#### Three Different Mobility Challenges and Three Different Potential Solutions

David Kack, Director Small Urban, Rural and Tribal Center on Mobility

#### WTI Team Karalyn Clouser, Laura Fay, Rebecca Gleason & Natalie Villwock-Witte



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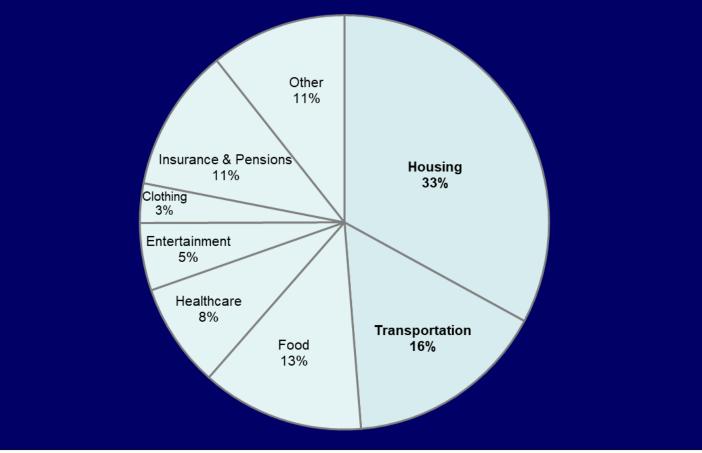
#### Thanks To:

- National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation
   -Carrie Kissel
- United States Department of Agriculture



#### **Cost of Mobility**





Source: 2017 Consumer Expenditures. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor Note: In 1917 transportation was 2% of the budget, or the 6<sup>th</sup> highest expense



#### Cost of Mobility Annual Cost to Own & Operate a Car

Annual Mileage	Small Sedan	Medium Sedan	Large Sedan	Small SUV	Medium SUV	Minivan	Pickup	Avg.
10,000	\$5,775	\$7,720	\$8,428	\$6,664	\$8,229	\$8,370	\$8,563	\$7,678
15,000	\$6,777	\$8,866	\$9,804	\$7,869	\$9,697	\$9,677	\$10,215	\$8,986
20,000	\$7,810	\$10,043	\$11,219	\$9,115	\$11,219	\$11,022	\$11,930	\$10,337

Note: Based on 250 working days, 10,000 miles equals 40 miles per day

15,000 miles equals 50 miles per day

Source: AAA Your Driving Costs 2018 Edition



#### Are You A One Percenter?

# $\frac{1/24}{X} = 4.2\%$ X 25% = 1.05%



#### **Three Areas/Communities**

- Cortez & Durango, Colorado

   Intercity/Commuter Mobility
- Lebanon, Missouri

   Community Transit Implementation
- Jasper, Texas
  - Basic Mobility in Five Counties



# Southwest Colorado Council of Governments – Cortez & Durango



Note: Cortez and Durango are approximately 45 miles apart

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### **Project Goals**

Evaluate the potential for a Regional Intercity Bus Service between Cortez and Durango.

- Determine the potential route (stop locations, etc.)
- Operational aspects of the route (timing, number of runs, etc.)
- How the route/service could/should be funded



### **Population Info**

•	· ·	0					
	Age Group						
County	Less	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-59	60+	2016
Largest City	than 15						TOTAL
							Population
Archuleta	1,815	594	831	1,018	4,065	4,032	12,355
Pagosa Springs	361	71	82	404	538	510	1,966
Dolores	328	42	83	213	530	593	1,789
Dove Creek	145	21	50	64	173	187	640
La Plata	8,762	3,835	3,537	7,464	18,433	11,963	53,994
Durango	2,388	1,756	2,095	3,427	5,541	2,700	17,817
Montezuma	4,871	1,533	1,396	2,736	8,334	7,136	26,006
Cortez	1,782	546	554	1,064	2,690	2,047	8,683
San Juan	47	12	36	95	213	149	552
Silverton	41	9	32	91	199	121	493
SWCCOG Totals	15,823	6,016	5,883	11,526	31,575	23,873	94,696

Notes: Achuleta and Dolores counties have nearly 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of their population over the age of 60. La Plata county is the only county of the five with its population of residents aged 60 or older under 25%.



### **Route/Service in Previous Plans**

- 2015 Regional Public Transit Feasibility Report
- 2015 Statewide Transit Plan
- 2014 Colorado Intercity and Regional Bus Network Plan
- 2014 Southwest Transportation Planning Region Regional Coordinated Transit & Human Services Plan
- 2012 Southwest Regional Transportation Coordinating Council Action Plan
- 2009 Regional Transit Feasibility Study
- 2008 Colorado Statewide Intercity and Regional Bus Network Study
- 2008 Southwest Local Transit and Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan
- 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (published in 2008)



# **Existing Services**

- Southern Colorado Community Action Agency (SOCOCAA)
  - Bustang Outrider (daily service, dept.
     Durango at 9:40 am, arrive Cortez at 7:27 am; dept. Cortez at 6:20 pm, arrive Durango at 7:10 pm).
- Durango Transit
  - "in city" transportation

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Montezuma County Public Transportation

 Demand response service, with trips to Durango for medical appointments only



#### **Proposed Service**

Stop				
Cortez-Montezuma County Annex Building	7:00 am	10:00 am	1:00 pm	4:00 pm
Cortez-Walmart	7:10 am	10:10 am	1:10 pm	4:10 pm
Southwest Colorado Community College	7:25 am	10:25 am	1:25 pm	4:25 pm
Mancos	7:40 am	10:40 am	1:40 pm	4:40 pm
Durango West	8:00 am	11:00 am	2:00 pm	5:00 pm
Durango Transit Center	8:10 am	11:10 am	2:10 pm	5:10 pm
Mercy Regional Medical Center	8:25 am	11:25 am	2:25 pm	5:25 pm
Mercy Regional Medical Center	8:30 am	11:30 am	2:30 pm	5:30 pm
Durango Transit Center	8:45 am	11:45 am	2:45 pm	5:45 pm
Durango West	8:55 am	11:55 am	2:55 pm	5:55 pm
Mancos	9:05 am	12:05 pm	3:05 pm	6:05 pm
Southwest Colorado Community College	9:20 am	12:20 pm	3:20 pm	6:20 pm
Cortez-Walmart	9:35 am	12:35 pm	3:35 pm	6:35 pm
Cortez-Montezuma County Annex Building	9:45 am	12:45 pm	3:45 pm	6:45 pm

Note: Given the distance between the communities, it may be necessary to operate two buses in the opposite direction for timing purposes.



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### Costs/Funding

255 service days\*12 hours per day\* \$70 per hour = \$214,000 per year.

CDOT offered two years of FASTER (state) funding at 20% local match, and then revert to regular ratio of 50/50 match. Therefore, first two years would require \$42,800 per year of local funding.



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# **Changing Conditions**

- Durango Transit going from over \$1 million per year in Section 5311 funding to \$415,000 per year (over six years).
- Montezuma County Public Transit going from \$66,000 per year to \$157,000 per year in Section 5311 funding.
- Rebranding of intercity service from Road Runner to Bustang Outrider.



## Moving Ahead

- "Plans are worthless, but planning is everything" President/General Eisenhower
- I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do. Leonardo Da Vinci



#### **Questions**?



#### **BUSTANG OUTRIDER** NEW BUSES, RELIABLE SCHEDULES, **CONVENIENT SERVICE**





#### Western Transportation Institute



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#### Lebanon, MO Rural Public Transportation Feasibility Study:







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A report prepared for the

- Lake of the Ozarks Council of Local Governments (LOCLG)
- City of Lebanon, Missouri
- \* United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)

December, 2018







#### Lebanon, Missouri Transit Feasibility Study

#### Lake of the Ozarks Council of Governments

#### Where to Start: No Simple Formula

Imagine a transit/public transportation system in Lebanon...

What does that look like? Who does it serve?



#### Mobility: A Means To An End





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#### Scope of Work

- Collect & analyze data & information
- Provide examples of public transportation in other communities
- Provide a "decision tree"



# **Defining Terms**

- Feasibility "capable of being done or carried out"
- Need "a strong feeling that you must have or do something"
- Necessary "so important that you must do it or have it"

Source: Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary



### **Transportation/Mobility Options**

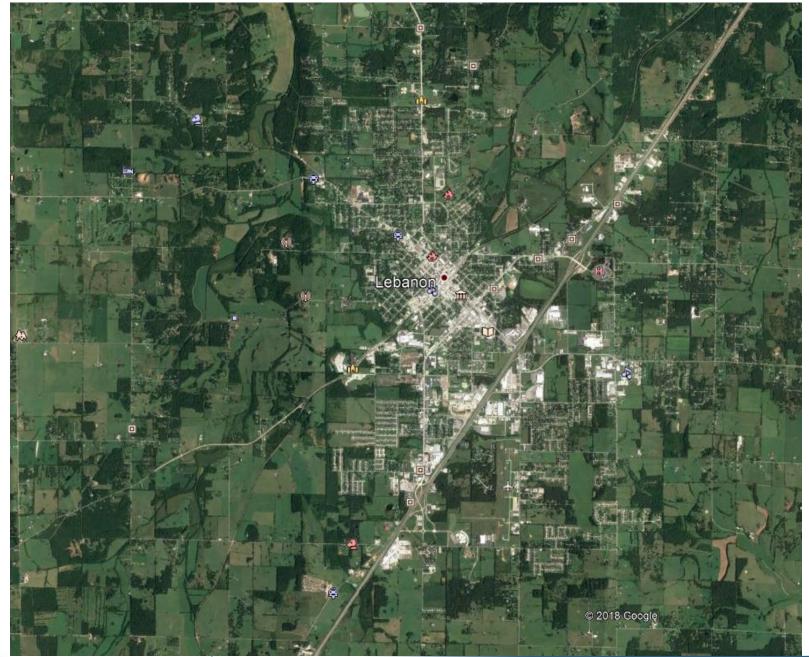
- Demand Response
- Fixed Route
- Van Pool
- Volunteer Driver Programs





In 2016, the population in Lebanon was estimated to be 14,652 people

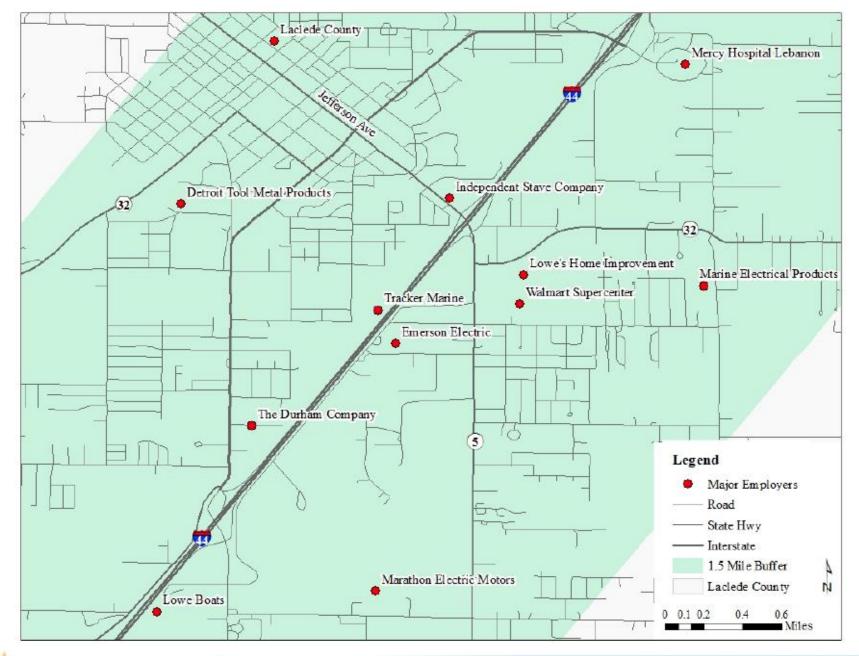






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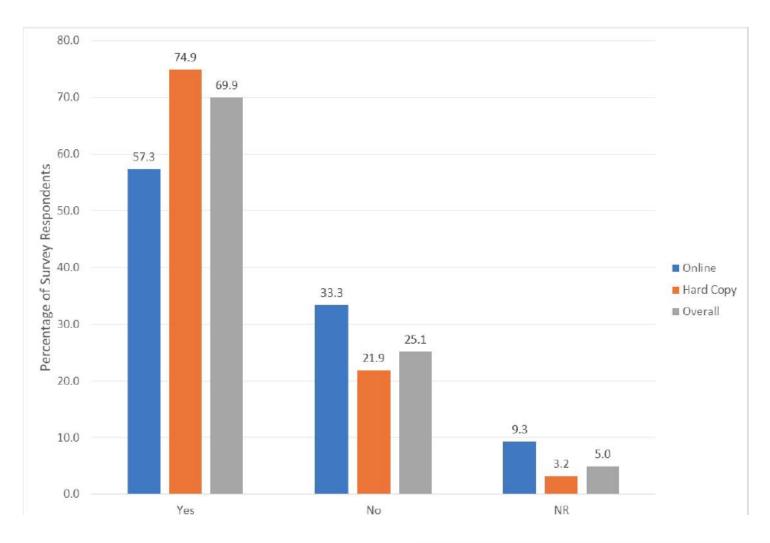


#### Review of other transit systems in Missouri

City	Population	County	Population
Lebanon	14,709	Cape Girardeau	78,913
Bloomfield	2,020	Dunklin	30,535
Carthage	14,309	Franklin	102,838
Clinton	8,844	Mississippi	13,799
Columbia	120,612	Ripley	13,817
El Dorado Springs	3,577	Scott	38,745
Houston	2,093		
Lamar	4,420		
Mount Vernon	4,553		
Nevada	8,224		
New Madrid	3,005		
St. Joseph	76,472		
West Plains	12,320		



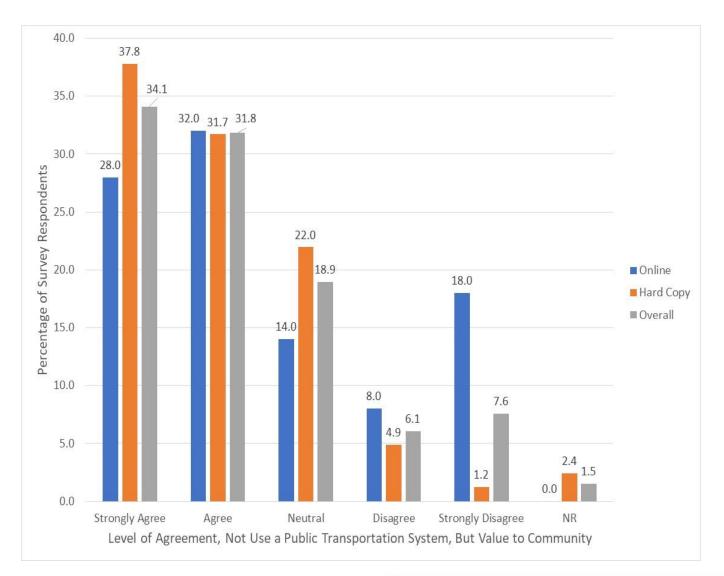
# Would you or someone in your household use a public transportation system if one were available in your community?





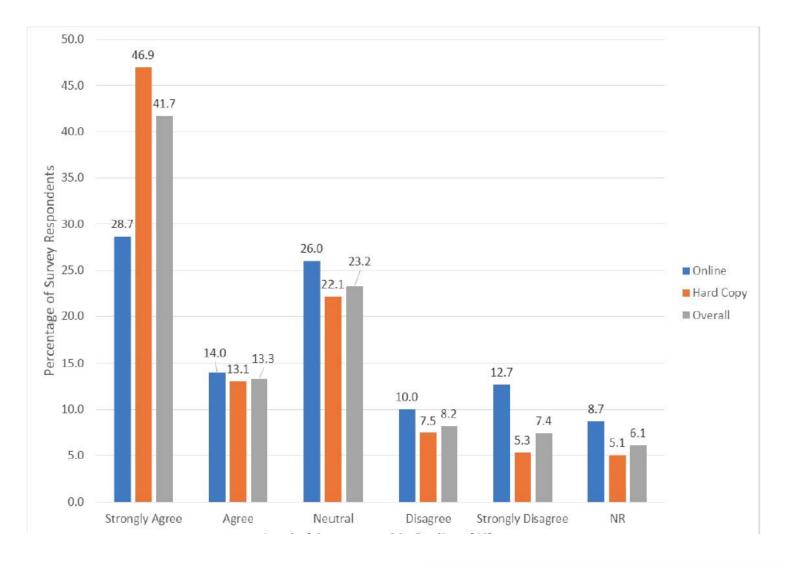
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#### Won't use transit, but see value to the community





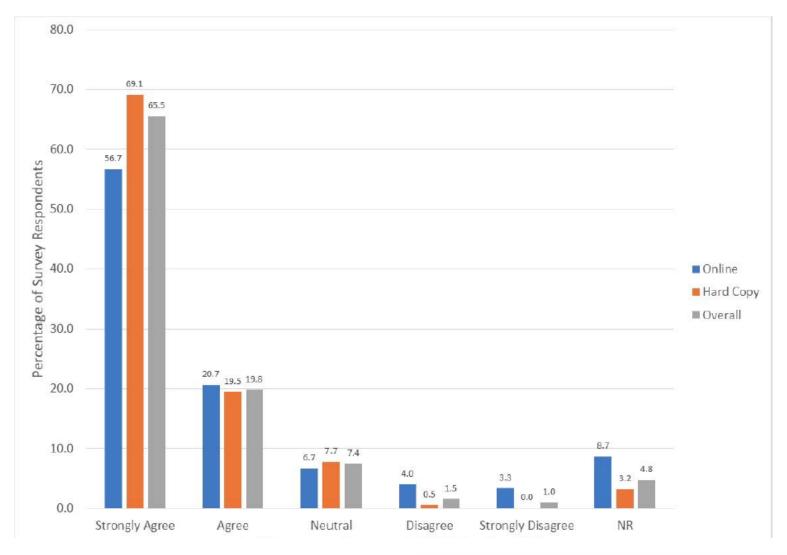
#### Would transit improve your quality of life?





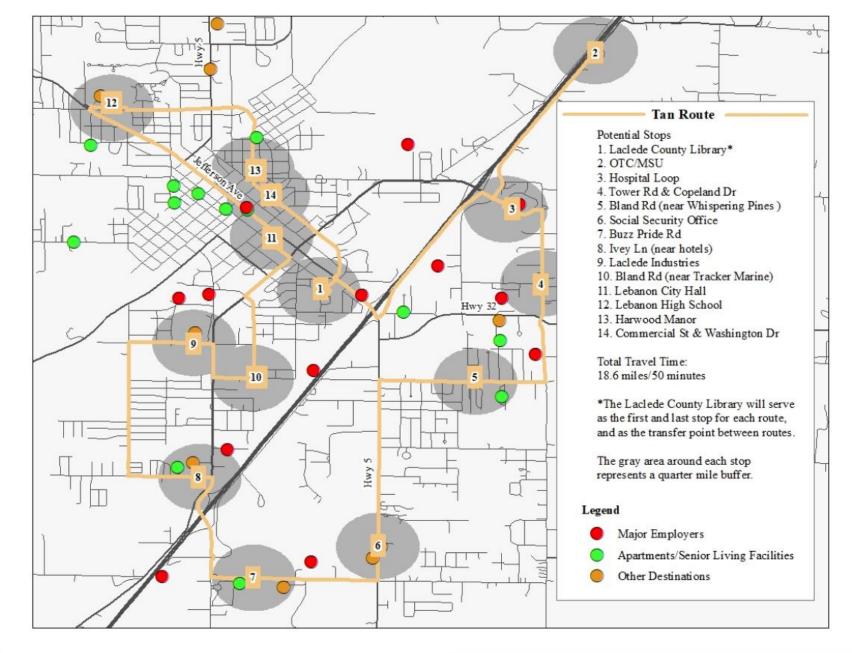
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#### Would transit improve the quality of life for others?

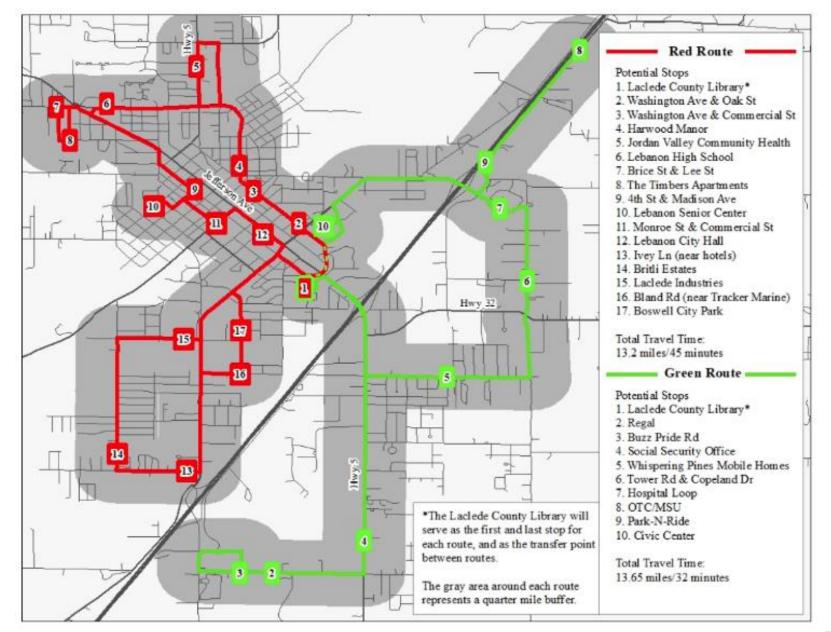




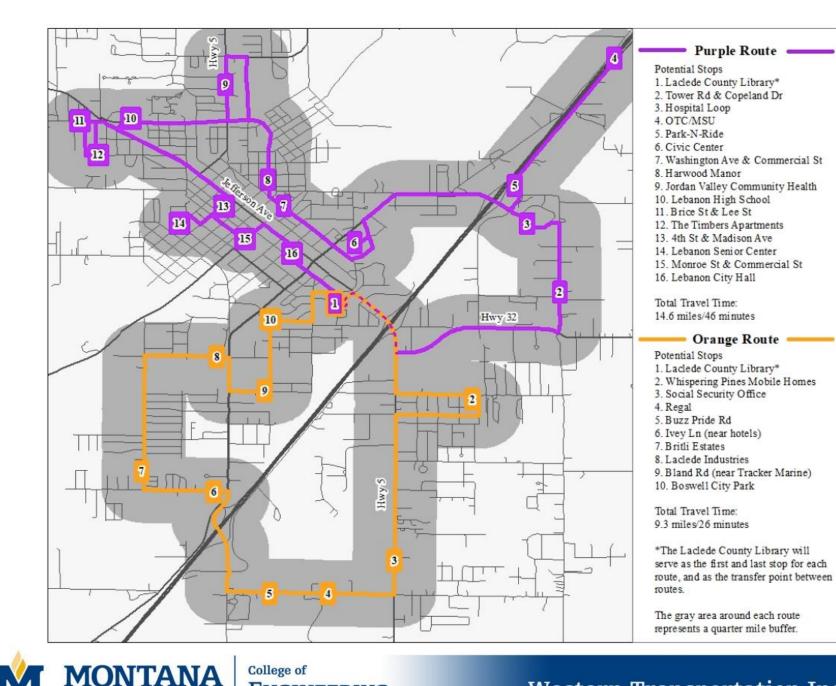
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#### **Next Steps**

1. Ask the MoDOT Transit Section to review the report.

2. Meet with MoDOT Transit and MoDOT Planning together with the Lake of the Ozarks Council of Local Governments (LOCLG) to discuss opportunities to access FTA and any State funding.

3. Attend an MPTA Annual Conference.

4. Collaborate with employers and other key destinations (e.g. Mercy Hospital) on partnerships and understand their interest in partnering, and what resources they might offer.

5. Add a full-time position to oversee the public transportation system, if LEBANON decides to move forward with implementing one.

6. Consider forming a formal stakeholder committee if LEBANON decides to move forward.



#### **Questions?**











Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG)

TRANSPORTATION VOUCHER PROGRAM



Prepared by: Natalie Villwock-Witte, Laura Fay and David Kack Western Transportation Institute at Montana State University Prepared for: Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)



**Deep East Texas** Council of Governments (DETCOG) **Service Region** Transportation **Voucher Program** 

January, 2019



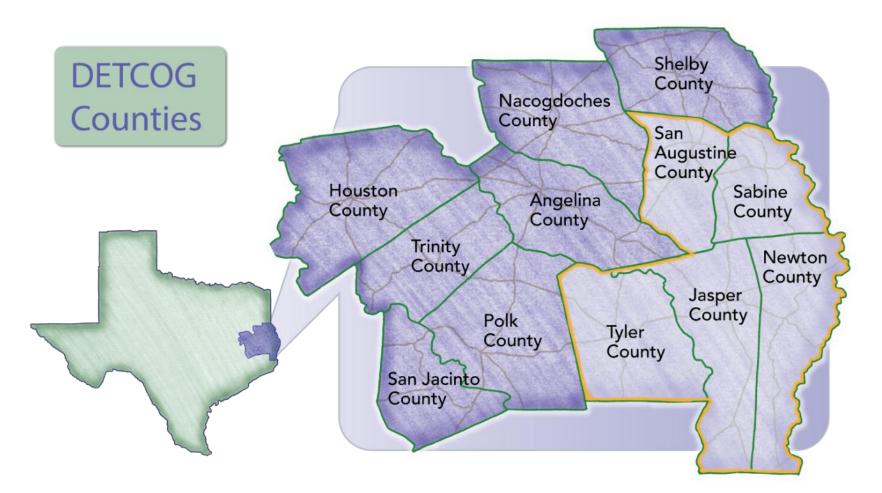
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## Why a Transportation Voucher Program for DETCOG?

- Medicaid transportation does not provide for access to groceries
- Social isolation can lead to depression
- Lack of healthy food choices can contribute to obesity and other illnesses



#### **Pilot Focus**





### Why These 5 Counties?

- Target populations have significant representation (Veterans, older Americans, people with disabilities)
- Smallest county populations
- 6% of DETCOG households do not have access to a vehicle (Jasper = 7.3%)
- Largest percentages of populations of people with disabilities (San Augustine = 20.4%)
- Average household incomes 25% below state average
- No existing public transportation options



## Transportation Voucher Program Details

- 60 years or older
- Maximum of \$150/month (\$1800/yr)
- Targeted 40 participants
- 5 county focus (Jasper, Newton, San Augustine, Sabine, Tyler)
- Trips can be used for:
  - Medical appointments, grocery stores, personal care appointments, bank, post office



#### **DETCOG** Trav

DETCOG Travel Vou	cher Program	Check No			
Rider's Name (print):		Date:			
Pay to the order of:		\$			
Trip Start Time:	Trip End Time:	Total Travel Time:			
Number of One-Way Rides:	Odometer Sta	art: Odometer End:			
Reason for Trip:					
MEDICAL-Doctor/P	harmacy Visit	SCHOOL/WORK CHURCH/RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES			
SHOPPING	Brookshire Bros	Walmart Other			

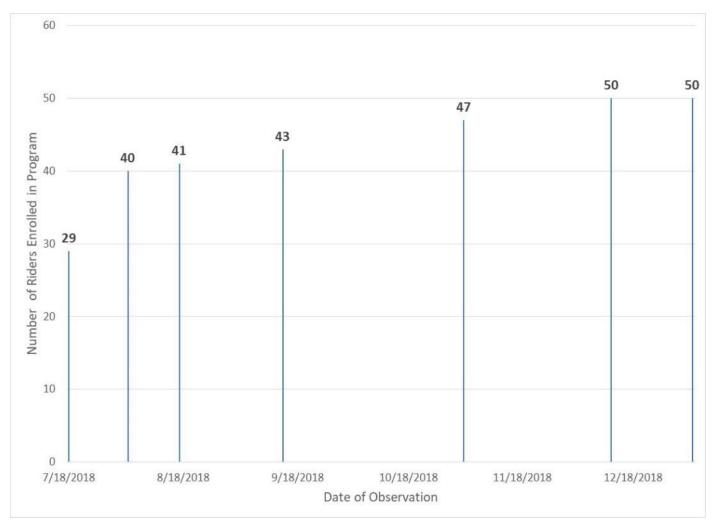
OTHER (Beauty/Barber Shop. Personal Business, Post Office, etc.)

PLEASE SIGN AND GIVE TO DRIVER: \_

**Rider's Signature** 



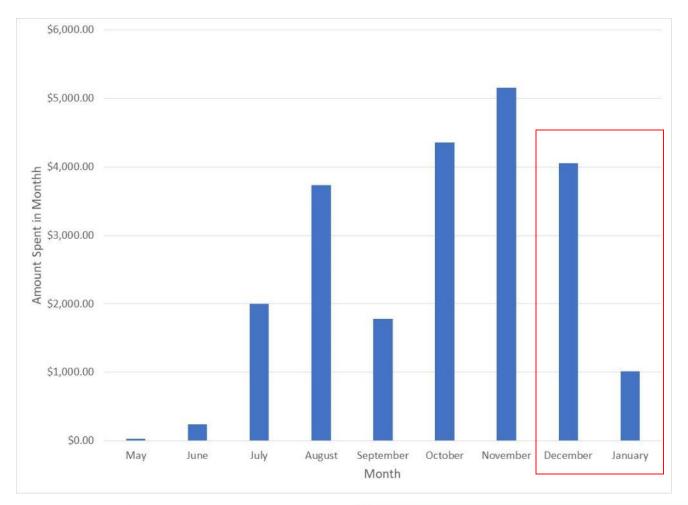
#### **Participants**





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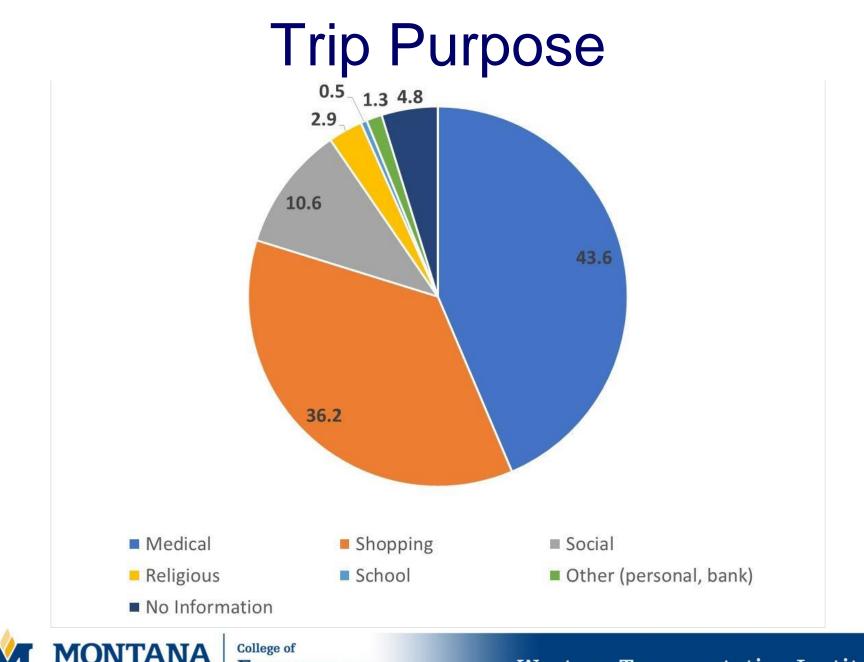
#### Cost by Month





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#### **Anecdotal Benefits**

- Allows DETCOG to identify other applicable programs for participants (e.g. SNAP)
- Allows participants to access other benefits



#### The Future

- Existing Program
  - Ensure sustainability
    - Diversifying funding sources
- Expand to Address Needs for Younger than 60 years of Age



#### Questions?

In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing.

--Theodore Roosevelt

