Transportation Bonanza 11

February 13, 2020
Public Transportation Benefits

Public transportation transforms communities and the lives of the people living in them by:

- spurring economic development
- promoting sustainable lifestyles
- providing a higher quality of life
- fostering independence

Every segment of American society—individuals, families, communities, and businesses—benefits from public transportation.
Public Transportation Consists of a Variety of Modes

- Buses
- Light rail
- Subways
- Commuter trains
- Streetcars and trolleys
- Cable cars
- Van pool services
- Ferries and water taxis
- Paratransit services for senior citizens and people with disabilities
- Monorails and tramways
# Quick Facts

In 2018, Americans took 9.9 billion trips on public transportation.

34 million times each weekday, people board public transportation.

Since 1997, public transportation ridership has increased by 21%—a growth rate higher than the 19% increase in U.S. population.

Public transportation is a $71 billion industry that employs more than 430,000 people.

Approximately 6,800 organizations provide public transportation in the United States.

45% of Americans have no access to public transportation.

Millennials consider public transportation as the best option for digital socializing and among the best for connecting with communities.

*Source: Michigan Public Transit Association*
SATA Overview

► SATA is an inter-governmental agency formed under Act 7 in 1999 which began operations in February 2000. SATA operates Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. countywide, and from 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. locally. Annually, (SATA) provides approximately 96,000 rides to residents of Shiawassee county.

A small agency, SATA employs:
- 3 administrators/managers
- 5 dispatchers
- 28 drivers
- 2 mechanics
- and has a fleet of 18 vehicles

► SATA provides curb-to-curb, demand-response service only (sometimes referred to as a Dial-a-Ride), and is available to all residents of Shiawassee county (population 68,192). SATA has no fixed routes. Rides are scheduled on a reservation basis, first-call, first-serve.

► The agency formed as a result of the county’s need for transportation by area agencies, including the Arc, the Council on Aging, and the local Department of Human Services to provide rides for citizens in the community including senior citizens, people with disabilities, students, and the general population. Since inception, SATA has worked to build partnerships with local human service agencies ensuring that county residents are transported successfully.
Current partnerships include Shiawassee Health & Wellness, Shiawassee Council on Aging, the Arc, Shiawassee Regional Education Service District, various human service agencies, and several public school districts. SATA contracts with Shiawassee Council on Aging to cover transportation costs for senior citizen rides, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Since inception, SATA has grown from zero (0) passengers to 1,636,905 total, averaging 82,000 to 85,000 passenger trips per year.

*SATA Annual Ridership*
**Trip Purposes**

- Medical Appointments
- Shopping
- Social Services
- Church
- Restaurants
- Work
- Recreation
- School
- Other
In 2008, SATA developed and implemented a volunteer-based mobility management program with its sister agency, Transportation Solutions, a division of SATA (TSD). TSD operates 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. The 25 volunteer drivers in this program, who are reimbursed only for mileage, traveled 280,000 miles and donated nearly 10,000 hours to transport local residents last year.

Since inception, TSD has grown from zero (0) passengers to 58,116 total, averaging 8,000 to 9,000 passenger trips per year.
Background – using MTA’s current Rides to Wellness Model

Background

► State of Michigan announced $8 million in funding for innovative projects that could address mobility gaps for senior citizens, persons with disabilities and/or veterans. These projects would include partnerships between transit agencies and private mobility providers.

► Through the collaborative efforts of Mass Transportation Authority (MTA)-Genesee County, Greater Lapeer Transportation Authority (GLTA)-Lapeer County, and Shiawassee Area Transportation Agency (SATA)-Shiawassee County, a grant was written.

► Our proposal focused specifically on veterans and used the MTA’s current Rides to Wellness model as a foundation for the project design.

► Award of $603,500 was announced in early October 2018.
What is Rides to Wellness?
Rides to Wellness is a mobility management and health and wellness initiative that combines the best of public transportation with the convenience and personalization of ride-hailing services.

Vets to Wellness Project Mission
What is the mission of the project?
To improve coordination and delivery of transportation services for veterans in Genesee, Lapeer, and Shiawassee counties. Simply...to determine a way to eliminate transportation as a barrier for veterans!

Key Elements of Vets to Wellness
It includes:
- IT Improvements – Veteran-focused website and scheduling app
- expansion of fare payment capabilities
- use of Rides to Wellness software in rural settings
- personalized trip planning
- same day transportation and connected trips
- ongoing coordination with all public and private veterans-serving and transportation-providing organizations
# Vets to Wellness Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Veterans, Spouses/Widows Currently Enrolled</th>
<th>One-Way Trips</th>
<th>Miles Logged</th>
<th>Miles for Medical Purposes</th>
<th>Health &amp; Wellness Trip Purposes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 2019 through February 28, 2020</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>7,450</td>
<td>7,084 Banks, Grocery Stores, Bill Payment, Incarceration Visits, VA Services, Food Banks, Hair Salons, Medical Visits, DHS, Social Security Office, Pharmacies, Housing Inquiry Visits, Restaurants</td>
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Thank You

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