



Renewable Communities 2020

Massachusetts cities and towns
leading the way to 100% renewable energy

Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority: Solar canopies

In September 2019, the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA), an agency that provides public transportation to the 15 communities on Cape Cod, unveiled a solar installation at the Hyannis Transportation Center.¹

The project, built at a cost of \$1.6 million, includes three solar canopies with a total of 900 panels.² Two of the solar canopies cover bus bays, and the third covers vehicle parking, providing 20 sheltered parking spaces.³ CCRTA leaders predict that the project will reduce the facility's energy use by 93%.⁴

The upfront cost of the solar project was covered by Solect, a solar development company, and will be paid back with the money saved through reduced energy demand.⁵

During upgrades to the Hyannis Transportation Center, CCRTA also installed 20 charging stations for electric vehicles (EVs) with funding from a grant from the utility company Eversource.⁶

CCRTA has also added a solar array to its operation center in Dennis and taken other steps to reduce energy consumption, including transitioning its fleet to smaller vehicles and installing more efficient indoor and outdoor lighting fixtures. In recognition of its efforts, CCRTA received a 2019 Leading by Example award from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, which recognizes municipalities and public agencies for their innovative sustainability measures.⁷

1. Number of communities: "Overview," Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority, <<https://www.capecodtransit.org/about-us.htm>>. Solar installation: "CCRTA Cuts Ribbon on Solar, Bus Facility Redesign Project," Bryan Merchant, CapeCod.com, 19 September 2019, <<https://www.capecod.com/newscenter/ccrta-cuts-ribbon-on-solar-bus-facility-redesign-project/>>.

2. "CCRTA Cuts Ribbon on Solar, Bus Facility Redesign Project," Bryan Merchant, CapeCod.com, 19 September 2019, <<https://www.capecod.com/newscenter/ccrta-cuts-ribbon-on-solar-bus-facility-redesign-project/>>.

3. "CCRTA Completes Major Upgrades, Solar Project," Luke Leitner, CapeCod.com, 17 September 2019, <<https://www.capecod.com/newscenter/cape-cod-regional-transit-authority-redesigns-bus-bays-vehicle-parking-area-and-adds-solar-canopy-structures/>>.

4. "CCRTA Cuts Ribbon on Solar, Bus Facility Redesign Project," Bryan Merchant, CapeCod.com, 19 September 2019, <<https://www.capecod.com/newscenter/ccrta-cuts-ribbon-on-solar-bus-facility-redesign-project/>>.

5. "CCRTA Cuts Ribbon on Solar, Bus Facility Redesign Project," Bryan Merchant, CapeCod.com, 19 September 2019, <<https://www.capecod.com/newscenter/ccrta-cuts-ribbon-on-solar-bus-facility-redesign-project/>>.

6. "CCRTA Completes Major Upgrades, Solar Project," Luke Leitner, CapeCod.com, 17 September 2019, <<https://www.capecod.com/newscenter/cape-cod-regional-transit-authority-redesigns-bus-bays-vehicle-parking-area-and-adds-solar-canopy-structures/>>.

7. Leading by Example program: "Leading By Example - Overview," Massachusetts Leading by Example Program, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, <<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/leading-by-example-overview-and-contacts>>. 2019 award: "2019 Leading by Example Awards," Massachusetts Leading by Example Program, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, <<https://www.mass.gov/doc/2019-lbe-award-winner-descriptions/download>>.