

# Vermont Public Transit Program Overview

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

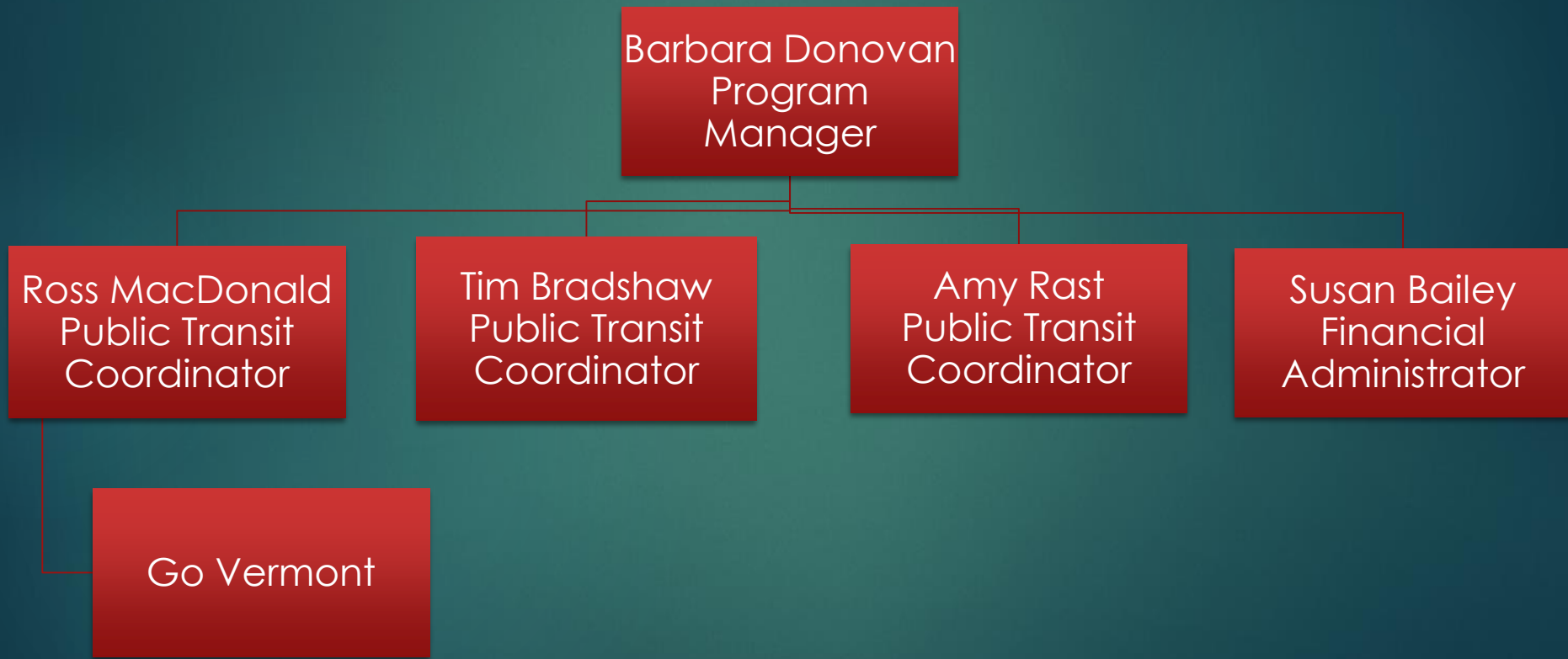
JANUARY 17, 2019

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# Public Transportation Organizational Chart



# Transit in Vermont

- ▶ 625 employees in public transit in Vermont
- ▶ \$19,000,000 in transit payroll in Vermont
- ▶ Approximately 420 buses in 2018
- ▶ Replacement value of buses is \$80,000,000
- ▶ 70% of buses are in good – excellent condition (FY18)
- ▶ 8 providers
- ▶ Approximately 16,100 riders/day
- ▶ 255 municipalities served
- ▶ 15 facilities

# State Strategic Goals



Growing the Vermont  
Economy



Making Vermont an  
affordable place to live,  
work, and do business



Protecting vulnerable  
Vermonters



# Vermont has a variety of Public Transit modes that serve the state:

- ▶ urban fixed route buses
- ▶ commuter routes
- ▶ rural daily or weekly services that are either fixed route or have deviation options
- ▶ demand response (pick up and drop off as needed usually at home and at destinations)
- ▶ intercity and intercity feeder service
- ▶ Go Vermont, vanpools, carpools and travel information
- ▶ Various IT systems and services to provide information and access to services



**In-Town Transit**



**Express Commuter Runs**

**Ski area transit**



**Vermont Shires Connector**

**College area bus**

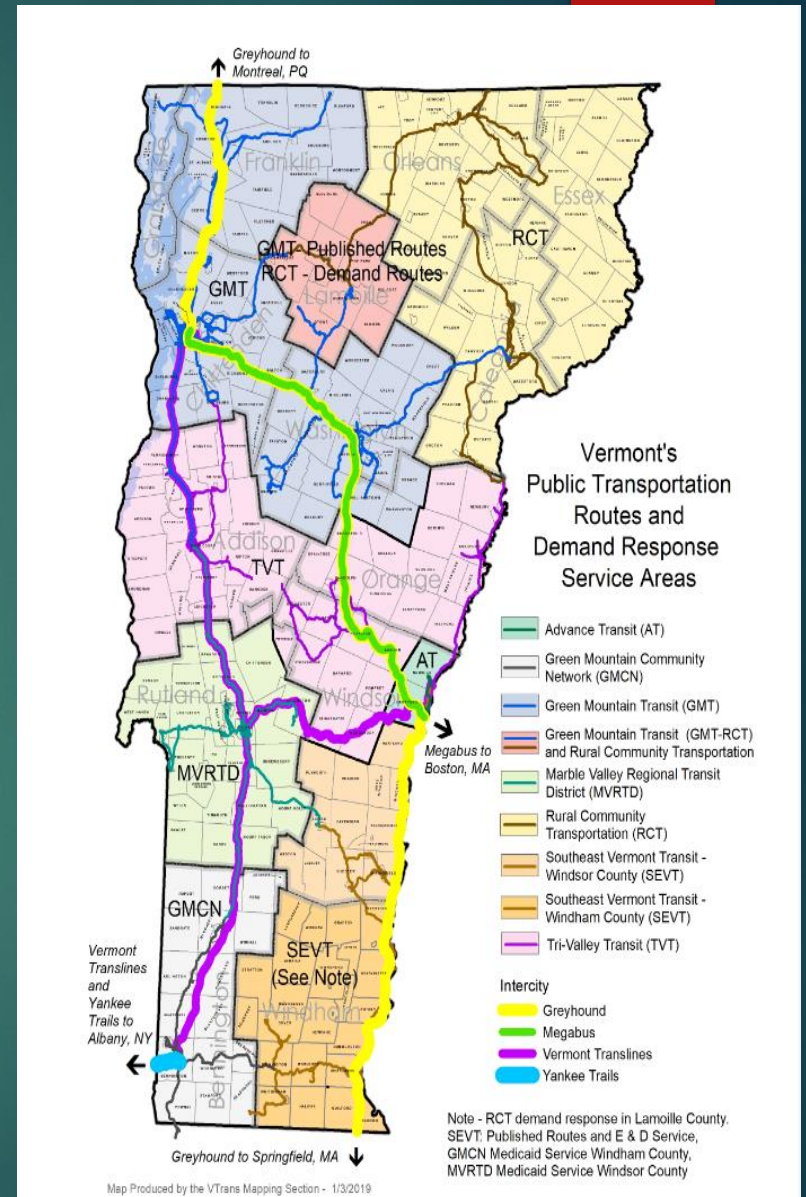


**City Routes**



# How does E&D work?

- ▶ VTrans established E&D Advisory Committees in each region
- ▶ The Planning Agency in each region is responsible for the committee
- ▶ The advisory committees, RPTACs, create a service plan for the region which consists of how they appropriate the funds to each partner
- ▶ These partners are responsible for providing the local share
- ▶ They meet monthly to discuss transportation issues in the region and how to resolve them
- ▶ VTrans and AHS developed guidelines
- ▶ VTrans coordinators attend meetings



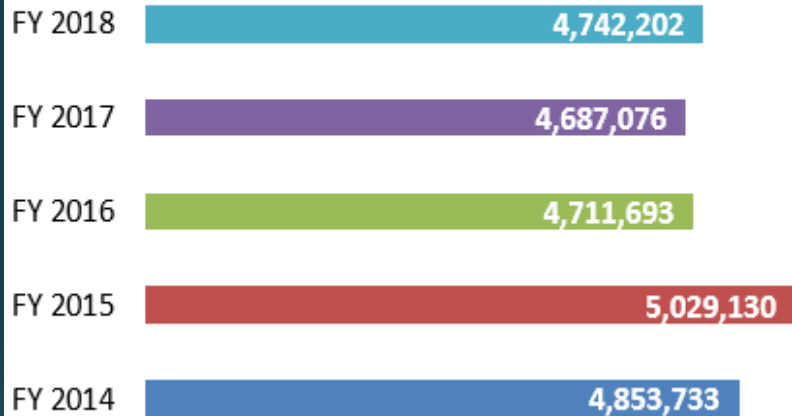


## Volunteers in Action – Serving our most vulnerable and rural

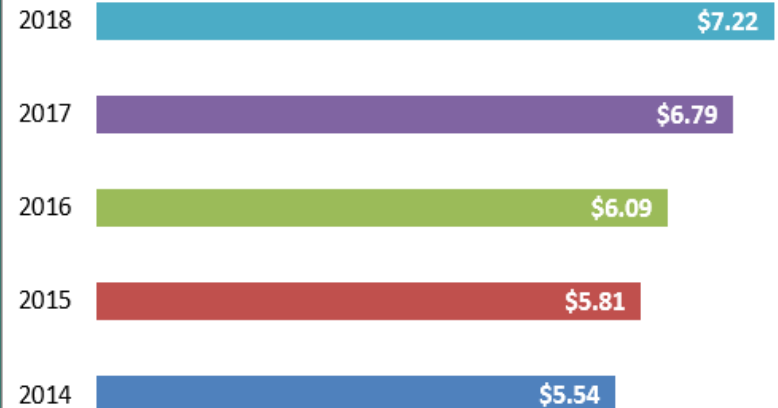
Volunteers are the bedrock of transportation for both the elderly & disabled and those receiving Medicaid in our rural areas of Vermont. In addition to those supported through VTrans and DVHA, there are many others who work to provide greater mobility to those in need across the state providing approximately 10% of the trips.



**Figure 2: Total Ridership**



**Figure 4: Cost per Trip**

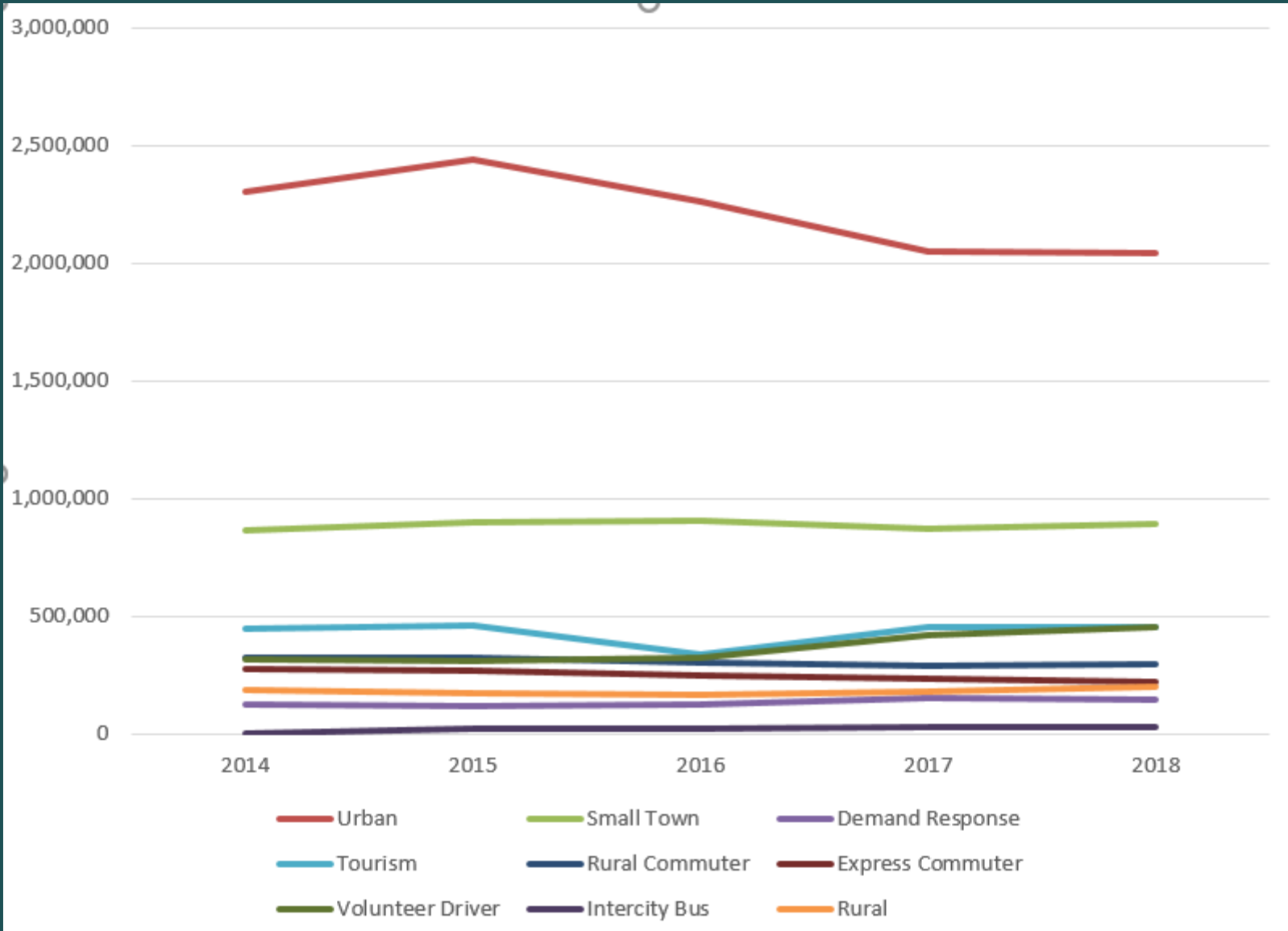


## Performance Targets

Performance Measure	Unit of Measure	Type	2015 Value	2016 Value	2017 Value	2018 Value	2019 Projection	2020 Forecast
Percent change in annual transit ridership	% riders	2. How well did we do it?	3%	-5%	-1%	1%	1%	1%
Total annual transit ridership	count riders	3. Is anyone better off?	5,029,130	4,711,693	4,687,076	4,742,202	4,789,624	4,837,520
Cost per transit trip	Cost	2. How well did we do it?	\$ 5.81	\$ 6.09	\$ 6.79	\$ 7.22	\$ 7.22	\$ 7.22

**Transit Program:** Ridership is up 1% from FY17 while costs per trip have increased by 6.3% a trip. The modest increase in ridership is mostly attributable to the decline in urban ridership. Ridership is also affected by low gas prices, high employment and Transit Network Companies (TNC's). Ridership on most other types of bus routes is fairly steady or up slightly including the intercities.

# CHANGE IN RIDERSHIP BY SERVICE CATEGORY



# 2018/19 Accomplishments



- **Additional Funding** – Performed studies and trials to address viability of e-buses, and won nationally competitive grant worth \$400,000 to buy 2 electric buses in conjunction with Green Mountain Transit for operation on Montpelier fixed route system. This is a joint project with GMT, Green Mountain Power, VEIC and VTrans
- **Opioid Coordination Council** – Participated in council meetings and headed-up a Transportation Working Group. Identified additional needs (ineligible wrap-around services and some demand response capacity. Applied for \$175k grant and have \$200k in 2020 budget line item
- **Transit trip information** – entered into a Statewide Automated Vehicle Location Contract. All bus riders will have access to the bus location and projected arrival time.

# 2018/19 Accomplishments

- **Launched Go Vermont Trip Planner** – Unlike existing trip planners, this tool will show hail and ride stops, deviated and ADA areas, and will allow for other modes (carpools, vanpools, hotel and college shuttles, TNCs and taxis) to be discovered through a single trip search. First in the nation, and making presentations at industry conferences.
- **Downtown Transit Center** in Montpelier set to open in FY 2020
- **Produced ad campaigns** to increase volunteer participation (Community Rides), to form vanpools (Go Vermont) better assist Vermont Veterans (VetLift VT), promote new trip planner and carpool/incentive program.

# 2018/19 Accomplishments



- **Provided** funds to study and assess the financial and operational approaches related to the Medicaid program
- **Route Expansions** – Three new services to Barre. Part of BGS/VTrans relocation program and also long overdue in downtown Barre
- Multiple providers coordinated to successfully serve the World Cup Ski event at Killington. 2<sup>nd</sup> year with better results.



# 2018/19 Projects



- ▶ Medicaid Program Analysis
- ▶ Cost Allocation Analysis
- ▶ Microtransit Working Group
- ▶ Safety plans
- ▶ Transit Asset Management Plans
- ▶ Continue to pursue additional funding for capital investments and energy goals
- ▶ Deploy AVL service throughout the State
- ▶ Combine the Human Service Coordination Plan and Public Transit Policy Plan
- ▶ Seeking to expand “Capital Commuter” program to all state employees
- ▶ Rides to Wellness

# Capital Needs - Vehicles, Facilities, Technology



# Vehicles -



Needs	# of Vehicles	Federal Cost \$ 80%	State Cost \$ 10%	Total Cost (wo local)
FY19	38	\$ 4,504,000	\$ 563,000	\$ 5,630,000
FY 20	70	\$ 10,820,000	\$ 1,352,500	\$ 13,525,000
FY21	118	\$ 15,412,000	\$ 1,926,500	\$ 19,265,000
FY22	35	\$ 6,700,000	\$ 837,500	\$ 8,375,000
FY23	22	\$ 5,100,000	\$ 637,500	\$ 6,375,000
FY24	13	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 437,500	\$ 4,375,000
FY25	9	\$ 3,180,000	\$ 397,500	\$ 3,975,000
FY26	5	\$ 1,900,000	\$ 237,500	\$ 2,375,000
FY27	4	\$ 1,520,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 1,900,000



# VERMONT

## CONNECTINGCOMMUTERS.ORG

- One click/one call resource for all transportation options throughout the state
  - Transportation Demand Management programs and support
  - Marketing projects for PT, carpools, vanpools, route info, etc.
  - Offer employer commute audits and outreach materials to assist with costs and impacts of commuting/parking.
  - Partners include Local Motion, TMAs, CarShare VT, VEIC, Enterprise Vanpool, automated carpool matching services, VEEP, VABIR, etc.