FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW INTERCITY BUS SERVICES STARTING IN JUNE 2014

MONTPELIER, Vt.—May 29, 2014—Beginning on June 9th, Vermonters and visitors will have more affordable travel choices to get around New England and beyond, thanks to the launch of new intercity bus routes operated by Vermont Translines. The new routes, funded by the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and the Federal Transit Administration, include service from Burlington to Albany, NY via Bennington and Rutland, as well as service between Rutland and White River Junction and on to Hanover, NH, with connections to Greyhound Lines, Inc. A ticket from Burlington to Albany via Rutland, Manchester, and Bennington will cost approximately \$32, while a ride from Rutland to Hanover-will be around \$10.

"Public transit is essential to many Vermonters, and a strong system is in the best interests of the state," said Gov. Peter Shumlin. "It was clear that we needed to expand intercity service in Vermont, which is why we directed the Agency of Transportation to study the issue two years ago. While this service will allow Vermonters to travel farther, the investment will stay right here at home with a local operator."

Chris Cole, Director of VTrans Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development Division, agreed, adding, "These new bus routes will work with our existing successful bus, rail and airline services to provide a more robust system of connectivity for Vermonters and visitors alike, ensuring more car-free and affordable transportation options."

Initially, there will be one round trip per route per day. The new service will provide connections to other existing intercity services to New York City, Boston, Montreal and other major northeast destinations on comfortably appointed coaches.

According to Randy Charlebois of Premier Coach, a Vermont company that will operate Vermont Translines, "Our entire team is excited to work with the Vermont Agency of Transportation to bring safe, reliable and meaningful connections to and from Vermont. We look forward to serving Vermonters and those visiting Vermont with a comfortable, affordable and environmentally friendly mode of transportation."

"Greyhound is excited to provide Vermonters and anyone visiting Vermont with easy access to our network of more than 3,800 destinations in North America and expand the affordable travel options to new places in the state," said Lori Buzzerio, area manager, Greyhound Lines, Inc.

More information including schedule details and instructions on how and where to purchase tickets is available at <u>www.connectingcommuters.org/bus</u>, or by calling 1-800-685-RIDE.