban Demand			2.09	1.36	1.21	1.21	1.45	-
Downtown/Sat Night Trolley	11.69	10.49	10.34	10.96	9.25	9.16	10.41	10.60
North & West Loops	11.52	10.41	10.75	10.45	11.55	11.00	10.94	12.85
250 Connector	15.19	14.13	14.55	14.47	13.66	11.94	13.98	16.39
250 Connector—Saturday	12.51	11.17	13.36	13.57	9.47	7.94	11.40	11.63
Waynesboro Circulator	12.74	11.39	11.26	11.54	11.99	12.35	11.87	14.51
Totals	12.04	11.01	10.70	10.71	10.17	9.42	10.66	12.55

RURAL				
	Jun-15	Dec-15	Jun-16	Dec-16
Stuarts Draft Link	-	-	-	2.08
BRCC North	8.25	8.42	7.77	7.55
BRCC North—Friday	4.77	5.88	5.09	4.27
BRCC South	11.15	11.52	10.49	10.55
BRCC South—Friday	9.66	11.03	9.92	9.76
Totals	7.76	8.11	7.41	7.13

## Spotlight:

In the Fall, CSPDC and VRT staff jointly worked on inventorying all of the bus stops for each of the routes served by the transit service—a total of 135 stops. The inventory was comprehensive and included information such as GPS coordinates; photos of the stop locations; landmarks at or near the bus stops; a listing of existing amenities at the stop, such as benches, lighting, and trash cans; a listing of routes served by the stops; and current sign mounting. Staunton bus stop signs will be the first to be produced and installed, with a total of 86 stops. CSPDC and VRT staff met with City of Staunton staff to finalize stop names and locations, and this process will be duplicated for the City of Waynesboro and Augusta County. A Request for Quotes (RFQ) was released in early December with a deadline of December 30th. CSPDC staff completed a price analysis and selected a company for production and selective installation.



## Service Notes:

- In December, the CSPDC solicited proposals from interested parties to provide turnkey provision of transit service for BRITE Bus. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was released December 6th; a pre-bid meeting was hosted at the transit facility on December 15th; and the deadline for questions concerning the RFP was due by December 30th.
- On December 13th, staff from the CSPDC and VRT made a presentation on the BRITE transit service to the residents and staff of Plaza Apartments in Staunton.
- Did not operate service on December 17th due to weather.
- The BRITE buses adjusted their schedules for the Christmas holiday with reduced hours on December 24th and no service on December 26th.