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MVRTD and ACTR to Collaborate on Route 7 Public Transportation Service

On October 2, 2006, the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) awarded Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) and Marble Valley Regional Transit District (MVRTD) a 3-year demonstration grant to implement public transportation service between Rutland and Middlebury along the Route 7 corridor.

Larry Dreier, Administrator for MVRTD, and Jim Moulton, Executive Director of ACTR, noted that, although planning for this project began in the fall of 2004, funds for new services were not made available for the project until just recently. “With the new service grant now confirmed”, said Dreier, “our final planning is underway with the goal to start buses rolling on Monday, December 4.”



Moulton and Dreier reported that both organizations have experienced repeated requests for this service from businesses and private citizens ever since early 2004 and demand has increased ever since, especially once fuel prices passed \$2.00 per gallon. The two leaders also noted that the project has received widespread support from businesses, human service agencies, municipalities and residents in both Rutland and Addison counties.

“Our excitement is hard to contain”, said Moulton, “This service has the potential to make a big impact on the economic, social and environmental health of both regions”. Census reports indicate that almost 800 residents of Addison County commute south each day to Rutland County while a similar figure travel north, as well. Both Dreier and Moulton pointed out the multiple benefits that will come with the service. “We see this service alleviating traffic congestion and reducing carbon emissions, bringing workers to jobs and customers to stores, and also providing new mobility options for transit-dependent residents along the corridor”, they said.

For more information about this service or other public transportation services in each region, please contact MVRTD at 773-3244 or info@thebus.com and ACTR at 388-1946 or info@actr-vt.org or visit their respective websites at www.thebus.com or www.actr-vt.org. Thank you for your support of public transportation.