

**PUBLIC TRANSIT - HUMAN SERVICES (PT-HS) COORDINATION PLAN
SW REGION**

(Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Pipestone, Murray, Cottonwood, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood counties)
JUNE-OCTOBER 2006
PLANNING HORIZON IS 2007-2011

The purpose of this regional plan is to create a comprehensive strategy to assist state and community leaders, agencies and stakeholders involved in human service transportation and public transit services. It fulfills one of the SAFETEA-LU requirements that projects that receive certain federal funds (JARC, Section 5310, and New Freedom) are part of a "locally developed Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan. The implementation of strategies identified in the plan is to result in cooperation and coordination of programs.

In Southwest Minnesota, we combined work that we had recently done regarding gaps and barriers to accessing transit in 2005 and early in 2006 with the elements that the local plan required.

Public Input: We have held two Regional Meetings, nine individual county meetings, and two technical team meetings. We received 63 responses to a human service transportation survey, sent out to units of government, public and private sector transportation providers, representatives of older adults, medical facilities, nursing homes, agencies that provide services or assistance to older adults, low income individuals and individual with disabilities. A technical team was put together that also includes representation those same sectors.

The plan is posted on the Regional Development Commission website www.swrdc.org under the "transportation" and "transit" tabs.

The Plan provides:

- A snapshot in time for baseline information of Coordination that is occurring, goals and strategies for what coordination can be done.
- An identification of current gaps for access to services
- Identify duplication of services
- Obstacles and barriers to coordination and access
- Strategies to coordinate that are will enhance transportation access, minimize duplication of services, and facilitate the most cost effective transportation possible with available resources.
 - These include development of Mobility Management which has the potential to cover a vast area, but should include: problem solving, education and awareness of what transportation resources are available, working to remove inconsistencies and inaccuracies (policies, programs, access to information about transportation resources); sharing of resources (time, funding, vehicles, volunteers).
 - Addressing barriers and obstacles to coordinating services such as federal, state and local policies and regulations.

An Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan fact sheet can be accessed at the following website:
http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/FTA_Human_Services_Transportation_Coordination_Fact_Sheet_Oct_05.pdf

A Special Thank you for the time and energy from the individuals on the Technical Team in the development of the Southwest Regional Public Transit - Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan.
Annette Bair, SRDC Physical Development Director, Staff for the Regional Transit Plan

Representing Public Transit Systems

- Terrie Gulden (Rock)
- Karen DeBoer (Prairieland (Nobles)),
- Jeanette Aguirre (WCA - 5 County),
- Bill McVicker (Pipestone),
- Michelle Miranowski (Murray),
- Kelly Thongvivong (Cottonwood),
- Cara Nielsen (Lincoln)

Representing Section 5310 vehicle recipients -

- Beth Bartels (Rock County DAC)

Representing Volunteer Programs -

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- RSVP of Southwest Minnesota Mary McLaughlin

Representing the Minnesota Department of Transportation

- Bev Herfindahl MnDOT Dist. 8 Willmar
- Jan Klassen MNDOT Dist. 7 Mankato

Representing Minnesota River Valley Area Agency on Aging

- Maddy Forsberg

Representing County Human Service Agencies

- Chris Sorenson (Lincoln, Lyon, Murray),
- Craig Meyers (Cottonwood),
- Lee McCallister (Nobles),
- Linda Halbur (Pipestone),
- Pat Buboltz (Redwood),
- Randy Ehlers (Rock),
- Rhonda Hines and Shelley Stevermer (Jackson),

Representing the Private Industry Center Work Force Center

- Mary Mulder
- Char Graff

Representing the SW Center for Independent Living

- Steve Thovson
- Shelly Lyon

Representing Medical community

- Rick Nordahl Westbrook-Tracy)
- Michael Coyle (Slayton)

Representing Jefferson Bus Lines

- Heidi Spore - Intercity Bus lines

Representing Nursing Homes

- Gordon Hormann (Jackson)

Representing Senior Housing

- Rosie Rogers (Nobles)

Representing Elected Officials

- Bill Sauer, Murray County Commissioner and SRDC Commissioner