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For Immediate Release

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### **CCTA Ridership Grows by 6.5% in FY06**

Burlington, Vermont: The Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) has announced that Fiscal Year 2006 bus boardings have grown by 6.5% — or over 2 million passengers. Ridership continues to grow throughout CCTA's service area with several routes in particular showing significant growth:

- The Essex Junction route is up 10% in FY06 and 16.7% over FY05;
- The CATMA/UVM Shuttle routes are up almost 19%;
- The Williston route is up 15%;
- The Montpelier Link route is up 33%.

Much of the increase is due to expanded outreach programs, such as Unlimited Access for UVM and Fletcher Allen, aimed at attracting new riders. In addition, enhanced services for current riders such as new shelters and schedule boxes have been added throughout our service area to make our services even more comfortable and easier to use. Additionally, rising fuel costs prompted many customers to look for alternative forms of transportation.

"I'm pleased that CCTA has been able to increase services and ridership while still maintaining costs," says Chris Cole, General Manager of CCTA. "We continue to see an increased demand for transit options, especially in light of the fluxuating gas prices we experienced this year. We are looking forward to the coming year and we are committed to offering convenient and quality services for our passengers." CCTA offers a variety of services for riders needs. From a shopping trip to the mall to a shuttle ride to downtown from our PARC lot or a ride to Middlebury, CCTA will take you where you need to go.

The Chittenden County Transportation Authority operates the region's public transit buses and provides 2 million rides per year in the Burlington area. CCTA has a forty-seven bus fleet, which services Burlington, Essex, Shelburne, South Burlington, Williston, Winooski and a portion of Colchester. The mission of CCTA is to make efficient transportation services available to all residents of and visitors to the Chittenden County region that are safe, accessible, reliable, clean, affordable and sustainable, thereby enhancing the quality of life for all. For CCTA route and schedule information, please call (802) 864-CCTA or visit us on the web at [www.cctaride.org](http://www.cctaride.org).

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