

# City of Bristol Tennessee

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## **Bristol Tennessee Transit System Unveils New Fleet**

Today, the City of Bristol began running its newest fleet of transit buses replacing the decades-old maroon and white color schemed fleet. The four new buses were designed and built by Bus Company of College Park, Georgia.

The new buses will be replacing ones that were introduced into the transit system in 2001. Most city transit buses have a maximum life expectancy of approximately a decade, according to the Federal Transit Administration. The new buses will provide reliable service to the community while also providing more comfort, safety and style to the transit patrons.

The new red, white and blue color scheme reflected on the buses exterior creates a look of free-flowing movement as the bus travels along the city's roadways, while incorporating the city's official seal. The previous maroon and white color scheme had been in place for almost three decades. The interior of each bus is outfitted with a new seat fabric design and soft color flooring and side panels.

Three (3) of the buses will operate on the fixed routes with one of the buses being utilized as a relief bus in the event of any maintenance or repairs required on the route buses. The city's transit system fleet is also utilized in shuttle services for race week activities, Viking Hall Civic Center events, and Steele Creek Park concerts.

The new fleet will seat 24 passengers, with an additional space for 2 wheelchairs. Each bus is equipped with a hydraulic lift system to comfortably load and unload wheelchairs for the city's physically challenged transit patrons. The cost of each bus was

approximately \$124,000.00. The City of Bristol used Federal Transit Administration American Reinvestment and Recovery Act stimulus funds to provide the financing for 100% of the cost of the new fleet. The retired buses will be sold as surplus in the near future.

The City of Bristol, Tennessee transit system provided approximately 65,000 trips to local citizens and visitors to our community during the past year.

