



## TRANSIT TIDBITS

Issue 11 - August, 2012

### WEB-PAGE

The Fall Conference registration forms are on the web page. Please go on line and get your registrations in early.

### MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Ridership on Bismarck/Mandan's public fixed-route bus transportation service, Capital Area Transit (CAT Bus), has reached 73,835 for January-June 2012. This is an increase from 62,160 in 2011 at this time and is the highest January-June ridership since service began in 2004.

An upturn in Bismarck/Mandan population, addition of a travel training program, and a rise in the overall awareness about CAT Bus has influenced the increase in ridership numbers.

CAT Bus drivers have been noticing a number of new faces boarding the buses. Through conversations they have learned the new riders recently moved to the Bismarck/Mandan area including a number of foreign exchange students who use the bus system to access work and school programs. Many of the new riders come from communities with public transportation systems so they are used to bus service and find it to be a more convenient and inexpensive option compared to the cost of car ownership and maintenance.

The focus of the travel training program has been to encourage the general public to try using CAT Bus and to help Bis-Man Transit door-to-door paratransit riders understand and become comfortable with the fixed route service.

Robin Werre, Transit Director  
Misty Curn, Marketing Director/Travel Trainer

### PASS TRAINING

We are continuing to provide opportunities for training. PLEASE GO TO THE DTA WEB SITE: [dakotatransit.org](http://dakotatransit.org) FOR ADDITIONAL CLASS INFORMATION. It makes our job a lot easier if you register as soon as you are able and before the deadlines.

Upcoming trainings scheduled:

- Jamestown, ND – August 24 & 25 - PASS, PASS Recert and Defensive Driving
- Minot, ND – October 18-20 – PASS, PASS Recert, Defensive Driving, and Maltreatment Awareness. **Special Note:** We are unable to book a block of rooms for the Minot session. ND DOT has agreed to pay up to \$100.00 toward rooms and we are asking that you make your own room reservations. You'll need to reserve as soon as possible as motel space in Minot is very limited. There are many motels so we recommend you go on-line to check availability.
- We are working on setting up a session at Dickinson and will post dates and information on the web soon.

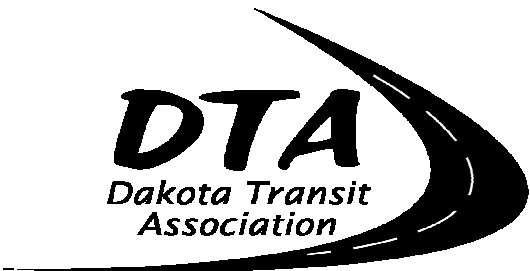
### SOUTH DAKOTA REMINDER

**The FY 2012 Ridership is due by October 31, 2012 for all vehicles. Please keep this in mind.**

**DTA REBRANDING**

The results of the voting for Choice # 1 or Choice # 2 was.....Choice# 2. Thank you Misty for all your hard work.

Choice #2



**Fall Conference Hint:  
TEAM WORK**

**One-Call/One-Click Center**

Dale Bergman, Superintendent  
Cities Area Transit  
Grand Forks, ND

Cities Area Transit, along with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) and several partner agencies, has been awarded \$1.77 Million in Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative grant funding from the Federal Transit Administration. “The Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative (VTCLI) is an innovative, federally coordinated partnership that will make it easier for U.S. veterans, active service members, military families, and others to learn about and arrange for locally available transportation

services that connect them with work, education, health care, and other vital services in their communities”. Grant funding will be used to create a Regional One-Call / One-Click transportation resource center to serve area veterans, military personnel, and their families. Cities Area Transit and the City of Grand Forks are proud to support the veterans of North Dakota and their families and to provide a regional leadership role in this project. This innovative project will be the result of a great partnership and coordination on the federal, state, and local levels. The One-Call / One-Click center will provide information on transportation options available in the Grand Forks region. Callers or clickers will be able to access information and schedule rides with multiple transit providers in one place, rather than make several phone calls to different agencies. It will be a “one-stop shop” for transportation needs.

Easy access to plan and schedule transportation is vital to reintegrate veterans into North Dakota communities. There is also a need to increase awareness of public transportation options available and to improve the efficiency of transit services. The One-Call / One-Click project will address these needs while helping to remove transportation as a barrier to access job training, employment, medical treatment, etc.

The project will be broken in to two parts: 1) a Grand Forks element, which includes improvements to Cities Area Transit’s call center technologies (added software), and 2) a statewide element, which will equip transit agencies across the state with the technology, equipment (hardware and software) required to integrate with the call center and their own agencies. It is the foundation for integrating with the One-Call/One-Click center and coordinated transportation throughout the State of North Dakota.

**ONLY 39 MORE DAYS  
Annual Conference  
Brookings, SD  
September 22-26, 2012**

**“SNEAK PREVIEW”**

**Presentation**

**“Spice it Up with  
Ginger!”**

**MAILING ADDRESS**

DTA's mailing address is PO Box 973, Devils Lake, ND 58301. E-mail address is [jacque.senger@hotmail.com](mailto:jacque.senger@hotmail.com), phone number 701-662-2465. Please contact me with items you would like in the “Transit Tidbits”.