

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Meredith Birkett, Director of Service Development  
(802) 864-2282 or [mbirkett@cctaride.org](mailto:mbirkett@cctaride.org)

**CCTA REAFFIRMS CONTRACT GOALS AND OFFERS CLARIFICATIONS**

Burlington, VT (February 19, 2014) – As CCTA and the drivers’ Union prepare to engage in a mediated negotiation session on Friday, February 21, CCTA would like to reiterate its goals for a new three-year collective bargaining agreement and to offer clarifications on several issues.

Since negotiations began in April 2013, CCTA has focused on four main goals:

- 1) To improve the quality of full-time driver positions by increasing the number of full-time drivers having regular weekly schedules.
- 2) To clarify work rules for drivers.
- 3) To improve overall driver working conditions by establishing work rules for a limited number of part-time drivers, without impacting the full-time status of any current employees.
- 4) Mindful that CCTA is a taxpayer-funded organization, to increase compensation for drivers in balance with the cost of living.

CCTA also wishes to clarify its past proposals with respect to several issues.

- **Fair Compensation** – CCTA drivers are the second highest paid transit drivers in northern New England. The current base wage for a CCTA driver with one or more years of service is \$42,494 per year, and with voluntary overtime drivers have made over \$65,000 per year. The total compensation package for a CCTA driver with one or more years of service, inclusive of employer paid health, dental, vision, life, and disability insurance and retirement, but not including overtime wages, ranges from \$53,893 to \$71,535.
- **Spread Time** – CCTA’s most recent proposals included acceptance of a Union proposal to change the maximum span of time between a split shift’s start and end time from 12.5 to 13.5 hours.
- **Reduced Number of Part-time Driver Positions** - CCTA’s most recent proposals have included a reduction in the number of part-time drivers. The 2010-2013 contract allowed for a maximum of 13 part-time drivers, while CCTA’s most recent proposals reduced the maximum number of part-time drivers to seven.
- **Commitment to Safety** - CCTA takes safety very seriously and is proud of its safety record, which compares well to similar transit systems. The 2010-2013 contract provided that for shifts scheduled by CCTA, drivers would have a minimum of 10 hours rest between clock-out on any given day and clock-in on the day that follows. CCTA has not proposed to reduce the minimum rest time in its proposals. CCTA recognizes and rewards drivers who achieve and maintain a high level of safety.

CCTA driver scheduling is a highly complex and dynamic process. To meet the needs of the public, transit services operate over a long span daily, with high peak hour staffing demands. CCTA is committed to providing quality jobs and a respectful work environment for our employees while continuing to provide a vital public service to the community.

