

# **ROUTE 46**

# The 116 Commuter

#### **ROUTE OVERVIEW**

Route 46 is a Commuter route that operates between Middlebury and Burlington. The route is operated through a partnership between GMT and ACTR, with GMT providing service between Hinesburg and Burlington and ACTR providing service between Middlebury and Burlington. The route travels primarily along Route 116 (see Figure 1). Route 46 provides service to Middlebury, Bristol, Starksboro, Hinesburg, Butler Farm, UVM Medical Center, and Burlington.

Route 46 provides weekday peak period commuter service, with two round trips during each peak period, one of which operates the full length of the route between Middlebury and Burlington, while the second only operates between Hinesburg and Burlington (see Table 1). GMT operates the Hinesburg – Burlington trips, and ACTR operates the Middlebury – Burlington trips. AM service arrives at Burlington's DTC at 7:45 and 8:30 AM and PM service departs at 4:50 and 5:15 PM. Reverse direction trips are provided largely to position buses for the AM peak inbound and PM peak outbound trips. No weekend service is provided.

Figure 1: Route Map

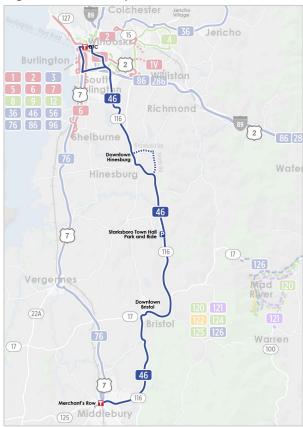


Table 1: Schedule Statistics

SERVICE DAY	SPAN OF SERVICE	FREQUENCY (MIN)	DAILY TRIPS (OUTBOUND/INBOUND)
Monday-Friday	6:45 AM to 7:45 AM 4:50 AM to 5:15 PM	45-60/—/—	4/4
Saturday	_	—/—	_
Sunday	<del></del>	—/—	_

Peak frequencies are calculated for service between 6:00 am - 9:00 am & 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Midday service is from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Evening service is for service after 6:00 pm. Saturday and Sunday frequencies are shown as AM/PM.

GMT operates its four Hinesburg – Burlington trips with four different service patterns that make service very complex (see Table 2).



**Table 2: Service Variants** 

				TRIPS PER DAY		
VARIANT	ORIGIN	DESTINATION	UNIQUE FEATURE	WKD	SAT	SUN
INBOUND				2	_	_
46-3	Hinesburg	DTC	AM peak inbound service. Serves Butler Farm and UVM Medical Center, but not the Hinesburg Library, Richmond Rd at North Rd, Meadowland Drive at Thompson St, or Shelburne Rd at Farrell St.	1	_	_
46-4	Hinesburg	DTC	AM peak inbound service. Serves Richmond Rd at North Rd and UVM Medical Center, but not the Hinesburg Library, Butler Farm Richmond Rd at North Rd, Meadowland Drive at Thompson St, or Shelburne Rd at Farrell St.	1	_	_
OUTBOUND	)			2	_	_
46-1	DTC	Hinesburg	AM peak outbound service. Serves Shelburne Rd at Home Rd and Timberlane Ln, but not UVM Medical Center or Butler Farm. Stops upon request at Meadowland Dr at Thompson St and the Hinesburg Library	1	_	_
46-2	DTC	Hinesburg	PM peak outbound service. Serves UVM Medical Center and Timberlane Ln, but not Shelburne Rd at Home Rd, Meadowland Dr at Thompson St, the Hinesburg Library, and Richmond Rd at North Rd. Stops upon request at Butler Farm.	1	_	_

# **RIDERSHIP**

The Hinesburg trips that GMT operate carry only 16 passengers per weekday, making it GMT's second lowest ridership commuter route.

# Ridership by Stop

Only limited ridership information is available for Route 46 (boardings but not alightings). However, an examination of both inbound and outbound boardings (see Figure 2 and Figure 3) indicates that nearly all ridership at the route's outer end is to and from the routes first stop at



WALLEN ST EALLEN ST Burlington Essex Junction Lake Champlain Cherry St @ St Paul St Battery St @ College St
College St @ Pine St
Champlair
College
Pine St @ Maple St UVM Medical Center aumont St @ Carrigan Dr INSET Meadowland Dr 89 2 **Butler Farm** Williston Rd @ Sheraton Hotel South Burlington Pine St @ Opp Howard St 2) WILLIST ine St @ Howard St Oorset St @ Blue Mall Pine St @ Burlington Electric Dept Pine St @ Locust St Pine St @ Cumberland Farms Pine St @ Opp Howard Center FLYNN AVE Dorset St @ S.B.H. LYMAN AVE . Richmond Rd @ North Rd NRG Systems Rt. 116 @ Farmall Dr Waitsfield Telecor North Rd @ Hayden Hill Rd W Town Hall Baird Scho ELAUREL HILL DR Nature Park Hinesburg General Store 를 BALDWIN AVE Camels Hump State Park Starksboro Town Hall Creek Vergennes Bristol West St @ St Ambrose NEXTGEN TRANSIT PLAN **Route 46 Weekday Activity** Inbound boardings and alightings by stop Green Mountain State Park Rt 116 @ Mead Lane Shaw Merchant's Row Middlebury Data Sources: Green Mountain Transit Ridership, May 2016

Figure 2: Weekday Inbound Ridership by Stop



WALLENST EALLENST Burlington Essex Junction Lake Champlain UVM Medical Center Champlain College Pine St @ Maple St INSET Meadowland Dr 89 2 **Butler Farm** Williston Rd @ Staples Plaza South Burlington Pine St @ Opp Howard St Dorset St @ Peoples United Bank Pine St @ Burlington Electric Dept Pine St @ Cumberland Farms Flynn Ave @ Richardson St Dorset St @ Fire Station LYMAN AVE Ballards Corner Rd / Richmond Rd @ Hinesburg Library North Rd NRG Rt. 116 @ Farmall Dr Town Hall Town Hall Park & Ride Price Choppe North Rd @ Buck Hill Rd E Nature Park 불LAUREL HILL DR **Hinesburg General Store** 를 BALDWIN AVE Camels Hump State Park Starksboro Town Hall Creek Vergennes Bristol West St @ St Ambrose NEXTGEN TRANSIT PLANS **Route 46 Weekday Activity** Outbound boardings and alightings by stop Green Mountain State Park Rt 116 @ Lindale Circle Shaw Merchant's Row Middlebury Data Sources: Green Mountain Transit Ridership, May 2016

Figure 3: Weekday Outbound Ridership by Stop



Hinesburg Town Hall. At the route's inner end, about 2/3rds of ridership is to and from the DTC, and 1/3 is to and from the UVM Medical Center.

# Ridership by Trip

Ridership is very low on all trips (see Figure 4). The AM inbound trip carries four passengers and the PM outbound trip carries seven passengers. The AM outbound trip carries two passengers, and the PM inbound trip one passenger.

50 **Boardings per Trip** Inbound ■ Outbound 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 5:00 AM 6:00 AM 7:00 AM 8:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 PM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:00 PM 8:00 PM 9:00 PM

Figure 4: Weekday Ridership by Trip

#### SERVICE PRODUCTIVITY

Route 46 ranks 14th of the 15 Commuter routes in terms of weekday ridership and 12th of 15 in terms of ridership per vehicle vehicle hour (see Table 3). The route carries an average of 16 total passengers per day, and only two passengers per trip. Route 46 fails to meet VTrans thresholds for productivity and effectiveness by a large margin.



**Table 3: Productivity Statistics** 

	MONDAY-FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Average Daily Ridership	16	_	_
Pax/Revenue Vehicle Hour	5.5	_	_
Commuter Average	8.8	_	_
Pax/One-Way Trip	2.0	_	_
VTrans Productivity Threshold	17.35	17.35	17.35
Pax/Revenue Mile	0.2	_	_
Commuter Average	0.4	_	_
Cost/Passenger	\$19.70	_	_
VTrans Effectiveness Threshold	\$10.59	\$10.59	\$10.59

Source: Green Mountain Transit, May 2016; VTrans Performance Reviews (2016)

### SERVICE IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS

Opportunities to strengthen Route 46 are listed below. Some suggestions may be contradictory, as there is usually more than one approach to improving a route.

- Discontinue Route 46. Ridership on Route 46 is very low, as is productivity and costeffectiveness. Service could be discontinued to provide service elsewhere were demand and needs are higher.
- Simplify Service. Route 46 serves different sets of stops and request-only stops on each of the eight trips provided. The reasons for these differences are not know, and they have not worked to build ridership. Simpler service could attract a few additional riders.