

**ADDENDUM  
TO THE  
SIOUX FALLS MPO AREA COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT-HUMAN SERVICES  
TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

**2018 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

***Introduction***

The Sioux Falls MPO Area Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan) was adopted on November 14, 2013, and a progress report is required to be prepared annually. The purpose of the Coordinated Plan is to: 1) identify the unmet transportation needs for seniors and individuals with disabilities; 2) develop strategies, activities, and/or projects to address the identified gaps between current services and needs, as well as opportunities to achieve efficiencies in service delivery; and 3) develop priorities for implementation based on resources (from multiple sources), time, and feasibility for implementing specific strategies and/or activities. Based on public participation and outreach, existing transportation services, and identified needs and gaps, the following priorities are recommended in the Coordinated Plan:

1. **Travel Training** – Increased utilization and improved perception of the public transit fixed route system through the utilization of the existing SAM travel training materials and involvement of human service agencies:
2. **Coordination of Non-Profit Community Transportation** – Foster a more efficient non-profit community transportation system by focusing on the following priorities:
3. **Coordination of Paratransit Public Transportation**
4. **Maintenance and expansion of the fixed-route transportation system as an affordable and efficient system**
5. **Expansion of a coordinated community transportation system throughout the MPO planning area to provide a connection between the smaller communities to employment and services within the City of Sioux Falls** – While the previous four priorities are more immediate and short-term priorities, this priority is considered a long-term priority as it would require a considerable amount of resources that are not available at this point.

***Goals Completed in 2018***

A significant amount of time has been dedicated to planning and coordination meetings since the 2013 Coordinated Plan was adopted. These meetings have included participation by agencies representing seniors, persons with disabilities, low-income, the medical community, business,

government, transit, and many others, including AARP, DakotAbilities, LifeScape, and Project CAR. Many of the people involved participated in more than one committee or sub-group. And many are continuing to work together with the ultimate goal of meeting the transportation needs in the MPO planning area.

The Sioux Falls MPO Urbanized Development Commission's (UDC) special committee, the Transportation Coordination Committee (TCC), meets on a regular basis to work toward accomplishing the identified goals.

*Primary Accomplishments:*

- In 2014, the TCC assumed the role of soliciting applications for the FTA Section 5310 funds allocated for the Sioux Falls urbanized area and recommending projects for funding to the State. This has enabled the TCC to have a greater influence in ensuring that the funds are used for projects that complement the priorities of this plan, in a coordinated manner, to fulfill the needs stated in this plan. In 2018, the TCC and UDC recommended funding for LifeScape to purchase two ADA minivans, funding for Southeastern Behavioral Healthcare to purchase one replacement ADA van, and operating funds to River Cities Public Transit dba Coordinated Community Transportation System to provide approximately 27,000 day program commute trips for DakotAbilities and LifeScape.
- The directory of specialized transportation services that was updated in the past year for the MPO planning area continues to be available on the Sioux Falls MPO's website at <http://siouxfallsmpo.org/resources/directory/>. It is also posted on Minnehaha County's website.
- The Drive To Help volunteer driver recruitment and training program developed in 2014 is in the process of a structural change to more efficiently and effectively recruit and train volunteer drivers and to begin a buddy system. SECOG will continue to be involved with the program and coordinate with human service agencies, Sioux Area Metro, and the City of Sioux Falls. The program will focus on recruiting volunteers as drivers from agencies that will most directly benefit from Project CAR or Workers on Wheels services. In addition, the buddy system program will work to match volunteer buddies through the agency that would benefit the most from the intensive travel training that a buddy system will provide.
- Sioux Area Metro provided the following travel training sessions in the past year
  - General Sessions: One session with eight people from the same group. General Training is available at 1:00 p.m. the last Wednesday of each month
  - Paratransit Staff travel training: Three people have been trained so far in 2018 in a one on one situation including accompanying the passenger on the buses that are required to get from destination to destination and back again
  - Special Request. Two sessions: one session at Meadows on Sycamore (retirement center) and one session at Independent Living Choices located at 49th and Oxbow. There were approximately 20 -25 people at each session.

- Since the development of the Sioux Falls City Council's Transit Task Force Report in 2014, the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) has been working to develop methods to encourage ridership on the fixed route system through various travel training methods. In addition, work has continued with various non-profits in the community to increase efficiencies in paratransit public transportation.
- The City of Sioux Falls continues an agreement with Active Generations to assist its Daybreak clients in utilizing Project CAR's transportation services instead of Paratransit.
- LifeScape and DakotAbilities continues to coordinate with Sioux Area Metro paratransit to monitor their transportation needs and make adjustments in staffing and trip times to increase efficiencies.
- After a successful pilot project, the City of Sioux Falls continues to partner with Augustana University to provide free fixed-route rides to its faculty and students at a reduced rate paid by Augustana University.
- *Non-Profit Coordination Committee:* River Cities Public Transit dba Coordinated Community Transportation System (CCTS), began a full year project in 2016 to provide work trips for DakotAbilities and LifeScape clients. One vehicle was committed by LifeScape for this project. FTA Section 5310 funds were awarded to assist with funding one vehicle and operating costs for the 2016 project, in 2017 for a second vehicle and operating costs, and in 2018 for operating costs. The City of Sioux Falls has also been participating in the project to help keep the client portion of the fare minimal. In addition to financial support, the City has contributed reduced-rent office and bus storage space for the project. In 2018, CCTS is projected to provide approximately 20,000 agency rides. Operations are expected to continue in 2019 with the number of rides provided increasing to 27,000 agency rides.
- *Hartford Transit Committee:* Hartford Area Transit continued operations in 2018. It provides service within the City and also provides service to Sioux Falls for medical appointments, etc. This project was funded with a combination of locally raised and FTA funds. Additional information on Hartford Area Transit can be found at <https://www.hartfordsd.us/hartfordtransit>.
- Continued work with the SD Department of Human Services and SD Department of Transportation on the resurrection of a statewide transportation coordination committee.
- DakotAbilities, LifeScape, Coordinated Community Transportation Systems, and the City of Sioux Falls are continuing to work together to provide more cost effective and sustainable service for agency trips.
- The City of Sioux Falls is working with Project CAR and Active Generations to increase the number of ambulatory paratransit rides provided by Project CAR for Active Generations' Day Break Adult Day Services.

### ***Unsuccessful Goals in 2018***

As the Coordinated Plan is a five-year plan, many of the goals and priorities identified in the plan are long-term goals that require significant planning and coordination with several agencies across the community. Therefore, none of the goals identified in the Coordinated Plan are considered unsuccessful.

### ***New Goals for 2019***

An updated 2018 Human Services-Public Transit Coordination Plan with current goals is being developed.

***2019 Goal Timeframes*** An update of the Human Service Public Transit Coordination Plan will be adopted in the Fall of 2018. This updated plan will include new goals and strategies. The 2019 Progress Report will highlight:

- The next competitive Section 5310 application process scheduled to begin in January.
- Accomplishments and progress in completing the stated goals.