

Southern Windsor County Park & Ride Needs Assessment Addendum

February 2012



Park and ride facilities are an integral component of the transportation system in southern Windsor County, as they support both ridesharing as an alternative to single-occupant vehicle travel and public transportation service by providing convenient park-and-ride options. This report is an addendum to the *2010 Regional Park and Ride Site Assessment* developed by the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC).

Existing Park and Ride Facilities

Town	Location	Jurisdiction	Total spaces	Lighting	Shelter	Bike Rack	Public Transit Service
Springfield	I-91 Exit 7, on VT-11/ US-5	State	Approx 50 (poor condition paving and dirt)	Yes	No	No	CRT
Weathersfield (Ascutney)	I-91 Exit 8, on VT-131	State	65	Yes	Yes	No	CRT
Hartland (near Windsor)	I-91 Exit 9, on US-5	State	32 paved, approx 6 unpaved	Yes	No	No	CRT
Ludlow	VT103 at Fire Station	Municipal	18	Yes	Yes	No*	CRT

* Will have a bike rack soon

2011 Park and Ride Usage

Below is a summary of needs for existing park and ride lots. Lot usage information is from the 2011 SWC Park and Ride Annual Report.

Location	Total spaces	Disabled Spaces	Average lot usage 2011	Peak lot usage 2011	Percentage of users VT residents	Adequate Bus Circulation	Other comments
I-91 Exit 7 Springfield	Approx 50	None marked	40	47 (94%)	69%	No	Needs improvement
I-91 Exit 8 Ascutney	65	3	57	69 (109%) ¹	49%	No	Needs improvement
I-91 Exit 9 Hartland/ Windsor	32 paved	2	24	34 (106%) ²	88%	No	Needs improvement
VT-103 Ludlow	18	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	No	Satisfactory

Needs and Recommendations for existing lots

The following recommendations are based on the above analysis and public input, including comments from Connecticut River Transit and the southern Windsor County Transportation Advisory Committee.

General Recommendations

1. Prioritize improvements to existing lots over the construction of new lots.
2. Make improvements to the existing park-and-ride lots in the following priority order:
 - (1) Hartland Exit 9;
 - (2) Springfield Exit 7;

¹ 2 of 3 disabled spaces always remain unused. No easy additional space for overflow.

² Overflow can use unpaved portion at the back of the lot which can serve about 10 vehicles

- (3) Weathersfield Exit 8;
- (4) Ludlow VT 103.

3. Coordinate with CRT, town officials and VTrans regarding identifying sites for potential new lots.

Hartland Exit 9

- 1. Improve by expanding, paving & providing amenities (lighting, shelter).
- 2. Provide adequate bus circulation.
- 3. Provide bicycle parking.

Springfield Exit 7

- 1. Make improvements by acquiring land, paving the lot & providing amenities (lighting, shelter).
- 2. Provide adequate bus circulation.
- 3. Provide bicycle parking.
- 4. Provide connection to Toonerville Trail.

Weathersfield Exit 8

- 1. Modestly expand lot capacity; the lot is very full, and it was over capacity during peak oil prices.
- 2. Provide adequate bus circulation.

Ludlow VT 103

- 1. Improve visibility of the lot.
- 2. Improve marketing of new transit services & use of this lot.

Needs and locations for potential new facilities

The methodology for selection of new potential facility sites is outlined in the main report.

Town	Location	2010 Evaluation Score	2010Rank	Proposed 2012 Rank	Other notes
Weathersfield	Intersection of VT 106 & VT 131	15	4	1	Move up in rank given occupancy of Exit 8 lot
Proctorsville	Intersection of VT 103 & VT 131	22	1	2	
North Springfield	Intersection of VT 106 & VT 10	21	2	3	
Gassetts	Intersection of VT 10 & VT 103	20	3	4	

Note: Already informal use of church and town parking lots for carpooling in Andover – and that is meeting needs well. There are already several informal carpools to the Rutland area from Cavendish.

Input

This addendum was compiled by SWCRPC. Input was sought from Connecticut River Transit (Mary Habig and Brian Waterman (2/1/2012), the SWC Transportation Advisory Committee (2/15/2012), as well as representatives from the region’s towns, including Linda Bargfred (Andover, 2/6/2012), Rich Svec (Cavendish, 2/7/2012), Julie Hance (Chester, 2/2/2012), Harry Henderson (Springfield, 2/3/2012), Bob Allen (Reading, 2/15/2012), deForest Bearse (Weathersfield, 12/13/2012), Glenn Seward (West Windsor, 2/10/2012), and Tom Marsh (Windsor, 2/6/2012).