



2205 Commerce Drive ♦ P.O. Box 185 ♦ Carrollton, OH 44615 ♦ Fax: 330-627-1088

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(TAC)**

MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 9, 2022

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Carroll County Transit

NAME	AGENCY	PRESENT	ABSENT	NAME	AGENCY	PRESENT	ABSENT
Cindy Black	CCVSC		X	Sherri Lewis (A)	CDJFS	X	
Mathual Campbell	CCBDD		X	Tonya Myers	CCCOA	X	
Tricia Green	CEVSD	X		Kate Offenberger	CDJFS		X
Ray Heaston (A)	CCBDD	X		Vicky Peoples	Transit	X	
Sonja Trbovich	Transit	X		Rachel Rinkes	Prob/Juv		X
				Weslee Warner	Southeast		X

Other(s) present: Gary Tope, resident; Jill Cunningham, Mobility Management

Mrs. Trbovich opened the meeting and asked for approval on previous minutes from April 27, 2022.

Motion was made by Mrs. Myers and seconded by Mrs. Green to approve minutes from April 27, 2022, all in favor, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 2023 Rural Transit –
 - Awarded for the following:
 - Ohio Transit Partnership Program (OTP2) (local match)
 - \$183,875
 - This was for computer software and hardware upgrades as well as cameras on monitors. included. Since we needed more money for operating, we decided to move this over into operating (local match).
 - 5311 Operating 50% - \$430,875.00
 - Maintenance 80% - \$71,416.00
 - 5339 Bus & Bus Facilities Grant – 1 LTN (replacement) – \$79,117
 - depending on the length of time to get these, earlier I was told they were out 2 years and if that is the case, I will see about ordering the Modified Mini Vans instead. Mrs. Myers inquired if CCT could get AWD or 4WD due to weather situations where drivers do not go up driveways that are too bad. Mrs. Trbovich advised that at an ODOT meeting, the reason why there are not AWD or 4WD handicap

accessible vehicles is because it is too much to change so they stay with the 2WD vehicles. It is only in discussion at this time but ODOT is looking at purchasing non-handicap accessible vehicles through Ohio DAS. If we went through Ohio DAS, we would not be able to utilize grant money to go towards the cost and would need to use our Transit Reserve Fund which would go very quickly when we use it towards our local match as well as just purchasing a new boiler that cost \$32,000.

- All positions are filled currently. However, one quit during his orientation which we have not filled. Also, we have another employee that is on medical leave. So, we hope to be good at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mrs. Trbovich advised 2024 Rural Transit Application they are talking about making it a 2-year grant.
 - Applying for the following:
 - Ohio Transit Partnership Program (OTP2)
 - 5311 Operating 50% and Maintenance 80%
 - 5339 Bus & Bus Facilities Grant – 2 MMV (replacements) – Grant Award
- Regional Coordinated Plan – Jill Cunningham, Mobility Management gave updates on her CY2023 grant which she was awarded through Tuscarawas Senior Center where her project is included in theirs. Harrison & Carroll County are by local match and through 5310 Grant with ODOT to serve those that are seniors and disabled. She follows their policy and guidelines etc. as well as financially.
 - Presented Carroll County’s Unmet Needs CY2023 and survey data that the committee discussed and agreed as follows. Regarding driver shortage, Mrs. Trbovich was concerned on the volunteers because they would need to go through all the background checks, physical, drug and alcohol tests. Ms. Cunningham advised of the high demand for a travel companion (personal care assistance) not necessarily to help them in the restroom, but help assist in and out of vehicle and into building and help with checking out at doctor’s office. Coshocton County is working with COAD as a pilot where she could look into how they are doing it etc. Committee agreed. Mrs. Myers suggested to keep in mind of maybe utilizing a travel companion through the Bridges to Wellness program that the Health Department is doing through a grant. Ms. Cunningham advised in the Mobility Grant, there is a health navigator that was approved through ODOT for a Non-English-speaking person. It was much needed in Tusc Co for those individuals that do not speak English. They will be having resources starting in 2023. Vehicle shortage was agreed to stay on the list with concerns of most rides going out of Carroll County. Extended service was agreed upon where ODOT really need to see the denials more thoroughly which would speak volume. Committee agreed on continuing education and public knowledge since it is always needed. Funding sources for county residents that are unable to pay for transportation was also agreed to be a concern. Ms. Cunningham mentioned that United Way has helped Tusc Co and maybe Stark Co could help Carroll Co out of their 211 program which she will reach out to them. Mrs. Lewis added there used to be a person from 211 that came down to the DJFS building, once a week, but has stopped coming. There are connections in Stark Co, but not someone that is in Carroll County all the time. Ms. Cunningham is going to reach out to United Way and 211 for further information. She would like to set up a meeting with Caring Hands to help expedite the application process so it is not a long process in case of emergencies for transportation. Mrs. Myers agreed to help facilitate a meeting. Discussion was presented in concerns with

scheduling surgeries where we don't have a time until the day before. Ms. Cunningham advised she will reach out to the surgery schedulers/medical world to see what she can do with those that are using public transportation to educate them on the need to know the time of the surgery a lot sooner while scheduling or checking out. Mrs. Myers asked if we could get a letter since there are so many times dealing with that issue that leads to more wait time charges. Education to the doctor's office would help so much. Mrs. Myers suggested a form of some kind to go to the riders on what is needed every time they call and schedule their appointments. Ms. Cunningham advised as her being a Mobility Manager is willing to educate with seniors/clients on same.

- Also, she would be willing to educate with the seniors or other clients regarding their appointments A list of updated goals and strategies that the committee agreed upon is attached.
- Mrs. Myers questioned approximately how many trips are senior trips. Mrs. Trbovich replied that first quarter of 2022, CCCOA Contract had 346 trips and CCJFS NET had 360 trips. The following is a breakdown for the year of 2022 including the rider and their aide, if needed.

DEPARTMENT	Elderly/Handicap	Ambulatory	Total Trips
Arbors At Minerva	133	69	202
Carroll Co JFS	1,147	2,644	3,791
CCCOA	4,101	111	4,212
CEVSD	0	140	140
Ohioans of Disabilities	12	3	15
Tuscarawas Co JFS	6	0	6
Senior Suites	14	5	19
COVID RCI	362	12	374
General Public	3,342	8,507	11,849
Probate/Juvenile	0	19	19
Bridges to Wellness	0	10	10
Carroll Healthcare	54	34	88
Veterans	389	34	423
Non-Medical Transportation	1,191	126	1,317

- Mrs. Myers spoke about her monies received from Council on Aging has decreased so she has to use her levy monies which is what it is for. Ms. Cunningham suggested her to contact ODOT because she may be able to utilize the 5310 grant monies for CY2024, depending on her projects.
- Mrs. Myers mentioned that she has not had to limit the number of trips for anyone since she has been working with CCCOA. Mrs. Trbovich added that before Mrs. Myers was the Director, seniors were only allowed 3 rides per month. Mrs. Myers suggested that Transit tracks their denials; not that Transit is doing anything wrong, but would be worth looking into.
- 2023 Contracts remain the same at \$1.75/mile. First of December, ODOT will be having a cost allocation training where they want all Transits to use the fully allocated costs.
- 2023 Meeting dates and times
 - Wednesday, January 25, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.
 - Wednesday, April 26, 2023 a.m. @ 9:30 a.m.
 - Wednesday, July 26, 2023 a.m. @ 9:30 a.m.
 - Wednesday, October 25, 2023 a.m. @ 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mrs. Lewis to approve 2023 meeting dates and times, all in favor, motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

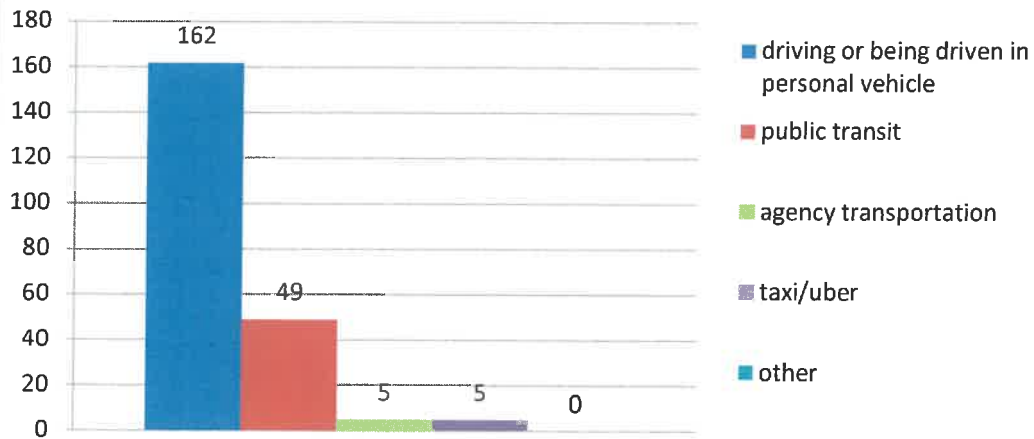
Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Tope stated that he is new to everything presented at the TAC meetings, but expressed how all the seniors should be very proud of what everyone does for Carroll County. He is very proud and glad to be a part.

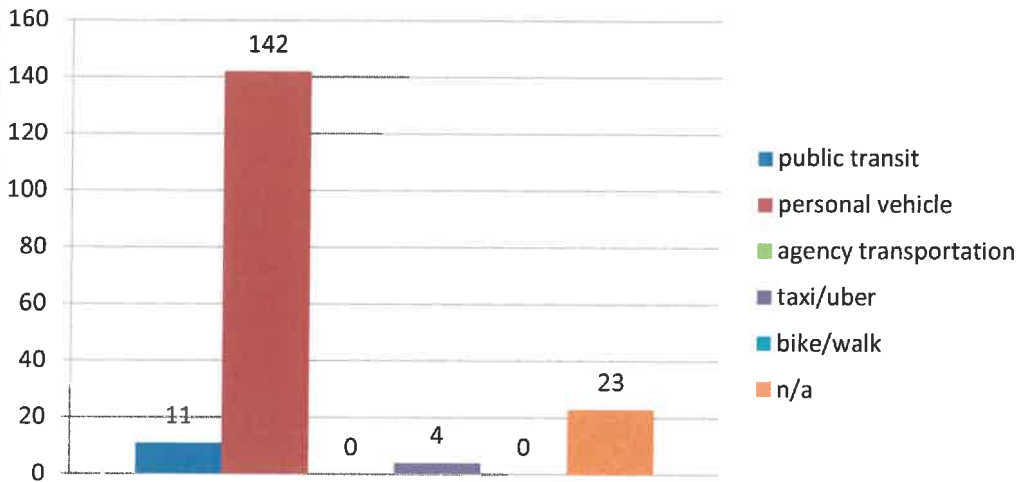
Motion was made by Mrs. Myers, seconded by Mrs. Trbovich to adjourn @ 10:50 a.m., all in favor, motion carried.

Minutes by: *Victoria (Vicky) S. Peoples*

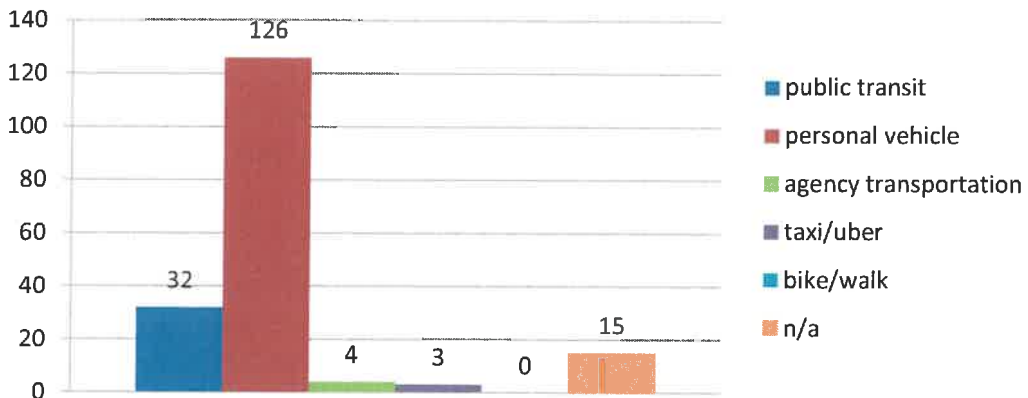
What type of transportation do you use in a typical year

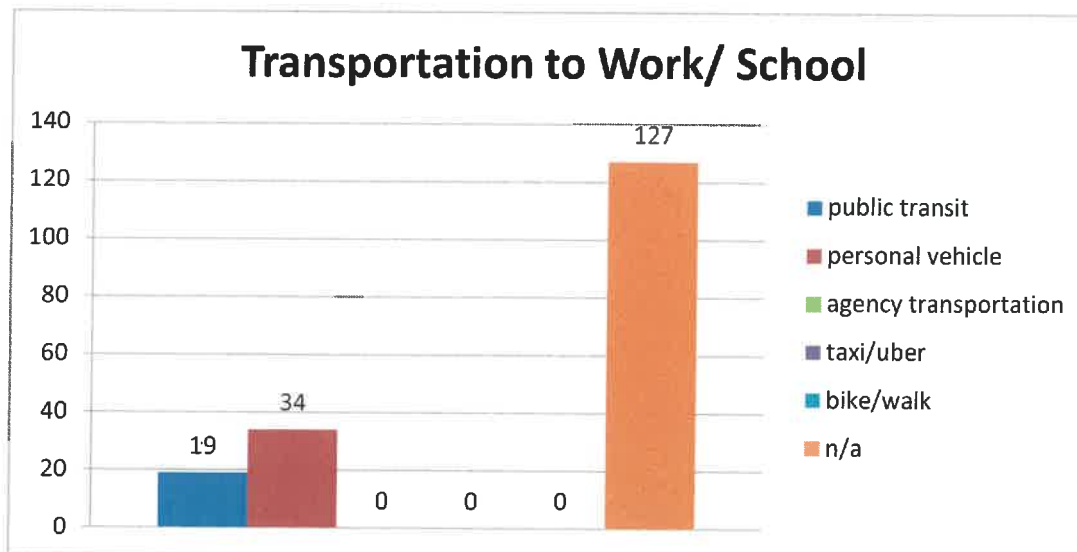
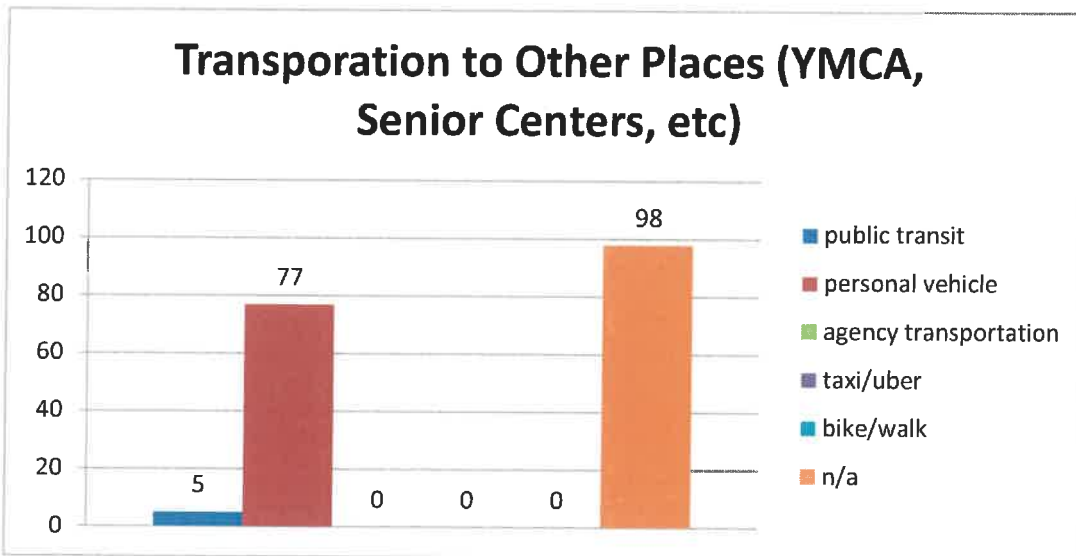
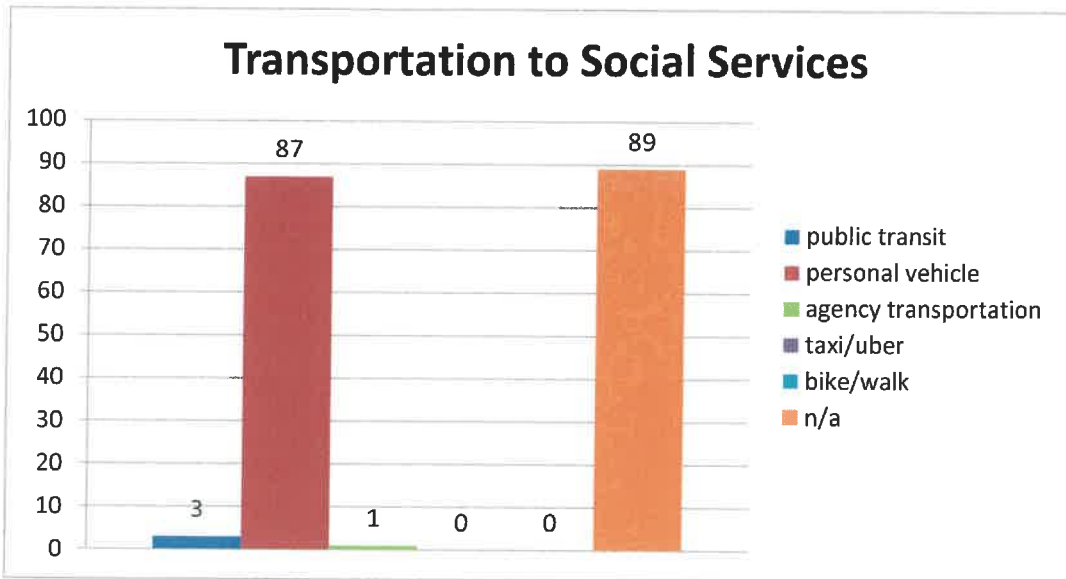


Transportation to grocery/shopping



Transportation to medical appointments

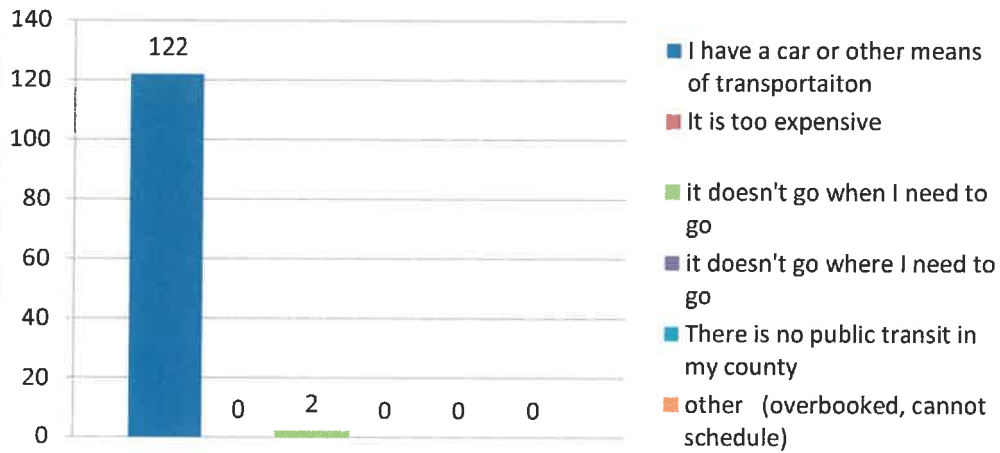




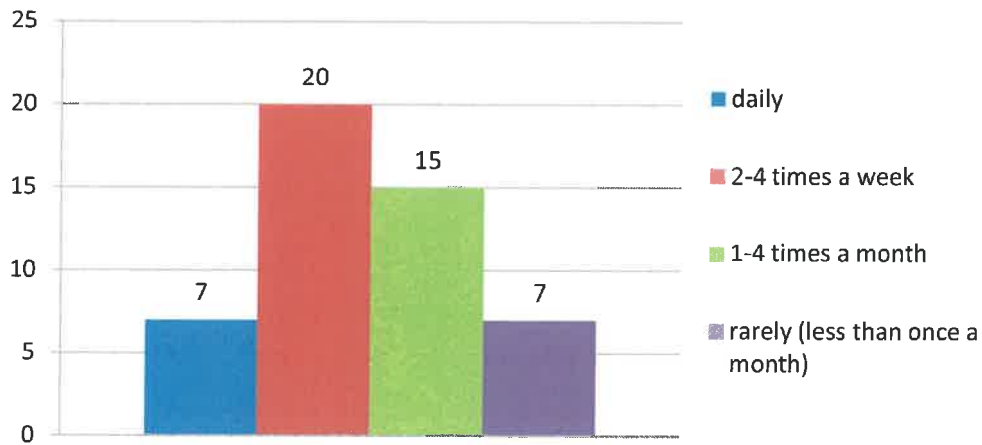
Are you aware of public or senior transportation in your county



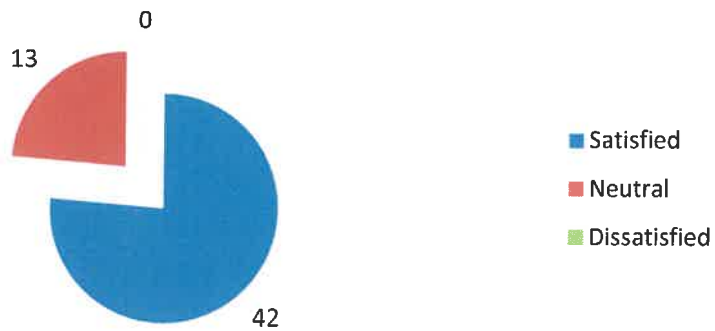
If you DO NOT use public transit, why



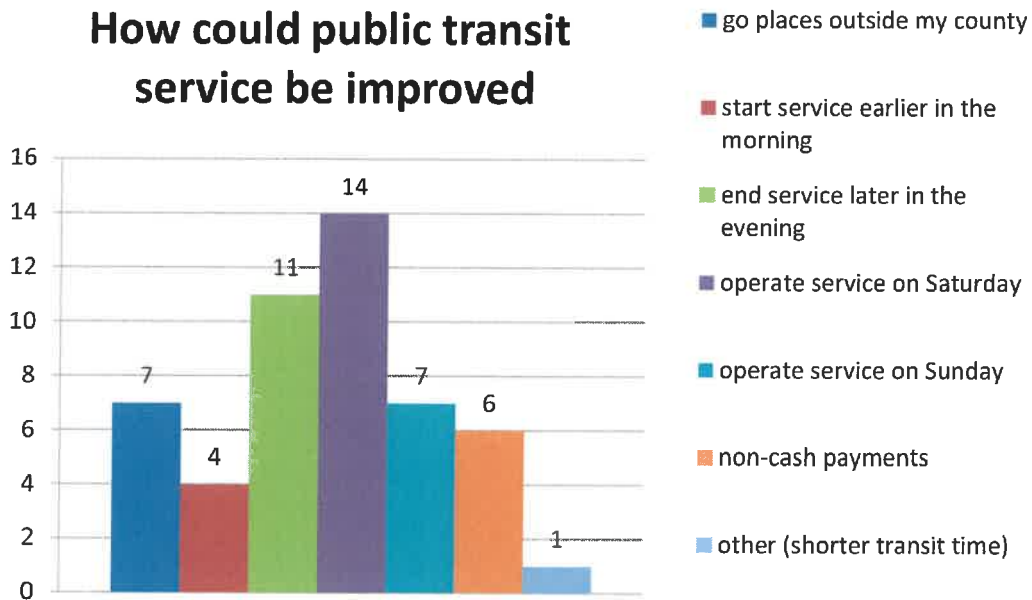
how often do you ride public transit



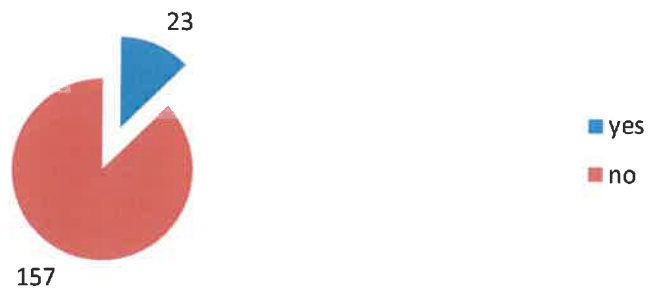
How satisfied are you with the service

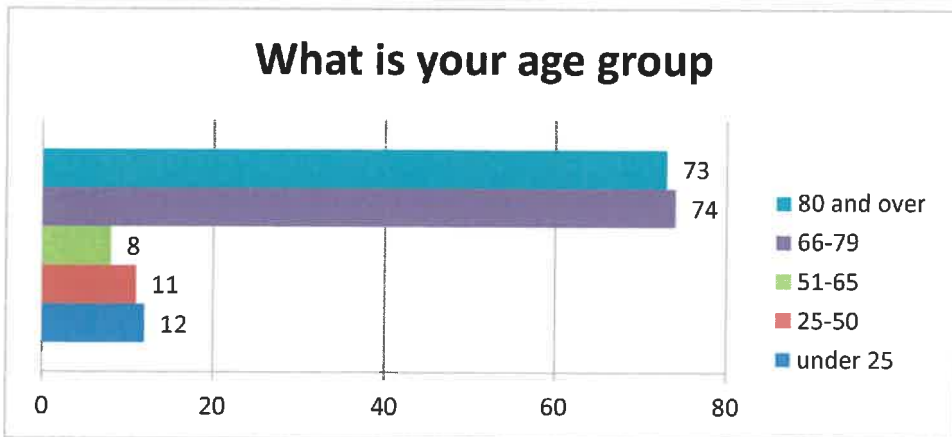
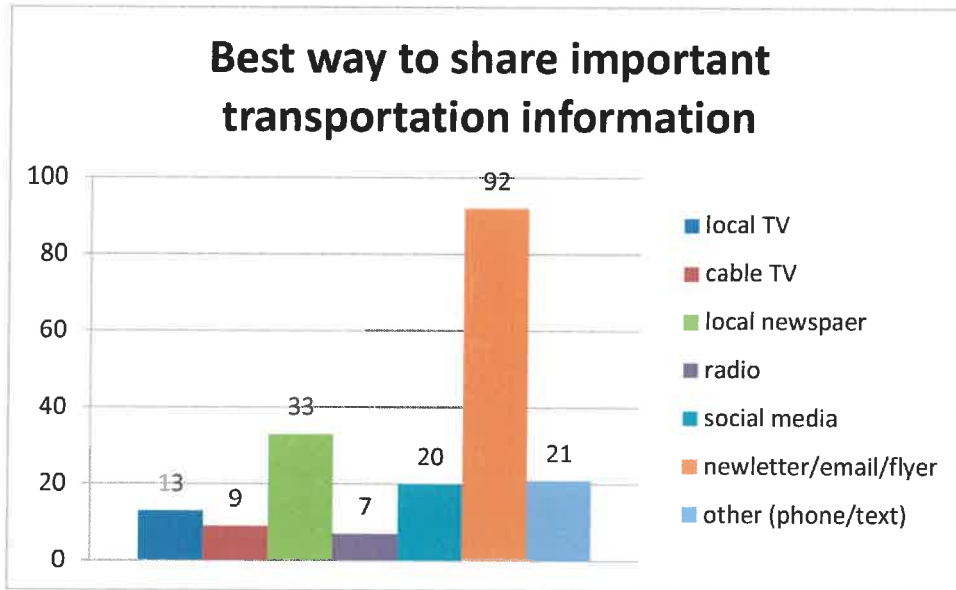
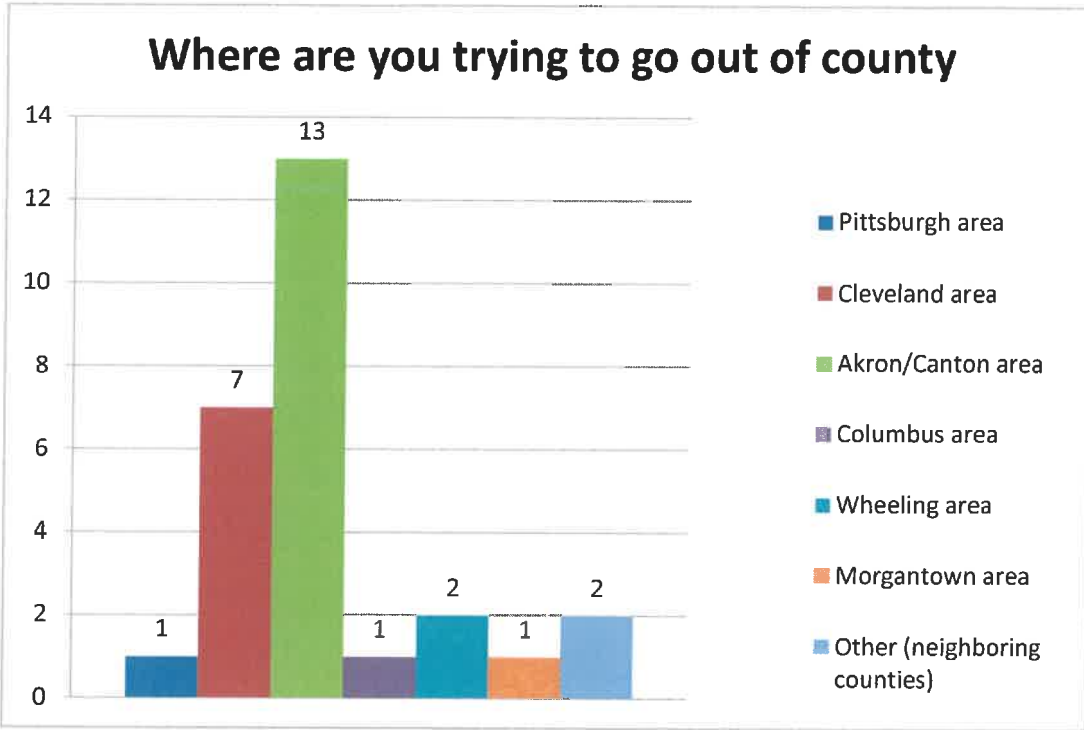


How could public transit service be improved

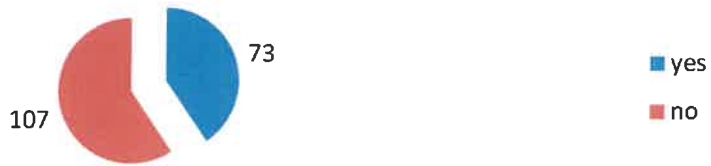


Have you, or family member needed transportation outside of your county

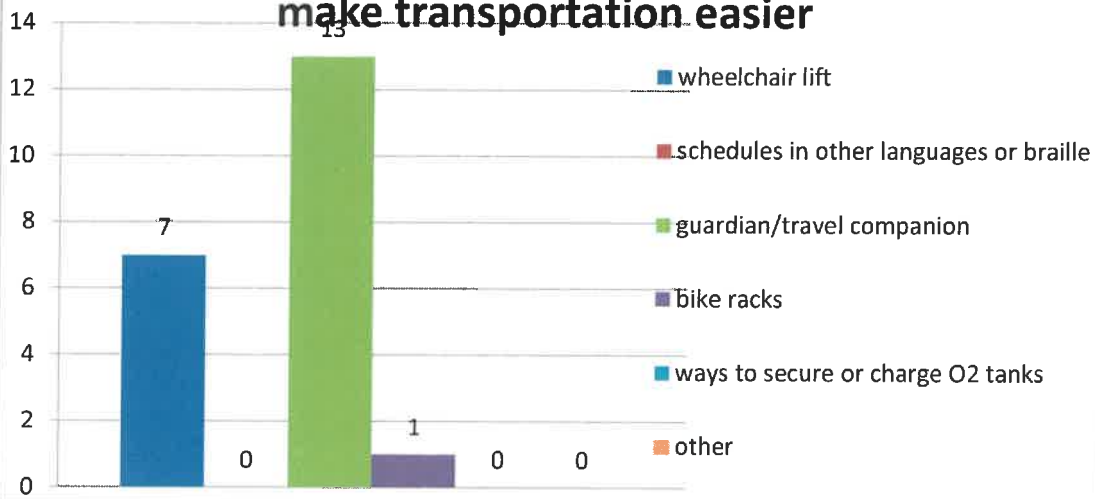




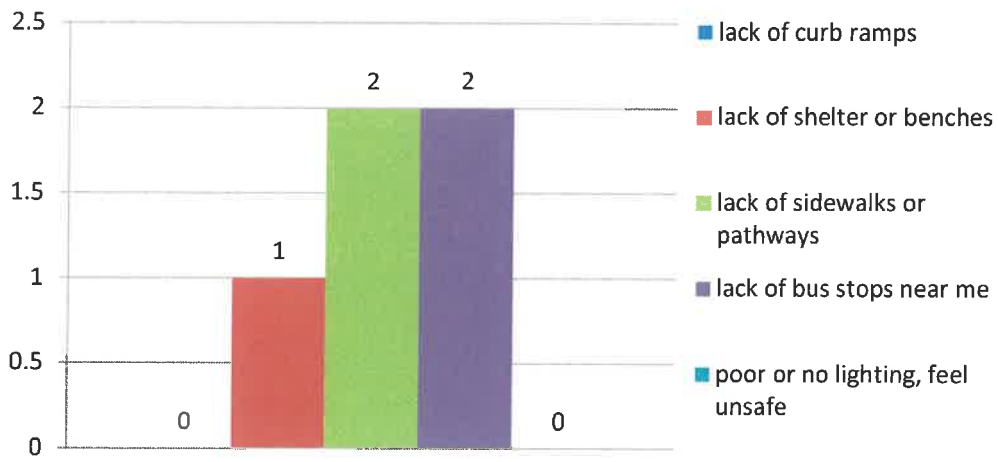
Do you use a mobility device



What additional accommodation would make transportation easier



Do you have any transportation issues reaching transit services



What types of Transportation do you use in a typical year

driving or being driven in personal vehicle	162
public transit	49
agency transportation	5
taxi/uber	5
other	0

How do you usually get to the following:

Grocery/Shopping

public transit	11
personal vehicle	142
agency transportation	0
taxi/uber	4
bike/walk	0
n/a	23

Medical Appointments

public transit	32
personal vehicle	126
agency transportation	4
taxi/uber	3
bike/walk	0
n/a	15

Social Services

public transit	3
personal vehicle	87
agency transportation	1
taxi/uber	0
bike/walk	0
n/a	89

Other Places (YMCA, Senior Services, etc)

public transit	5
personal vehicle	77
agency transportation	0
taxi/uber	0
bike/walk	0
n/a	98

Work/School

public transit	19
personal vehicle	34
agency transportation	0
taxi/uber	0
bike/walk	0
n/a	127

Are you aware of public or senior transportation in your county

yes, I currently use it	55
yes, but I do not use it	115
no	2
I am not sure	7

If you DO NOT use public transit, what is the main reason

I have a car or other means of transportaiton	122
It is too expensive	0
it doesn't go when I need to go	2
it doesn't go where I need to go	0
There is no public transit in my county	0
other (overbooked, cannot schedule)	0

How ofter do you ride public transit

daily	7
2-4 times a week	20
1-4 times a month	15
rarely (less than once a month)	7

How satisfied are you with the service

Satisfied	42
Neutral	13
Dissatisfied	0

How could public transit service be improved

go places outside my county	7
start service earlier in the morning	4
end service later in the evening	11
operate service on Saturday	14
operate service on Sunday	7
non-cash payments	6
other (shorter transit time)	1

Have you needed transportation outside of your county

yes	23
no	157

Where are you trying to go out of county

Pittsburgh area	1
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2022 Carroll County survey data

Cleveland area	7
Akron/Canton area	13
Columbus area	1
Wheeling area	2
Morgantown area	1
Other (neighboring counties)	2

Best way to share important transportation information

local TV	13
cable TV	9
local newspaper	33
radio	7
social media	20
newsletter/email/flyer	92
other (phone/text)	21

What is your age group

under 25	12
25-50	11
51-65	8
66-79	74
80 and over	73

Do you use a mobility device

yes	73
no	107

what additional accommodation would make it easier to access transportation

wheelchair lift	7
schedules in other languages or braille	0
guardian/travel companion	13
bike racks	1
ways to secure or charge O2 tanks	0
other	0

Do you have any transportation issues reaching transit services

lack of curb ramps	0
lack of shelter or benches	1
lack of sidewalks or pathways	2
lack of bus stops near me	2
poor or no lighting, feel unsafe	0

Carroll County's Unmet Needs CY2023

Carroll County participated in quarterly transportation advisory committee meetings and a region wide survey to identify needs and gaps in service. Regional needs surveys were available in print, online link and QR codes. Surveys were disseminated to county residents receiving Meals on Wheels and distributed by the transit provider. A revised list of Carroll County's Unmet Needs was formally presented to The Carroll County Transportation Advisory Committee which includes members from the Senior Center, Board of DD, JFS and local school special services, nursing homes and senior community member. On November 9, 2022 the revised unmet needs were adopted during the meeting by vote of the Transportation Advisory Committee. Below is a list of those unmet needs.

#_1 Driver shortage

#_2 Vehicle shortage

#_3 Education and public knowledge of local transportation options

#_4 Funding sources for county residents unable to pay for transportation services and do not qualify for other available assistance

#_5 Extended Services

#_6 Travel Companion

Carroll County's Goals and Strategies CY2023

The revision of Carroll County's goals and strategies began during TAC meeting discussions. The goals and strategies from CY2022 were reviewed. Considerations of CY2023 goals and strategies were derived from requests verbalized throughout the community and needs with the stakeholders' organizations. The below goals and strategies are a compilation of survey data, community, stakeholders and transportation provider's input. An open discussion and vote took place on November 9, 2022 during the Carroll County TAC meeting.

#_1__ Maintain and increase current transportation services and options

- a. Create or find sustainable solutions to attract new and retain current drivers during this driver shortage issue.
- b. Advocate for and support inventive ways for cost effective vehicle replacement/maintenance plan
- c. Expansion of affordable and cost effective ways to have Extended Hours

#_2__ Increase education and public knowledge of local transportation service options

- a. Continue to increase marketing and advertising of transportation services and options
- b. Maintain and expand community outreach through networking with local stakeholders, agencies and organizations
- c. Continued collaboration with Mobility Management program

#_3__ Increase access and inclusivity in transportation services and options

- a. Create and/or support resources for funding for county residents unable to pay for transportation and do not qualify for other available resources.
- b. Maintain and expand involvement with Caring Hands
- c. Support or create a travel companion program

CY2022 Carroll County update:

Carroll County continues collaboration with Mobility Management, Transportation Provider, Senior Center, stakeholders, agencies and organizations throughout the county. Mobility Management ran an advertisement in the Carrollton Free Press to help increase knowledge of Mobility services. Mobility Management has been visible at the Senior Center participating in multiple activities. Carroll County Public Transit has been able to return to their normal business hours back in February of this year. Mobility Management has completed Leadership Tusc and The Vonovich Academy, Leading in Appalachia leadership programs and will continue to be boots on the ground within the Carroll County community as an advocate to educate community on transportation services.