

RFP No. 2021-01

Request for Proposals
for
Community Transportation Coordinator Designation
under
Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program
in
Madison County, Florida

EXHIBITS



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
<http://ncfrpc.org/>
352.955.2000
November 5, 2021

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EXHIBIT A

MODEL LETTER

**TRANSMITTAL OF PROPOSAL
TO REQUESTING AGENCY**

MODEL LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

(Date)

Mr. Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 N.W. 67 Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

RE: Proposal for Community Transportation Coordinator for Madison County

Dear Mr. Koons:

Enclosed are five (5) copies of a completed and signed Proposal for (Proposer's Name) to be designated Community Transportation Coordinator for Madison County. One of these copies is a clean, single side original that you can use to make additional copies. The (agency/firm) understands the responsibilities and requirements of Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code and shall comply with all appropriate federal, state and local regulations in this matter.

We look forward to servicing the needs of transportation disadvantaged citizens of Madison County. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

(Officer submitting proposal)

EXHIBIT B

**PROPOSERS IDENTIFICATION
AND QUALIFICATION INFORMATION**

PROPOSERS IDENTIFICATION AND QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

1. Identification of Respondent:

Name of Organization:

Business Address:

Telephone Number: ()

Years in Business at this Location:

2. Name and Title of Individual to Contact for Further Information:

3. Legal Status of Organization: (check one)

For-Profit Corporation or Joint Venture Corporation

For-Profit Partnership or Sole Proprietorship

Non-Profit Corporation

Public Agency

Other (Explain):

4. State the Proposer's proposed method of transportation service provision:

Community Transportation Coordinator only - agency/firm acts as a total brokerage system that does not operate vehicles

Community Transportation Coordinator/Transportation Operator - agency/firm provides all or part of the needed transportation services by operating vehicles

5. Has Respondent or any Officer or Partner of Respondent failed to complete a contract?

(circle one) YES NO

If yes, explain.

6. Location of central office that will provide overall administration and management of the project:

7. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Status.

"Disadvantaged" Business is defined as a business having at least 51 percent owned, operated and controlled by "disadvantaged" group members. Disadvantaged group members are defined as Blacks, Hispanics, Asian Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives or women regardless of race or nationality."

Is the individual respondent agency/firm a certified disadvantaged or minority business enterprise?

(circle one) YES NO

Attach current certification documents to substantiate claim.

8. Is any litigation pending against respondent or any officer or partner of respondent?

(circle one) YES NO

If yes, explain.

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EXHIBIT C
STANDARD ASSURANCES

STANDARD ASSURANCES

Name of Proposer:

At this time, we understand all requirements and state that as a serious proposer we will comply with all the stipulations included in the proposal package.

The above-named Proposer affirms and declares:

1. That the Proposer is of lawful age and that no other person, agency, firm or corporation has any interest in this Proposal or in the Contract that may result from this Proposal; other than as described in Exhibit B.
2. That this Proposal is made without any understanding, agreement or connection with any other person, agency, firm or corporation making a Proposal for the same project and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud.
3. That the Proposer has carefully examined the site of the work and that from his/her investigations has been satisfied as to the nature and location of the work, the kind and extent of the equipment and other facilities needed for the performance of the work, the general and local conditions, all difficulties to be encountered and all other items which in any way affect the work or its performance.
4. That the Proposer is in full compliance with all federal, state and local laws and regulations and intends to fully comply with same during the entire term of the contract.

In witness whereof, this Proposal is hereby signed by the duly authorized representative of the Proposer and sealed as of the date indicated.

ATTEST:

PROPOSER:

Witness Signature

Signature

Typed Name and Title

Date

Date

(Seal)

EXHIBIT D

**CERTIFICATION OF PROPOSER REGARDING
DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER
RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS**

CERTIFICATION OF PROPOSER

REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

The Proposer _____ certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that it and its principals:

1. Are not generally debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal or state department or agency;
2. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain or performing a public (federal, state or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements or receiving stolen property;
3. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (2) of this certification; and
4. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application or proposal had one or more public transactions (federal, state or local) terminated for cause or default.

(If the Proposer for Coordinator is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, the agency/firm shall attach an explanation to this certification.)

THE PROPOSER, _____, CERTIFIES OR AFFIRMS THE TRUTHFULNESS AND ACCURACY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENTS SUBMITTED ON OR WITH THIS CERTIFICATION AND UNDERSTANDS THAT THE PROVISION OF 31 U.S.C. SECTIONS 3801 ET. SEQ. ARE APPLICABLE HERETO.

Signature and Title of Authorized Official

The undersigned chief legal counsel for the ____ (agency/firm) hereby certifies that the ____ (agency/firm) has authority under state and local law to comply with the subject assurances and that the certification above has been legally made.

Signature of Agency/Firm Attorney

Date

EXHIBIT E
SERVICE STANDARDS

Service Standards

The Community Transportation Coordinator and any transportation operator from whom service is purchased or arranged by the Community Transportation Coordinator shall adhere to Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged approved standards. These standards include:

a. Drug and Alcohol Policy

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (a), F.A.C.: Drug and alcohol testing for safety sensitive job positions within the coordinated system regarding pre-employment, randomization, post accident and reasonable suspicion as required by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

Transport of Escorts and Dependent Children

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (b), F.A.C.: An escort of a passenger and dependent children are to be transported as locally negotiated and identified in the local Service Plan.

Local Policy: Children under age 6 will be required to be accompanied by an escort. Escorts must be provided by the passenger. Escorts must be able to provide the necessary assistance to the passenger. Escorts will be transported at the regular rate.

Use, Responsibility and Cost of Child Restraint Devices

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (c), F.A.C.: Use of child restraint devices shall be determined locally as to their responsibility, and cost of such device in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All children 5 years of age or younger must be properly restrained no matter where they are sitting in the vehicle. Children through age 3 must be secured in a separate carrier or a vehicle manufacturer's integrated child safety seat. For children aged 4 through 5 years, a separate carrier, an integrated child safety seat, or a safety belt may be used. (FS 316.613). Device shall be provided and installed by the passenger.

Passenger Property

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (d), F.A.C.: Passenger property that can be carried by the passenger and/or driver in one trip and can be safely stowed on the vehicle, shall be allowed to be transported with the passenger at no additional charge. Additional requirements may be negotiated for carrying and loading rider property beyond this amount. Passenger property does not include wheelchairs, child seats, stretchers, secured oxygen, personal assistive devices, or intravenous devices.

Local Policy: Passengers shall be allowed to have two pieces of personal property which they can place in their lap. Passengers must be able to independently carry all items brought on the vehicle.

Vehicle Transfer Points

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (e), F.A.C.: Vehicle transfer points shall provide shelter, security and safety of passengers.

Local Toll Free Phone Number

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (f), F.A.C.: A local toll free phone number for complaints or grievances shall be posted inside the vehicle. The Transportation Disadvantaged Helpline phone number (1-800-983-2435) shall also be posted inside all vehicles of the coordinated system. The local complaint process shall be outlined as a section in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan including, advising the dissatisfied person about the Commission's Ombudsman Program as a step within the process as approved by the local Coordinating Board. All rider information/materials (brochures, user's guides, etc.) Will include the Transportation Disadvantaged Helpline phone number.

Out-Of-Service Area Trips

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (g), F.A.C.: Out of service area trips shall be provided when determined locally and approved by the local Coordinating Board, except in instances where local ordinances prohibit such trips.

Local Policy: Inter-county services between Madison and Leon Counties is available weekly. Other inter-county services are provided when available.

Vehicle Cleanliness

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (h), F.A.C.: Interior of all vehicles shall be free of dirt, grime, oil, trash, torn upholstery, damaged or broken seats, protruding metal or other objects or materials which could soil items placed in the vehicle or provide discomfort for the passenger.

Local Policy: All vehicles shall be cleaned (interior and exterior) on a regular schedule (minimum once a week).

Billing Requirements

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (I), F.A.C.: Billing requirements of the Community Transportation Coordinator to subcontractors shall be determined locally by the local Coordinating Board and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. All bills shall be paid within seven (7) calendar days to subcontractors, after receipt of said payment by the Community Transportation Coordinator, in accordance with Section 287.0585, Florida Statutes.

Passenger/Trip Database

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (j), F.A.C.: Passenger/trip data base must be maintained or accessible by the Community Transportation Coordinator on each rider being transported within the system.

Adequate Seating

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (k), F.A.C.: Adequate seating for paratransit services shall be provided to each rider and escort, child or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time. For transit services provided by transit vehicles, adequate seating or standing space will be provided to each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating or standing capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time.

Driver Identification

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (l), F.A.C.: Drivers for paratransit services, including coordination contractors, shall be required to announce and identify themselves by name and company in a manner that is conducive to communications with specific passengers, upon pickup of each rider, group of riders, or representative, guardian, or associate of the rider, except in situations where the driver regularly transports the rider on a recurring basis. Each driver must have photo identification that is in view of the passenger. Name patches, inscriptions or badges that affix to driver clothing are acceptable. For transit services, the driver photo identification shall be in a conspicuous location in the vehicle.

Passenger Assistance

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (m), F.A.C.: The paratransit driver shall provide the passenger with boarding assistance, if necessary or requested, to the seating portion of the vehicle. The boarding assistance shall include opening the vehicle door, fastening the seat belt or wheelchair securement devices, storage of mobility assistive devices and closing the vehicle door. In the door-through-door paratransit service category, the driver shall be required to open and close doors to buildings, except in situations in which assistance in opening/closing building doors would not be safe for passengers remaining on the vehicle. Assisted access must be in a dignified manner. Drivers may not assist wheelchairs up or down more than one step, unless it can be performed safely as determined by the passenger, guardian and driver.

Local Policy: Drivers are not permitted individually to assist persons in wheelchairs up or down more than one step, through grass or sand or include of more than 8.33% (1:12 slope).

Smoking, Eating, and Drinking

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (n), F.A.C.: Smoking is prohibited in any vehicle. Requirements for drinking and eating on board the vehicle will be addressed in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: The use of tobacco products on vehicles is prohibited. Eating and drinking on board the vehicle is also prohibited. Stops will be made to accommodate the needs of passengers at the discretion of the driver.

Passenger No-Shows

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (o), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board shall jointly develop a policy on passenger no shows. Assessing fines to passengers for no shows is acceptable but such policy and process shall be identified in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy - Passenger no-shows are defined as trips not cancelled a minimum of two (2) hours prior to the scheduled pick-up time. Passengers shall be notified if they are considered a no-show.

Two-Way Communications

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (p), F.A.C.: All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system shall be equipped with two-way communications in good working order and audible to the driver at all times to the base.

Local Policy: All vehicles shall have cellular phones or push to talk radios.

Air Conditioning/Heating

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (q), F.A.C.: All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system shall have working air conditioners and heaters in each vehicle. Vehicles that do not have a working air conditioner or heater will be scheduled for repair or replacement as soon as possible.

First Aid

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (r), F.A.C.: First Aid policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All drivers shall be certified in First Aid.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (s), F.A.C.: Cardiopulmonary resuscitation policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All drivers shall be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Driver Criminal Background Screening

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (t), F.A.C.: Driver background screening shall be determined locally, dependent up on purchasing agencies' requirements and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All drivers in the coordinated system shall meet Level 2 criminal background screening requirements in

accordance with Chapter 435, Florida Statutes.

Fixed Route Transit Utilization

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (u), F.A.C.: In areas where fixed route transportation is available, the Community Transportation Coordinator should jointly establish with the local Coordinating Board a percentage of total trips that will be placed on the fixed route system.

Local Policy: Not applicable.

Pick-Up Window

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (v), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address the passenger pick-up windows in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This policy should also be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies and passengers.

Local Policy: There is a ninety (90) minute pick-up window in place for all intra-county trips based on the arrival time of the passenger. There is a sixty (60) minute pick-up window in place for all intra-county trips based on the departure time of the passenger.

On-Time Performance

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (w), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address the percentage of trips that will be on-time in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This performance measure should be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies and passengers. This measure should also be included as part of the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of its contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: Big Bend Transit, Inc. will have a 90 percent on-time performance rate for all completed trips. On-time performance will be measured by random sampling of trips.

Advance Reservation Requirement

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (x), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan a minimum 24 hour advanced notification time to obtain services. This policy should be communicated to contracted operators, purchasing agencies and passengers.

Local Policy: Twenty-four hours advanced notice is required for all other trips scheduled within the coordinated system.

Safety

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (y), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the safety of the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: There shall be no more than 1.2 chargeable accidents per 100,000 miles during the evaluation period.

Reliability

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (z), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the reliability of the vehicles utilized in the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: There shall be no more than 5 roadcalls during the evaluation period.

Call-Hold Time

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (aa), F.A.C.: This performance measure can be used to address the accessibility of the service. The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly determine if a standard for a call hold time is needed in the coordinated system and address this in the local service plan. If determined to be necessary, this standard should be included in the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: This standard is not applicable to this service area.

Quality of Service

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (bb), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the quality of service provided within the coordinated system. The measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: Collect and publicly post passenger satisfaction survey ratings. There shall be no more than one complaint per 1,000 trips during the evaluation period.

Safety Belt Usage

Chapter 316.614 (4), Florida Statutes: It is unlawful for any person: (a) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless each passenger and the operator of the vehicle under the age of 18 years are restrained by a safety belt or by a child restraint device pursuant to s. 316.613, if applicable; or (b) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless the person is restrained by a safety belt. (5) It is unlawful for any person 18 years of age or older to be a passenger in the front seat of a motor vehicle unless such person is restrained by a safety belt when the vehicle is in motion. (6)(a) Neither a person who is certified by a physician as having a medical condition that causes the use of a safety belt to be inappropriate or dangerous nor an employee of a newspaper home delivery service while in the course of his or her employment delivering newspapers on home delivery routes is required to be restrained by a safety belt.

Local Policy: Passengers whose transportation is sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program shall wear a safety belt while being transported unless they are certified by a physician as having a medical condition that causes the use of a safety belt to be inappropriate or dangerous.

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EXHIBIT F

CONTRACTING INSTRUCTIONS

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

2016/21 MADISON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED SERVICE PLAN



INSTRUCTION MANUAL
FOR THE
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
AND
THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED SERVICE PLAN
2007/2008

Issued By:

FLORIDA COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 49
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450
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Fax 850-410-5752
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INTRODUCTION

This manual contains information regarding the Memorandum of Agreement and the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This manual is intended to provide guidance to Community Transportation Coordinators, Planning Agencies, and Local Coordinating Boards when planning, implementing and evaluating services under the Coordinated Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

Pursuant to Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, the purpose of the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (Commission) is to accomplish the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged. In accomplishing this, the Commission approves a Community Transportation Coordinator (Coordinator) for each service area of the state. The Coordinator is responsible for the accomplishment of certain requirements regarding the arrangement of cost-effective, efficient, unduplicated, and unfragmented transportation disadvantaged services within its respective service area. The contractual administration for transportation disadvantaged services by a Coordinator is accomplished through a Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and the Coordinator. This Agreement is a contract through which the Commission delineates the statewide minimum service standards and requirements by which the Coordinator must operate.

Conditions set forth in the Memorandum of Agreement require the development and implementation of a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. The Service Plan is developed by the Coordinator and the Planning Agency under the guidance and approval of the Local Coordinating Board. The plan is an annually updated tactical plan with components of development, service and, quality assurance. Through the Local Coordinating Board's involvement in the review and approval of the Service Plan, the Local Coordinating Board is able to guide and support the Coordinator in implementing coordination efforts and locally developed service standards that are consistent with the needs and resources of the community.

This manual is divided into two parts: Memorandum of Agreement, and Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. Each part contains information and guidance to assist in the completion of these program requirements. An appendix is provided that contains the Memorandum of Agreement Boilerplate, a sample Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan format, Local Coordinating Board Membership Certification Format, Roll Call Voting Sheet Format, Rate for Services Summary Page Format, Sample Update or Amendment Submittal Letter, Update or Amendment Table and, Glossary of Terms.

PART I MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This part of the manual contains requirements and instructions for the completion of the Memorandum of Agreement.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Under Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, the Planning Agency is tasked with recommending to the Commission a single Community Transportation Coordinator. The Planning Agency must follow the competitive procurement process as outlined in Chapter 287, Florida Statutes, for a Coordinator designation. Once the process has been completed, the Planning Agency submits documentation to the Commission staff, verifying a competitive process was used. The Planning Agency then requests that the Commission approve the Planning Agency's recommendation of a single Community Transportation Coordinator for that specific service area. This process is followed every five years. The contractual administration for transportation disadvantaged services by a Coordinator is accomplished through a Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and the Coordinator.

The Memorandum of Agreement is a "state contract" for passenger transportation services and is for a term of five years. The Agreement recognizes/establishes a vendor, the Community Transportation Coordinator, who is responsible for the arrangement of all transportation services in a particular service area which are funded through federal, state, and local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and an approved Coordinator. The Agreement must be reviewed in its entirety and approved by the Local Coordinating Board prior to execution by the Commission. The agreement contains the Commission's minimum standard requirements and is the basis for uniform statewide passenger transportation services. The Memorandum of Agreement includes standard contract language approved by the Commission and adopted by administrative rule. The requirements of this agreement are not subject to change by the Coordinator.

B. INSTRUCTION FOR COMPLETION AND SUBMITTAL

The Planning Agency is responsible for ensuring that the Memorandum of Agreement is signed by the proposed Community Transportation Coordinator and the Local Coordinating Board. The Commission-approved Memorandum of Agreement form must be used. The most current form may be found on the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged web site: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd/programinfo/programdevelopmentsection/programdevelopmenthome.htm>. The approved and signed Agreement should be submitted with the Planning Agency's recommendation of a Community Transportation Coordinator. Please use the following guidelines when completing a Memorandum of Agreement for submission to the Commission for execution:

Instruction Manual for the Memorandum of Agreement
and the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan
Rev. November 2007
Page 4 of 21

Instructions for PAGE 1 of the Memorandum of Agreement

- Do not fill in the contract number. This number will be assigned by the Commission upon execution.
- Do not fill in the effective dates. The Commission will fill in the dates upon execution.
- Insert the legal name of the governing body which is responsible as the Community Transportation Coordinator. Include the address to which this contract will be returned upon execution.
- Enter the name of the county(ies) for which the Coordinator is designated to serve in the appropriate space.

Instructions for PAGE 8 of the Memorandum of Agreement.

- Enter the name and/or position of the representative who is responsible for the administration of the program under the Agreement.
- Do not fill in any dates on the Agreement, except the date the local coordinating board approved the document.
- All signatures must be originals. Do not use rubber stamps.
- Be sure authorized parties type or neatly print titles and names on all copies to ensure clarity.
- Signatures on the agreements must be attested to by one affirming official and sealed (corporate or notary seal).
- Be sure to include a resolution from the agency authorizing signing of the agreement by an individual or position. The resolution must have original signatures. The resolution is from the governing body of the Community Transportation Coordinator, not the Local Coordinating Board.
- Submit two signed copies for further processing to:

Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 49
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

A copy of the Memorandum of Agreement will be furnished to the Community Transportation Coordinator and the Planning Agency after the agreement has been executed by the Commission.

PART II

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED SERVICE PLAN

This part of the manual contains requirements and instructions for the completion of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is an annually updated tactical plan jointly developed by the Planning Agency and the Coordinator which contains development, service, and quality assurance components. The Local Coordinating Board reviews and approves the Service Plan and it is submitted to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for final action.

The Federal Transit Administration modified several of its circulars for funding assistance in support of the federal Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Beginning in fiscal year 2007, projects selected for funding under the Elderly Individuals and individuals with Disabilities, JARC, and New Freedom program must be derived from a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. These projects should be identified within the Needs Assessment and Goals, Objectives and Strategies sections of the Development Plan. The plan must be developed through a process that includes representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public. Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is developed through the input of Local Coordinating Boards whose membership includes citizens, public transportation, and human service providers. In addition to being a statutory requirement of Chapter 427, the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan may also be used to satisfy this federal requirement.

Through the guidance and support of the Coordinating Board, both the development and service components should complement each other. The Local Coordinating Board plays an important role in the support, advisement, monitoring, and evaluation of the Coordinator based on the approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. Through the Local Coordinating Board's involvement in the review and approval of the plan, the Coordinating Board is able to guide and support the Coordinator in implementing coordination efforts and locally developed service standards that are consistent with the needs and resources of the community.

A Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan must be developed and maintained for each service area as recognized by the Commission. An initial Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is due within 120 calendar days after the execution of the initial Memorandum of Agreement. The Service Plan will cover a five-year period, with annual updates for years two through five, due prior to July 1 of each subsequent year. The development and submission of the Service Plan and annual updates are the responsibility of the Coordinator, the Planning Agency, and the Local Coordinating Board. In order to prevent any loss of funding, it is critical

that the plan and updates are submitted timely. The minimum guidelines to be utilized when developing the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan are provided in this manual.

B. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION AND SUBMITTAL

The Planning Agency is responsible for ensuring that the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is completed, approved and signed by the Local Coordinating Board. The Planning Agency must complete the Development component and the Quality Assurance component of the Service Plan. The Community Transportation Coordinator must complete the Service Element and submit it to the Planning Agency to be incorporated into the complete service plan to be presented to the Local Coordinating Board for approval. At a minimum, the Service Plan must address the mandatory elements as identified in the sample format. The approved and signed Service Plan should be submitted by the Planning Agency. Please use the following guidelines when completing a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan for submission to the Commission for execution:

- Provide a Cover Page identifying the service area, the time period of the service plan and the parties who are submitting the plan.
- Include a Table of Contents that, at a minimum, follows the format provided in this manual. All pages should be numbered.
- Include a completed Local Coordinating Board Membership Certification form, signed by the Planning Agency representative.
- Ensure that a roll call voting sheet identifying all Coordinating Board members, their affiliation, and whether they voted for or against the submittal of this document to the Commission is included and is signed by the Local Coordinating Board chairman. Also indicate those members who were absent from the meeting.
- All signatures must be originals. Do not use rubber stamps.
- Submit two signed copies for further processing to:

Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 49
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

A copy of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan will be furnished to the Community Transportation Coordinator and the Planning Agency after it has been executed by the Commission.

C. SPECIFIC COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS

Each component of the Service Plan builds and supports the others. The Development section identifies the long term goals and objectives for the local program based on data presented within that component. The Development component should describe how you will get from where you are today, as identified in the Service Plan component, to where you plan to be illustrated through the analysis provided in the Development component. The Service component identifies the operational and administrative structure as it exists today. The Quality Assurance component describes the methods utilized to evaluate the services provided by the Coordinator. The following is specific criteria that, at a minimum, should be addressed within each section of the Service Plan. The Planning Agency, Community Transportation Coordinator or Local Coordinating Board may include additional information as needed.

I. DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A. Introduction to the Service Area

1. Background of the TD Program

This section should provide the reader with an account of the organization and development of the TD Program at the local level. It may also include a discussion of the evolution of the Program at the state level. However, this is not a requirement.

2. Community Transportation Coordinator Designation Date/History

At a minimum, include information on when and how the organization was formed and selected as a Coordinator. Also identify the process used by the Planning Agency for selection.

3. Organization Chart

This should identify all those involved in the provision of service, from the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, through the local Coordinating Board, to the Community Transportation Coordinator and the Planning Agency, and to the consumers.

4. Consistency Review of Other Plans

Confirm that the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the following approved documents.

- a) Local Government Comprehensive Plans
- b) Regional Policy Plans
- c) Transit Development Plans
- d) Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged 5Yr/20Yr Plan
- e) MPO Long Range Transportation Plans (where applicable)
- f) Transportation Improvement Programs (where applicable)

5. Public Participation

Identify the local process that allows representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers and members of the public to participate in the development and update of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. Stakeholders may include:

- ❖ Transportation Partners such as
 - area transportation planning agencies
 - public transportation providers (including ADA paratransit providers),
 - private transportation providers (including private transportation brokers, taxi operators, van pool providers and intercity bus operators),
 - non-profit transportation providers;
- ❖ Passengers and Advocates such as
 - existing and potential riders, including both general and targeted population passengers,
 - protection and advocacy organizations
 - representatives from independent living centers
 - advocacy organizations working on behalf of targeted populations
- ❖ Human Service Partners
 - agencies that administer health, employment or other support programs for targeted populations
 - job training and placement agencies
 - housing agencies
 - health care facilities
 - mental health providers
- ❖ Others
 - emergency and security management agencies
 - tribes and tribal representatives
 - economic development organizations
 - faith-based and community based organizations
 - representatives of the business community (employers)
 - appropriate local or state officials and elected officials
 - school districts

It is important that stakeholders be included in the development, implementation and updates of the local coordinated Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This should include the annual public hearing as required of the Local Coordinating Board.

B. Service Area Profile/Demographics

1. Service Area Description

Provide general descriptive information about the service area. This should be a short, one to two paragraph explanation.

2. Demographics

a) Land Use

Emphasize the relationship between land uses and transportation in the service area.

b) Population/Composition

Provide a description of the population of the service area. Include population information such as total population, population breakdown by age groups, population densities, income information, employment status and location of employment, housing classifications and patterns, educational profiles, automobile ownership and use, historical tradition, cultural descriptions, and government and institutional descriptions.

c) Employment

Address employment as it relates to the generation of trips for the service area.

d) Major Trip Generators/Attractors

Identify major locations where trips would be generated from or to. This can include major medical facilities, amusement parks, large employers,

e) Inventory of Available Transportation Services

Develop an inventory of all identifiable transportation services that are currently available in the service area. This would include public, private, non-profit and local commuter service providers.

C. Service Analysis

1. Forecasts of Transportation Disadvantaged Population

You are encouraged to use the Methodology Guidelines for Forecasting TD Transportation Demand at the County Level, prepared for the Commission by the Center for Urban Transportation Research, May 1993. However, if you choose to develop and utilize your own methodology, please indicate that you have done so.

2. Needs Assessment

Assess the transportation needs and demand for individuals with disabilities, elderly, low income, and high risk and at-risk children. Identify any gaps in transportation services that are needed in the service area. Use service trends, populations by segments and rider expectations, and any community development plans as tools. This may be difficult for very rural counties to accomplish with a lot of certainty. Be specific as to what is needed. This

should include both service needs as well as capital purchase needs. Projects selected for funding under the Elderly Individuals and individuals with Disabilities, JARC, and New Freedom program may be derived from a the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. The need for services that could be considered projects should be identified within this section of the Development Plan. The plan must be developed through a process that includes representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public. Some examples could be expansion of service, additional routes, more vehicles, maintenance facilities, changes in routes, additional funding for particular service needs, etc.

3. Barriers to Coordination

Identify any federal, state, or local governmental policies, natural or operational environmental characteristics/constraints, or funding constraints, etc. that hinder or prevent the coordination of transportation services. Provide local efforts planned to address barriers and identify how the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged can assist.

D. Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

Develop goals, objectives and strategies for the local coordinated transportation program. Goals, objectives and strategies are critical to the implementation of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. They are important policy statements that have been carefully considered by the Coordinator and the Planning Agency with the direction and support of the Coordinating Board. They represent a statement of local policy that will be used to manage the future transportation disadvantaged program within the service area. The plan for advancing from where you are today to where you need to be should be presented in this section through long range goals, specific measurable objectives, and strategies. This section should be updated on an annual basis.

A goal is a statement of purpose intended to define an ultimate end or condition. It reflects a direction of action, and is a subjective value statement. Goals may include more than one objective. That is, there may be more than one milestone necessary to achieve a goal.

An objective is a specific, measurable action that can be taken toward achieving the goal. Objectives should be dated. Deficiencies and corresponding corrective actions, as well as any service improvements or expansions should be identified within this section as dated objectives.

Strategies are specific actions that will be taken to achieve the objectives. These represent priority actions that will be carried out as part of the planning or quality assurance activities. For accountability purposes, the annual evaluation of the Coordinator should assess both the progress on the strategies themselves and

how well the strategies that have been implemented advance the progress towards reaching or achieving the corresponding objectives.

E. Implementation Schedule

The Implementation Schedule should be derived from the goals, objectives, and strategies described in the section above. The schedule should be in chronological order and include the strategy, the responsible party(s) for accomplishment, the anticipated beginning and ending date and any known costs. This section should be updated on an annual basis.

II. SERVICE PLAN

A. Operations

The operations element is a profile of the Coordinator's current system which provides basic information about the Coordinator's daily operations. This element should be written in a manner which is intended to give someone with little or no knowledge of transportation operations an adequate level of understanding. All terminology must be consistent with the terms identified in the Glossary of Terms provided in this manual.

1. Types, Hours and Days of Service

At a minimum, describe the various types of transportation services available, i.e., ambulatory, non-ambulatory, stretcher, paratransit, fixed-route, subscription or group services. Identify any special routes that are available and when these services are available. The services identified in this section should be those which are required to meet the identified needs of federal, state and local government purchasing agencies.

Coordinators should establish policies regarding any restrictions to whether services are provided door-to-door or curb-to-curb; utilization of friends/family first, mandatory use of fixed route (where available).

The Coordinator must provide for or arrange for after hours and weekend transportation as required by any Federal, State, or Local Government agency sponsoring such services. The provision of said services shall be furnished in accordance with the Coordinator's prior notification requirements. At the discretion of the Coordinator and the Local Coordinating Board, will call and same day services may be provided. However, these services should only be provided at a minimal level and may be provided for additional costs to the purchaser. Coordinator must provide a listing of any holidays that services will not be available.

Group trips may also be provided, but at a lower cost than the advance reservation or demand response. Provide the locally established definition of a group trip. Subscription trips may also be provided. Under no circumstances should a subscription rider have to continually call to arrange for their transportation. Provide the locally established definition of a subscription trip.

2. Accessing Services

At a minimum, this section must include detailed information regarding:

- a) The phone number and office hours in which services can be scheduled. Include alternative communications such as internet reservations and Relay Services.
- b) The method and advanced notification time required to obtain services.
- c) An explanation of the cancellation process and requirements.
- d) No show procedure (both Coordinator and rider), including any applicable penalties.
- e) Procedures for dispatching backup service or after-hours service.

Also, this section should address any policies the local coordinating board has established in regards to:

- a) Eligibility, as determined locally, for services funded by the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.
- b) Prioritization, as determined locally, for services funded by the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.
- c) Other Procedures

3. Transportation Operators and Coordination Contractors

The Coordinator must provide the process by which it analyzes and implements the provision of services through potential operator contracting entities. This must include: 1) the steps that must be taken by the Coordinator to contract with an operator, i.e. the locally approved procedure, whether it be competitive bid, RFP, RFQ, negotiation, etc.; and 2) the criteria on which the Coordinator makes decisions regarding the potential operator contracting entity.

Transportation services provided through negotiated arrangements with coordination contractors by the Coordinator must be justified through an analysis of the appropriate financial data, calculation methodology, and any other factors the Coordinating Board feels is relevant.

For each Operator and Coordination Contract currently in place, identify the name of the contractor and contact person, the type of service(s) they provide, the clients they serve (i.e., non-sponsored, Medicaid, ADA Complementary Paratransit (where applicable), etc.), and their hours of operation.

4. **Public Transit Utilization (where applicable)**
Indicate the degree to which public transit is being utilized in the service area. If Public Transit is available but is not being utilized by the Coordinator, please identify any barriers which you may have encountered in your efforts. Please note that utilization of an existing public transit system is encouraged due to the cost effectiveness of this service.
5. **School Bus Utilization**
Identify current services available through the use of school buses. Provide a detailed explanation of any additional cost for insurance, coordination surcharge, or other necessary costs, and provide the bottom line cost of utilizing school buses. In addition, for those Coordinators who currently have an agreement with a school board, provide information on anticipated services. If you do not have an agreement with the local school board in place, please identify any barriers which you may have encountered in your efforts.
6. **Vehicle Inventory**
Provide a vehicle inventory report of the vehicles utilized within the coordinated system. The inventory should reflect the year, make, model, mileage, funding source and owner for each vehicle.
7. **System Safety Program Plan Certification**
Each Coordinator and any transportation operators from whom service is purchased or funded by local government, state or federal transportation disadvantaged funds, shall ensure the purchasers that their operations and services are in compliance with the safety requirements as specified in Section 341.061, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 14-90, F.A.C. Provide a copy of the latest Department of Transportation System Safety Program Plan Certification.
8. **Intercounty Services**
Coordinators are required to plan and work with Community Transportation Coordinators in adjacent and other areas of the state to coordinate the provision of community trips that might be handled at a lower overall cost to the community by another Coordinator. At a minimum, describe any cooperative agreements you may have with other Coordinators in the state. This section should also include information regarding any cooperative agreements or discussions currently in progress or planned for the period covered by the Service Plan. If applicable, identify any problems that may impede the use of cooperative agreements.
9. **Emergency Preparedness and Response**
Discuss what plans are in place that will be activated in the event of an emergency, the anticipation of an event and after an emergency has been declared. Describe the relationship the Coordinator has with the Local Emergency Management Agency (Specifically ESF 1).

10. Educational Efforts/Marketing

Describe any current or planned activities that the Coordinator is undertaking to provide information about the transportation system. This could include educational efforts as well as marketing for services.

11. Acceptable Alternatives

Identify alternatives that have been approved based on Chapter 427.016(l)(a), Florida Statutes, and Rule 41-2.015(2-3), Florida Administrative Code, and the specific reasons for their categorization as an alternative. Include for each of these alternatives any plans to bring them through the system in the future. Indicate whether or not these alternatives were reviewed by the local coordinating board. It is not intended that you identify transportation that is currently being provided through the alternatives identified in Rule 41-2.015(2)(a)-(e), FAC.

12. Service Standards

Identify local service standards that have been jointly developed by the Local Coordinating Board, the Planning Agency, and the Coordinator, consistent with those of the Commission. Service standards are integral to the development and implementation of a quality transportation program to the transportation disadvantaged in a service area. Standards should be developed to address, at a minimum, the following:

- a) drug and alcohol policy
- b) escorts and children
- c) child restraints
- d) rider property
- e) vehicle transfer points
- f) local toll free phone number for consumer comment
- g) out of service area trips
- h) vehicle cleanliness
- i) billing requirements to contracted operators
- j) rider/trip data
- k) adequate seating
- l) driver identification
- m) passenger assistance
- n) smoking and eating on vehicles
- o) no-show policies
- p) communication equipment
- q) vehicle air conditioning and heating equipment
- r) first aid policy
- s) cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- t) pick-up windows
- u) on-time performance
- v) advance reservation requirements

- w) public transit ridership (if applicable)
- x) complaints
- y) accidents
- z) roadcalls
- aa) call-hold time

Service standards may also be developed to correct deficiencies identified in the annual evaluation of the Coordinator. The identified standards which do not currently exist or are not yet in application should be addressed in the Development Plan component of this plan through a dated objective.

13. Local Complaint and Grievance Procedure/Process

Provide the Coordinator's process for resolving complaints. This would include any steps that would be taken directly by the Coordinator.

Provide the process that the Local Coordinating Board uses to hear complaints and grievances regarding service. The grievance process should include the identification of the manner in which a user is made aware of the grievance process.

14. Community Transportation Coordinator Monitoring Procedures of Operators and Coordination Contractors

Identify the process the Coordinator has in place to monitor both transportation operators and coordination contractors. Community Transportation Coordinators are responsible for evaluating their operators and coordination contractors to ensure contractual compliance. This evaluation should be done on a periodic basis depending on the needs and requirements of the Coordinator. A comprehensive annual evaluation should be completed to ensure compliance, at a minimum, with the System Safety Program Plan, locally approved standards, Commission standards, reporting of annual operating data, and insurance requirements. This report should be provided to the Local Coordinating Board to be reviewed and included in the Coordinator's evaluation.

15. Coordination Contract Evaluation Criteria

Identify the criteria used to annually review coordination contractors, in cooperation with the Local Coordinating Board, and determine whether the issuance or continuation of a coordination contract would be the most cost-effective and efficient utilization of local, state, or federal dollars.

B. Cost/Revenue Allocation and Rate Structure Justification

The Commission has established the Rate Calculation Model, a standard process for the development of rates for transportation services that are arranged or provided by the Coordinator. This model can be used by the Commission in

comparing and approving rates to be paid to and used by Coordinators and in determining cost-based rates to be charged to all purchasing agencies.

It is the intent that this model be used to develop a rate for all purchasing agencies, except fixed route bus passes. If there are any rates for services provided to other agency-sponsored customers that are different from the non-sponsored rates, provide an explanation as to why these rates were not developed in accordance with the rate model and what actions are being taken to include them in future years.

All rates for services will be included on a summary page following the format provided in this manual. This single location of information regarding rates for different types of services allows the Coordinating Board, the Commission and others the opportunity to do a comprehensive analysis of the rate structure. Coordinators should also include a copy of the Rate Calculation Model worksheets as backup documentation.

The Rate Calculation Model Worksheets and Rates for Services should be reviewed and updated annually. The Rate Calculation Model allows for annual changes to occur based on changes to the level of service, expenditures and revenues.

Any amendments that may occur after July 1, to rates which result in an increase, for any service provided, that is greater than 3% must come before the Commission for review and approval. The only exceptions to this is in instances where a recent procurement process has been conducted (i.e., request for proposals, request for bids, etc.) or an increase in rates for fixed schedule/ fixed route systems, i.e., bus passes or tokens.

III. QUALITY ASSURANCE

Provide information on the evaluation processes utilized at the local level to ensure quality of service is being obtained and that it is being provided in the most cost effective, efficient, unduplicated and unfragmented manner.

Identify the process used by the Local Coordinating Board and the planning agency in the evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator. The evaluation should be conducted utilizing the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged *QAPE/LCB CTC EVALUATION WORKBOOK*. This evaluation workbook was created to provide a formal process for evaluating the performance of the Coordinator (and its operators.) The workbook contains several worksheets that can be used by the Coordinating Board to conduct this evaluation. The Commission requires worksheets regarding Cost, Competition and Coordination be completed during this review.

Address what steps the Local Coordinating Board will take to monitor and evaluate the services provided by or coordinated through the Coordinator, based on the locally established service standards, and consistent with those of the Commission. Include a summary of the latest Coordinator Evaluation and Evaluation Procedure developed by the Coordinating Board.

Coordinators can only be evaluated against the established standards for service. It is the responsibility of the Local Coordinating Board to recommend and approve effective service standards against which the Coordinator can be evaluated, ensuring quality transportation for the transportation disadvantaged. Also included in this section should be the locally approved process through which these standards will be evaluated. The criteria used in the development of these standards should include, at a minimum:

- a) service effectiveness;
- b) cost efficiency and effectiveness;
- c) vehicle utilization;
- d) service availability;
- e) reliability; and
- f) safety and training.

Identify any local service standards which were developed based on deficiencies or problems within the system. The evaluation should provide a time table for compliance by the Coordinator. The Local Coordinating Board follow-up on the corrective actions should be incorporated in the evaluation in the following year, as well as any recommendations from the Commission through their triennial Quality Assurance reviews.

D. UPDATES OR AMENDMENTS

It will be necessary to make amendments or updates to the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. The Local Coordinating Board must approve any changes to the Plan. The Planning Agency will submit the changes to the Commission after it has been reviewed and approved by the Local Coordinating Board.

The Planning Agency should submit a letter to the Executive Director of the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged providing the necessary information concerning the update or amendment, a copy of the Update or Amendment Table indicating which area is being changed, and the actual pages reflecting the update or amendment. A sample format is included in this manual. Once the necessary documentation is submitted, the Commission staff will respond to the Planning Agency advising whether the change is accepted. Once the update or amendment has been accepted, they will become a part of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

I. UPDATES

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is an annually updated tactical plan. It must be reviewed and updated annually prior to July 1 of each year. The Local Coordinating Board must approve each annual update. The following sections of the Plan must be reviewed and updated annually.

Section I – DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Needs Assessment

Ensure that new service or capital needs are identified to support future funding applications

Goals, Objectives, Strategies

Ensure that objectives indicate an implementation date/accomplishment date.

Note deficiencies & corrective actions

Note service improvements or expansions

Section should be logical and mirror format from previous year

Implementation Plan

Identify progress, setbacks, adherence to schedules

Revise implementation schedule as necessary

Section III - COST/REVENUE ALLOCATION AND RATE STRUCTURE JUSTIFICATION

Review current and updated projected expenses, revenues and levels of service and make adjustments accordingly. A new Service Rates Summary page as well as Rate Model Worksheets must be submitted.

Previous TDSP Review Letter

All items cited as deficient or inadequate and needing follow up

Others sections of the Plan may be updated during the same review period. These areas may include:

Section I. DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- Organization Chart updated as necessary
- LCB certification page (members, agencies, alternates and term) to include any changes as previously submitted in TDSP or updates
- Any significant changes to major trip generators/attractors that have significantly altered service delivery

Section II SERVICE PLAN

- Changes in types or hours of service
- Significant changes in system policies (priorities, eligibility criteria, etc.)
- New service innovations or cancellation of services
- Changes in operators/coordination contractors
- Changes in vehicle inventory
- SSPP certification if expired and renewed
- Include new acceptable alternatives
- Changes and narrative for adoption of new Service standards
- Any and all changes to the local Grievance Process and the Evaluation Process, including explanations for implementation of changes

Section III. QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Include any evaluation process changes and update to the Summary of the latest Coordinator Evaluation.

II. AMENDMENTS

Amendments may occur in any one of the sections of the Plan. Amendments are changes that need to be made to the Plan that were not made during the annual update process. Any changes to the Plan after July 1 of each year will be considered an amendment.

Rates amendments which result in an increase, for any service provided, that is greater than 3% must come before the Commission for review and approval. The only exceptions to this is an increase in rates for fixed schedule/fixed route systems, i.e., bus passes or tokens.

PART III APPENDICES

Instruction Manual for the Memorandum of Agreement
and the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan
Rev. November 2007
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Contract # _____

Effective: _____ to _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Agreement is between the COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED, hereby referred to as the "Commission," and

the COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR, designated pursuant to Chapter 427, F.S., to serve the transportation disadvantaged for the community that includes the entire area of

_____ county(ies), and hereafter referred to as the "Coordinator."

This Agreement is made in consideration of the mutual benefits to both parties; said consideration acknowledged hereto by the parties as good and valuable consideration.

The Parties Agree:

I. The Coordinator Shall:

- A. Become and remain totally apprised of all of the Transportation Disadvantaged resources available or planned in their designated service area. This knowledge will be used to plan, coordinate, and implement the most cost effective transportation disadvantaged transit system possible under the economic and other conditions that exist in the designated service area.
- B. Plan and work with Community Transportation Coordinators in adjacent and other areas of the state to coordinate the provision of community trips that might be handled at a lower overall cost to the community by another Coordinator. This includes honoring any Commission-approved statewide certification program that allows for intercounty transportation opportunities.
- C. Arrange for all services in accordance with Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, and Rule 41-2, FAC, and as further required by the Commission and the local Coordinating Board approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
- D. Return any acquired profits or surplus funds originating through the course of business as the Coordinator that are beyond the amounts(s) specifically identified and approved in the accompanying Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. Such profits or funds shall be returned to the Coordinator's transportation system or to any subsequent Coordinator, as a total transportation system subsidy, to be applied to the immediate following operational year. The Coordinator will include similar language in all coordination contracts to assure that transportation disadvantaged related revenues are put back into transportation disadvantaged services.

Rev. 06/01/07

E. Accomplish this Project by:

1. Developing a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan for approval by the local Coordinating Board and the Commission. Coordinators who are newly designated to a particular service area shall submit a local Coordinating Board approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, within 120 calendar days following the execution of the Coordinator's initial memorandum of agreement with the Commission, for approval by the Commission. All subsequent Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plans shall be submitted and approved with the corresponding memorandum of agreement. The approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan will be implemented and monitored to provide for community-wide transportation services for purchase by non-sponsored transportation disadvantaged persons, contracting social service agencies, and other entities that use local, state, or federal government funds for the purchase of transportation for the transportation disadvantaged.
2. Maximizing the use of available public school transportation resources and public fixed route or fixed schedule transit services and assuring that private or public transit, paratransit operators, and school boards have been afforded a fair opportunity to participate to the maximum extent feasible in the planning process and in the development of the provisions of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan for the transportation disadvantaged.
3. Providing or arranging 24-hour, 7-day per week transportation disadvantaged service as required in the designated service area by any Federal, State or Local Government agency sponsoring such services. The provision of said services shall be furnished in accordance with the prior notification requirements identified in the local Coordinating Board and Commission approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
4. Complying with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations that apply to the provision of transportation disadvantaged services.
5. Submitting to the Commission an Annual Operating Report detailing demographic, operational, and financial data regarding coordination activities in the designated service area. The report shall be prepared on forms provided by the Commission and according to the instructions of said forms.

F. Comply with Audit and Record Keeping Requirements by:

1. Utilizing the Commission recognized Chart of Accounts defined in the *Transportation Accounting Consortium Model Uniform Accounting System for Rural and Specialized Transportation Providers* (uniform accounting system) for all transportation disadvantaged accounting and reporting purposes. Community Transportation Coordinators with existing and equivalent accounting systems are not required to adopt the Chart of Accounts in lieu of their existing Chart of Accounts but shall prepare all reports, invoices, and fiscal documents relating to the transportation disadvantaged functions and activities using the chart of accounts and accounting definitions as outlined in the above referenced manual.

2. Assuming the responsibility of invoicing for any transportation services arranged, unless otherwise stipulated by a purchase of service contract or coordination contract.
 3. Maintaining and filing with the Commission, local Coordinating Board, and all purchasing agencies/entities such progress, fiscal, inventory, and other reports as those entities may require during the period of this Agreement.
 4. Providing copies of finance and compliance audits to the Commission and local Coordinating Board as requested by the Commission or local Coordinating Board.
 5. Reporting accidents involving a vehicle operated within the coordinated transportation system in the coordinator's designated service area. Accidents involving a fatality or fatalities must be reported to the Commission not more than 24 hours after the community transportation coordinator becomes aware of the fatal accident. Any other accident, those not involving a fatality or fatalities, with over \$1,000 in property damages, or personal injury that requires evacuation to a medical facility or a combination of both, must be reported to the Commission not more than 72 hours after the community transportation coordinator becomes aware of the accident. Copies of any accident report or reports prepared or received by the community transportation coordinator as a result of any accident must be sent to the Commission upon receipt or preparation of the report.
- G. Retain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and any other documents pertinent to this Agreement for a period of five (5) years after termination of this Agreement. If an audit has been initiated and audit findings have not been resolved at the end of five (5) years, the records shall be retained until resolution of the audit findings. The Coordinator shall assure that these records shall be subject to inspection, review, or audit at all reasonable times by persons duly authorized by the Commission or this Agreement. They shall have full access to and the right to examine any of the said records and documents during the retention period.
- H. Comply with Safety Requirements by:
1. Complying with Section 341.061, F.S., and Rule 14-90, FAC, concerning System Safety; or complying with Chapter 234.051, F.S., regarding school bus safety requirements for those services provided through a school board; and
 2. Assuring compliance with local, state, and federal laws, and Commission policies relating to drug testing. Conduct drug and alcohol testing for safety sensitive job positions within the coordinated system regarding pre-employment, randomization, post-accident, and reasonable suspicion as required by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.
- I. Comply with Commission insurance requirements by maintaining at least minimum liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$100,000 for any one person and \$200,000 per occurrence at all times during the existence of this Agreement for all transportation services purchased or provided for the transportation disadvantaged through the Community Transportation Coordinator. Upon the execution of this Agreement, the Coordinator shall add the Commission as an additional **named insured** to all insurance policies covering vehicles transporting the transportation disadvantaged. In the event of any cancellation or changes in

the limits of liability in the insurance policy, the insurance agent or broker shall notify the Commission. The Coordinator shall insure that contracting transportation operators and coordination contractors also maintain the same minimum liability insurance, or an equal governmental insurance program. Insurance coverage in excess of \$1 million per occurrence must be approved by the Commission and the local Coordinating Board before inclusion in the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan or in the justification of rates and fare structures. Such coverage may be provided by a self-insurance program established and operating under the laws of the State of Florida and written verification of insurance protection in accordance with Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, shall be provided to the Commission upon request.

- J. Safeguard information by not using or disclosing any information concerning a user of services under this Agreement for any purpose not in conformity with the local, state and federal regulations (45 CFR, Part 205.50), except upon order of a court, written consent of the recipient, or his/her responsible parent or guardian when authorized by law.
- K. Protect Civil Rights by:
 - 1. Complying with state and federal laws including but not limited to laws regarding discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin. The Coordinator gives this assurance in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining federal grants, loans, contracts (except contracts of insurance or guaranty), property, discounts, or other federal financial assistance to programs or activities receiving or benefiting from federal financial assistance and agreeing to complete a Civil Rights Compliance Questionnaire if so requested by the Commission.
 - 2. Agreeing that compliance with this assurance constitutes a condition of continued receipt of or benefit from federal financial assistance, and that it is binding upon the Coordinator, its successors, subcontractors, transferee, and assignees for the period during which such assistance is provided. Assure that all operators, subcontractors, subgrantee, or others with whom the Coordinator arranges to provide services or benefits to participants or employees in connection with any of its programs and activities are not discriminating against those participants or employees in violation of the above statutes, regulations, guidelines, and standards. In the event of failure to comply, the Coordinator agrees that the Commission may, at its discretion, seek a court order requiring compliance with the terms of this assurance or seek other appropriate judicial or administrative relief, to include assistance being terminated and further assistance being denied.
- L. To the extent allowed by Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, and only to the monetary and other limitations contained therein, indemnify and hold harmless the Commission and all of the Commission's members, officers, agents, and employees; purchasing agency/entity officers, agents, and employees; and the local, state, and federal governments from any claim, loss, damage, cost, charge or expense arising out of any act, action, neglect or omission by the Coordinator during the performance of this Agreement, whether direct or indirect, and whether to any person or property to which the Commission or said parties may be subject, except that neither the Coordinator nor any of its sub-contractors will be liable under this section for damages arising out of injury or damage to persons or property directly caused or resulting from the sole negligence of the Commission or any of its members, officers, agents or

employees; purchasing agency/entity, officers, agents, and employees; and local, state, or federal governments. Nothing herein is intended to serve as a waiver of sovereign immunity by any agency/entity or Coordinator to which sovereign immunity may be applicable. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent by a state agency/entity or political subdivision of the State of Florida or the federal government to be sued by third parties in any matter arising out of any Agreement or contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, no agency or subdivision of the state shall be required to indemnify, insure, or assume any liability for the Commission's negligence.

- M. Comply with standards and performance requirements of the Commission, the local Coordinating Board approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, and any purchase of service contracting agencies/entities. Failure to meet the requirements or obligations set forth in this MOA, and performance requirements established and monitored by the local Coordinating Board in the approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, shall be due cause for non-payment of reimbursement invoices until such deficiencies have been addressed or corrected to the satisfaction of the Commission.
- N. Comply with subcontracting requirements by executing or negotiating contracts for transportation services with Transportation Operators and Coordination Contractors, and assuring that the conditions of such contracts are maintained. The requirements of Part 1, Paragraph E.5. through M are to be included in all contracts, subcontracts, coordination contracts, and assignments made by the Coordinator for services under this Agreement. Said contracts, subcontracts, coordination contracts, and assignments will be reviewed and approved annually by the Coordinator and local Coordinating Board for conformance with the requirements of this Agreement.
- O. Comply with the following requirements concerning drivers and vehicles:
 - 1. Drivers for paratransit services, including coordination contractors, shall be required to announce and identify themselves by name and company in a manner that is conducive to communications with the specific passenger, upon pickup of each rider, group of riders, or representative, guardian, or associate of the rider, except in situations where the driver regularly transports the rider on a recurring basis. Each driver must have photo identification that is in view of the passenger. Name patches, inscriptions or badges that affix to driver clothing are acceptable. For transit services, the driver photo identification shall be in a conspicuous location in the vehicle.
 - 2. The paratransit driver shall provide the passenger with boarding assistance, if necessary or requested, to the seating portion of the vehicle. The boarding assistance shall include opening the vehicle door, fastening the seat belt or utilization of wheelchair securement devices, storage of mobility assistive devices, and closing the vehicle door. In certain paratransit service categories, the driver may also be required to open and close doors to buildings, except in situations in which assistance in opening/closing building doors would not be safe for passengers remaining on the vehicle. Assisted access must be in a dignified manner. Drivers may not assist wheelchair up or down more than one step, unless it can be performed safely as determined by the passenger, guardian, and driver.
 - 3. All vehicles shall be equipped with two-way communications in good working order and be audible to the driver at all times to the base.

4. All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system, shall have working air conditioners and heaters in each vehicle. Vehicles that do not have a working air conditioner or heater will be scheduled for repair or replacement as soon as possible.

P. Comply with other requirements as follows:

1. Transport an escort of a passenger and dependent children as locally negotiated and identified in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
2. Determine locally in the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, the use, responsibility, and cost of child restraint devices.
3. Transport with the passenger at no additional charge, passenger property that can be carried by the passenger and/or driver in one trip and can be safely stowed on the vehicle. Additional requirements may be negotiated for carrying and loading rider property beyond this amount. Passenger property does not include wheelchairs, child seats, stretchers, secured oxygen, personal assistive devices, or intravenous devices.
4. Provide shelter, security, and safety of passengers at vehicle transfer points.
5. Post a local or other toll-free number for complaints or grievances inside each vehicle. The local complaint process shall be outlined as a section in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan including advising the dissatisfied person about the Commission's Ombudsman Program as a step within the process as approved by the local Coordinating Board.
6. Provide out-of-service-area trips, when determined locally and approved by the local Coordinating Board, except in instances where local ordinances prohibit such trips.
7. Keep interior of all vehicles free from dirt, grime, oil, trash, torn upholstery, damaged or broken seats, protruding metal or other objects or materials which could soil items placed in the vehicle or provide discomfort for the passenger.
8. Determine locally by the local Coordinating Board and provide in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan the billing requirements of the Community Transportation Coordinator. All bills shall be paid to subcontractors within 7 calendar days after receipt of said payment by the Coordinator, in accordance with Section 287.0585, Florida Statutes.
9. Maintain or have access to a passenger/trip database on each rider being transported within the system.
10. Provide each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant adequate seating for paratransit services. No more passengers than the registered passenger seating capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time. For transit services provided by transit vehicles, adequate seating or standing space will be provided to each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating or standing capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time.

11. First Aid shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
12. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

II. The Commission Shall:

- A. Recognize the Coordinator as the entity described in Section 427.011(5), Florida Statutes, and Rule 41-2.002(4), F.A.C.
- B. Attempt to insure that all entities with transportation disadvantaged funds will purchase transportation disadvantaged services through the Coordinator's system.

III. The Coordinator and the Commission Further Agree:

- A. Nothing in this Agreement shall require the Commission to observe or enforce compliance with any provision thereof, perform any other act or do any other thing in contravention of any applicable state law. If any of the provisions of this Agreement is found by a court of law to violate any applicable state law, the purchasing agency/entity will at once notify the Commission in writing in order that appropriate changes and modifications may be made by the Commission and the Coordinator to the end that the Coordinator may proceed as soon as possible with the provision of transportation services.
- B. If any part or provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the remainder of this Agreement shall be binding on the parties hereto.
- C. Termination Conditions:
 1. Termination at Will - This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon no less than thirty (30) days notice, without cause. Said notice shall be delivered by certified mail, return receipt required, or in person with proof of delivery.
 2. Termination for Breach - Unless the Coordinator's breach is waived by the Commission in writing, the Commission may, by written notice to the Coordinator, terminate this Agreement upon no less than twenty-four (24) hours notice. Said notice shall be delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested, or in person with proof of delivery. Waiver by the Commission of breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach and shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of this Agreement, and shall not act as a waiver or estoppel to enforcement of any provision of this Agreement. The provisions herein do not limit the Commission's right to remedies at law or to damages.
- D. This agreement will expire unless an extension is granted to the Coordinator in writing by the Commission for the Transportation, in accordance with Chapter 287, Florida Statutes.
- E. Renegotiations or Modifications of this Agreement shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing, duly approved by the Commission, and signed by both parties hereto.

F. Notice and Contact:

The name and address of the contract manager for the Commission for this Agreement is: **Executive Director, 605 Suwannee Street, MS-49, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450**. The representative/position of the Coordinator responsible for administration of the program under this Agreement is:

In the event that either party designates different representatives after execution of this Agreement, notice of the name and address of the new representative will be rendered in writing to the other party and said notification attached to originals of this Agreement.

This document has been reviewed in its entirety and approved by the local Coordinating Board at its official meeting held on _____.

Coordinating Board Chairperson

WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATOR:

STATE OF FLORIDA, COMMISSION FOR
THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED:

Agency Name

Typed Name of Authorized Individual

Typed Name of Authorized Individual

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Title: Executive Director

Title: _____

Attest: _____ (SEAL)
Notary Public

ATTEST: _____ (SEAL)
Corporate Officer or Notary Public

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED SERVICE PLAN FORMAT

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COORDINATING BOARD MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

The Metropolitan Planning Organization/Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), FAC, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following lists; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM
1. Chairperson			
2. Elderly			
3. Disabled			
4. Citizen Advocate			
5. Citizen Advocate/User			
6. Children at Risk			
7. Community Action			
8. Public Education			
9. Dept. of Transportation			
10. Dept. Of Children and Families			
11. Dept. Of Elder Affairs			
12. Dept. of Education			
13. Dept. of Health Care Adm.			
14. Regional Workforce Dev. Brd			
15. Veteran Services			
16. Local Mass Transit			
17. Transportation Industry			
18. Local Medical Community			

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED SERVICE PLAN
 LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD
 ROLL CALL VOTE

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	VOTED FOR	VOTED AGAINST	ABSENT FROM VOTING
1. Chairperson				
2. Elderly				
3. Disabled				
4. Citizen Advocate				
5. Citizen Advocate/User				
6. Children at Risk				
7. Community Action				
8. Public Education				
9. Dept. of Transportation				
10. Dept. Of Children and Families				
11. Dept. Of Elder Affairs				
12. Dept. of Education				
13. Dept. of Health Care Adm.				
14. Regional Workforce Dev. Brd.				
15. Veteran Services				
16. Local Mass Transit				
17. Transportation Industry				
18. Local Medical Community				

The Coordinating Board hereby certifies that an annual evaluation of this Community Transportation Coordinator was conducted consistent with the policies of the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and all recommendations of that evaluation have been incorporated in this Service Plan. We further certify that the rates contained herein have been thoroughly reviewed, evaluated and approved. This Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan was reviewed in its entirety and approved by this Board at an official meeting held on

Date

Coordinating Board Chairperson

Approved by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

Date

Executive Director

SAMPLE UPDATE OR AMENDMENT SUBMITTAL LETTER

(Designated Official Planning Agency Letterhead)

(DATE)

Ms. Lisa Bacot, Executive Director
Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
605 Suwannee Street, MS-49
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

RE: _____ (MOA No)
_____ (MOA Dates)

Dear Ms. Bacot:

By this letter, _____ (Name of Community Transportation Coordinator) is requesting an update or amendment to the above referenced Memorandum of Agreement/Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This update or amendment has been reviewed and approved by the Local Coordinating Board at their _____ meeting. We request that the Commission accept this update/amendment effective _____.

(State what the update or amendment is and why it is being submitted)

If this request is accepted, please signify by signing below, and returning a copy of the signed letter to us. Upon receipt, we will then consider the update or amendment accepted. If this is not acceptable, or further information is needed before it can be accepted, please advise us in writing within ten days.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

(Designated Official Planning Agency)

The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged hereby agrees and accepts this update or amendment to the above referenced MOA/TDSP, effective _____(Date).

Executive Director

Date

**TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED SERVICE PLAN
UPDATE OR AMENDMENT TABLE**

Please indicate by placing an "X" by the area(s) that is being updated/amended.

_____AMENDMENT	_____UPDATE
LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION	_____
ROLL CALL VOTING SHEET	_____
I. DEVELOPMENT PLAN	
INTRODUCTION OF SERVICE AREA	
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Consistency Review of Other Plans	_____
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SERVICE AREA PROFILE/DEMOGRAPHICS	
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Population/Composition	_____
Employment	_____
Major Trip Generators/Attractors	_____
Inventory of Available Transportation Services	_____
SERVICE ANALYSIS	
Forecasts of Transportation Disadvantaged Population	_____
Needs Assessment	_____
Barriers to Coordinator	_____
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES	

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE	

II. SERVICE PLAN	
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Types, Hours and Days of Service	_____
Accessing Services	_____
Transportation Operators and Coordination Contractors	_____
Public Transit Utilization	_____
School Bus Utilization	_____
Vehicle Inventory	_____
System Safety Program Plan Certification	_____

Intercounty Services	_____
Emergency Preparedness and Response	_____
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Acceptable Alternatives	_____
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Coordination Contract Evaluation Criteria	_____

COST/REVENUE ALLOCATION AND RATE STRUCTURE JUSTIFICATION

Service Rates Summary	_____
Rate Model Worksheets	_____

III. QUALITY ASSURANCE

COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR EVALUATION PROCESS	_____
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**COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

The following glossary is intended to coordinate terminology within the Florida Coordinated Transportation System. It is imperative that when certain words or phrases are used, the definition must be universally acknowledged.

Accidents: when used in reference to the AOR, the total number of reportable accidents that occurred whereby the result was either property damage of \$1000.00 or more, or personal injury that required evacuation to a medical facility, or a combination of both.

(AER) Actual Expenditure Report: an annual report completed by each state member agency and each official planning agency, to inform the Commission in writing, before September 15 of each year, of the specific amount of funds the agency expended for transportation disadvantaged services.

Advance Reservation Service: shared or individual paratransit service that is readily delivered with at least prior day notification, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Agency: an official, officer, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or any other unit or entity of the state or of a city, town, municipality, county, or other local governing body or a private non-profit transportation service providing entity.

(ADA) Americans with Disabilities Act: a federal law, P.L. 101-336, signed by the President of the United States on July 26, 1990 providing protection for persons with disabilities.

(AOR) Annual Operating Report: an annual report prepared by the community transportation coordinator detailing its designated service area operating statistics for the most recent operating year.

(APR) Annual Performance Report: an annual report issued by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged that combines all the data submitted in the Annual Operating Reports and the CTD Annual Report.

(ASE) Automotive Service Excellence: a series of tests that certify the skills of automotive technicians in a variety of maintenance areas.

Availability: a measure of the capability of a transportation system to be used by potential riders, such as the hours the system is in operation, the route spacing, the seating availability, and the pick-up and delivery time parameters.

Bus: any motor vehicle designed for carrying more than 10 passengers and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

Bus Lane: a street or highway lane intended primarily for buses, either all day or during specified periods, but used by other traffic under certain circumstances.

Bus Stop: a waiting, boarding, and disembarking area, usually designated by distinctive signs and by curbs or pavement markings.

(CUTR) Center for Urban Transportation Research: a research group located at the University of South Florida's College of Engineering.

(CMBE) Certified Minority Business Enterprise: any small business concern which is organized to engage in commercial transactions, which is domiciled in Florida, and which is at least 51 percent owned by minority persons and whose management and daily operations are controlled by such persons. These businesses should be certified by the Florida Department of Management Services.

Chapter 427, Florida Statutes: the Florida statute establishing the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and prescribing its duties and responsibilities.

Commendation: any documented compliment of any aspect of the coordinated system, including personnel, vehicle, service, etc.

(CDL) Commercial Driver's License: a license required if a driver operates a commercial motor vehicle, including a vehicle that carries 16 or more

passengers (including the driver), or a vehicle weighing more than 26,000 pounds.

Commission: the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged as authorized in Section 427.013, Florida Statutes.

(CTD) Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged: an independent agency created in 1989 to accomplish the coordination of transportation services provided to the transportation disadvantaged. Replaced the Coordinating Council on the Transportation Disadvantaged.

(CTC) Community Transportation Coordinator: (formerly referred to as "coordinated community transportation provider") a transportation entity competitively procured or recommended by the appropriate official planning agency and local Coordinating Board and approved by the Commission, to ensure that safe, quality coordinated transportation services are provided or arranged in a cost effective manner to serve the transportation disadvantaged in a designated service area.

Competitive Procurement: obtaining a transportation operator or other services through a competitive process based upon Commission-approved procurement guidelines.

Complaint: any documented customer concern involving timeliness, vehicle condition, quality of service, personnel behavior, and other operational policies.

Complete (or Full) Brokerage: type of CTC network in which the CTC does not provide any on-street transportation services itself, but contracts with transportation operators or coordination contractors for the delivery of all transportation services.

Coordinated Transportation System: includes the CTC, the transportation operators and coordination contractors under contract with the CTC, the official planning agency, and local Coordinating Board involved in the provision of service delivery to the transportation disadvantaged within the designated service area.

Coordinated Trips: passenger trips provided by or arranged through a CTC.

Coordinating Board: an entity in each designated service area composed of representatives who provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator relative to the coordination of transportation disadvantaged services.

Coordination: the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is cost effective, safe, efficient, and reduces fragmentation and duplication of services. Coordination is not the same as total consolidation of transportation disadvantaged services in any given service area.

Coordination Contract: a written contract between the community transportation coordinator and an agency who receives transportation disadvantaged funds and performs some, if not all of, its own services, as well as services to others, when such service has been analyzed by the CTC and proven to be a safer, more effective and more efficient service from a total system perspective. The Commission's standard contract reflects the specific terms and conditions that will apply to those agencies who perform their own transportation, as well as joint utilization and cost provisions for transportation services to and from the coordinator.

Deadhead: the miles or hours that a vehicle travels when out of revenue service. From dispatch point to first pick-up, and from last drop-off to home base, or movements from home base to maintenance garage or fuel depot, and return.

Demand Response: a paratransit service that is readily delivered with less than prior day notification, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. This service can be either an individual or shared ride.

Designated Service Area: a geographical area subject to approval by the Commission, which defines the community where coordinated transportation services will be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

Disabled Passenger: anyone with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits at least one of the major life activities (i.e., caring for one's self, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning).

Dispatcher: the person responsible for having every scheduled run leave the yard or garage on time and maintain a schedule, matching the work force with the work load on a minute-by-minute basis. In demand-response transportation, the person who assigns the customers to vehicles and notifies the appropriate drivers.

Driver Hour: the period of one hour that a person works whose main responsibility is to drive vehicles.

Economies of Scale: cost savings resulting from combined resources (e.g., joint purchasing agreements that result in a lower cost per gallon or quantity discount for fuel).

Effectiveness Measure: a performance measure that indicates the level of consumption per unit of output. Passenger trips per vehicle mile is an example of an effectiveness measure.

Efficiency Measure: a performance measure that evaluates the level of resources expended to achieve a given level of output. An example of an efficiency measure is operating cost per vehicle mile.

Emergency: any occurrence, or threat thereof, whether accidental, natural or caused by man, in war or in peace, which results or may result in substantial denial of services to a designated service area for the transportation disadvantaged.

Emergency Fund: transportation disadvantaged trust fund monies set aside to address emergency situations and which can be utilized by direct contract, without competitive bidding, between the Commission and an entity to handle transportation services during a time of emergency.

Employees: the total number of persons employed in an organization.

Fixed Route: (also known as Fixed Route/Fixed Schedule) service in which the vehicle (s) repeatedly follows a consistent time schedule and stopping points over the same route, whereby such schedule, route or service is not at the users request (e.g. conventional city bus, fixed guideway).

(FAC) Florida Administrative Code: a set of administrative codes regulating the state of Florida.

(FCTS) Florida Coordinated Transportation System: a transportation system responsible for coordination and service provisions for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes.

(FDOT) Florida Department Of Transportation: a governmental entity. The CTD is housed under the Florida Department of Transportation for administrative purposes.

(FS) Florida Statutes: the laws governing the state of Florida.

(FTE) Full Time Equivalent: a measure used to determine the number of employees based on a 40-hour work week. One FTE equals 40 work hours per week.

(FAC) Fully Allocated Costs: the total cost, including the value of donations, contributions, grants or subsidies, of providing coordinated transportation, including those services which are purchased through transportation operators or provided through coordination contracts.

General Trips: passenger trips by individuals to destinations of their choice, not associated with any agency program.

Goal: broad conditions that define what the organization hopes to achieve.

Grievance Process: a formal plan that provides a channel for the adjustment of grievances through discussions at progressively higher levels of authority, culminating in mediation, if necessary.

In Service: the time a vehicle begins the route to provide transportation service to the time the route is completed.

In-Take Clerk/Reservationist: an individual whose primary responsibility is to accept requests for trips, enter dates on requests, determine eligibility and provide customer service.

Latent Demand: demand that is not active (i.e., the potential demand of persons who are not presently in the market for a good or service).

Limited Access: the inability of a vehicle, facility or equipment to permit entry or exit to all persons. Lack of accessibility of vehicle, facility or other equipment.

Load Factor: the ratio of use to capacity of equipment or a facility during a specified time period.

Local Government: an elected and/or appointed public body existing to coordinate, govern, plan, fund, and administer public services within a designated, limited geographic area of the state.

Local Government Comprehensive Plan: a plan that meets the requirements of Sections 163.3177 and 163.3178, Florida Statutes.

(LCB) Local Coordinating Board: an entity in each designated service area composed of representatives appointed by the official planning agency. Its purpose is to provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator concerning the coordination of transportation disadvantaged services.

(MIS) Management Information System: the mechanism that collects and reports key operating and financial information for managers on a continuing and regular basis.

(MOA) Memorandum of Agreement: the state contract included in the transportation disadvantaged service plan for transportation disadvantaged services purchased by federal, state, or local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Commission and the community transportation coordinator and recognizes the community transportation coordinator as being responsible for the arrangement of the

provision of transportation disadvantaged services for a designated service area.

(MPO) Metropolitan Planning Organization: the area-wide organization responsible for conducting the continuous, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning and programming in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. s. 134, as provided in 23 U.S.C. s. 104(f)(3). Also serves as the official planning agency referred to in Chapter 427, F.S.

Network type: describes how a community transportation coordinator provides service, whether as a complete brokerage, partial brokerage, or sole provider.

Non-coordinated Trip: a trip provided by an agency, entity, or operator who is in whole or in part subsidized by local, state, or federal funds, and who does not have coordination/operator contract with the community transportation coordinator.

Nonsponsored Trip: transportation disadvantaged services that are sponsored in whole by the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.

Objective: specific, measurable conditions that the organization establishes to achieve its goals.

Off Peak: a period of day or night during which travel activity is generally low and a minimum of transit service is operated.

(OPA) Official Planning Agency: the official body or agency designated by the Commission to fulfill the functions of transportation disadvantaged planning. The Metropolitan Planning Organization shall serve as the planning agency in areas covered by such organizations.

Operating Cost: the sum of all expenditures that can be associated with the operation and maintenance of the system during the particular period under consideration.

Operating Cost per Driver Hour: operating costs divided by the number of driver hours, a measure of the cost efficiency of delivered service.

Operating Cost per Passenger Trip: operating costs divided by the total number of passenger trips, a measure of the efficiency of transporting riders. One of the key indicators of comparative performance of transit properties since it reflects both the efficiency with which service is delivered and the market demand for the service.

Operating Cost per Vehicle Mile: operating costs divided by the number of vehicle miles, a measure of the cost efficiency of delivered service.

Operating Environment: describes whether the community transportation coordinator provides service in an urban or rural service area.

Operating Expenses: sum of all expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of a transportation system.

Operating Revenues: all revenues and subsidies utilized by the operator in the provision of transportation services.

Operating Statistics: data on various characteristics of operations, including passenger trips, vehicle miles, operating costs, revenues, vehicles, employees, accidents, and roadcalls.

Operator Contract: a written contract between the community transportation coordinator and a transportation operator to perform transportation services.

Organization Type: describes the structure of a community transportation coordinator, whether it is a private-for-profit, private non-profit, government, quasi-government, or transit agency.

Paratransit: elements of public transit that provide service between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user with such service being provided at a time that is agreed upon between the user and the provider of the service. Paratransit services are provided by sedans, vans, buses, and other vehicles.

Partial Brokerage: type of CTC network in which the CTC provides some of the on-street transportation services and contracts with one or more other

transportation operators, including coordination contractors, to provide the other portion of the on-street transportation disadvantaged services, including coordination contractors.

Passenger Miles: a measure of service utilization which represents the cumulative sum of the distances ridden by each passenger. This is a duplicated mileage count. For example: If 10 people ride together for 10 miles, there would be 100 passenger miles.

Passenger Trip: a unit of service provided each time a passenger enters the vehicle, is transported, then exits the vehicle. Each different destination would constitute a passenger trip. This unit of service is also known as a one-way passenger trip.

Passenger Trips per Driver Hour: a performance measure used to evaluate service effectiveness by calculating the total number of passenger trips divided by the number of driver hours.

Passenger Trips per Vehicle Mile: a performance measure used to evaluate service effectiveness by calculating the total number of passenger trips divided by the number of vehicle miles.

Performance Measure: statistical representation of how well an activity, task, or function is being performed. Usually computed from operating statistics by relating a measure of service output or utilization to a measure of service input or cost.

Potential TD Population: (formerly referred to as TD Category I) includes persons with disabilities, senior citizens, low income persons, and high risk or at risk children. These persons are eligible to receive certain governmental and social service agency subsidies for program-related trips.

Program Trip: a passenger trip supplied or sponsored by a human service agency for the purpose of transporting clients to and from a program of that agency (e.g., sheltered workshops, congregate dining, and job training).

Public Transit: means the transporting of people by conveyances or systems of conveyances traveling on land or water, local or regional in

nature, and available for use by the public. Public transit systems may be governmental or privately owned. Public transit specifically includes those forms of transportation commonly known as paratransit.

Purchased Transportation: transportation services provided for an entity by a public or private transportation provider based on a written contract.

(RFB) **Request for Bids:** a competitive procurement process.

(RFP) **Request for Proposals:** a competitive procurement process.

(RFQ) **Request for Qualifications:** a competitive procurement process.

Reserve Fund: transportation disadvantaged trust fund monies set aside each budget year to insure adequate cash is available for incoming reimbursement requests when estimated revenues do not materialize.

Revenue Hours: total vehicle hours used in providing passenger transportation, excluding deadhead time.

Revenue Miles: the total number of paratransit service miles driven while TD passengers are actually riding on the vehicles. This figure should be calculated from first passenger pick-up until the last passenger drop-off, excluding any breaks in actual passenger transport. For example: if 10 passengers rode 10 miles together, there would be 10 revenue miles.

Ridesharing: the sharing of a vehicle by clients of two or more agencies, thus allowing for greater cost efficiency and improved vehicle utilization.

Roadcall: any in-service interruptions caused by failure of some functionally necessary element of the vehicle, whether the rider is transferred or not. Roadcalls exclude accidents.

Rule 41-2, F.A.C.: the rule adopted by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to implement provisions established in Chapter 427, F.S.

Scheduler: a person who prepares an operating schedule for vehicles on the basis of passenger demand, level of service, and other operating elements such as travel times or equipment availability.

Shuttle: a transit service that operates on a short route, or in a small geographical area, often as an extension to the service of a longer route.

Sole Source: (also referred to as Sole Provider) network type in which the CTC provides all of the transportation disadvantaged services.

Sponsored Trip: a passenger trip that is subsidized in part or in whole by a local, state, or federal government funding source (not including monies provided by the TD Trust Fund).

Standard: something established by authority, custom, or general consent as a model or example.

Stretcher Service: a form of non-emergency paratransit service whereby the rider is transported on a stretcher, litter, gurney, or other device that does not meet the dimensions of a wheelchair as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Subscription Service: a regular and recurring service in which schedules are prearranged, to meet the travel needs of riders who sign up for the service in advance. The service is characterized by the fact that the same passengers are picked up at the same location and time and are transported to the same location, and then returned to the point of origin in the same manner.

(SSPP) **System Safety Program Plan:** a documented organized approach and guide to accomplishing a system safety program set forth in Florida Rule 14-90.

Total Fleet: this includes all revenue vehicles held at the end of the fiscal year, including those in storage, emergency contingency, awaiting sale, etc.

(TQM) **Total Quality Management:** a management philosophy utilizing measurable goals and objectives to achieve quality management practices.

Transportation Alternative: those specific transportation services that are approved by rule to be acceptable transportation alternatives, and defined in s. 427.018, F. S.

(TD) **Transportation Disadvantaged:** those persons, including children as defined in s. 411.202 F.S., who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or inability to drive due to age or disability are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and have no other form of transportation available. These persons are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, or medically necessary or life-sustaining activities.

Transportation Disadvantaged Funds: any local government, state or available federal funds that are for the transportation of the transportation disadvantaged. Such funds may include, but are not limited to, funds for planning, Medicaid transportation, transportation provided pursuant to the ADA, administration of transportation disadvantaged services, operation, procurement and maintenance of vehicles or equipment, and capital investments. Transportation disadvantaged funds do not include funds expended by school districts for the transportation of children to public schools or to receive service as a part of their educational program.

Transportation Disadvantaged Population: (formerly referred to as TD Category II) persons, including children, who, because of disability, income status, or inability to drive due to age or disability are unable to transport themselves.

(TDSP) **Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan:** a three-year implementation plan, with annual updates developed by the CTC and the planning agency which contains the provisions of service delivery in the coordinated transportation system. The plan shall be reviewed and recommended by the local Coordinating Board.

Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund: a fund administered by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged in which all fees collected for the transportation disadvantaged program shall be deposited. The funds deposited will be appropriated by the legislature to the Commission to carry

out the Commission's responsibilities. Funds that are deposited may be used to subsidize a portion of a transportation disadvantaged person's transportation costs which are not sponsored by an agency.

Transportation Operator: a public, private for profit, or private non-profit entity engaged by the community transportation coordinator to provide service to the transportation disadvantaged pursuant to an approved coordinated transportation system transportation disadvantaged service plan.

Transportation Operator Contract: the Commission's standard coordination/operator contract between the community transportation coordinator and the transportation operator that outlines the terms and conditions for any services to be performed.

Trend Analysis: a common technique used to analyze the performance of an organization over a period of time.

Trip Priorities: various methods for restricting or rationing trips.

Trip Sheet: a record kept of specific information required by ordinance, rule or operating procedure for a period of time worked by the driver of a public passenger vehicle in demand-response service. Also known as a driver log.

(UPHC) Unduplicated Passenger Head Count: the actual number of people that were provided paratransit transportation services, not including personal care attendants, non-paying escorts, or persons provided fixed-schedule/fixed route service.

Unmet Demand: the number of trips desired but not provided because of insufficient service supply.

Urbanized Area: a city (or twin cities) that has a population of 50,000 or more (central city) and surrounding incorporated and unincorporated areas that meet certain criteria of population size of density.

(USDHHS) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: a federal agency regulating health and human services.

(USDOT) U.S. Department of Transportation: a federal agency regulating the transportation field.

Van Pool: a prearranged ride-sharing service in which a number of people travel together on a regular basis in a van. Van pools are commonly a company-sponsored van that has a regular volunteer driver.

Vehicle Inventory: an inventory of vehicles used by the CTC, transportation operators, and coordination contractors for the provision of transportation disadvantaged services.

Vehicle Miles: the total distance traveled by revenue vehicles, including both revenue miles and deadhead miles.

Vehicle Miles per Vehicle: a performance measure used to evaluate resource utilization and rate of vehicle depreciation, calculated by dividing the number of vehicle miles by the total number of vehicles.

Vehicles: number of vehicles owned by the transit agency that are available for use in providing services.

Volunteers: individuals who do selected tasks for the community transportation coordinator or its contracted operator, for little or no compensation.

Will-Calls: these are trips that are requested on a demand response basis, usually for a return trip. The transportation provider generally knows to expect a request for a will-call trip, but can not schedule the trip in advance because the provider does not know the exact time a passenger will call to request his/her trip.

Contract # _____

Effective: _____ to _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Agreement is between the COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED, hereby referred to as the "Commission," and

the COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR, designated pursuant to Chapter 427, F.S., to serve the transportation disadvantaged for the community that includes the entire area of

_____ county(ies), and hereafter referred to as the "Coordinator."

This Agreement is made in consideration of the mutual benefits to both parties; said consideration acknowledged hereto by the parties as good and valuable consideration.

The Parties Agree:

- I. The Coordinator Shall:
 - A. Become and remain totally apprised of all of the Transportation Disadvantaged resources available or planned in their designated service area. This knowledge will be used to plan, coordinate, and implement the most cost effective transportation disadvantaged transit system possible under the economic and other conditions that exist in the designated service area.
 - B. Plan and work with Community Transportation Coordinators in adjacent and other areas of the state to coordinate the provision of community trips that might be handled at a lower overall cost to the community by another Coordinator. This includes honoring any Commission-approved statewide certification program that allows for intercounty transportation opportunities.
 - C. Arrange for all services in accordance with Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, and Rule 41-2, FAC, and as further required by the Commission and the local Coordinating Board approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
 - D. Return any acquired profits or surplus funds originating through the course of business as the Coordinator that are beyond the amounts(s) specifically identified and approved in the accompanying Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. Such profits or funds shall be returned to the Coordinator's transportation system or to any subsequent Coordinator, as a total transportation system subsidy, to be applied to the immediate following operational year. The Coordinator will include similar language in all coordination contracts to assure that transportation disadvantaged related revenues are put back into transportation disadvantaged services.

E. Accomplish this Project by:

1. Developing a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan for approval by the local Coordinating Board and the Commission. Coordinators who are newly designated to a particular service area shall submit a local Coordinating Board approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, within 120 calendar days following the execution of the Coordinator's initial memorandum of agreement with the Commission, for approval by the Commission. All subsequent Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plans shall be submitted and approved with the corresponding memorandum of agreement. The approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan will be implemented and monitored to provide for community-wide transportation services for purchase by non-sponsored transportation disadvantaged persons, contracting social service agencies, and other entities that use local, state, or federal government funds for the purchase of transportation for the transportation disadvantaged.
2. Maximizing the use of available public school transportation resources and public fixed route or fixed schedule transit services and assuring that private or public transit, paratransit operators, and school boards have been afforded a fair opportunity to participate to the maximum extent feasible in the planning process and in the development of the provisions of the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan for the transportation disadvantaged.
3. Providing or arranging 24-hour, 7-day per week transportation disadvantaged service as required in the designated service area by any Federal, State or Local Government agency sponsoring such services. The provision of said services shall be furnished in accordance with the prior notification requirements identified in the local Coordinating Board and Commission approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
4. Complying with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations that apply to the provision of transportation disadvantaged services.
5. Submitting to the Commission an Annual Operating Report detailing demographic, operational, and financial data regarding coordination activities in the designated service area. The report shall be prepared on forms provided by the Commission and according to the instructions of said forms.

F. Comply with Audit and Record Keeping Requirements by:

1. Utilizing the Commission recognized Chart of Accounts defined in the *Transportation Accounting Consortium Model Uniform Accounting System for Rural and Specialized Transportation Providers* (uniform accounting system) for all transportation disadvantaged accounting and reporting purposes. Community Transportation Coordinators with existing and equivalent accounting systems are not required to adopt the Chart of Accounts in lieu of their existing Chart of Accounts but shall prepare all reports, invoices, and fiscal documents relating to the transportation disadvantaged functions and activities using the chart of accounts and accounting definitions as outlined in the above referenced manual.

2. Assuming the responsibility of invoicing for any transportation services arranged, unless otherwise stipulated by a purchase of service contract or coordination contract.
 3. Maintaining and filing with the Commission, local Coordinating Board, and all purchasing agencies/entities such progress, fiscal, inventory, and other reports as those entities may require during the period of this Agreement.
 4. Providing copies of finance and compliance audits to the Commission and local Coordinating Board as requested by the Commission or local Coordinating Board.
- G. Retain all financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and any other documents pertinent to this Agreement for a period of five (5) years after termination of this Agreement. If an audit has been initiated and audit findings have not been resolved at the end of five (5) years, the records shall be retained until resolution of the audit findings. The Coordinator shall assure that these records shall be subject to inspection, review, or audit at all reasonable times by persons duly authorized by the Commission or this Agreement. They shall have full access to and the right to examine any of the said records and documents during the retention period.
- H. Comply with Safety Requirements by:
1. Complying with Section 341.061, F.S., and Rule 14-90, FAC, concerning System Safety; or complying with Chapter 234.051, F.S., regarding school bus safety requirements for those services provided through a school board; and
 2. Assuring compliance with local, state, and federal laws, and Commission policies relating to drug testing. Conduct drug and alcohol testing for safety sensitive job positions within the coordinated system regarding pre-employment, randomization, post-accident, and reasonable suspicion as required by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.
- I. Comply with Commission insurance requirements by maintaining at least minimum liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$200,000 for any one person and \$300,000 per occurrence at all times during the existence of this Agreement for all transportation services purchased or provided for the transportation disadvantaged through the Community Transportation Coordinator. Upon the execution of this Agreement, the Coordinator shall add the Commission as an additional **named insured** to all insurance policies covering vehicles transporting the transportation disadvantaged. In the event of any cancellation or changes in the limits of liability in the insurance policy, the insurance agent or broker shall notify the Commission. The Coordinator shall insure that contracting transportation operators and coordination contractors also maintain the same minimum liability insurance, or an equal governmental insurance program. Insurance coverage in excess of \$1 million per occurrence must be approved by the Commission and the local Coordinating Board before inclusion in the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan or in the justification of rates and fare structures. Such coverage may be provided by a self-insurance program established and operating under the laws of the State of Florida and written verification of insurance protection in accordance with Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, shall be provided to the Commission upon request.

- J. Safeguard information by not using or disclosing any information concerning a user of services under this Agreement for any purpose not in conformity with the local, state and federal regulations (45 CFR, Part 205.50), except upon order of a court, written consent of the recipient, or his/her responsible parent or guardian when authorized by law.
- K. Protect Civil Rights by:
1. Complying with state and federal laws including but not limited to laws regarding discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin. The Coordinator gives this assurance in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining federal grants, loans, contracts (except contracts of insurance or guaranty), property, discounts, or other federal financial assistance to programs or activities receiving or benefiting from federal financial assistance and agreeing to complete a Civil Rights Compliance Questionnaire if so requested by the Commission.
 2. Agreeing that compliance with this assurance constitutes a condition of continued receipt of or benefit from federal financial assistance, and that it is binding upon the Coordinator, its successors, subcontractors, transferee, and assignees for the period during which such assistance is provided. Assure that all operators, subcontractors, subgrantee, or others with whom the Coordinator arranges to provide services or benefits to participants or employees in connection with any of its programs and activities are not discriminating against those participants or employees in violation of the above statutes, regulations, guidelines, and standards. In the event of failure to comply, the Coordinator agrees that the Commission may, at its discretion, seek a court order requiring compliance with the terms of this assurance or seek other appropriate judicial or administrative relief, to include assistance being terminated and further assistance being denied.
- L. To the extent allowed by Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, and only to the monetary and other limitations contained therein, indemnify and hold harmless the Commission and all of the Commission's members, officers, agents, and employees; purchasing agency/entity officers, agents, and employees; and the local, state, and federal governments from any claim, loss, damage, cost, charge or expense arising out of any act, action, neglect or omission by the Coordinator during the performance of this Agreement, whether direct or indirect, and whether to any person or property to which the Commission or said parties may be subject, except that neither the Coordinator nor any of its sub-contractors will be liable under this section for damages arising out of injury or damage to persons or property directly caused or resulting from the sole negligence of the Commission or any of its members, officers, agents or employees; purchasing agency/entity, officers, agents, and employees; and local, state, or federal governments. Nothing herein is intended to serve as a waiver of sovereign immunity by any agency/entity or Coordinator to which sovereign immunity may be applicable. Nothing herein shall be construed as consent by a state agency/entity or political subdivision of the State of Florida or the federal government to be sued by third parties in any matter arising out of any Agreement or contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, pursuant to Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, no agency or subdivision of the state shall be required to indemnify, insure, or assume any liability for the Commission's negligence.

- M. Comply with standards and performance requirements of the Commission, the local Coordinating Board approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, and any purchase of service contracting agencies/entities. Failure to meet the requirements or obligations set forth in this MOA, and performance requirements established and monitored by the local Coordinating Board in the approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, shall be due cause for non-payment of reimbursement invoices until such deficiencies have been addressed or corrected to the satisfaction of the Commission.
- N. Comply with subcontracting requirements by executing or negotiating contracts for transportation services with Transportation Operators and Coordination Contractors, and assuring that the conditions of such contracts are maintained. The requirements of Part 1, Paragraph E.5. through M are to be included in all contracts, subcontracts, coordination contracts, and assignments made by the Coordinator for services under this Agreement. Said contracts, subcontracts, coordination contracts, and assignments will be reviewed and approved annually by the Coordinator and local Coordinating Board for conformance with the requirements of this Agreement.
- O. Comply with the following requirements concerning drivers and vehicles:
 - 1. Drivers for paratransit services, including coordination contractors, shall be required to announce and identify themselves by name and company in a manner that is conducive to communications with the specific passenger, upon pickup of each rider, group of riders, or representative, guardian, or associate of the rider, except in situations where the driver regularly transports the rider on a recurring basis. Each driver must have photo identification that is in view of the passenger. Name patches, inscriptions or badges that affix to driver clothing are acceptable. For transit services, the driver photo identification shall be in a conspicuous location in the vehicle.
 - 2. The paratransit driver shall provide the passenger with boarding assistance, if necessary or requested, to the seating portion of the vehicle. The boarding assistance shall include opening the vehicle door, fastening the seat belt or utilization of wheelchair securement devices, storage of mobility assistive devices, and closing the vehicle door. In certain paratransit service categories, the driver may also be required to open and close doors to buildings, except in situations in which assistance in opening/closing building doors would not be safe for passengers remaining on the vehicle. Assisted access must be in a dignified manner. Drivers may not assist wheelchair up or down more than one step, unless it can be performed safely as determined by the passenger, guardian, and driver.
 - 3. All vehicles shall be equipped with two-way communications in good working order and be audible to the driver at all times to the base.
 - 4. All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system, shall have working air conditioners and heaters in each vehicle. Vehicles that do not have a working air conditioner or heater will be scheduled for repair or replacement as soon as possible.

P. Comply with other requirements as follows:

1. Transport an escort of a passenger and dependent children as locally negotiated and identified in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
2. Determine locally in the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan, the use, responsibility, and cost of child restraint devices.
3. Transport with the passenger at no additional charge, passenger property that can be carried by the passenger and/or driver in one trip and can be safely stowed on the vehicle. Additional requirements may be negotiated for carrying and loading rider property beyond this amount. Passenger property does not include wheelchairs, child seats, stretchers, secured oxygen, personal assistive devices, or intravenous devices.
4. Provide shelter, security, and safety of passengers at vehicle transfer points.
5. Post a local or other toll-free number for complaints or grievances inside each vehicle. The local complaint process shall be outlined as a section in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan including advising the dissatisfied person about the Commission's Ombudsman Program as a step within the process as approved by the local Coordinating Board.
6. Provide out-of-service-area trips, when determined locally and approved by the local Coordinating Board, except in instances where local ordinances prohibit such trips.
7. Keep interior of all vehicles free from dirt, grime, oil, trash, torn upholstery, damaged or broken seats, protruding metal or other objects or materials which could soil items placed in the vehicle or provide discomfort for the passenger.
8. Determine locally by the local Coordinating Board and provide in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan the billing requirements of the Community Transportation Coordinator. All bills shall be paid to subcontractors within 7 calendar days after receipt of said payment by the Coordinator, in accordance with Section 287.0585, Florida Statutes.
9. Maintain or have access to a passenger/trip database on each rider being transported within the system.
10. Provide each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant adequate seating for paratransit services. No more passengers than the registered passenger seating capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time. For transit services provided by transit vehicles, adequate seating or standing space will be provided to each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating or standing capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time.
11. First Aid shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

12. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

II. The Commission Shall:

- A. Recognize the Coordinator as the entity described in Section 427.011(5), Florida Statutes, and Rule 41-2.002(4), F.A.C.
- B. Attempt to insure that all entities with transportation disadvantaged funds will purchase transportation disadvantaged services through the Coordinator's system.

III. The Coordinator and the Commission Further Agree:

- A. Nothing in this Agreement shall require the Commission to observe or enforce compliance with any provision thereof, perform any other act or do any other thing in contravention of any applicable state law. If any of the provisions of this Agreement is found by a court of law to violate any applicable state law, the purchasing agency/entity will at once notify the Commission in writing in order that appropriate changes and modifications may be made by the Commission and the Coordinator to the end that the Coordinator may proceed as soon as possible with the provision of transportation services.
- B. If any part or provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the remainder of this Agreement shall be binding on the parties hereto.
- C. Termination Conditions:
 1. Termination at Will - This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon no less than thirty (30) days notice, without cause. Said notice shall be delivered by certified mail, return receipt required, or in person with proof of delivery.
 2. Termination for Breach - Unless the Coordinator's breach is waived by the Commission in writing, the Commission may, by written notice to the Coordinator, terminate this Agreement upon no less than twenty-four (24) hours notice. Said notice shall be delivered by certified mail, return receipt requested, or in person with proof of delivery. Waiver by the Commission of breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach and shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of this Agreement, and shall not act as a waiver or estoppel to enforcement of any provision of this Agreement. The provisions herein do not limit the Commission's right to remedies at law or to damages.
- D. This agreement will expire unless an extension is granted to the Coordinator in writing by the Commission, in accordance with Chapter 287, Florida Statutes.
- E. Renegotiations or Modifications of this Agreement shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing, duly approved by the Commission, and signed by both parties hereto.

F. Notice and Contact:

The name and address of the contract manager for the Commission for this Agreement is: **Executive Director, 605 Suwannee Street, MS-49, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450**. The representative/position of the Coordinator responsible for administration of the program under this Agreement is:

In the event that either party designates different representatives after execution of this Agreement, notice of the name and address of the new representative will be rendered in writing to the other party and said notification attached to originals of this Agreement.

This document has been reviewed in its entirety and approved by the local Coordinating Board at its official meeting held on _____.

Coordinating Board Chairperson

WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATOR:

STATE OF FLORIDA, COMMISSION FOR
THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED:

Agency Name

Typed Name of Authorized Individual

Typed Name of Authorized Individual

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Title: Executive Director

Title: _____

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan - Annual Update

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2022

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged
Coordinating Board



2017/22 Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan - Annual Update

Approved by the

Madison County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org/mtpo
352.955.2000

Ronnie Moore, Chair

with Assistance from



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org
352.955.2200

and



Big Bend Transit, Inc., Inc.
P.O. Box 1721
Tallahassee, FL 32302
850.574.6266

May 3, 2021

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Chapter I: Development Plan

A. Introduction to The Service Area

The purpose of this section is to provide information about the organization and development of Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Madison County. This Plan shall serve as the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan under the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). The Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults and people with low incomes.

1. Background of Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program

Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program began in 1979 with the adoption of Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. The Florida Legislature adopted this legislation to provide transportation disadvantaged services in a coordinated fashion.

The transportation disadvantaged are defined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, as:

"those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, age are unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent on others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk as defined in s. 411.202, Florida Statutes."

In 1989, the Florida Legislature reviewed Chapter 427, Florida Statutes according to the State's Regulatory Sunset Act (Section 11.61, Florida Statutes). During this legislative review, the Legislature decided to reenact Chapter 427, Florida Statutes with several revisions.

In 1990, Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code was adopted to implement the provisions of Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. In addition, Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code assigns the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged with the responsibility to accomplish the coordination of transportation services provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

The following sections discuss each of the major components of the Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

a. Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged is independent and reports to the Governor and the Legislature. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes states that:

"the purpose of the Commission is to accomplish the coordination of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged."

The Governor appoints seven members to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. Five of the members must have significant experience in the operation of a business and two of the members must have a disability and use the transportation disadvantaged system. The Chair is appointed by the Governor and Vice-Chair is elected annually from the membership of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

b. Designated Official Planning Agency

The Designated Official Planning Agency is responsible for transportation disadvantaged planning in a given area. In the urbanized areas of the state, the planning agencies are metropolitan planning organizations. In the rural areas of the state, organizations which are eligible to be planning agencies are:

- county or city governments
- regional planning councils
- metropolitan planning organizations
- local planning organizations who are currently performing planning activities in the service area

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency for Madison County. According to Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code, responsibilities of the Designated Official Planning Agency include:

- Appointment of members to the local coordinating boards.
- Provision of staff support to the local coordinating boards.
- Recommendation to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged regarding the initial selection or re-designation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

c. Local Coordinating Boards

The Designated Official Planning Agency is responsible for appointing a local coordinating board in each county. The purpose of the coordinating board is to provide advice and direction to the Community Transportation Coordinator concerning the coordination of transportation services.

According to Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code, the Designated Official Planning Agency appoints an elected official, to serve as the official chairperson for all local coordinating board meetings. The Board shall elect a Vice-Chair.

In addition to the Chair, the following agencies or other groups serve on the local coordinating boards as voting members:

- An elected official from Madison County.
- A representative of the Florida Department of Transportation.
- A representative of the Florida Department of Children and Family Services.
- A representative of the Public Education Community.
- A representative of the Florida Department of Education.

- A person recommended by the local Veterans Service Office representing veterans of the county.
- A person who is recognized by the Florida Association for Community Action as representing the economically disadvantaged.
- A person over age sixty representing the elderly.
- A person with a disability representing the disabled.
- Two citizen advocate representatives in the county; one who must be a person who uses the transportation services of the system as their primary means of transportation.
- A local representative for children at risk.
- In areas where they exist, the Chairperson or designee of the local mass transit or public transit system's Board.
- A representative of the Florida Department of Elderly Affairs.
- An experienced representative of the local private for profit transportation industry.
- A representative of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration.
- A representative of the Regional Workforce Development Board.
- A representative of the local medical community.
- A local representative of the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

The following are some of the duties of the local coordinating board:

- Approving the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
- Annually evaluating the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance.
- Reviewing all applications for local, state and federal transportation disadvantaged funds.

d. Community Transportation Coordinator

The Community Transportation Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that coordinated transportation services are provided to serve the transportation disadvantaged. Big Bend Transit, Inc. is the designated Community Transportation Coordinator for Madison County.

Big Bend Transit, Inc. may provide all or a portion of transportation service in a designated service area. Big Bend Transit, Inc. may subcontract or broker services if it is cost effective and efficient. The following are some responsibilities of Big Bend Transit, Inc.:

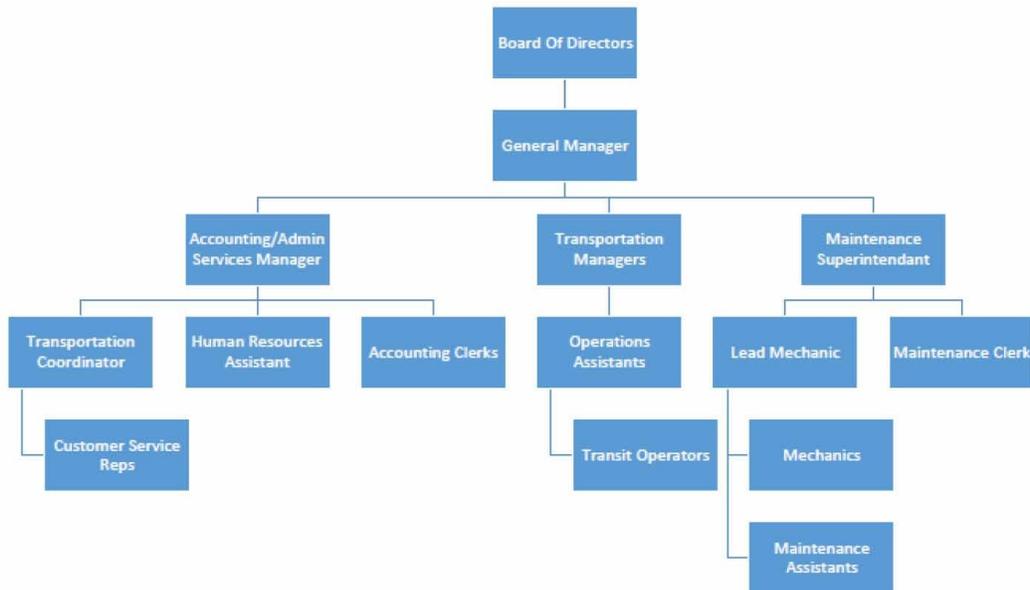
- In cooperation with the planning agency, develop and implement a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
- Execute contracts for service with transportation operators.

- Review all applications for federal, state and local funding (in conjunction with the local coordinating board).
- Prepare an annual operating report.

2. Designation Date/History

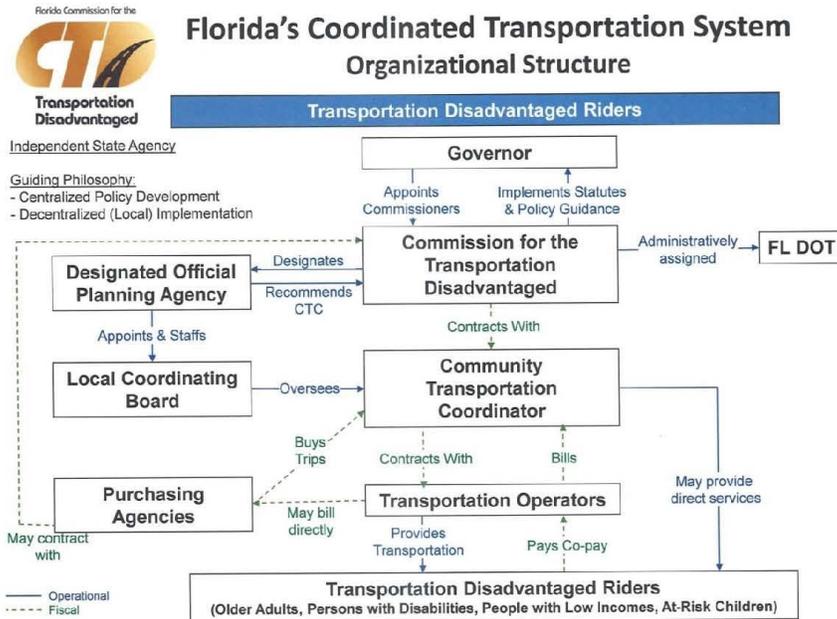
The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged first approved Big Bend Transit, Inc.'s designation as the Community Transportation Coordinator for Madison County in October 1990. In 2017, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council issued a request for proposals for Madison County Community Transportation Coordinator. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged designated Big Bend Transit, Inc. as the Madison County Community Transportation Coordinator effective July 1, 2017.

Big Bend Transit, Inc. is a private non-profit corporation, incorporated in March 1978 for the primary purpose of coordinating, consolidating, planning for and providing efficient and effective paratransit services for persons with disabilities, elderly individuals, low-income individuals and other transportation disadvantaged individuals. The business affairs of Big Bend Transit, Inc. are managed by a Board of Directors. Coordination functions and the general operating functions are directed by a General Manager. Operations, maintenance, administration/fiscal personnel are employed by Big Bend Transit, Inc. The following chart identifies Big Bend Transit, Inc., Inc.'s organizational structure.



3. Florida's Coordinated Transportation System Organization Chart

The following chart identifies the partners involved in Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.



4. Consistency Review of Other Plans

a. Local Government Comprehensive Plan

The local comprehensive planning process involves essentially four basic steps:

1. the collection and analysis of pertinent data concerning the physical and socio-economic characteristics of the study area;
2. the formulation of goals for future growth and development;
3. the development of objectives and policies guided by the goals which are the essence of the Comprehensive Plan;
4. the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the Madison County Comprehensive Plan.

b. Regional Policy Plan

The North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan adopted in August 2018 is a long-range guide for the physical, economic, and social development of a planning region which identifies regional goals and policies. The plan contains regional goals and policies designed to promote a coordinated program of regional actions directed at resolving problems identified in the trends and conditions statements contained within each strategic regional subject area.

The following policies are included in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan:

REGIONAL GOAL 5.6. Reduce the unmet general trip demand of the north central Florida Transportation Disadvantaged population.

Policy 5.6.1. Improve mobility options for low-income, elderly and disabled citizens.

Policy 5.6.2. Increase funding for coordinated transportation systems for the transportation disadvantaged.

Policy 5.6.3. The Council and/or the Metropolitan Transportation Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area should provide technical assistance to designated north central Florida local transportation coordinating boards and community transportation coordinators.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

c. Transit Development Plan

Not applicable.

d. Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
5-Year/20-Year Plan

The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged 5-Year/20-Year Plan establishes goals, objectives and a plan of action for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. The plan presents forecasts of demand for transportation disadvantaged services, the cost of meeting the forecasted demand, forecasts of future funding for transportation disadvantaged services and approaches to balancing the supply and demand for these services. The plan also provides forecasts of the transportation disadvantaged population, demand for trips, number of trips supplied, unmet demand for trips and operating expenses.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged 5-Year/20-Year Plan.

e. Metropolitan Planning Organization Long-Range Transportation Plans

Not applicable.

f. Transportation Improvement Program

Not applicable.

5. Public Participation

The Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Board includes representatives of public, private and non-profit transportation and human services providers as well as the public to participate in the development and update of the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is developed through input of the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Board whose membership includes citizens and human service providers.

6. Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Membership Certification

**MADISON COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature:  Date: 3/25/21
Charles S. Chestnut IV, Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Moore		No Term
Elderly	Carl Sims, Jr.	Vacant	6/30/2023
Disabled	Paula Arnold	Vacant	6/30/2021
Citizen Advocate	Shanetha Mitchell	Vacant	6/30/2021
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2021
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2022
Florida Association for Community Action	Matthew Pearson	Vacant	6/30/2023
Public Education	Melinda Richie	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Sylvia Bamburg	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Sandra Collins	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	Steve Russell	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Vacant	Janice Presley	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Diane Head	Anthony Jennings	No Term
Veteran Services	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2023
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2022
Local Medical Community	Leila Rykard	Kimberly Allbritton	6/30/2022

7. Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Membership

MADISON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD

MEMBER/REPRESENTING	ALTERNATE/REPRESENTING
Commissioner Ronnie Moore Local Elected Official/Chair Grievance Committee Member	Not Applicable
Sandra Collins Florida Department of Transportation	Lauren Adams Florida Department of Transportation
Steve Russell Florida Department of Children and Families	Amanda Bryant Florida Department of Children and Families
Vacant Florida Department of Education	Vacant Florida Department of Education
Vacant Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Janice Presley Florida Department of Elder Affairs
Vacant Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Vacant Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
Diane Head Regional Workforce Development Board Grievance Committee Member	Anthony Jennings Regional Workforce Development Board
Sheryl Dick-Stanford Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sylvia Bamburg Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Matthew Pearson, Vice-Chair Florida Association for Community Action Grievance Committee Member Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Florida Association for Community Action Term ending June 30, 2023
Melinda Richie Public Education	Vacant Public Education
Vacant Veterans Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Veterans Term ending June 30, 2023
Shanetha Mitchell Citizen Advocate Term ending June 30, 2021 Grievance Committee Member	Vacant Citizen Advocate Term ending June 30, 2021
Vacant Citizen Advocate - User Term ending June 30, 2021	Vacant Citizen Advocate - User Term ending June 30, 2021
Paula Arnold Persons with Disabilities Term ending June 30, 2021 Grievance Committee Member	Vacant Persons with Disabilities Term ending June 30, 2021
Carl A. Sims, Jr. Elderly Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Elderly Term ending June 30, 2023
Leila C. Rykard Medical Community Term ending June 30, 2022	Kimberly Allbritton Medical Community Term ending June 30, 2022
Vacant Children at Risk Term ending June 30, 2022	Vacant Children at Risk Term ending June 30, 2022
Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022	Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022

B. Service Area Profile and Demographics

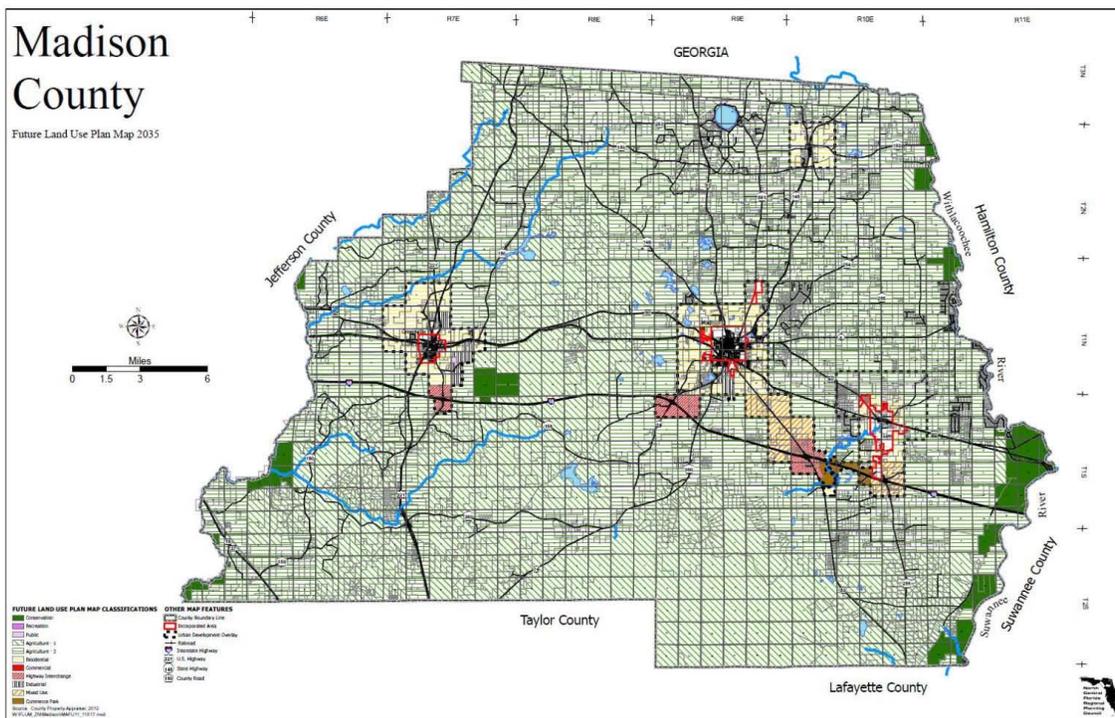
1. Madison County Service Area Description

Madison County has a land area of approximately 692 square miles. The County is located along the northern border of the State of Florida, on the south boundary of the State of Georgia. The County is bounded on the east by Hamilton and Suwannee Counties, on the south by Lafayette and Taylor Counties and on the west by Jefferson County. The Withlacoochee, Suwannee and Aucilla Rivers form a boundary on the east and west.

2. Demographics

a. Land Use

The Madison County Comprehensive Plan was rewritten and adopted by Ordinance on July 2013 and was amended on June 2015. The Comprehensive Plan is comprised of ten elements: 1) Future Land Use Element, 2) Traffic Circulation Element, 3) Housing Element, 4) Infrastructure Element, 5) Conversation Element, 6) Recreation and Open Space Element, 7) Intergovernmental Coordination Element, 8) Capital Improvements Element, 9) Economic Development Element and 10) Public School Facilities Element. Below is the Future Land Use Plan Map 2035.



b. Population/Composition

The Bureau of Economic and Business Research estimates Madison County's total population in 2020 as 18,954. The Bureau of Economic and Business Research also estimates the population of the City of Madison as 2,889 the Town of Greenville as 756, the Town of Lee as 335 and the unincorporated area as 14,964.

**TABLE 1
POPULATION COUNTS AND ESTIMATES
MADISON COUNTY**

AREA	POPULATION COUNT 2010	POPULATION ESTIMATE 2020
Madison County	19,224	18,594
Town of Greenville	843	756
Town of Lee	352	335
City of Madison	3,049	2,889
Unincorporated Area	14,980	14,964

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida

**TABLE 2
POPULATION
MADISON COUNTY, 2010**

2010 U.S. CENSUS POPULATION	SQUARE MILES	PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE
19,224	695	27.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2010, State and County Quick Facts

According to Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 1,334 individuals are inmates and patients residing in federal and state government-operated institutions. They are considered nonresidents of the local area for revenue-sharing purposes. Institutionalized individuals are counted as part of the general population, so they are reflected in statistics on age. However, they are not included in the statistics for income or poverty levels for households

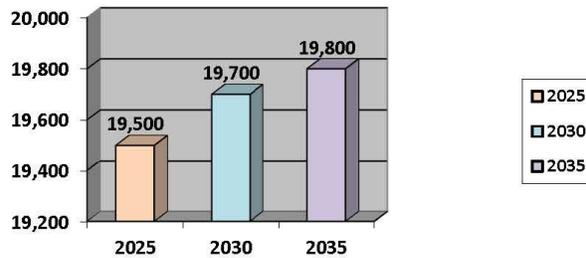
c. Population Densities

With approximately 652 square miles of land area, the County population density in 2010 was approximately 27 persons per square mile.

d. Population Projections

According to the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, Madison County will have a total population of 19,500 in the year 2025. Illustration I shows population projections for 2025, 2030 and 2035.

ILLUSTRATION I



Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida

e. Population Age Distribution

Population age distribution is useful in determining mobility needs which might be met by transit. The elderly typically are less likely to have access to a vehicle and thus are more dependent on the transit system for their travel needs. Table 3 shows estimates of the County's population by age group.

**TABLE 3
Population Estimates By Age Group
Madison County**

Age Group	Estimated 2019 Population
0-4	1,161
5-17	3,042
18-24	1,590
25-54	7,103
55-64	2,749
65-79	3,014
80+	911

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research

f. Disability and Self Care Limitations

According to the Bureau of the Census 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Madison County had an estimated disabled population of 3,384 in 2017. The estimated population under 18 years of age with a disability was 101. The estimated population 18 to 64 years of age with a disability was 1,809. The estimated population 65 years and over with a disability was 1,474.

g. Employment

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program, the unemployment rate in December 2020 was 5.9 percent.

h. Income

According to the 2010 Census, the median household income for Madison County in 2018 was \$35,509. Table 4 characterizes the levels of household income in Madison County. Table 5 shows income levels used to define the federal poverty level. The percent of persons below poverty level in 2018 was 23 percent. Table 4 shows per capita income and the median household income. Table 5 shows income levels that are currently used to define the federal poverty level. Low-income households often have no mobility choice other than public transportation and thus generally have high potential for transit use.

TABLE 4
HOUSEHOLD INCOME
MADISON COUNTY

PER CAPITA INCOME 2018	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME 2018
\$19,223	\$35,509

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2010, State and County Quick Facts

TABLE 5
2021 Poverty Guidelines For The 48 Contiguous States
And The District of Columbia

Persons In Family/Household	2021 Poverty Guideline
1	\$12,880
2	\$17,420
3	\$21,960
4	\$26,500
5	\$31,040
6	\$35,580
7	\$40,120
8	\$44,660

* For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,680 for each additional person.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

According to the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, Florida Department of Health, Division of Public Health Statistics & Performance Management, the total Medicaid eligibles for Madison County as of December 31, 2020 was 5,272. Table 7 shows individuals who received Supplemental Security Income.

TABLE 6
INCOME AND POVERTY STATUS
MADISON COUNTY

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME 2018	PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL 2017
\$35,509	23%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2010, State and County Quick Facts

TABLE 7
SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME
MADISON COUNTY
2019

Type Of Assistance	Recipients
Aged Assistance	58
Blind and Disabled	873

Source: Social Security Administration, Master Beneficiary Record and Supplemental Security Record

i. **Housing**

The 2010 Census estimates that, in 2018, the total number of households in Madison County was 6,682 and that the average household size was 2.45. Table 8 provides information about housing in Madison County.

TABLE 8
HOUSING
MADISON COUNTY

HOUSING UNITS 2018	HOUSEHOLDS 2018	PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD
8,632	6,682	2.45

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2010, State and County Quick Facts

j. **Health**

Madison County has one hospital, Madison County Memorial Hospital. According to the 2020 Physician Workforce Annual Report, there were 7 licensed doctors of medicine in Madison County in 2019/20.

k. **Transportation**

According to the Bureau of the Census 2013-2017 American Community Survey, 786 households in Madison County were estimated to have no vehicle available.

C. Service Analysis

1. General and Critical Need Transportation Disadvantaged Populations

The National Center for Transit Research Center for Urban Transportation Research developed a methodology for estimating the general and critical need Transportation Disadvantaged population based on the most current U.S. Census Bureau demographic and socio-economic data available. The general Transportation Disadvantaged population includes the estimates of all disabled, elderly, low income persons and children who are "high-risk" or "at-risk."

Madison County
Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan

The critical need Transportation Disadvantaged population includes individuals who, due to severe physical limitations or low incomes, are unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation and are dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life sustaining activities.

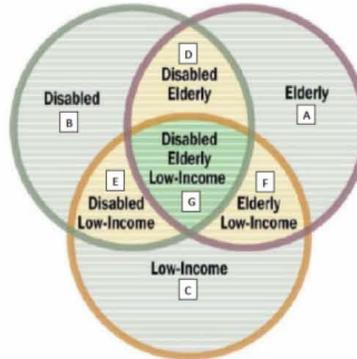
The following tables show general and critical need Transportation Disadvantaged population estimates for Madison County.

CALCULATION OF GENERAL TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED POPULATION

Madison County							
Census Data from 2018							
County Pop. By Age	Total Pop by Age	% of Total Pop (136,400)	Population Below Poverty Level by Age	% of Total Pop Below Poverty Level by Age	Total Population with a Disability by Age	% of Total Pop with a Disability by Age	% Total Pop with a Disability and Below Poverty Level by Age
<18	3,492	18.8%	1,759	9.5%	290	8.3%	126
18-64	11,239	60.7%	2,857	15.4%	2,192	19.5%	539
Total Non Elderly	14,731	79.5%	4,616	24.9%	2,481	16.8%	665
65+	3,798	20.5%	625	3.4%	1,758	46.3%	300
Total Elderly	3,798	20.5%	625	3.4%	1,758	46.3%	300
Total	18,529	100%	5,241	28.3%	4,240	22.9%	965

Double Counts Calculations		
E - Estimate non-elderly/disabled/ low income	From Base Data (I9)	665
B - Estimate non-elderly/ disabled/not low income	Subtract I9 from G9	1,816
G - Estimate elderly/disabled/low income	From Base Data (I11)	300
D - Estimate elderly/ disabled/not low income	Subtract I11 from G11	1,458
F - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/low income	Subtract I11 from E11	325
A - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/not low income	Subtract sum of J17, J18 and J19 from C11	1,715
C - Estimate low income/not elderly/not disabled	Subtract I9 from E9	3,951
Total - Non-Duplicated		10,230

General TD Population		% of Total
Non-Duplicated General TD Population Estimate	10,230	55.2%



Madison County
Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan

CALCULATION OF CRITICAL NEED TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED POPULATION

Madison County

Census Data from: 2018

County Pop. By Age	Total Population with a Disability by Age	% with a Severe Disability by Age	Total Population with a Severe Disability by Age	% of Total Pop with Severe Disability by Age
<18	290	8.30%	126	3.60%
18-64	2,192	19.50%	539	4.80%
Total Non Elderly	2,481	16.85%	665	4.52%
65+	1,758	46.30%	300	7.90%
Total Elderly	1,758	46.30%	300	7.90%
Total	4,240	22.88%	965	5.21%

% of Severe Disability Below Poverty Level	Total Severe Disability Below Poverty Level
28.60%	190
11.70%	35
	225

Critical Need - Severely Disabled TD Population			
	Not Low Income	Low Income	Totals
Non-Elderly	475	190	665
Elderly	265	35	300
TOTAL	740	225	965

TRIP RATES USED	
Low Income Non Disabled Trip Rate	
Total	2.400
Less	
Transit	0.389
School Bus	0.063
Special Transit	0.049
	1.899
Severely Disabled Trip Rate	
Special Transit	0.049

Low Income & Not Disabled = C + F			
<i>Assumes</i>			
27.2%	xx % without auto access	4,276	
		1,163	
100%	xx % without transit access	1,163	
		1,163	
Calculation of Daily Trips Rates			
Total Actual Critical TD Population		Rates	Total
		Per Person	Daily Trips
Severely Disabled	965	0.049	47
Low Income ND	###	1.899	2,209
Totals	2,128		2,256

CALCULATION OF DAILY TRIPS FOR THE CRITICAL NEED TD POPULATION

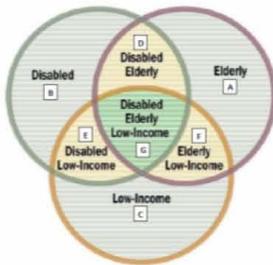
2. Paratransit Service Demand Estimation

The National Center for Transit Research Center for Urban Transportation Research developed a paratransit service demand estimation tool based on the most current U.S. Census Bureau demographic and socio-economic data available. The following table shows trip demand for the critical Transportation Disadvantaged population.

FORECAST OF GENERAL AND CRITICAL NEED TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS

Madison County

General TD Population Forecast	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
<i>Overlapping Circle Component</i>											
E - Estimate non-elderly/disabled/low income	665	667	669	671	672	674	676	678	680	682	684
B - Estimate non-elderly/disabled/not low income	1,816	1,821	1,826	1,831	1,836	1,841	1,846	1,851	1,856	1,861	1,866
G - Estimate elderly/disabled/low income	300	301	302	303	303	304	305	306	307	307	308
D - Estimate elderly/disabled/not low income	1,458	1,462	1,466	1,470	1,474	1,478	1,482	1,486	1,491	1,495	1,499
F - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/low income	325	326	327	328	329	329	330	331	332	333	334
A - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/not low income	1,715	1,719	1,724	1,729	1,733	1,738	1,743	1,748	1,752	1,757	1,762
C - Estimate low income/not elderly/not disabled	3,951	3,962	3,972	3,983	3,994	4,005	4,016	4,027	4,038	4,049	4,060
TOTAL GENERAL TD POPULATION	10,230	10,258	10,286	10,314	10,342	10,370	10,399	10,427	10,455	10,484	10,512
TOTAL POPULATION	18,529	18,579	18,630	18,681	18,732	18,783	18,834	18,885	18,937	18,988	19,040



Madison County

Critical Need TD Population Forecast	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Total Critical TD Population											
<i>Disabled</i>	965	968	970	973	976	978	981	984	986	989	992
<i>Low Income Not Disabled No Auto/Transit</i>	1,163	1,166	1,169	1,173	1,176	1,179	1,182	1,185	1,189	1,192	1,195
Total Critical Need TD Population	2,128	2,134	2,139	2,146	2,152	2,157	2,163	2,169	2,175	2,181	2,187
Daily Trips - Critical Need TD Population											
<i>Severely Disabled</i>	47	47	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	49
<i>Low Income - Not Disabled - No Access</i>	2,209	2,215	2,221	2,227	2,233	2,239	2,245	2,251	2,257	2,263	2,269
Total Daily Trips Critical Need TD Population	2,256	2,294	2,333	2,372	2,412	2,455	2,498	2,543	2,588	2,633	2,675
Annual Trips	586,522	596,434	606,514	616,764	627,187	638,288	649,586	661,084	672,785	684,693	695,443

3. Barriers to Coordination

Medicaid non-emergency transportation services are no longer coordinated through Florida's Coordinated Transportation System in Madison County. In May 2014, the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration implemented Florida's Managed Medical Care Program. The Managed Medical Care Program requires Managed Medical Assistance Plans to provide transportation to their enrollees who have no other means of transportation available.

The Managed Medical Assistance Plans provide transportation services directly through their own network of transportation providers. According Chapter 2 of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration Transportation Coverage, Limitations and Reimbursement Handbook, July 1997, "Medicaid is required by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes to purchase transportation services through the designated Community Transportation Coordinator, unless those services are not cost effective or the Community Transportation Coordinator does not coordinate Medicaid transportation services."

Other barriers to the coordination of transportation services in Madison County include the following:

- low density, rural population limits the ability to multi-load vehicles while maintaining an acceptable level of service; and
- limited availability of medical services/facilities in Bradford County requires out-of-county trips.

4. Needs Assessment

United States Code Section 5310 Capital Grant Program

PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE
Purchase replacement and/or expansion paratransit vehicle to provide transportation for the elderly and disabled.	2020/21	Madison County	\$ 66,300.80	United States Code Section 5310
			\$ 8,287.60	Florida Department of Transportation
			\$ 8,287.60	Big Bend Transit, Inc.
Purchase one replacement vehicle to provide transportation to individuals with disabilities for employment and to the Life Skills Development Center.	2018/19	Madison County	\$53,413.60	United States Code Section 5310
			\$6,676.70	Florida Department of Transportation
			\$6,676.70	The ARC of Big Bend, Inc.

United States Code Section 5311 Grant Program

PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE
Provide paratransit transportation services to the elderly, persons with disabilities and disadvantaged citizens residing in the county.	2020/21	Madison County	\$235,116.00	United States Code Section 5311
			\$235,116.00	Big Bend Transit, Inc., Inc.

United States Code Section 5339 Grant Program

PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	PROJECT LOCATION	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	PROJECT FUNDING SOURCE
Purchase miscellaneous equipment for operations and/or maintenance.	2020/21	Madison County	\$72,546.00	United States Code Section 5339

Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Grant

PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	PROJECT LOCATION	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE
Provide trips to transportation disadvantaged individuals.	2021/22	Madison County	\$210,961.00	Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund
			\$23,440.00	Big Bend Transit, Inc.

Rural Area Capital Assistance Program

PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	LOCATION	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE
Purchase one replacement vehicle	2020/21	Madison County	\$83,877.00	Rural Area Capital Assistance Program Grant

5. Goals, Objectives and Strategies

- GOAL I:** **Coordinate transportation disadvantaged services that are funded with local, state and/or federal government funds.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Identify agencies that receive local, state and/or federal government transportation funds that are not coordinated through the Community Transportation Coordinator.
- Strategy a:** Identify agencies in Madison County that receive local, state and/or federal funds to transport clients or purchase vehicles.
- Strategy b:** Contact agencies to obtain information about coordination opportunities.
- Strategy c:** Determine whether a purchase of service contract, coordination contract or subcontract should be executed with the identified agencies to coordinate the transportation services that are being provided.
- GOAL II:** **Identify unmet transportation needs in Madison County.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Identify unmet transportation needs and discuss ways to meet these needs at each local Coordinating Board meeting.
- Strategy:** Report quarterly the number and types of transportation services that are requested which it is unable to provide.
- GOAL III:** **Provide transportation services that are consumer oriented and effectively coordinate trips.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Provide transportation services that maximize the use of all vehicles to eliminate duplication of service without unduly inconveniencing the rider.
- Strategy a:** Report on a quarterly basis the number of single passenger trips provided.
- Strategy b:** Work with purchasing agencies and service providers (doctors' offices, hospitals, etc.) to arrange appointments to group trips.
- Strategy c:** Document the reduction of single passenger trips.
- Strategy d:** Measure the total passenger trips per vehicles quarterly.
- GOAL IV:** **Develop creative ways to provide additional trips.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Identify additional funding opportunities to provide transportation.
- Strategy:** Using unmet needs data, determine the level of demand and cost of providing additional service.
- GOAL V:** **Ensure demand responsive transportation services offered to individuals with disabilities is equivalent to the level and quality of transportation services offered to individuals without disabilities.**

- OBJECTIVE:** Comply with the requirements of the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)* regarding the access to and provision of transportation services.
- Strategy a):** Eliminate physical barriers preventing the use of transportation services by persons who are elderly and/or disabled.
- Strategy b):** Train staff members regarding the utilization of special equipment for persons with disabilities as well as the abilities of persons with disabilities.
- GOAL VI:** **The local Coordinating Board shall annually evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance based on specific criteria.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The local Coordinating Board shall annually evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance in general and relative to Commission standards as referenced in *Rule 41-2.006 of the Florida Administrative Code*.
- GOAL VII:** **Utilize the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund allocation in the most cost efficient manner.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Adhere to a strict budget of Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds to ensure that these funds are spent in the most efficient manner.
- Strategy a):** Determine the most efficient manner to expend the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.
- Strategy b):** Inform the Local Coordinating Board of any difficulties experienced concerning the under expenditure or over expenditure of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.
- GOAL VIII:** **Comply with all reporting requirements of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and the Local Coordinating Board.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Complete all reports which require Local Coordinating Board review and/or approval.
- Strategy:** Complete and submit all final reports to the planning agency staff a minimum of two weeks prior to the meeting date to be reviewed and included in the Local Coordinating Board's meeting packet.
- GOAL IX:** **Maintain the quality of service.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The local Coordinating Board shall monitor the quality of service provided by the Community Transportation Coordinator.
- Strategy:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall report complaints to the Local Coordinating Board.
- OBJECTIVE:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall provide courteous and professional service.**
- Strategy:** Reservationists and other office staff shall receive sensitivity and courtesy training annually.

- GOAL X: Promote cost and service efficiency through efficient routing, scheduling and operation procedures.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The local Coordinating Board shall encourage the Community Transportation Coordinator to provide the greatest number of trips using the most cost effective methods possible.
- Strategy:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall maintain a database with pertinent information relative to clients' needs and limitations.
- GOAL XI: Ensure the provision of safe transportation services.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Ensure the safety and well being of passengers through inspection and maintenance of all vehicles in the coordinated system and driver training.
- Strategy:** The System Safety Program Plan shall meet all established requirements and adhere to *Chapter 341 Florida Statutes* and *Rule and 14-90, Florida Administrative Code*.

6. Implementation Plan

STRATEGIES	IMPLEMENTATION DATE
(1) Identify agencies located in Madison County receiving local, state and/or federal funds to transport clients or purchase vehicles. (2) Contact the identified agencies to obtain information about the funding they receive. (3) Determine type of contract to execute to coordinate transportation services.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing
(1) Discuss transportation needs at local Coordinating Board meetings. (2) Report unmet trip requests.	(1) Quarterly (2) Quarterly
(1) Maximize the use of vehicles without unduly inconveniencing the rider. (2) Work with purchasing agencies and service providers to arrange appointments to group trips. (3) Document the reduction of single passenger trips. (4) Measure total passenger trips per vehicle.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) 2021/22 (4) 2021/22
(1) Identify additional funding opportunities to provide trips. (2) Report the types of funding opportunities that may be available for additional trips.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing
(1) Ensure that the demand responsive transportation services offered to individuals with disabilities is equivalent to the level and quality of services offered to individuals without disabilities. (2) Provide alternative methods for accessing transportation services for individuals with disabilities. (3) Train staff members regarding the utilization of special equipment for persons with disabilities.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing

Evaluate the performance of the Community Transportation Coordinator in general and relative to Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged standards, completion of service plan elements and Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged workbook modules.	2021/22
(1) Adhere to a strict budget of Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds to ensure that the Trust Funds are spent in the most efficient manner. (2) Determine the most efficient manner to expend the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds. (3) Inform the local Coordinating Board of any difficulties experienced concerning the expenditure of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.	(1) Ongoing (2) 2021/22 (3) Quarterly
(1) Complete all reports for review and/or approval. (2) Final reports shall be completed and submitted to planning agency staff a minimum of two weeks prior to next local Coordinating Board meeting.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing
(1) Monitor the quality of service. (2) Make recommendations to improve the quality of service. (3) Provide courteous and professional service. (4) Provide sensitivity and courtesy training annually. (5) Collect on-time performance data.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing (4) Ongoing (5) Annually
(1) Maintain a data base with pertinent information relative to clients' needs and limitations.	(1) Ongoing
(1) The System Safety Program Plan shall meet all established requirements and adhere to Chapter 341, Florida Statutes and Rule 14-90, Florida Administrative Code.	Annually

Chapter II: Operations Element

A. Operations

The operations element is a profile of the Madison County coordinated transportation system. This element is intended to provide basic information about the daily operations of Big Bend Transit, Inc. and its contracted transportation operators.

1. Types, Hours and Days of Service

Advance Reservation	Within Madison-County Between Madison County and other Florida Counties (on occasion south Georgia Counties)	Curb to Curb Door to Door (on exception)	Ambulatory Wheelchair	24 Hour Advance Notice	Monday - Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Madison In-Town Shuttle	Within the City of Madison	Curb to Curb	Ambulatory Wheelchair	Fixed schedule service	Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Evacuation	Within Madison County	Door to Door	Ambulatory Wheelchair	Service provided according to agreement.	Service provided according to agreement.

a. Bariatric Transportation

Transportation Disadvantaged Program: Big Bend Transit, Inc. is required to transport all "common wheelchairs. A common wheelchair is defined as a device which does not exceed 30 inches in width and 48 inches in length measured two inches above the ground and does not weigh more than 600 pounds when occupied. Wheelchairs that exceed these dimensions and weight may not be transported.

b. Hours and Days of Service

Transportation Disadvantaged Program: Monday through Saturday, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. excluding holidays (see below).

c. Holidays

Transportation Disadvantaged Program sponsored service will not be provided on the following observed holidays.

Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day
New Year's Day

2. Accessing Services

a. Office Hours

Big Bend Transit, Inc.'s office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

b. Phone Number

Transportation Disadvantaged Program: 850.973.4418.

c. Advance Notification Time

Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Trip reservations must be placed by 2:00 p.m. the day before travel and no more than 14 days in advance of the day of travel. Trips are scheduled Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

d. Trip Cancellation Process

Trip cancellations shall be made to Big Bend Transit, Inc. a minimum of two (2) hours prior to the earliest pick-up time. A "no show" will be charged to passengers who do not cancel trips a minimum of two (2) hours prior to their pick-up time. Hours for cancelling service are Monday through Friday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

e. No-Show Policies

Transportation Disadvantaged Program - A no-show occurs when a passenger fails to board the Big Bend Transit, Inc. vehicle within five minutes after it arrives within the pick-up window or if a passenger violates Big Bend Transit, Inc. policies and as a result the passenger is not transported.

Trips that are not canceled at least two hours before the passenger's scheduled pick-up time will be considered a no-show. If a passenger's trip of origin is a no-show, the return trip will automatically be canceled unless the passenger requests to keep the return trip.

When a passenger accumulates a total of four no-shows within a 30-day period, they will receive a written notice of service suspension, and a 30-day service suspension will be imposed. A second suspension (four more no-shows) within a six-month period may result in an additional service suspension of 60 days. If more than two suspensions occur in a six-month period, service will be cancelled for up to one year.

f. After Hours Service

After hours service is not sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

g. Passenger Fares

Transportation Disadvantaged Program - Big Bend Transit, Inc. charges \$2.00 per one-way trip for service sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

h. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Eligibility

Big Bend Transit, Inc. will determine through an eligibility application process whether an individual is unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation. Individuals who do not have an operational vehicle in the household; the ability to operate a vehicle; or the ability to find transportation from other sources are considered eligible for Transportation Disadvantaged Program services. Individuals who are unable to purchase transportation will also be considered for Transportation Disadvantaged Program eligibility.

Transportation Disadvantaged Program sponsored services are provided on a first-come, first served basis. Service sponsored by the Transportation Disadvantaged Program may be denied if there are insufficient funds to provide that service.



Transportation Disadvantaged Application

Section I: General Information

Full Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Lot #

City State ZIP Code

Check one: House Apartment Mobile home Nursing home
 Group home

Is this address within the city limits? Check one: Yes No
For what type of travel do you intend to use this service? _____

How often do you plan to travel? Daily Weekly Monthly

Mailing Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Lot #

City State ZIP Code

Home Phone#: _____ Alternate Phone#: _____

Email: _____

SSN#: _____

Gender: _____ Birth Date : _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Emergency Contact Phone#: _____

Section II: Mobility & Functionality Status

Check all Mobility Aids and/or Impairments that apply:

- Wheel Chair Walker Cane Crutches Leg Brace
 Portable Oxygen Totally Blind Legally Blind Deaf
 Hearing Impaired Mentally Impaired Speech Impairment

If you checked "Mentally Impaired", please indicate the type of mental disability:

I require an escort to travel. (Check one) Yes No

In case of mental or physical impairment, please answer the following questions:

1. Are you unable to drive yourself due to your disability? Yes No

If "yes", explain why. _____

2. How do you currently travel to your destinations? _____
3. Are you able to grip handles or railings? Yes No
4. Are you able to understand and follow directions/requests? Yes No
(IF NO, A PERSONAL ESCORT IS REQUIRED WHEN TRAVELLING.)
5. Can you deal with unexpected situations or changes in routine? Yes
 No (IF NO, A PERSONAL ESCORT IS REQUIRED WHEN TRAVELLING.)

Section III: Income Status

1. Are you currently receiving Medicaid? Yes No

If yes, include Medicaid#: _____

2. Check current assistance: Food Assistance (EBT) AFDC SSI
(Must attach most current supporting documentation if applicable.)

3. What is your annual household income? _____
(Must attach most current supporting documentation.)
4. Do you or anyone in your household have a car? Yes No
5. Do you have friends or relatives who can transport you? Yes No

Would you be interested in a free **Madison Shuttle** bus pass for travel within your county?
 Yes No

Section IV: Applicant Release

Applicant acknowledges that the information provided is true and correct to the best of their ability and will only be used to assess eligibility. *I hereby authorize my medical representative to release information regarding my level of functionality and need for transportation with BBT.* Any false information submitted will be found cause for immediate disqualification or revocation of eligibility.

Applicant Signature

Date

If you are signing on the applicant's behalf, please indicate relationship to applicant (i.e. legal guardian, parent, personal care attendant, etc.)

Signature

Date

Section V:

If you have indicated that you are mentally or physically impaired, please have a Medical Professional (such as a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, physical therapist, social worker, etc.) review this application and complete the following—

1. Do the disabilities of the applicant require that he/she bring a personal care attendant or escort on each trip?(Check one) Yes No (If "yes" the applicant **must** travel with an escort for **each** trip.)
2. Indicate which type of transportation is required by the applicant based upon his/her functionality (Check one) Ambulatory Vehicle Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle

Please initial the following:

___ I hereby certify that I have treated the above mentioned applicant and I am familiar with his/her disability and health condition.

___ I hereby certify that I have read and agree with the information submitted in this application.

Please attach pertinent medical documentation (such as evaluations, test results, or reports) that would explain the diagnosis or limitations of the applicant. Failure to do so will delay eligibility determination.

I understand that by signing, I am acknowledging that the information in this evaluation is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that providing false or misleading information could result in the re-examination of eligibility status of the applicant and may be reported to the license/certification jurisdiction of the State of Florida.

Print or type name of medical professional *License Number*

Office Address: _____
Street Address *Building/Suite #*

City *State* *ZIP Code*

Office Phone#: _____ Extension: _____

Signature *Date*

****IF ANY SECTION IS LEFT BLANK, OR ANY REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION IS NOT SUBMITTED, THIS FORM WILL BE RETURNED AND ELIGIBILITY CONSIDERATION WILL BE DELAYED****

Return this application along with supporting documentation to the following address:

Big Bend Transit, Inc.
PO Box 1721
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Visit our website www.bigbendtransit.org for more information about the services that Big Bend Transit, Inc. offers in your community.

Office Use Only:

Received date--_____ Approved date--_____ Denied date--_____

i. **Transportation Disadvantaged Program Trip Priorities**

Big Bend Transit, Inc. in cooperation with the Coordinating Board has established the following trip priorities for the use of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds:

- Life Sustaining Medical Trips
- General Medical Trips
- Employment Trips
- Essential Business Trips
- Education/Training Trips
- Nutrition/Mealsite Trips
- Recreational/Social Trips

3. Transportation Operators And Coordination Contractors

Big Bend Transit, Inc. does not have any subcontracts with transportation operators or coordination contractors.

4. Public Transit Utilization

Not applicable. There is no fixed route, public transit system operating in Madison County.

5. School Bus Utilization

Currently, there is no need to use school buses at this time. If Big Bend Transit, Inc. determines a need to use school buses in the future, the Madison County School Board will be contacted for assistance.

6. Vehicle Inventory

Big Bend Transit, Inc.'s vehicle inventory is shown as Appendix C.

7. System Safety Program Plan Certification

Big Bend Transit, Inc.'s System Safety Program Plan Certification is shown as Exhibit D.

8. Inter-County Services

Big Bend Transit, Inc. provides regular scheduled and non-scheduled inter-county transportation services. Big Bend Transit, Inc. participates when operationally and cost effective in inter-county service routes operated by adjacent Community Transportation Coordinators.

9. Natural Disaster/Emergency Preparedness

Upon request, and on a capacity available basis, Big Bend Transit, Inc. enters into disaster/emergency transportation assistance agreements with residential facilities to provide ambulatory and non-ambulatory transportation services. A disaster/emergency transportation assistance agreement is in place with Lake Park of Madison.

10. Marketing

The availability of Big Bend Transit, Inc. transportation services will continue to be promoted through general and specific distribution of informational materials at locations which concentrate eligible population activity.

11. Acceptable Alternatives

There have been no acceptable alternatives for the provision of transportation service identified in Madison County.

12. Service Standards

The Community Transportation Coordinator and any transportation operator from whom service is purchased or arranged by the Community Transportation Coordinator shall adhere to Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged approved standards. These standards include:

a. Drug and Alcohol Policy

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (a), F.A.C.: Drug and alcohol testing for safety sensitive job positions within the coordinated system regarding pre-employment, randomization, post accident and reasonable suspicion as required by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

b. Transport of Escorts and Dependent Children

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (b), F.A.C.: An escort of a passenger and dependent children are to be transported as locally negotiated and identified in the local Service Plan.

Local Policy: Children under age 6 will be required to be accompanied by an escort. Escorts must be provided by the passenger. Escorts must be able to provide the necessary assistance to the passenger. Escorts will be transported at the regular rate.

c. Use, Responsibility and Cost of Child Restraint Devices

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (c), F.A.C.: Use of child restraint devices shall be determined locally as to their responsibility, and cost of such device in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All children 5 years of age or younger must be properly restrained no matter where they are sitting in the vehicle. Children through age 3 must be secured in a separate carrier or a vehicle manufacturer's integrated child safety seat. For children aged 4 through 5 years, a separate carrier, an integrated child safety seat, or a safety belt may be used. ([FS 316.613](#)). Device shall be provided and installed by the passenger.

d. Passenger Property

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (d), F.A.C.: Passenger property that can be carried by the passenger and/or driver in one trip and can be safely stowed on the vehicle, shall be allowed to be transported with the passenger at no additional charge. Additional requirements may be negotiated for carrying and loading rider property beyond this amount. Passenger property does not include wheelchairs, child seats, stretchers, secured oxygen, personal assistive devices, or intravenous devices.

Local Policy: Passengers shall be allowed to have two pieces of personal property which they can place in their lap. Passengers must be able to independently carry all items brought on the vehicle.

e. Vehicle Transfer Points

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (e), F.A.C.: Vehicle transfer points shall provide shelter, security and safety of passengers.

Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

f. Local Toll Free Phone Number

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (f), F.A.C.: A local toll free phone number for complaints or grievances shall be posted inside the vehicle. The Transportation Disadvantaged Helpline phone number (1-800-983-2435) shall also be posted inside all vehicles of the coordinated system. The local complaint process shall be outlined as a section in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan including, advising the dissatisfied person about the Commission's Ombudsman Program as a step within the process as approved by the local Coordinating Board. All rider information/materials (brochures, user's guides, etc.) Will include the Transportation Disadvantaged Helpline phone number.

Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

g. Out-Of-Service Area Trips

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (g), F.A.C.: Out of service area trips shall be provided when determined locally and approved by the local Coordinating Board, except in instances where local ordinances prohibit such trips.

Local Policy: Inter-county services between Madison and Leon Counties is available weekly. Other inter-county services are provided when available.

h. Vehicle Cleanliness

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (h), F.A.C. Interior of all vehicles shall be free of dirt, grime, oil, trash, torn upholstery, damaged or broken seats, protruding metal or other objects or materials which could soil items placed in the vehicle or provide discomfort for the passenger.

Local Policy: All vehicles shall be cleaned (interior and exterior) on a regular schedule (minimum once a week).

i. Billing Requirements

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (I), F.A.C. Billing requirements of the Community Transportation Coordinator to subcontractors shall be determined locally by the local Coordinating Board and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. All bills shall be paid within seven (7) calendar days to subcontractors, after receipt of said payment by the Community Transportation Coordinator, in accordance with Section 287.0585, Florida Statutes.

Local Policy: Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with his standard.

j. Passenger/Trip Database

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (j), F.A.C.: Passenger/trip data base must be maintained or accessible by the Community Transportation Coordinator on each rider being transported within the system.

Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

k. Adequate Seating

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (k), F.A.C.: Adequate seating for paratransit services shall be provided to each rider and escort, child or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time. For transit services provided by transit vehicles, adequate seating or standing space will be provided to each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating or standing capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time.

Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

l. Driver Identification

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (l), F.A.C.: Drivers for paratransit services, including coordination contractors, shall be required to announce and identify themselves by name and company in a manner that is conducive to communications with specific passengers, upon pickup of each rider, group of riders, or representative, guardian, or associate of the rider, except in situations where the driver regularly transports the rider on a recurring basis. Each driver must have photo identification that is in view of the passenger. Name patches, inscriptions or badges that affix to driver clothing are acceptable. For transit services, the driver photo identification shall be in a conspicuous location in the vehicle.

Local Policy: Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

m. Passenger Assistance

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (m), F.A.C.: The paratransit driver shall provide the passenger with boarding assistance, if necessary or requested, to the seating portion of the vehicle. The boarding assistance shall include opening the vehicle door, fastening the seat belt or wheelchair securement devices, storage of mobility assistive devices and closing the vehicle door. In the door-through-door paratransit service category, the driver shall be required to open and close doors to buildings, except in situations in which assistance in opening/closing building doors would not be safe for passengers remaining on the vehicle. Assisted access must be in a dignified manner. Drivers may not assist wheelchairs up or down more than one step, unless it can be performed safely as determined by the passenger, guardian and driver.

Local Policy: Drivers are not permitted individually to assist persons in wheelchairs up or down more than one step, through grass or sand or include of more than 8.33% (1:12 slope).

n. Smoking, Eating, and Drinking

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (n), F.A.C.: Smoking is prohibited in any vehicle. Requirements for drinking and eating on board the vehicle will be addressed in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: The use of tobacco products on vehicles is prohibited. Eating and drinking on board the vehicle is also prohibited. Stops will be made to accommodate the needs of passengers at the discretion of the driver.

o. Passenger No-Shows

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (o), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board shall jointly develop a policy on passenger no shows. Assessing fines to passengers for no shows is acceptable but such policy and process shall be identified in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy - Passenger no-shows are defined as trips not cancelled a minimum of two (2) hours prior to the scheduled pick-up time. Passengers shall be notified if they are considered a no-show.

p. Two-Way Communications

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (p), F.A.C.: All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system shall be equipped with two-way communications in good working order and audible to the driver at all times to the base.

Local Policy: All vehicles shall have cellular phones or push to talk radios.

q. Air Conditioning/Heating

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (q), F.A.C.: All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system shall have working air conditioners and heaters in each vehicle. Vehicles that do not have a working air conditioner or heater will be scheduled for repair or replacement as soon as possible.

Local Policy: Big Bend Transit, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

r. First Aid

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (r), F.A.C.: First Aid policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All drivers shall be certified in First Aid.

s. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (s), F.A.C.: Cardiopulmonary resuscitation policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All drivers shall be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

t. Driver Criminal Background Screening

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (t), F.A.C.: Driver background screening shall be determined locally, dependent up on purchasing agencies' requirements and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All drivers in the coordinated system shall meet Level 2 criminal background screening requirements in accordance with Chapter 435, Florida Statutes.

u. Fixed Route Transit Utilization

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (u), F.A.C.: In areas where fixed route transportation is available, the Community Transportation Coordinator should jointly establish with the local Coordinating Board a percentage of total trips that will be placed on the fixed route system.

Local Policy: Not applicable.

v. Pick-Up Window

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (v), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address the passenger pick-up windows in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This policy should also be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies and passengers.

Local Policy: There is a ninety (90) minute pick-up window in place for all intra-county trips based on the arrival time of the passenger. There is a sixty (60) minute pick-up window in place for all intra-county trips based on the departure time of the passenger.

w. On-Time Performance

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (w), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address the percentage of trips that will be on-time in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This performance measure should be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies and passengers. This measure should also be included as part of the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of its contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: Big Bend Transit, Inc. will have a 90 percent on-time performance rate for all completed trips. On-time performance will be measured by random sampling of trips.

x. Advance Reservation Requirement

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (x), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan a minimum 24 hour advanced notification time to obtain services. This policy should be communicated to contracted operators, purchasing agencies and passengers.

Local Policy: Twenty-four hours advanced notice is required for all other trips scheduled within the coordinated system.

y. Safety

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (y), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the safety of the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: There shall be no more than 1.2 chargeable accidents per 100,000 miles during the evaluation period.

z. Reliability

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (z), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the reliability of the vehicles utilized in the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: There shall be no more than 5 roadcalls during the evaluation period.

aa. Call-Hold Time

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (aa), F.A.C.: This performance measure can be used to address the accessibility of the service. The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly determine if a standard for a call hold time is needed in the coordinated system and address this in the local service plan. If determined to be necessary, this standard should be included in the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: This standard is not applicable to this service area.

bb. Quality of Service

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (bb), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the quality of service provided within the coordinated system. The measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: Collect and publicly post passenger satisfaction survey ratings. There shall be no more than one complaint per 1,000 trips during the evaluation period.

cc. Safety Belt Usage

Chapter 316.614 (4), Florida Statutes: It is unlawful for any person: (a) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless each passenger and the operator of the vehicle under the age of 18 years are restrained by a safety belt or by a child restraint device pursuant to s. 316.613, if applicable; or (b) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless the person is restrained by a safety belt. (5) It is unlawful for any person 18 years of age or older to be a passenger in the front seat of a motor vehicle unless such person is restrained by a safety belt when the vehicle is in motion. (6)(a) Neither a person who is certified by a physician as having a medical condition that causes the use of a safety belt to be inappropriate or dangerous nor an employee of a newspaper home delivery service while in the course of his or her employment delivering newspapers on home delivery routes is required to be restrained by a safety belt.

Local Policy: Passengers whose transportation is sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program shall wear a safety belt while being transported unless they are certified by a physician as having a medical condition that causes the use of a safety belt to be inappropriate or dangerous.

13. Local Grievance Procedure/Process

The Transportation Disadvantaged Program Grievance Procedures are shown in Appendix A.

14. Passenger Code of Conduct

Riders are asked to follow these rules of conduct to ensure the safety and comfort of all riders and the operator:

- No loud conversations on cell phones
- No eating, drinking or smoking on board
- No riding under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- No abusive, threatening or obscene language or actions
- No discharge of bodily fluids or open wounds
- No deliberate fare evasion
- No physical abuse of another rider, or the operator
- No operating or tampering with any equipment while onboard a BBT vehicle
- No radios, MP3 players, compact disc players or other sound generating equipment are to be played aboard the vehicles WITHOUT EAR PLUGS
- For safety reasons, please limit unnecessary conversation with operators when the vehicle is in motion

Riders who violate the rules of conduct are subject to penalties, up to and including suspension of service.

Note: Riders who engage in physical abuse or cause physical injury to another rider or operator may be subject to immediate and permanent suspension, as well as possible criminal prosecution.

a. Verbal Abuse

Verbal abuse by a rider against staff, drivers or other clients will not be tolerated. Verbal abuse includes but is not limited to use of profanity, obscene gestures, yelling or screaming. Riders who verbally abuse staff, drivers or other clients may be suspended from service.

b. Physical Abuse

Physical abuse of either a rider to another rider or rider to a driver will not be tolerated. Physical abuse includes but is not limited to grabbing, hitting or touching. Such abuse shall be deemed as assault. In such cases, the local police shall be notified, and the rider shall be issued a notice of suspension from service.

c. Substance Abuse

No passenger who is under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will be transported. If a passenger is scheduled to be returned home and they are under the influence, they will be required to find alternative means of transportation. If a pattern of such behavior exists, a suspension of transportation privileges shall be invoked.

d. Penalties

The following penalties shall apply to service sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program. Service suspension for Medicaid NET sponsored passengers must follow the Medicaid Program guidelines.

Verbal Abuse

First offense – written warning
Second offense – one week suspension of services
Third offense – 30 day suspension of services
Fourth offense – 90 day suspension of services
Fifth offense – permanently removed from service

Physical Abuse

First offense - Big Bend Transit, Inc. will issue a written notice of suspension for 90 days by certified mail. The notice will advise the rider that Big Bend Transit, Inc. intends to suspend his or her riding privileges and the reason for such action.

Second offense – 180 day suspension of services

Third offense - permanently removed from service

e. Appeals

A rider has ten (10) calendar days from the date of issuance of suspension notice to request a reconsideration hearing on the suspension. If a reconsideration hearing is requested, the hearing will be held by the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Committee if the suspension involves transportation provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program. All requests for reconsideration must be in writing and delivered to:

Big Bend Transit, Inc.
P.O. Box 70
Live Oak, FL 32060

and

Transportation Disadvantaged Program
Coordinating Board Grievance Committee
2009 N.W. 67 Place, Suite A
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The written request must include the name and address of the person who is requesting the hearing and a statement as to why his or her riding privileges should not be suspended. If the request is not received within ten (10) calendar days from the issue date of the suspension, then the suspension becomes effective ten (10) calendar days from the date of issue. Upon receipt of letter requesting the reconsideration hearing, a hearing shall be held within 10 working days. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will advise the person requesting the reconsideration hearing by return correspondence of the date, time and location of the hearing.

The person will be given the opportunity to present the reasons why they believe the suspension should not take place. The Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Committee will make a recommendation whether or not to uphold the suspension. A written statement of the recommendation shall be forwarded to the person requesting the hearing within two (2) working days after the hearing by the Grievance Committee. A written statement of the decision whether or not to uphold the suspension shall be forwarded by certified mail within two (2) working days by Big Bend Transit, Inc. to the person requesting the hearing.

B. Cost/Revenue Allocation and Rate Structure Justification

See Appendix B.

Chapter III: Quality Assurance

This section contains the steps the local Coordinating Board will take to monitor and evaluate the services provided by or coordinated through the Community Transportation Coordinator, based on the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged standards and the locally established service standards.

A. Community Transportation Coordinator Evaluation Process

The local Coordinating Board will evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance on an annual basis using the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Quality Assurance Program Evaluation/Local Coordinating Board, Community Transportation Coordinator Evaluation Workbook. This evaluation workbook was created to provide a formal process for evaluating the performance of the Coordinator (and its operators). The Commission requires worksheets regarding Cost, Competition and Coordination be completed during this review.

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Appendix A: Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Procedures

Grievance Procedures

August 3, 2020

Madison County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating
Board

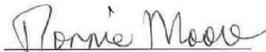


Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Grievance Procedures

Approved by the
Madison County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org/mtpo
352.955.2000


Ronnie Moore, Chair

with Assistance from



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org
352.955.2200

August 3, 2020

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures

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Chapter I: Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Procedures

A. Preamble

The following sets forth the procedures for the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to address grievances from agencies, users, potential users, sub-contractors, and other interested parties concerning Florida's Coordinated Transportation System.

B. Agency Description

The Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, herein after referred to as the Board, is a public body appointed by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency as authorized by Section 427.015, Florida Statutes.

C. Definitions

Transportation disadvantaged means those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities, or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk as defined in Section 411.202, Florida Statutes.

Agency means an official, officer, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or any other unit or entity of the state or of a city, town, municipality, county, or other local governing body or a private nonprofit transportation service-providing agency.

Community Transportation Coordinator means a transportation entity recommended by a metropolitan planning organization, or by the appropriate designated official planning agency as provided for in Section 427.011, Florida Statutes in an area outside the purview of a metropolitan planning organization, to ensure that coordinated transportation services are provided to the transportation disadvantaged population in a designated service area.

Coordinating Board means an advisory entity in each designated service area composed of representatives appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency, to provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator relative to the coordination of transportation services.

Coordination means the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is cost-effective, efficient and reduces fragmentation and duplication of services.

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures

Designated Official Planning Agency means the official body or agency designated by the Commission to fulfill the functions of transportation disadvantaged planning in areas not covered by a Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Metropolitan Planning Organization shall serve as the designated official planning agency in areas covered by such organizations.

Designated Service Area means a geographical area recommended by a designated official planning agency, subject to approval by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, which defines the community where coordinated transportation services will be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

Florida's Coordinated Transportation System means a transportation system responsible for coordination and service provisions for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes.

Grievance means a written complaint to document any concerns regarding the operation or administration of services provided by Florida's Coordinated Transportation System by the Community Transportation Coordinator, subcontracted transportation operators, the Designated Official Planning Agency, or the Board. A grievance may also be a service complaint that has been left unresolved for more than 45 days.

Memorandum of Agreement is the state contract for transportation disadvantaged services purchased with federal, state or local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and the Community Transportation Coordinator and recognizes the Community Transportation Coordinator as being responsible for the arrangement of the provision of transportation disadvantaged services for a designated service area.

Service complaint means routine incidents that occur on a daily basis, are reported to the driver or dispatcher, or to other individuals involved with the daily operations, and are resolved within the course of a reasonable time period suitable to the complainant. All service complaints shall be recorded and a summary of complaints should be provided by the Community Transportation Coordinator on a quarterly basis, to the Board.

Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan means an annually updated plan jointly developed by the Designated Official Planning Agency and the Community Transportation Coordinator which contains a development plan, service plan and quality assurance components. The plan shall be approved and used by the local Coordinating Board to evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator.

D. Purpose

- (1) The Board shall appoint a Grievance Committee to serve as a mediator to process, and investigate complaints from agencies, users, potential users of the system and the Community Transportation Coordinator in the designated service area, and make recommendations to the Board for the improvement of service.
- (2) The Board shall establish procedures to provide regular opportunities for issues to be brought before the Grievance Committee and to address them in a timely manner. Members appointed to the Grievance Committee shall be voting members of the Board.

**Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures**

- (3) The Grievance Committee and the Board shall have the authority to hear and advise on grievances. When an entity makes a determination of the rights, duties, privileges, benefits, or legal relationships of a specified person or persons, it is exercising "adjudicative" or "determinative" powers. Deciding a grievance between two independent parties may fall within these parameters, depending on the nature of the grievance. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes grants no adjudicative powers to anyone.

E. Membership

- (1) The Chair, subject to approval by the Board, shall appoint five (5) voting members to a Grievance Committee. The membership of the Grievance Committee shall include broad geographic representation from members of the local Coordinating Board representing the counties in the service area.
- (2) Term limits on the Grievance Committee may coincide with term limits on the Board.

F. Officers

- (1) The Grievance Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.

G. Meetings

- (1) The Grievance Committee may meet as often as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. Meetings may be called, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled for any appropriate purpose by the Chair. The Grievance Committee may meet following Board meetings to hear complaints and grievances. All meetings will function under the "Government in the Sunshine Law." All meetings will provide opportunity for public comments on the agenda.
- (2) Notice of Meetings. Notices and tentative agendas shall be provided to the Florida Commission for the Transportation, Committee members and other interested parties at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Meeting notices shall include the date, time, location, general nature/subject of the meeting, a contact person and phone number to call for additional information and to request accessible formats.
- (3) Quorum. At all meetings of the Grievance Committee, the presence in person of a majority of the voting members shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the absence of a quorum, those present may, without notice other than by announcement at the meeting, recess the meeting from time to time, until a quorum shall be present. At any such recessed meeting, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called.
- (4) Voting. A majority vote is required for actions by the Grievance Committee. As required by Section 286.012, Florida Statutes, all Grievance Committee members, including the Chair, must vote on all official actions taken by the Grievance Committee except when there appears to be a possible conflict of interest with a member or members of the Grievance Committee.

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures

- (5) Conflict of Interest. In accordance with Chapter 112 (Part III), Florida Statutes, "No county, municipal, or other public office shall vote in an official capacity upon any measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss, or which the officer know would inure to the special private gain or loss of a principal by whom he or she is retained, of the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal which he or she is retained, of a relative or of a business associate. The officer must publicly announce the nature of his or her interest before the vote and must file a memorandum of voting conflict on Ethics Commission Form 8B with the meeting's recording officer within 15 days after the vote occurs disclosing the nature of his or her interest in the matter."

In cases where a grievance involves the private or personal interests of a member of the Grievance Committee, such member shall be disqualified from hearing such grievance. If a Grievant claims a conflict between the Grievant and a Grievance Committee member, the Grievance Committee member identified as having a conflict shall recuse themselves from hearing the grievance. No member of the Grievance Committee shall appear before the Grievance Committee as an agent or attorney for any person.

- (6) Proxy Voting. Proxy voting is not permitted.
- (7) Parliamentary Procedures. The Grievance Committee will conduct business using parliamentary procedures according to Robert's Rules of Order, except when in conflict with these Grievance Procedures.
- (8) Public Comment. Public comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes and directed to the Chair. Additional time may be given at the Chair's discretion. The Chair may impose a cumulative time limit for all public comment on any specific agenda item.

Members of the public shall be allowed to address the Committee following the making of a motion that has been properly seconded concerning a proposition before the Committee. Such comments shall be directed to the Chair.

All comments made by Committee members, Committee staff, guests and members of the public during any public meeting of the Grievance Committee shall be governed by the City, County and Local Government Law Section of the Florida Bar Civility Pledge, as follows:

1. We will be respectful of one another even when we disagree;
2. We will direct all comments to the issues; and
3. We will avoid personal attacks.

H. Administration

- (1) Staff Support. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall provide the Grievance Committee with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the Grievance Committee to fulfill their responsibilities.
- (2) Minutes. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is responsible for maintaining an official set of minutes for each Grievance Committee meeting.

**Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures**

I. Duties

The Grievance Committee shall make recommendations to the Board, the Community Transportation Coordinator, and/or to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for improvement of service.

J. Procedures

- (1) The grievance procedures shall be open to addressing concerns by any person or agency including but not limited to: purchasing agencies, users, potential users, private-for-profit operators, private-nonprofit operators, Community Transportation Coordinators, Designated Official Planning Agencies, elected officials, and drivers. The grievant, in their formal complaint, should demonstrate or establish their concerns as clearly as possible.
- (2) The Board must make a written copy of the grievance procedures available to anyone, upon request. All documents pertaining to the grievance process will be made available, upon request, in accessible format. The following procedures are established to provide regular opportunities for grievances to be brought before the Grievance Committee.
- (3) Should an interested party wish to file a grievance with the Board, that grievance must be filed in writing within ninety (90) days after the occurrence of the event giving rise to the grievance. The grievance shall be sent to:

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Committee
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
- (4) If requested, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff will provide assistance to individuals in preparing written grievances.
- (5) The grievance should try to demonstrate or establish a clear violation of a specific law, regulation, or contractual arrangement. Copies of pertinent laws and regulations may be obtained from North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff.
- (6) The grievance shall include:
 - a. the name, address and telephone number of the Complainant;
 - b. a statement of the grounds for the grievance and be supplemented by supporting documentation, made in a clear and concise manner; and
 - c. an explanation by the Complainant of the improvements needed to address the complaint.

**Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures**

- (7) If the Board receives a grievance pertaining to the operation of services by the Community Transportation Coordinator, that grievance shall be forwarded to the Community Transportation Coordinator for a written response. The Community Transportation Coordinator's written response shall be provided to the Grievance Committee at least one week prior to the Grievance Committee meeting to hear such grievance.
- (8) If the Complainant does not want to be contacted by the Community Transportation Coordinator concerning the grievance before the grievance is heard, the Community Transportation Coordinator is prohibited from contacting the Complainant.
- (9) Within fifteen (15) working days following the date of receipt of the formal grievance, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff shall advise the Grievance Committee of the grievance to schedule a hearing on the grievance and inform the Complainant of the hearing date.
- (10) The Grievance Committee shall meet to hear the grievance within forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of receipt of the grievance.
- (11) North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff shall send notice of the Grievance Committee's scheduled hearing in writing to the local newspaper of greatest circulation, the Complainant and other interested parties.
- (12) All involved parties have a right to present their views to the Grievance Committee, either orally or in writing. In addition, all parties may present evidence. The Community Transportation Coordinator shall provide transportation to and from Grievance Committee meetings at no charge to complainants who cannot transport themselves to the meetings.
- (13) A written report and any recommendations of the Grievance Committee shall be provided to the Board. A copy of this report shall be provided to the concerned parties within ten (10) working days after the hearing on the grievance and no more than sixty (60) calendar days from the date of receipt of the formal grievance. The Grievance Committee's recommendation will stand unless the recommendation is changed by the Board.
- (14) A written report shall also be provided to the Community Transportation Coordinator's Governing Board.

K. Appeals

- (1) Appeals of recommendations by the Grievance Committee to the Board shall be made within twenty (20) working days from the date when the Grievance Committee makes a recommendation regarding a grievance. The appeal shall be mailed to:

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
- (2) The Complainant will be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the Board meeting where the appeal will be heard. This written notice will be mailed at least ten (10) calendar days in advance of the meeting.

Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
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- (3) The Board will meet to hear the appeal and render its recommendation within thirty (30) calendar days of the date the appeal was filed. A written copy of the recommendation will be mailed to all parties involved within ten (10) calendar days of the date of the recommendation.
- (4) Should a Complainant remain dissatisfied with the Board's decision, he or she may contact the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged at the following address:

Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
605 Suwannee Street, MS-49
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
- (5) The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged also has an Ombudsman Program to assist individuals with complaints. The toll-free Ombudsman Hotline is 1-800-983-2435. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes does not expressly confer the power or authority for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to "hear and determine" a grievance between two (2) third parties. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged may choose to listen to grievances and it can investigate them from a fact-finding perspective. It cannot be the "judge" or "arbiter" of the grievance in the sense of determining that one party's version of the facts is right and the other is wrong, and order the wrong party to somehow compensate the right party. On the other hand, the grievance may bring to light a problem within "the system."
- (6) If the grievance showed that one (1) of the parties with whom the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged contracts was acting so aberrantly as to not be in compliance with its contract, the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged could exercise whatever contractual rights it has to correct the problem.
- (7) The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged may take part in the grievance process, if it wants to, for purposes of listening to the grieving parties and gathering the facts of the matter. It may not decide the grievance, where doing so would amount to an exercise of adjudicative powers.

L. Suspension Reconsideration

- (1) If a rider has been issued a notice of suspension of service by the Community Transportation Coordinator, they have ten (10) calendar days from the date of issuance of suspension notice to request a reconsideration hearing on the suspension. If a reconsideration hearing is requested, the hearing will be held by the Grievance Committee if the suspension involves transportation provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.
- (2) The written request must include the name, address and telephone number of the person who is requesting the hearing and a statement as to why his or her riding privileges should not be suspended. If the request is not received within ten (10) calendar days from the issue date of the suspension, then the suspension becomes effective ten (10) calendar days from the date of issue.
- (3) Upon receipt of letter requesting the reconsideration hearing, a hearing shall be held within ten (10) working days. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will advise the person requesting the reconsideration hearing by return correspondence of the date, time and location of the hearing.
- (4) The suspended rider will be given the opportunity to present the reasons why they believe the suspension should not take place. The Grievance Committee will make a recommendation whether

**Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures**

or not to uphold the suspension. A written statement of the decision whether or not to uphold the suspension shall be forwarded by certified mail within two (2) working days by the Community Transportation Coordinator to the suspended rider requesting the reconsideration.

M. Prohibition Against Retaliation

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall not take any punitive action against an individual who files a grievance. No individual shall be denied Transportation Disadvantaged Program services because such individual has filed a grievance related to Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program or has testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding or investigation related to Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

N. Alternative Recourse

Apart from these grievance processes, aggrieved parties with proper standing, may also have recourse through Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, administrative hearings process or the judicial court system.

O. Certification

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is the Chair of the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Grievance Procedures of this Board as adopted by the Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board the 3rd day of August 2020.



Ronnie Moore, Chair
Madison County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

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Appendix B: Cost/Revenue Allocation and Rate Structure Justification



Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Service Rates Form

Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC)	Big Bend Transit, Inc.
Service Rate Effective Date	7/1/2021

Grant Agreement Service Rates		
Type of Service Transportation Mode	Unit of Measure	Cost Per Unit
* Ambulatory	Trip	\$42.19
* Wheel Chair	Trip	\$72.32
* Stretcher	Select Unit of Measure	Enter \$ Per Unit
Bus Pass – Daily	Pass	Enter \$ Per Unit
Bus Pass – Weekly	Pass	Enter \$ Per Unit
Bus Pass – Monthly	Pass	\$35.00

Preliminary Information Worksheet Version 1.4

CTC Name: Big Bend Transit, Inc.

County (Service Area): Madison

Contact Person: Shawn Mitchell

Phone #: 850-574-6266 X111

Check Applicable Characteristic:

<p>ORGANIZATIONAL TYPE:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Governmental</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Private Non-Profit</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Private For Profit</p>	<p>NETWORK TYPE:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fully Brokered</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Partially Brokered</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Sole Source</p>
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Madison County
Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan

	Prior Year's ACTUALS from July 1st of 2019 to June 30th of 2020	Current Year's APPROVED Budget, as amended from July 1st of 2020 to June 30th of 2021	Upcoming Year's PROPOSED Budget from July 1st of 2021 to June 30th of 2022	% Change from Prior Year to Current Year	Proposed % Change from Current Year to Upcoming Year	Confirm whether revenues are collected as a system subsidy VS a purchase of service at a unit price. Explain Changes in Column 6 That Are > ± 10% and Also > ± \$50,000
REVENUES (CTC/Operators ONLY / Do NOT include coordination contractors!)						
Local Non-Govt						
Farebox	\$ 22,028	\$ 22,688	\$ 23,369	3.0%	3.0%	Purchased for Service. Farebox used as Match.
Medicaid Co-Pay Received						
Donations/ Contributions						
In-Kind, Contributed Services						
Other	\$ 5,683	\$ 5,853	\$ 6,029	3.0%	3.0%	
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
Local Government						
District School Board						Purchased for Service
Compl. ADA Services						
County Cash	\$ 16,780	\$ 16,780	\$ 16,780	0.0%	0.0%	
County In-Kind, Contributed Services						
City Cash						
City In-kind, Contributed Services						
Other Cash						
Other In-Kind, Contributed Services						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
CTD						
Non-Spons. Trip Program	\$ 234,036	\$ 238,041	\$ 210,961	1.7%	-11.4%	Per Allocation
Non-Spons. Capital Equipment						
Rural Capital Equipment						
Other TD (specify in explanation)	\$ 19,798			-100.0%		
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
USDOT & FDOT						
49 USC 5307						Used as Subsidy. Decreased 5311 funding for FY 18/19 due to timing of contract. Actual 18/19 grant award is 130,565. The additional award (\$65,620) will be used to increase the rate base adjustment. This amount will be subtracted from next years rate base adjustment.
49 USC 5310						
49 USC 5311 (Operating)	\$ 254,897	\$ 141,947	\$ 141,947	-44.3%	0.0%	
49 USC 5311(Capital)						
Block Grant						
Service Development						
Commuter Assistance						
Other DOT (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
AHCA						
Medicaid	\$ 132,604	\$ 211,709	\$ 254,668	59.7%	20.3%	Purchased for Service
Other AHCA (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
APD						
Office of Disability Determination						Purchased for Service
Developmental Services	\$ 33,907	\$ 36,500	\$ 39,720	7.6%	8.8%	
Other APD (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
Balancing Revenue is Short By =		None	None			
Total Revenues =	\$719,733	\$673,518	\$693,474	-6.4%	3.0%	

REVENUES (CTC/Operators ONLY)	
Local Non-Govt	
Farebox	\$ 23,369
Medicaid Co-Pay Received	\$ -
Donations/ Contributions	\$ -
In-Kind, Contributed Services	\$ -
Other	\$ 6,029
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -
Local Government	
District School Board	\$ -
Compl. ADA Services	\$ -
County Cash	\$ 16,780
County In-Kind, Contributed Services	\$ -
City Cash	\$ -
City In-kind, Contributed Services	\$ -
Other Cash	\$ -
Other In-Kind, Contributed Services	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -
CTD	
Non-Spons. Trip Program	\$ 210,961
Non-Spons. Capital Equipment	\$ -
Rural Capital Equipment	\$ -
Other TD	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -
USDOT & FDOT	
49 USC 5307	\$ -
49 USC 5310	\$ -
49 USC 5311 (Operating)	\$ 141,947
49 USC 5311(Capital)	\$ -
Block Grant	\$ -
Service Development	\$ -
Commuter Assistance	\$ -
Other DOT	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -
AHCA	
Medicaid	\$ 254,668
Other AHCA	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -
APD	
Office of Disability Determination	\$ -
Developmental Services	\$ 39,720
Other APD	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -
Total Revenues =	\$ 693,474

<p style="text-align: center;">PROGRAM-WIDE RATES</p> <p>Total <u>Projected</u> Passenger Miles = 244,357</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rate Per Passenger Mile = \$ 2.29</p> <p>Total <u>Projected</u> Passenger Trips = 12,201</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rate Per Passenger Trip = \$ 45.80</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fiscal Year</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2021 - 2022</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Avg. Passenger Trip Length 20.0 Miles</p>
<p>Rates If No Revenue Funds Were Identified As Subsidy Funds</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rate Per Passenger Mile = \$ 2.87</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rate Per Passenger Trip = \$ 57.44</p>	

		Ambul	Wheel Chair	Stretcher
Projected Passenger Trips (excluding totally contracted services addressed in Section II) =	12,201	= 10,737	+ 1,464	+
Rate per Passenger Trip =		\$42.19	\$72.32	\$0.00

Appendix C: Vehicle Inventory



Big Bend Transit, Inc.
Vehicle Inventory

Year	Make	Model	Vehicle Type	VIN Number	FDOT Control # (if applicable)	Agency Vehicle #	Ramp or Lift (specify)	# of Seats and WC Positions	Other Equipment	Use	Average Mileage/yr	Current Mileage	Funding Source	Name of Title Holder	Acquisition Date	Cost	% Federal Funding	Location	Condition	Expected Date of Retirement	Date of Disposition (if applicable)	Sale Price (if applicable)	Status
2009	Ford	E350	F	3FBNE31L19DA91484	80207	0910	N/A	11 AMB	Camera System	Public Transportation	6,900	62,406	5310	FDOT	26/08/2009		80%	Madison	Good	26/08/2018			Active
2011	Ford	E450	D	3FDPE4F588DA86791	90292	1102	Lift	12+2	Camera System	Public Transportation	25,400	167,745	5310	FDOT	27/07/2011		80%	Madison	Good	27/11/2019			Active
2013	Ford	E450	D	3FDPE4F54DDA92980	91218	1302	Lift	12+2	Camera System	Public Transportation	42,800	297,535	5310	FDOT	7/17/2013		80%	Madison	Good	12/08/2018			Active
2014	Ford	E450	D	3FDPE4F56FDA19631	91235	1411	Lift	12+2	Camera System	Public Transportation	32,000	202,064	5310	FDOT	18/03/2015		80%	Madison	Good	28/04/2020			Active
2015	Ford	E450	D	3FDEE3FL1FDA20796	91240	1503	Lift	12+2	Camera System	Public Transportation	41,000	182,580	5310	FDOT	24/07/2015		80%	Madison	Good	18/11/2020			Active
2015	Ford	E350	D	3FDEE3FLXDA37468	91256	1505	Lift	12+2	Camera System	Public Transportation	26,500	152,141	5310	FDOT	08/10/2015		80%	Madison	Good	01/01/2020			Active

Appendix D: Safety Compliance Self Certification

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

725-030-10
TRANSIT
12/01

for a
SECTION 5311 SUBRECIPIENT
(Certifying compliance with 49 CFR Parts 40, 655)
To
Florida Department of Transportation

DATE 1/15/2019

Section 5311 Subrecipient Information:

AGENCY NAME: Big Bend Transit, Inc.

ADDRESS: 2201 Eisenhower St. Tallahassee, FL

PHONE: 850-574-6266

FDOT District Office Information:

NAME: Doreen Joyner-Howard, AICP

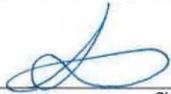
ADDRESS: 2198 Edison Avenue, Jacksonville, FL

PHONE: 904-360-5650

I, Shawn Mitchell (Name), General Manager (Title)

hereby certify that Big Bend Transit, Inc. (Name of Subrecipient) and its applicable contractor(s) (listing attached hereto) for Big Bend Transit, Inc. (Name of Subrecipient)

has (have) established and implemented an anti-drug and alcohol misuse prevention program in accordance with the provisions of 49 CFR Parts 40 and 655 as amended. I further certify that the employee training conducted under this part meets the requirements of 49 CFR Parts 40 and 655 as amended.



Signature

Attachment: (Applicable Contractor(s) - Name, Address, Phone #, Contact Person)



Bus Transit System Annual Safety and Security Certification

*Certifying Compliance with Rule 14-90, FAC to the
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)*

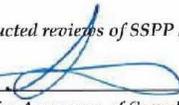
Certification Date (Current): 2019

Certification Year: (Previous): 2018

Name and Address of Bus Transit System: **Big Bend Transit, Inc. 2201 Eisenhower St. Tall, FL**

The Bus Transit System (Agency) named above hereby certifies the following:

1. *The Agency has adopted a System Safety Program Plan (SSPP) and a Security Program Plan (SPP) pursuant to the standards set forth in Rule Chapter 14-90, Florida Administrative Code.*
2. *The Agency is in compliance with its adopted SSPP and SPP.*
3. *The Agency has performed annual safety inspections on all operational vehicles in accordance with Rule Chapter 14-90, Florida Administrative Code.*
4. *The Agency has conducted reviews of SSPP and SPP and the plans are up to date.*

Blue Ink Signature:  Date: January 15, 2019
(Individual Responsible for Assurance of Compliance)

Name: *Shawn Mitchell* Title: *General Manager*

Name and address of entity(ies) which has (have) performed bus safety inspections and security assessments:

Name: *Domingo Ortiz*

Address: *2201 Eisenhower St. Tallahassee*

Name of Qualified Mechanic who Performed Annual Inspections: *Domingo Ortiz*



Annual Grant Self Certification

Certifying compliance with United States Code Section 5309, 5310, 5311/ARRA, 5316, 5317, and 5339 Programs to the Florida Department of Transportation

Certification Date (Current): 2019

Certification Year: (Previous): 2018

Name and Address of Bus Transit System: Big Bend Transit, Inc. Tallahassee, FL

The Bus Transit System (Agency) named above hereby certifies the following:

1. *The grant funded vehicles, facilities, and equipment continue to be used for the purpose for which the grants were awarded.*
2. *The vehicles, facilities, and equipment have not been sold, damaged or otherwise taken out of service. The Agency has notified the Department of all accidents and casualties within 24 hours of such events.*
3. *The Agency carries adequate insurance to maintain, repair, or replace the vehicles, facilities, and equipment in the event of loss or damage due to an accident or casualty.*
4. *The Agency's Preventative Maintenance Plan and Facilities and Equipment Preventative Maintenance Plan (if applicable) is current and the agency is in compliance with the Plan (s). The vehicles, facilities, and equipment are maintained in good working condition. Annual vehicle and wheelchair safety inspections have been performed on all operational buses.*

Blue Ink Signature:  **Date: January 15, 2019**
(Individual responsible for assurance of compliance)

Name: Shawn Mitchell

Title: General Manager

Name and address of entity(ies) which has (have) performed bus safety inspections:

Name: Domingo Ortiz

Address: 2201 Eisenhower Street Tallahassee, FL

Name of qualified mechanic who performed wheelchair inspections: Domingo Ortiz

Name and address of entity(ies) which has (have) performed wheelchair inspections:

Name: Domingo Ortiz

Address: 2201 Eisenhower Street Tallahassee, FL

Name of qualified mechanic who performed annual inspections: Domingo Ortiz

Name and address of entity(ies) which has (have) performed annual inspections:

Name: Domingo Ortiz

Address: 2201 Eisenhower Street Tallahassee, FL

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Team

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

* Lynn Franson-Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

* Primary Responsibility
** Secondary Responsibility



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Madison County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

2009 NW 67th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653-1603

www.ncfrpc.org/td

EXHIBIT G

**GUIDELINES FOR THE PROBATIONARY AND ANNUAL REVIEW
OF A COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR**

II. GUIDELINES FOR THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF
A COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR

All initial CTC approvals of the TDC will be for a six month probationary period and will require the submission of a six month evaluation of CTC performance by the local CB. The six-month evaluation shall be performed six months from the date the TDC approved the designation of the CTC. A report shall be submitted to the TDC by the Planning Agency within 45 days of the evaluation, summarizing the results of the evaluation, the conclusion of the CB, and a recommendation by the Planning Agency whether or not to proceed with the current CTC.

The annual evaluation is customarily completed 2 to 3 months prior to the expiration of the MOA contract period and prior to the efforts to develop the new MOA and Service Plan. A report shall be submitted to the TDC by the local CB within 45 days of the evaluation and prior to the execution of a new MOA, summarizing the results of the evaluation, the conclusion of the local CB, and a recommendation by the Planning Agency whether or not to proceed with the current CTC.

The following guidelines are to be used as criteria for evaluating the CTC's performance:

1. The local CB is provided the flexibility to evaluate their respective CTC based on the progress made since the time of the CTC's appointment. The CB should also evaluate the CTC based on performance standards or expectations identified in the approved service plan. In addition, the CB may evaluate the level of successful compliance with any of the requirements in the (MOA), including the service plan, if they so desire.
2. Any recommended course of action by a local CB or Planning Agency which is of the nature to replace the existing CTC should be properly supported with detailed documentation explaining the recommendation.
3. The procedure for monitoring this process shall be for TDC staff to monitor the submission of these reviews and schedule only the unfavorable reviews for TDC action. Favorable reviews shall be deemed as an automatic approval by the TDC for the continuation of the existing CTC, until further TDC monitoring or review reveals the need for corrective action.

ANNUAL OPERATING REPORT INSTRUCTIONS

Florida Commission for the



Transportation Disadvantaged

**Instructions for Completion of the
Annual Operating Report
(AOR) FY 2020-21**

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Introduction

Pursuant to Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, each Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) must submit an Annual Operating Report (AOR). The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) has updated the instructions for the web page reporting forms for the AOR. This report is due to the CTD by September 15th of each year. CTCs must submit electronic extension requests to the CTD Area Manager no later than September 14th.

The CTD uses these forms to gather information needed to accurately reflect each CTC's operating data, provide a statewide operational profile of the Florida Coordinated Transportation System, and evaluate certain performance aspects of the coordinated systems individually and as a whole. The CTD also uses data collected in this report to substantiate the need to seek additional funds. All information submitted is subject to confirmation by the CTD. The CTC must be able to support all information submitted in this report with documentation, which substantiates the data's compliance with the requirements of these instructions.

Each CTC must maintain written documentation of source information and procedures used to complete the report. This documentation should be updated annually, available for reference when completing the next year's report, and available when the report is subject to auditing.

For record keeping purposes, each CTC should print the AOR before submitting the data to the CTD. If changes are required, the AOR should be printed again to ensure the most recent figures are captured.

The information submitted within the Annual Operating Report is subject to auditing. This includes information from the CTC, its transportation operators, and coordination contractors.

Planners have read-only and print access. Planners should schedule their Local Coordinating Board review of the AOR at the first available quarterly meeting. This may take place before or after submission to the CTD.

General Information

The operating data submitted in this report should only be that data which meets the definitions and descriptions as identified in these instructions.

1. Use the accrual method of accounting¹. The CTC must verify all information it receives from a transportation operator(s) and coordination contractor(s) and must be able to provide documentation of the verification during an audit.
2. Round all financial data to whole numbers.
3. If you are a CTC with a multi-county service area, it is required that a separate AOR be submitted for each county. When entering/editing data within the online system, please be sure to select the correct county from the CTC Data & Status screen.
4. This report shall only include information that pertains to transportation disadvantaged passenger services that are provided or arranged via:
 - The CTC.
 - A Transportation Operator Contract between the CTC and their transportation operator, pursuant to the requirements of Rule 41-2, FAC, and the MOA.
 - A Coordination Contract pursuant to the requirements of Rule 41-2, FAC, and the MOA. Written contract between the community transportation coordinator and an agency who receives transportation disadvantaged funds and performs some, if not all of, its own services, as well as services to others. The CTC must verify all information it receives from a coordination contractor and must be able to provide documentation of the verification during an audit.
 - A written school bus utilization agreement between the CTC and a District School Board.

1 Accrual Method of Accounting

The accrual basis of accounting is used in the AOR. Using the accrual basis, expenditures will be recorded as soon as they result in liabilities for benefits received, regardless of whether or not payment of the expenditure is made in the same accounting period. Similarly, revenues are recorded when earned, regardless of whether or not receipt of revenue takes place in the same reporting period. An element of accrual accounting is that the reporter needs support that events have actually occurred that will result in the accrual of revenues or expenses. When an organization receives a contribution, grant, appropriation, or contract, whose use is limited to a specified purpose, it has not earned revenue until the funds have been spent for that purpose.

Those CTC's agencies that use cash-basis or encumbrance-basis accounting, in whole or in part must make work sheet adjustments to record the data on the accrual basis.

5. Each CTC must maintain written documentation of source information and procedures used to complete the report. This documentation should be updated annually, available for reference when completing the next year's report, and available when the report is subject to auditing.
6. This report must not include information which pertains to:
 - Fixed route/fixed schedule (including fixed guide way) services, such as provided by 49 USC 5307 public transit entities **unless** the related trips were purchased through the CTC by a sponsoring social service program, agency, or entity and are **not for general public services**.
 - Trips delivering meals, commodities, or services are not considered passenger trips and this report shall not contain any costs, revenues, or performance information regarding such activities.

How to Use the Data Collection System (DCS)

1. First access the site at the following link: <https://ctddcs.fdot.gov>.
2. Select the "Log In" button and enter your username and password.
3. Select the "CTC Data" option from the navigation menu.
4. Select the county and the fiscal year of the report to be completed. Select the "Display" button.
5. Choose the Organization section from the grid shown on the screen. This section must be filled out first.
6. To save your work, be sure to click the save information buttons at the bottom of each page. If you use the navigational buttons at the top of the page without clicking the "Save" button, you will be prompted to save the data.
7. When clicking the buttons, make sure you wait for one button's command to be executed before you click another one. This helps ensure smooth flow of the system processes.
8. Users may also select the CTD Instructions or User Manual icons. When clicked, a new window will open with the current Annual Operations Report Instructions (this document) or the DCS User Manual.
9. Clicking the "Save" button will check the data for any errors and save the changes to the database.
10. All sections will calculate totals at the time the record is saved.
11. If the screen is missing information, you will receive error alerts. Before submitting the AOR to the CTD for final review, you will need to correct the data entry errors to remove the error alerts. After you have entered the corrected information, save the data and then submit the AOR to the CTD. The error alerts should go away. You are finished if you do not receive an error message. Contact your project manager if you have unresolved error alerts.

CTC Organization

The CTC Organization screen is a record of basic information about your agency's system. Some of this data may be completed for you based on last year's report. Please make any necessary corrections. On this page, please use appropriate capitalization rules as the data will be directly imported into a statewide report. (I.e., use Florida, not FLORIDA or florida.)

CTC Organization Name.

Enter the legal name of the CTC as it is listed on the MOA currently in effect.

Address.

Enter the mailing address, including City and Zip Code.

Organization Type.

Enter the most appropriate type of organization that applies to the CTC. Choose one of the following from the drop-down options:

- Private Non-Profit
- Private For-Profit
- County Government
- Public Transit Authority
- City Government

Network Type.

Enter the network type that is most appropriate for your system. Choose one of the following from the drop-down options:

- Complete Brokerage. System in which the CTC does not provide any of the on-street transportation services itself, but contracts with transportation providers (including coordination contractors) to provide all on-street transportation disadvantaged services.
- Partial Brokerage. System in which the CTC provides some of the on-street transportation services and contracts with one or more other transportation providers (including coordination contractors) to provide the other portion of the on-street transportation disadvantaged services.
- Sole Source. System in which the CTC provides all the coordinated on-street transportation disadvantaged services, and has no providers or coordination contractors.

Operating Environment.

Enter the most appropriate environment that applies to the CTC. Choose one of the following:

- Rural
- Urban

Provide Out of County Trips.

Select Yes or No to indicate whether the CTC provides trips out of their county area.

Transportation Operators.

Select Yes or No to indicate whether the CTC has Transportation Operators under contract to provide services. If yes, enter the number of operators.

Coordination Contractors.

Select Yes or No to indicate whether the CTC has Coordination Contractors under contract to provide services. If yes, enter the number of contractors.

LCB Chairperson.

Enter the name of the Local Coordinating Board Chairperson.

CTC Contact.

Enter the name of the individual to contact with questions concerning data provided in this report.

CTC Contact Title.

Enter the title of the Contact Person.

CTC Contact E-Mail.

Enter the e-mail address of the Contact Person.

Phone.

Enter the area code and telephone number of the Contact Person.

CTC and LCB Certification.

The CTC Representative's signature is required for electronic submission. After electronic submission, print the Organization & Certification Report from the Reports menu, and send it to the CTD with signatures from both the CTC Representative and LCB Chair. CTD Staff will verify LCB review in minutes submitted by the Planning Agency.

The CTC may submit the certification after the September 15th deadline, as long as it is submitted electronically in the AOR online database by that date.

CTC Coordinated System

The CTC Coordinated System screen is a record of basic information about your agency's operators and coordination contractors. Some of this data may be completed for you based on last year's report. Please make any necessary corrections. On this page, please use appropriate capitalization rules. (I.e., use Florida, not FLORIDA or florida.)

Transportation Operators.

The Transportation Operators grid should list every operator under contract to provide services for the county for the fiscal year. An operator is a public, private for profit or private nonprofit entity engaged by the CTC to provide service to transportation disadvantaged persons. View existing operators and validate each organization's information. Add new operators and delete operators that are no longer under contract.

Coordination Contractors.

The Coordination Contractors grid should list every contractor under contract to provide services for the county for the fiscal year. A coordination contractor is an agency who receives transportation disadvantaged funds and performs some, if not all, of its own services, as well as services to others, when such service has been analyzed by the CTC and proven to be a safer, more effective and more efficient service from a total system perspective. This entry must have corresponding employee, trip, and expense entries. Add new contractors and delete contractors that are no longer under contract. For each contractor listed, complete a Coordination Contractor Worksheet, and upload it from this screen.

CTC Trips

A one-way passenger trip is defined as a unit of service provided each time a passenger enters the vehicle, is transported, then exits the vehicle [i.e. If a passenger travels from home to the doctor, then to a store, then home, the total number of one-way passenger trips would be three (3)]. This number should not include personal care attendants or escorts. **All information provided in these sections should be mutually exclusive in each category and therefore should not be counted twice.** ADA paratransit trips should only be included in this report when the CTC coordinates or provides trips to both ADA and TD riders on the same vehicle.

Service Type-One Way.

Record the number of trips by each type of service.

- **Fixed Route/Fixed Schedule.** This is service in which the vehicles repeatedly follow a consistent time schedule and stopping points over the same route, and whereby such schedule, route or service is not at the user's request (i.e., conventional city bus, fixed guide way). This category is split into three separate sub-categories. The subcategories titled Daily Pass Trips, Weekly Pass Trips, and Monthly Pass Trips are only for transportation systems that receive Section 49 USC 5307 funding and the person was sponsored by a funding agency. **This entry must have a corresponding entry on the CTC Expense Source screen under Purchased Transportation Services (Bus Pass).**

For agencies distributing bus passes, enter the actual number of trips per pass if an automated accounting system is in place or use the following methodology:

Daily Pass Trips. Counted as one (1) one-way passenger trip per pass (or token) and includes single ride passes.

Weekly Pass Trips. Counted as three (3) one-way passenger trips per pass.

Monthly Pass Trips. Counted as twelve (12) one-way passenger trips per pass and includes 30-Day passes.

If the above method for calculating one-way passenger trips is not used, the CTC shall obtain prior approval of the CTD Area Manager. The methodology used and data reported is subject to auditing and must be maintained on file with source documentation for completing the AOR.

- **Deviated Fixed Route Service.** Record the number of one-way passenger trips that are provided using a deviated fixed route system (passengers may call for a pick up at specific locations near the scheduled route), or a service route (the user may board and exit at will at pre-determined destinations).
- **Complementary ADA Service.** Record the number of one-way passenger trips that are provided when the CTC or its transportation operator(s) provides trips to both ADA and TD sponsored riders on the same vehicle and trips are paid for by a purchasing agency. Complementary ADA transportation is a service that is required to be provided by a fixed route service that must be provided within 3/4 of a mile of a bus

route or rail station, at the same hours and days, for no more than twice the regular fixed route fare. ADA paratransit trips should only be included in this section

- **Paratransit.** Record the number of one-way passenger trips provided between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user with such service being provided at a time that is agreed upon between the user and the provider of the service. Paratransit services are provided by sedans, vans, buses, and other vehicles that are not part of the Complementary ADA Services. For the purpose of this report, paratransit services are further delineated as Ambulatory, Non-Ambulatory, and Stretcher service.

Ambulatory Service. A paratransit trip taken by an individual who at the time of pickup was capable of walking.

Non-Ambulatory Service. A paratransit trip taken by an individual who at the time of pick-up was not capable of walking without the assistance of some form of device, but did not need to be transported utilizing stretcher services. This includes wheelchairs and scooters.

Stretcher Service. A special form of non-emergency paratransit whereby the rider is transported on a stretcher, litter, gurney or other device.

Transportation Network Companies (TNC). Record the number of one-way passenger trips that are provided by a TNC. A TNC is an entity operating in this state using a digital network to connect a rider to a TNC driver, who provides prearranged rides in accordance with Section 627.748, FS.

Taxi. Record the number of one-way passenger trips that are provided using a car licensed to transport passengers in return for payment of a fare, usually fitted with a taximeter.

School Board (School Bus). Record the number of one-way passenger trips that are provided using a district school board operated bus and under the arrangements of a written school bus utilization agreement. If the CTC does not arrange and/or provide Headstart Program trips, the trips cannot be counted unless a written agreement exists between the CTC and the agency.

Volunteers. Record the number of one-way passenger trips that are provided by a person who provides transportation for little or no compensation.

Contracted Transportation Operator.

Enter the total number of trips that were provided by contracted Transportation Operators.

Do not include trips provided by the CTC if the CTC provides transportation services itself.

Revenue Source - One Way.

This portion of the report further identifies the number of trips purchased by each Funding Source. If a trip is sponsored by more than one funding source, the funding source paying for a majority of the trip should be credited with the trip. Record the number of trips each funding source purchased.

- **Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA).** This should include Medicaid Non-Emergency trips provided for HMO Brokers, that are provided or arranged through the CTC. Do not include Med-Waiver trips in this category.

- Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD). Med-Waiver Developmental Services (Residential, Independent Living, Client Services) and ARC trips are counted in this funding source.
- Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD). This includes trips provided by the Trip & Equipment Grant funds.
- Department of Children and Families (DCF). This includes trips for Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health programs, Family Safety and Preservation programs, and Aging and Adult Service programs.
- Department of Economic Opportunity(DEO). This includes trips provided by Community Service Block Grants, Hospice, and Community Action programs.
- Department of Education (DOE). This includes trips provided for the Vocational Educational Act, Division of Blind Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, Day Care Programs, Pre-K programs and adult literacy
- Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA). This includes trips funded by the Older Americans Act under the OAA or Title IIIB and the Community Care for the Elderly program.
- Department of Health (DOH). Report trips that are provided for the Children's Medical Services program, County Public Health programs, and Division of Disability Determination Program.
- Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Report trips for the provision of services for the Department of Juvenile Justice
- Florida Department of Transportation (DOT). This includes trips that are funded by Section 5311, 5311(f) 5310, 5307, Block Grants, Commuter Assistance Program and any other DOT programs for the transportation disadvantaged within the coordinated system. Note: trips funded through 5307 funds should only be those trips that were purchased through the CTC by a sponsoring social service program, agency, or entity and are **not for general public services**.
- Local Government. Include trips utilizing local government funds. This would include trips provided through the utilization of school buses. ADA paratransit trips should only be included in this report when the CTC coordinates or provides trips to both ADA and TD riders on the same vehicle.
- Local Non-Government. Include any trips provided with local non-government funds such as hospitals, clinics, United Way, YMCA.
- Other Federal or State Programs. Report any trips that were provided with funds from any other federal or state programs within the coordinated system.

Passenger Type – One Way.

This portion of the report further identifies each trip by the type of passenger that took the trip.

- Older Adults. Anyone who is sixty (60) years of age and over.
- Children At Risk. A child at risk as defined in Chapter 411.202, FS
- Persons With Disabilities. Anyone with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits at least one of the major life activities (i.e., caring for one's self, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning).
- Low Income. Anyone with an income at or below the published National Poverty Level. (Current Poverty Thresholds available from the U. S. Census Bureau) <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/index.cfm>
- Other. Anyone who meets the transportation disadvantaged definition and is not identified in any of the above categories. Please identify in the "Comments" section why rider(s) did not meet above definitions.

Trips Purpose – One Way.

This section is to classify one-way passenger trips according to the trip purpose. Each listed trip is mutually exclusive and is reported in actual numbers.

- Medical. Include trips to the doctor, dentist, chiropractor, hospital or pharmacy.
- Employment. Trips to or from a job interview, current job, or a job-related duty that is related to receiving payment for employment, including sheltered workshops.
- Education/Training/Day Care. Trips to or from school, college, Vo-tech, or any other facility whose purpose it is to train, teach, or educate people, including day care for children or Regional Workforce Boards. Sheltered workshops where payment for employment is not provided would be in this category.
- Nutritional. Trips to or from locations to receive a meal, or grocery shopping. Meals on wheels should not be included in this report.
- Life-Sustaining/Other. Trips for the purpose of conducting personal business (e.g. banks, social service offices, visiting spouse/parent in nursing home); and shopping, excluding grocery shopping. This could include after school programs, social, or recreational reasons. Volunteer workers and support groups would also be included in this category.

Unduplicated Passenger Head Count (UDPHC)

This is the actual number of individual persons who took a trip during the reporting period, regardless of how many trips the person took.

Unmet & No Shows

- **Unmet Trip Requests.** Enter the number of one-way passenger trips which were unable to be provided or arranged through the coordinated system, for any reason. This data is used to substantiate the need for increased TD funding at the state and local level, and will not penalize the CTC.
- **No Shows.** A no-show is when the passenger was scheduled to be transported but was not and did not cancel the trip within the locally established time frame. (Record a passenger who did not cancel a round trip as 1 passenger no-show.)

Customer Feedback

- **Complaints.** Include any documented customer concern involving timeliness, vehicle condition, quality of service, personnel behavior and other operational policies. The number reported should be for all providers in the coordinated system
- **Commendations.** Commendations consist of any documented compliment of any aspect of the coordinated system, including personnel, vehicles, service, etc. The number reported should be for all providers in the coordinated system

CTC Vehicles & Drivers

Vehicle Miles

Mileage information must be shown in the seven major categories (Deviated Fixed Route Miles, Complementary ADA Service Miles, Paratransit Miles, Transportation Network Companies Miles, Taxi Miles, School Board Miles, Volunteers Miles). Only include mileage associated with passenger transport. Meal delivery should not be included.

- **Deviated Fixed Route Miles.** The total number of miles driven by the CTC and all transportation operators under contract with the CTC, while involved in the transport of Transportation Disadvantaged passengers that call for a pick up at specific locations near the scheduled route, or a service. Do not include Section 49 USC 5307 fixed route/fixed schedule vehicle miles.
- **Complementary ADA Service Miles.** The total number of paratransit miles driven by the CTC and/or its transportation operator(s) for trips to both ADA and TD sponsored riders on the same vehicle and trips are paid for by a purchasing agency. Complementary ADA transportation is a service that is required to be provided by a fixed route service that must be provided within 3/4 of a mile of a bus route or rail station, at the same hours and days, for no more than twice the regular fixed route fare. ADA paratransit miles should only be included in this section.
- **Paratransit Miles.** The total number of paratransit miles (non ADA) traveled for one-way passenger trips that are provided between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user with such service being provided at a time that is agreed upon between the user and the provider of the service. Paratransit services are provided by sedans, vans, buses, and other vehicles that are not part of the Complementary ADA Services. For the purpose of this report, paratransit services are further delineated as Ambulatory, Non-Ambulatory, and Stretcher service. Do not include Section 49 USC 5307 fixed route/fixed schedule vehicle miles.
- **Transportation Network Companies (TNC) Miles.** The total number of passenger miles driven by a TNC involving the transport of Transportation Disadvantaged passengers. A TNC is an entity operating in this state using a digital network to connect a rider to a TNC driver, who provides prearranged rides in accordance with Section 627.748, FS.
- **Taxi Miles.** The total number of passenger miles driven using a car licensed to transport passengers in return for payment of a fare, usually fitted with a taximeter.
- **School Board (School Bus) Miles.** The total number of miles driven while using a district school board operated bus and under the arrangements of a written school bus utilization agreement. If the CTC does not arrange and/or provide Headstart Program trips, the mileage cannot be counted unless a written agreement exists between the CTC and the school board.
- **Volunteers Miles.** The total number of passenger miles driven by a person who provides transportation for little or no compensation

Roadcalls & Accidents

- Roadcalls. A count of paratransit "in-service" roadcalls for "mechanical" or "other" reasons during this reporting period whether the rider is transferred or not. Do not include Section 49 USC 5307 fixed route/fixed schedule or deviated fixed route roadcalls. Roadcalls exclude accidents.

"In-service" is defined as the time a vehicle has begun its route to provide transportation service to the time it has completed its route.

"Mechanical Failure" is defined as a revenue service interruption caused by failure of some mechanical element of the revenue vehicle. Mechanical failures include breakdowns of air equipment, brakes, body parts, doors, cooling system, heating system, electrical units, fuel system, engine, steering and front axle, rear axle and suspension, and torque converters. In addition, a revenue service interruption caused by tire failure, fare box failure, wheel chair lift failure, air conditioning system, out of fuel-coolant-lubricant, and other causes not included as mechanical failures.

- Chargeable Accidents. The number of chargeable paratransit accidents. Do not include Section 49 USC 5307 fixed route/fixed/deviated. schedule accidents. A chargeable accident is one where a ticket was received or the cause of the accident was the fault of the provider.

Vehicle Inventory

- Total Number of Vehicles. List the total number of vehicles utilized by the CTC and/or any contracted Transportation Operators for services within the coordinated system. Do not include vehicles utilized by TNCs or Taxis.
- Number of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles. List the total number of vehicles from above, that are wheelchair accessible vehicles.

Drivers

- Number of Full-Time and Part-Time Drivers. Enter the total number of full-time and part-time drivers positions the CTC and/or transportation operator employees for services within the coordinated system. Do not include drivers utilized by TNCs or Taxis.
- Number of Volunteer Drivers. Enter the number of persons who drive without compensation, but may receive mileage reimbursement.

CTC Revenue Sources

The revenue report shall reflect fully allocated cost figures for administrative and operating costs. During the twelve-month reporting period, this information corresponds to the passenger trip and vehicle mile operating data. Enter the dollar amount under the appropriate line item of each revenue source. Include only revenue for the CTC and Transportation Operators

Revenue Sources

- **Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA).** Medicaid Non-Emergency - Revenue received for the provision of non-emergency transportation through a contract with a Broker. This does not include Med-Waiver revenues
- **Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD).** Developmental Services (Residential, Independent Living, Client Services) - Revenues received for the provision of services for the Development Services program. This includes Med-Waiver and ARC revenues
- **Department of Economic Opportunity (DOEO).** This includes Community Service Block Grants, Hospice, and Community Action programs.
- **Department of Children and Families (DCF).** This includes revenues received for Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health programs, Family Safety and Preservation programs, and Aging and Adult Service programs
- **Department of Education (DOE).** This includes revenues received for the Carl Perkins Vocational Educational Act, Division of Blind Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, Day Care Programs, Pre-K programs and adult literacy
- **Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA).** This includes revenues for the Older Americans Act under the OAA or Title IIIB and the Community Care for the Elderly program.
- **Department of Health (DOH).** This includes revenues for Children's Medical Services program, County Public Health programs, and Division of Disability Determination Program.
- **Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).** Revenues received for the provision of services for the Department of Juvenile Justice
- **Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD).**
 - Non-Sponsored Trip Program. Revenues received from the CTD for the purpose of providing Non-Sponsored trips and included in the funding allocation of the reporting year.
 - Non-Sponsored Capital Equipment. Revenues received from the CTD Trip and Equipment Grant for the purpose of purchasing capital equipment to administer and provide transportation for the Non-Sponsored program.

Rural Capital Assistance Grant (i.e. Shirley Conroy Grant). Revenues received from the CTD for the purpose of purchasing capital equipment to administer and provide transportation for the TD program.

TD Other. Other revenues received from the CTD that are not included above.

- **Department of Transportation (DOT).**

Section 5307. Revenues received for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas.

Section 5310. Include revenues received for the purpose of providing transportation services to meet the special needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities. Note: The match for these funds should be reported under local non-government if a private CTC or local government if a governmental CTC.

Section 5311. Grant funds received for providing transportation services, job access and reverse commute services in rural areas. Eligible Recipients are State and local governments, non-profit organizations (including Indian tribes and groups), and public transit providers for non-urbanized area service. Funds may be used for capital, operating, and administrative purposes.

Section 5311(f). Include revenues received for the provision of intercity bus service.

Block Grant. Revenue received through a Block Grant program for operating within the coordinated system.

Service Development. Revenue received through the Service Development program for the purpose of operating within the coordinated system.

Commuter Assistance Program. Revenue received through a commuter assistance program funded through FDOT for the purpose of operating services within the coordinated system.

Other (DOT). Other revenue received through DOT for the purpose of providing services within the coordinated system that are not included above.

- **Local Government**

Note: A governmental CTC should report the 5310 match under Local Government.

School Board (School Bus). Revenues received for the provision of services from the local district school board, utilizing the school bus.

County Cash. Revenues received for the provision of services from the local county government.

County In-Kind. Revenues received from a county in the form of a contribution or donation.

City Cash. Revenue received for the provision of services from the city or municipality.

City In-Kind. Revenues received from a city or municipality in the form of a contribution or donation.

Other Cash. Revenues received for the provision of services from other local government sources.

Other In-Kind. Revenues received from other local governmental organizations, not properly classified as city, county or school board, in the form of contribution or donation from local governmental agencies.

- **Local Non-Government**

Note: A non-governmental CTC should report the 5310 match under Local Non-Government.

Fare box. Amount required as payment by the rider

Donations/Contributions. Any funds received through donations for the purpose of operating the coordinated system.

In-Kind Services. Any services that were donated for the purpose of operating the coordinated system (i.e. - volunteer employees that donated their service to the operations of the CTC, parking lots, and buildings from non-governmental sources).

Other Non-Government. Any revenue received from local non-government entities for the purpose of operating the coordinated system. Revenues received from the following are examples of other non-government revenue: hospitals and clinics, schools and universities, United Way, YMCA, maintenance repairs, local match, interest income, advertising, charter services, and sale of equipment.

- **Other Federal & State Programs**

Other Federal Programs. Revenues received for the provision of services for any other Federal programs not classified in another category above.

Other State Programs. Revenues received for the provision of services for any other State programs not classified in another category above.

CTC Expense Sources

The expense reports shall reflect fully allocated cost figures for administrative and operating costs that were incurred within the coordinated system. During the twelve-month reporting period, this information corresponds to the passenger trip and vehicle mile operating data. Include only the expenses for the CTC. CTCs that contract with operators should not allocate the expenses in the categories below but rather report the contracted expenses in the Contracted Operator section below.

Labor.

Include expenses such as salaries and wages for operator/drivers, dispatchers, schedulers, call in-take staff, administrative staff, management staff, vehicle maintenance staff or any other labor categories.

Fringe Benefits.

Payments or accruals, in addition to wages or salaries, paid directly to or on behalf of employees of the coordinated system that are not properly categorized into one of the labor categories (i.e., unemployment insurance, uniform allowance).

Services.

Include expenses such as:

Management Service Fees. the labor and services provided by a Management Service Company (MSC) engaged to provide operating management to the coordinated system. This category covers both the continuing labor and services of MSC personnel devoted full time to the coordinated system and the occasional consulting and special purpose studies provided by MSC.

Advertising Services Fees. the labor and materials provided by an advertising agency in the development and production of advertising campaigns. (Advertising media fees, regardless of whether they are paid to the advertising agency or directly to the media, are included in the miscellaneous class.)

Professional and Technical Services. The labor and services provided by attorneys, accountants and auditors, investment bankers, computer service companies, engineering firms, management consultants, transit industry consultants, etc. These services generally require specialized technical knowledge and are usually performed under the supervision of the outside organization, rather than transit system personnel.

Other Services. All costs for services provided that are not categorized above. These charges may include, but are not limited to, the following; bank service charges, lawn maintenance service, uniform cleaning service, maintenance services, and custodial services.

Materials and Supplies Consumed.

Include expenses such as:

Fuel and Lubricants Consumed. costs of gasoline, diesel fuel, propane, lubricating oil, transmission fluid, grease, etc., for use in all vehicles operated within the coordinated system.

Tires and Tubes Consumed. cost of tires and tubes for replacement of tires and tubes on vehicles operated within the coordinated system. Lease payments for tires and tubes rented on a time period or mileage basis.

Inventory Purchases. items purchased for immediate consumption such as vehicle maintenance parts, cleaning supplies and office forms.

Other Materials and Supplies Consumed. cost of materials and supplies not specifically identified in above categories and purchased for immediate consumption, or to establish bench stock e.g., vehicle maintenance parts, cleaning supplies, office forms, etc.

Utilities.

Include expenses such as:

Telephone. telephone service purchased from the telephone company, including long distance and leased lines. Cellular telephone service purchased from cellular telephone provider. Does not include yellow pages advertising.

Others. the electrical power purchased from an outside utility company and used for all purposes, except telephone.

Casualty and Liability.

Include expenses such as:

Premium for Physical Damage Insurance. premiums applicable to an accounting period to insure the coordinated system from losses through damage to its own property caused by collision, fire, theft, flood, hurricane, etc.

Premium for Public Liability & Property Damage. premiums applicable to an accounting period to insure the coordinated system against loss from liability for its acts which cause damage to the person or property of others.

Other. all costs for insurance not properly classified in the above categories.

Taxes

Include expenses such as:

Property Tax. the tax levied by the state and/or local government against the coordinated system based on a valuation of the property owned by the coordinated system.

Vehicle Licensing and Registration Fees. the fees assessed by federal, state, and local governments for granting authority to operate a motor vehicle.

Other Taxes. taxes levied by federal, state, and local governments against the coordinated system and not properly classifiable in the above categories.

Miscellaneous.

Include expenses such as:

Dues and Subscriptions. fees for membership in industry organizations and subscriptions to periodical publications.

Travel and Meetings. fares and allowances for transportation of coordinated system employees and related officials on airplanes, trains, etc. This includes expenses for food and lodging, charges for participation in transportation conferences and other related business meeting expenses.

Advertising/Promotion Media. advertising media fees and expenses, regardless of whether they are paid to an advertising agency or direct to the media. The labor and materials provided by an advertising agency in the development and production of advertising campaigns is included in object class Services (503) advertising services.

Uncollected Medicaid Co-payments. expenses accrued by the coordinated system due to the non-payment of the Medicaid co-payment.

Other. other expenses incurred such as fines, penalties, and bad debt expense.

Interest.

Include expenses such as.

Interest on Long-Term Debt Obligations. charges for the use of borrowed capital on a long-term basis (the liability for which is usually represented by debt instruments such as equipment obligations, bonds, etc..) employed in the operation of the coordinated system. Interest charges pertaining to construction debt which are capitalized will not be reflected as interest expense. This is an obligation that lasts longer than one year.

Interest on Short-Term Debt Obligations. charges for the use of borrowed capital on a short-term basis used in the operation of the coordinated system. This is an obligation that is for less than one year and is federally allowable.

Leases and Rentals.

Include expenses such as.

Passenger Revenue Vehicles. leases and rentals of rolling stock used exclusively or predominately for providing passenger transit services within the coordinated system.

Service Vehicles. leases and rentals of rolling stock used for purposes other than providing passenger transit services within the coordinated system.

Office equipment. lease and rentals of equipment used in the coordinated system.

Other. leases and rentals of the physical facilities or other items (e.g. land, office space, building, equipment other than office equipment, furnishings, and storage space) that are used for performing the general administrative functions of the coordinated system.

Capital Purchases.

Include expenses such as:

Passenger Revenue Vehicles. Vehicles used exclusively or predominately for providing passenger transit services within the coordinated system.

Service Vehicles. Vehicles used for purposes other than providing passenger transit services within the coordinated system.

Vehicle Storage and Dispatch Center. Physical facilities (e.g. buildings/ structures, office equipment, equipment, equipment other than office equipment, and furnishings) that are used for storing revenue vehicles and for dispatching vehicles for revenue service.

Maintenance Equipment and Facilities. Physical facilities (e.g. buildings/structures, office equipment, equipment other than office equipment, and furnishings) that are used for maintenance facilities for revenue vehicles.

Data Processing Equipment. Physical facilities (e.g. buildings, if devoted exclusively to data processing services, office equipment, other equipment, particularly main frame and auxiliary computer equipment, furnishings) that are used for performing data processing services.

Other. Physical facilities or other items (e.g. buildings, office equipment, amortization of intangibles, other equipment and furnishings) used for performing the general administrative functions of the transit system.

Depreciation. When calculating depreciation for revenue vehicle, physical facilities or other equipment, purchased through a grant and match program, you are allowed to report in the entire year's depreciation. For example: a \$50,000 vehicle depreciated over 5 years would result in \$10,000 worth of depreciation. Therefore, you would report \$10,000 for depreciation.

Contributed Services.

The value of services provided at no cost to the Community Transportation Coordinator where the value of the service can be claimed as an allowable source of revenue. This expense item should be equal to the revenue account titled contributed services. This category covers the receipt of services (not cash) from another entity where such services benefit the coordinated system operations and the coordinated system provider is under no obligation to pay for the services.

Allocated Indirect Expenses.

Expenses directly related as an expense to the coordinated system but indirectly accrued through another source (e.g. when a Community Transportation Coordinator occupies part of a county or private building and therefore owes a portion of the overall building).

Purchased Transportation Services.

- **Bus Pass**

Expenses for the purchase of bus passes/tickets. This includes Daily Trip Tickets, Weekly Passes, or Monthly Passes. The revenues received for bus passes must be reported if bus pass trips are included in this report. Note: Deviated Fixed Route Service should NOT be reported in this section.

- **School Board (School Bus)**

Record the expense associated with providing one-way passenger trips that are provided using a district school board operated bus and under the arrangements of a written school bus utilization agreement. Do not report expenses for Headstart program trips if the CTC does not arrange and/or provide them unless a written agreement exists between the CTC and the agency.

- **Transportation Network Companies. (TNC)**

Record the expense associated with providing a one-way passenger trips that are provided by a TNC. A TNC is an entity operating in this state using a digital network to connect a rider to a TNC driver, who provides prearranged rides in accordance with Section 627.748, FS.

- **Taxi.**

Record the expense associated with providing one-way passenger trips that are provided using a car licensed to transport passengers in return for payment of a fare, usually fitted with a taximeter.

- **School Board (School Bus).** Record the number of one-way passenger trips that are provided using a district school board operated bus and under the arrangements of a written school bus utilization agreement.

- **Contracted Operator.**

Report expenses that the CTC incurred when purchasing services from contracted operators. These expenses should not be allocated in any categories above.

EXHIBIT I

TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Florida Commission for the



**Transportation
Disadvantaged**

FISCAL YEAR 2021-22
PROGRAM MANUAL AND INSTRUCTIONS
FOR THE
TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT

Issued By:

FLORIDA COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED

605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 49

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

850-410-5700

<http://ctd.fdot.gov/>

INTRODUCTION

The Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund is administered by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (Commission), pursuant to Section 427.0159, Florida Statutes. The purpose of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund is to provide a dedicated funding source for the operational and planning expenses of the Commission in carrying out its legislative responsibilities. The trust fund is appropriated by the Legislature annually from revenues collected from vehicle registrations and voluntary contributions. The Trip & Equipment Grant program was established to provide opportunities for transportation disadvantaged citizens to obtain access to transportation for daily living needs. These grant funds are for the specific purpose of funding a portion of passenger trips provided to eligible transportation disadvantaged individuals. Grantees must provide service before seeking payment.

This manual contains information regarding the Transportation Disadvantaged Trip & Equipment Grant Program administered by the Commission. Its purpose is to provide program guidance to Community Transportation Coordinators (CTCs) when planning and implementing transportation disadvantaged services and purchasing equipment under this program.

This manual is divided into two parts: Program Requirements and Grant Documentation Instructions.

PART I

TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

This part of the manual contains requirements of the Trip & Equipment Grant.

1. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligible Recipients

For this grant cycle, an eligible recipient is any current Commission approved CTC who has an executed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP). The recipient of these funds will be referred to as the Grantee.

B. Allowable Expenditures

The grant funds allocated from the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund are for the specific purpose of funding a portion of passenger trips provided to eligible transportation disadvantaged individuals or for purchase of equipment to be utilized in the designated service area. The Trip & Equipment Grant funds are to be expended and utilized in accordance with Chapter 427, Florida Statutes; Rule 41-2, Florida Administrative Code; Commission policies; the grant agreement; and this grant manual.

The Grantee shall not use grant funds to supplant or replace funding of transportation disadvantaged services that are currently funded by any federal, state, or local governmental agency. The grant funds shall not be used as a system subsidy to cover other operating costs or deficits.

The following is a detailed description of the two areas for which these grant funds may be utilized.

(1) Trips: A trip is a one-way trip for an eligible individual who meets the local qualifications to receive transportation services funded by the TDTF. These trips are coordinated by the Grantee and can be provided by any conveyance, either publicly or privately owned. These trips originate and/or end in the Grantee's service area for the purpose of health care, shopping, education, employment, recreation, or other life sustaining activities. There shall be an approved eligibility application for each rider who receives a trip or bus pass. In addition, documentation which supports the eligibility determination shall be maintained by the Grantee as part of the rider's eligibility file. This documentation shall be made available upon request by CTD Staff or designee.

Personal care attendants (PCAs), escorts, and companions of eligible individuals are not an eligible expense. However, they are recognized as a cost of doing business and should be accounted for when determining a rate structure.

(2) Capital Equipment: Capital equipment is any equipment used to maintain or provide improved or expanded transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged and is utilized within the Grantee's coordinated system. Eligible capital equipment includes, but is not limited to:

Allowable Expenditures:

- a. Paratransit vehicles, including small buses, vans, or sedans;
- b. Wheelchair lifts, ramps, restraints, or other safety equipment;
- c. Radios and communications equipment
- d. Computer hardware/software;
- e. Support equipment, other than items specifically identified in this section, above \$500 per piece;
- f. Vehicle procurement, testing, acceptance inspection, and vehicle rehabilitation when the rehabilitation extends the life of the vehicle one year beyond the original expectancy; or
- g. Initial installation or set-up costs of any of the above items.

Disallowed Expenditures:

- a. Costs incurred to prepare and submit this request for funding or incurred prior to grant agreement execution.
- b. Acquisition, construction, or improvement of fixed facilities.
- c. Optional or extended warranties; recurring monthly/annual fees; data plans.

2. GRANT FUNDING

The Commission calculates an allocation for each service area in accordance Rule 41-2, FAC, unless otherwise directed by the Legislature. The funding formula methodology was revised and adopted by rule, effective March 2021. Each service area's anticipated eligible allocation is subject to change based on annual appropriations approved by the Legislature.

A maximum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the total Trip & Equipment Grant project budget can be used for the purchase of capital expenditures. Voluntary dollar contributions cannot be used to fund capital equipment.

LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT

All match funding must be documented, reasonable, necessary, and related to this project.

- (1) Trip & Equipment Match - This grant program provides ninety-percent (90%) funding and requires a ten-percent (10%) local cash match generated from local sources. No state or federal government revenues are acceptable as local match.

Examples of cash generated from local sources include local appropriations, dedicated tax revenues, private donations, net income generated from advertising and concessions, contract revenues, and farebox revenues.

- (2) Voluntary Dollar Contribution Match - A ten-percent (10%) local cash or in-kind match for the voluntary dollar contributions is required. All in-kind match used as a funding mechanism must be equivalent to a cash value and be documented, reasonable, necessary, and related to this project.

Examples of in-kind match that are acceptable to the Commission include non-cash donations, volunteered services, or salaries and fringe benefits. Any service provided with State or Federal government revenues is not accepted as in-kind match.

FUNDING PARTICIPATION FORMULA

	Allocation for Trip & Equipment Grant	Voluntary Dollar Contribution
State	90%	90%
Local cash match	10%	
Local cash or in-kind match		10%
TOTAL	100%	100%

3. GRANT APPROVAL

All grants are subject to approval by the Commission or its designee. Once documentation of capital equipment needs, rate model calculation spreadsheets, fixed route service rates (bus passes), and other information is confirmed, a grant agreement will be forwarded to the Grantee for execution. An authorizing resolution or documentation by the Grantee’s governing body shall also be submitted along with the executed grant agreement.

4. INVOICING

Invoices for Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds will not be honored until the grant agreement has been executed by both the Commission and the Grantee, and is on file at the Commission office. Funds will be expended at the fare structure contained in the approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan and Exhibit B of the grant for the particular type or mode of service. Invoices related to this grant agreement shall be completed in accordance with the Commission’s most current Invoicing Procedures for the Provision of Transportation and Capital Equipment. Reimbursement of funds will be approved for payment upon receipt of a properly completed invoice with supporting documentation. The recipient is aware that the approved project must be completed by June 30, 2022, which means services and equipment must be provided and received by the recipient by that date or reimbursement will not be approved.

5. CAPITAL EQUIPMENT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grant recipients shall comply with state procurement requirements in accordance with Chapter 287, Florida Statutes, for the purchase of equipment. Grant recipient shall provide the Commission documentation that demonstrates a competitive process was followed (i.e. three quotes; state contract documentation, etc.).

To assist CTCs with the procurement process, it is recommended that the purchase of vehicles be made from either of the following active contracts. Both websites contain pricing information.

- Florida Department of Transportation Transit Research Inspection Procurement Services (<https://www.tripsflorida.org/contracts.html>) or,
- Florida Department of Management Services (https://www.dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/state_purchasing/state_contracts_and_agreements)

All capital equipment purchases made with funds from the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund shall be reviewed by the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) prior to grant execution. Equipment purchased shall meet or exceed any applicable Commission accepted minimum specifications. The Commission accepts any specifications by any local, state, or federal government department.

If the Grantee decides to purchase vehicles or other equipment after the date of the Agreement, the Grantee must submit a request to the Commission to consider amending the grant to include such equipment. In addition, the Grantee shall provide documentation of the LCB's review prior to execution of the amendment such as LCB meeting minutes. Such amendments should be submitted timely to ensure the capital equipment will be purchased and received prior to the grant expiration date.

All vehicles purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Funds shall be titled to the Grantee, with a lien to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

Grantees who intend to utilize project vehicles for demand response services should ensure that such services offered to individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, are equivalent to the level and quality of service offered to individuals without disabilities.

The Grantee may only purchase vehicles with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds that the Grantee actually uses to transport eligible transportation disadvantaged passengers in the coordinated system. The Grantee shall notify the Commission in writing of any lease or assignment of operational responsibility of project vehicles and equipment to third-parties.

The Commission shall retain a majority of the interest in all capital equipment until the useful life of such equipment, as defined by the Commission's Capital Equipment Policy, has been expended. At that time, the Grantee may dispose of such equipment with the

written permission of the Commission in accordance with the Commission's Capital Equipment Procedures.

Grantees are required to insure vehicles in accordance with requirements of Chapter 427, F.S. Each vehicle or other capital equipment purchase must have insurance coverage for liability, collision, or other property loss. The Commission must be made an additional insured for liability policies and the loss payee for collision or property insurance coverage.

The Commission may, after consultation with the Grantee, transfer any equipment purchased under this grant at such time that it deems the equipment to be underutilized or that it is not being operated for its intended purpose.

Prescribed inspection schedules, published by the equipment manufacturer(s), shall be adhered to and appropriately documented to protect the equipment warranties. Preventative maintenance inspection checklists, work (or repair) order which adequately records labor actions, parts replaced, consumables added and any sub-contracted repairs are considered essential records for documentation. The eligible Grantee will be responsible for maintenance of software.

PART II

TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT RECIPIENT DOCUMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Presented in this part are specific instructions on the preparation of the grant recipient information documents. Additional assistance may be obtained by contacting the Commission at (850) 410-5700.

- A. A complete grant recipient information package shall be submitted to the Commission and shall consist of the following documents:
- Trip & Equipment Grant Recipient Information, and
 - Service Rates

Note: An authorizing resolution or documentation by the Grantee's governing body shall be submitted with the executed grant agreement.

The grant recipient information package can be submitted to the assigned CTD project manager via email, with signed originals to follow. Originals shall be mailed to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, 605 Suwannee Street, MS-49, Tallahassee, FL 32399.

- B. Local Coordinating Board review is not required unless a request for capital equipment is included as part of the total project budget. The LCB Chair must sign the grant recipient information document indicating that it has been reviewed by the LCB. The LCB review may be obtained after the grant recipient information document is submitted, but must be received by the Commission prior to the final execution of the grant.
- C. The grant agreement must contain the rates that will be charged for the services provided to those who are transportation disadvantaged. Except for bus pass rates from fixed route providers, an updated Rate Model Calculation Spreadsheet must be provided to support the rates listed on the Service Rates page. The rate model worksheets are required to be reviewed by the LCB and incorporated into the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

TIMETABLE

JULY 1

Earliest date that grant agreements can be effective for these grant funds. The Commission's fiscal year begins on July 1st each year. Grant Agreements not executed prior to July 1 will begin on the date of execution.

MARCH 31

Last day to request Capital Equipment grant amendments.

JUNE 30

All Grant Agreements will terminate on June 30th the following year.

AUGUST 15

Deadline for final invoices.

**TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT
RECIPIENT INFORMATION DOCUMENTATION**

Except for the following notes, these documents are essentially self-explanatory. If questions arise, please contact the Commission.

TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT RECIPIENT INFORMATION

LEGAL NAME: The full legal name of the organization, not an individual. Name must match the Federal ID number and the information that is registered with MyFloridaMarketPlace.

FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: The number used by all employers within the United States to identify their payroll and federal income tax. Name must match Federal ID number and the information that is registered with MyFloridaMarketPlace.

REGISTERED ADDRESS: This should be the grant recipient's mailing address as registered in MyFloridaMarketPlace and will be the address on the grant agreement. This address shall also be consistent with the address associated with your Federal Employer Identification (FEI) Number.

CONTACT PERSON, PHONE NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS: Provide the name of the person who will be the point of contact, their phone number and email address.

PROJECT LOCATION: This is the service area [county(ies)] that the grant recipient operates in, as identified in the Memorandum of Agreement and the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. CTCs who serve several different service areas should complete a separate grant information document for each service area.

PROPOSED PROJECT START DATE: The start date shall be July 1st each state fiscal cycle or date of grant agreement execution if later than July 1st.

BUDGET ALLOCATION: Using the Commission approved Trip & Equipment Grant Allocations chart, complete each funding category as appropriate. Once each line item is complete, right click on the space provided for the "Total Project Amount." Select "update field" from the drop down box. This will automatically calculate the total project amount.

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REQUEST: Provide a detailed description and estimated total cost of equipment to be purchased with grant funds. Documentation must also be submitted to support amount of cost of equipment requested. Ensure funds requested do not exceed 25% of total project costs.

LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB) REVIEW: The LCB is only required to review and sign the grant recipient information document if the CTC is using project funds for capital equipment. If applicable, the LCB Chairman must certify, by signing the document, that the LCB has reviewed the grant request.

SERVICE RATES

Complete the Service Rates document listing the selected passenger mile or passenger trip rates from the approved Rate Model and as listed in the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. Include Fixed Route Bus Pass (Daily, Weekly, Monthly, etc.) costs if grants funds will be used to purchase these types of transportation services. The passes purchased with this grant must be used for Transportation Disadvantaged eligible riders who have been approved for TD services. There shall be an approved eligibility application for each rider who receives a non-sponsored trip or bus pass. In addition, documentation which supports the eligibility determination shall be maintained by the Grantee as part of the rider's eligibility file. This documentation shall be made available upon request by CTD staff or a designee.

TRIP & EQUIPMENT GRANT DOCUMENTS

- Trip & Equipment Grant Recipient Information
- Service Rates

*Actual "Fill-In" documents and are provided separately. *

CHAPTER 427, FLORIDA STATUTES

PART I

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

427.011 Definitions.

427.012 The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

427.013 The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.

427.0135 Purchasing agencies; duties and responsibilities.

427.015 Function of the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency in coordinating transportation for the transportation disadvantaged.

427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers and duties.

427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.

427.0158 School bus and public transportation.

427.0159 Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.

427.016 Expenditure of local government, state, and federal funds for the transportation disadvantaged.

427.017 Conflicts with federal laws or regulations.

427.011 Definitions.—For the purposes of ss. 427.011-427.017:

(1) "Transportation disadvantaged" means those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities, or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk as defined in s. 411.202.

(2) "Metropolitan planning organization" means the organization responsible for carrying out transportation planning and programming in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. s. 134, as provided in 23 U.S.C. s. 104(f)(3).

(3) "Agency" means an official, officer, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or any other unit or entity of the state or of a city, town, municipality, county, or other local governing body or a private nonprofit transportation service-providing agency.

(4) "Transportation improvement program" means a staged multiyear program of transportation improvements, including an annual element, which is developed by a metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency.

(5) "Community transportation coordinator" means a transportation entity recommended by a metropolitan planning organization, or by the appropriate designated official planning agency as provided for in ss. 427.011-427.017 in an area outside the purview of a metropolitan planning organization, to ensure that coordinated transportation services are provided to the transportation disadvantaged population in a designated service area.

(6) "Transportation operator" means one or more public, private for-profit, or private nonprofit entities engaged by the community transportation coordinator to provide service to transportation disadvantaged persons pursuant to a coordinated system service plan.

(7) "Coordinating board" means an advisory entity in each designated service area composed of representatives appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency, to provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator relative to the coordination of transportation services.

(8) "Purchasing agency" means a department or agency whose head is an ex officio, nonvoting adviser to the commission, or an agency that purchases transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged.

(9) "Paratransit" means those elements of public transit which provide service between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user with such service being provided at a time that is agreed upon by the user and provider of the service. Paratransit service is provided by taxis, limousines, "dial-a-ride," buses, and other demand-responsive operations that are characterized by their nonscheduled, nonfixed route nature.

(10) "Transportation disadvantaged funds" means any local government, state, or available federal funds that are for the transportation of the transportation disadvantaged. Such funds may include, but are not limited to, funds for planning, Medicaid transportation, administration, operation, procurement, and maintenance of vehicles or equipment and capital investments. Transportation disadvantaged funds do not include funds for the transportation of children to public schools.

(11) "Coordination" means the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is cost-effective, efficient, and reduces fragmentation and

duplication of services.

(12) "Nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services" means transportation disadvantaged services that are not sponsored or subsidized by any funding source other than the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.

History.—ss. 1, 9, ch. 79-180; s. 4, ch. 80-414; ss. 1, 3, ch. 84-56; ss. 1, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 57, ch. 90-306; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 82, ch. 92-152; s. 63, ch. 94-237; s. 2, ch. 2008-203.

427.012 The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.—There is created the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged in the Department of Transportation.

(1) The commission shall consist of seven members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, in accordance with the requirements of s. 20.052.

(a) Five of the members must have significant experience in the operation of a business, and it is the intent of the Legislature that, when making an appointment, the Governor select persons who reflect the broad diversity of the business community in this state, as well as the racial, ethnic, geographical, and gender diversity of the population of this state.

(b) Two of the members must have a disability and use the transportation disadvantaged system.

(c) Each member shall represent the needs of the transportation disadvantaged throughout the state. A member may not subordinate the needs of the transportation disadvantaged in general in order to favor the needs of others residing in a specific location in the state.

(d) Each member shall be appointed to a term of 4 years. A member may be reappointed for one additional 4-year term.

(e) Each member must be a resident of the state and a registered voter.

(f) At any given time, at least one member must be at least 65 years of age.

(g) The Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Children and Families, the Secretary of Economic Opportunity, the executive director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Secretary of Elderly Affairs, the Secretary of Health Care Administration, the director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, and a county manager or administrator who is appointed by the Governor, or a senior management level representative of each, shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting advisors to the commission.

(h) A member may not, within the 5 years immediately before his or her appointment, or during his or her term on the commission, have or have had a financial relationship with, or represent or have represented as a lobbyist as defined in s. 11.045, the following:

1. A transportation operator;
2. A community transportation coordinator;
3. A metropolitan planning organization;
4. A designated official planning agency;
5. A purchaser agency;
6. A local coordinating board;
7. A broker of transportation; or
8. A provider of transportation services.

(2) The chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor, and the vice chairperson of the commission shall be elected annually from the membership of the commission.

(3) Members of the commission shall serve without compensation but shall be allowed per diem and travel expenses, as provided in s. 112.061.

(4) The commission shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson. Four members of the commission constitute a quorum, and a majority vote of the members present is necessary for any action taken by the commission.

(5) The Governor may remove any member of the commission for cause.

(6) Each candidate for appointment to the commission must, before accepting the appointment, undergo background screening under s. 435.04 by filing with the Department of Transportation a complete set of fingerprints taken by an authorized law enforcement agency. The fingerprints must be submitted to the Department of Law Enforcement for state processing, and that department shall submit the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for federal processing. The Department of Transportation shall screen the background results and inform the commission of any candidate who does not meet level 2 screening standards. A candidate who has not met level 2 screening standards may not be appointed to the commission. The cost of the background screening may be borne by the Department of Transportation or the candidate.

(7) The commission shall appoint an executive director who shall serve under the direction, supervision,

and control of the commission. The executive director, with the consent of the commission, shall employ such personnel as may be necessary to perform adequately the functions of the commission within budgetary limitations. Employees of the commission are exempt from the Career Service System.

(8) The commission shall appoint a technical working group that includes representatives of private paratransit providers. The technical working group shall advise the commission on issues of importance to the state, including information, advice, and direction regarding the coordination of services for the transportation disadvantaged. The commission may appoint other technical working groups whose members may include representatives of community transportation coordinators; metropolitan planning organizations; regional planning councils; experts in insurance, marketing, economic development, or financial planning; and persons who use transportation for the transportation disadvantaged, or their relatives, parents, guardians, or service professionals who tend to their needs.

(9) The commission is assigned to the office of the secretary of the Department of Transportation for administrative and fiscal accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise function independently of the control, supervision, and direction of the department.

(10) The commission shall develop a budget pursuant to chapter 216. The budget is not subject to change by the department staff after it has been approved by the commission, but it shall be transmitted to the Governor, as head of the department, along with the budget of the department.

History.—ss. 2, 8, 9, ch. 79-180; s. 5, ch. 80-414; s. 73, ch. 81-167; s. 76, ch. 83-55; ss. 2, 3, ch. 84-56; ss. 2, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 29, ch. 91-282; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 83, ch. 92-152; s. 64, ch. 94-237; s. 10, ch. 96-387; s. 204, ch. 99-8; s. 118, ch. 99-385; s. 9, ch. 2005-255; s. 1, ch. 2006-61; s. 3, ch. 2008-203; s. 342, ch. 2011-142; s. 59, ch. 2012-5; s. 242, ch. 2014-19; s. 49, ch. 2021-25.

427.013 The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.—The purpose of the commission is to accomplish the coordination of transportation services provided to the transportation disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination is to assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by qualified community transportation coordinators or transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged without any bias or presumption in favor of multioperator systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:

(1) Compile all available information on the transportation operations for and needs of the transportation disadvantaged in the state.

(2) Establish statewide objectives for providing transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged.

(3) Develop policies and procedures for the coordination of local government, federal, and state funding for the transportation disadvantaged.

(4) Identify barriers prohibiting the coordination and accessibility of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged and aggressively pursue the elimination of these barriers.

(5) Serve as a clearinghouse for information about transportation disadvantaged services, training, funding sources, innovations, and coordination efforts.

(6) Assist communities in developing transportation systems designed to serve the transportation disadvantaged.

(7) Unless otherwise provided by state or federal law, ensure that all procedures, guidelines, and directives issued by purchasing agencies are conducive to the coordination of transportation services.

(8)(a) Ensure that purchasing agencies purchase all trips within the coordinated system, unless they have fulfilled the requirements of s. 427.0135(3) and use a more cost-effective alternative provider that meets comparable quality and standards.

(b) Unless the purchasing agency has negotiated with the commission pursuant to the requirements of s. 427.0135(3), provide, by rule, criteria and procedures for purchasing agencies to use if they wish to use an alternative provider. Agencies must demonstrate that the proposed alternative provider can provide a trip of comparable quality and standards for the clients at a lower cost than that provided within the coordinated system, or that the coordinated system cannot accommodate the agency's clients.

(9) Unless the purchasing agency has negotiated with the commission pursuant to the requirements of s. 427.0135(3), develop by rule standards for community transportation coordinators and any transportation operator or coordination contractor from whom service is purchased or arranged by the community transportation coordinator covering coordination, operation, safety, insurance, eligibility for service, costs, and utilization of transportation disadvantaged services. These standards and rules must include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Minimum performance standards for the delivery of services. These standards must be included in coordinator contracts and transportation operator contracts with clear penalties for repeated or continuing violations.
- (b) Minimum liability insurance requirements for all transportation services purchased, provided, or coordinated for the transportation disadvantaged through the community transportation coordinator.
- (10) Adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of ss. 427.011-427.017.
- (11) Approve the appointment of all community transportation coordinators.
- (12) Have the authority to apply for and accept funds, grants, gifts, and services from the Federal Government, state government, local governments, or private funding sources. Applications by the commission for local government funds shall be coordinated through the appropriate coordinating board. Funds acquired or accepted under this subsection shall be administered by the commission and shall be used to carry out the commission's responsibilities.
- (13) Make an annual report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1 of each year.
- (14) Consolidate, for each state agency, the amounts of each agency's actual expenditures, together with the actual expenditures of each local government and directly federally funded agency and the amounts collected by each official planning agency.
- (15) Prepare a statewide 5-year transportation disadvantaged plan which addresses the transportation problems and needs of the transportation disadvantaged, which is fully coordinated with local transit plans, compatible with local government comprehensive plans, and which ensures that the most cost-effective and efficient method of providing transportation to the disadvantaged is programmed for development.
- (16) Review and approve memorandums of agreement for the provision of coordinated transportation services.
- (17) Review, monitor, and coordinate all transportation disadvantaged local government, state, and federal fund requests and plans for conformance with commission policy, without delaying the application process. Such funds shall be available only to those entities participating in an approved coordinated transportation system or entities which have received a commission-approved waiver to obtain all or part of their transportation through another means. This process shall identify procedures for coordinating with the state's intergovernmental coordination and review procedures and s. 216.212(1) and any other appropriate grant review process.
- (18) Develop an interagency uniform contracting and billing and accounting system that shall be used by all community transportation coordinators and their transportation operators.
- (19) Develop and maintain a transportation disadvantaged manual.
- (20) Design and develop transportation disadvantaged training programs.
- (21) Coordinate all transportation disadvantaged programs with appropriate state, local, and federal agencies and public transit agencies to ensure compatibility with existing transportation systems.
- (22) Designate the official planning agency in areas outside of the purview of a metropolitan planning organization.
- (23) Develop need-based criteria that must be used by all community transportation coordinators to prioritize the delivery of nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services that are purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund moneys.
- (24) Establish a review procedure to compare the rates proposed by alternate transportation operators with the rates charged by a community transportation coordinator to determine which rate is more cost-effective.
- (25) Conduct a cost-comparison study of single-coordinator, multicoordinator, and brokered community transportation coordinator networks to ensure that the most cost-effective and efficient method of providing transportation to the transportation disadvantaged is programmed for development.
- (26) Develop a quality assurance and management review program to monitor, based upon approved commission standards, services contracted for by an agency, and those provided by a community transportation operator pursuant to s. 427.0155.
- (27) Ensure that local community transportation coordinators work cooperatively with local workforce development boards established in chapter 445 to provide assistance in the development of innovative transportation services for participants in the welfare transition program.
- (28) In consultation with the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of

Transportation, develop an allocation methodology that equitably distributes all transportation funds under the control of the commission to compensate counties, community transportation coordinators, and other entities providing transportation disadvantaged services. The methodology shall separately account for Medicaid beneficiaries. The methodology shall consider such factors as the actual costs of each transportation disadvantaged trip based on prior-year information, efficiencies that a provider might adopt to reduce costs, results of the rate and cost comparisons conducted under subsections (24) and (25), as well as cost efficiencies of trips when compared to the local cost of transporting the general public. This subsection does not supersede the authority of the Agency for Health Care Administration to distribute Medicaid funds.

(29) Incur expenses for the purchase of advertisements, marketing services, and promotional items. History.—ss. 3, 9, ch. 79-180; s. 6, ch. 80-414; s. 274, ch. 81-259; ss. 1, 3, ch. 84-56; ss. 3, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 84, ch. 92-152; s. 65, ch. 94-237; s. 17, ch. 98-57; s. 113, ch. 98-200; s. 119, ch. 99-385; s. 102, ch. 2000-165; s. 25, ch. 2000-266; s. 2, ch. 2006-61; s. 4, ch. 2008-203; s. 105, ch. 2016-62; s. 21, ch. 2016-216; s. 47, ch. 2017-71; s. 73, ch. 2018-10; s. 9, ch. 2020-3.

427.0135 Purchasing agencies; duties and responsibilities.—Each purchasing agency, in carrying out the policies and procedures of the commission, shall:

(1) Use the coordinated transportation system for provision of services to its clients, unless each department or purchasing agency meets the criteria outlined in rule or statute to use an alternative provider.

(2) Pay the rates established in the service plan or negotiated statewide contract, unless the purchasing agency has completed the procedure for using an alternative provider and demonstrated that a proposed alternative provider can provide a more cost-effective transportation service of comparable quality and standards or unless the agency has satisfied the requirements of subsection (3).

(3) Not procure transportation disadvantaged services without initially negotiating with the commission, as provided in s. 287.057(3)(e)12., or unless otherwise authorized by statute. If the purchasing agency, after consultation with the commission, determines that it cannot reach mutually acceptable contract terms with the commission, the purchasing agency may contract for the same transportation services provided in a more cost-effective manner and of comparable or higher quality and standards. The Medicaid agency shall implement this subsection in a manner consistent with s. 409.908(18) and as otherwise limited or directed by the General Appropriations Act.

(4) Identify in the legislative budget request provided to the Governor each year for the General Appropriations Act the specific amount of money the purchasing agency will allocate to provide transportation disadvantaged services.

(5) Provide the commission, by September 15 of each year, an accounting of all funds spent as well as how many trips were purchased with agency funds.

(6) Assist communities in developing coordinated transportation systems designed to serve the transportation disadvantaged. However, a purchasing agency may not serve as the community transportation coordinator in any designated service area.

(7) Ensure that its rules, procedures, guidelines, and directives are conducive to the coordination of transportation funds and services for the transportation disadvantaged.

(8) Provide technical assistance, as needed, to community transportation coordinators or transportation operators or participating agencies.

History.—ss. 4, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 66, ch. 94-237; s. 4, ch. 95-394; s. 10, ch. 96-417; s. 26, ch. 2000-266; s. 5, ch. 2008-203; s. 34, ch. 2010-151; s. 16, ch. 2013-154; s. 32, ch. 2016-65; s. 26, ch. 2017-129.

427.015 Function of the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency in coordinating transportation for the transportation disadvantaged.—

(1) In developing the transportation improvement program, each metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency in this state shall include a realistic estimate of the cost and revenue that will be derived from transportation disadvantaged services in its area. The transportation improvement program shall also identify transportation improvements that will be advanced with such funds during the program period. Funds required by this subsection to be included in the transportation improvement program shall only be included after consultation with all affected agencies and shall only be expended if such funds are included in the transportation improvement program.

(2) Each metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency shall recommend to the commission a single community transportation coordinator. However, a purchasing agency may not

serve as the community transportation coordinator in any designated service area. The coordinator may provide all or a portion of needed transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged but shall be responsible for the provision of those coordinated services. Based on approved commission evaluation criteria, the coordinator shall subcontract or broker those services that are more cost-effectively and efficiently provided by subcontracting or brokering. The performance of the coordinator shall be evaluated based on the commission's approved evaluation criteria by the coordinating board at least annually. A copy of the evaluation shall be submitted to the metropolitan planning organization or the designated official planning agency, and the commission. The recommendation or termination of any community transportation coordinator shall be subject to approval by the commission.

(3) Each metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency shall request each local government in its jurisdiction to provide the actual expenditures of all local and direct federal funds to be expended for transportation for the disadvantaged. The metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency shall consolidate this information into a single report and forward it, by September 15, to the commission.

History.—ss. 6, 9, ch. 79-180; ss. 1, 3, ch. 84-56; ss. 5, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 67, ch. 94-237; s. 27, ch. 2000-266; s. 6, ch. 2008-203.

427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers and duties.—Community transportation coordinators shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) Execute uniform contracts for service using a standard contract, which includes performance standards for operators.
- (2) Collect annual operating data for submittal to the commission.
- (3) Review all transportation operator contracts annually.
- (4) Approve and coordinate the utilization of school bus and public transportation services in accordance with the transportation disadvantaged service plan.
- (5) In cooperation with a functioning coordinating board, review all applications for local government, federal, and state transportation disadvantaged funds, and develop cost-effective coordination strategies.
- (6) In cooperation with, and approved by, the coordinating board, develop, negotiate, implement, and monitor a memorandum of agreement including a service plan, for submittal to the commission.
- (7) In cooperation with the coordinating board and pursuant to criteria developed by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, establish eligibility guidelines and priorities with regard to the recipients of nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services that are purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund moneys.
- (8) Have full responsibility for the delivery of transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in s. 427.015(2).
- (9) Work cooperatively with local workforce development boards established in chapter 445 to provide assistance in the development of innovative transportation services for participants in the welfare transition program.

History.—ss. 6, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 85, ch. 92-152; s. 68, ch. 94-237; s. 18, ch. 98-57; s. 103, ch. 2000-165; s. 7, ch. 2008-203; s. 22, ch. 2016-216.

427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.—The purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the community transportation coordinators on the coordination of services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged. The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency. The appointing authority shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly and shall:

- (1) Review and approve the coordinated community transportation disadvantaged service plan, including the memorandum of agreement, prior to submittal to the commission;
- (2) Evaluate services provided in meeting the approved plan;
- (3) In cooperation with the community transportation coordinator, review and provide recommendations to the commission on funding applications affecting the transportation disadvantaged;
- (4) Assist the community transportation coordinator in establishing eligibility guidelines and priorities with regard to the recipients of nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services that are purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund moneys.
- (5) Review the coordination strategies of service provision to the transportation disadvantaged in the

designated service area; and

(6) Evaluate multicounty or regional transportation opportunities.

(7) Work cooperatively with local workforce development boards established in chapter 445 to provide assistance in the development of innovative transportation services for participants in the welfare transition program.

History.—ss. 7, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 86, ch. 92-152; s. 19, ch. 98-57; s. 104, ch. 2000-165; s. 8, ch. 2008-203; s. 23, ch. 2016-216.

427.0158 School bus and public transportation.—

(1) The community transportation coordinator shall maximize the use of public school transportation and public fixed route or fixed schedule transit service for the transportation of the transportation disadvantaged.

(2) The school boards shall cooperate in the utilization of their vehicles to enhance coordinated transportation disadvantaged services by providing information as requested by the community transportation coordinator and by allowing the use of their vehicles at actual cost upon request when those vehicles are available for such use and are not transporting students.

(3) The public transit fixed route or fixed schedule system shall cooperate in the utilization of its regular service to enhance coordinated transportation disadvantaged services by providing the information as requested by the community transportation coordinator. The community transportation coordinator may request, without limitation, the following information:

(a) A copy of all current schedules, route maps, system map, and fare structure;

(b) A copy of the current charter policy;

(c) A copy of the current charter rates and hour requirements; and

(d) Required notification time to arrange for a charter.

History.—ss. 8, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 9, ch. 2008-203.

¹427.0159 Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.—

(1) There is established in the State Treasury the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund to be administered by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. All fees collected for the transportation disadvantaged program under s. 320.03(9) shall be deposited in the trust fund.

(2) Funds deposited in the trust fund shall be appropriated by the Legislature to the commission and shall be used to carry out the responsibilities of the commission and to fund the administrative expenses of the commission.

(3) Funds deposited in the trust fund may be used by the commission to subsidize a portion of a transportation disadvantaged person's transportation costs which is not sponsored by an agency, only if a cash or in-kind match is required. Funds for nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services shall be distributed based upon the need of the recipient and according to criteria developed by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

(4) A purchasing agency may deposit funds into the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund for the commission to implement, manage, and administer the purchasing agency's transportation disadvantaged funds, as defined in s. 427.011(10).

History.—ss. 9, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 87, ch. 92-152; s. 69, ch. 94-237; s. 21, ch. 2000-257; s. 61, ch. 2001-62; s. 10, ch. 2008-203.

¹Note.—Section 22, ch. 2000-257, provides that "[n]otwithstanding any other law to the contrary the requirements of sections 206.46(3) and 206.606(2), Florida Statutes, shall not apply to any funding, programs, or other provisions contained in this act."

427.016 Expenditure of local government, state, and federal funds for the transportation disadvantaged.—

(1)(a) All transportation disadvantaged funds expended within the state shall be expended to purchase transportation services from community transportation coordinators or public, private, or private nonprofit transportation operators within the coordinated transportation system, except when the rates charged by proposed alternate operators are proven, pursuant to rules generated by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, to be more cost-effective and are not a risk to the public health, safety, or welfare. However, in areas where transportation suited to the unique needs of a transportation disadvantaged person cannot be purchased through the coordinated system, or where the agency has met the rule criteria for using an alternative provider, the service may be contracted for directly by the appropriate agency.

(b) This subsection does not preclude a purchasing agency from establishing maximum fee schedules,

individualized reimbursement policies by provider type, negotiated fees, or any other mechanism, including contracting after initial negotiation with the commission, which the agency considers more cost-effective and of comparable or higher quality and standards than those of the commission for the purchase of services on behalf of its clients if it has fulfilled the requirements of s. 427.0135(3) or the procedure for using an alternative provider. State and local agencies shall not contract for any transportation disadvantaged services, including Medicaid reimbursable transportation services, with any community transportation coordinator or transportation operator that has been determined by the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Legal Affairs Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, or any state or federal agency to have engaged in any abusive or fraudulent billing activities.

(2) Each year, each agency, whether or not it is an ex officio, nonvoting adviser to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, shall identify in the legislative budget request provided to the Governor for the General Appropriations Act the specific amount of any money the agency will allocate for the provision of transportation disadvantaged services. Additionally, each state agency shall, by September 15 of each year, provide the commission with an accounting of the actual amount of funds expended and the total number of trips purchased.

(3) Each metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency shall annually compile a report accounting for all local government and direct federal funds for transportation for the disadvantaged expended in its jurisdiction and forward this report by September 15 to the commission.

History.—ss. 5, 9, ch. 79-180; ss. 1, 3, ch. 84-56; ss. 10, 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429; s. 88, ch. 92-152; s. 70, ch. 94-237; s. 5, ch. 95-394; s. 11, ch. 2008-203.

427.017 Conflicts with federal laws or regulations.—Upon notification by an agency of the Federal Government that any provision of this act conflicts with federal laws or regulations, the state or local agencies involved may take any reasonable steps necessary to assure continued federal funding. Further, it is the legislative intent that the conflict shall not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can effectively be implemented without implementation of the provision in question, and to this end, the provisions of this act are declared severable.

History.—ss. 7, 9, ch. 79-180; ss. 1, 3, ch. 84-56; s. 14, ch. 89-376; s. 5, ch. 91-429.

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EXHIBIT K

RULE 41-2, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 41-2
COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED

41-2.001	Purpose (Repealed)
41-2.002	Definitions
41-2.003	Commission Organization and Personnel (Repealed)
41-2.005	Member Department Responsibilities (Repealed)
41-2.006	Insurance, Safety Requirements and Standards
41-2.007	Reporting Requirements
41-2.008	Contractual Arrangements
41-2.009	Designated Official Planning Agency
41-2.010	Selection of Community Transportation Coordinator
41-2.011	Community Transportation Coordinator Powers and Duties
41-2.012	Coordinating Board Structure and Duties
41-2.013	Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund
41-2.014	Grants Program
41-2.015	Expenditure of Local Government, State, and Federal Funds for the Transportation Disadvantaged
41-2.016	Accessibility (Repealed)
41-2.0161	Program Monitoring of Performance (Repealed)
41-2.0162	Chronological Listing of Report Dates
41-2.018	Public Comment

41-2.001 Purpose.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 120.53(1), 427.011-427.017 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 7-11-95, Repealed 7-15-12.

41-2.002 Definitions.

For purposes of this rule chapter, the following definitions will apply:

- (1) “Americans with Disabilities Act” is a federal law, P.L. 101-336, signed by the President of the United States on July 26, 1990.
- (2) “Coordination Contract” means a written contract between the Community Transportation Coordinator and an agency who receives transportation disadvantaged funds and performs some, if not all, of its own transportation services, as well as transportation services to others, when shown to be more effective and more efficient from a total system perspective. The contract reflects the specific terms and conditions that will apply to those agencies who perform their own transportation, as well as joint utilization and cost provisions for transportation services to and from the community transportation coordinator.
- (3) “Designated Official Planning Agency” means the official body or agency designated by the Commission to fulfill the functions of transportation disadvantaged planning in areas not covered by a Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Metropolitan Planning Organization shall serve as the designated official planning agency in areas covered by such organizations.
- (4) “Designated Service Area” means a geographical area recommended by a designated official planning agency, subject to approval by the Commission, which defines the community where coordinated transportation services will be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.
- (5) “Emergency” means any occurrence, or threat thereof, whether accidental, natural or caused by man, in war or in peace, which results or may result in substantial denial of transportation services to a designated service area for the transportation disadvantaged population.

(6) “Emergency Fund” means transportation disadvantaged trust fund monies set aside to address emergency situations and which can be utilized by direct contract, without competitive bidding, between the Commission and an entity to handle transportation services during a time of emergency.

(7) “Florida Coordinated Transportation System” (FCTS) means a transportation system responsible for coordination and service provisions for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in chapter 427, F.S.

(8) “Local Government” means an elected and/or appointed public body existing to coordinate, govern, plan, fund and administer public services within a designated, limited geographic area within the state.

(9) “Local Government Comprehensive Plan” means a plan that meets the requirements of sections 163.3177 and 163.3178, F.S.

(10) “Memorandum of Agreement” is the state contract for transportation disadvantaged services purchased with federal, state or local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Commission and the Community Transportation Coordinator and recognizes the Community Transportation Coordinator as being responsible for the arrangement of the provision of transportation disadvantaged services for a designated service area.

(11) “Public Transit” means the transporting of people by conveyances or systems of conveyances, traveling on land or water, local or regional in nature, and available for use by the public. Public transit systems may be governmentally or privately owned. Public transit specifically includes those forms of transportation commonly known as “paratransit.”

(12) “Regional Planning Council (RPC)” means the organization created under the provisions of section 186.504, F.S.

(13) “Reserve Fund” means transportation disadvantaged trust fund monies set aside each budget year to insure adequate cash is available for incoming reimbursement requests when estimated revenues do not materialize.

(14) “State Fiscal Year” means the period from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

(15) “Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan” means an annually updated plan jointly developed by the designated official planning agency and the Community Transportation Coordinator which contains a development plan, service plan, and quality assurance components. The plan shall be approved and used by the local Coordinating Board to evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator.

(16) “Transportation Operator” means one or more public, private for profit or private nonprofit entities engaged by the community transportation coordinator to provide service to transportation disadvantaged persons pursuant to a coordinated transportation development plan.

(17) “Transportation Operator Contract” means a written contract between the Community Transportation Coordinator and the Transportation Operators, as approved by the Commission, that outlines the terms and conditions for any services to be performed.

(18) “Trust Fund” means the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund authorized in section 427.0159, F.S., and administered by the Commission.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(10) FS. Law Implemented 427.011-427.017 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 1-4-94, 7-11-95, 5-1-96, 10-1-96, 3-10-98, 8-10-09.

41-2.003 Commission Organization and Personnel.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.012 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 3-10-98, Repealed 7-15-12.

41-2.005 Member Department Responsibilities.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.0135 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 6-15-93, 7-11-95, 3-10-98, Repealed 1-7-16.

41-2.006 Insurance, Safety Requirements and Standards.

(1) The Community Transportation Coordinator, shall ensure compliance with the minimum liability insurance requirement of \$200,000 per person and \$300,000 per incident, which are comparable to section 768.28(5), F.S., limits, for all transportation services purchased or provided for the transportation disadvantaged through the Community Transportation Coordinator. The Community Transportation Coordinator will indemnify and hold harmless the Local, State, and Federal governments and their entities, departments, and the Commission from any liabilities arising out of or due to an accident or negligence on the part of the Community Transportation Coordinator and all Transportation Operators under contract to them.

(2) Each Community Transportation Coordinator, and any Transportation Operators from whom transportation service is purchased with local government, state or federal transportation disadvantaged funds, shall ensure the purchaser that their operations and services are in compliance with the safety requirements as specified in section 341.061(2)(a), F.S. and chapter 14-90, F.A.C.

(3) Each Community Transportation Coordinator, and any Transportation Operators from whom service is purchased or funded by local government, state or federal transportation disadvantaged funds shall assure the purchaser of their continuing compliance with the applicable state or federal laws relating to drug testing.

(4) The Community Transportation Coordinator and any Transportation Operator from whom service is purchased or arranged by the Community Transportation Coordinator shall adhere to Commission approved standards. These standards include:

(a) Drug and alcohol testing for safety sensitive job positions within the coordinated system regarding pre-employment, randomization, post-accident, and reasonable suspicion as required by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration;

(b) An escort of a passenger and dependent children are to be transported as locally negotiated and identified in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan;

(c) Use of child restraint devices shall be determined locally as to their responsibility, and cost of such device in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan;

(d) Passenger property that can be carried by the passenger and/or driver in one trip and can safely be stowed on the vehicle, shall be allowed to be transported with the passenger at no additional charge. Additional requirements may be negotiated for carrying and loading rider property beyond this amount. Passenger property does not include wheelchairs, child seats, stretchers, secured oxygen, personal assistive devices, or intravenous devices;

(e) Vehicle transfer points shall provide shelter, security, and safety of passengers;

(f) A local toll free phone number for complaints or grievances shall be posted inside the vehicle. The TD Helpline phone number 1(800)983-2435 shall also be posted inside all vehicles of the coordinated system. The local complaint process shall be outlined as a section in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan including, advising the dissatisfied person about the Commission's Ombudsman Program as a step within the process as approved by the local Coordinating Board. All rider information/materials (brochures, user's guides, etc.) will include the TD Helpline phone number;

(g) Out of service area trips shall be provided when determined locally and approved by the local Coordinating Board, except in instances where local ordinances prohibit such trips;

(h) Interior of all vehicles shall be free from dirt, grime, oil, trash, torn upholstery, damaged or broken seats, protruding metal or other objects or materials which could soil items placed in the vehicle or provide discomfort for the passenger;

(i) Billing requirements of the Community Transportation Coordinator to subcontractors shall be determined locally by the local Coordinating Board and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. All bills shall be paid within 7 working days to subcontractors, after receipt of said payment by the Community Transportation Coordinator, in accordance with section 287.0585, F.S.;

(j) Passenger/trip data base must be maintained or accessible by the Community Transportation Coordinator on each rider being transported within the system;

(k) Adequate seating for paratransit services shall be provided to each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time. For transit services provided by transit vehicles, adequate seating or standing space will be provided to each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating or standing capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time;

(l) Drivers for paratransit services, including coordination contractors, shall be required to announce and identify themselves by name and company in a manner that is conducive to communications with the specific passenger, upon pickup of each rider, group of riders, or representative, guardian, or associate of the rider, except in situations where the driver regularly transports the rider on a recurring basis. Each driver must have photo identification that is in view of the passenger. Name patches, inscriptions or badges that affix to driver clothing are acceptable. For transit services, the driver photo identification shall be in a conspicuous location in the vehicle;

(m) The paratransit driver shall provide the passenger with boarding assistance, if necessary or requested, to the seating portion of the vehicle. The boarding assistance shall include opening the vehicle door, fastening the seat belt or utilization of wheel chair securement devices, storage of mobility assistive devices, and closing the vehicle door. In the door-through-door paratransit service category, the driver shall be required to open and close doors to buildings, except in situations in which assistance in opening/closing building doors would not be safe for passengers remaining on the vehicle. Assisted access must be in a dignified manner. Drivers may not assist wheelchair up or down more than one step, unless it can be performed safely as determined by the passenger, guardian, and driver;

(n) Smoking is prohibited in any vehicle. Requirements for drinking and eating on board the vehicle will be addressed in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan;

(o) The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board shall jointly develop a policy on passenger no-shows. Assessing fines to passengers for no-shows is acceptable but such policy and process shall be identified in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan;

(p) All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system, shall be equipped with two-way communications in good working order and audible to the driver at all times to the base;

(q) All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system, shall have working air conditioners and heaters in each vehicle. Vehicles that do not have a working air conditioner or heater will be scheduled for repair or replacement as soon as possible;

(r) First Aid policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan;

(s) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan;

(t) Driver background screening shall be determined locally, dependent upon purchasing agencies' requirements, and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan;

(u) In areas where fixed route transportation is available, the Community Transportation Coordinator should jointly establish with the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) a percentage of total trips that will be placed on the fixed route system;

(v) The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address the passenger pick-up windows in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This policy should also be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies and passengers;

(w) The Community Transportation Coordinator and the LCB should jointly establish and address the percentage of trips that will be on-time in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This performance measure should be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies, and passengers. This measure should also be included as a part of the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of its contracted operators, and the LCB's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator;

(x) The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan a minimum 24 hour advanced notification time to obtain services. This policy should be communicated to contracted operators, purchasing agencies and passengers;

(y) The Community Transportation Coordinator and the LCB should jointly establish and address in the service plan a performance measure to evaluate the safety of the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators, and the LCB's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator;

(z) The Community Transportation Coordinator and the LCB should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the reliability of the vehicles utilized in the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators, and the LCB's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator;

(aa) This performance measure can be used to address the accessibility of the service. The Community Transportation Coordinator and the LCB should jointly determine if a standard for a call hold time is needed in the coordinated system and address this in the local service plan. If determined to be necessary, this standard should be included in the LCB's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator;

(bb) The Community Transportation Coordinator and the LCB should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the quality of service provided within the coordinated system. The measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators, and the LCB's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 287.0585, 427.011(11), 427.013, 427.0155, 427.0157, 768.28 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 5-1-96, 10-1-96, 3-10-98, 6-3-01, 7-3-03, 9-3-18.

41-2.007 Reporting Requirements.

(1) Each state agency shall, by September 15 of each year, provide the Commission with an accounting of the actual amount of funds expended and the total number of trips purchased during the previous fiscal year.

(2) Each Designated Official Planning Agency shall provide to the Commission prior to each state fiscal year, an estimate of all transportation disadvantaged funds anticipated to be available for the upcoming state fiscal year budget. The estimate shall include the following information:

(a) Each local government agency within jurisdiction of the Official Planning Agency shall report an estimate of the direct federal funds and local government transportation disadvantaged funds anticipated to be available through the coordinated system for the upcoming state fiscal year to the Official Planning Agency, and

(b) The Official Planning Agency shall request from each federal government agency within its jurisdiction, an estimate of the direct federal transportation disadvantaged funds anticipated to be available through the coordinated system for the upcoming state fiscal year.

(3) The estimate mentioned in subsection (2), above, shall include the following information identified by county:

(a) A brief description of the project or program;

(b) The dollar amount of transportation disadvantaged funds reported by categories of Coordinated, Non-Coordinated, Transportation Alternatives, or Other if applicable; and

(c) The estimated number of one-way passenger trips to be provided reported by categories of Coordinated, Non-Coordinated, Transportation Alternatives, or Other if applicable.

(4) Each Metropolitan Planning Organization or designated official planning agency shall annually compile a report accounting for all local government and direct federal funds for transportation for the disadvantaged expended in its jurisdiction, and forward this report by September 15 to the Commission.

(5) Upon receipt of the state agency and Official Planning Agency combined annual budget estimates, the Commission shall develop and distribute a statewide report outlining the expected expenditures for all transportation disadvantaged services through the coordinated system for the state fiscal year.

(6) Each Community Transportation Coordinator shall by September 15 of each year report required operating statistics to the Commission. The operational statistics will be compiled into a report by the Commission and utilized as a part of the analysis of the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance evaluation. The Community Transportation Coordinator's report shall be reviewed by the Coordinating Board with a copy provided to the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency.

(7) Each Community Transportation Coordinator shall utilize the Chart of Accounts defined in the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, Inc., Comprehensive Financial Management Guidelines For Rural and Small Urban Public Transportation Providers, dated September 1992, incorporated herein by reference, for its financial management. A copy of this document may be obtained from the Commission office located at 2740 Centerview Drive, Suite 1A, Tallahassee, Florida 32301. A copy of the document may also be viewed at Comprehensive Financial Management Guidelines on the Commission's website at www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd/. Community Transportation Coordinators with existing and equivalent accounting systems will not be required to adopt this Chart of Accounts but will be required to prepare all reports, invoices, and fiscal documents relating to the transportation disadvantaged functions and activities using the chart of accounts and accounting definitions as outlined in the above referenced manual.

(8) The Commission shall make an annual report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1 of each year. The report will contain a summary of the Commission's accomplishments for the preceding state fiscal year, the most current operational statistics for transportation disadvantaged services, identified unmet needs and a financial status of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund. Copies of the report will also be made available to member departments, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Designated Official Planning Agencies and Community Transportation Coordinators, and others upon request.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.012(8), 427.013(3), (7), (8), (9), (12), (13), (16), 427.0135(1), 427.015(1) FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 11-17-92, 1-4-94, 7-11-95, 5-1-96, 3-10-98, 12-6-09, 3-5-13, 3-9-21.

41-2.008 Contractual Arrangements.

The following contractual arrangements will be required of the Community Transportation Coordinator:

(1) A Memorandum of Agreement will be required and shall be a binding contract between the Commission and a Community Transportation Coordinator. It shall be utilized as the contract recognizing the Community Transportation Coordinator as a State contract vendor for a designated service area. The format of the Memorandum of Agreement will contain the Commission's minimum requirements and shall be utilized by the Community Transportation Coordinator. The Coordinating Board shall approve the Memorandum of Agreement prior to submittal to the Commission.

(2) Transportation Operator Contract. The Community Transportation Coordinator shall enter into a standard contract, as approved by the Commission, with each Transportation Operator as to specific terms and conditions that apply to each Transportation Operator for services to be performed. The contract shall include the minimum requirements contained in the Memorandum of Agreement and other local requirements for local service delivery. The Community Transportation Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the terms of the contract.

(3) Coordination Contract. The Community Transportation Coordinator shall enter into a Coordination Contract to show the specific terms and conditions, as outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement with those agencies who receive transportation disadvantaged funds and who, from a total system approach, can perform more effectively and more efficiently their own transportation under those conditions not covered in rule 41-2.015, F.A.C., herein. The contract shall include the requirements of reporting, insurance, safety, and other terms that apply equally to any transportation operator. The contract also shall include any relative information regarding joint utilization and cost arrangements for the provision of transportation services to and from the coordinator. The Community Transportation Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the terms of the contract. The contract shall be approved by the Coordinating Board and shall be reviewed annually to determine whether the continuation of said contract arrangement is the most cost effective and efficient utilization that is possible.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013(10), (15), 427.015(2), 427.0155(7), 427.0157(1) FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 7-11-95, 10-1-96, 3-10-98.

41-2.009 Designated Official Planning Agency.

(1) Metropolitan Planning Organizations shall serve as the designated official planning agency in urbanized areas. In areas not covered by a Metropolitan Planning Organization, agencies eligible for selection as Designated Official Planning Agencies include County or City governments, Regional Planning Councils, Metropolitan Planning Organizations from other areas, or Local Planning Organizations who are currently performing planning activities in designated service areas. Eligibility for continued designation by the Commission will be conditioned on the agency's resources, capabilities and actual performance in implementing the responsibilities and

requirements of chapter 427, F.S.

(2) Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Designated Official Planning Agencies shall include a Transportation Disadvantaged element in their Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Such element shall include a project and program description, the planned costs and anticipated revenues for the services, identification of the year the project or services are to be undertaken and implemented, and assurances that there has been coordination with local public transit and local government comprehensive planning bodies, including input into the mass transit or other elements of local and regional comprehensive planning activities. Areas not required to develop a federally-required TIP shall report equivalent information in the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

(3) Each Designated Official Planning Agency shall provide each Coordinating Board with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the Coordinating Board to fulfill its responsibilities. In areas where a Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency serves as the Community Transportation Coordinator and desires to utilize the same staff for the Coordinating Board, such agency shall abstain from any official actions that represent a conflict of interest, specifically in the evaluation process of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

(4) In consultation with the Community Transportation Coordinator and Coordinating Board, each Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency shall develop and annually update, a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan shall be developed in a manner which assures that local planning agencies, responsible for preparing comprehensive plans, have the opportunity to review and comment on it, and shall not be inconsistent with applicable local government comprehensive plans, MPO long range comprehensive plans, transit development plans, and other local, regional, and state transportation plans. The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan shall be reviewed for final disposition by the Coordinating Board and the Commission.

(5) Consolidate the annual budget estimates of local and directly funded federal government transportation disadvantaged funds and forward to the Commission no later than the beginning of each state fiscal year.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013(21), 427.015 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 1-4-94, 3-10-98.

41-2.010 Selection of Community Transportation Coordinator.

(1) Designation, selection, or revocation of designation of any Community Transportation Coordinator shall be subject to the approval of the Commission.

(2) Selection of agencies as Community Transportation Coordinators or Transportation Operators may be negotiated without competitive acquisition, upon the recommendation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency that it is in the best interest of the transportation disadvantaged. This includes circumstances such as emergencies, or insufficient competition availability.

(3) Selection of the Community Transportation Coordinator will be accomplished through public competitive bidding or proposals in accordance with applicable laws and rules.

(4) In cases where selection is accomplished by a request for proposal (RFP), the RFP shall, at a minimum, identify the following information:

- (a) The scope and nature of the services and coordination required, and a request for the proposer's plan to provide same.
 - (b) A request that the proposer identify the resources, and accounting system techniques to be used in their audit trail for all services.
 - (c) A request that the proposer identify their organizational structure and key personnel, their financial capacity, equipment resources, and experience and qualifications, including the most recent financial audit by a certified public accountant.
 - (d) A request that the proposer demonstrate the ability to coordinate a multitude of funding and service provisions, in addition to serving the needs of the general public or other transportation disadvantaged.
 - (e) A request that the proposer identify specific means by which it plans to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, P.L. 101-336, chapter 760, F.S., and any applicable local regulations governing disabled accessibility requirements, access to transportation, and discrimination.
 - (f) A demonstration by the proposer of plans for the provision of the most economically cost effective, quality services to the transportation disadvantaged, and plans which demonstrate coordination with the public school system, local public transit systems, private sector operators and other governmental agencies that provide services to the transportation disadvantaged within the designated service area.
 - (g) A demonstration by the proposer of plans to comply with safety requirements as specified in section 341.061, F.S.
 - (h) An indication by the proposer of plans to comply with any state, federal, or local laws relating to drug testing.
 - (i) A sample Memorandum of Agreement for review by the respondent.
 - (j) A statement advising proposers of any local resources that exist or are planned that should be recognized in the bidders proposal.
- (5) The announcement of the request for proposal shall be published in at least the largest general circulation newspaper in the

designated service area and in the Florida Administrative Register. The advertised announcement shall include the time, date and place of a public meeting to provide information and answer questions about the request for proposal.

(6) Upon evaluation of the proposals, each Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency, upon consultation with the Coordinating Board, shall recommend to the Commission a Community Transportation Coordinator.

(7) Upon resignation or termination of any Community Transportation Coordinator, the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency shall complete the recommendation process for a new Community Transportation Coordinator within 90 days after termination date for non-bid Community Transportation Coordinators and within 150 days after termination date for bid/RFP Community Transportation Coordinators. In the absence of these circumstances, the requirements of subsection 41-2.010(8), F.A.C., below shall apply.

(8) In cases of termination of the Community Transportation Coordinator, or in unforeseen emergencies, the Commission shall work with the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency and the Coordinating Board in an expeditious manner to provide for the continuation of services to the transportation disadvantaged in the designated service area, by providing or arranging the necessary technical assistance.

(9) The utilization of firms defined as minority business enterprises shall be encouraged to the extent possible utilizing the most recent certified minority business listing published by the Florida Department of Management Services.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013(10), (15), 427.015(2), 427.0155(7), 427.0157 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 7-11-95, 10-1-96, 3-10-98, 4-8-01, 1-29-18.

41-2.011 Community Transportation Coordinator Powers and Duties.

(1) Each Community Transportation Coordinator shall be responsible for the short-range operational planning, administration, monitoring, coordination, arrangement, and delivery of transportation disadvantaged services originating within their designated service area on a full-time basis. Local management personnel with day-to-day decision making authority must be physically located in each designated service area, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission.

(2) Where cost effective and efficient, the Community Transportation Coordinator shall subcontract or broker transportation services to Transportation Operators. The Coordinating Board is authorized to recommend approval or disapproval of such contracts to the Community Transportation Coordinator, providing the basis for its recommendation. Within 30 days of its receipt of the Coordinating Board's recommendation, the Community Transportation Coordinator shall accept or reject the recommendation, providing written reasons for its rejection. All Transportation Operator contracts shall be reviewed annually by the Community Transportation Coordinator and the Coordinating Board as to the effectiveness and efficiency of the Transportation Operator or the renewal of any Coordination Contracts previously approved. Each Community Transportation Coordinator will ensure the terms set forth for monitoring said Transportation Operators and Coordination Contractors are in compliance with standards pursuant to rule 41-2.006, F.A.C.

(3) Pursuant to the conditions set forth in the Memorandum of Agreement, the Community Transportation Coordinator shall develop, implement, and monitor an approved Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This plan shall be approved by the Coordinating Board and forwarded to the Commission for review and final disposition.

(4) Each Community Transportation Coordinator shall submit a report on operational statistics by September 15, each year to the Commission. A copy should also be provided to the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency.

(5) The Community Transportation Coordinator shall maximize the utilization of school bus and public transit services in accordance with section 427.0158, F.S. Any utilization data shall be included in operational statistics provided to the coordinated system.

(6) In cooperation with the local Coordinating Board, the Community Transportation Coordinator shall review all applications for local government, federal and state transportation disadvantaged funds submitted from or planned for use in their designated service area. If funds are recommended for approval, the Community Transportation Coordinator, in cooperation with the Coordinating Board, will develop and implement cost-effective coordination strategies for their use and integration into the coordinated system.

(7) Funding to support the Community Transportation Coordinator's functions associated with documented coordination activities may be obtained from a coordination fee as part of each trip arranged, from subsidies received or both and upon approval by the Coordinating Board.

(8) Each Community Transportation Coordinator shall be aware of all of the transportation disadvantaged resources available or planned in their designated service area in order to plan, coordinate, and implement the most cost effective transportation disadvantaged transportation system possible under the conditions that exist in the designated service area.

(9) Contractual administration of Community Transportation Coordinators shall be accomplished through a Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and the Community Transportation Coordinator in accordance with the procedures of the Commission. Transportation services purchased from or arranged by the Community Transportation Coordinator will be billed to purchasing agencies by the Community Transportation Coordinator at the rates identified in the approved Transportation Disadvantaged

Service Plan or Coordination Contract and recognize any special conditions as specified by the purchasing agency. Payment for services will be made directly to the Community Transportation Coordinator unless otherwise agreed upon, in writing, by the purchaser and the Community Transportation Coordinator. Other contractual arrangements shall be followed as specified in this rule chapter.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.0155 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 6-15-93, 7-11-95, 5-1-96, 10-1-96, 3-10-98.

41-2.012 Coordinating Board Structure and Duties.

The purpose of the Coordinating Board is to identify local service needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the Community Transportation Coordinator on the coordination of services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged through the Florida Coordinated Transportation System (FCTS). Each Coordinating Board is recognized as an advisory body to the Commission in its service area. The members of the Coordinating Board shall be appointed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization or the Designated Official Planning Agency. A Coordinating Board shall be appointed in each county. However, when agreed upon in writing, by all Boards of County Commissions in each county to be covered in the service area, multi-county Coordinating Boards may be appointed. The structure and duties of the Coordinating Board shall be as follows:

(1) The Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency shall appoint one elected official to serve as the official chairperson for all Coordinating Board meetings. The appointed chairperson shall be an elected official from the county that the Coordinating Board serves. For a multi-county Coordinating Board, the elected official appointed to serve as Chairperson shall be from one of the counties involved.

(2) The Coordinating Board shall hold an organizational meeting each year for the purpose of electing a Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the members of the Coordinating Board present and voting at the organizational meeting. The Vice-Chairperson shall serve a term of one year starting with the next meeting. In the event of the Chairperson's absence, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson and conduct the meeting.

(3) In addition to the Chairperson, except for multi-county Coordinating Boards which shall have as a representative an elected official from each county, including the Chairperson, one of whom shall be elected Vice-Chairperson, the following agencies or groups shall be represented on the Coordinating Board, in every county as voting members:

- (a) A local representative of the Florida Department of Transportation;
- (b) A local representative of the Florida Department of Children and Family Services;
- (c) A local representative of the Public Education Community which could include, but not be limited to, a representative of the District School Board, School Board Transportation Office, or Headstart Program in areas where the School District is responsible;
- (d) In areas where they exist, a local representative of the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation or the Division of Blind Services, representing the Department of Education;
- (e) A person recommended by the local Veterans Service Office representing the veterans of the county;
- (f) A person who is recognized by the Florida Association for Community Action (President), representing the economically disadvantaged in the county;
- (g) A person over sixty representing the elderly in the county;
- (h) A person with a disability representing the disabled in the county;
- (i) Two citizen advocate representatives in the county; one who must be a person who uses the transportation service(s) of the system as their primary means of transportation;
- (j) A local representative for children at risk;
- (k) In areas where they exist, the Chairperson or designee of the local Mass Transit or Public Transit System's Board, except in cases where they are also the Community Transportation Coordinator;
- (l) A local representative of the Florida Department of Elderly Affairs;
- (m) An experienced representative of the local private for profit transportation industry. In areas where such representative is not available, a local private non-profit representative will be appointed, except where said representative is also the Community Transportation Coordinator;
- (n) A local representative of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration;
- (o) A local representative of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities;
- (p) A representative of the Regional Workforce Development Board established in chapter 445, F.S.; and
- (q) A representative of the local medical community, which may include, but not be limited to, kidney dialysis centers, long term care facilities, assisted living facilities, hospitals, local health department or other home and community based services, etc.

(4) Except for the Chairperson, the non-agency members of the Board shall be appointed for three year staggered terms with initial membership being appointed equally for one, two, and three years. The Chairperson shall serve until elected term of office has expired

or otherwise replaced by the Designated Official Planning Agency. No employee of a community transportation coordinator shall serve as a voting member of the coordinating board in an area where the community transportation coordinator serves. However, community transportation coordinators and their employees are not prohibited from serving on a coordinating board in an area where they are not the coordinator. However, an elected official serving as Chairperson of the coordinating board, or other governmental employees that are not employed for the purpose of making provisions for transportation and are not directly supervised by the community transportation coordinator shall not be precluded from serving as voting members of the coordinating board.

(5) The Board shall meet at least quarterly and shall perform the following duties in addition to those duties specifically listed in section 427.0157, F.S.:

(a) Maintain official meeting minutes, including an attendance roster, reflecting official actions and provide a copy of same to the Commission and the Chairperson of the designated official planning agency.

(b) Annually, provide the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency with an evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance in general and relative to Commission and local standards as referenced in rule 41-2.006, F.A.C., and the performance results of the most recent Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. As part of the Coordinator's performance, the local Coordinating Board shall also set an annual percentage goal increase for the number of trips provided within the system for ridership on public transit, where applicable. In areas where the public transit is not being utilized, the local Coordinating Board shall set an annual percentage of the number of trips to be provided on public transit. The Commission shall provide evaluation criteria for the local Coordinating Board to use relative to the performance of the Community Transportation Coordinator. This evaluation will be submitted to the Commission upon approval by the local coordinating board.

(c) Appoint a Grievance Committee to process and investigate complaints, from agencies, users, transportation operators, potential users of the system and the Community Transportation Coordinator in the designated service area, and make recommendations to the Coordinating Board or to the Commission, when local resolution cannot be found, for improvement of service. The Coordinating Board shall establish a process and procedures to provide regular opportunities for issues to be brought before such committee and to address them in a timely manner. Rider brochures or other documents provided to users or potential users of the system shall provide information about the complaint and grievance process including the publishing of the Commission's TD Helpline service when local resolution has not occurred. All materials shall be made available in accessible format, upon request by the citizen. Members appointed to the committee shall be voting members of the Coordinating Board.

(d) All coordinating board members should be trained on and comply with the requirements of section 112.3143, F.S., concerning voting conflicts of interest.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.0157 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 11-16-93, 1-4-94, 7-11-95, 5-1-96, 10-1-96, 3-10-98, 4-8-01, 12-17-02, 7-3-03, 6-14-18.

41-2.013 Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.

The Commission shall annually evaluate and determine each year's distribution of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund. Funds available through the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund for non-sponsored transportation services and planning activities shall be applied only after all other potential funding sources have been used and eliminated. Grant funds shall not be used to supplant or replace funding of transportation disadvantaged services which are currently funded to a recipient by any federal, state, or local governmental agency. Monitoring of this mandate will be accomplished as needed by the Commission and all agencies funding transportation disadvantaged services. The use of minority-owned businesses is encouraged, utilizing the most recent certified companies published by the Department of Management Services. Funds deposited and appropriated into the Trust Fund will be utilized for:

(1) Commission administrative and operating expenses, including financial assistance, through a grant agreement, to designated official planning agencies to assist the Commission in implementing the program in each local area.

(2) A Grants Program to provide for the funding of non-sponsored trips, including the purchase of capital equipment.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013, 427.0159, 427.016 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 1-5-93, 6-26-94, 7-11-95, 3-10-98, 2-20-13.

41-2.014 Grants Program.

(1) Eligible Recipients. Grant funds will be allocated annually to the following entities:

(a) Community Transportation Coordinators who have an executed Memorandum of Agreement.

(b) Metropolitan Planning Organizations or Designated Official Planning Agencies approved by the Commission.

(2) Types of Grants.

(a) Trip and Equipment Related. Trip and equipment related grant funds may be used for the provision of non-sponsored

transportation disadvantaged services and for the purchase of capital equipment to be used for services provided to the transportation disadvantaged. Capital equipment expenditures will be limited to no more than 25% of the Commission participation and the required match.

(b) Planning Related. Planning related grant funds may be used by an eligible Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency to assist the Commission in their responsibilities at the local level as identified in Chapter 427, F.S., including support to the local Coordinating Board.

(c) Innovation and Service Development. Innovation and service development related grant funds may be awarded competitively to support projects that:

1. Enhance the access of older adults, persons with disabilities, and low income individuals to healthcare, shopping, education, employment, public services, and recreation;
2. Assist in the development, improvement, and use of transportation systems in non-urbanized areas;
3. Promote the efficient coordination of services;
4. Encourage private transportation provider participation.

(3) Match Requirement. Eligible grant recipients for the trip and equipment grants only, must provide at least 10% of the total project cost as a local match. The match must be cash generated from local sources. Voluntary dollar collections do not require a match.

(4) Distribution of Grant Funds. Each year, the Commission shall allocate a portion identified as the Grants Program of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund in the following manner:

(a) An annual amount of \$1,372,060 of the Grants Program shall be designated for planning grants to assist the Commission with implementation and maintenance of the program at the local level. Beginning with the 2002/2003 grant cycle, the annual cap will be adjusted by the same percentage increase equivalent to state employees as set by the Legislature.

(b) The voluntary dollar collections will be returned to the county where said funds were collected. The voluntary dollar collections shall be designated for additional trips at the local level.

(c) The remaining portion of funds, except as specified in paragraph 41-2.014(4)(b), F.A.C., will be appropriated for the Grants Program and designated for trip and equipment related grants, subject to limitations of paragraphs 41-2.014(1)(a) and (2)(a), F.A.C.

(5) Distribution of Trip and Equipment Related Grant Funds. Each eligible recipient's allocation will be determined for the county or counties within the designated service area for which the recipient provides coordinated transportation disadvantaged services.

(a) Allocation of trip and equipment grant funds shall be based on a comparative ranking of all eligible recipients in each of the following categories:

1. The county's total transportation disadvantaged eligible population as a percentage of the state's total transportation disadvantaged eligible population, based on the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.
2. The county's total centerline miles of public roads as a percentage of the state's total centerline miles of public roads, based on public mileage data reported by the Federal Highway Administration.
3. The county's total transportation disadvantaged services provided by trip and equipment grant funds as a percentage of the state's total transportation disadvantaged services provided by trip and equipment grant funds, as reported on the invoices submitted by recipients for reimbursement under the trip and equipment grant program.
4. The county's total allocated amount of trip and equipment grant funds as a percentage of the state's total allocated amount of trip and equipment grant funds, based on allocated amounts from the previous fiscal year.

(b) For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, each category shall represent the following percentages of the state's total allocated amount for the trip and equipment grant program:

1. 2.5% based on the state's total transportation disadvantaged eligible population.
2. 2.5% based on the state's total centerline miles of public roads.
3. 15% based on the state's total transportation disadvantaged services provided by trip and equipment grant funds.
4. 80% based on the state's total allocated amount from the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

(c) For the 2022-2023 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, each category shall represent the following percentages of the state's total allocated amount for the trip and equipment grant program:

1. 5% based on the state's total transportation disadvantaged eligible population.
2. 5% based on the state's total centerline miles of public roads.
3. 30% based on the state's total transportation disadvantaged services provided by trip and equipment grant funds.
4. 60% based on the state's total allocated amount from the previous fiscal year.

(d) The Commission, in calculating allocated amounts, shall weigh each dataset described in paragraph (5)(a) as follows:

1. Every person identified within the state's transportation disadvantaged population shall be weighted equally.
2. Every centerline mile of the state's public roads shall be weighted equally.
3. Each trip and mile provided by trip and equipment grant funds shall be weighted relative to the unit cost at which they are

reimbursed. Each bus pass purchased with trip and equipment grant funds shall be weighted higher than the unit cost at which they are reimbursed in order to incentivize their use in service areas where a fixed-route system is available.

(e) Fund allocations pursuant to paragraph (5)(a) of this rule shall be administered each fiscal year based on available data from the previous year or applicable period as determined by the Commission.

(6) Distribution of Planning Related Grants. Planning related grant funds will be apportioned for distribution to the planning agencies as follows:

(a) 25% of the planning allocation shall be divided into shares equal to the percentage of population each county has relative to the total state population, with each planning agency receiving a share for each county within its jurisdiction;

(b) 75% of the planning allocation shall be divided into shares equal to the number of counties throughout the state, with each planning agency receiving no more than one share for each county within its jurisdiction. Eligible recipients not requiring the total amount of funding available may recommend to the Coordinating Board that any excess funds be allocated to the Community Transportation Coordinator for additional non-sponsored trip needs. The Commission shall reallocate any eligible excess funds to that particular county or service area's normal allocation. A local cash match of at least 10% shall be required to obtain this additional allocation.

(7) Distribution of Innovation and Service Development Grant Funds. Innovation and service development related grant funds will be awarded competitively to support such projects based upon available funding identified by the Commission.

(8) All grant recipients will provide their request for funds to the Commission.

(9) Prioritization of Non-sponsored Transportation Services. The Community Transportation Coordinator, with approval of the Coordinating Board, shall have the authority to prioritize trips for non-sponsored transportation disadvantaged services which are purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds. Any prioritization of trips or eligibility criteria which is developed shall consider all of the following criteria:

(a) Cost Effectiveness and Efficiency.

(b) Purpose of Trip.

(c) Unmet Needs.

(d) Available Resources.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9), 427.013(10) FS. Law Implemented 427.013, 427.0159, 427.016 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 7-21-93, 6-26-94, 10-1-96, 3-10-98, 1-13-04, 8-5-18, 3-4-21, 10-6-21.

41-2.015 Expenditure of Local Government, State, and Federal Funds for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

(1) Any agency purchasing transportation services or providing transportation funding for the transportation disadvantaged with transportation disadvantaged funds shall expend all transportation disadvantaged funds through a contractual arrangement with the community transportation coordinator or an approved coordination provider except as provided in subsections (2) and (3), below.

(2) When it is better suited to the unique and diverse needs of a transportation disadvantaged person, the sponsoring agency may purchase or provide transportation by utilizing the following alternatives:

(a) Privately owned vehicle of an agency volunteer or employee;

(b) State owned vehicles;

(c) Privately owned vehicle of a family member or custodian;

(d) Common carriers, such as commercial airlines or bus; and

(e) Emergency medical vehicles.

(3) The sponsoring agency may utilize other modes of transportation when the community transportation coordinator determines it is unable to provide or arrange the required service. Information pertaining to these denials for service shall be reported by the community transportation coordinator on a quarterly basis or more frequently as specified by the local coordinating board.

(4) All agency applications for transportation disadvantaged operating and capital assistance funds beyond those identified in the normal state legislative budget process shall be made available to the Coordinating Board for such review.

(5) The Commission shall request all funding requests containing a transportation disadvantaged fund component from the Florida State Clearinghouse. Said funding request shall be reviewed by the Commission. The Commission will respond when there are funding requests that conflict with the intent and provisions of chapter 427, F.S., and the rules thereof.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013(16), 427.016 FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, 7-11-95, 3-10-98.

41-2.016 Accessibility.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013(4) FS. History—New 5-2-90, Amended 6-17-92, Repealed 7-15-12.

41-2.0161 Program Monitoring of Performance.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013 FS. History—New 6-17-92, Amended 5-1-96, Repealed 1-7-16.

41-2.0162 Chronological Listing of Report Dates.

The following reports are listed in chronological order by due date and the recipient of the report:

- (1) January 1 – Commission Annual Report due to Governor and Legislature.
- (2) September 15 – Annual Operating Report of Community Transportation Coordinator due to Commission.
- (3) September 15 – Transportation Improvement Programs in urbanized areas due to Commission.

(4) September 15 – Annual report of the actual amount of funds expended and trips purchased due from each state agency.

(5) September 15 – Annual report accounting for all local government and direct federal funds for transportation for the disadvantaged expended in its jurisdiction due from each designated official planning agency or metropolitan planning organization.

Rulemaking Authority 427.013(9) FS. Law Implemented 427.013, 427.0135, 427.015, 427.0155, 427.016 FS. History—New 6-17-92, Amended 6-15-93, 1-4-94, 7-11-95, 5-1-96, 3-10-98, 8-10-09.

41-2.018 Public Comment.

The Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged invites and encourages all members of the public to provide comment on matters or propositions before the Commission or a committee of the Commission. The opportunity to provide comment shall be subject to the following:

(1) Members of the public will be given an opportunity to provide comment on subject matters before the Commission after an agenda item is introduced at a properly noticed Commission meeting.

(2) Members of the public shall be limited to five (5) minutes to provide comment. This time shall not include time spent by the presenter responding to questions posed by Commission members, staff or Commission counsel. The chair of the Commission may extend the time to provide comment if time permits.

(3) Members of the public shall notify Commission staff in writing of his or her interest to be heard on a proposition or matter before the Commission. The notification shall identify the person or entity, indicate its support, opposition, or neutrality, and identify who will speak on behalf of a group or faction of persons.

Rulemaking Authority 286.0114 FS. Law Implemented 286.0114 FS. History—New 2-13-14.

EXHIBIT L

CHAPTER 341.061, FLORIDA STATUTES

Title XXVI PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Chapter 341 PUBLIC TRANSIT

SECTION 061 Transit safety standards; inspections and system safety reviews.

341.061 Transit safety standards; inspections and system safety reviews.—

(1)(a) The department shall adopt by rule minimum safety standards for governmentally owned fixed-guideway transportation systems and privately owned or operated fixed-guideway transportation systems operating in this state which are financed wholly or partly by state funds. Standards must be site-specific for fixed-guideway transportation systems and shall be developed jointly by the department and representatives of the affected systems, giving full consideration to nationwide industry safety norms relating to the development and operation of fixed-guideway transportation systems.

(b) Each fixed-guideway transportation system shall develop a safety program plan that complies with established standards and shall certify to the department that the plan complies with the standards. Following certification to the department, the fixed-guideway transportation system shall implement and comply with the plan during the development and operation of the system. Each fixed-guideway transportation system shall verify annually in writing to the department that it has complied with its adopted safety program plan.

(c) Before beginning passenger service operations, a fixed-guideway transportation system must certify in writing to the department that the system is safe for passenger service. Further, before a fixed-guideway transportation system the operations of which have been suspended as a result of noncompliance with established standards returns to service, the system must certify in writing to the department that the system is safe for passenger service.

(d) If a fixed-guideway transportation system does not comply with paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) or if, upon certification by a fixed-guideway transportation system, the department has good cause to believe that the system is not complying with its adopted safety program plan or is not safe for passenger service, the department may conduct a review of the system for safety compliance. Upon completion of its review, the department shall provide a copy of the review report to the affected system. Any adverse findings and any corrective actions required and the time allowed for such actions must be stated in the report. If at any time continued operation of the system, or a portion thereof, poses an immediate danger to public safety, the system operator shall suspend affected system service until corrective action is taken. If the system operator fails to take corrective action or fails to suspend service when immediate danger to the public exists, the department may require the affected system service to be suspended.

(2)(a) The department shall adopt by rule minimum equipment and operational safety standards for all governmentally owned bus transit systems and privately owned or operated bus transit systems operating in this state that are financed wholly or partly by state funds, all bus transit systems created pursuant to chapter 427, and all privately owned or operated bus transit systems under contract with any of the foregoing systems. Standards for bus transit systems shall be developed jointly by the department and representatives of the transit systems. Each such bus transit system shall develop a transit safety program plan that complies with established standards and shall certify to the department that the plan complies with the standards. Following certification to the department, the bus transit system shall implement and comply with the plan during the operation of the transit system.

(b) Each bus transit system shall, as part of the safety program plan, require that all transit buses operated by the system be inspected at least annually in accordance with established standards. Qualified personnel of the bus transit system or public or private entities qualified by the bus transit system shall perform safety inspections. Each bus transit system shall certify annually in writing to the department that it has complied with its adopted safety program plan and, as part of that plan, that safety inspections have been performed by a qualified entity at least once that year on all transit buses operated by such system.

(c) If a bus transit system does not comply with paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) or if, upon certification by a bus transit system, the department has good cause to believe that the system is not complying with its adopted safety program plan or is not safe for passenger service, the department may conduct a review of the system for

safety compliance. Upon completion of its review, the department shall provide a copy of the review report to the affected system. Any adverse findings and any corrective actions required and the time allowed for such actions must be stated in the report. If at any time continued operation of the system, or a portion thereof, poses an immediate danger to public safety, the system operator shall suspend affected system service until corrective action is taken. If the system operator fails to take corrective action or fails to suspend service when immediate danger to the public exists, the department may require the affected system service to be suspended.

History.—s. 6, ch. 84-340; s. 37, ch. 86-243.

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EXHIBIT M

CHAPTER 14-90, FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 14-90
EQUIPMENT AND OPERATIONAL SAFETY STANDARDS FOR BUS TRANSIT SYSTEMS

14-90.001	Scope (Repealed)
14-90.002	Definitions
14-90.003	Department Responsibilities and Authority (Repealed)
14-90.004	Bus Transit System Operational Standards
14-90.0041	Medical Examinations for Bus Transit System Drivers
14-90.005	Transit Bus Accidents (Repealed)
14-90.006	Operational and Driving Requirements
14-90.007	Vehicle Equipment Standards and Procurement Criteria
14-90.008	Standards for Accessible Buses (Repealed)
14-90.009	Bus Safety Inspections
14-90.010	Certification
14-90.011	Inspection of Buses By Law Enforcement Officers (Repealed)
14-90.012	Safety and Security Inspections and Reviews

14-90.001 Scope.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 344.044(12), (21), 341.041(3), 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, 8-2-94, Repealed 8-7-05.

14-90.002 Definitions.

Terms used in this rule chapter shall mean as defined in Section 341.031, F.S., in addition:

(1) “Bus” means any motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, which is designed or constructed for the public transport of persons for compensation and is owned, operated, leased, or controlled by a bus transit system. Buses are designated in two categories:

(a) Type I means over 22 feet in length, including bumpers.

(b) Type II means 22 feet or less in length, including bumpers and paratransit type vehicles, such as minibuses, standard vans, modified vans, station wagons, and sedans.

(2) “Bus Transit System” means a community transportation coordinator; a public transit provider; or a private contract transit provider which owns, operates, leases, or controls buses or taxicabs where such transportation consists of continuous or recurring transportation under the same contract; or a privately owned or operated transit provider that receives operational or capital funding from the Department and owns, operates, leases, or controls buses, other than nonpublic sector buses that provides transportation services available for use by the general riding public.

(3) “Community Transportation Coordinator” means a provider of transportation services or an entity that ensures such services are provided by another bus transit system.

(4) “Department” means the Florida Department of Transportation.

(5) “Drive” or “Operate” means all time spent at the controls of a bus in operation.

(6) “Driver” means any person trained and designated to drive a bus on a street or highway being used for the public transport of persons for compensation.

(7) “FMVSS” means the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards in effect at the time the bus or component is manufactured.

(8) “For Compensation” means for money, property, or anything else of value whether paid, received, or realized, directly or indirectly.

(9) “Manufacturer” means the original producer of the chassis, the producer of any type of bus, or the producer of equipment installed on any bus for the purpose of transporting individuals with disabilities.

(10) “Off-Duty” means any time the driver is not on duty, required to be in readiness to work, or under any responsibility to perform work. Such time shall not be counted towards the maximum allowed on-duty hours within a 24-hour period.

(11) “On Duty” means the status of the driver from the time he or she begins work, or is required to be in readiness to work, until the time the driver is relieved from work and all responsibility for performing work. “On Duty” includes all time spent by the driver as follows:

- (a) Waiting to be dispatched at bus transit system terminals, facilities, or other private or public property, unless the driver has been completely relieved from duty by the bus transit system.
- (b) Inspecting, servicing, or conditioning any vehicle.
- (c) Driving.
- (d) Remaining in readiness to operate a vehicle (stand-by).
- (e) Repairing, obtaining assistance, or remaining in attendance in or about a disabled vehicle.
- (12) "Passenger" means a person who is on board, boarding, or alighting from a bus for the purposes of public transport.
- (13) "Paratransit" means those elements of public transit which provide service between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user with such service being provided at a time that is agreed upon by the user and the provider of the service. Paratransit service is provided by taxis, limousines, "dial-a-ride" buses, and other demand-responsive operations that are characterized by their nonscheduled, non-fixed route nature.
- (14) "Safe Condition" means a condition where hazards are reduced to the lowest level feasible and substantial compliance exists with all safety rules, regulations, and requirements.
- (15) "Safety Review" means an on-site assessment to determine if a bus transit system has adequate safety management controls in place and functioning in accordance with the safety standards provided and incorporated by reference in this rule chapter.
- (16) "Security" means freedom from harm resulting from intentional acts against passengers, employees, equipment, and facilities.
- (17) "Security Program Plan" or "SPP" means a document developed and adopted by the bus transit system detailing its policies, objectives, responsibilities, and procedures for the protection and defense of the system and persons from intentional acts of harm.
- (18) "Security Review" means an on-site assessment to determine if a bus transit system has security management controls in place and functioning in accordance with the security requirements provided in this rule chapter.
- (19) "System Safety Program Plan" or "SSPP" means a document developed and adopted by the bus transit system detailing its policies, objectives, responsibilities, and procedures against injuries or damage.
- (20) "Taxicab" means any motor vehicle of nine passenger capacity or less, including the driver, engaged in the general transportation of persons for compensation, not on a regular schedule, between fixed termini, or over regular routes, where such vehicle does not provide transportation services as a result of a contractual agreement with a bus transit system.
- (21) "Trailer Bus" means a trailing or towed vehicle designed or used for the transportation of more than 10 persons, e.g., tram buses.
- (22) "Twenty-four Hour Period" or "24-Hour Period" means the consecutive time beginning at 12:00.01 a.m. to 12:00.00 a.m.
- (23) "Unsafe Condition" means anything which endangers human life or property.
- (24) "Personal wireless communications device" means an electronic or electrical device that was not provided by the bus transit system for business purposes.
- (25) "Use of a wireless communications device" means use of a mobile telephone or other electronic or electrical device, hands-on or hands-free, to conduct an oral communication; to place or receive a telephone call; to send or read electronic mail or a text message; to play a game; to navigate the Internet; to play, view, or listen to a video; to play, view, or listen to a television broadcast; to play or listen to music; or to execute a computational function. Use of an electronic or electrical device that enhances the individual's physical ability to perform, such as a hearing aid, is not included in this definition.
- (26) "Wireless communications device" means an electronic or electrical device capable of remote communication. Examples include cell phones, personal digital assistants (PDAs) and portable computers (commonly called laptop computers).

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2), 341.041(3), 341.031 FS. Law Implemented 341.041(3), 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, 8-7-05, 9-16-10.

14-90.003 Department Responsibilities and Authority.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 341.041(3), 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, Repealed 8-7-05.

14-90.004 Bus Transit System Operational Standards.

- (1) Each bus transit system shall develop and adopt an SSPP that complies with or exceeds the established safety standards set

forth in this rule chapter.

(a) The SSPP shall address the following safety elements and requirements:

1. Safety policies and responsibilities.
2. Vehicle and equipment standards and procurement criteria.
3. Operational standards and procedures.
4. Bus driver and employee selection.
5. Driving requirements.

6. Bus driver and employee training. As part of the driver training program, specific procedures, and training shall be implemented to instruct the driver on how to safely approach and depart from a transit bus stop to avoid contact with pedestrians and other hazards.

7. Vehicle maintenance.

8. Investigations of events described under subsection 14-90.004(5), F.A.C.

9. Hazard identification and resolution.

10. Equipment for transporting wheelchairs.

11. Safety data acquisition and analysis.

12. A wireless communication plan and procedure that provides for the safe operation of the bus transit vehicle. The wireless communication plan and procedure shall assure that:

a. The use of a personal wireless communication device is prohibited while the transit vehicle is in motion, and

b. All personal wireless communications devices are turned off with any earpieces removed from the operator's ear while occupying the driver's seat.

13. A policy on the use of a wireless communications device issued to the operator by the bus transit system for business related purposes. Policies developed shall assure that:

a. Guidelines are developed that allow for the use of a wireless communications device in emergency situations, and

b. The use of a wireless communications device does not interfere with the operator's safety related duties.

14. The Bus Transit System shall develop a driver educational training program addressing:

a. The proper use of a wireless communications device issued to the operator by the Bus Transit System while in the performance of their safety related duties, and

b. The hazards associated with driving and utilizing a wireless communications device.

15. Safety standards for private contract bus transit system(s) that provide(s) continuous or recurring transportation services for compensation as a result of a contractual agreement with the bus transit system.

(b) Each bus transit system shall implement and comply with the SSPP during the operation of the system.

(c) Each bus transit system shall require that all operable transit buses be inspected at least once per year in accordance with established standards.

(d) Each bus transit system shall submit an annual safety certification to the Department verifying the following:

1. Adoption of an SSPP, which meets or exceeds the established standards set forth in this rule chapter.

2. Compliance with its adopted SSPP and that safety inspections have been performed at least once a year on all buses operated by the bus transit system, by persons meeting the requirements set forth in Rule 14-90.009, F.A.C.

(e) Bus transit systems shall immediately suspend affected system service operations if, at any time, continued operation of the system, or a portion thereof, poses an immediate danger to public safety.

(2) Each bus transit system shall develop and adopt an SPP that meets or exceeds the security requirements set forth in this rule chapter. The SPP shall be adopted separately from the SSPP.

(a) The SPP shall address the following security requirements:

1. Security policies, goals, and objectives.

2. Organization, roles, and responsibilities.

3. Emergency management processes and procedures for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

4. Procedures for investigation of events described under subsection 14-90.004(5), F.A.C.

5. Procedures for the establishment of interfaces with emergency response organizations.

6. Procedures for interagency coordination with local law enforcement jurisdictions.

7. Employee security and threat awareness training programs.

8. Security data acquisition and analysis.
9. Emergency preparedness drills and exercises.
10. Requirements for private contract transit providers that engage in continuous or recurring transportation services for compensation as a result of a contractual agreement with the bus transit system.
11. Procedures for SPP maintenance and distribution.
 - (b) Each bus transit system shall implement and comply with the SPP during the operation of the system.
 - (c) Bus transit systems that engage in a contract with a private contract transit provider shall:
 1. Establish minimum security requirements which apply to private contract transit providers.
 2. Monitor and assure that each private contract transit provider complies with established security requirements during the term of the contract.
 - (d) Bus transit systems are prohibited by Section 119.071(3)(a), F.S., from publicly disclosing the SPP or the security portion of the SSPP, as applicable, under any circumstance.
- (3) Bus transit systems shall establish criteria and procedures for the selection, qualification, and training of all drivers. The criteria shall include the following:
 - (a) Driver qualifications and background checks meeting minimum hiring standards.
 - (b) Driving and criminal background checks for all new drivers.
 - (c) Verification and documentation of valid driver licenses for all employees who drive buses.
 - (d) Training and testing to demonstrate and ensure adequate skills and capabilities to safely operate each type of bus or bus combination before driving on a street or highway unsupervised. As a minimum requirement, drivers shall be given explicit instructional and procedural training and testing in the following areas:
 1. Bus transit system safety and operational policies and procedures.
 2. Operational bus and equipment inspections.
 3. Bus equipment familiarization.
 4. Basic operations and maneuvering.
 5. Boarding and alighting passengers.
 6. Operation of wheelchair lifts and other special equipment.
 7. Defensive driving.
 8. Passenger assistance and securement.
 9. Handling of emergencies and security threats.
 10. Security and threat awareness.
 11. Driving conditions.
 - (e) Bus transit systems shall provide written operational and safety procedures to all bus drivers before driving on streets or highways unsupervised. At a minimum, these procedures and instructions shall address the following:
 1. Communication and handling of unsafe conditions, security threats, and emergencies.
 2. Familiarization and operation of safety and emergency equipment, wheelchair lift equipment, and restraining devices.
 3. Application and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations.
 - (f) The provisions in paragraphs (d) and (e), above, shall not apply to personnel licensed and authorized by the bus transit system to drive, move, or road test a bus in order to perform repairs or maintenance services when it has been determined that such temporary operation does not create unsafe operating conditions or create a hazard to public safety.
 - (g) Bus transit systems shall maintain the following records for at least four years:
 1. Records of bus driver background checks and qualifications.
 2. Detailed descriptions of training administered and completed by each bus driver.
 3. A record of each bus driver's duty status which shall include total days worked, on-duty hours, driving hours, and time of reporting on and off duty each day.
 - (h) Each bus transit system shall establish a drug-free workplace policy statement in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Part 32 and a substance abuse management and testing program in accordance with 49 C.F.R. Parts 40 and 655, October 1, 2009, hereby incorporated by reference.
 - (i) Bus transit systems shall require that drivers write and submit a daily bus inspection report pursuant to Rule 14-90.006, F.A.C.

(4) Bus transit systems shall establish a maintenance plan and procedures for preventative and routine maintenance for all buses operated. The maintenance plan and procedures shall assure that:

(a) All buses operated, and all parts and accessories on such buses, including those specified in Rule 14-90.007, F.A.C., and any additional parts and accessories which may affect safety of operation, including frame and frame assemblies, suspension systems, axles and attaching parts, wheels and rims, and steering systems, are regularly and systematically inspected, maintained, and lubricated to standards that meet or exceed the bus manufacturer's recommendations and requirements.

(b) A recording and tracking system is established for the types of inspections, maintenance, and lubrication intervals documenting the date or mileage when these services are due. Required maintenance inspections shall be more comprehensive than daily inspections performed by the driver.

(c) Proper preventive maintenance is performed when a bus is assigned away from the system's regular maintenance facility or when maintenance services are performed under contract.

(d) Records are maintained and provide written documentation of preventive maintenance, regular maintenance, inspections, lubrication, and repairs performed for each bus under their control. Such records shall be maintained by the bus transit system for at least four years and, at a minimum, provide the following information:

1. Identification of the bus, the make, model, and license number, or other means of positive identification and ownership.
2. Date, mileage, description, and each type of inspection, maintenance, lubrication, or repair performed.
3. If not owned by the bus transit system, the name of any person furnishing a bus.
4. The name and address of any entity or contractor performing an inspection, maintenance, lubrication, or repair.

(5) Each bus transit system shall investigate, or cause to be investigated, any event involving a bus or taking place on bus transit system controlled property resulting in a fatality, injury, or property damage as follows:

(a) A fatality, where an individual is confirmed dead within 30 days of a bus transit system related event, excluding suicides and deaths from illnesses.

(b) Injuries requiring immediate medical attention away from the scene for two or more individuals.

(c) Property damage to bus transit system buses, non-bus transit system vehicles, other bus system property or facilities, or any other property. The bus transit system shall have the discretion to investigate events resulting in property damage less than \$1,000.

(d) Evacuation of a bus due to a life safety event where there is imminent danger to passengers on the bus, excluding evacuations due to operational issues.

(6) Each investigation shall be documented in a final report that includes a description of investigation activities, identified causal factors, and any identified corrective action plan.

(a) Each corrective action plan shall identify the action to be taken by the bus transit system and the schedule for its implementation.

(b) The bus transit system shall monitor and track the implementation of each corrective action plan.

(7) Investigation reports, corrective action plans, and related supporting documentation shall be maintained by the bus transit system for a minimum of four years from the date of completion of the investigation.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2) FS. Law Implemented 119.071, 341.041(3), 341.061(1)(b), 341.061(2)(a) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, 8-7-05, 6-24-08, 9-16-10.

14-90.0041 Medical Examinations for Bus Transit System Drivers.

(1) Bus transit systems shall establish medical examination requirements for all applicants to driver positions and for existing drivers. The medical examination requirements shall include a pre-employment examination for applicants, an examination at least once every two years for existing drivers, and a return to duty examination for any driver prior to returning to duty after having been off duty for 30 or more days due to an illness, medical condition, or injury.

(2) Medical examinations shall be performed and recorded according to qualification standards adopted by the bus transit system, provided the medical examination qualification standards adopted by the bus transit system meet or exceed those provided in Department Form Number 725-030-11, Medical Examination Report for Bus Transit System Driver, Rev. 05/09, hereby incorporated by reference. Copies of Form Number 725-030-11 are available from the Florida Department of Transportation, Public Transit Office, 605 Suwannee Street, Mail Station 26, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450 or on-line at www.dot.state.fl.us/transit.

(3) Medical examinations shall be performed by a Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, Physician Assistant, or Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner licensed or certified by the State of Florida. If medical examinations are performed by a Physician

Assistant or Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, they must be performed under the supervision or review of a Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy.

(a) An ophthalmologist or optometrist licensed by the State of Florida may perform as much of the medical examination as pertains to visual acuity, field of vision, and color recognition.

(b) Upon completion of the medical examination, the medical examiner shall complete, sign, and date the medical examination form and maintain the original at his or her office.

(c) Upon completion of the medical examination, the examiner shall complete, sign, and date the medical examination certificate and provide a copy to the driver's employer. If the transit agency decides to adopt qualification standards other than those listed in Department form 725-030-11, the adopted standard's medical examination certificate or a signed letter from the medical examiner attesting to the completion of a medical examination shall be given to the transit agency in lieu of the Department's medical examination certificate. The adopted standards medical certification or letter must provide all of the information required on the Department's medical examination certificate.

(d) Upon completion of the medical examination the driver shall provide their driver license number, signature, and date on the medical examination certificate.

(4) Bus transit systems shall have on file a completed and signed medical examination certificate or a signed letter from the medical examiner attesting to the completion of a medical examination for each bus driver, dated within the past 24 months.

(a) Medical examination certificates or a signed letter from the medical examiner attesting to the completion of a medical examination of the employee bus drivers shall be maintained by the bus transit system for a minimum of four years from the date of the examination.

(b) Bus Transit Systems shall not allow a driver to operate a transit bus without having on file a completed medical examination certificate or a signed letter from the medical examiner attesting to the completion of a medical examination dated within the past 24 months.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2) FS. Law Implemented 334.044(12), 341.041(3), 341.061(1)(a), (b), (2) FS. History—New 11-10-92, Amended 8-7-05, 6-24-08, 9-16-10.

14-90.005 Transit Bus Accidents.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 341.041(3), 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, Repealed 8-7-05.

14-90.006 Operational and Driving Requirements.

(1) Bus transit systems shall not permit a driver to drive a bus when such driver's license has been suspended, cancelled, or revoked. Bus transit systems shall require a driver who receives a notice that his or her license to operate a motor vehicle has been suspended, cancelled, or revoked to notify his or her employer of the contents of the notice immediately, no later than the end of the business day following the day he or she received the notice.

(2) Buses shall be operated at all times in compliance with applicable traffic regulations, ordinances, and laws of the jurisdiction in which they are being operated.

(3) A driver shall not be permitted or required to drive more than 12 hours in a 24-hour period, or drive after having been on duty for 16 hours in a 24-hour period. A driver shall not be permitted to drive until the requirement of a minimum eight consecutive hours of off-duty time has been fulfilled. A driver's work period shall begin from the time he or she first reports for duty to his or her employer. A driver is permitted to exceed his or her regulated hours in order to reach a regularly established relief or dispatch point, provided the additional driving time does not exceed one hour.

(4) To ensure uniform interpretation of subsections 14-90.002(10), (11), (22) and 14-90.006(3), F.A.C., the following practical applications are provided:

(a) A driver is required to drive from 4 a.m. – 8 a.m., off-duty from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., then required to drive from 3 p.m. – 11 p.m. Driving hours and on-duty hours are the same. 4 hours + 8 hours = 12 hours driving. This driver has met the maximum allowed driving hours within a 24-hour period and cannot be permitted or required to drive until a minimum eight consecutive hours off-duty has been fulfilled. This driver cannot be permitted or allowed to drive before 7 a.m.

(b) A driver is required to drive from 4 a.m. – 8 a.m., off-duty from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m., then required to be on-duty, not driving, from 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. Driving hours = 4 hours and on-duty not driving hours = 12 hours for a total of 16 hours on-duty. This driver

has met the maximum allowed on-duty hours within a 24-hour period and cannot be permitted or required to drive until a minimum eight consecutive hours off-duty has been fulfilled. This driver cannot be permitted or allowed to drive before 7 a.m.

(c) A driver is required to be on-duty, not driving, from 4 a.m. – 8 a.m., off-duty from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m., then on-duty, not driving from 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. On-duty not driving hours = 4 hours + 12 hours for a total of 16 hours on-duty. This driver has met the maximum allowed on-duty hours within a 24-hour period and cannot be permitted or required to drive until a minimum eight consecutive hours off-duty has been fulfilled. The driver cannot be permitted or allowed to drive before 7 a.m.

(d) A driver is required to be on-duty, not driving, from 4 a.m. – 8 a.m., then off-duty from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m., then on-duty, driving from 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. On-duty, not driving hours = 4 hours and on-duty driving hours = 12 hours for a total of 16 hours on-duty. This driver has met the maximum allowed driving and on-duty hours within a 24-hour period and cannot be permitted or required to drive until a minimum eight consecutive hours off-duty has been fulfilled. This driver cannot be permitted or allowed to drive before 7 a.m.

(5) A driver shall not be permitted or required to be on duty more than 72 hours in any period of seven consecutive days; however, any 24 consecutive hours of off duty time shall constitute the end of any such period of seven consecutive days. A driver who has reached the maximum 72 hours of on duty time during the seven consecutive days shall be required to have a minimum of 24 consecutive hours off duty prior to returning to on duty status.

(6) A driver is permitted to drive for more than the regulated hours for the safety and protection of the public when conditions such as adverse weather, disaster, security threat, a road or traffic condition, medical emergency, or an accident occur.

(7) Bus transit systems shall not permit or require any driver to drive a bus when his or her ability is impaired, or likely to be impaired, by fatigue, illness, or other causes, likely to create an unsafe condition.

(8) Bus transit systems shall require pre-operational or daily inspection and reporting of all defects and deficiencies likely to affect safe operation or cause mechanical malfunctions.

(a) An inspection or test shall be made of the following parts and devices to ascertain that they are in safe condition and in good working order:

1. Service brakes.
2. Parking brakes.
3. Tires and wheels.
4. Steering.
5. Horn.
6. Lighting devices.
7. Windshield wipers.
8. Rear vision mirrors.
9. Passenger doors.
10. Exhaust system.
11. Equipment for transporting wheelchairs.
12. Safety, security, and emergency equipment.

(b) Bus transit systems shall review daily inspection reports and document corrective actions taken as a result of any deficiencies identified by daily inspections.

(c) Bus transit systems shall retain records of daily bus inspections and any corrective action documentation a minimum of two weeks.

(9) A bus with any passenger door in the open position shall not be operated with passengers aboard. The doors shall not be opened until the bus is stopped. A bus with any inoperable passenger door shall not be operated with passengers aboard, except to move a bus to a safe location.

(10) During darkness, interior lighting and lighting in stepwells on buses shall be sufficient for passengers to enter and exit safely.

(11) Passengers shall not be permitted in the stepwells of any bus while the bus is in motion, or to occupy an area forward of the standee line.

(12) Passengers shall not be permitted to stand on buses not designed and constructed for that purpose.

(13) Buses shall not be refueled in a closed building. The fueling of buses when passengers are being carried shall be reduced to the minimum number of times necessary during such transportation.

(14) Bus transit systems shall require the driver to be properly secured to the driver's seat with a restraining belt at all times while the bus is in motion.

(15) Buses shall not be left unattended with passengers aboard for longer than 15 minutes. The parking or holding brake device shall be properly set at any time the bus is left unattended.

(16) Buses shall not be left unattended in an unsafe condition with passengers aboard at any time.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.041(3), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 5-31-89, 11-10-92, 8-7-05, 6-24-08, 9-16-10.

14-90.007 Vehicle Equipment Standards and Procurement Criteria.

(1) Every bus transit system shall ensure that buses procured and operated meet the following minimum standards:

(a) The capability and strength to carry the maximum allowed load and not exceed the manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), gross axle weighting, or tire rating.

(b) Structural integrity that mitigates or minimizes the adverse effects of collisions.

(c) Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS), 49 C.F.R. Part 571, Sections 102, 103, 104, 105, 108, 207, 209, 210, 217, 302, 403 and 404, Rev. 10/09, hereby incorporated by reference.

(2) Proof of strength and structural integrity tests on new buses procured shall be submitted by manufacturers or bus transit systems to the Department.

(3) In addition to the above, every bus operated in this state shall be equipped as follows:

(a) Mirrors. There shall be two exterior rear vision mirrors, one at each side. The mirrors shall be firmly attached to the outside of the bus and located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway to the rear along both sides of the vehicle. Each exterior rear vision mirror, on Type I buses, shall have a minimum reflective surface of 50 square inches. Neither the mirror nor the mounting shall protrude farther than the widest part of the vehicle body except to the extent necessary to produce a field of view meeting or exceeding the requirements of this section. All Type I buses shall, in addition to the above requirements, be equipped with an inside rear vision mirror capable of giving the driver a clear view of seated and standing passengers. Buses having a passenger exit door that is located inconveniently for the driver's visual control shall be equipped with additional interior mirrors to enable the driver to view the passenger exit door. In lieu of interior mirrors, trailer buses and articulated buses may be equipped with closed circuit video systems or adult monitors in voice control with the driver.

(b) Wiring and Batteries. Electrical wiring shall be maintained so as not to come in contact with moving parts, heated surfaces, or be subject to chafing or abrasion which may cause insulation to become worn. Every Type I bus manufactured on or after February 7, 1988, shall be equipped with a storage battery electrical power main disconnect switch. The disconnect switch shall be practicably located in an accessible location adjacent to or near to the battery and be legibly and permanently marked for identification. Every storage battery on a public-sector bus shall be mounted with proper retainment devices in a compartment which provides adequate ventilation and drainage.

(c) Brake Interlock Systems. All Type I buses having a rear exit door shall be equipped with a rear exit door/brake interlock that automatically applies the brake upon driver activation of the rear exit door to the open position. Brake interlock application shall remain activated until deactivated by the driver and the rear exit door returns to the closed position. The rear exit door brake interlock on such buses shall be equipped with an identified override switch enabling emergency release of the brake interlock function. The override switch shall not be located within reach of the seated driver. Air pressure application to the brake during brake interlock operation, on buses equipped with rear exit door/brake interlock, shall be regulated at the equipment's original manufacturer's specifications.

(4) Standee Line and Warning. Every bus designed and constructed to allow standees shall be plainly marked with a line of contrasting color at least two inches wide, or be equipped with some other means to indicate that all passengers are prohibited from occupying a space forward of a perpendicular plane drawn through the rear of the driver's seat and perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bus. A sign shall be posted at or near the front of the bus stating that it is a violation for a bus to be operated with passengers occupying an area forward of the line.

(5) Handrails and Stanchions. Every bus designed and constructed to allow standees shall be equipped with overhead handrails for standee passengers. Overhead handrails shall be continuous, except for a gap at the rear exit door, and terminate into vertical stanchions or turn up into a ceiling fastener. Every Type I and Type II bus designed for carrying more than 16 passengers shall be equipped with handrails, stanchions, or bars at least 10 inches long and installed to permit safe on-board circulation, seating and

standing assistance, and boarding and alighting by elderly and handicapped persons. Type I buses shall be equipped with a safety bar and panel directly behind each entry and exit stepwell.

(6) Flooring, Steps, and Thresholds. Flooring, steps, and thresholds on all buses shall have slip resistant surfaces without protruding or sharp edges, lips, or overhangs, in order to prevent tripping hazards. All step edges and thresholds shall have a band of color(s) running the full width of the step or edge which contrasts with the step tread and riser, either light-on-dark or dark-on-light.

(7) Doors. Power activated doors on all buses shall be equipped with a manual device designed to release door closing pressure.

(8) Emergency Exits. All buses shall have an emergency exit door, or in lieu thereof, shall be provided with emergency escape push-out windows. Each emergency escape window shall be in the form of a parallelogram with dimensions of not less than 18" by 24", and each shall contain an area of not less than 432 square inches. There shall be a sufficient number of push-out or kick-out windows in each vehicle to provide a total escape area equivalent to 67 square inches per seat, including the driver's seat. No less than 40% of the total escape area shall be on one side of the vehicle. Emergency escape kick-out or push-out windows and emergency exit doors shall be conspicuously marked with a sign or light and shall always be kept in good working order so that they may be readily opened in an emergency. All such windows and doors shall not be obstructed, either inside or outside, so as to hinder escape. Buses equipped with an auxiliary door for emergency exit shall be equipped with an audible alarm and light indicating to the driver when a door is ajar or opened while the engine is running. Supplemental security locks operable by a key are prohibited on emergency exit doors unless these security locks are equipped and connected with an ignition interlock system or an audio visual alarm located in the driver's compartment. Any supplemental security lock system used on emergency exits shall be kept unlocked whenever a bus is in operation.

(9) Tires and Wheels. Tires shall be properly inflated in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

(a) No bus shall be operated with a tread groove pattern depth:

1. Less than 4/32 (1/8) of an inch, measured at any point on a major tread groove for tires on the steering axle of all buses. The measurements shall not be made where tie bars, humps, or fillets are located.

2. Less than 2/32 (1/16) of an inch, measured at any point on a major tread groove for all other tires of all buses. The measurements shall not be made where tie bars, humps, or fillets are located.

(b) No bus shall be operated with recapped, regrooved, or retreaded tires on the steering axle.

(c) Wheels shall be visibly free from cracks and distortions and shall not have missing, cracked, or broken mounting lugs.

(10) Suspension. The suspension system of all buses, including springs, air bags, and all other suspension parts shall be free from cracks, leaks, or any other defect which may cause its impairment or failure to function properly.

(11) Steering and Front Axle. The steering system of all buses shall have no indication of leaks which would or may cause its impairment to function properly, and shall be free from cracks and excessive wear of components that may cause excessive free play or loose motion in the steering system or above normal effort in steering control.

(12) Seat Belts. Every bus shall be equipped with an adjustable driver's restraining belt in compliance with the requirements of FMVSS 209, "Seat Belt Assemblies" 49 C.F.R. 571.209, Rev. 10/09, and FMVSS 210, "Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages" 49 C.F.R. 571.210, Rev. 10/09, hereby incorporated by reference.

(13) Safety Equipment. Every bus shall be equipped with one fully charged dry chemical or carbon dioxide fire extinguisher, having at least a 1A:BC rating, and bearing the label of Underwriter's Laboratory, Inc. The fire extinguishers shall be maintained as follows:

(a) Each fire extinguisher shall be securely mounted on the bus in a conspicuous place or in a clearly marked compartment and be readily accessible.

(b) Each fire extinguisher shall be maintained in efficient operating condition and be equipped with some means of determining if it is fully charged.

(c) Every Type I bus shall be equipped with portable red reflector warning devices in compliance with Section 316.300, F.S.

(14) Persons with Disabilities. Buses used for the purpose of transporting individuals with disabilities shall meet the requirements set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 38, Rev. 10/09 hereby incorporated by reference, as well as the following:

(a) Installation of a wheelchair lift or ramp shall not cause the manufacturer's GVWR, gross axle weight rating, or tire rating to be exceeded.

(b) Except in locations within 3 1/2 inches of the bus floor, all readily accessible exposed edges or other hazardous protrusions of parts of wheelchair lift assemblies or ramps that are located in the passenger compartment shall be padded with energy absorbing material to mitigate injury in normal use and in case of a collision. This requirement shall also apply to parts of the bus associated

with the operation of the lift or ramp.

(c) The controls for operating the lift shall be at a location where the bus driver or lift attendant has a full view, unobstructed by passengers, of the lift platform, its entrance and exit, and the wheelchair passenger, either directly or with partial assistance of mirrors. Lifts located entirely to the rear of the driver's seat shall not be operable from the driver's seat, but shall have an override control at the driver's position that can be activated to prevent the lift from being operated by the other controls (except for emergency manual operation upon power failure).

(d) The installation of the wheelchair lift or ramp and its controls and the method of attachment in the bus body or chassis shall not diminish the structural integrity of the bus nor cause a hazardous imbalance of the bus. No part of the assembly, when installed and stowed, shall extend laterally beyond the normal side contour of the bus, nor vertically beyond the lowest part of the rim of the wheel closest to the lift.

(e) Each wheelchair lift or ramp assembly shall be legibly and permanently marked by the manufacturer or installer with the following information:

1. The manufacturer's name and address.
2. The month and year of manufacture.

3. A certificate that the wheelchair lift or ramp securement devices, and their installation, conform to State of Florida requirements applicable to accessible buses.

(15) Wheelchairs. Wheelchair lifts, ramps, securement devices, and restraints shall be inspected and maintained as required by this rule chapter. Instructions for normal and emergency operation of the lift or ramp shall be carried or displayed in every bus.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.041(3), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 341.061(2)(a) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, 8-2-94, 8-7-05, 6-24-08, 9-16-10.

14-90.008 Standards for Accessible Buses.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 341.041(3), 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, Repealed 8-7-05.

14-90.009 Bus Safety Inspections.

(1) Each bus transit system shall require that all buses operated by such bus transit system, and all buses operated by a private contract transit provider, be inspected at least annually in accordance with bus inspection procedures set forth in this rule.

(2) It shall be the bus transit system's responsibility to ensure that each individual performing a bus safety inspection is qualified as follows:

(a) Understands the requirements set forth in this rule chapter and can identify defective components.

(b) Is knowledgeable of and has mastered the methods, procedures, tools, and equipment used when performing an inspection.

(c) Has at least one year of training and/or experience as a mechanic or inspector in a vehicle maintenance program, and has sufficient general knowledge of buses owned and operated by the bus transit system to recognize deficiencies or mechanical defects.

(3) Each bus receiving a safety inspection shall be checked for compliance with the requirements for safety devices and equipment, as referenced or specified herein. Specific operable equipment and devices as required by this rule chapter, include the following as applicable to Type I and II buses:

(a) Horn.

(b) Windshield wipers.

(c) Mirrors.

(d) Wiring and batteries.

(e) Service and parking brakes.

(f) Warning devices.

(g) Directional signals.

(h) Hazard warning signals.

(i) Lighting systems and signaling devices.

(j) Handrails and stanchions.

(k) Standee line and warning.

(l) Doors and brake interlock devices.

- (m) Stepwells and flooring.
- (n) Emergency exits
- (o) Tires and wheels.
- (p) Suspension system.
- (q) Steering system.
- (r) Exhaust system.
- (s) Seat belts.
- (t) Safety equipment.
- (u) Equipment for transporting wheelchairs.
- (v) Working speedometer.
- (4) A safety inspection report shall be prepared by the individual(s) performing the inspection and shall include the following:
 - (a) Identification of the individual(s) performing the inspection.
 - (b) Identification of the bus transit system operating the bus.
 - (c) The date of the inspection.
 - (d) Identification of the bus inspected.
 - (e) Identification of the equipment and devices inspected including the identification of equipment and devices found deficient or defective.
 - (f) Identification of corrective action(s) for any deficient or defective items found and date(s) of completion of corrective action(s).
- (5) Records of annual safety inspections and documentation of any required corrective actions shall be retained a minimum of four years by the bus transit system for compliance review.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.041(3), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 11-10-92, 8-7-05, 9-16-10.

14-90.010 Certification.

- (1) Each bus transit system shall annually submit a safety and security certification to the Department. The certification shall be submitted no later than February 15, for the prior calendar year period. The certification shall attest to the following:
 - (a) The adoption of an SSPP and an SPP in accordance with established standards set forth in this rule chapter.
 - (b) Compliance with its adopted SSPP and SPP.
 - (c) Performance of safety inspections on all buses operated by the system in accordance with this rule chapter.
 - (d) Reviews of the SSPP and SPP have been conducted to ensure they are up to date.
- (2) The certification shall include:
 - (a) The name and address of the bus transit system, and the name and address of the entity(ies) who performed bus safety inspections and security assessments during the prior calendar year, if different from that of the bus transit system.
 - (b) A statement signed by an officer or person directly responsible for management of the bus transit system attesting to compliance with this rule chapter.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.041(3), 341.061(2) FS. Law Implemented 334.044(2S), 341.061(1), 341.061(2) FS. History—New 9-7-87, Amended 8-7-05, 9-16-10.

14-90.011 Inspection of Buses by Law Enforcement Officers.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 341.041(3), 341.061(2), 316.610 FS. History—New 9-7-87, Repealed 8-7-05.

14-90.012 Safety and Security Inspections and Reviews.

- (1) The Department, or its contractor, shall conduct inspections of bus transit systems to ascertain compliance with the provisions of this rule chapter.
- (2) The Department, or its contractor, shall conduct safety and security reviews of any bus transit system the Department believes to be in noncompliance with its SSPP or SPP, or providing passenger service operations in an unsafe manner, or if there is

evidence of an immediate danger to public safety. The Department shall prepare and submit a report of the review to the affected bus transit system. The report shall be submitted to the bus transit system within three business days of completion of the review and shall contain the following:

- (a) Identification of the findings, including a detailed description of any deficiency.
 - (b) Required corrective action and a schedule for implementation of the corrective action to be taken for each deficiency.
 - (c) Any required suspension of bus transit system service, should the Department determine the continued operation of the service, or a portion thereof, poses an immediate danger to public safety.
- (3) The Department shall initiate the following actions to suspend the affected bus transit system service if any deficiency or unsafe condition exists, to the extent that the continued operation of the system, or a portion thereof, poses an immediate danger or threat to public safety.
- (a) Immediately notify the affected bus transit system of the unsafe condition, followed by a certified letter describing the deficiency or unsafe condition. The notification shall include the following:
 - 1. The required corrective action for the deficiency or unsafe condition.
 - 2. The requirement for the bus transit system to certify, in writing to the Department, the completion of the required corrective action in accordance with an established implementation schedule.
 - (b) Conduct an on-site review of the bus transit system to verify the correction of the deficiency in accordance with this rule and the established implementation schedule.
 - (c) Suspend affected passenger service operations if the bus transit system fails to correct the deficiency in accordance with this rule and the established implementation schedule.

Rulemaking Authority 334.044(2), 341.041(3), 341.061(2)(a) FS. Law Implemented 334.044(2S), 341.041(3), 341.061(1)(d), 341.061(2)(c) FS. History—New 11-10-92, Amended 8-7-05, 9-16-10.

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EXHIBIT N

2020-2021 ANNUAL OPERATING REPORT



Transportation
Disadvantaged

CTC Organization

County: Madison

Fiscal Year: 7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021

CTC Status: Submitted

CTD Status: Under Review

Date Initiated: 9/16/2021

CTC Organization Name: Big Bend Transit, Inc.

Address: Post Office Box 1721

City: Tallahassee

State: FL

Zip Code: 32302

Organization Type: Private Non Profit

Network Type: Sole Source

Operating Environment: Rural

Transportation Operators: No

Number of Transportation Operators: 0

Coordination Contractors: No

Number of Coordination Contractors: 0

Provide Out of County Trips: No

Local Coordinating Board (LCB) Chairperson: Ronnie Moore

CTC Contact: Shawn Mitchell

CTC Contact Title: General Manager

CTC Contact Email: smitchell@bigbendtransit.org

Phone: (850) 574-6266

CTC Certification

I, Shawn Mitchell, as the authorized Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Representative, hereby certify, under the penalties of perjury as stated in Chapter 837.06, F.S., that the information contained in this report is true, accurate, and in accordance with the accompanying instructions.

CTC Representative (signature): _____

LCB Certification

I, Ronnie Moore, as the Local Coordinating Board Chairperson, hereby, certify in accordance with Rule 41-2.007(6), F.A.C. that the Local Coordinating Board has reviewed this report and the Planning Agency has received a copy.

LCB Chairperson (signature): _____



**Transportation
Disadvantaged**

CTC Trips

County: Madison

CTC Status: Submitted

CTC Organization: Big Bend Transit, Inc.

Fiscal Year: 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021

CTD Status: Under Review

	Selected Reporting Period			Previous Reporting Period		
	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total
Service Type - One Way						
Fixed Route/Fixed Schedule						
Daily Pass Trips	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Weekly Pass	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Trips						
Monthly Pass	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Trips						
Deviated Fixed Route Service	1,648	N/A	1,648	1,456	N/A	1,456
Complementary ADA Service	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Paratransit						
Ambulatory	6,506	0	6,506	9,705	0	9,705
Non-Ambulatory	702	0	702	2,496	0	2,496
Stretcher	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation Network Companies	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Taxi	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
School Board (School Bus)	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Volunteers	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Total - Service Type	8,856	0	8,856	13,657	0	13,657
Contracted Transportation Operator						
How many of the total trips were provided by Contracted Transportation Operators? (If the CTC provides transportation services, do not include the CTC)	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Total - Contracted Transportation Operator Trips	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revenue Source - One Way						
Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA)	421	0	421	2,762	0	2,762
Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)	1,406	0	1,406	3,547	0	3,547

	Selected Reporting Period			Previous Reporting Period		
	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total
Comm for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD)	5,085	N/A	5,085	5,068	N/A	5,068
Dept of Economic Opportunity (DEO)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dept of Children and Families (DCF)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dept of Education (DOE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dept of Elder Affairs (DOEA)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dept of Health (DOH)	2	0	2	0	0	0
Dept of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dept of Transportation (DOT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local Government	1,669	0	1,669	1,529	0	1,529
Local Non-Government	273	0	273	751	0	751
Other Federal & State Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total - Revenue Source	8,856	0	8,856	13,657	0	13,657



**Transportation
Disadvantaged**

CTC Trips (cont'd)

County: Madison

CTC Status: Submitted

CTC Organization: Big Bend
Transit, Inc.

Fiscal Year: 07/01/2020 -
06/30/2021

CTD Status: Under Review

	Selected Reporting Period			Previous Reporting Period		
	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total
Passenger Type - One Way						
Older Adults	3,708	0	3,708	5,376	0	5,376
Children At Risk	0	0	0	54	0	54
Persons With Disabilities	1,456	0	1,456	2,884	0	2,884
Low Income	1,211	0	1,211	2,643	0	2,643
Other	2,481	0	2,481	2,700	0	2,700
Total - Passenger Type	8,856	0	8,856	13,657	0	13,657
Trip Purpose - One Way						
Medical	3,012	0	3,012	5,667	0	5,667
Employment	2,988	0	2,988	2,788	0	2,788
Education/Training/Daycare	1,386	0	1,386	4,072	0	4,072
Nutritional	541	0	541	958	0	958
Life-Sustaining/Other	929	0	929	172	0	172
Total - Trip Purpose	8,856	0	8,856	13,657	0	13,657
Unduplicated Passenger Head Count (UDPHC)						
UDPHC	306	0	306	469	0	469
Total - UDPHC	306	0	306	469	0	469
Unmet & No Shows						
Unmet Trip Requests	2	N/A	2	0	N/A	0
No Shows	109	N/A	109	233	N/A	233
Customer Feedback						
Complaints	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Commendations	1	N/A	1	1	N/A	1



**Transportation
Disadvantaged**

CTC Vehicles & Drivers

County: Madison

CTC Status: Submitted

CTC Organization: Big Bend
Transit, Inc.

Fiscal Year: 07/01/2020 -
06/30/2021

CTD Status: Under Review

	Selected Reporting Period			Previous Reporting Period		
	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total
Vehicle Miles						
Deviated Fixed Route Miles	8,016	N/A	8,016	8,141	N/A	8,141
Complementary ADA Service Miles	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Paratransit Miles	165,145	0	165,145	244,357	0	244,357
Transportation Network Companies (TNC) Miles	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Taxi Miles	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
School Board (School Bus) Miles	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Volunteers Miles	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0
Total - Vehicle Miles	173,161	0	173,161	252,498	0	252,498
Roadcalls & Accidents						
Roadcalls	8	0	8	3	0	3
Chargeable Accidents	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicle Inventory						
Total Number of Vehicles	8	0	8	9	0	9
Number of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles	8	0	8	9	0	9
Drivers						
Number of Full Time & Part Time Drivers	4	0	4	4	0	4
Number of Volunteer Drivers	0	0	0	0	0	0



Transportation Disadvantaged

CTC Revenue Sources

County: Madison

CTC Status: Submitted

CTC Organization: Big Bend Transit, Inc.

Fiscal Year: 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021

CTD Status: Under Review

Revenue Sources	Selected Reporting Period			Previous Reporting Period		
	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total
Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA)	\$ 22,936	\$ 0	\$ 22,936	\$ 132,604	\$ 0	\$ 132,604
Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)	\$ 13,427	\$ 0	\$ 13,427	\$ 33,907	\$ 0	\$ 33,907
Dept of Economic Opportunity (DEO)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Dept of Children and Families (DCF)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Dept of Education (DOE)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Dept of Elder Affairs (DOEA)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Dept of Health (DOH)	\$ 185	\$ 0	\$ 185	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Dept of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD)						
Non-Sponsored Trip Program	\$ 273,389	N/A	\$ 273,389	\$ 234,036	N/A	\$ 234,036
Non-Sponsored Capital Equipment	\$ 83,877	N/A	\$ 83,877	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
Rural Capital Equipment	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
TD Other	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 19,798	N/A	\$ 19,798
Department of Transportation (DOT)						
49 USC 5307	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
49 USC 5310	\$ 198,594	\$ 0	\$ 198,594	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
49 USC 5311	\$ 309,989	\$ 0	\$ 309,989	\$ 254,897	\$ 0	\$ 254,897
49 USC 5311 (f)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Block Grant	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Service Development	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Commuter Assistance Program	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other DOT	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Local Government						
School Board (School Bus)	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
County Cash	\$ 16,780	\$ 0	\$ 16,780	\$ 16,780	\$ 0	\$ 16,780
County In-Kind	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0

	Selected Reporting Period			Previous Reporting Period		
	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total
City Cash	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
City In-Kind	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other Cash	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other In-Kind	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Local Non-Government						
Farebox	\$ 17,052	\$ 0	\$ 17,052	\$ 22,028	\$ 0	\$ 22,028
Donations/Contributions	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
In-Kind Services	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other Non-Government	\$ 1,379	\$ 0	\$ 1,379	\$ 5,683	\$ 0	\$ 5,683
Other Federal & State Programs						
Other Federal Programs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other State Programs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total - Revenue Sources	\$ 937,608	\$ 0	\$ 937,608	\$ 719,733	\$ 0	\$ 719,733



**Transportation
Disadvantaged**

CTC Expense Sources

County: Madison

CTC Status: Submitted

CTC Organization: Big Bend
Transit, Inc.

Fiscal Year: 07/01/2020 -
06/30/2021

CTD Status: Under Review

Expense Sources	Selected Reporting Period			Previous Reporting Period		
	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total	CTC & Transportation Operators	Coordination Contractors	Total
Labor	\$ 302,067	\$ 0	\$ 302,067	\$ 303,801	\$ 0	\$ 303,801
Fringe Benefits	\$ 129,865	\$ 0	\$ 129,865	\$ 134,245	\$ 0	\$ 134,245
Services	\$ 36,119	\$ 0	\$ 36,119	\$ 43,875	\$ 0	\$ 43,875
Materials & Supplies Consumed	\$ 65,507	\$ 0	\$ 65,507	\$ 83,323	\$ 0	\$ 83,323
Utilities	\$ 8,379	\$ 0	\$ 8,379	\$ 8,617	\$ 0	\$ 8,617
Casualty & Liability	\$ 55,753	\$ 0	\$ 55,753	\$ 60,476	\$ 0	\$ 60,476
Taxes	\$ 246	\$ 0	\$ 246	\$ 55	\$ 0	\$ 55
Miscellaneous	\$ 9,075	\$ 0	\$ 9,075	\$ 10,870	\$ 0	\$ 10,870
Interest	\$ 1,273	\$ 0	\$ 1,273	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Leases & Rentals	\$ 12,916	\$ 0	\$ 12,916	\$ 16,162	\$ 0	\$ 16,162
Capital Purchases	\$ 307,655	\$ 0	\$ 307,655	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Contributed Services	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Allocated Indirect Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Purchased Transportation Services						
Bus Pass	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
School Board (School Bus)	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
Transportation Network Companies (TNC)	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
Taxi	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
Contracted Operator	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0
Total - Expense Sources	\$ 928,855	\$ 0	\$ 928,855	\$ 661,424	\$ 0	\$ 661,424

EXHIBIT O

**2021-2022 TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
TRUST FUND ALLOCATIONS**

Miami-Dade	\$6,005,879	\$667,320	\$6,673,199	\$1,341	\$149	\$1,490	\$6,674,689
Monroe	\$316,625	\$35,181	\$351,805	\$32	\$4	\$36	\$351,841
Nassau	\$338,503	\$37,611	\$376,114	\$9	\$1	\$10	\$376,124
Okaloosa	\$547,960	\$60,884	\$608,845	\$96	\$11	\$107	\$608,952
Okeechobee	\$204,052	\$22,672	\$226,725	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$226,725
Orange	\$2,537,256	\$281,917	\$2,819,173	\$506	\$56	\$563	\$2,819,736
Osceola	\$905,345	\$100,594	\$1,005,939	\$22	\$2	\$24	\$1,005,963
Palm Beach	\$3,379,715	\$375,524	\$3,755,239	\$949	\$105	\$1,055	\$3,756,294
Pasco	\$796,392	\$88,488	\$884,881	\$171	\$19	\$190	\$885,071
Pinellas	\$3,589,371	\$398,819	\$3,988,190	\$353	\$39	\$392	\$3,988,583
Polk	\$1,183,733	\$131,526	\$1,315,259	\$131	\$15	\$145	\$1,315,404
Putnam	\$404,015	\$44,891	\$448,906	\$63	\$7	\$70	\$448,976
St. Johns	\$593,389	\$65,932	\$659,321	\$203	\$23	\$226	\$659,547
St. Lucie	\$695,993	\$77,333	\$773,325	\$62	\$7	\$69	\$773,394
Santa Rosa	\$400,300	\$44,478	\$444,777	\$23	\$3	\$26	\$444,803
Sarasota	\$1,162,814	\$129,202	\$1,292,015	\$451	\$50	\$502	\$1,292,517
Seminole	\$822,133	\$91,348	\$913,481	\$221	\$25	\$246	\$913,727
Sumter	\$382,042	\$42,449	\$424,491	\$30	\$3	\$33	\$424,524
Suwannee	\$229,024	\$25,447	\$254,472	\$7	\$1	\$8	\$254,479
Taylor	\$263,633	\$29,293	\$292,925	\$2	\$0	\$2	\$292,928
Union	\$158,266	\$17,585	\$175,851	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$175,851
Volusia	\$1,310,442	\$145,605	\$1,456,047	\$148	\$16	\$164	\$1,456,211
Wakulla	\$200,127	\$22,236	\$222,363	\$22	\$2	\$24	\$222,388
Walton	\$401,711	\$44,635	\$446,346	\$9	\$1	\$10	\$446,356
Washington	\$241,170	\$26,797	\$267,967	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$267,968
TOTAL	\$51,163,263	\$5,684,807	\$56,848,070	\$8,806	\$978	\$9,785	\$56,857,855

4/30/2021

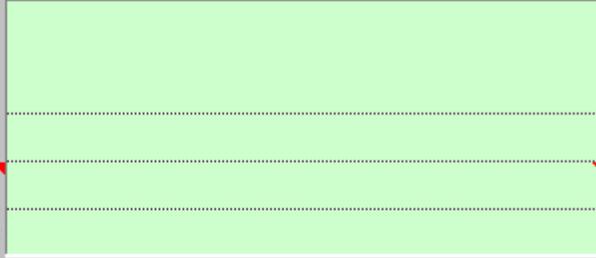
EXHIBIT P

**FLORIDA COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
RATE CALCULATION MODEL INSTRUCTIONS
AND WORKSHEETS**

Preliminary Information Worksheet

Version 1.4

CTC Name:
County (Service Area):
Contact Person:
Phone #



Check Applicable Characteristic:

ORGANIZATIONAL TYPE:

- Governmental
- Private Non-Profit
- Private For Profit

NETWORK TYPE:

- Fully Brokered
- Partially Brokered
- Sole Source

***Once completed, proceed to the Worksheet entitled
"Comprehensive Budget"***

Worksheet for Program-wide Rates

CTC: 0
County: 0

Version 1.4

1. Complete Total Projected Passenger Miles and ONE-WAY Passenger Trips (GREEN cells) below

Do **NOT** include trips or miles related to Coordination Contractors!

Do **NOT** include School Board trips or miles UNLESS.....

INCLUDE all ONE-WAY passenger trips and passenger miles related to services you purchased from your transportation operators!

Do **NOT** include trips or miles for services provided to the general public/private pay UNLESS..

Do **NOT** include escort activity as passenger trips or passenger miles unless charged the full rate for service!

Do **NOT** include fixed route bus program trips or passenger miles!

PROGRAM-WIDE RATES	
Total Projected Passenger Miles =	<input type="text"/>
Rate Per Passenger Mile =	<input type="text"/>
Total Projected Passenger Trips =	<input type="text"/>
Rate Per Passenger Trip =	<input type="text"/>

Fiscal Year
2020 - 2021

Avg. Passenger Trip Length =	#### Miles
------------------------------	------------

Rates If No Revenue Funds Were Identified As Subsidy Funds	
Rate Per Passenger Mile = \$	-
Rate Per Passenger Trip = \$	-

Once Completed, Proceed to the Worksheet entitled "Multiple Service Rates"

Vehicle Miles

The miles that a vehicle is scheduled to or actually travels from the time it pulls out from its garage to go into revenue service to the time it pulls in from revenue service.

Vehicle Revenue Miles (VRM)

The miles that vehicles are scheduled to or actually travel while in revenue service. Vehicle revenue miles exclude:

- Deadhead
- Operator training, and
- Vehicle maintenance testing, as well as
- School bus and charter services.

Passenger Miles (PM)

The cumulative sum of the distances ridden by each passenger.

EXHIBIT Q

**FLORIDA'S TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM
CONCEPT CHART**



Florida's Coordinated Transportation System Organizational Structure

Transportation Disadvantaged Riders

Independent State Agency

Guiding Philosophy:

- Centralized Policy Development
- Decentralized (Local) Implementation

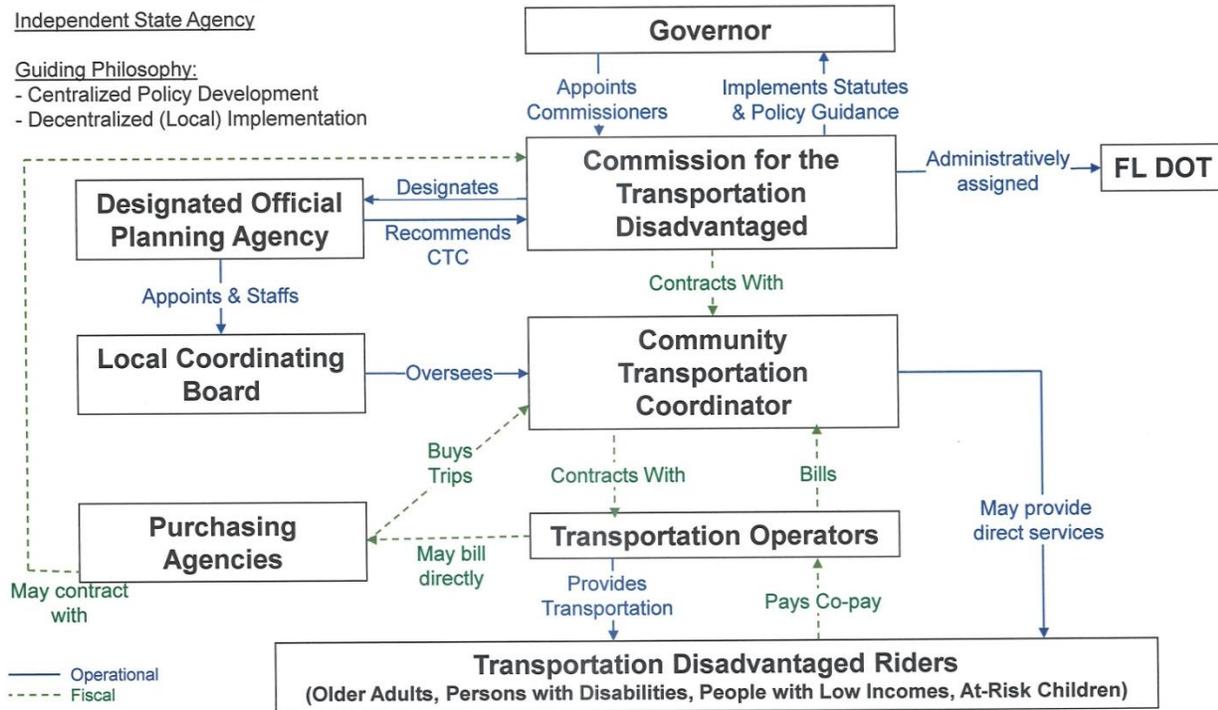


EXHIBIT R
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**COMMISSION FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

The following glossary is intended to coordinate terminology within the Florida Coordinated Transportation System. It is imperative that when certain words or phrases are used, the definition must be universally acknowledged.

Accidents: when used in reference to the AOR, the total number of reportable accidents that occurred whereby the result was either property damage of \$1000.00 or more, or personal injury that required evacuation to a medical facility, or a combination of both.

(AER) Actual Expenditure Report: an annual report completed by each state member agency and each official planning agency, to inform the Commission in writing, before September 15 of each year, of the specific amount of funds the agency expended for transportation disadvantaged services.

Advance Reservation Service: shared or individual paratransit service that is readily delivered with at least prior day notification, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Agency: an official, officer, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or any other unit or entity of the state or of a city, town, municipality, county, or other local governing body or a private non-profit transportation service providing entity.

(ADA) Americans with Disabilities Act: a federal law, P .L. 101-336, signed by the President of the United States on July 26, 1990 providing protection for persons with disabilities.

(AOR) Annual Operating Report: an annual report prepared by the community transportation coordinator detailing its designated service area operating statistics for the most recent operating year.

(APR) Annual Performance Report: an annual report issued by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged that combines all the data submitted in the Annual Operating Reports and the CTD Annual Report.

(ASE) Automotive Service Excellence: a series of tests that certify the skills of automotive technicians in a variety of maintenance areas.

Availability: a measure of the capability of a transportation system to be used by potential riders, such as the hours the system is in operation, the route spacing, the seating availability, and the pick-up and delivery time parameters.

Bus: any motor vehicle designed for carrying more than 10 passengers and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

Bus Lane: a street or highway lane intended primarily for buses, either all day or during specified periods, but used by other traffic under certain circumstances.

Bus Stop: a waiting, boarding, and disembarking area, usually designated by distinctive signs and by curbs or pavement markings.

(CUTR) Center for Urban Transportation Research: a research group located at the University of South Florida's College of Engineering.

(CMBE) Certified Minority Business Enterprise: any small business concern which is organized to engage in commercial transactions, which is domiciled in Florida, and which is at least 51 percent owned by minority persons and whose management and daily operations are controlled by such persons. These businesses should be certified by the Florida Department of Management Services.

Chapter 427, Florida Statutes: the Florida statute establishing the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and prescribing its duties and responsibilities.

Commendation: any documented compliment of any aspect of the coordinated system, including personnel, vehicle, service, etc.

(CDL) Commercial Driver's License: a license required if a driver operates a commercial motor vehicle, including a vehicle that carries 16 or more

passengers (including the driver), or a vehicle weighing more than 26,000 pounds.

Commission: the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged as authorized in Section 427.013, Florida Statutes.

(CTD) Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged: an independent agency created in 1989 to accomplish the coordination of transportation services provided to the transportation disadvantaged. Replaced the Coordinating Council on the Transportation Disadvantaged.

(CTC) Community Transportation Coordinator: (formerly referred to as "coordinated community transportation provider") a transportation entity competitively procured or recommended by the appropriate official planning agency and local Coordinating Board and approved by the Commission, to ensure that safe, quality coordinated transportation services are provided or arranged in a cost effective manner to serve the transportation disadvantaged in a designated service area.

Competitive Procurement: obtaining a transportation operator or other services through a competitive process based upon Commission-approved procurement guidelines.

Complaint: any documented customer concern involving timeliness, vehicle condition, quality of service, personnel behavior, and other operational policies.

Complete (or Full) Brokerage: type of CTC network in which the CTC does not provide any on-street transportation services itself, but contracts with transportation operators or coordination contractors for the delivery of all transportation services.

Coordinated Transportation System: includes the CTC, the transportation operators and coordination contractors under contract with the CTC, the official planning agency, and local Coordinating Board involved in the provision of service delivery to the transportation disadvantaged within the designated service area.

Coordinated Trips: passenger trips provided by or arranged through a CTC.

Coordinating Board: an entity in each designated service area composed of representatives who provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator relative to the coordination of transportation disadvantaged services.

Coordination: the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is cost effective, safe, efficient, and reduces fragmentation and duplication of services. Coordination is not the same as total consolidation of transportation disadvantaged services in any given service area.

Coordination Contract: a written contract between the community transportation coordinator and an agency who receives transportation disadvantaged funds and performs some, if not all of, its own services, as well as services to others, when such service has been analyzed by the CTC and proven to be a safer, more effective and more efficient service from a total system perspective. The Commission's standard contract reflects the specific terms and conditions that will apply to those agencies who perform their own transportation, as well as joint utilization and cost provisions for transportation services to and from the coordinator.

Deadhead: the miles or hours that a vehicle travels when out of revenue service. From dispatch point to first pick-up, and from last drop-off to home base, or movements from home base to maintenance garage or fuel depot, and return.

Demand Response: a paratransit service that is readily delivered with less than prior day notification, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. This service can be either an individual or shared ride.

Designated Service Area: a geographical area subject to approval by the Commission, which defines the community where coordinated transportation services will be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

Disabled Passenger: anyone with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits at least one of the major life activities (i.e., caring for one's self, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning).

Dispatcher: the person responsible for having every scheduled run leave the yard or garage on time and maintain a schedule, matching the work force with the work load on a minute-by-minute basis. In demand-response transportation, the person who assigns the customers to vehicles and notifies the appropriate drivers.

Driver Hour: the period of one hour that a person works whose main responsibility is to drive vehicles.

Economies of Scale: cost savings resulting from combined resources (e.g., joint purchasing agreements that result in a lower cost per gallon or quantity discount for fuel).

Effectiveness Measure: a performance measure that indicates the level of consumption per unit of output. Passenger trips per vehicle mile is an example of an effectiveness measure.

Efficiency Measure: a performance measure that evaluates the level of resources expended to achieve a given level of output. An example of an efficiency measure is operating cost per vehicle mile.

Emergency: any occurrence, or threat thereof, whether accidental, natural or caused by man, in war or in peace, which results or may result in substantial denial of services to a designated service area for the transportation disadvantaged.

Emergency Fund: transportation disadvantaged trust fund monies set aside to address emergency situations and which can be utilized by direct contract, without competitive bidding, between the Commission and an entity to handle transportation services during a time of emergency.

Employees: the total number of persons employed in an organization.

Fixed Route: (also known as Fixed Route/Fixed Schedule) service in which the vehicle (s) repeatedly follows a consistent time schedule and stopping points over the same route, whereby such schedule, route or service is not at the users request (e.g. conventional city bus, fixed guideway).

- (FAC) **Florida Administrative Code:** a set of administrative codes regulating the state of Florida.
- (FCTS) **Florida Coordinated Transportation System:** a transportation system responsible for coordination and service provisions for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes.
- (FDOT) **Florida Department Of Transportation:** a governmental entity. The CTD is housed under the Florida Department of Transportation for administrative purposes.
- (FS) **Florida Statutes:** the laws governing the state of Florida.
- (FTE) **Full Time Equivalent:** a measure used to determine the number of employees based on a 40-hour work week. One FTE equals 40 work hours per week.
- (FAC) **Fully Allocated Costs:** the total cost, including the value of donations, contributions, grants or subsidies, of providing coordinated transportation, including those services which are purchased through transportation operators or provided through coordination contracts.

General Trips: passenger trips by individuals to destinations of their choice, not associated with any agency program.

Goal: broad conditions that define what the organization hopes to achieve.

Grievance Process: a formal plan that provides a channel for the adjustment of grievances through discussions at progressively higher levels of authority, culminating in mediation, if necessary.

In Service: the time a vehicle begins the route to provide transportation service to the time the route is completed.

In-Take Clerk/Reservationist: an individual whose primary responsibility is to accept requests for trips, enter dates on requests, determine eligibility and provide customer service.

Latent Demand: demand that is not active (i.e., the potential demand of persons who are not presently in the market for a good or service).

Limited Access: the inability of a vehicle, facility or equipment to permit entry or exit to all persons. Lack of accessibility of vehicle, facility or other equipment.

Load Factor: the ratio of use to capacity of equipment or a facility during a specified time period.

Local Government: an elected and/or appointed public body existing to coordinate, govern, plan, fund, and administer public services within a designated, limited geographic area of the state.

Local Government Comprehensive Plan: a plan that meets the requirements of Sections 163.3177 and 163.3178, Florida Statutes.

(LCB) **Local Coordinating Board:** an entity in each designated service area composed of representatives appointed by the official planning agency. Its purpose is to provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator concerning the coordination of transportation disadvantaged services.

(MIS) **Management Information System:** the mechanism that collects and reports key operating and financial information for managers on a continuing and regular basis.

(MOA) **Memorandum of Agreement:** the state contract included in the transportation disadvantaged service plan for transportation disadvantaged services purchased by federal, state, or local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Commission and the community transportation coordinator and recognizes the community transportation coordinator as being responsible for the arrangement of the

provision of transportation disadvantaged services for a designated service area.

(MPO) Metropolitan Planning Organization: the area-wide organization responsible for conducting the continuous, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning and programming in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. s. 134, as provided in 23 U.S.C. s. 104(f)(3). Also serves as the official planning agency referred to in Chapter 427, F.S.

Network type: describes how a community transportation coordinator provides service, whether as a complete brokerage, partial brokerage, or sole provider.

Non-coordinated Trip: a trip provided by an agency, entity, or operator who is in whole or in part subsidized by local, state, or federal funds, and who does not have coordination/operator contract with the community transportation coordinator.

Nonsponsored Trip: transportation disadvantaged services that are sponsored in whole by the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.

Objective: specific, measurable conditions that the organization establishes to achieve its goals.

Off Peak: a period of day or night during which travel activity is generally low and a minimum of transit service is operated.

(OPA) Official Planning Agency: the official body or agency designated by the Commission to fulfill the functions of transportation disadvantaged planning. The Metropolitan Planning Organization shall serve as the planning agency in areas covered by such organizations.

Operating Cost: the sum of all expenditures that can be associated with the operation and maintenance of the system during the particular period under consideration.

Operating Cost per Driver Hour: operating costs divided by the number of driver hours, a measure of the cost efficiency of delivered service.

Operating Cost per Passenger Trip: operating costs divided by the total number of passenger trips, a measure of the efficiency of transporting riders. One of the key indicators of comparative performance of transit properties since it reflects both the efficiency with which service is delivered and the market demand for the service.

Operating Cost per Vehicle Mile: operating costs divided by the number of vehicle miles, a measure of the cost efficiency of delivered service.

Operating Environment: describes whether the community transportation coordinator provides service in an urban or rural service area.

Operating Expenses: sum of all expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of a transportation system.

Operating Revenues: all revenues and subsidies utilized by the operator in the provision of transportation services.

Operating Statistics: data on various characteristics of operations, including passenger trips, vehicle miles, operating costs, revenues, vehicles, employees, accidents, and roadcalls.

Operator Contract: a written contract between the community transportation coordinator and a transportation operator to perform transportation services.

Organization Type: describes the structure of a community transportation coordinator, whether it is a private-for-profit, private non-profit, government, quasi-government, or transit agency.

Paratransit: elements of public transit that provide service between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user with such service being provided at a time that is agreed upon between the user and the provider of the service. Paratransit services are provided by sedans, vans, buses, and other vehicles.

Partial Brokerage: type of CTC network in which the CTC provides some of the on-street transportation services and contracts with one or more other

transportation operators, including coordination contractors, to provide the other portion of the on-street transportation disadvantaged services, including coordination contractors.

Passenger Miles: a measure of service utilization which represents the cumulative sum of the distances ridden by each passenger. This is a duplicated mileage count. For example: If 10 people ride together for 10 miles, there would be 100 passenger miles.

Passenger Trip: a unit of service provided each time a passenger enters the vehicle, is transported, then exits the vehicle. Each different destination would constitute a passenger trip. This unit of service is also known as a one-way passenger trip.

Passenger Trips per Driver Hour: a performance measure used to evaluate service effectiveness by calculating the total number of passenger trips divided by the number of driver hours.

Passenger Trips per Vehicle Mile: a performance measure used to evaluate service effectiveness by calculating the total number of passenger trips divided by the number of vehicle miles.

Performance Measure: statistical representation of how well an activity, task, or function is being performed. Usually computed from operating statistics by relating a measure of service output or utilization to a measure of service input or cost.

Potential TD Population: (formerly referred to as TD Category I) includes persons with disabilities, senior citizens, low income persons, and high risk or at risk children. These persons are eligible to receive certain governmental and social service agency subsidies for program-related trips.

Program Trip: a passenger trip supplied or sponsored by a human service agency for the purpose of transporting clients to and from a program of that agency (e.g., sheltered workshops, congregate dining, and job training).

Public Transit: means the transporting of people by conveyances or systems of conveyances traveling on land or water, local or regional in

nature, and available for use by the public. Public transit systems may be governmental or privately owned. Public transit specifically includes those forms of transportation commonly known as paratransit.

Purchased Transportation: transportation services provided for an entity by a public or private transportation provider based on a written contract.

(RFB) **Request for Bids:** a competitive procurement process.

(RFP) **Request for Proposals:** a competitive procurement process.

(RFQ) **Request for Qualifications:** a competitive procurement process.

Reserve Fund: transportation disadvantaged trust fund monies set aside each budget year to insure adequate cash is available for incoming reimbursement requests when estimated revenues do not materialize.

Revenue Hours: total vehicle hours used in providing passenger transportation, excluding deadhead time.

Revenue Miles: the total number of paratransit service miles driven while TD passengers are actually riding on the vehicles. This figure should be calculated from first passenger pick-up until the last passenger drop-off, excluding any breaks in actual passenger transport. For example: if 10 passengers rode 10 miles together, there would be 10 revenue miles.

Ridesharing: the sharing of a vehicle by clients of two or more agencies, thus allowing for greater cost efficiency and improved vehicle utilization.

Roadcall: any in-service interruptions caused by failure of some functionally necessary element of the vehicle, whether the rider is transferred or not. Roadcalls exclude accidents.

Rule 41-2, F.A.C.: the rule adopted by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to implement provisions established in Chapter 427, F.S.

Scheduler: a person who prepares an operating schedule for vehicles on the basis of passenger demand, level of service, and other operating elements such as travel times or equipment availability.

Shuttle: a transit service that operates on a short route, or in a small geographical area, often as an extension to the service of a longer route.

Sole Source: (also referred to as Sole Provider) network type in which the CTC provides all of the transportation disadvantaged services.

Sponsored Trip: a passenger trip that is subsidized in part or in whole by a local, state, or federal government funding source (not including monies provided by the TD Trust Fund).

Standard: something established by authority, custom, or general consent as a model or example.

Stretcher Service: a form of non-emergency paratransit service whereby the rider is transported on a stretcher, litter, gurney, or other device that does not meet the dimensions of a wheelchair as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Subscription Service: a regular and recurring service in which schedules are prearranged, to meet the travel needs of riders who sign up for the service in advance. The service is characterized by the fact that the same passengers are picked up at the same location and time and are transported to the same location, and then returned to the point of origin in the same manner.

(SSPP) System Safety Program Plan: a documented organized approach and guide to accomplishing a system safety program set forth in Florida Rule 14-90.

Total Fleet: this includes all revenue vehicles held at the end of the fiscal year, including those in storage, emergency contingency, awaiting sale, etc.

(TQM) Total Quality Management: a management philosophy utilizing measurable goals and objectives to achieve quality management practices.

Transportation Alternative: those specific transportation services that are approved by rule to be acceptable transportation alternatives, and defined in s. 427.018, F. S.

(TD) **Transportation Disadvantaged:** those persons, including children as defined in s. 411.202 F.S., who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or inability to drive due to age or disability are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and have no other form of transportation available. These persons are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, or medically necessary or life-sustaining activities.

Transportation Disadvantaged Funds: any local government, state or available federal funds that are for the transportation of the transportation disadvantaged. Such funds may include, but are not limited to, funds for planning, Medicaid transportation, transportation provided pursuant to the ADA, administration of transportation disadvantaged services, operation, procurement and maintenance of vehicles or equipment, and capital investments. Transportation disadvantaged funds do not include funds expended by school districts for the transportation of children to public schools or to receive service as a part of their educational program.

Transportation Disadvantaged Population: (formerly referred to as TD Category II) persons, including children, who, because of disability, income status, or inability to drive due to age or disability are unable to transport themselves.

(TDSP) **Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan:** a three-year implementation plan, with annual updates developed by the CTC and the planning agency which contains the provisions of service delivery in the coordinated transportation system. The plan shall be reviewed and recommended by the local Coordinating Board.

Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund: a fund administered by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged in which all fees collected for the transportation disadvantaged program shall be deposited. The funds deposited will be appropriated by the legislature to the Commission to carry

out the Commission's responsibilities. Funds that are deposited may be used to subsidize a portion of a transportation disadvantaged person's transportation costs which are not sponsored by an agency.

Transportation Operator: a public, private for profit, or private non-profit entity engaged by the community transportation coordinator to provide service to the transportation disadvantaged pursuant to an approved coordinated transportation system transportation disadvantaged service plan.

Transportation Operator Contract: the Commission's standard coordination/operator contract between the community transportation coordinator and the transportation operator that outlines the terms and conditions for any services to be performed.

Trend Analysis: a common technique used to analyze the performance of an organization over a period of time.

Trip Priorities: various methods for restricting or rationing trips.

Trip Sheet: a record kept of specific information required by ordinance, rule or operating procedure for a period of time worked by the driver of a public passenger vehicle in demand-response service. Also known as a driver log.

(UPHC) Unduplicated Passenger Head Count: the actual number of people that were provided paratransit transportation services, not including personal care attendants, non-paying escorts, or persons provided fixed-schedule/fixed route service.

Unmet Demand: the number of trips desired but not provided because of insufficient service supply.

Urbanized Area: a city (or twin cities) that has a population of 50,000 or more (central city) and surrounding incorporated and unincorporated areas that meet certain criteria of population size of density.

(USDHHS) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: a federal agency regulating health and human services.

(USDOT) U.S. Department of Transportation: a federal agency regulating the transportation field.

Van Pool: a prearranged ride-sharing service in which a number of people travel together on a regular basis in a van. Van pools are commonly a company-sponsored van that has a regular volunteer driver.

Vehicle Inventory: an inventory of vehicles used by the CTC, transportation operators, and coordination contractors for the provision of transportation disadvantaged services.

Vehicle Miles: the total distance traveled by revenue vehicles, including both revenue miles and deadhead miles.

Vehicle Miles per Vehicle: a performance measure used to evaluate resource utilization and rate of vehicle depreciation, calculated by dividing the number of vehicle miles by the total number of vehicles.

Vehicles: number of vehicles owned by the transit agency that are available for use in providing services.

Volunteers: individuals who do selected tasks for the community transportation coordinator or its contracted operator, for little or no compensation.

Will-Calls: these are trips that are requested on a demand response basis, usually for a return trip. The transportation provider generally knows to expect a request for a will-call trip, but can not schedule the trip in advance because the provider does not know the exact time a passenger will call to request his/her trip.