

What is the CPTC ?

The Connecticut Public Transportation Commission is a 19-member advisory body whose duty, as set forth in section 13b-11a(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, is to advise and assist the Commissioner, the Governor and the Transportation Committee of the General Assembly in the performance of their functions and duties relating to the planning, development and maintenance of adequate rail, bus and motor carrier facilities and rail, bus and other public transportation services in the state and any other matters affecting the quality of public transportation facilities and services in the state. As specified in CGS 13b-11a(a), the Commission consists of 11 gubernatorial appointees and 8 members appointed by the Legislative leadership. Members serve four year terms. In addition to the 19 appointed members, the Departments of Transportation and Environmental Protection and the Office of Policy and Management are represented on the Commission.

What is the function of the CPTC ?

The Commission, which was established in 1983, was created as the successor to two previously existing bodies, the Connecticut Public Transportation Authority and the Governor's Railroad Advisory Task Force. The Commission gathers the information it needs to fulfill its advisory role through the knowledge and experience of its members, the testimony presented by the speakers at its monthly meetings, and the input at the annual series of public hearings it holds across the state. In addition to these sources, the Commission also, either as a body or as individual members, participates in numerous seminars, workshops, conferences, media events and inspection tours regarding timely issues and developments in public transportation.

On or before January 1 of each year, the Commission submits a report to the Transportation Committee of the General Assembly containing a list of recommendations for projects, policies and legislation which would enhance the efficient and effective delivery of public transportation services in Connecticut. By statute, the Commissioner of Transportation must provide written responses to the recommendations by February 1 of each year.

In addition to its Annual Report, the Commission also serves its advisory role during the course of the year through letters and resolutions on current issues, through testimony it provides at various forums, and frequently through facilitating contacts between parties in order to resolve issues, enhance services or obtain information.