



Growing Partnerships with Energy Committees
Getting From Here to There In Rural Vermont
VECAN & Go! VT

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Ross MacDonald, Public Transit Manager

www.ConnectingCommuters.org



....improving rural travel options in Vermont, together

Today's Remarks

1. Intro—Climate emergency—phase out the car....
2. Rural Transit Fare Model--ACTR
3. Walkable Friendly Zoning
4. Tools to Improving access together
5. Dialogue--Actionable take home steps

Go! Vermont values partners like you!

www.ConnectingCommuters.org



Introduction

7 degrees F by 2100

More vehicles than people

More parking spaces than people--imbalance

The debate: Wizards and prophets

How to increase the rate we phase out the car?

Be part of the solution, battle pollution!



KNOW & go!

FROM BUS ROUTES TO RIDESHARE MATCHING,
IT'S VERMONT'S BEST RESOURCE TO FIND ALL THE WAYS TO GO!








Whether you're looking for better ways to commute or to help reduce the cost and environmental impact of driving, when you [join Go! Vermont](#) you'll not only get up-to-date info, but also earn rewards! It's easy and free, so start taking the bus, walking, telecommuting, carpooling or vanpooling.

Not sure where to start?

How do I... +

Getting Around Programs Resources

 <p>BUS/PUBLIC TRANSPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Information • City to City • Local Bus Routes 	 <p>RIDESHARING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carpool • CarShare • Vanpool 	 <p>BIKING IN VERMONT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biking • Bike Commuting • Bike Safety
 <p>LAKE CHAMPLAIN FERRIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferries 	 <p>TRAVEL BY TRAIN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trains 	


VERMONT

Vermont Agency of Transportation

800-685-RIDE (7433)

Search ...

Se

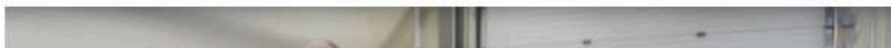
[Getting Around](#)
[Programs](#)
[Resources](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Join Go](#)


VANPOOL

ORGANIZE A VANPOOL AND WE'LL PROVIDE THE VEHICLE

If you have five or more people who share a similar commute and schedule, create a vanpool and Go! Vermont, in partnership with Commute with Enterprise, will provide a van or SUV for you to use. Each rider pays a low monthly fee, which covers costs like gas, insurance, and repairs. No loan or down payment is needed. You and/or a co-worker can take turns driving and even keep the van at your home.

Watch our video of what Vanpooling is all about:



QUICK LINKS:

[Trip Planner »](#)
[Rides for Veterans »](#)
[Carpool »](#)
[Vanpool »](#)
[CarShare »](#)
[Resource Toolkit »](#)
[Questions? Contact Us »](#)

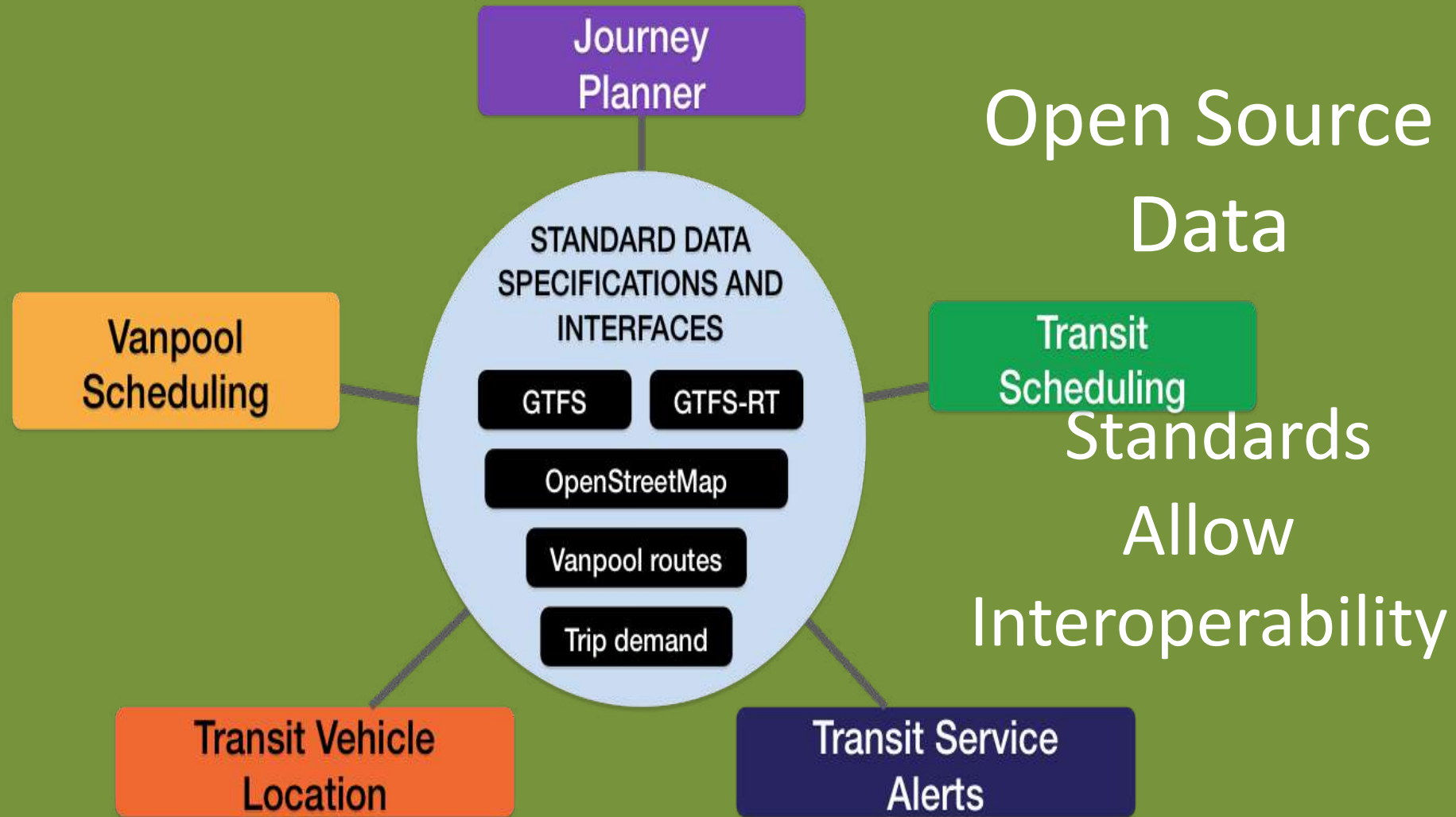
GO! VERMONT

NEW WEBSITE

- Open Source Data
- Trip Planner
- AVL
- Micro-transit
- Vanpool
- Carpool referral
- Rides to Wellness
- Recovery Rides

What Else?

The screenshot displays the GO! VERMONT website interface. At the top right, there is a search bar labeled "How do I...". Below this, three service tiles are visible: "GUARANTEED RIDE HOME" with a bus icon and the text "Unexpected things come up. We've got your back!", "PARK & RIDE" with a green 'P' icon and the text "Find statewide locations, tips and other information.", and "ROAD COND" with a green diamond icon and the text "Current status, conditions, closures." Below these tiles are three large image banners. The first banner shows a smiling woman with the text "Routes & Schedules". The second banner shows a group of people dancing in a van with the text "Start a Vanpool". The third banner shows a car with a yellow arrow pointing right and the text "Become Carpool". At the bottom, there are three circular icons: "Rides for Veterans" showing a soldier, "Travel By Train" showing a woman on a train, and "Travel By" showing a person on a bicycle.



INTEROPERABLE
TECHNOLOGIES ARE
MODULAR AND CAN
BE REPLACED EASILY.

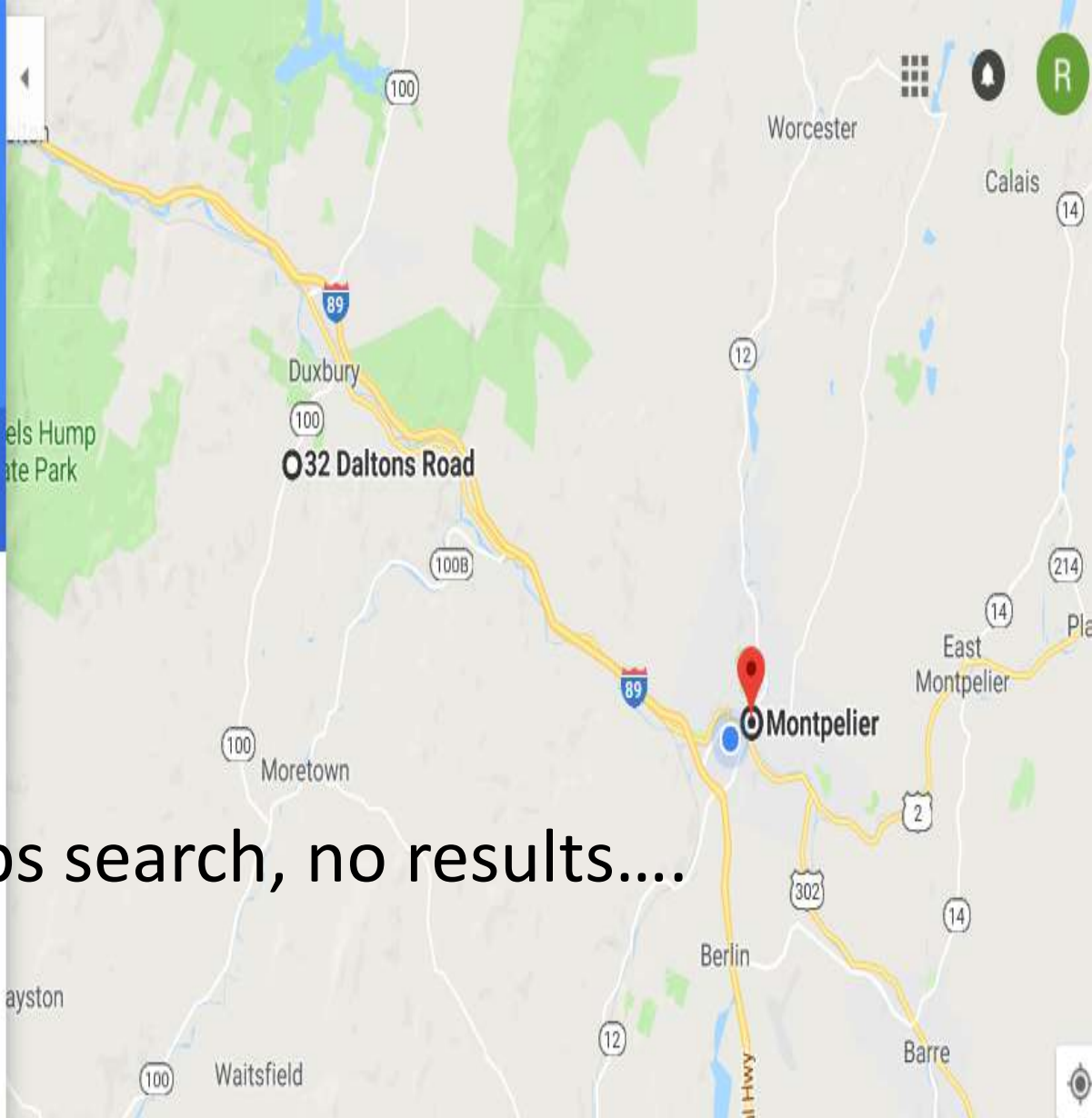
Menu

32 Daltons Rd, Duxbury, VT 05676

Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Leave now

OPTIONS



Sorry, we could not calculate transit directions from "32 Daltons Rd, Duxbury, VT 05676" to "Montpelier, Vermont 05602"

With a Google maps search, no results....

go! VERMONT TRIP PLANNER

32 Daltons Rd ✕

Montpelier City Hall ✕

Depart by ▼

7:41 AM 🕒 04/24/2018 📅

↺ Show Settings ▼

Submit 🔍

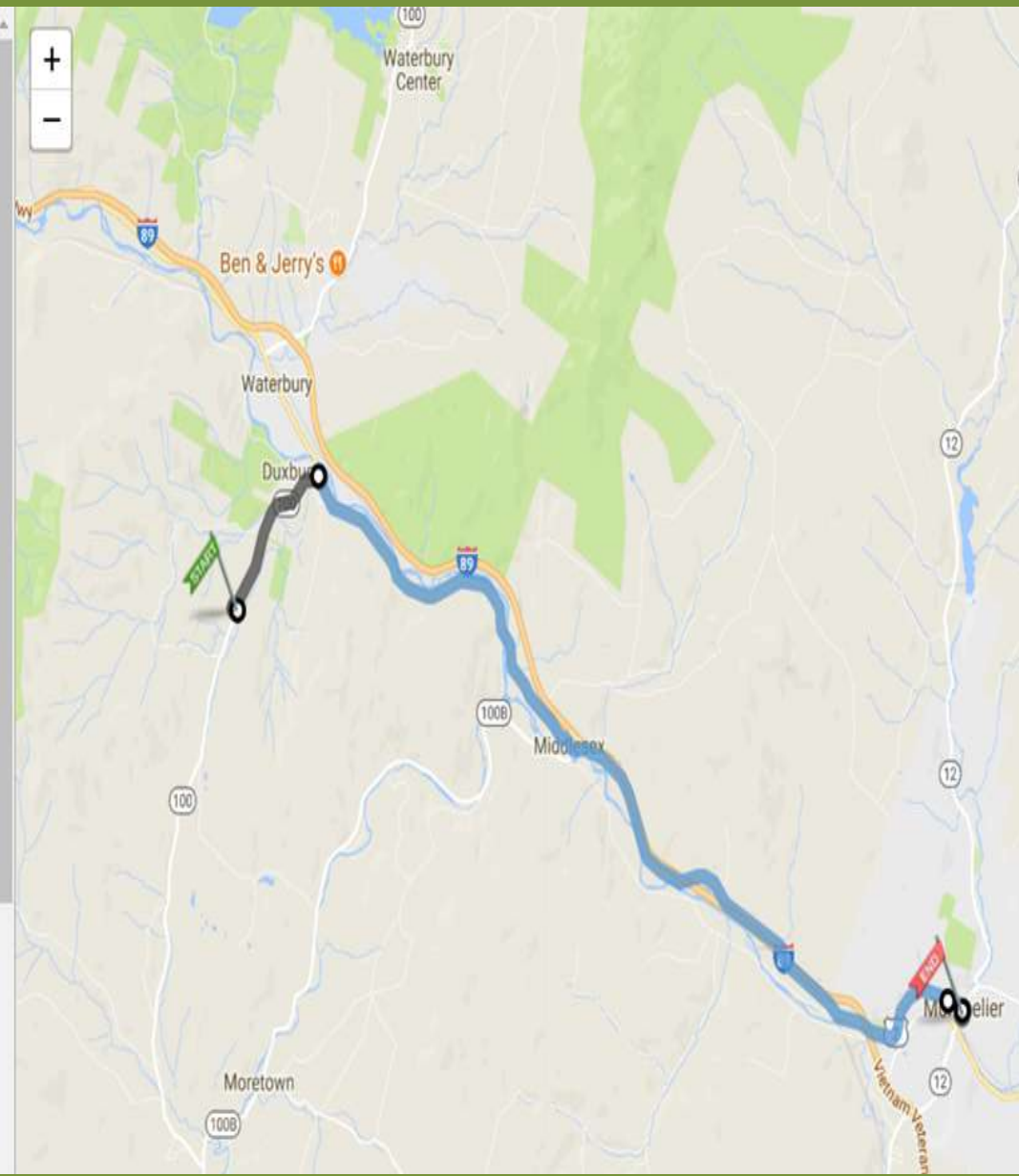
Drag start and end location pins on the map or use the form above to adjust trip settings.

Option 1: departs at Apr 24th 7:49am 56 min 🚗

🚶 ▶ 🚌 83 ▶ 🚌 83 ▶ 🚶 \$2.00

This itinerary exceeds your maximum walk distance.

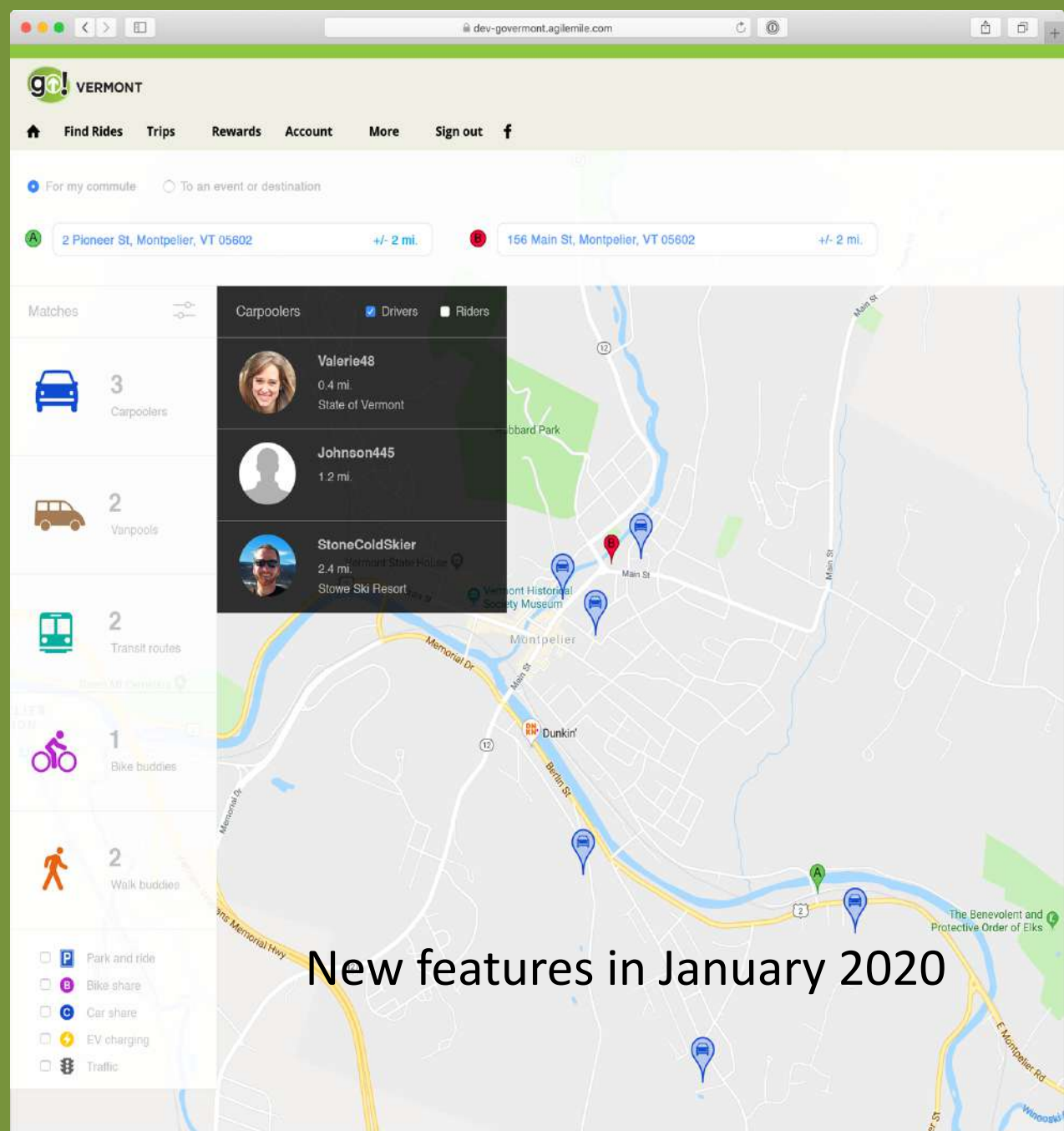
🚶 to Route 2 at Route 100 36 min



GO! Vermont Trip Planner Results

The data is complete and let the design competition begin!

Agile Mile's Proposed Design—
JANUARY LAUNCH



Statewide All Vehicle Locator AVL

- All providers, routes, and bus stops operating with the same AVL service.
- Open Source Data(GTFS-RT)
- Basic Service expectation

transit

Regions

Partners

Blog



GO YOUR OWN WAY

iPhone

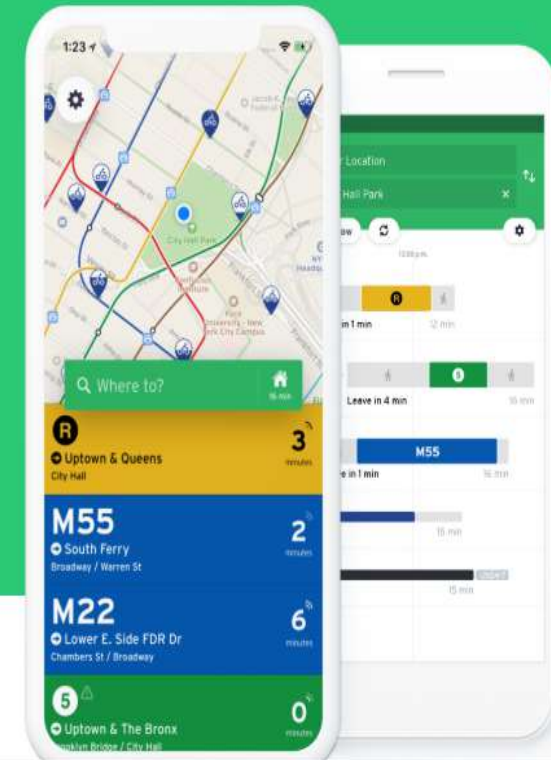


Android



It's in the Name™

[Transit App](#)



FIND MY BUS



New Transit App helps track and plan your route.

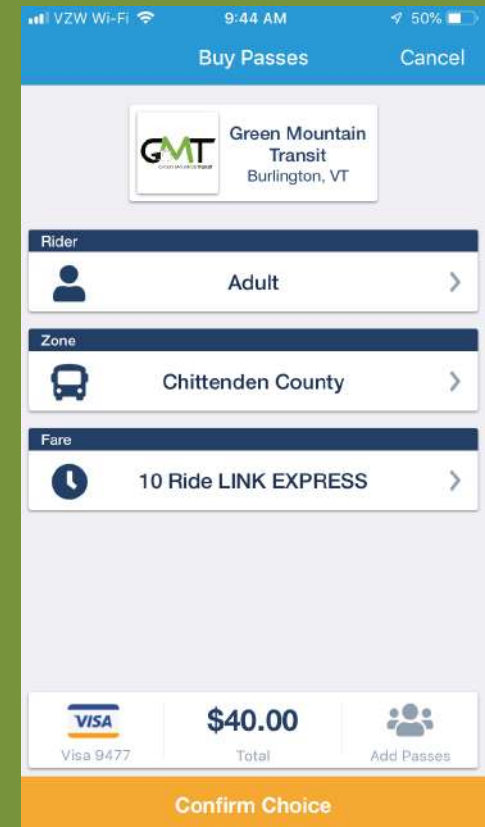
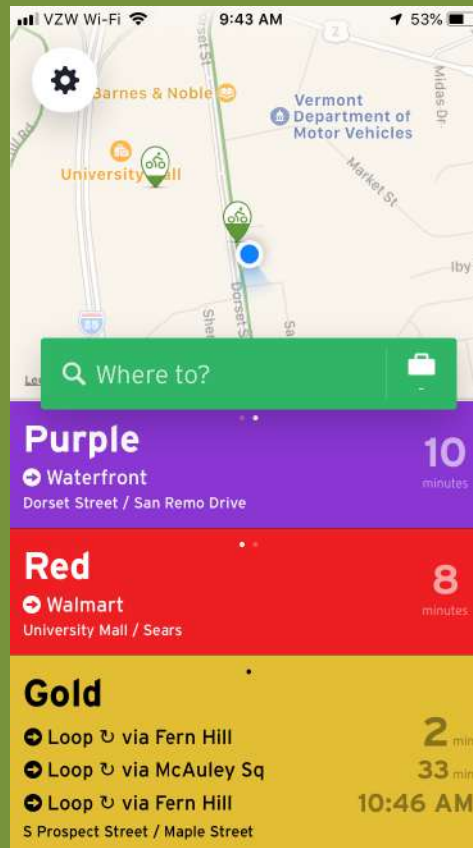
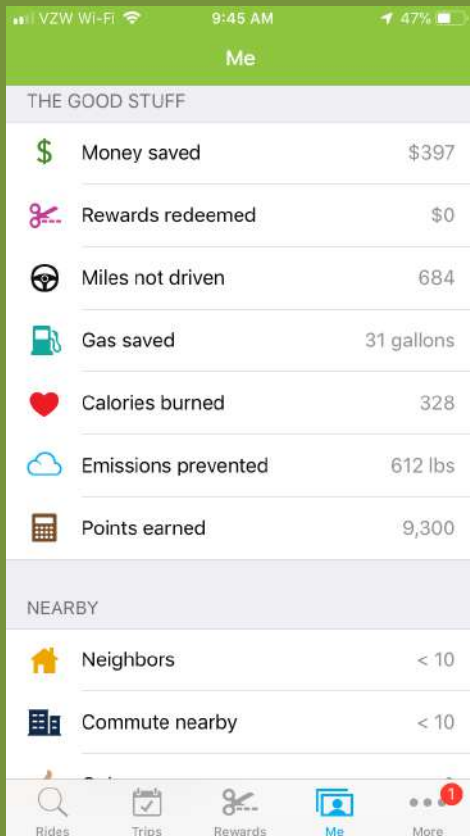
PHONE APPS



Rideshare app--

Transit app

Token Transit



TODAY and Future

Seniors—boomers are aging



Senior
Centers &
Health
Centers

AARP &
United Way
Volunteer
Drivers

Youth/Schools— Way to Go!
to School Program



Vulnerable populations—at risk

Services at Go! Vermont




Call center 1-800-685-RIDE (7433) –
carpooling, transit, walk, bike, para-transit, and 2-1-1

Dial 2-1-1 and Call Center—866-652-4636
www.vermont211.org

Onsite business consultations, call Ross or Deb.

www.connectingcommuters.org

2-1-1, a United Way partner, is a referral service--
helping people access transportation options

 A Comprehensive Database--a suite of
resources based on your needs...



[Guaranteed Ride Home Benefit](#)

[Community Rides](#)

[Vet Lift VT](#)

[For Employers](#)

[Sponsors / Partners](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Capital Commuters](#)

[VTEN](#)

[Program Materials and Information](#)

Local Routes

Taking the bus is a great way to reduce the cost and environmental impact of your commute.

For local bus service routes and schedules, link to the provider in your area below. You may also click different regions on the Local Routes map, to see what service is available in your community.



Want transportation?
Begin by checking in
w/ your regional
transit provider...



Carpool

Find your perfect carpool buddy!

Carpool matching can take the “what if” out of carpooling, by letting you find the right commute for your needs. When you [join](#) Go! Vermont, you can find rides that meet your personal ride criteria. Just [sign up](#), enter your start and end address, and then set your preferences, and you’ll see the carpool ride matches available to you. You’ll even be rewarded for all of your green commutes!

Call our Q/A hotline and a real person can answer your carpool questions. 800-685-7433.

[Join Go! Vermont](#)

[Sign In](#)

Another great resource for carpooling is Front Porch Forum, a free community-building service that helps neighbors connect by providing a forum specific to your

To get started, you can post or look for ridesharing neighbors in your

USE A VAN OR SUV TO COMMUTE FOR AS LOW AS \$100 PER MONTH!

Which can typically cost 50%-80% of your commuting costs.



Vanpool

- A Solution for larger workplaces
- Economic threshold 30 mile/round trip
- Employer subsidy
- State Subsidy -- \$700/month
- Lower commute cost to 25%

COMMUTE
with enterprise

Get Started

www.ConnectingCommuters.org



VERMONT

PROGRAMS

Guaranteed Ride Home Benefit

Volunteer Drivers

Rides for Veterans

Capital Commuters

RESOURCES

Community Resources

For Employers

Program Materials and Information

Contact Us



Guaranteed Ride Home Benefit

Knowing that even the best-laid plans can change unexpectedly, Go! Vermont created Guaranteed Ride Home, a benefit for bus riders and carpoolers. If you face an unforeseen change of plans such as a work-related or family emergency that prevents you from taking the bus or traveling via your carpool, GRH reimburses travel fees up to \$70.

Here's how it works:

1. In the event that you cannot travel via your carpool or bus route, use public transportation, a taxi, rental car or CarShare, and pay for it yourself.
2. Mail the original receipt(s), this [Reimbursement Form](#), this [W-9 Form](#), and a brief description of the situation to Go Vermont.
Go Vermont/GRH
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05633-5001

Engagement Examples & Tools

Workplace
Community
Transportation Surveys

CASE EXAMPLE

We can use your help...to help make commuting more convenient, affordable and dependable.

A 3-5 minute survey
Thank you for completing the survey!

3-minute Smart Commute Survey 2019: Darn Tough

Thank you for helping us assess how to improve employee commutes, and considering incentives and benefits. You will have a chance to win one of two \$25 gift cards by completing the questions, today, or by Friday, June 7th. Winners will be announced one week after the survey closes on June 7th.

Your personal responses will be kept confidential. Only group summary results will be shared to Darn Tough to help encourage sharing rides. Check here [] if you do not want to be included in group results summary.

1) How did you get to work on your most recent work day? Check ALL that apply.

- Drove Alone
- Bus
- Bicycle
- Carpool (# of members ____)
- Vanpool (# of members ____)
- Walking
- Other: _____

2) Do you generally pick up or drop off children/family members on your commute? Yes ___ No ___

3) What other commute mode, besides driving alone, would most appeal to you? Check ALL that apply.

- Bus
- Train
- Bicycle
- Carpool
- Vanpool
- Walking
- Other: _____
- None

4) The State of Vermont encourages and financially supports vanpools. Are you interested in working with your coworkers to explore forming a vanpool to help save money and the environment?

Yes () No () If not sure, please comment why _____

5) How many days of the week would you consider taking a vanpool, if one was available?

____ 5 days ____ 4 days ____ 3 days ____ 2 days ____ 1 day ____ 0 days

6) What would encourage you to use a more efficient commute option versus driving alone? (Check up to THREE. For the first two options, please check the type of subsidy and help.)

- Company subsidy: for transit /vanpool [] for vanpool [] for bike/walking []
- Help finding: a carpool/vanpool partner [] transit [] bike route []
- More flexible work hours
- Ride home in case of emergency -- (i.e., Guaranteed Ride Home)
- Prizes, drawings, contests
- None
- Other
- Comment: _____

TWO PRONGED APPROACH Darn Tough

Back office and Survey Results

N= 260 employees

n = 115 (40% return)

TOTAL ANNUAL TRAVEL MILES -- 1.8 Million miles

Annual Pounds of CO2 -- 1.6 Million pounds

TOTAL ANNUAL TRAVEL DOLLARS \$1.5 M

EMPLOYEE ANNUAL DRIVING COST OPTIONS

Solo (30 mi round trip)/yr = **\$5,000-8K**

Carpool of 2—same trip) = ½ the cost

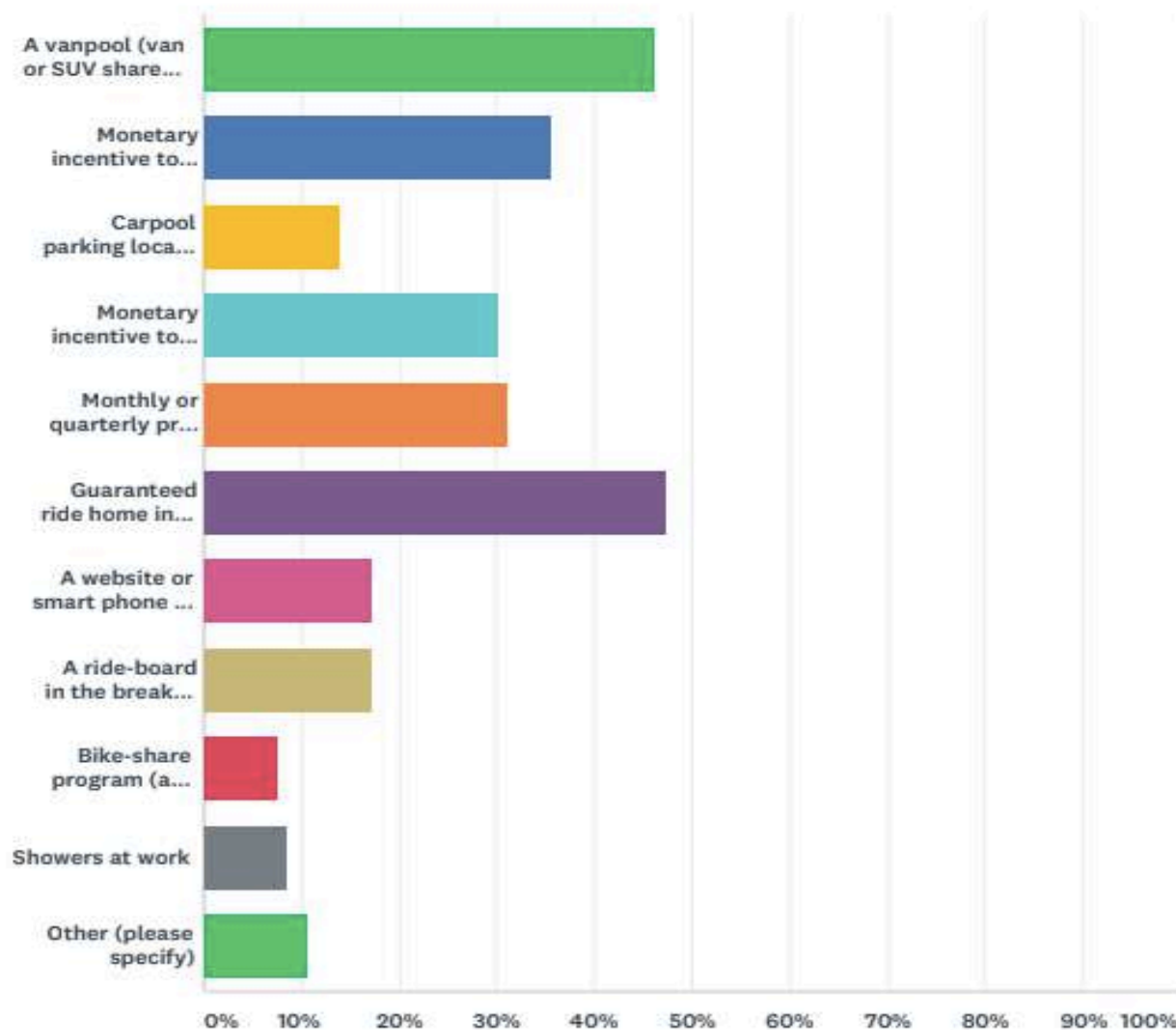
Vanpool employee/month) = **\$1,440**

Of those surveyed:

- ✓ Most drove alone, 18% carpooled, and 6% walk
- ✓ 40% attracted to carpool and 22% to vanpool, 18% to walking
- ✓ Less than 20% need to pick-up or drop off children
- ✓ Nearly 40% are interested in working with co-workers on forming a vanpool.

Q7 Which of the following programs, if available, would appeal to you? Check ALL that apply.


Answered: 93 Skipped: 21



VITAL COMMUNITIES 802.291.9100

vital COMMUNITIES Transportation

GETTING AROUND ▾ WORKPLACES COMMUNITIES ▾ VTEN DONATE 🔍

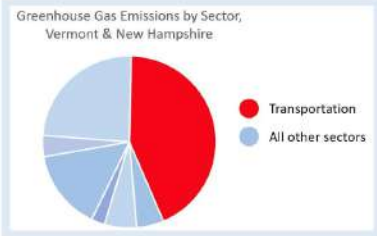


Transportation Toolkit for Town Volunteers

How community volunteers can tackle the climate impacts of our car-centered transportation system

In Vermont and New Hampshire, **transportation is the largest single source of greenhouse gases**. These emissions must be addressed on the national, regional, state, and local levels; this toolkit is for community volunteers who would like to **locally** tackle the climate impacts of our car-centered transportation system.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector, Vermont & New Hampshire



● Transportation
● All other sectors

Toolkit Overview

Introduction

1. Why work on many modes of transportation?
2. The benefits of reducing total car travel
3. How we make change
4. The Five W's of community engagement

Projects List

1. Promote existing resources
2. Events and commuter challenges
3. Infrastructure
4. Build skills
4. Build skills
5. Policy and advocacy
6. Increase community resources
7. Green your workplace

Resources

Transportation Toolkit for Town Volunteers

- NEW online resource for energy committees!
- Two dozen+ projects that volunteers can take on to reduce transportation-related climate emissions.
- Includes local context and Vital Communities' experience and best practice on strategy and behavior change.
- Available at vitalcommunities.org/transportationtoolkit

[Home](#)[Introduction](#)[Projects List](#)[Resources](#)

Projects List

From mini grants to vanpools, there are many outside resources that can help shift the transportation opportunities in your community.

Pay attention for funding opportunities for towns, schools, and other entities. Some Vermont Agency of Transportation programs:

1. [Better Connections Program](#)

2. [Electric Vehicle Incentive Program](#)

3. [Go! Vermont Local Community Assistance Program](#) (\$500 mini-grant)



Some New Hampshire Department of Transportation programs:

1. [Transportation Alternatives Program](#)

2. [CMAQ Program](#)

3. [DERA Program](#)

TAGS: *carpool, bike/pedestrian, bus/transit, Vermont, New Hampshire*

Help people learn more about e-bikes and maybe even purchase one

Vermont residents and businesses can request a free consultation with vBike to learn how

Transportation Toolkit for Town Volunteers

- Range of projects, from promoting existing resources to developing infrastructure to community skill building to advocacy.
- Available at vitalcommunities.org/transportationtoolkit

Moving together on actionable steps

- ✓ Encourage a shared **VISION** and systems **LITERACY**
- ✓ Choose which and **Advocate** for more transit options
- ✓ **Take stock/assess/identify** walkability index
- ✓ Encourage more **Volunteer Drivers** (consult your nearest transit provider)
- ✓ Partner with your regional planning commission to facilitate, coordinate and seek resources
- ✓ Make use of \$500 mini-grant from Go! Vermont
- ✓ Maintain a listserv of folks interested in volunteering, encourage information sharing and
- ✓ Host a seminar, of category experts and train-the-trainer

Partners and Contacts



Let us know how we're doing.

Provide feedback for program development

One click. One call: 1-800-685-RIDE

Ross MacDonald: Ross.MacDonald@state.vt.us 802-828-5577

Deb Sachs: dsachs@ecostrategiesllc.com 802-238-9807

www.ConnectingCommuters.org