

**FREE
TAKE ONE**

AWARD-WINNING TRANSIT SYSTEM



Coast Transit Authority

We Keep the Gulf Coast Rolling for You!

Transit System Newsletter — Spring 2023



Try Transit Day & More, page 9



www.coasttransit.com • 1-866-206-8843

From the Director

We Keep the Gulf Coast Rolling For You!

We are here to provide good quality transportation services for the MS Gulf Coast. During this time of record-high inflation and employee staffing shortages, CTA is working hard to provide you with convenient, safe, and affordable transportation. For around the cost of one tank of gas in a car, you can buy a 31-day pass that will provide unlimited rides on the entire CTA Fixed Route system. We are providing affordable and reliable work transportation for employees and helping employers with recruitment and retention.

We are constantly working to improve the quality of the bus ride



experience. In February 2023, we put three new fixed route buses in service on routes #4 D'Iberville, #7 Ocean Springs, and #38 West Gulfport.

Our environmentally friendly bus fleet of propane, hybrid electric, and pure electric buses is helping preserve our beautiful Gulf Coast environment. We are clean and green.

The Tram Bridge project on Hwy 90 in Gulfport is on budget and ahead

of schedule. Current schedule has the public using this new pedestrian bridge to access the many events in Jones Park safely and quickly in January 2024.

We greatly appreciate the Gulf Coast giving us the opportunity to serve you. Let us know how we are doing and how we can improve your riding experience. For additional information, give us a call at 228-896-8080 or visit www.coasttransit.com. Follow Coast Transit Authority on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube to learn the latest news.

Kevin Coggin
Executive Director
Coast Transit Authority



CTA Employees Pictured with the MPTA (Mississippi Public Transit Association) Urban Transit System of the Year Award – Left to Right: Vincent Nelms (Director of Operations), Chris Forét (Assistant Executive Director), Ashley Seymour (Director of Administration/Finance), and Kevin Coggin (Executive Director) / In addition to the MPTA Urban Transit System of the Year Award, CTA also had the honor of Kevin Coggin, Executive Director of Coast Transit Authority, receiving Urban Transit Manager of the Year by MPTA.



CTA Employee of the Year The 2021 Employee of the Year is June!

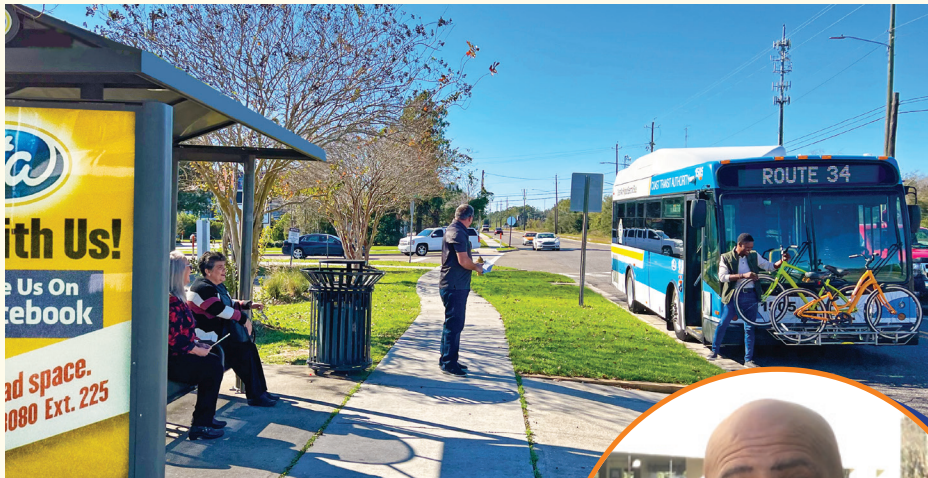
June joined the CTA team in July 2020, as a General Maintenance Technician. He received the Employee of the Month nomination for October 2021, and was selected as Employee of the Year for 2021.

June earned this award for always maintaining a great attitude and work ethic while maintaining our facilities along the Coast.

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Follow Coast Transit Authority online to stay in the loop!

Inflation Hurting Your Wallet? CTA is Here to Help!



Inflation has increased the cost of living for everyone. This includes buying groceries, gas, clothes, homes, and more! One thing that has stayed the same during this record-high inflation is the cost of riding public transit buses with Coast Transit Authority. Be sure to check for discounts for seniors, students, and more!

Authority buses will help you save money all year long. You can buy a monthly bus pass for less than a tank of gas! Let CTA get you to work, school, shopping, medical appointments, and around town for fun!

Riding the bus not only helps save the environment (see our "Go Green" article on p.8), but it also helps leave money in your wallet! Coast Transit

Coast Transit Authority buses are reliable, clean, safe, and affordable! Learn more about bus routes at www.coasttransit.com (see page 5) or call 228-896-8080. Start saving money today!

It's one more way CTA is keeping the Gulf Coast Rolling for you!



"CTA saves me time and money getting to work!"

— CTA Rider Testimonial (As seen on the CTA YouTube and WLOX)

How CTA Gives You More for Your Money!

Hourly Operating Cost

Transit Agency	Amount
MATA: Memphis, TN	\$153
NORTA: New Orleans, LA	\$146
MAX: Birmingham-Jefferson, AL	\$120
CATS: Baton Rouge, LA	\$111
Group Average	\$104
CATA: Little Rock, AR	\$98
JATRAN: Jackson, MS	\$95
WAVE: Mobile, AL	\$93
ECAT: Pensacola, FL	\$89
MATS: Montgomery, AL	\$80
SPORTRAN: Shreveport, LA	\$79
CTA: Biloxi-Gulfport, MS	\$77

Operating Expense Per Fixed Route Vehicle Revenue Hour

Farebox Revenue

Transit Agency	Percent
CTA: Biloxi-Gulfport, MS	22%
ESCAT: Pensacola, FL	19%
SPORTRAN: Shreveport, LA	16%
Group Average	13%
MATA: Memphis, TN	13%
CATA: Little Rock, AR	13%
MATS: Montgomery, AL	12%
NORTA: New Orleans, LA	12%
WAVE: Mobile, AL	12%
CATS: Baton Rouge, LA	10%
MAX: Birmingham-Jefferson, AL	7%
JATRAN: Jackson, MA	7%

Passenger Fares as Part of Total Operating Cost

Local Government Subsidy

Transit Agency	Percent
CATA: Little Rock, AR	75%
MAX: Birmingham-Jefferson, AL	73%
CATS: Baton Rouge, LA	66%
WAVE: Mobile, AL	54%
NORTA: New Orleans, LA	53%
MATS: Montgomery, AL	53%
Group Average	52%
SPORTRAN: Shreveport, LA	52%
MATA: Memphis, TN	51%
ECAT: Pensacola, FL	39%
JATRAN: Jackson, MS	32%
CTA: Biloxi-Gulfport, MS	20%

Local Government Subsidy as a Percentage of Operating Cost

* Ranking information from National Transit Database, 2019

Tram Bridge Project Update



CTA is happy to report that construction of the Tram/ Pedestrian Bridge across Highway 90 in Gulfport (connecting the CTA Gulfport Transit Center and Mississippi Aquarium to the Gulfport Jones Park) is on budget and ahead of schedule. Malouf Construction, a Mississippi based company, is doing outstanding work. The new bridge is scheduled to be open to the public in early February 2024. The bridge will provide quick, safe, and convenient access to Jones Park for pedestrians, bicycles, and physically challenged people needing to ride the CTA Tram Trolley bus. The bridge will have a seventy-year life span requiring minimal scheduled maintenance.



New Buses on Route!

Coast Transit Authority is continuously adding to our fleet. We are proud to announce that we have new buses on our Fixed Route 4-D'Iberville, Route 7-Ocean Springs, and Route 38-Gulfport! Beyond our fixed route buses, we

have also added Demand Response vehicles (learn more on p. 9). CTA launched Mississippi's first public transit Battery Electric Bus (BEB) this past year. As we continuously improve our bus system and add hybrid and all electric options, we are maintaining and growing infrastructure of transit centers, tram bridges, offices, beach stations, trolleys, and more! Some buses even had Wi-Fi added for passengers! Find these updates and more online!



CTA... we keep the Gulf Coast rolling for you!

Live, Work, and Play with CTA!

How to Ride this Award-Winning Transit System and More!

Did you know that you can use Coast Transit Authority buses for getting to work or school in addition to day-to-day activities or just for fun? At CTA we even have an Attractions Guide where you can find fun Coastal Mississippi things to do along our bus routes! Coast Transit Authority buses will help you save money all year long—especially with 31-day bus passes.

Be sure to follow Coast Transit Authority on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube to stay in the loop! CTA provides transportation that is safe, clean, affordable, and convenient!

Riding the bus is as easy as 1-2-3

1 **Step 1** – Get a copy of the Riders' Guide at any transit center, the CTA main office (333 DeBuys Road, Gulfport), or online at www.coasttransit.com!

2 **Step 2** – After finding your route and having exact change for your bus fare or pass (daily, 3-day, or 31-day bus pass), get to the bus stop early to catch your bus. Be sure to check on www.coasttransit.com or the CTA Facebook page for any available discounts or route alterations

due to holidays, events, days of the week, or other causes.

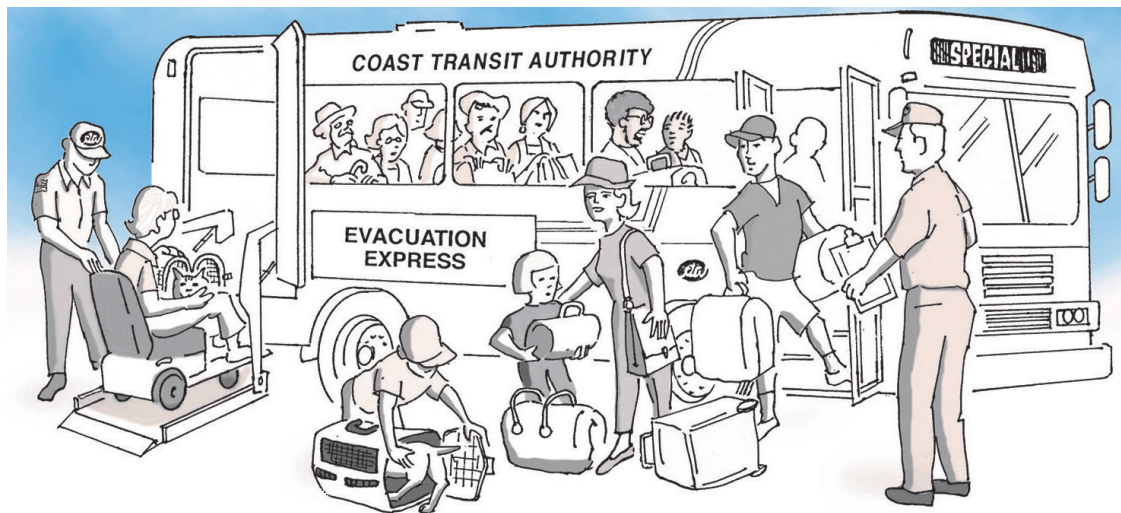
3 **Step 3** – Let the driver know in advance of putting the money in the machine if you are purchasing a daily, 3-day, or 31-day bus pass. When you get close to your destination, pull the stop request cord between the windows to alert the driver. Connect at the Biloxi or the Gulfport Transit Center to transfer onto other bus routes.



CTA bus at MGCCC – Harrison County Campus



Emergency Evacuation Registration for Harrison County Hurricane Season is June 1, 2023 – November 30, 2023

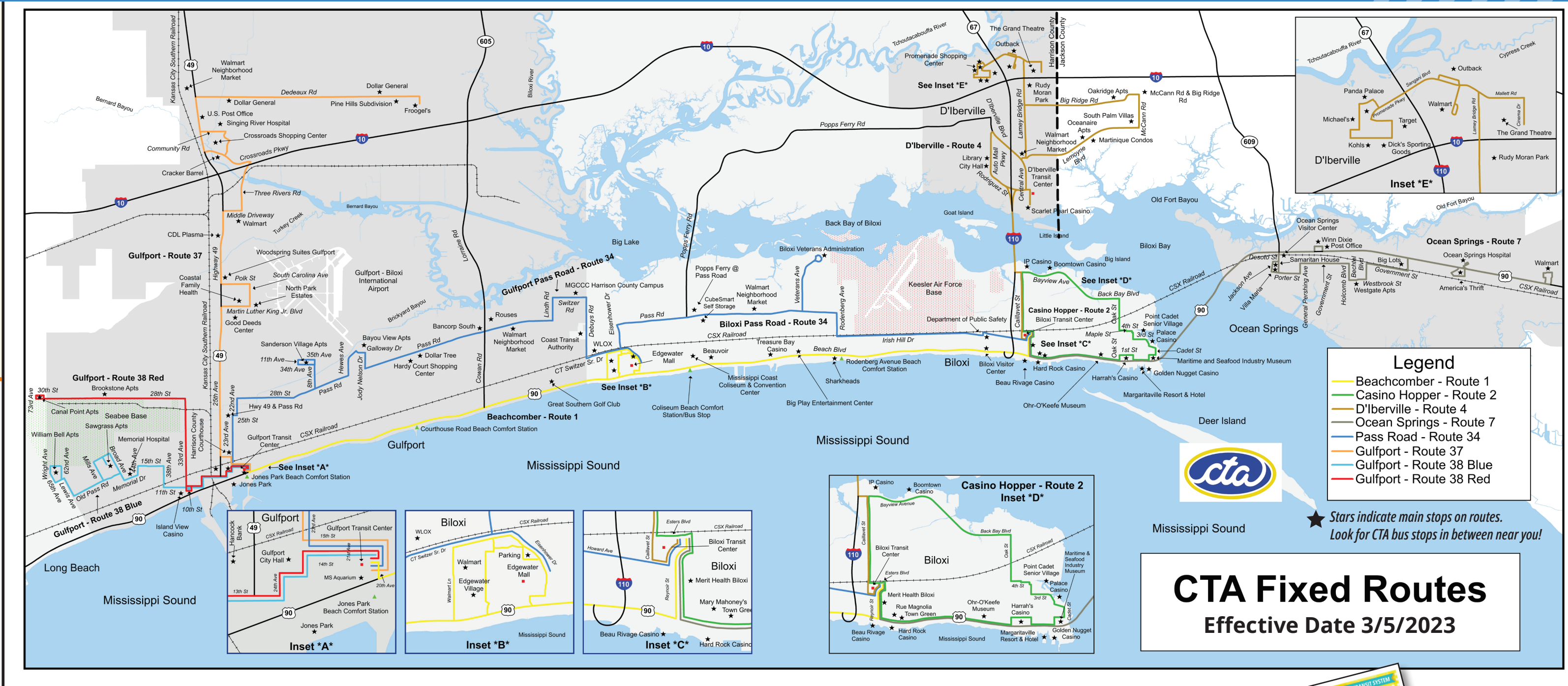


Details and how to register:

In the event of a hurricane or other emergency, CTA, in cooperation with the Harrison County Emergency Management Agency, is prepared to provide evacuation transportation service for residents. If you think you may need CTA to transport you and your family out of harm's way, call the CTA offices any time to register — seven days a week, year 'round. To register for hurricane evacuation, call 866-206-8843 or 228-896-8080. You can also register online at www.coasttransit.com.

Remember, Hurricane Season begins June 1st! Register today, and be prepared!

CTA Fixed Route System Map



Connect to Other Routes & More – See Riders' Guide!



Biloxi Transit Center
820 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Centro de Tránsito de Biloxi
Ubicado el Boulevard Martin Luther King Jr.



Gulfport Transit Center
1401 20th Avenue
Centro de Tránsito de Gulfport
Ubicado en la Calle No. 15, frente a el edificio de la Corte Federal

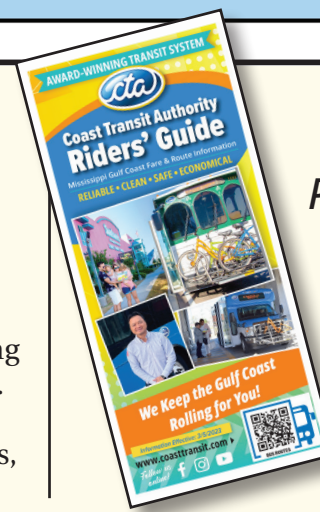


D'Iberville Transit Center
10045 Gorenflo Road
Centro de Tránsito de D'Iberville
Ubicado en la Calle Gorenflo



Beach Bus Stations

CTA has five Beach Bus Stations that are located along Hwy 90 in Harrison County. These beach stations house restroom facilities, bike racks, and bus shelters.



Pick up a **FREE** copy of the Riders' Guide at any CTA Transit Center, on any CTA bus, or view online at coasttransit.com.



Coast Transit Authority

Let's Go Hopping! **CASINO Hopper**



Take the Loop on the Casino Hopper Trolley!



Look for the nostalgic green trolley, and hop aboard!

Fare Only \$1.75

Monday to Saturday, 5:30 AM - 9:23 PM
Sunday, 8:30 AM-7:08 PM



Connect to other routes to get to casinos like Treasure Bay Casino and Hotel and Island View Casino Resort as well as other attractions!
CTA's Casino Hopper provides scheduled bus service every 25 minutes, 7 days a week. Ride in comfort to casinos, attractions, and businesses along Hwy. 90, Caillavet St., and Bayview Ave.

Scan our QR Codes for more information on all bus routes and schedules or go to www.coasttransit.com!



BUS ROUTES
TO ATTRACTIONS

When Visiting the Mississippi Aquarium, Park in the Coast Transit Authority Garage!

- Located next to the Aquarium (1417 20th Avenue, Gulfport, MS)
- Safe, Convenient, and Affordable!

PARKING RATES

Up to 1 hour - \$2.50 • Up to 2 hours - \$5.00 • Daily - \$11.00



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CTA... We Keep the Gulf Coast Rolling for You!



www.coasttransit.com • Toll Free: 1-866-206-8843 • Office: 333 DeBuys Road, Gulfport, MS

Go Green with CTA!

Coast Transit Authority continually adds to “go green” efforts with environmentally friendly advances in public transportation. This past year, CTA unveiled Mississippi’s First Battery Electric Bus (BEB) for public

transit on Earth Day, April 22, 2022, at the Gulfport Transit Center.

“This is the next level of vehicles Coast Transit Authority will utilize to preserve this beautiful environment we all enjoy on the Mississippi Gulf Coast,” said Kevin Coggin, Executive Director of Coast Transit Authority, at the unveiling.

The green and clean electric bus builds on a progression of CTA’s environmentally friendly fleet since 2003. CTA currently operates with a fleet of hybrid electric and

dual-fueled (gas and propane) buses on fixed and demand-response services. CTA also has solar-paneled bus shelters.

In addition to buses, CTA also supports passengers bringing their bicycles as part of their bus fare. The Bike & Bus program is a healthy, economical, and environmentally friendly way to commute to wherever you need to go. For more information on CTA’s latest “go green” efforts, just visit www.coasttransit.com for the latest news!



Bike & Bus with CTA!



Whether you are a serious bicycle commuter or a recreational cyclist, CTA’s Bike & Bus program is geared to give you a better ride! CTA invites you to join the thousands of Gulf Coast cyclists who have enjoyed our Bike & Bus service. Bringing your bike is included with your bus fare! These front-mounted bike racks are readily accessible on all fixed-route buses, and Beachcomber and Casino Hopper Trolleys.

Each CTA Bike & Bus rack is equipped to hold a minimum of two bikes.

STEP 1: Get ready to load!

STEP 2: Let the driver know!

STEP 3: Lock and go!

Bikes and buses are both great ways to ride... We’ve brought them together to give you the best of both worlds here along Coastal Mississippi.

Find more info online at www.coasttransit.com or call 228-896-8080!



Learn about ADA, Demand Response, and More

In addition to the CTA Fixed Route bus system, Coast Transit Authority is proud to have many programs providing transportation for those with special needs and more. All CTA buses, including buses on the fixed route, are accessible and ADA equipped.

If additional transportation service is needed beyond the fixed route bus system, there are a few options to which individuals may apply.

Labeled “Demand Response” on the vehicles, these include the CTA ADA Paratransit, ADA Paratransit Plus, and Handy Ride services. There also is a specific Senior Transport program available for Harrison County residents.

To learn more about our CTA Demand Response programs and how you can apply, go to www.coasttransit.com or call 228-896-8080.



Mark Your Calendar for Try Transit Day!

SAVE-THE-DATE! Try Transit Day – Thursday, June 15, 2023

Are you thinking of public transit for the first time or know someone who has not tried it yet? Maybe you ride throughout the year and would love to ride free all day long? Coast Transit Authority invites everyone to RIDE FREE ALL DAY during Try Transit Day on Thursday, June 15, 2023! (This includes all CTA buses.) Everyone is invited to “dump the pump” and look at ways to save gas and money throughout the year.

Try Transit!



**RIDE FREE
ALL DAY**

JUNE 15, 2023

Join the TEAM that Keeps the Gulf Coast Rolling!



Coast Transit Authority has many rewarding jobs. Throughout the year, new driver classes open, and we accept applications. CTA has many different types of jobs, and new jobs are posted online at www.coasttransit.com under "Employment Opportunities."

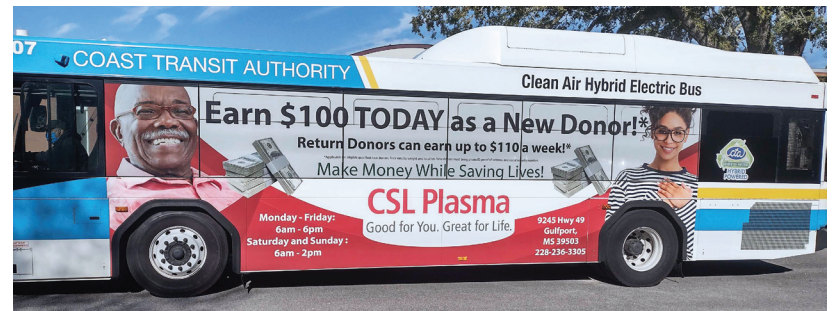
Apply online or in-person at our office located at 333 DeBuys

Road, Gulfport, MS. For additional information contact the Personnel Coordinator at 228-896-8080, ext. 206. Join the CTA team that keeps the Gulf Coast rolling!

Learn more by calling CTA, emailing ctainfo@coasttransit.com, or visit online at www.coasttransit.com!

Apply today at coasttransit.com!

Move Your Message with CTA Advertising



Are you looking for a unique and effective way to get your message advertised? Coast Transit Authority has several opportunities to market your business, and it is economical, too! Our advertising opportunities include:

- ★ Rolling billboards
- ★ Solar panel bus shelter ads
- ★ Bench ads
- ★ Interior and exterior banner ads
- ★ Video ads
- ★ Rack cards

... and more!



For Advertising Opportunities, call 866-206-8843 ext. 225, email adsales@coasttransit.com or visit coasttransit.com/advertise-with-us!

Getting to Work Across the Coast with Coast Commuter



Coast Transit Authority's (CTA) Coast Commuter Program is designed to assist employers on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in recruitment and retention of employees and to provide cost and stress reducing commute options for employees. CTA is available to assist employers and employees in developing a work-commute program that meets

your needs. If your employees are not able to use the Fixed Route bus system, Coast Commuter is a great program to use!

For more information, visit www.coasttransit.com or call 1-800-VAN-RIDE today. CTA will start planning a program that is right for you.



Coast Transit Authority

Operating the Driving Forces for our Coastal Economy



FIXED ROUTE

Mississippi's first public transit Battery Electric Bus and our blue and white Clean Air Hybrid Electric buses connect the Gulf Coast community with many convenient routes.



COAST COMMUTER

Vans bring people from four states to jobs right here on the Gulf Coast.



CASINO HOPPER

Every 25 minutes, 7-days a week, the Casino Hopper stops at casinos, hotels and attractions along the Biloxi loop.

DEMAND RESPONSE

ADA Paratransit PLUS is a non-emergency, curb-to-curb countywide transportation service for people with disabilities.



BEACHCOMBER

Our high visibility trolley is the best way to view our beautiful Gulf Coast and enjoy the attractions it offers.



BIKE & BUS

Over 1,500 riders a month now take their bikes with them using our bike racks on the front of each CTA bus at no additional cost.



FESTIVAL HOPPER

This service provides transportation to the entertainment events scheduled for Jones Park in Gulfport when attendees park at the convenient CTA Parking Garage.



For more information call **866-206-8843** or go to **www.coasttransit.com**.

Para más información, llame al **866-206-8843** o visite la página **www.coasttransit.com**.

333 DeBuys Rd., Gulfport, MS 39507

Follow Coast Transit Authority online to stay in the loop!

