



Press Release

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SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE BELLONE ANNOUNCES SIGNIFICANT TRANSPORTATION UPGRADES IN CELEBRATION OF LONG ISLAND'S 6TH ANNUAL CAR-FREE DAY

County Executive Bellone Hosts Demonstration of Zagster's Bike Share System

County Executive Bellone Launches Suffolk FastFare Mobile Payment App

Photos of the Event are Available [Here](#)

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone today announced multiple transportation improvements to make regional transit use quicker and easier for Suffolk County residents in celebration of Long Island's 6th Annual Car-Free Day. The transportation enhancements included the launch of Suffolk FastFare—a mobile payment app that allows users to easily purchase Suffolk County Transit tickets and check bus arrival times using a link to the TransLoc Rider app—and the demonstration of the County's new Zagster Pace bike share program.

"Car-Free Day reminds us to consider the impact of our reliance on automobiles," said **Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone**. "In Suffolk County, we are actively working to integrate new technologies into our system to offer more options to our residents, while continuing to embrace cutting-edge transportation alternatives that better connect residents."

John Corrado, President of Suffolk Transportation Service said: "The addition of a mobile ticketing platform will be game-changing for our riders. We're always looking for innovative new solutions that will improve rider experiences, and believe that mobile ticketing is a valuable addition for riders."

In 2013, Suffolk County launched its annual Car-Free Day event, each year focusing on a different theme in order to raise awareness about making more sustainable transportation choices. This year's event focused on implementing bike share in communities across Long Island and modernizing Suffolk County Transit. Car-Free Day is an international event celebrated in more than 2,000 cities across the world where people are encouraged to use more sustainable transportation choices such as riding a bus, bicycling, carpooling, walking, or cutting down on their car use.

Suffolk FastFare is a cashless mobile app that allows residents to easily purchase Suffolk County Transit tickets on their smartphone device and is available for use on all Suffolk County

Transit buses. There are a variety of ticket bundle options available including 2-ticket, 10-ticket and 20-ticket bundles. When passengers purchase the 20-ticket bundle, they also get one ride free included in their purchase. Once a ticket is purchased, it will then be displayed on screen as a digital watermark, which is then shown to the driver when boarding the bus.

The Suffolk FastFare app is also integrated with the TransLoc's Rider app which enables riders to easily plan their journey. Through the app, customers will have a visual mapping of buses in the palm of their hand, enabling real time tracking, including state of the art next bus predictions. Riders are able to set a favorite route, and sign up to receive alerts for when a bus is within five, ten, or fifteen minutes of a stop for maximum user efficiency. The TransLoc's rider app was first launched in August of 2017 and is specifically customized to meet the needs of Suffolk residents and tracks the more than 3,000 stops Suffolk County Transit serves.

In the event of any problems with the app, customers can call (631) 277-2120 and someone will be there to assist. The Suffolk FastFare customer service line is open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, or by email at SuffolkFastCS@suffolkbus.com anytime. The Suffolk FastFare mobile app is available at the App Store and on Google Play for download.

Additionally, County Executive Bellone hosted a demonstration of the County's new regional bike-share program, which is expected to be in use across the County by the Spring of 2019. In May, the County awarded Zagster, a bike-share company that operates more than 200 systems nationwide that include hardware, software, and 24/7 maintenance and operations, a contract to implement their Pace bicycle-share service for communities across Suffolk County.

Zagster will design, build, finance and operate a first-of-its-kind regional bike-share program in Suffolk County – at no cost to County taxpayers. This program will not only extend the reach of existing transit networks, it will provide the critical last-mile connection between transportation hubs, popular destinations, and our vibrant downtown areas.

The Regional Bike-Share program complements County Executive Bellone's Connect Long Island Plan – a regional transportation and development initiative that promotes sustainable long-term economic growth in Suffolk County. The plan calls for development around transit nodes, investment in enhancements to existing mass transit infrastructure, and implementation of new rapid transit systems to create a robust transit network that connect regional assets and downtowns.

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