



North East Transport Connections Project

NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 -2011

North East Transport Connections
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Welcome!

The past month has been a busy time for the NTCP team with a blend of activities, meetings, re-development of the new website and seminars that have set the pace for the oncoming year for NTCP. The commencement of organizing project information, reconnecting with stakeholders and moving forward with initiatives in the Project Action Plan took place. Towards the end of May also saw the Community Transport Conference at Bendigo. This conference mainly centred around the future of community transport.

Steering Committee Meeting

9th June saw the NTCP team come together with the Committee Members. A highly successful meeting encompassing the NTCP focus. The purpose of the Steering Committee Meetings is to provide information to the executive, on Partnership Agreement, Community Engagement Plan, Business Case Template, Monthly Activity Report, Project Implementation/Work Plan, Small Grants Program, and to discuss the ongoing future the NTCP.



Small Grants Program

NTCP are pleased to introduce a new Small Grants Program which aims to develop innovative and efficient responses to the needs of people with limited transport options, and to improve access to services, resources, employment and community participation opportunities. Grants are open to all project partners and community organizations within the project area. Organisations must be incorporated (or auspiced by an incorporated organization) or statutory body. Grants will be \$5000 for local government and smaller grants for the community up to \$1000. If you are a local government or community organization, have a small grant idea and wish to apply please contact Karen Smith (02) 6049 2150. Alternatively please log onto the website for more information. www.communityaccessability.com.au

Regional Transport Forum

21st of July is the upcoming Regional Transport Forum at the Community Hall – Tallangatta. This is a great opportunity for local communities to come together and hear about local community solutions and an opportunity to voice any concerns about transport related matters you have. Lunch will be provided.

For those interested parties please contact Karen Smith (02) 6049 2150 or email ntcpinfo@tpg.com.au

Regional Transport Forums are held quarterly. Keep the following dates in you diary.

Date	Location	
21 July 2011	Tallangatta – Community Hall	24 Nov 2011 Wodonga – To be advised
22 Mar 2012	Wangaratta – To be advised	21 June 2012 Beechworth – To be advised

NTCP Website Redevelopment

We are happy to report the redevelopment of the new website which has now gone live. NTCP has a new home under www.communityaccessability.com.au. Click the NTCP tab and enjoy!

Transport Projects - 50 new low-floor trams

It's always interesting reading on what other local government initiatives are taking place.

Dandenong based Company Bombardier will design, construct and maintain 50 new low-floor trams for Melbourne as part of the 807.6 million investments which includes a new tram maintenance and storage depot for Preston. These new trams will be approximately 33 metres in length, able to carry more than 210 passengers.

More importantly will be fully accessible for people in wheelchairs on routes which are equipped with level access platform stops. The first of the 50 trams will enter service in late 2012.

Buggy & Personal Guidance Service

Southern Cross Station provides a Buggy & Personal Guidance Service. The service is handy for seniors and people with disability or mobility issues who require assistance navigating through Southern Cross Station. The service must be booked in advance to ensure someone meets you at the train, bus or taxi platform.

If you believe you will be travelling to Melbourne in the near future and feel this service would be required.

Phone 03 9670 2873 or alternatively book online www.travellersaid.org.au

Thinking about Volunteering???

Do you have as little as an hour to spare each week?
Enjoy working with people?

We are a not-for profit Community Transport Program based in Wodonga. We need volunteers to drive the frail aged and people with a disability to medical appointments and day programs in and around Albury/Wodonga.

Driver's license and a sense of humour is all that is required.

Phone (02) **6049-2100**

Talk to one of our friendly staff today!

www.communityaccessability.com.au

Medical Companion Project

Travellers Aid Australia launched the new pilot service to help regional Victoria travelers get to their medical appointments in Melbourne safely and confidently.

The Medical Companion Project recruited 18 new volunteers which enabled the assistance of 35 new clients. An initiative in partnership with the Victorian Government's Transport Connections Program.

Trained volunteers are available to meet medical travelers at their train, taxi or bus platform at Flinders Street Station or Southern Cross Station. Volunteers will accompany patients by public transport to and from their appointment in central Melbourne. For more information contact Travellers Aid.



Extension of Bus Services!

Wangaratta Coachlines

The Minister has approved for the TCP trial bus services - Ovens Accessible and Beechworth Accessible to be extended for 6 months.

Tallangatta Service

The Minister has approved for the TCP trial bus service Tallangatta to Wodonga/Albury to be extended for 6 months.

Conferences and Seminars

[Australian Institute of Traffic Planning and Management](#)

(AITPM) Conference 10-12 August 2011

[Bike Futures Conference 2011](#)

12-14 October 2011

