

WE RIDE TOGETHER, WE VOTE TOGETHER MAY 7

30 Million Americans ride together on public transit every week. Vote with them for better transit and a better future in our congressional election.



ELIZABETH COLBERT BUSCH,
DEMOCRAT

Have you ridden CARTA or Tri County Link Public Transit in the Lowcountry recently?

Took guided ride on CARTA 41 Coleman Bus on March 14.

Would you be willing to work to obtain Federal support to complete planning and construction of the Passenger Intermodal Transportation Center?

We need to improve our state's transportation infrastructure to support economic growth, attract new employers to our region, and enhance our quality of life.

There are logistics to work out as we consider an intermodal center and replacements to our aging Amtrak facility and bus stations, but I support improvements to bus and rail connections.

I am eager to see the forthcoming Council of Government's transit study results so we can identify practical solutions to traffic and congestion and manage growth.

Would you support returning public transit's share of the Federal Transportation Budget to 20% or more from its current reduced share of 18%?

I see the value of improving and maintaining our roads, ports, rail, aviation, buses, bike paths, and pedestrian routes so that we can move goods and services, support our tourism industry, and enable our workforce to grow and commute safely. Transit should be part of the full infrastructure portfolio.

What else would you like to say to Transit Riding voters in the Lowcountry?

I will listen and make careful choices as we consider transportation and the infrastructure needs of the growing First District. I will keep all of our citizens and their different needs in mind.

www.colbertbuschforcongress.com



MARK SANFORD, REPUBLICAN

Former Governor Sanford was invited to ride the bus with the Hungryneck Straphangers before the first ride taken on Feb. 7, 2013 and was invited to answer these questions numerous times. Despite numerous attempts, his campaign has not taken up our offer to ride the buses or answer this questionnaire. We are disappointed Gov. Sanford chose not to answer or ride the bus with us, but respect the former Governor's decision to run his campaign as he sees fit. We believe the transit riding community and all voters should have real information on where candidates stand on public transit and other issues. To find out where Gov. Sanford stands on public transit, please contact his campaign directly at 843-764-9188.

www.marksanford.com

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SC's 1st. Congressional District has a special election to choose a new congressman on Tuesday, May 7. Please vote on or before election day. If you meet a campaign, tell them you ride public transit. If you don't live in the district, remind family, friends and coworkers to vote.

Our Questions to the Candidates

All candidates were provided with these questions. All candidates following the primary received detailed information on the issues. We have accepted and printed the answers exactly as the candidates provided them. Please judge for yourself your confidence in their answers.

The Issues— Why Candidates Should Ride

We think it is important for a candidate to ride the bus. Misunderstandings about who rides transit and how transit works are common among those who don't ride. Getting on board also gives candidates the opportunity to learn about riders' needs directly. We believe riding transit should be an ordinary part of community leadership for all elected officials.

The Intermodal Passenger Transportation Center

First planned 16 years ago to be near the Coliseum in North Charleston on the main railroad line for Amtrak and near major highways with efficient access to destinations throughout the region. Land was

purchased. There have been years of studies and plans on how best to connect Amtrak service, intercity bus service (Greyhound), a CARTA hub, car rental services and a shuttle to the Airport to connect the Lowcountry efficiently. Recently rumors have circulated that the plan for the center is "flawed" but these meetings have been closed to the public. We've asked the candidates to answer this question on the assumption that the center could be constructed as planned.

Federal Transportation Funding

For over 30 years public transit had received 20% of Federal Transportation Funding. Last year Congress voted to reduce that share to 18%, shifting money to highway construction. This shift eliminated 14,000 transit worker jobs and eliminated thousands of bus route runs and other transit services across the US while transit ridership rose 6% nationally. CARTA receives approximately a third of it's funding from the Federal Government to cover purchasing buses, operating costs and bus stop improvements among other items. Other transit agencies like Tri County link also depend on these funds.

VISIT US SATURDAY, APRIL 20 AT EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

N. Chas. Riverfront Park.

More Information please visit: www.BUSEC.org/vote

Hungryneck Straphangers

A volunteer, rider driven public transit advocate organization based in Mount Pleasant, SC with members from throughout the region. We work for better service, funding, improved bus stops and better understanding of and support for public transit. We're affiliated with Americans for Transit. Our goal is to organize riders throughout the SC Lowcountry. A new group in Columbia is organizing Midlands riders.