



DOCKET NO. 2509-N-91-L

RE: APPLICATION OF SAFE PATH TRANSIT LLC TO OPERATE ONE (1) MOTOR VEHICLE HAVING A PASSENGER SEATING CAPACITY OF TEN (10) PASSENGERS OR LESS IN GENERAL LIVERY SERVICE FROM A HEADQUARTERS IN FAIRFIELD.

FINAL DECISION

November 6, 2025

2800 Berlin Turnpike  
P.O. Box 317546  
Newington, CT 06131-7546  
860-594-2000

CT.GOV/DOT

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. APPLICATION

On September 23, 2025, pursuant to Section 13b-103 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, Safe Path Transit LLC filed an application with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter "department"), seeking authorization to operate one (1) motor vehicle having a passenger seating capacity of ten (10) passengers or less in general livery service from a headquarters in Fairfield. Safe Path Transit LLC's address is 24 Melville Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06825.

### B. HEARING

A public hearing was held on this application on October 24, 2025, as required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended.

Notice of the application and of the hearing to be held thereon was given to the applicant and to such other parties as required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103, as amended. Legal notice to the public was given by publication on the department's website.

The applicant did not receive the notice sent by certified mail. The applicant appeared for the hearing and waived written notice as required by Connecticut General Statutes §4-177(b).

A hearing officer designated by the Commissioner pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-17 conducted the hearing on this matter.

### C. APPEARANCES

Justine Bautista, sole member, appeared pro se for Safe Path Transit LLC. His mailing address is 24 Melville Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06825.

Tricia Bautista appeared as a witness. Her mailing address is 24 Melville Avenue, Fairfield CT 06825.

## II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The applicant seeks to operate one (1) motor vehicle in general livery service from a headquarters in Fairfield.
2. The applicant will operate a 2022 Toyota Sienna which has been converted to allow for wheelchair transport. There is an outstanding loan on the vehicle with a monthly payment of \$1,201.54.

3. Mr. Bautista has applied to the Department of Motor Vehicles for an F endorsement on his driver's license. The application was granted, and Mr. Bautista is waiting to receive a new driver's license in the mail.
4. Mr. Bautista has taken a seminar on how to safely secure and transport wheelchair bound clients.
5. Mr. Bautista had previous driving experience working for Uber for about one year.
6. Mr. Bautista worked five years as the administrator and comptroller for a seafood distributor. His duties included managing the business and finances.
7. The applicant will be operating the livery business from Mr. Bautista's home.
8. The first six months of the applicant's expenses include \$7,209.24 for loan payments, software cost of \$150.00, insurance costs of \$9,585.50, property tax of \$175.33, maintenance and repair costs of \$3,000.00, \$600.00 for advertising and marketing, \$986.34 for internet and phone, for a total expense of \$21,706.41.
9. The applicant has an account balance of \$35,814.28, which is adequate to cover the expenses.
10. The applicant intends to provide wheelchair accessible non-emergency medical transportation.
11. Mr. Bautista became aware of a lack of wheelchair accessible transportation when his mother-in-law was undergoing cancer treatments. She does not drive, and the family had a difficult time arranging transportation to her treatment appointments.
12. Mr. Bautista discovered that there were only two companies in the Fairfield area providing wheelchair accessible transportation.
13. Tricia Bautista is a nurse, and the couple have many friends that work in the medical field who confirmed that finding wheelchair accessible transportation in the Fairfield area is difficult.
14. The applicant intends to contact local hospitals, rehabilitation facilities and cancer treatment centers to advertise its business.
15. This business will be Mr. Bautista's only employment.

16. Mr. Bautista has no criminal history.

17. This application was not opposed.

### III. DISCUSSION

The department has jurisdiction over each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a motor vehicle in livery service, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-102, as amended.

In determining whether a livery permit should be granted, the department shall take into consideration the present or future public convenience and necessity. The applicant must prove that the public's convenience and necessity will be improved by the proposed service. Additionally, the applicant must show the suitability of the applicant or the suitability of the management if the applicant is a limited liability company or corporation, the financial responsibility of the applicant, the ability of the applicant efficiently and properly to perform the service for which authority is requested and the fitness, willingness and ability of the applicant to conform to the provisions of the statutes and the requirements and regulations of the department thereunder, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-103.

Regarding the applicant's suitability, Mr. Bautista submitted a criminal record check which disclosed no criminal record. He has worked as a comptroller for a start-up business for 5 years and was responsible for the day-to-day management of the business as well as its finances. He has applied for and received an F endorsement on his driver's license. Mr. Bautista is the sole member of the applicant LLC. The evidence shows that the applicant is suitably managed to enter into the livery business.

As far as the applicant's financial ability is concerned, the first six months of the applicant's expenses total \$21,706.41, and has \$35,814.28 in its bank account which is sufficient to meet these expenses.

Mr. Bautista discovered first-hand how difficult it can be to find wheelchair accessible transportation when trying to arrange rides for his mother-in-law to her cancer treatment appointments. His research found only two companies in the Fairfield area that provide this service. His wife and their friends working in the medical field confirmed the need for such a service. The application was not opposed and based on the evidence presented, the applicant's service would improve public convenience and necessity. The applicant will receive authorization for one (1) general livery vehicle.

### IV. ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 13b-103, as amended, the application in the name of Safe Path Transit LLC is hereby granted, and Livery Permit

Number 3870 is hereby issued as follows:

**LIVERY PERMIT NUMBER 3870**

Safe Path Transit LLC is authorized to operate one (1) motor vehicle with a passenger seating capacity of ten (10) or less in general livery service, from a headquarters in Fairfield.

**RESTRICTIONS:**

**The applicant must register and insure the one (1) motor vehicle granted in this decision within ninety (90) days. Failure to do so may result in revocation of the general livery authority.**

The authority granted under this permit may not be sold or transferred until it has been operational, i.e. a vehicle registered with livery plates thereunder for not less than twenty-four (24) months.

This permit shall remain in effect until it is amended, suspended or revoked by the department. Failure of the permit holder to maintain proper insurance and/or comply with all pertinent motor vehicle laws and other state statutes and/or rules, regulations and orders of the department shall be considered sufficient cause to amend, suspend or revoke said permit.

Dated at Newington, Connecticut on the sixth day of November 2025.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

*Sharon A. Peters*  
Sharon A. Peters  
Hearing officer  
Office of Legal Affairs

**CERTIFICATION**  
**DOCKET NO. 2509-N-91-L**

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the decision dated November 6, 2025, in the above-entitled matter were forwarded to the following parties on November 6, 2025.

**APPLICANT:**

Safe Path Transit, LLC  
24 Melville Avenue  
Fairfield, CT 06825

**CERTIFIED MAIL:**

**APPLICANT'S COUNSEL:**

NA

**INTERVENORS:**

NA

**OTHERS:**

Regulatory & Compliance

**CERTIFIED BY:**

*Sharon A Peters*  
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Sharon A Peters  
Hearing Officer  
Office of Legal Affairs