

Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan

TARCOG Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments



September 2017

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FY 2017 Update

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About TARCOG

Established by a local initiative in 1968, the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments (TARCOG) aims to identify and address common regional issues, opportunities, and challenges of Northeast Alabama’s municipalities and counties. TARCOG serves as Substate Planning District Twelve and the Area Agency on Aging. The governments of five northeast Alabama counties, DeKalb, Jackson, Limestone, Madison, and Marshall, and the municipalities located in these counties make up TARCOG. TARCOG helps local governments by obtaining funding for local government assistance, coordinating local governments’ responses to regional issues, and providing a wide range of services to the region’s governments and residents. This document was prepared and designed by the TARCOG Department of Planning and Economic Development.

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Chapter 1 The Planning Process for Human Services Coordination

Introduction
Purpose of the Plan
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Development Process

Introduction

The purpose of this Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan is to document the existing resources and current needs for the provision of transit services within the TARCOC region covering DeKalb, Jackson, Limestone, Madison, and Marshall Counties in northeast Alabama. Through agency coordination, the existing transportation system may be enhanced through the identification of unmet needs, service overlap, and leverage of resources. This plan describes the existing conditions in the five county region related to transportation services, discusses coordination of service and other alternatives for meeting needs into the future, identifies the barriers – both perceived and real – for successfully coordinating resources, and identifies areas of overlap and gaps to be addressed.

For many years public officials and residents have recognized the need for increased public transportation in the TARCOG region. Several studies have recognized and documented the significant unmet need for transit services. For some area residents, the need for public transportation service is a major concern, as it will enable them to travel from home to work, shopping, health care facilities, and other necessary services. For these residents, the public transportation system is their link to the community.

The rural character of much of the region makes transportation services crucial for those members of the area who are dependent upon forms of transportation other than the private automobile. The City of Huntsville acts as a regional hub for employment, shopping, health care, social services, and other services. Several agencies have been identified as providing transportation services in the region; however, many of these “providers” are not transportation providers in the typical sense. Many of the providers are social service agencies who provide some form of transportation to their clients, such as a medical trip in a personal automobile of a volunteer or vouchers for the local public transit. Public transportation providers such as Huntsville Shuttle, which provides transportation within City of Huntsville; Madison County TRAM, which provides service in the rural areas of the county; and Guntersville Public Transportation provide the greatest portion of the trips in the region. However, other agencies complete a significant number of trips as well. This Coordination Plan seeks to address ways these agencies can work together to address and meet the needs of underserved population and geographic gaps. It also proposes strategies and ways in which to address services more efficiently in areas of overlap.

Purpose of the Plan

Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan, assessing public transit services in the region, is maintained in accordance with The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). SAFETEA-LU required that a regional Coordinated Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan) be an element of the Metropolitan and State Transportation Plan. This plan must serve as a strategy to map a course for improving coordination between transportation systems and providers, as well as strengthening transportation services for those with special needs.

In mid-2012, Congress passed another reauthorization of the federal surface transportation act known as “MAP-21”. MAP-21 consolidated several of the special needs transportation programs identified under SAFETEA-LU. As a result of this funding program consolidation, the only freestanding FTA funding program dedicated to special needs population remains is the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program. MAP-21 retained the requirement for a Coordinated Transit-Human Services Plan and the subsequent Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act extended the coordinated plan requirement for the Section 5310 program. Under MAP-21, Section 5317 – New Freedom program is consolidated with Section 5310 to create the enhanced program. MAP-21 encourages continued inclusion of the low-income population in coordinated plans because this demographic is accounted for in Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grants and Section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Areas. According to federal legislation in SAFETEA-LU, MAP-21, and FAST Act, projects selected for funding under the 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program, the Job Access and Reverse Commute, and the New Freedom programs must be “derived from a locally developed Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan” and that 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.”

This update is part of a process undertaken by the Alabama Department of Transportation to involve regional councils within the state in the update of current Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plans across the State. This plan was last revised in 2015 and included new and prior stakeholders to evaluate updates, changes, and needs from the 2011 Public Transportation Human Services Coordinated Plan.

Contents of the Plan

This Coordinated Plan contains four components:

1. An assessment of transportation needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes including identification of population clusters with mapping and data assessment, and identification of barriers, unmet needs and relative priorities for implementation;
2. An assessment of available services that identifies current providers and purchasers including an inventory and evaluation;
3. An Assessment of identified gaps and needs in services including spatial and temporal gaps; and
4. Strategies and/or activities to address the identified gaps and achieve efficiencies in service delivery, relative priorities for implementation based on resources, time, and feasibility for implementing specific strategies/activities identified.

The four components listed above were developed through a combination of research, meetings, surveys, written recommendations, and discussions with human services agencies that have an interest in transportation, the clients and users of the transportation services, and with guidance from local and Federal transportation agencies such as Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. This plan update incorporates changes in transit services and demographics since 2015 update, as per ALDOT contract requirements.

Development Process

This Plan update began in Spring 2017 by TARCOG staff with evaluation of the last revision or 2015. A survey of transit service providers and purchasers was conducted in June 2017. TARCOG staff updated the demographic information and other known changes since 2015. Plan update was discussed with stakeholders at two different RPO meetings to gather input for the plan update. With the help of survey results and stakeholder input, TARCOG Staff updated the transit services in the five county region, and adjusted the strategies to address the gaps and needs in transit services in the region. A public hearing/ stakeholder meeting was also held in September 2017 to discuss draft update findings and make corrections based on stakeholder input for the final plan. Largely, the needs and gaps in transit services remain the same during this update.

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Chapter 2

County Demographic Need Assessments

County specific Summary including Geography, Transit Demographics and related Maps, Transit Needs and Service Barriers, and Strategies to Address Needs and Barriers

DeKalb County Summary
Jackson County Summary
Limestone County Summary
Madison County Summary
Marshall County Summary

This chapter is an assessment of transportation needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes and identification of barriers and unmet needs. The following is a brief summary of each county located within TARCOC Region in Northeast Alabama. Summaries include county specific assessment of Geography, Transit Demographics and related Maps, Transit Needs and Service Barriers, and Strategies to Address Needs and Barriers.

DeKalb County Summary

Geography

DeKalb County covers much of the Appalachian foothills section of northeast Alabama. To its north is Jackson County and to its east is Georgia. Its western border is shared with Marshall County and south of DeKalb are Cherokee and Etowah Counties. The county stretches from the northeast to the southwest and covers a total land area of 777.9 square miles. DeKalb resides on top of Sand Mountain and is split between a western region of elevated plateau and an eastern region of mountainous ridges and canyon features. Transportation networks are more uniform and consistent in the western region to Fort Payne and Interstate 59. East of these locations Lookout Mountain has fewer and less well-connected roadways. The county seat and principal population center is Fort Payne. No major bodies of water are found in DeKalb County, but the Little River Canyon area acts in a similar fashion to that of a major river in that it prevents east to west travel except in a few locations.

There are seventeen incorporated municipalities in DeKalb County. They are Collinsville, Crossville, Fort Payne, Fyffe, Geraldine, Hammondville, Henagar, Ider, Lakeview, Mentone, Pine Ridge, Powell, Rainsville, Sand Rock, Shiloh, Sylvania, and Valley Head. All but three of these municipalities are towns of less than 2,000 in population.

Transit Demographics

The total population for DeKalb County is 71,068 persons over 53 block groups, according to the U.S. Census American Community Survey 5 Year Estimate of 2015. It is a 1.05% increase in population from year 2000. Following is an overview of the four concentration groups for this plan – persons age 65 or older in year 2015, median household income in year 2015, persons with disabilities in year 2015, and households without a vehicle in year 2015. In this plan update the latest available data has been used to analyze current demographic conditions.

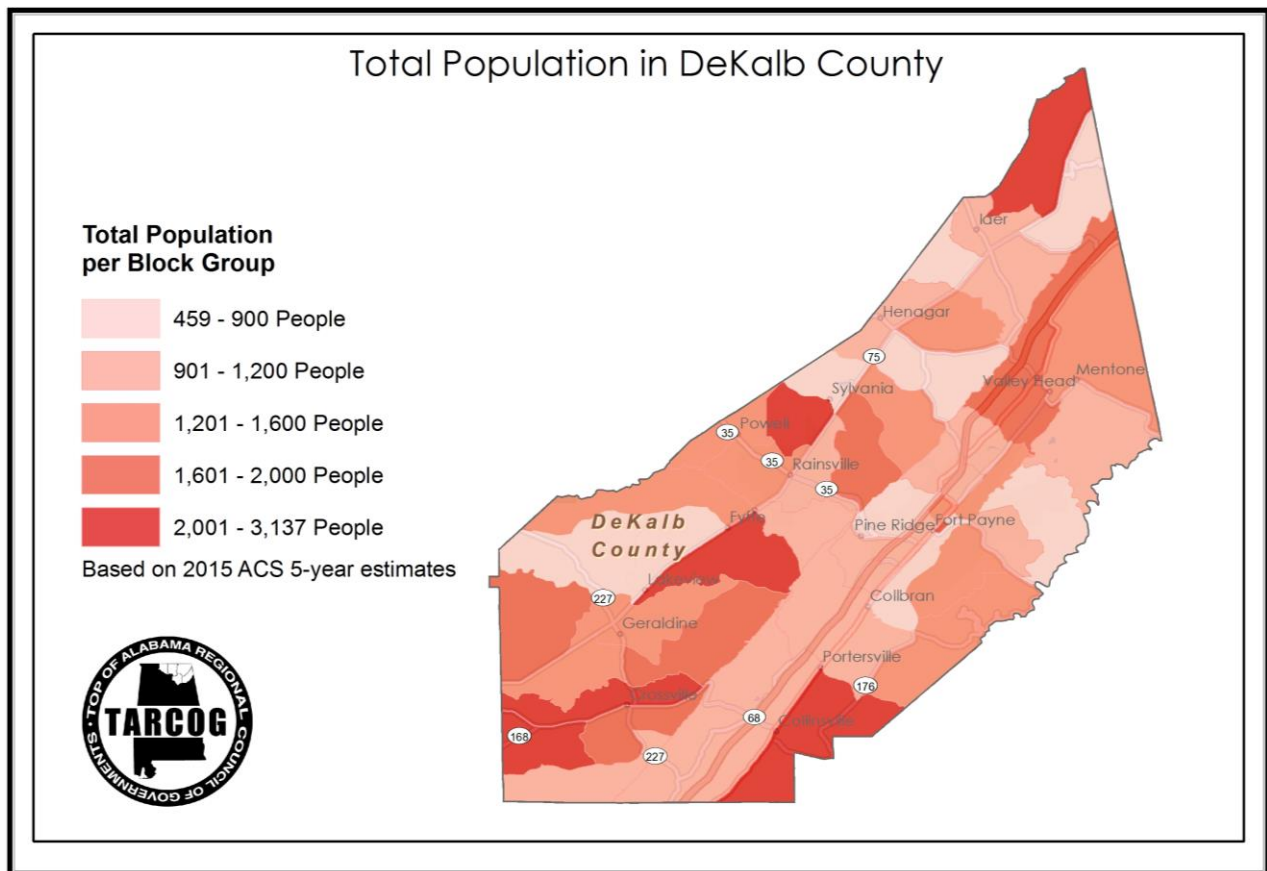
For persons age 65 or older, a significant group is located within the block groups encompassing the City of Fort Payne and near the extreme southwest corner of DeKalb County. A particular block group covering the west of Geraldine falls in the highest concentration category for the county at 26% to 30%. Area located to the east between Collinsville and Crossville consist a block group that falls in the same highest concentration category as well. Block groups covering the southernmost extent of Fort Payne each rank in the above average concentration category, thus completing the description of Fort Payne as a community with a significant elderly population (Please note in some areas one-third of the population is 65 years old or older). Also worth mentioning, is the area surrounding the communities of Ider, Henagar and Geraldine. These concentration areas are categorized in the 21% to 25% concentration category as well. Smaller clusters of above average concentrations of elderly exist in the areas within and surrounding the communities of Rainsville, and Pine Ridge.

Equally strong concentration clusters occur in DeKalb County for the total disabilities group. Block groups located within and surrounding the communities of Crossville, Collinsville, and Fort Payne rank in the highest category for the county, those containing 221 to 384 total disabilities per block group. A second notable cluster is located within the block group near the Town of Powell as it should be categorized in the above average concentration range. Additional block groups with significant concentrations of people with disabilities are found encompassing the municipalities of Henagar, and Ider, and also within the rural areas between Rainsville and Pine Ridge East of U.S. Highway 35.

Median Household Income is the third targeted group of assessment for DeKalb County. Block groups near the Towns of Collinsville, Crossville, rural area between Henagar, Sylvania, and Valley Head, and certain areas within the City of Fort Payne are noted as having the “lowest median incomes” within DeKalb County. Block groups noted within the “lower median income category” include those areas encompassing the Towns of Ider, Powell, Henagar, Mentone, and certain block groups within the City of Fort Payne. On the higher median income side, there are small distributions of block groups south and east of Rainsville, on the Jackson/Marshall County line and east of Fort Payne with the highest median incomes in the county ranging from \$51,601 to \$70,430.

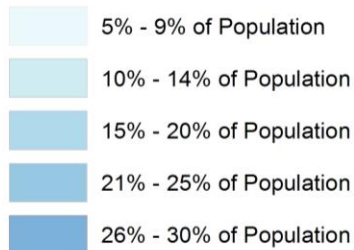
A significant distribution of block groups without vehicular access occurs throughout DeKalb County. Only five block groups fall within the highest category, 51 to 101 households. These clusters occur in Town of Crossville, in and northwest of the City of Fort Payne extending toward the Town of Valley Head. There are significant concentrations of household without vehicular access surrounding above mentioned municipalities and northeast corner of the county near the Town of Ider.

Looking at the map showing Potential Destinations on Page 10, overlap in needs between all these target populations can be identified. The potential destination map shows density of targeted population with black dots. Areas around Town of Crossville, City of Rainsville, and City of Fort Payne and rural areas surrounding these municipalities have higher density of targeted population along with lower median household income.

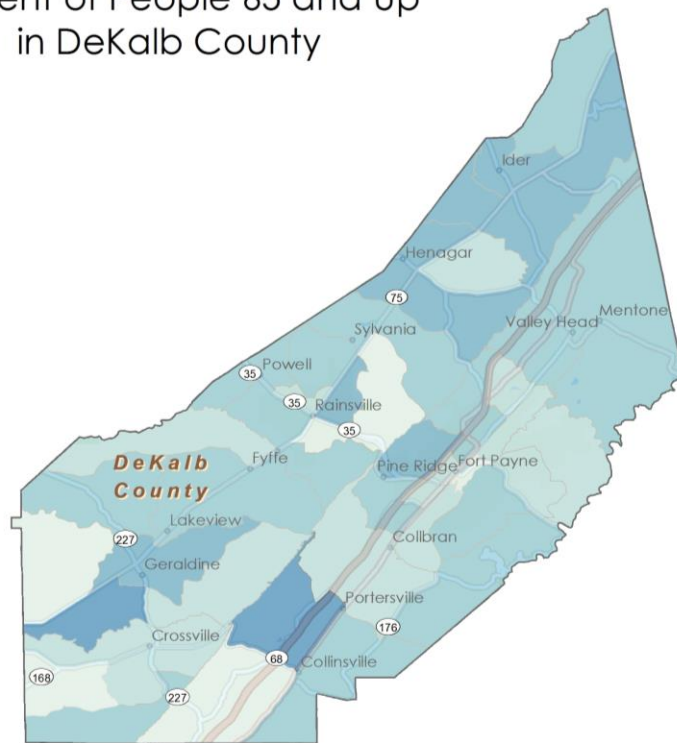


Percent of People 65 and Up in DeKalb County

Percent of People 65 and Up per Block Group

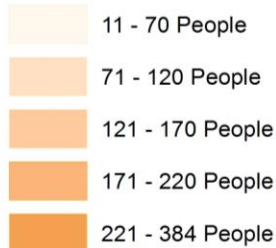


Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

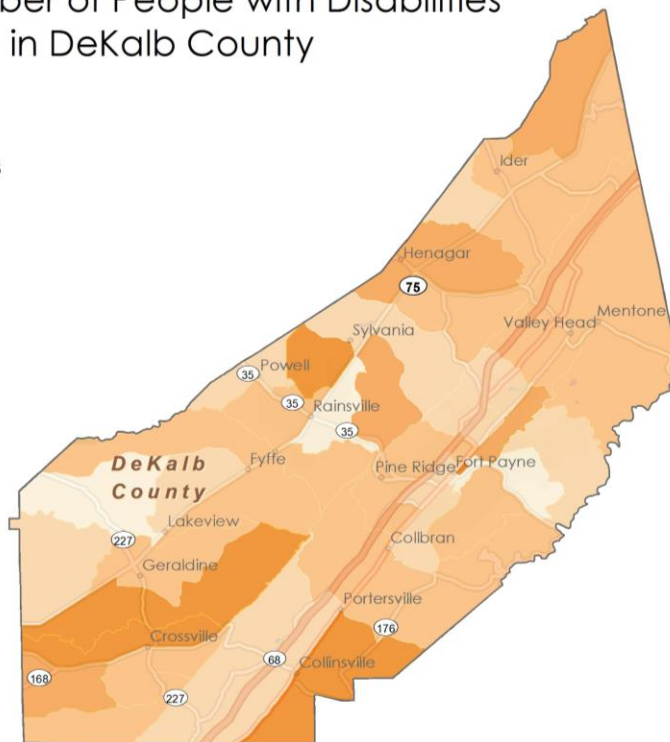


Total Number of People with Disabilities in DeKalb County

Number of People with Disabilities per Block Group



Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

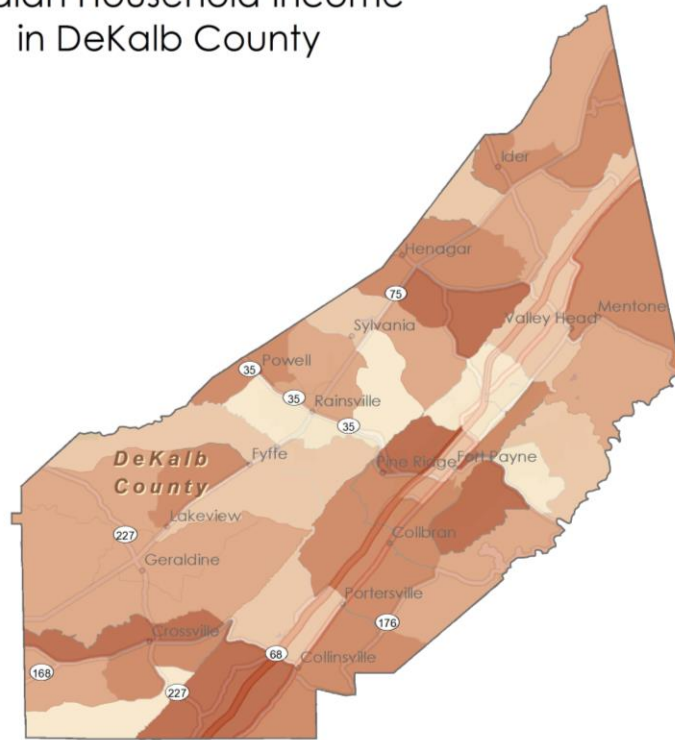


Median Household Income in DeKalb County

Median Household Income per Block Group

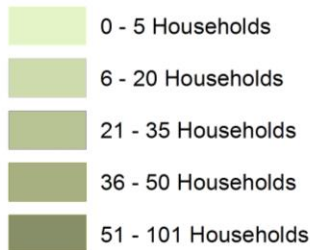


Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

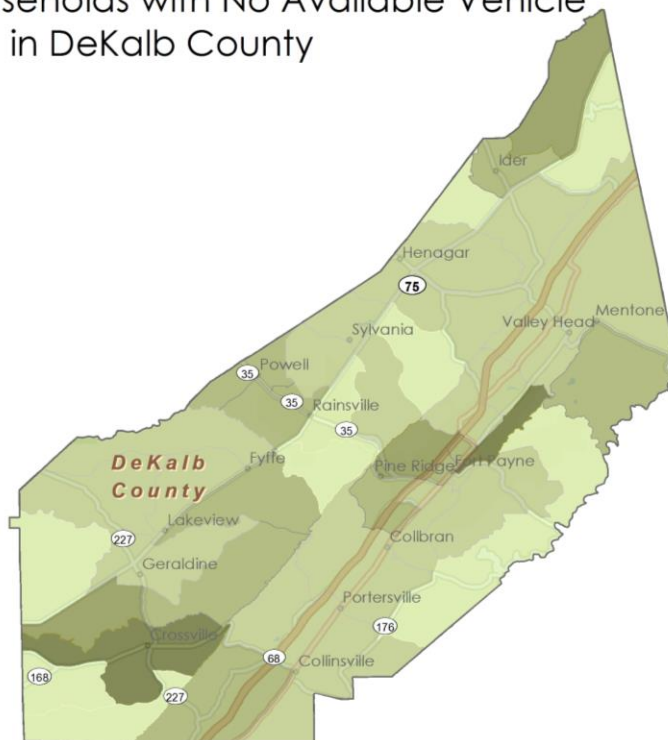


Number of Households with No Available Vehicle in DeKalb County

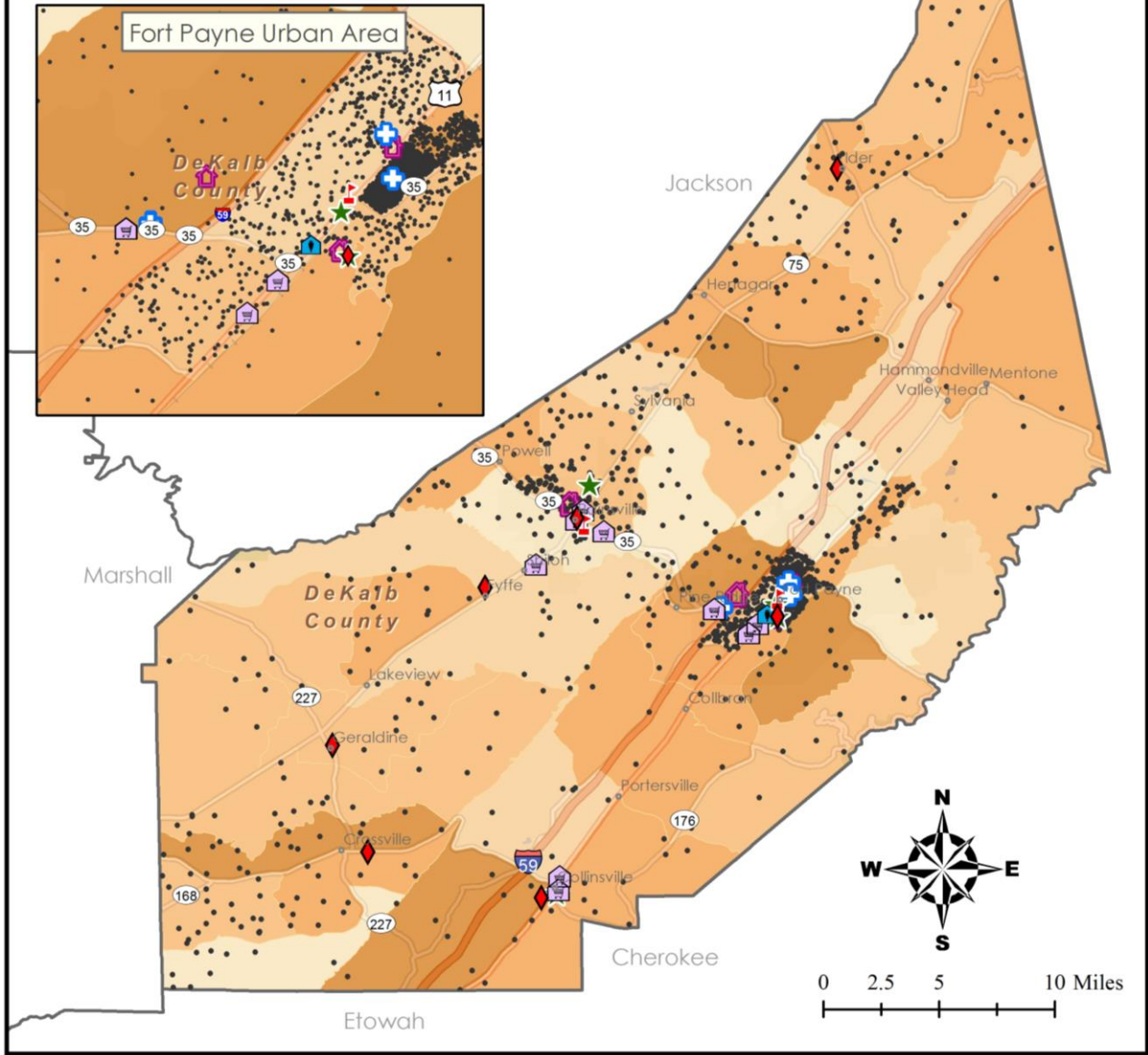
Number of Households with No Available Vehicle per Block Group



Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates



Potential Transit Destinations for DeKalb County



Potential Destinations	Median Household Income	1 Dot = 2 People per Sq Mile
Senior / Nutrition Center	\$16,875 - \$26,600	• 1 Dot = 2 People per Sq Mile
Education Facility	\$26,601 - \$34,200	
Laundry	\$34,201 - \$42,200	
Shopping	\$42,201 - \$51,600	
Government Office	\$51,601 - \$70,430	
Health Care		
Housing		



Transit Needs and Service Barriers

During the development of this plan, surveys were provided to transit purchasers and transit providers and meetings were held to discuss needs and strategies. Based on this input, the following list of needs was developed:

1. There is no transit available for work-related needs on weekends.
2. There is no transit available for personal needs on weekends.
3. Early morning services are needed.
4. Evening services are needed.
5. Services for rural areas.
6. Service to other counties including medical and recreational group trips.
7. It would be good for human service agencies to receive help paying for transportation in form of low cost or free vouchers.
8. Increased demand response requests will require additional vehicles and drivers, i.e., there is no excess capacity.
9. At a minimum, there is a need to maintain existing levels of service.

Local agencies and governments have limited control over barriers to transit service that are often related to economic issues, personal choice and the nature of rural communities. These barriers are consistent across the rural counties in the region. These barriers commonly include lack of funding. Even when Federal dollars are available, often there are not sufficient local funds available to match it. Other barriers include the small client base and dispersed population typical of rural areas.

Strategies to Address Needs and Barriers

The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs, including the need to maintain existing levels of service. The strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support innovative projects involving coordination between multiple agencies to expand or improve efficiency of transit services to rural and underserved areas. (high priority)
2. Support the maintenance and improvement of existing service programs and levels of service. (high priority)
3. Support current efforts at coordination of transit services and programs. (high priority)
4. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for work-related needs at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
5. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for personal needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
6. Support the provision or expansion of transit services to dispersed populations in rural areas. (medium priority)
7. Support the provision or expansion of out-of-county transit services. (medium priority)
8. Support the establishment of additional transportation providers and alternatives. (low priority)
9. Support efforts to seek additional funding sources for combination with existing sources. (high priority)

Jackson County Summary

Geography

Jackson County forms the far northeast corner of Alabama. It is entirely bordered on the north by Tennessee, on the east by Georgia, on the west by Madison County, and on the south by Marshall and DeKalb Counties. Jackson County is the seventh largest county in Alabama by land area, and has a total land area of 1,078.7 square miles.

This area is divided into three physical regions. In the northwest, the Cumberland Plateau creates hilly terrain where transportation routes chiefly follow small river and creek valleys. Central to the county, the Tennessee River and floodplain cut through Jackson County in a southwesterly direction. This relatively flat terrain is the path of Jackson County's primary transportation route, U.S. Highway 72, as well as the location of its principal population centers. Only two bridges allow access across the river to Jackson County's third physical region. The Sand Mountain area of the county is notably elevated from the river but is flat on top. A consistent network of county roads ties the small towns of this area together.

There are thirteen municipalities in Jackson County, all but three of which are towns of less than 1,000 in population. Incorporated municipalities in Jackson County are Bridgeport, Dutton, Hollywood, Hytop, Langston, Paint Rock, Pisgah, Pleasant Groves, Scottsboro, Section, Skyline, Stevenson and Woodville.

Transit Demographics

Based on the U.S. Census American Community Survey 5 Year Estimate of 2015, population counts identify 52,860 persons living in 44 block groups within Jackson County, which is an approximate 3.91% decrease in population since 2000. Though population declined in the past 15 years, Jackson County is anticipating a potential significant increase in population with the announcement of Google's new IT sever site location in Hollywood, Alabama and from secondary economic development endeavors springing forth from this growth. This plan concentrates on four specific population groups: persons age 65 or older in year 2015, median household income in year 2015, persons with disabilities in year 2015, and households without a vehicle in year 2015. In this update, the latest available data has been used to analyze current demographic conditions.

Within Jackson County, few census block groups fall in the lowest percentage of persons 65 years old or older. Areas with a 9%-12% population of persons 65 years in age or older include a block group south of the Town of Woodville, a cluster of block groups running parallel to the southern side of U.S. Hwy 72 between the municipalities of Scottsboro and Stevenson, a block group stretching between the towns of Section and Dutton east to the DeKalb County border and a block group located east of the City of Bridgeport along the Alabama-Georgia state line. Every other block group in the county has at least 13% of their population noted as age 65 or older. The most significant cluster of elderly in Jackson County covers two block groups located in Scottsboro, one block group located within and surrounding Bridgeport, and one block group stretching between the Towns of Flat Rock, Rosalie, and Pisgah. These block groups are in the highest categories for the county, at between 26% and 38% of their populations being age 65 or older.

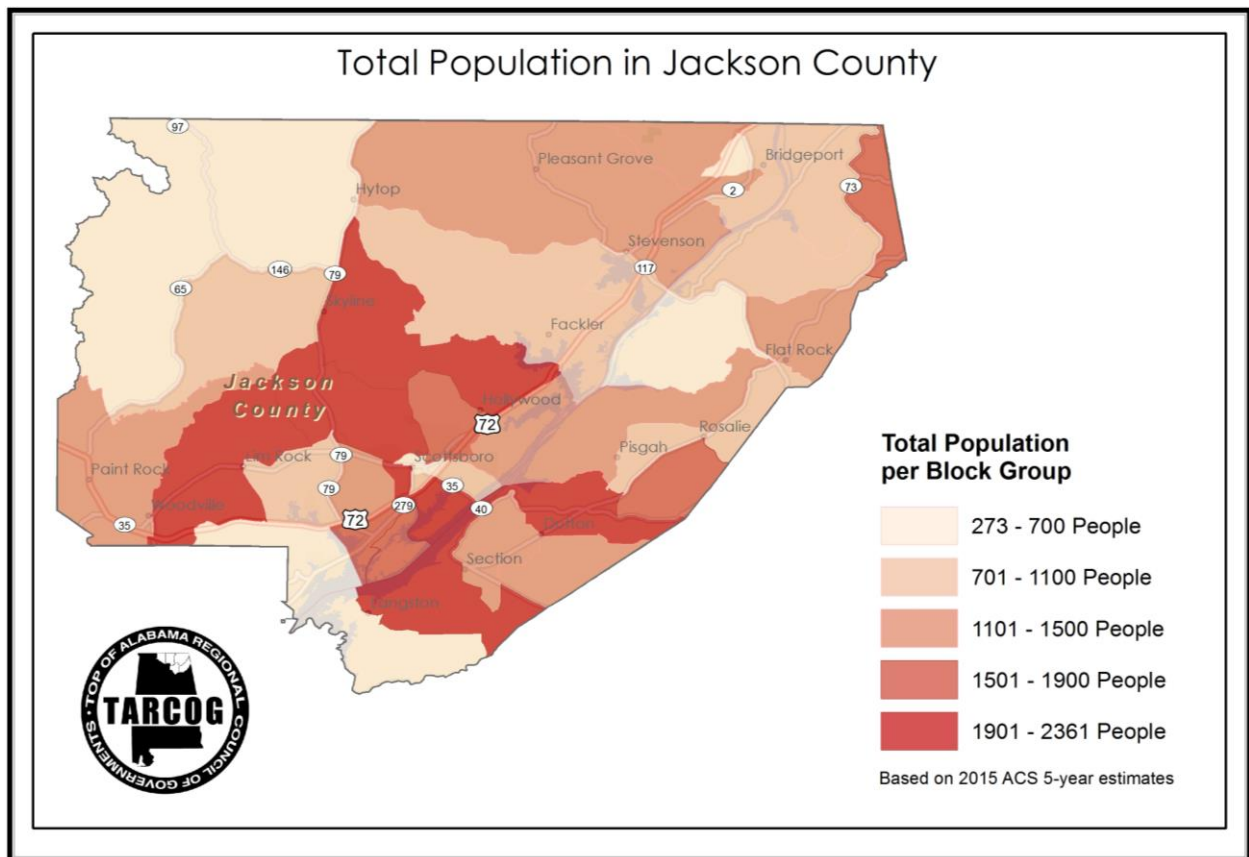
Multiple high density areas of persons with disabilities (261-410 people per block group) exist within Jackson County. The largest concentration areas of disabled individuals within the county are located 1) between the communities of Skyline and Hollywood, 2) Hytop, Pleasant Grove, and Stevenson, and 3)

the City of Scottsboro area. High densities of disabled individuals are also located in the communities of Langston, Dutton, Flat Rock, Paint Rock, Woodville, and in the Bridgeport area block groups. Due to the relative isolation of these rural areas, this data should be noted as a remainder of the need for coordination of transit services.

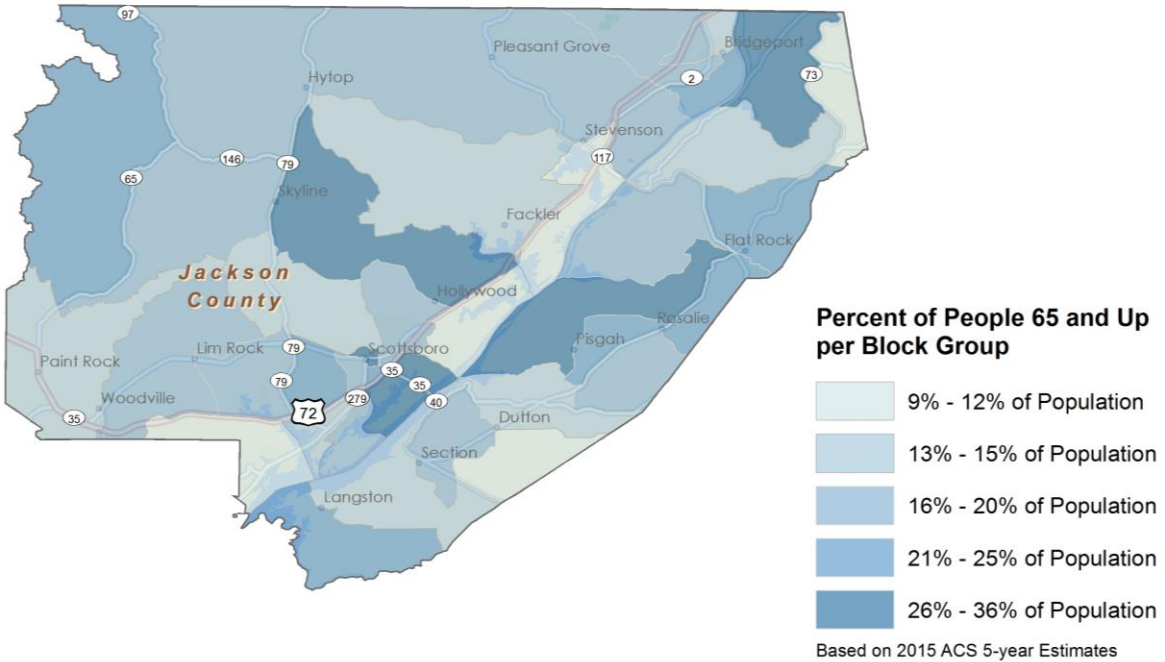
Median Household Income is the third group for Jackson County. A cluster of block groups with lower categories covers the block groups between U.S. Hwy 72 and AL Hwy 79 between the municipalities of Hollywood and Skyline. There are also a few block groups within Scottsboro, Stevenson, and Dutton with the lowest income categorization within Jackson County. Finally, a cluster of block groups covering the large rural area between Alabama State Highway 65 west to the county line, and a cluster along DeKalb County line also falls within the \$27,000 to \$35,000 category.

Two significant clusters of households with no available vehicular access occur in Jackson County. The first stretches in a five block group span from the City of Stevenson to the City of Bridgeport; this includes two block groups that fall within the second highest and third highest category for the county. The second cluster of households with no available vehicular access is situated within, and both south and north of the City of Scottsboro.

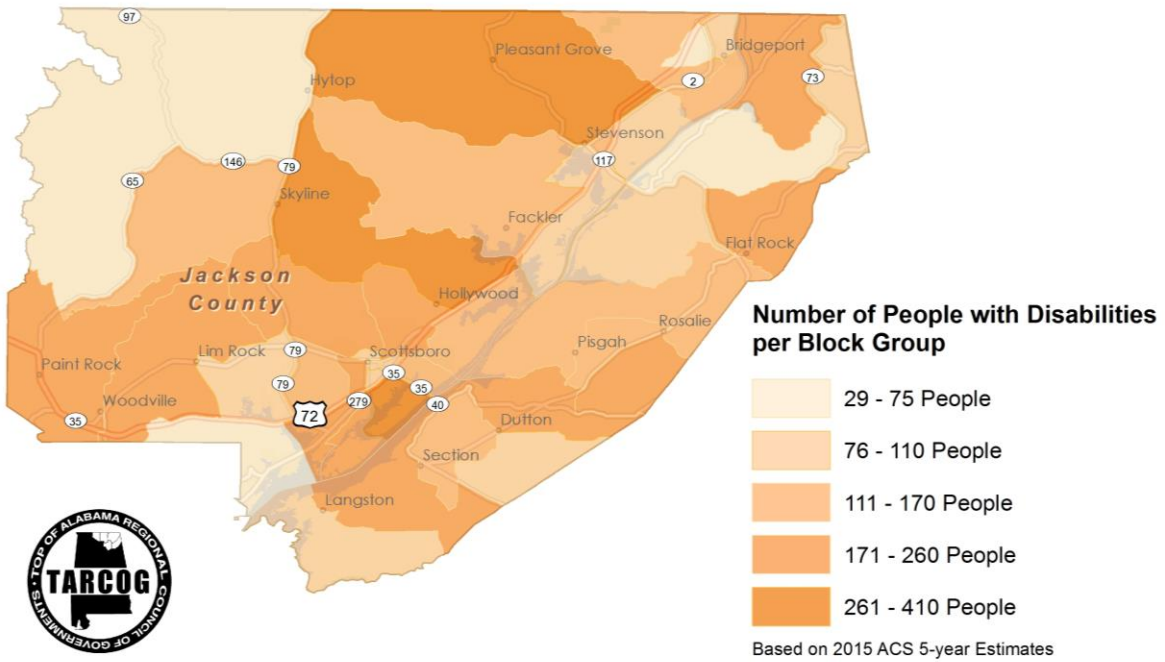
Looking at the map showing Potential Destinations on Page 16, overlap in needs between all these target populations can be identified. The potential destination map shows density of targeted population with black dots. Areas around Scottsboro, Stevenson, and Bridgeport have higher concentration of all the targeted populations. While towns south of the Tennessee River on Sand Mountain have higher density of population with disability, people above 65, and households with no available vehicle.



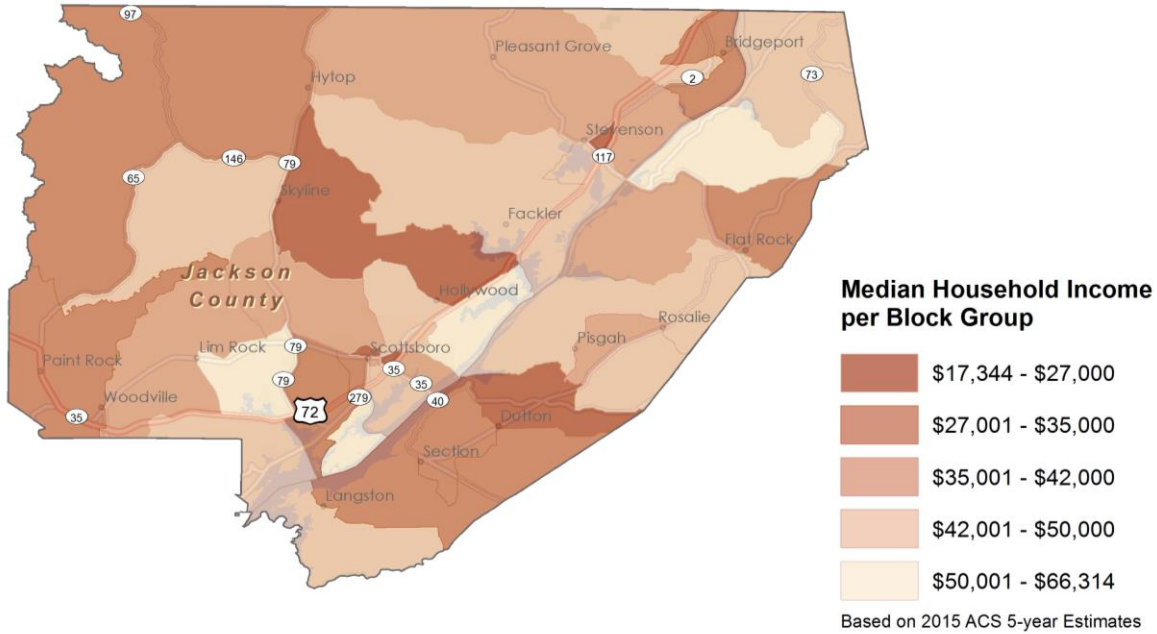
Percent of People 65 and Up in Jackson County



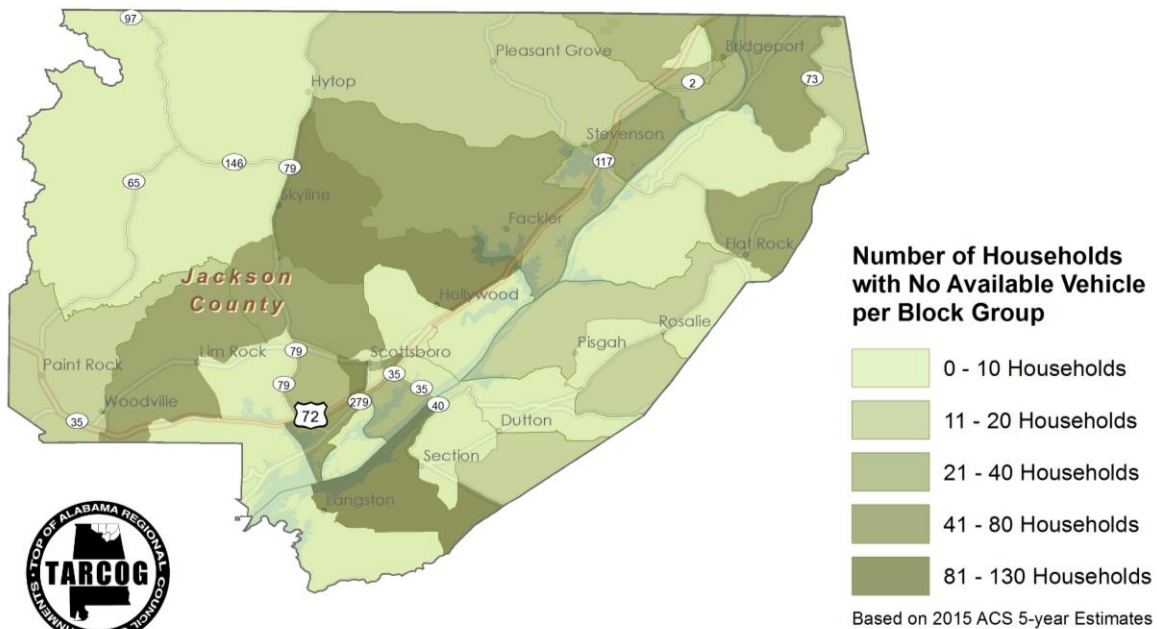
Total Number of People with Disabilities in Jackson County



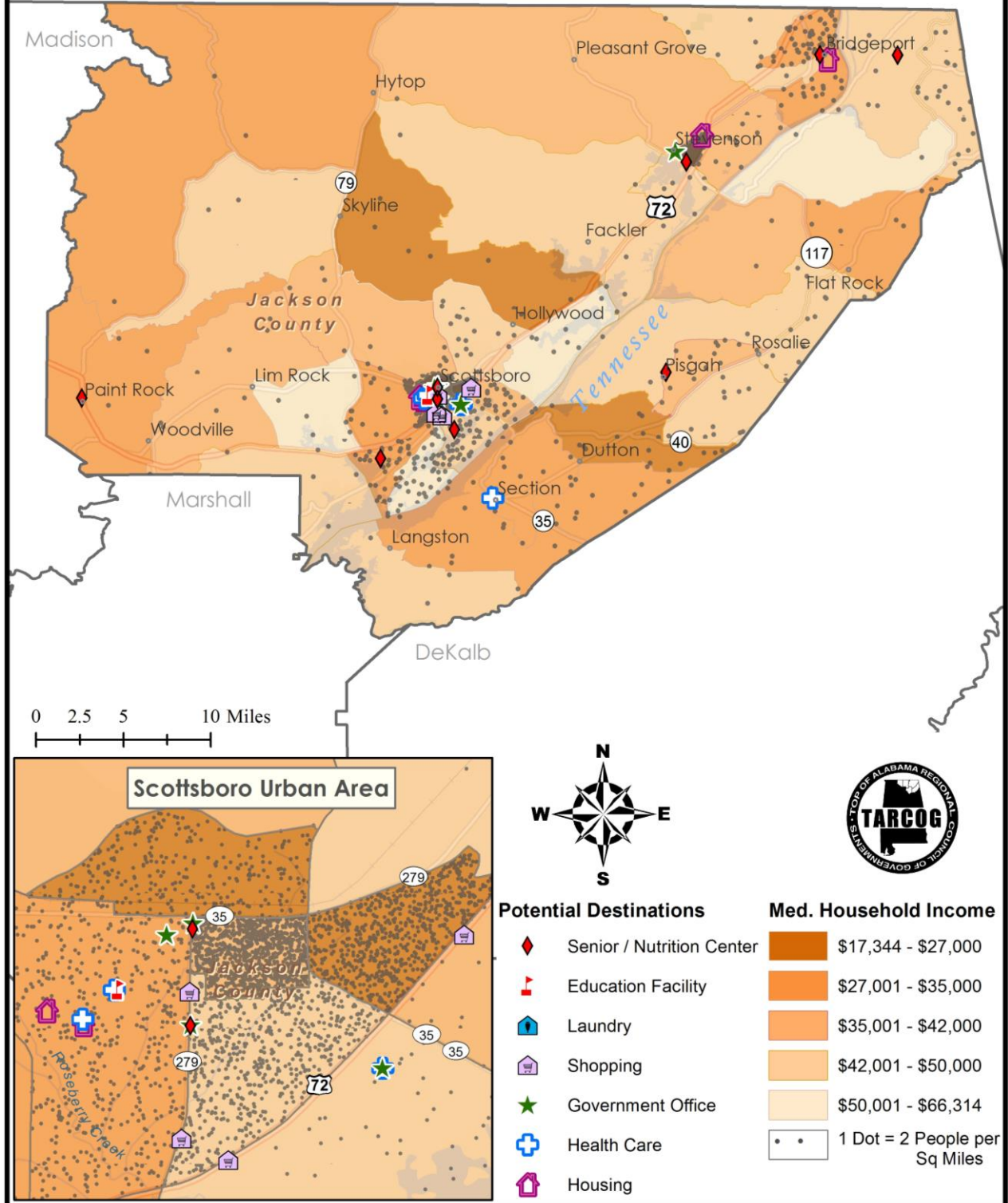
Median Household Income in Jackson County



Number of Households with No Available Vehicle in Jackson County



Potential Transit Destinations for Jackson County



Transit Needs and Service Barriers

During the development of this plan, surveys were provided to transit purchasers and transit providers and meetings were held to discuss needs and strategies. Based on this input, the following list of needs was developed.

1. There is no transit available for work-related needs on weekends or evenings.
2. There is no transit available for personal needs on weekends.
3. Early morning services are needed.
4. Evening services are needed.
5. Services to and between rural areas.
6. Medical and event based services to Huntsville area and other counties.
7. Non-restricted transit services are needed.
8. At a minimum, there is a need to maintain existing levels of service.

Local agencies and governments have limited control over barriers to transit service, which are often related to economic issues, personal choice and the nature of rural communities. These barriers are consistent across the rural counties in the region. These barriers commonly include lack of funding. Even when Federal dollars are available, often there are not sufficient local funds available to match it. Other barriers include the small client base and dispersed population typical of rural areas.

Strategies to Address Needs and Barriers

The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs, including the need to maintain existing levels of service. These strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support the maintenance and improvement of existing service programs and levels of service. (high priority)
2. Support current efforts at coordination of transit services and programs. (high priority)
3. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for work-related needs at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
4. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for personal needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
5. Support the provision or expansion of transit services to dispersed populations in rural areas. (medium priority)
6. Support the provision or expansion of out-of-county transit services. (medium priority)
7. Support the establishment of additional, non-restricted transportation providers and alternatives. (low priority)
8. Support efforts to seek additional funding sources for combination with existing sources. (high priority)

Limestone County Summary

Geography

Limestone County is the westernmost county in the TARCOCG region. To its north is the Tennessee state line and it borders Lauderdale County to the west and Madison County to the east. Lawrence and Morgan Counties form the southern boundary, sharing the Tennessee River with Limestone County. Within its boundary, Limestone County has 568.1 square miles of land that tends to gently rise to the north. The county is largely covered by fertile floodplain, and this gentle terrain results in a road system dominated by long, straight routes on a north-south and east-west orientation based on early township and range lines. Only the section northwest of the Elk River varies largely from this pattern. Limestone County is roughly cut into four quadrants by its two principal roadways. Interstate 65 halves the county as it runs from north to south and US Highway 72 bisects the county as it travels from west to east towards Madison County. Four feeder roads link the county seat, Athens, with outlying communities: US Highway 31 through Tanner, State Road 99 from the Lester area, Highway 127 from Elkmont, and Highway 251 from Ardmore.

There are eight municipalities in Limestone County. Incorporated municipalities in Limestone County are Ardmore, Athens, Elkmont, Lester and Mooresville. Three of these – Decatur, Huntsville and Madison - have their major portions in other counties. Of those located wholly in Limestone County, only Athens has a population of more than 2,000 persons.

Transit Demographics

The population of Limestone County is spread across 43 U.S. Census Block Groups and is concentrated around Athens and along the eastern border with Madison County. Limestone County's total population is 88,805 per the U.S. Census American Community Survey 5 Year Estimate of 2015, which is an approximate 35% increase in the population since year 2000. This population change made it the fastest growing county in the TARCOCG region. This plan concentrates on four specific population groups: persons age 65 or older in year 2015, median household income in year 2015, persons with disabilities in year 2015, and households without a vehicle in year 2015. In this update, the latest available data has been used to analyze current demographic conditions.

Most striking of the identified population groups, a significant concentration of persons aged 65 or older is found within multiple block groups within City of Athens. This area extends from its eastern boundary of US Highway 31 west to the junction of W. Washington Street and U.S. Hwy 72, and from W. Market Street south to US Highway 72. Two block groups in this cluster have the highest categories of older population ranging from 21% to 39%. Other block groups in the cluster fall within the second and third highest category for the county, ranging from 14% to 20% of these block groups being 65 years old or older. Outside of the immediate Athens area, a few block groups also hold concentrations of 21% to 39% for persons 65 or older. The first block group is located on west side along Lauderdale County line, and a second is located in the south side of the county along Tennessee River. The others are located near the Towns of Elkmont, Ardmore, Mooresville, and a cluster located on the eastern side of Limestone County.

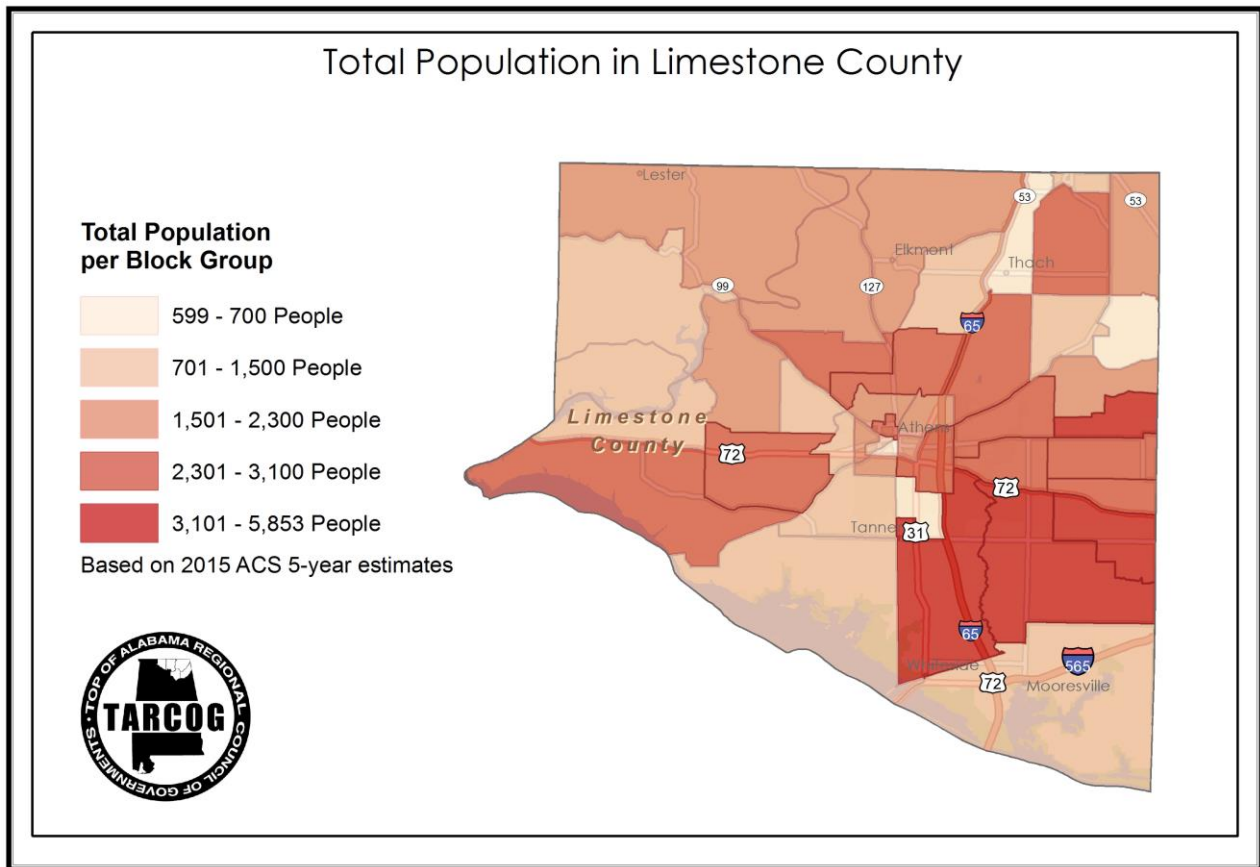
Total disabilities per block group are primarily concentrated in three high density areas within the county. These block groups are located between U.S. Hwy 72 and the Tennessee River in western Limestone County, north of U.S. Hwy 72 and south of Alabama State Hwy 99 west of and within the City of Athens, and west of AL State Hwy 251 near the Town of Ardmore. All three of these concentrations of total disabilities fall in the highest category of disabled individuals within the county, holding 281 to 431

total disabilities per block group. Smaller concentrations of disabled persons are also noted in the communities of Tanner, Lester, Elkmont, and surrounding the City of Athens.

Median Household Income for most of eastern Limestone County is above average. Significant concentrations of block groups in the lowest median household income group are located southwest of the Tanner community stretching towards the Tennessee River, between U.S. Hwy 72 and Alabama State Hwy 99 west of and within the City of Athens.

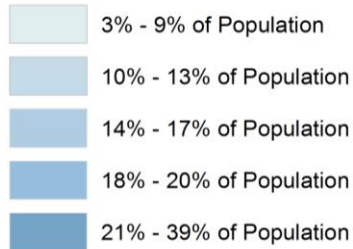
Western and northern sections of Athens hold the highest concentrations of households with no available vehicle. Three clusters – one extending just north of Athens between Alabama Hwy 99 and I-65, one closer to the heart in northwest corner of Athens, and one in the south Limestone County along Tennessee River – fall within the highest category for the county, at 101 to 154 total households with no available vehicle. Above average concentrations occur along the southern border between U.S. Hwy 72 and the Tennessee River in western Limestone County and west of Alabama State Hwy 251 near the Town of Ardmore.

Looking at the map showing Potential Destinations on Page 22, overlap in needs between all these target populations can be identified. The potential destination map shows density of targeted population with black dots. Areas around City of Athens have higher density of targeted population along with lower median household income. While population with disabilities, people 65 and above, and household with no available vehicle are scattered throughout middle of the County and north east corner of the County.

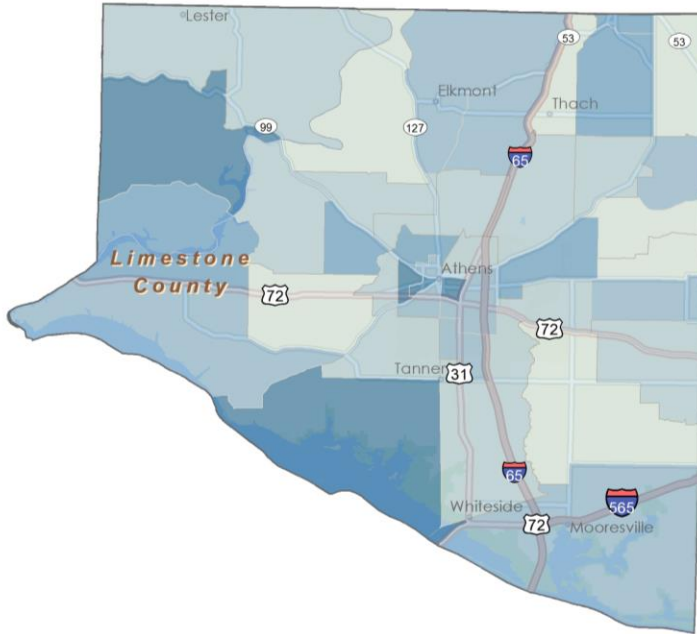


Percent of People 65 and Up in Limestone County

Percent of People 65 and Up per Block Group

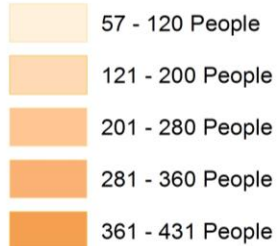


Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

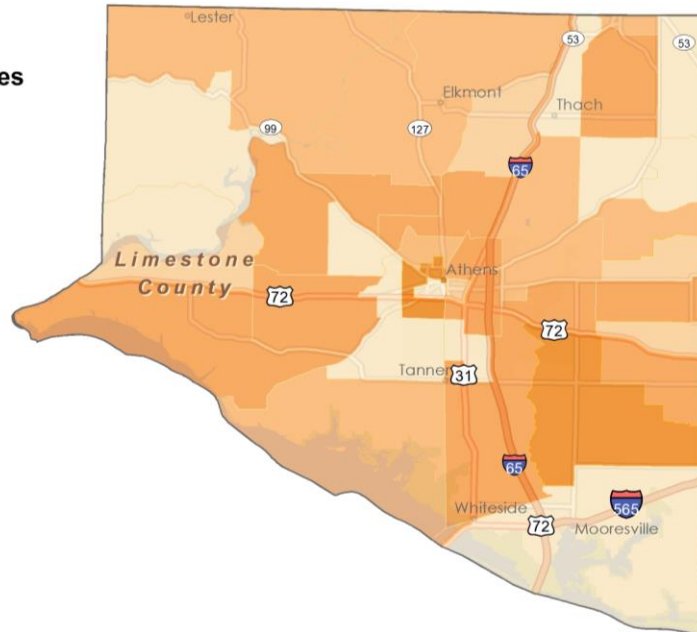


Total Number of People with Disabilities in Limestone County

Number of People with Disabilities per Block Group



Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

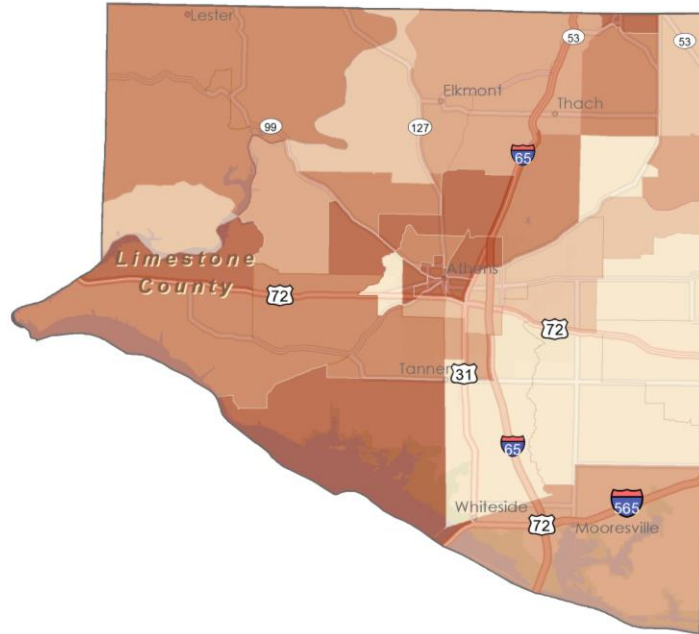


Median Household Income in Limestone County

Median Household Income per Block Group

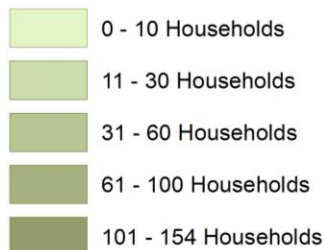


Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

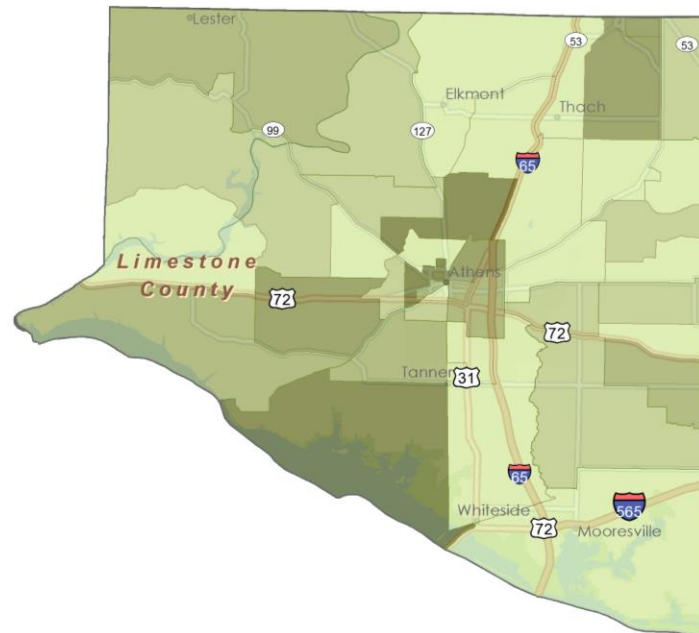


Number of Households with No Available Vehicle in Limestone County

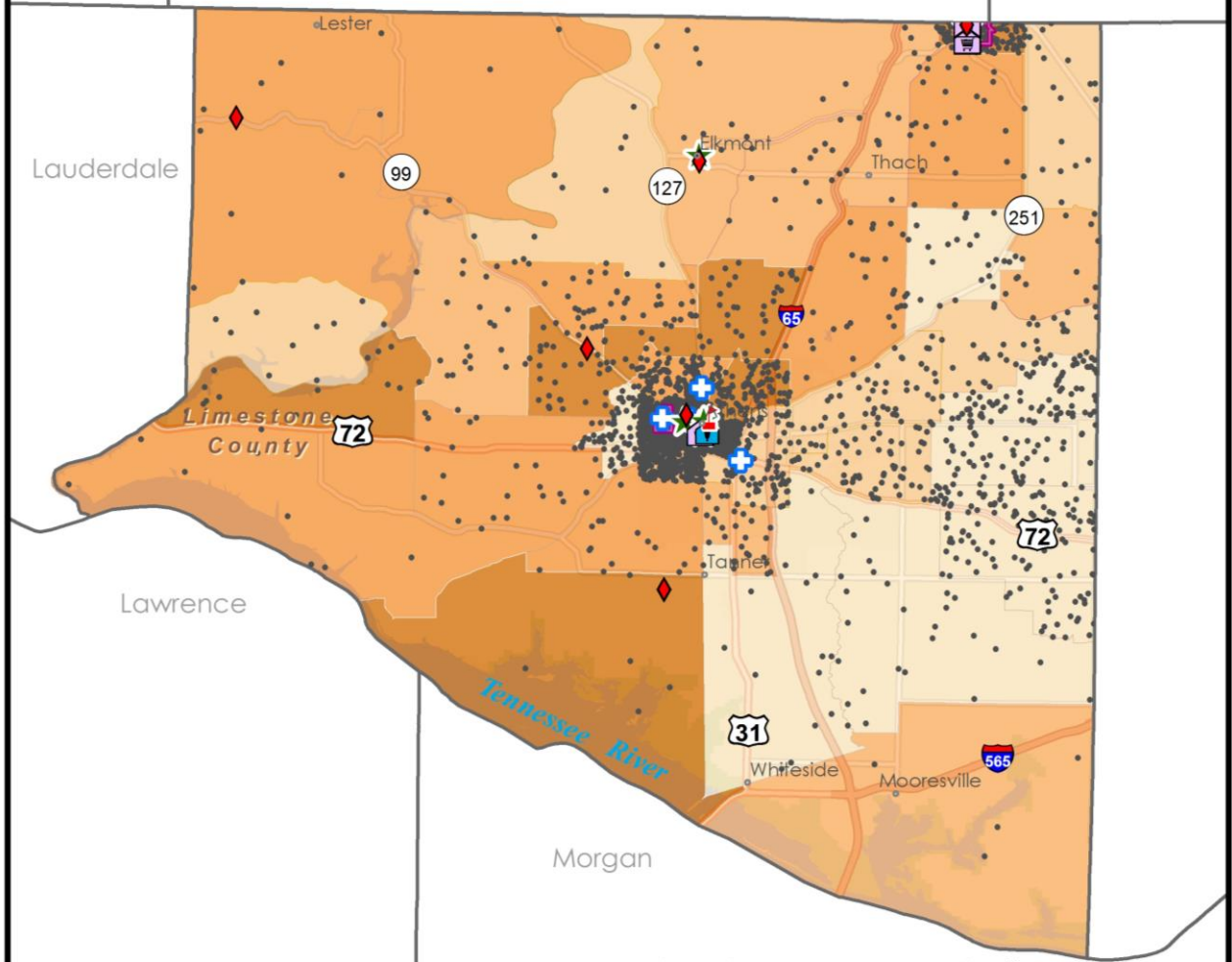
Number of Households with No Available Vehicle per Block Group



Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates



Potential Transit Destinations for Limestone County

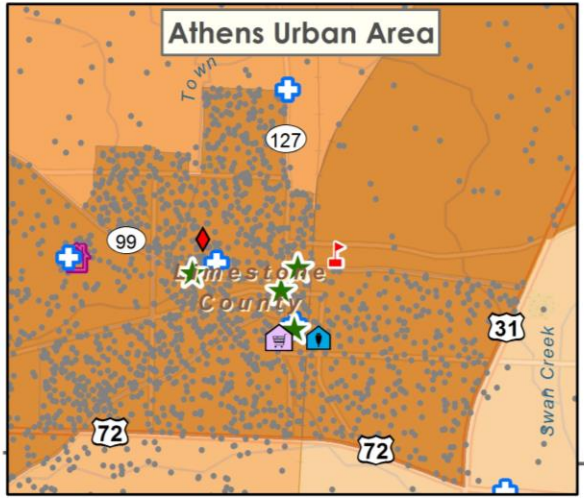


Potential Destinations

- Senior / Nutrition Center
- Education Facility
- Laundry
- Shopping
- Government Office
- Health Care
- Housing

Med. Household Income

- \$21,946 - \$35,500
- \$35,501 - \$44,000
- \$44,001 - \$53,000
- \$53,001 - \$68,000
- \$68,001 - \$91,076
- 1 Dot = 2 People per Sq. Mile



Transit Needs and Service Barriers

During the development of this plan, surveys were provided to transit purchasers and transit providers and meetings were held to discuss needs and strategies. Based on this input, the following list of needs was developed.

1. There is no transit available for work-related needs on weekends.
2. There is no transit available for personal needs on weekends except for client-specific services.
3. Rural Limestone County is difficult to get volunteers and so often, the clients have to reschedule their medical appointments because of lack of transportation.
4. Early morning services are needed.
5. Late afternoon and evening services are needed.
6. Services to and from rural areas.
7. Services to surrounding metro areas are needed.
8. Since Limestone is one of the counties without countywide public transportation within the region, non-restricted transit services are needed.
9. At a minimum, there is a need to maintain existing levels of service.

Local agencies and governments have limited control over barriers to transit service, which are often related to economic issues, personal choice and the nature of rural communities. These barriers are consistent across the rural counties in the region. These barriers commonly include lack of funding. Even when Federal dollars are available, often there are not sufficient local funds available to match it. Other barriers include the small client base and dispersed population typical of rural areas.

Strategies to Address Needs and Barriers

The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs, including the need to maintain existing levels of service. The strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support the maintenance and improvement of existing service programs and levels of service. (high priority)
2. Support current efforts at coordination of transit services and programs. (high priority)
3. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for work-related needs at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
4. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for personal needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
5. Support the provision or expansion of transit services connecting dispersed populations in rural areas with surrounding Decatur and Huntsville Metro area. (medium priority)
6. Support the provision or expansion of out-of-county transit services. (medium priority)
7. Support the establishment of additional transportation providers and alternatives. (low priority)
8. Support efforts to seek additional funding sources for combination with existing sources. (high priority)

Madison County Summary

Geography

Madison County is located in the north central portion of the TARCOG region. To its north is the Tennessee state line and it borders Limestone County to the west and Jackson County to the east. Marshall and Morgan Counties form the southern boundary, sharing the Flint and Tennessee River with Madison County. Within its boundary, Madison County has 804.9 square miles of land. It is mostly flat on northern and western portion of the county, while southern and eastern portions of the county contain Monte Sano Mountain, Keel Mountain, and Green Mountain. It is the only urban county in the TARCOG region. Huntsville and Madison are the largest cities in the county. The major north-south routes include US 231/US 431 dividing Huntsville in half. State Route 53 is also a major diagonal route connecting Huntsville to north-western portion of the county. Interstate 565 and US highway 72 connect the county to Interstate 65 in Limestone County. State Route 255 is also a major north-south commuting route that connects the north-central portion of the county to Redstone Arsenal.

Transit Demographics

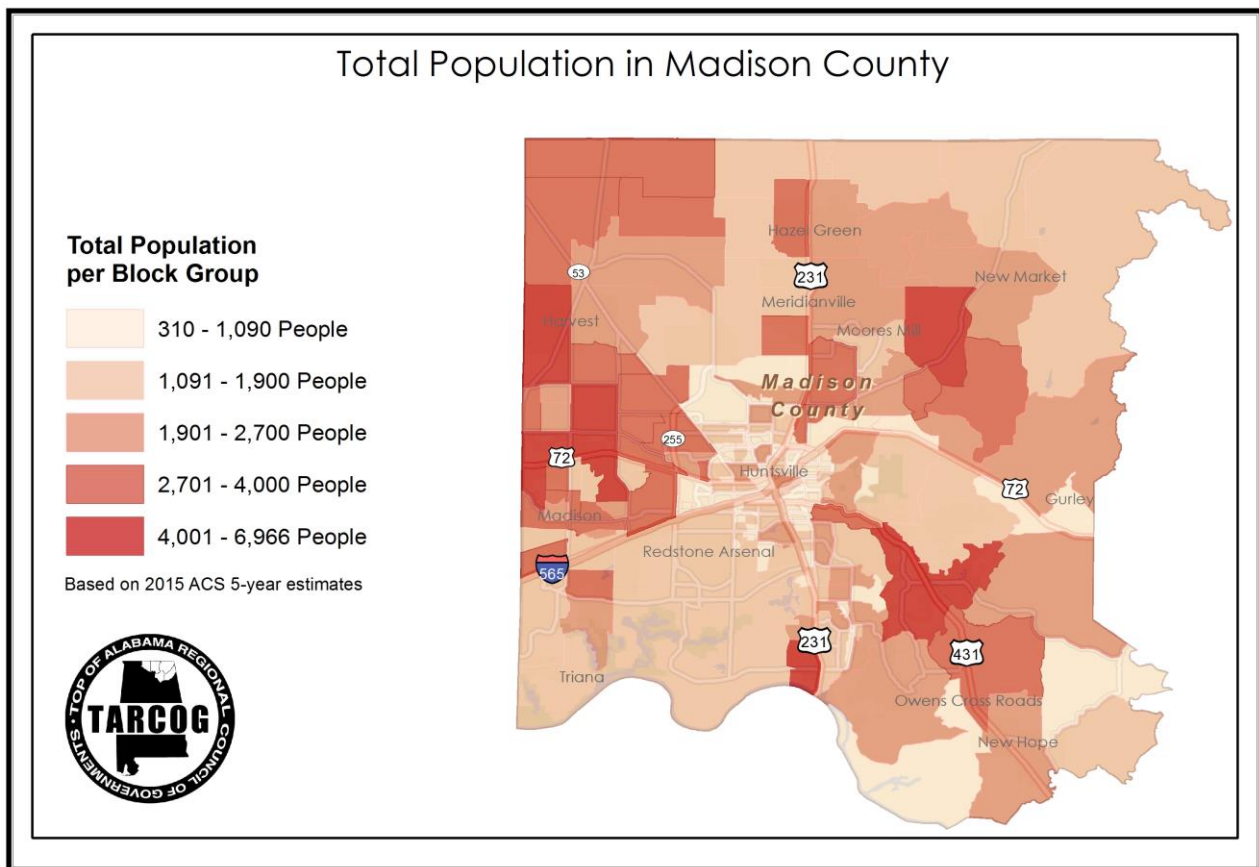
The population of Madison County is concentrated around Huntsville, Madison, and along the western border of Madison County. Madison County's total population is 346,438 per the U.S. Census American Community Survey 5 Year Estimate of 2015, which is an approximate 25% increase in the population since year 2010. This population change made it the second fastest growing county in the TARCOG region and anticipating more growth in the coming years with Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) changes. This update concentrates on four specific population groups: persons age 65 or older in year 2015, median household income in year 2015, persons with disabilities in year 2015, and households without a vehicle in year 2015. In this update, the latest available data has been used to analyze current demographic conditions.

Over the full extent of the MPO Study Area, the most striking pattern is the relative youth of the western half of Madison County, extending along U.S. Hwy 72 into Limestone County. This contrasts to the higher percentage of elderly persons in the eastern half (east of U.S. Hwy 231) of Madison County. A closer look inside the immediate Huntsville Urban Area reveals a significant cluster of census block groups that extend from Airport Road south to Weatherly Road, bordered on the west by Memorial Parkway and on the east by Garth Road. This is the most significant cluster of elderly persons as a percentage of total population in the entire county. The single highest percentage block group, however, lies north of this cluster, which ranges from 34% to 55% of population being 65 or older. Other notable concentrations are found in the block group south to U.S. Hwy 72 in eastern Madison County and in west part of Huntsville between U.S. Hwy 72 and I-565, and few block groups along U.S. Hwy 231 in north Huntsville.

Unlike the other three categories, the number of disabilities is clustered in the outlying county area more than in the Huntsville Urban Area. Three distinct groups occur in the study area with a few high count block groups inside the Urban Area. These four clusters are centered around the communities of Madison, Harvest, Owens Cross Roads, northwest corner of the county, and from Hazel Green to New Market. Inside the Urban Area, a block group centered on Oakwood College, a block group in north side of Huntsville along Memorial Parkway, and few block groups between Interstate 565 and Redstone Arsenal, all fall within the highest category of total disabilities per census block group of 326 to 478 disabilities. There is also a cluster of block groups in the southeast side of the county that fall within the second highest category of 231 to 325 disabilities in the block group.

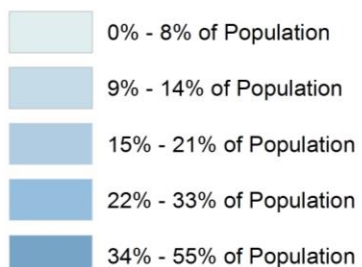
Median Household Income reveals a striking pattern for most of Madison County. Both the southeast and northwest corner of the county has clusters of lower incomes while both northeast and southwest corner has relatively lower incomes for the most part. A cluster of block groups (all within Metro-Huntsville) with the lowest median income bounded by Winchester Rd on the east, Bob Wallace Ave to the South, Sparkman Dr to the west following Alabama 53 and Bob Wade Lane to the north. Another significant block groups represented by the lowest median household income is situated along U.S. Hwy 72 in the Town of Gurley, Town of Triana, and between U.S. Hwy 231 and U.S. Hwy 431 in southern Madison County near Morgan County line. The last category reveals the total number of households in a given block group that do not have a vehicle available, thus making them candidates for public transit. Significant clusters of this population are found within the Urban Area where multiple block groups hold 136 to 268 households without an available vehicle, surrounded by block groups with the second highest category. These clusters occur north of Interstate I-565 between U.S. Hwy 72 and Moores Mill Road, covering Town of Triana, Alabama A & M University, the University of Alabama at Huntsville, and Oakwood University. Block groups immediately northeast of this cluster covering New Market, those encompassing Harvest, portion of the City of Madison, and a block group to the immediate south of the Town of Gurley have the second highest category of 81 to 140 households without available vehicles.

Looking at the map showing Potential Destinations on Page 28, higher concentration of all these target populations can be identified. The potential destination map shows density of targeted population with black dots. Areas within and immediately surrounding the core of Huntsville have higher density of targeted population along with lower median household income. While areas within Madison and south Huntsville have higher concentration of people with disability, and people above age of 65.

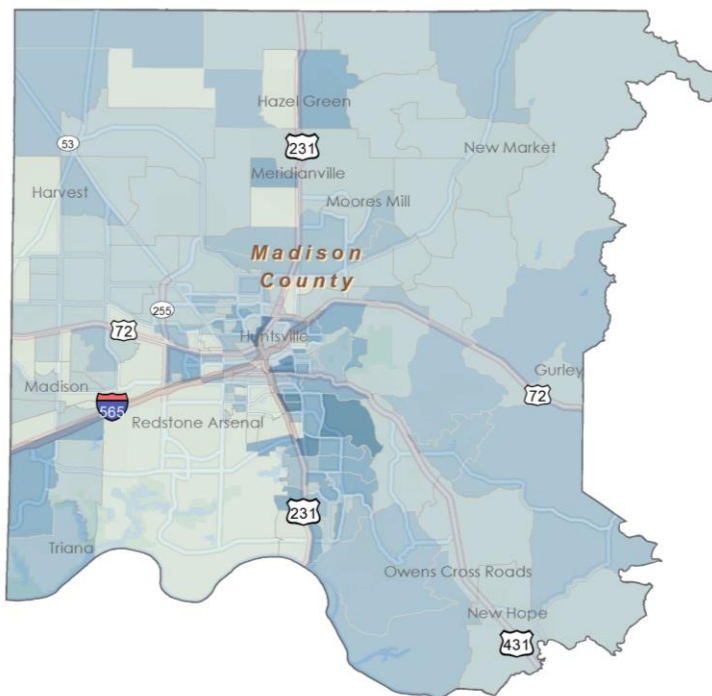


Percent of People 65 and Up in Madison County

Percent of People 65 and Up per Block Group

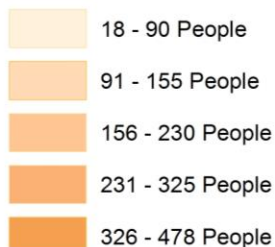


Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

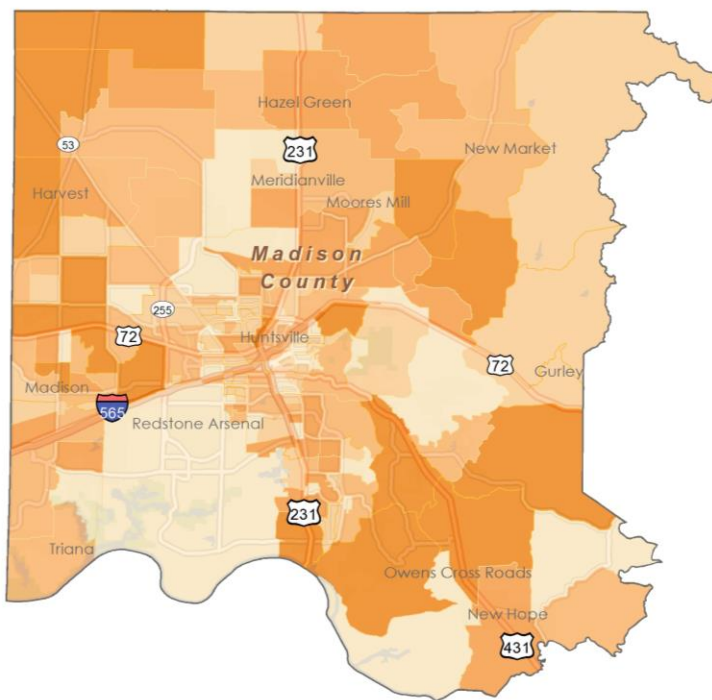


Total Number of People with Disabilities in Madison County

Number of People with Disabilities per Block Group



Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

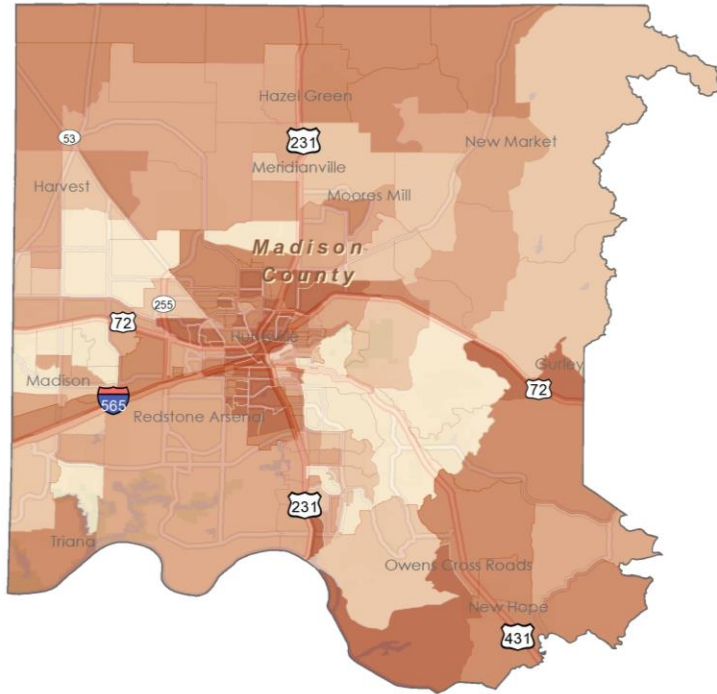


Median Household Income in Madison County

Median Household Income per Block Group

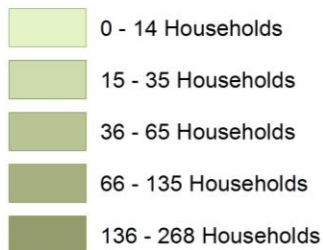


Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

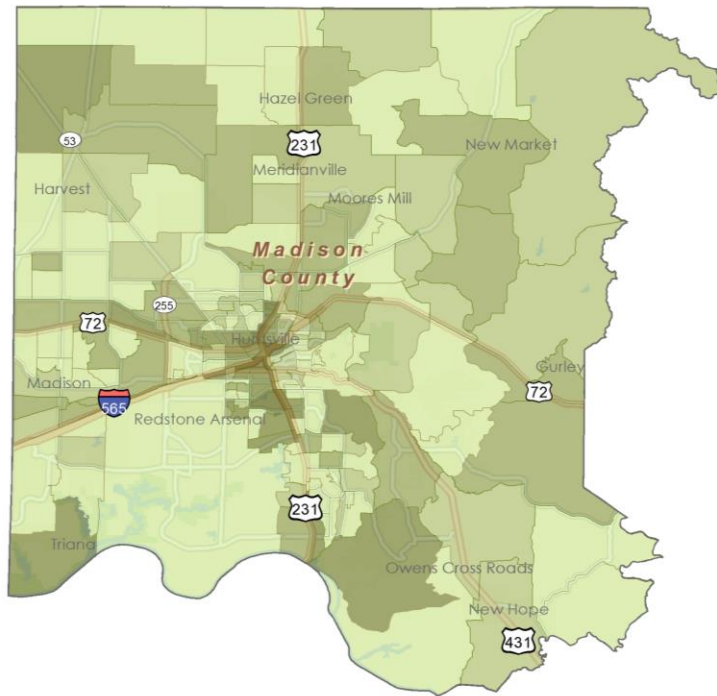


Number of Households with No Available Vehicle in Madison County

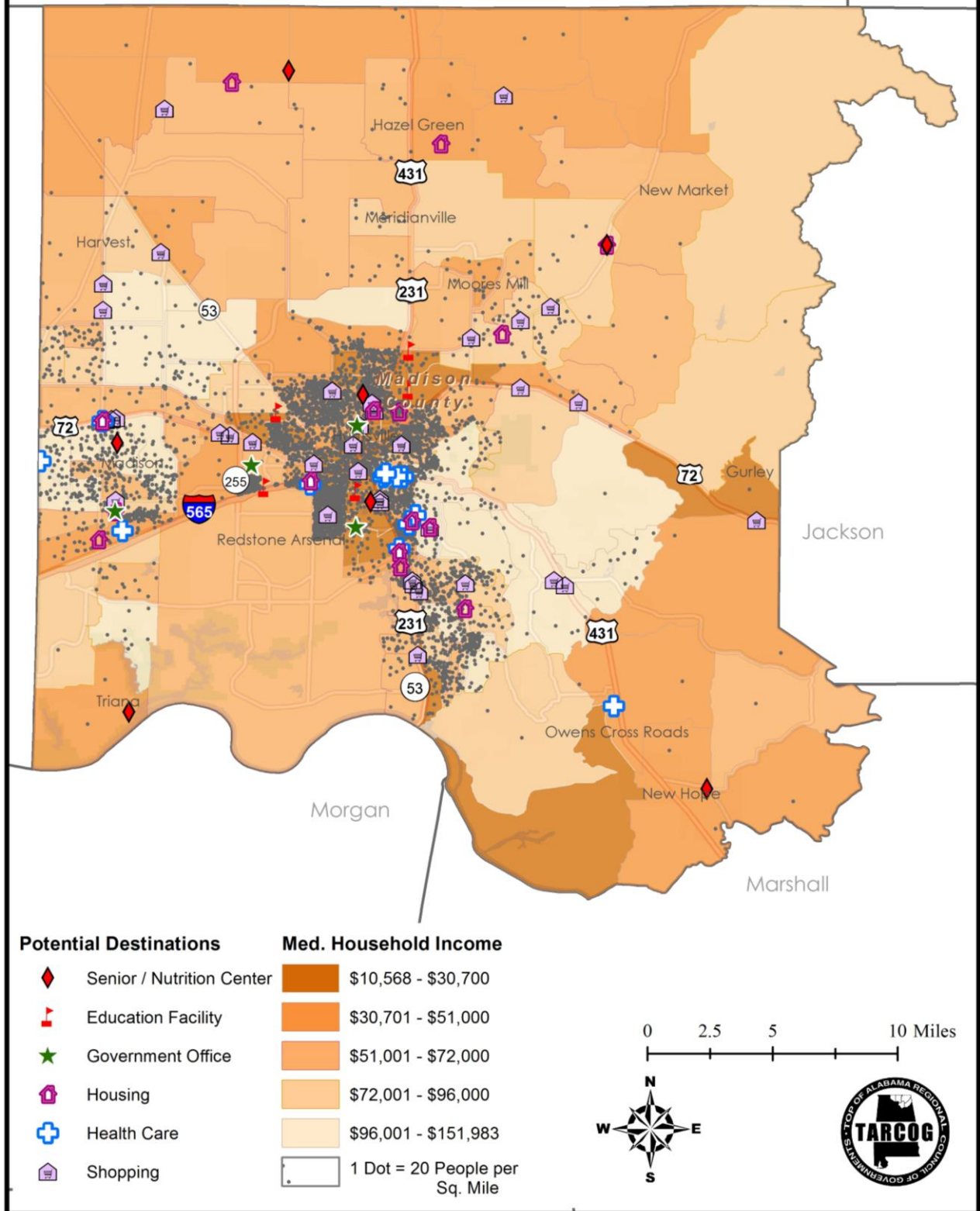
Number of Households with No Available Vehicle per Block Group



Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates



Potential Transit Destinations for Madison County



Transit Needs and Service Barriers

During the development of this plan, surveys were provided to transit purchasers and transit providers and meetings were held to discuss needs and strategies. Based on this input, the following list of needs was developed.

1. There is no transit available for work-related needs on weekends or early mornings.
2. There is no transit available for personal needs on weekends.
3. Evening services are needed. No transit services are available except for the tourist loop and downtown area.
4. Additional transit services needed for rural areas of the County and Madison City Area.
5. Transportation programs between various population clusters and large employers providing lower wage jobs are needed.
6. Supporting transportation services and feeder services are needed.
7. Currently affordable transportation from MARS is only available within City of Madison for medical appointments. The private providers cost \$50+ per trip for recreational or other non-medical reasons. These higher costs prevent the group home residents that would like to go to shopping or the beauty salon or to visit family in town.
8. Non-restricted transit services are needed.
9. At a minimum, there is a need to maintain existing levels of service

Local agencies and governments have limited control over barriers to transit service, which are often related to economic issues and personal choice. These barriers commonly include lack of funding. Even when Federal dollars are available, often there are not sufficient local funds available to match it. Other barriers include the small client base and dispersed population in the more rural areas of the County.

Strategies to Address Needs and Barriers

The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs, including the need to maintain existing levels of service. The strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support the maintenance and improvement of existing service programs and levels of service. (high priority)
2. Support current efforts at coordination of transit services and programs. (high priority)
3. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for work-related needs at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
4. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for personal needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
5. Support the provision or expansion of transit services to dispersed populations in rural areas. (medium priority)
6. Support mobility management activities such as, advertising, improvement, and coordination of existing services and establishments of feeder services and supporting services such as park-and-ride, rideshare, and car pool programs, etc. (high priority)
7. Support the establishment of additional transportation providers and alternatives. (low priority)
8. Support efforts to seek additional funding sources for combination with existing sources. (high priority)

Marshall County Summary

Geography

Marshall County is the southernmost county in the TARCOG region and is bordered by six other counties. The dominant feature within Marshall County is Lake Guntersville, the largest reservoir on the Tennessee River. Area measurements reinforce the importance of the lake as a physical feature; while Marshall County contains the smallest land area of any county in the TARCOG region, at 567.1 square miles, it holds the largest amount of water area at 56.1 square miles. Sloping terrains rings the central lake region, but in the southeast corner of the county a steep rise onto Sand Mountain tapers off to relatively flat terrain on top. This portion of the county remains geographically distinct from the areas west of Lake Guntersville. Four municipalities contain much of the county population: Arab in the southwest; Guntersville, the county seat, is placed on a peninsula in the Lake; Albertville and Boaz both extend across Sand Mountain following US Highway 431. Primary roads within the county include US Highways 231 and 431, and State Roads 75 and 79. The area with the least consistent road network is found surrounding Grant in the northern corner of Marshall County.

There are seven municipalities in Marshall County, three of which are towns of less than 2,000 in population, three of which are about 7,000 in population and one which is over 17,000. Incorporated municipalities in Marshall County are Albertville, Arab, Boaz, Douglas, Grant, Guntersville and Union Grove.

Transit Demographics

Though smallest in land area in the TARCOG region, Marshall County holds the second highest population count at 94,318 people according to U.S. Census American Community Survey 5 Year Estimate of 2015, which is an approximate increase of 15% population since year 2000. This plan update concentrates on four specific population groups: persons age 65 or older in year 2015, median household income in year 2015, persons with disabilities in year 2015, and households without a vehicle in year 2015. In this update, the latest available data has been used to analyze current demographic conditions.

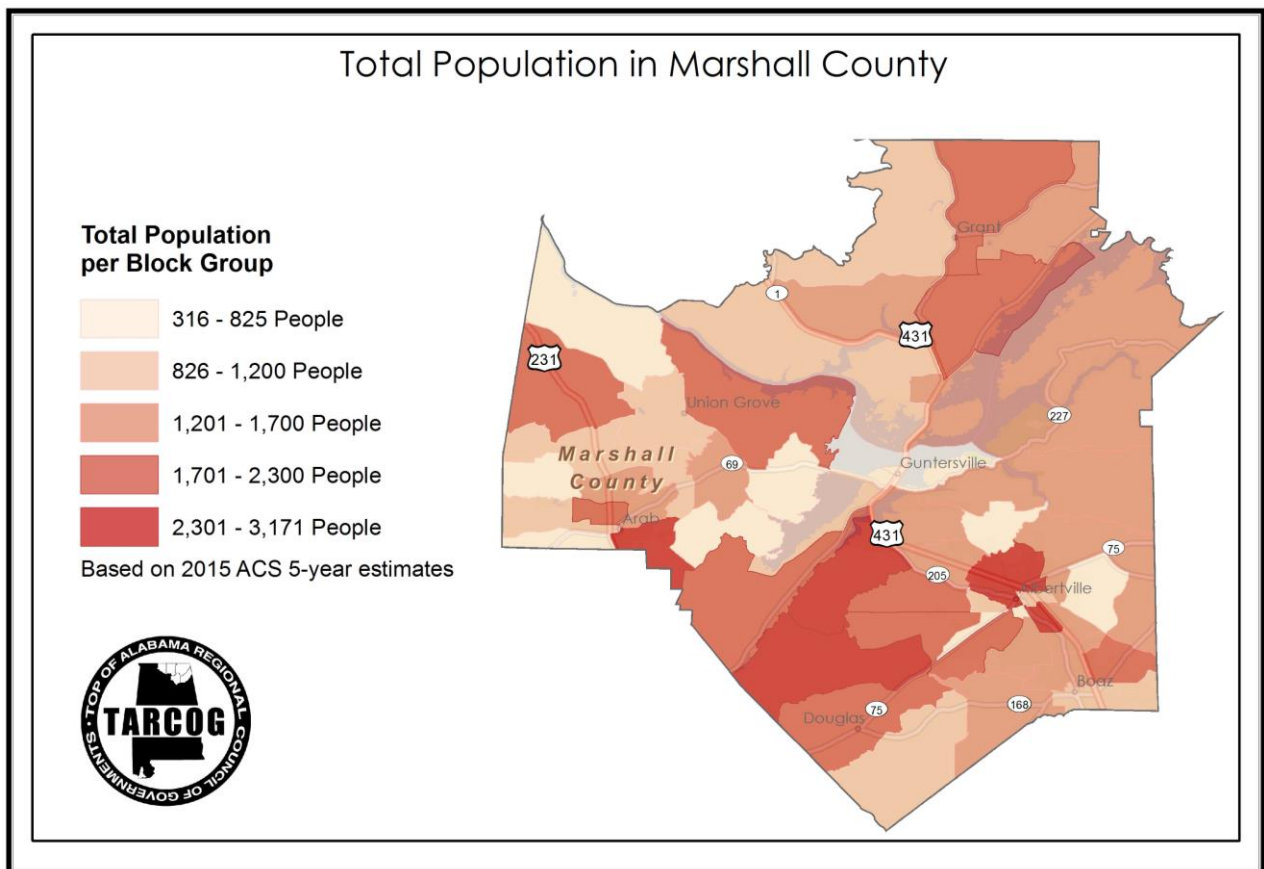
In Marshall County, the central portion of the county in east-west directions falls within the top three highest categories for the persons aged 65 and older. The majority of block groups directly west of Albertville are at or below average for counts of persons aged 65 and older. From Guntersville, three lines of concentration radiate outward towards Arab, Scottsboro, and Boaz. Block groups located in the southcentral portion of the county, contain counts higher than the third highest category for the region. Multiple block groups within and north of Guntersville, surrounding Union Grove, between Albertville and Douglas, and north of Arab, fall within the 27% to 35% concentration; a cluster of block groups between Albertville and Boaz fall within the 23% to 26% of population being 65 years or older.

Six different block groups are categorized as having the highest number of total disabilities in Marshall County. Only Madison County contains a similar amount of high count block groups. These block groups, containing 286 to 585 total disabilities occur on Sand Mountain south of Grant, northern side of Alabama State Hwy 75 in and near the Town of Douglas in southern Marshall County, and near the Cities of Arab and Albertville. In addition, significant clusters of disabled individuals are located throughout the County, except for areas surrounding Guntersville, and western part of the County.

Median Household Income for most of the Marshall County is above average. A few clusters of block groups in the immediate Guntersville, Albertville, Boaz, Arab, and extreme eastern Marshall County along Alabama State Hwy 227 east of Guntersville area fall within the lowest categories of \$22,361 to \$34,000. In the remaining county, almost all block groups had median household income of \$34,001 or more, with a few block groups that fall within highest two categories of income between \$44,201 to \$69,000 at northwest of Guntersville, along the south side of US Hwy 431 towards Huntsville, a few block groups north of Arab, and few block groups near Boaz and Albertville.

Similar to total number of disabilities, Marshall County contains a significant amount of households with no vehicle available. The first cluster occurs in the heart of Albertville that includes one block rated at the highest regional level, 91 to 142 households without a vehicle available. The remainders of the block groups falling in the highest or second highest category of 46 to 90 households without a vehicle available are all found on Sand Mountain. High counts also occur in Guntersville, Arab, Grant, and between Albertville and Boaz.

Looking at the map showing Potential Destinations on Page 34, overlap in needs between all these target populations can be identified. The potential destination map shows density of targeted population with black dots. Areas within all four major cities – Guntersville, Arab, Albertville, and Boaz – have higher density of targeted population along with lower median household income.

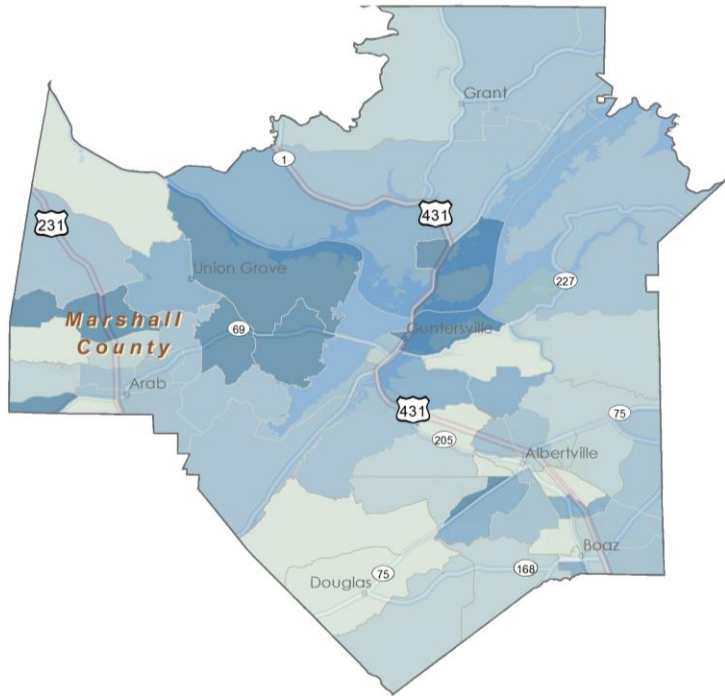


Percent of People 65 and Up in Marshall County

Percent of People 65 and Up per Block Group

- 4% - 11% of Population
- 12% - 17% Population
- 18% - 22% Population
- 23% - 26% Population
- 27% - 35% Population

Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

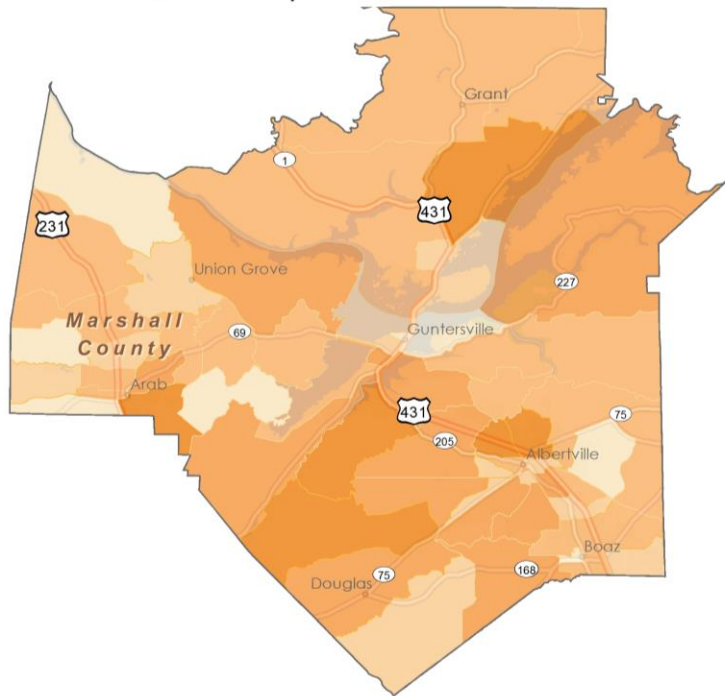


Total Number of People with Disabilities in Marshall County

Number of People with Disabilities per Block Group

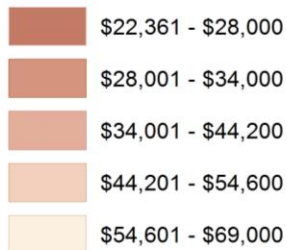
- 18 - 80 People
- 81 - 145 People
- 146 - 210 People
- 211 - 285 People
- 286 - 585 People

Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

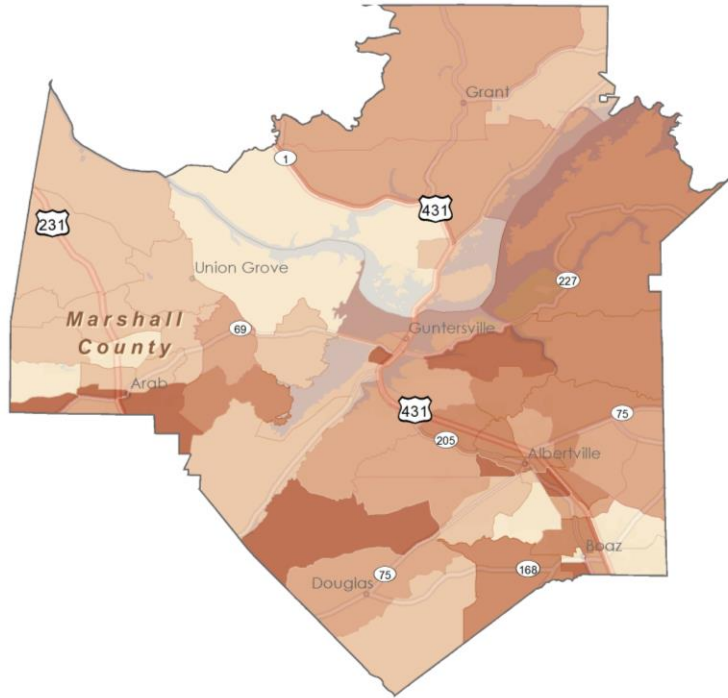


Median Household Income in Marshall County

Median Household Income per Block Group

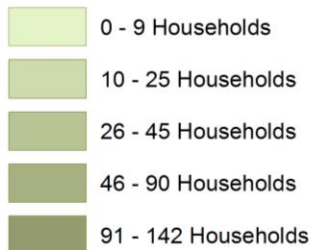


Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates

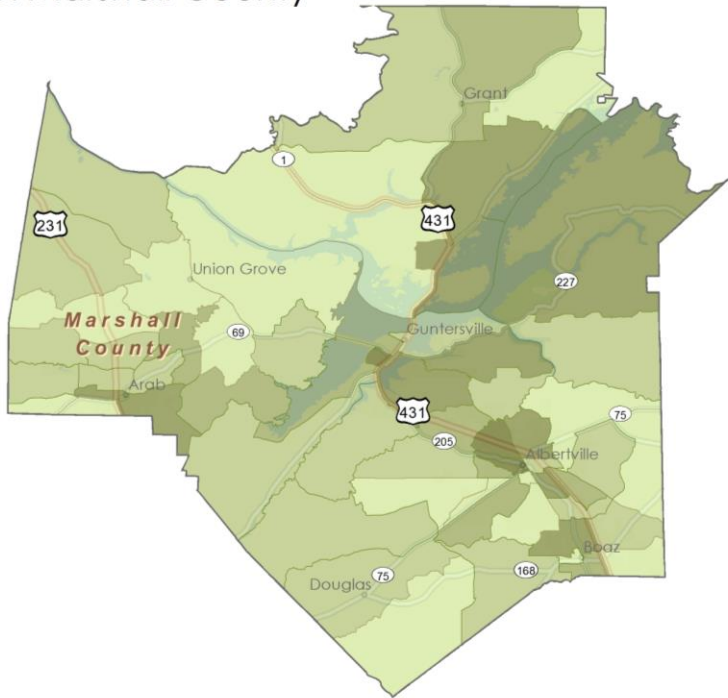


Number of Households with No Available Vehicle in Marshall County

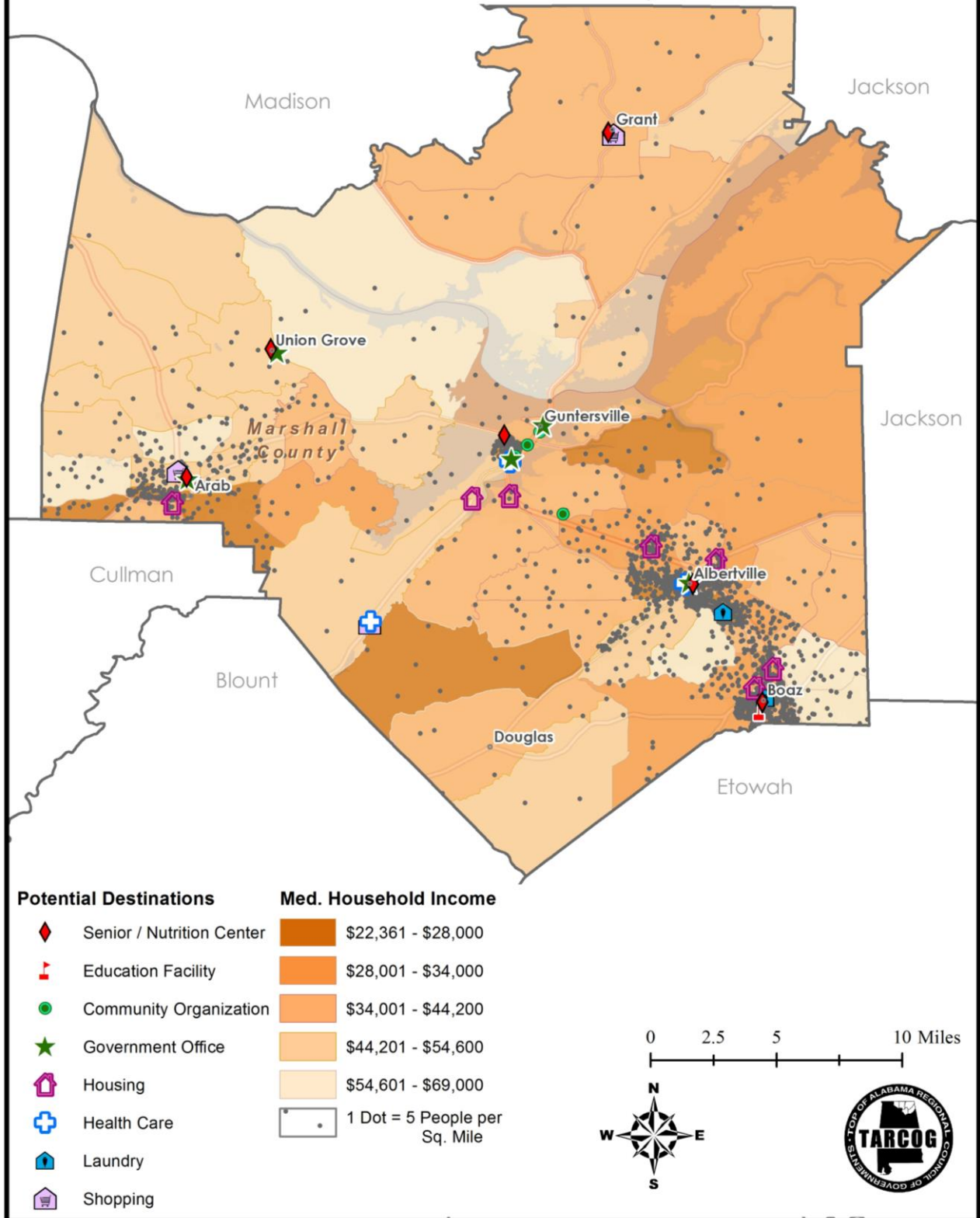
Number of Households with No Available Vehicle per Block Group



Based on 2015 ACS 5-year Estimates



Potential Transit Destinations for Marshall County



Transit Needs and Service Barriers

During the development of this plan, surveys were provided to transit purchasers and transit providers and meetings were held to discuss needs and strategies. Based on this input, the following list of needs was developed.

1. There is no transit available for work-related needs on weekends.
2. There is little transit available for personal needs on weekends.
3. Early morning and evening services are needed.
4. Transportation in the Grant and Douglas area of Marshall County is needed.
5. Services to and between rural areas.
6. Services to medical clinics in Huntsville and other Counties are needed as well.
7. Non-restricted transit services are needed.
8. Some residents do not have access to transit due to scheduling or being outside of the general van routes.
9. More handicap accessible vehicles are needed. Currently, bus can only secure one wheel chair per trip – this creates problem for group home residents in wheelchairs to participate in group outings, since they have to take turns with other wheelchair bound residents to go each outing.
10. At a minimum, there is a need to maintain existing levels of service

Local agencies and governments have limited control over barriers to transit service, which are often related to economic issues, personal choice and the nature of rural communities. These barriers are consistent across the rural counties in the region. These barriers commonly include lack of funding. Even when Federal dollars are available, often there are not sufficient local funds available to match it. Other barriers include the small client base and dispersed population typical of rural areas.

Strategies to Address Needs and Barriers

The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs, including the need to maintain existing levels of service. The strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support the maintenance and improvement of existing service programs and levels of service. (high priority)
2. Support current efforts at coordination of transit services and programs. (high priority)
3. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for work-related needs at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
4. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for personal needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service. (high priority)
5. Support the provision or expansion of transit services to dispersed populations in rural areas. (medium priority)
6. Support the provision or expansion of out-of-county transit services. (medium priority)
7. Support the establishment of additional transportation providers and alternatives. (low priority)
8. Support efforts to seek additional funding sources for combination with existing sources. (high priority)
9. Transit services on Weekends and Holidays

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Chapter 3 Assessment of Transportation Services

DeKalb County Transportation Services
Jackson County Transportation Services
Limestone County Transportation Services
Madison County Transportation Services
Marshall County Transportation Services

DeKalb County Transportation Services

Transit Providers

DeKalb County Rural Public Transportation

DeKalb County is served by one identified transit provider. The DeKalb County Rural Public Transportation (DCRPT) system, operated out of the same office as the DeKalb County Council on Aging, is funded in part by ALDOT, Federal, State, and local funds including Section 5311 (general) monies. The service is offered on demand response base on Monday through Friday from 6 AM to 4 PM and runs a

schedule to particular locations. It provides daily scheduled trips to seven nutrition centers. Other services provided are shopping, medical and pharmacy trips, payment of bills, social and recreational trips including social outings. These trips are spread across nine buses and one van; six buses run routes while four act as backups. Six buses are equipped with lifts and one is equipped with a ramp.

One bus is designated for medical and shopping on Wednesdays and each Senior Center has a designated shopping day. Demand response requires 48 hour advance notice and can be made anywhere in the county that a vehicle of similar size and weight restrictions travels. DCRPT reports that demand response requests are limited and if more were made DCRPT will need increased funding and more drivers.

Fare Structure

Within immediate area of bus route	\$2.00 per trip
Within immediate area of bus route for Seniors 60 or over	\$1.00 per trip
Additional stops within a route	\$.50 per stop
Demand response	\$13.44 per hour and \$.65 per mile

Medicaid vouchers are accepted.

The DCRPT can be contacted at the following address:

DeKalb County Rural Public Transportation
 600 Tyler Ave. SE
 Fort Payne, AL 35967
 Phone: (256) 845-8593
 FAX: (256) 845-8592

Transit Purchasers

While DeKalb County Rural Public Transportation is the only identified transit provider for DeKalb County, two organizations also purchase transit services for their clients.

DeKalb County Council on Aging

The DeKalb County COA purchases transportation from the DCRPT for about 30 clients daily. COA uses Aging and local funding to purchase this service. COA reports that the clients use this service Monday to Friday between 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. DeKalb County Council on Aging can be reached at the following address:

DeKalb County Council on Aging
 600 Tyler Ave. SE
 Fort Payne, AL 35967
 Phone: (256) 845-8590
 FAX: (256) 845-8592

Arc of DeKalb County

The Arc of DeKalb County reports a need for transportation for 42 clients, including two with wheelchair needs. These clients, because of mental illness, require service Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The ARC purchases transportation from the DCRPT using Medicaid, State, and local funds and reports that current transit needs are being met for their agency. The Arc of DeKalb County can be reached at the following address:

Arc of DeKalb County
201 Grand Avenue S.
Fort Payne, AL 35967
Phone: (256) 845-0171 or 845-0165
Fax: (256) 845-0262

Jackson County Transportation Services

Transit Providers

Three transit providers are identified for Jackson County. All of the three agencies providing these transit services are directly related to programs for elderly persons.

Jackson County Rural Public Transportation

Similar to DeKalb County, the Jackson County Rural Public Transportation (JCRPT) program is run through the Council on Aging office. This Program is funded in part by Section 5311 (general) monies as well as some local funds. JCRPT operates seven buses including some with a lift. The program covers Jackson County and does offer a demand response service. Demand response service can be reserved through phone and can be made anywhere in the county that a vehicle of similar size and weight restrictions travels. Contract agencies can reserve the service for their client. These routes generally run 6:30 am – 3:30 pm. Basic routes are as follow, with each route coming to Scottsboro in the morning and returning to its origin in the evening:

Route Areas:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Scottsboro ¹	Scottsboro	Scottsboro	Scottsboro	Scottsboro
Bridgeport ¹	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	Bridgeport
Stevenson ¹	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson
Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson	Stevenson
Bridgeport	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	Bridgeport
Woodville	Woodville	Woodville		Woodville
Paint Rock			Paint Rock	
Skyline			Skyline	
Upper Sand Mountain ²		Upper Sand Mountain		Upper Sand Mountain
	Sand Mountain Area ³	Sand Mountain Area	Sand Mountain Area	Sand Mountain Area
Hollywood	Hollywood	Hollywood	Hollywood	

- ¹ – Three vans are used M-F for Nutrition Centers in Scottsboro, Bridgeport, and Stevenson.
- ² – Upper Sand Mountain route includes Flat Rock, Pisgah, and Stevenson areas.
- ³ – Sand Mountain route includes the Section, Macedonia, Pisgah, and Dutton areas.

Fare Structure:

General Public:	
1 st pick up of the day – under 60 yrs.	\$5.00
1 st pick up of the day – 60 yrs. and older	\$4.00
All additional pickups on the same day	\$0.25 per stop
Contract passengers per yearly cost allocation	

The JCRPT program can be reached at:

Jackson County Council on Aging
 146 Rita Williams Dr.
 Scottsboro, AL 35769
 Phone: (256)574-6733
 Fax: (256)574-0242

The Arc of Jackson County

The Arc of Jackson County provides fixed routes transit service to adults with intellectual disability. The ARC operates eight buses – 4 with lifts and 4 without lifts, and 1 van throughout Jackson County. The program is funded in part by Section 5310 (Elderly and Disabled) monies. It occasionally works with Jackson County COA to assist with transportation and provides work related transportation when rides are available. It reports total annual trips at 11,648, approximately broken down over the following categories:

Medical	15
Education	9,212
Work	2,371
Nutrition	50

The Arc operates transit within Jackson County Monday through Friday from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Passengers fall into two classifications, elderly and persons with disabilities.

Routes:

City/Haymon	No. Jackson	No. Sand Mtn.	So. Sand Mtn.	West Jackson
Scottsboro	Stevenson	Bryant	Section	Skyline
Rainsville	Bridgeport	Higdon	Macedonia	Woodville
Fyffe	Hollywood	Rosalee	Dutton	Paint Rock Valley
Powell	Fackler	Henagar	So. Jackson County	West Jackson County
	No. Jackson County	Pisgah		
		Dutton		

		Pleasant View		
		No. Jackson County		

The ARC of Jackson County can be contacted at:

The ARC of Jackson County
 180 Mack Morris Dr.
 Scottsboro, AL 35769
 Phone: (256) 259-1603
 Fax: (256) 259-4162

The City of Bridgeport

The City of Bridgeport operates one 15-passenger van with a lift purchased through the Council on Aging but maintained and driven by the city. This van operates Monday through Friday 8 AM to 4 PM and is funded by Section 5310 (general) monies. Transportation is provided for medical visits, shopping, and to deliver lunches Monday through Friday based on lists provided through the Council on Aging. There is an elderly and/or disabled requirement. Trips are also made to Marion County, Tennessee. The City of Bridgeport can be reached at:

City of Bridgeport
 P.O. Box 747
 (116 Jim Thomas Ave.)
 Bridgeport, AL 35740
 Phone: (256) 495-3892
 Fax: (256) 495-3611

Transit Purchasers

While the above three organization are identified as transit providers, three other organizations also purchase transit services for their clients.

CASA of Jackson County

CASA of Jackson County is a human service agency that purchases transportation for elderly and disabled in Jackson County. Transportation services are purchased from Jackson County COA for five clients with mental disability that do not require assistance during trips. The service is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and paid by individual clients. The organization can be contacted at:

CASA of Jackson County
 250 South Broad St
 Scottsboro, AL 35768
 Phone: (256) 259-3736
 Fax: (256) 259-3182

The Jackson County Department of Human Resources

The Jackson County Department of Human Resources (JCDHR) purchases transit services for 30 clients. The agency uses volunteer drivers and purchases transit from Jackson County COA on an as needed basis. It reports that transportation vouchers and service providing access to the Northeast Community College would be really beneficial to the clients. The JCDHR program can be contacted at:

Jackson County Department of Human Resources
205 Liberty Lane
Scottsboro, AL 35769
Phone: (256) 575-6032
Fax: (256) 575-6032

Highlands Medical Center

Highlands Medical Center purchases transit services for approximately 20 – 30 clients per year. Less than 5% of these clients are wheelchair bound or mentally disabled. It purchases transit from Jackson County COA on an as needed basis. It reports that services providing access to the rural areas of the county after hours or in the weekend, as well as services connecting to DeKalb County would be beneficial to the clients. Highlands Medical Center can be contacted at:

Highlands Medical Center
380 Woods Cove Road
Scottsboro, AL 35768
Phone: (256) 218-3713
Fax: (256) 218-3654

Limestone County Transportation Services

Transit Providers

Five transit providers are identified for Limestone County. Four of the five agencies providing these transit services are directly related to programs for elderly persons: Limestone County Council on Aging, the Athens-Limestone County RSVP, Town of Ardmore, and Limestone County Commission. While three programs provide transit for People with disabilities, Limestone County doesn't have any true public transportation that is open to everyone.

Limestone County Council on Aging

Limestone County Council on Aging (LCCOA) operates 7 buses, 4 vans, 4 cars, and 2 SUVs in both fixed route and demand response in their program. This program also utilizes volunteers to provide transit services. LCCOA transit serves senior centers in Limestone County and is funded through Section 5309, Section 5311, Section 5307, and Section 5310 (General) and local, city and county monies. LCCOA transit also provides services to Madison and Morgan County for wheel chair bound clients for medical appointments. LCCOA operates transit service Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. There is no charge to use the bus service, though donations are accepted. LCCOA can be contacted at:

Limestone County Council on Aging
912 West Pryor Street

Athens, AL 35611
Phone: (256) 233-6412
Fax: (256) 233-6466

Limestone County Commission

Limestone County Commission operates one lift and ramps equipped van to provide transportation for elderly and disabled dialysis patients. It operates demand response service on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6:00 AM to 5 PM. This services is available in Limestone County and is funded through Section 5310 (General) and local county monies. Limestone County Commission can be contacted at:

Limestone County Commission
310 W Washington Street
Athens, AL 35611
Phone: (256) 216-3424
Fax: (256) 233-6403

Athens-Limestone County RSVP, Inc.

Athens-Limestone County RSVP (ALRSVP) provides transportation services within Limestone County and regularly visits nursing homes located in Madison and Morgan Counties. One bus with lift is operated on fixed route by the ALRSVP. The ALRSVP transit service operates anywhere within Limestone County Monday through Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. The service is also available on an as needed basis. ALRSVP reports the total annual trips at 1,618 approximately broken down over the following categories:

Medical	1
Nutrition	277
Other/RSVP	1,340

This service is funded through Section 5310 money and is limited to the elderly or individuals with disabilities. There is no cost to use the ALRSVP transit service. Athens-Limestone RSVP can be contacted at:

Athens-Limestone RSVP, Inc.
P.O. Box 852
Athens, AL 35612
Phone: (256) 232-7207
Fax: (256) 232-8842

Town of Ardmore

The Town of Ardmore / Ardmore Senior Center operates one van with a lift. This van operates Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM and is funded by Section 5310 (general) monies. Routes are adjusted to fit the transportation needs of members. There is an elderly and/or disabled requirement. Trips are also made to Lincoln and Giles County, Tennessee. The Town of Ardmore can be reached at:

Town of Ardmore
26494 1st Street

Ardmore, AL 35739
Phone: (256) 423-3011
Fax: (256) 423-6945

Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama

The Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama is located in Decatur and provides services in Morgan, Lawrence, and Limestone County. It currently operates 19 vans including 1 van equipped with lifts. The vehicles operate on Monday to Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM on a fixed route and group homes are served seven days a week including holidays as needed. Transit services are provided to the client of Mental Health Center to bring clients to the closest outpatient clinic and return home, and to support treatment services. The organization uses client based 5310 funds and general operating funds to operate the transit. The Mental Health Center currently reports approximately 50,361 total annual trips broken down over the following categories:

Medical	86
Education	14,608
Nutrition	1,639
Recreation	4,573
Shopping/Personal	2,444
Home	19,987
Other	7,024

The organization can be contacted at:

Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama
1316 Somerville Rd. SE, Suite 1
Decatur, AL 35601
Phone: (256) 260-7324
Fax: (256) 355-6092
<http://www.mhcnca.org/>

Madison County Transportation Services

Transit Providers

Eleven transit providers are identified for Madison County. Two of these agencies provide the transit services without any restriction, being true public transportation: Madison County TRAM and Huntsville Shuttle.

Madison County TRAM

The Madison County operates Transportation for Rural Areas of Madison County (TRAM). The Madison County TRAM system operates 8 van routes for general public throughout Madison County with a fleet of 9 modified commuter vans, all of which are lift equipped. The vans operate on a demand response basis, and Madison County TRAM reports approximately 16,512 trips during fiscal year 2014. Trips are scheduled by calling 1-256-532-3792. The cost for demand response and subscription service is \$9.00 round-trip or \$7.00 one-way. TRAM runs Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on

Friday 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., except on County holidays. It is funded with FTA Section 5311 rural public transportation program, Madison county commission fund, and collections from the fare box. More details about TRAM can be found at:

Madison County TRAM
100 North Side Square
Huntsville, AL 35801
Phone: (256) 532-3792
Fax: (256) 532-3704

<http://madisoncountyal.gov/departments/planning-and-economic-development/tram>

City of Huntsville Shuttle System

The City of Huntsville operates two different transit services, the Shuttle Bus System and Handi-Ride, and also offers free ride matching program Commute Smart. Between these services, the system operates 13 buses and 19 vans that are all equipped with lifts.

The Shuttle Bus System is a fixed route system operating 9 specific routes on hourly schedules from approximately 6 AM to 7 PM (times vary slightly between routes). An additional shuttle bus operates as a tourist trolley, also on a fixed route schedule. The free Downtown Route operates on Friday and Saturday from 5 PM to 12 AM. There is also a UAH Campus Shuttle that runs most Friday evenings from 5 PM until 10 PM. Fares for the Shuttle Bus System are:

One-way fare	\$1.00
Senior (60+) and Disabled Citizens and Medicare Card Holders	\$.50
Children 6 and under	\$.50
Students with valid student ID	\$.50

The City of Huntsville also operates Handi-Ride, a demand response system for seniors and persons with disabilities. The cost for this service is \$2 per ride. An application and reservations are required to use this service.

The City of Huntsville also offers Commute Smart Program. It is a free online ridematching and vanpooling service that can be utilized by commuters by registering online in the Commute Smart system. Questions regarding either service should be directed to:

City of Huntsville
Public Transportation Division
500B Church Street
Huntsville, Alabama 35801
Phone: (256) 427- 6811
Fax: (256) 427-6869

City of Madison

The City of Madison operates the Madison Assisted Ride System (MARS). MARS currently operates 3 buses. The service is provided on a demand response basis for clients who qualify for paratransit services according to ADA guidelines. This service operates within the City of Madison for medical

appointments, work related transportation into Huntsville, and special trips to DHR, Social Security Office, Legal, and Courthouse. There is a cost of \$2.00 per one-way trip. The system operates from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except for city holidays. More details about MARS can be found at:

Madison Assisted Ride System
8324 Old Madison Pike
Madison, AL 35758
Phone: (256) 772-2551
Fax: (256) 772-9377
<https://www.madisonal.gov/index.aspx?NID=122>

Madison Senior Center

Madison Senior Center provides transportation services for the senior center attendees to and from Senior Center, monthly trip to Yesterday's Event Center, Limestone County, Morgan County, and occasional shopping and lunch trips. It provides transportation within the Madison City limit. It operates two buses and two cars that are funded by City of Madison. The service is available 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM for pick up, and 1:30 PM for drop off, Monday through Friday. More details about this program can be found at:

Madison Senior Center
1282 Hughes Rd
Madison, AL 35758
Phone: (256) 772-6242
Fax: (256) 464-8435

Friends, Inc.

Another human service agency that provides transportation for elderly, seriously ill patients and disabled, Friends Inc. operates two vans equipped with lifts and also utilizes 130 volunteers who use their own personal vehicles to provide transportation Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM, and on Saturday and holidays on request only. Trips are primarily for medical visits and grocery assistance. It currently reports approximately 884 annual medical trips serving about 120 clients. The organization can be contacted at:

Friends Inc.
P.O. Box 608
Huntsville, AL 35804
Phone: (256) 534-4079

Alabama A & M University

Alabama A & M University operates three fixed routes and one paratransit route with lift-equipped buses through the university's operating money and FTA grants. The service is available on campus during varied times on Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for general three routes, and paratransit route is available on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and on Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Contact information for this service includes:

Alabama A&M University
Department of Transportation (Bulldog Transit System)
4900 Meridian St
Normal, AL 35762
Phone: (256) 372-4760
Fax: (256) 372-8305
<http://www.aamu.edu/>

CASA of Madison County

CASA of Madison County is another human service agency that provides transportation for elderly, and disabled, in Madison County. It utilizes volunteers who use their own personal vehicles to provide transportation Monday through Friday and occasionally on weekends depending on volunteer schedule. Trips are primarily for medical visits. CASA relies on grants and donations to provide various services. The organization can be contacted at:

CASA of Madison County
701 Andrew Jackson Way
Huntsville, AL 35801
Phone: (256) 533-7775
Fax: (256) 533-7544

Arc of Madison County

The Arc of Madison County currently owns 44 vehicles including 11 buses, 13 vans, 14 cars, and 6 box trucks including five vehicles equipped with lifts and two equipped with ramps. It uses the general 5310 funds to provide services. Services are provided Monday through Friday between 6:30 AM and 4:00 PM for day habilitation, and 365 days a year for group home service. The Arc can be contacted at:

The Arc of Madison County, Inc.
1100 Washington Street
Huntsville, AL 35801
Phone: (256) 539-2266
Fax: (256) 539-2836

Caring Senior Services of Huntsville

The Caring Senior Services provides services in Limestone and Madison County. It is identified as a provider. The organization uses general 5310, 5311, client based 5310, and general 5307 money to provide the services. It provides drivers to accompany seniors in their own car for different types of trips including medical appointment, nursing home, beauty shop, shopping, etc. The service is available Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The organization can be contacted at:

Caring Senior Services of Huntsville
9694 Madison Blvd B-7
Madison, AL 35758
Phone: (256) 278-4046

Ability Plus, Inc.

Ability Plus receives Section 5310 funding to support transportation services for its clients seven days a week. This service relies on 13 passenger vans and 18 passenger cars to provide transportation seven days a week, including holidays, if necessary. The only reported restriction on the service is that a user must be an active client in one of the Ability Plus programs. This service operates within Limestone, Madison, and Morgan counties. For further information about ability plus, please contact:

Ability Plus, Inc.
111 Research Blvd
Madison Alabama 35758
Phone: (256) 489-4696
Fax: (256) 489-4665

Regency Retirement Village

Regency Retirement Village funds supporting transportation services for its clients internally. It provides transportation during Monday to Friday from 8AM to 5PM for various scheduled activities, and as needed bases. It operates 2 buses equipped with lifts, 1 minivan, and 1 Lincoln Town Car. The only reported restriction on the service is that a user must be a resident of Regency Village. This service operates within a limited portion of Madison County as well as Marshall and Limestone Counties, and Lincoln County TN. This service currently reports approximately 1,399 trips for their clients. For further information about Regency Retirement Village, please contact:

Regency Retirement Village
2004 Max Luther Drive
Huntsville, AL 35810
Phone: (256) 852-0033
Fax: (256) 859-7700

Transit Purchasers

While above eleven organization are identified as transit providers, six other organizations also purchase transit services for their clients.

Madison County Commission District 1

Madison County Commission District 1 currently purchases transit services for approximately 18 clients from Madison County Tram. It reports that four clients require transportation with lift services. It currently purchases transit services during Monday to Thursday from 7AM to 2 PM. This service is purchased through District 1 general funds. More details about this program can be found at:

Madison County Commission District 1
9457 Moores Mill Road
New Market, AL 35761
Phone: (256) 828-0726
Fax: (256) 828-0022

Madison County Department of Human Resources

Madison County Department of Human Services currently purchases transit services for approximately 200 clients from JOBS Program, and 500 clients from Child Welfare program. It reports clients with mental illness and currently purchases transit services from the City of Huntsville Transit and Madison County TRAM. It uses state funds to provide various services. More details about this program can be found at:

Madison County Department of Human Services
2206 Oakwood Avenue NW
Huntsville, AL 35810
Phone: (256) 427-6050
Fax: (256) 427-6379

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services provides services for people with disabilities in Madison and Jackson County. It currently purchases transit services for approximately 18 clients from the City of Huntsville Handi-Ride, Madison County TRAM, and Madison City MARS. It uses state funds to provide various services. It reports needs in transportation services for weekends and holidays in both Jackson and Madison Counties. More details about this program can be found at:

AL Department of Rehab Services
3000 Johnson Road SW
Huntsville, AL 35805
Phone: (256) 650-1700
Fax: (256) 650-1795

Friends, Inc.

Friends, Inc. currently purchases transit services for approximately 20 clients who are wheelchair bound. The services are purchased for Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM. It purchases these services from the City of Huntsville Handi-Ride, TRAM, and MARS. It uses business and community donations, as well as private pay to purchase the transit. Trips are primarily for medical visits and grocery assistance. It currently reports approximately 318 trips serving their clients. The organization can be contacted at:

Friends Inc.
P.O. Box 608
Huntsville, AL 35804
Phone: (256) 534-4079

Millennium Nursing and Rehab Center, Inc.

Millennium Nursing and Rehab center currently purchases transit services for approximately 91 clients who are wheelchair or bedbound, or patients with dementia. The services are purchased for Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and holidays from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. It purchases these services from the City of Huntsville Handi-Ride, ElderRide, or HEMSI. It uses federal funds and private pay to purchase the transit. More details about this organization can be found at:

Millennium Nursing and Rehab Center, Inc.
5275 Millennium Drive
Huntsville, AL 35806
Phone: (256) 489-6800
Fax: (256) 489-6520

Madison Manor Nursing Home

Madison Manor Nursing Home currently purchases transit services for mainly medical appointments for approximately 20 – 25 clients. It purchases transportation services for wheelchair bound, dementia patients, and oxygen dependent clients from Madison City MARS. It uses general funds and client payments to purchase transit services. More details about this organization can be found at:

Madison Manor Nursing Home
3891 Sullivan St
Madison, AL 35758
Phone: (256) 772-9243
Fax: (256) 772-0148

Marshall County Transportation Services

Transit Providers

Six transit providers are identified for Marshall County. Only one of these agencies provides true public transportation, other five are client specific and provide services to elderly and people with disabilities.

Marshall County Council on Aging

The Marshall County Council on Aging (MCCoA) provides transit service throughout Marshall County. The MCCoA operates 4 buses serving senior centers in Albertville, Arab, Boaz, Guntersville, Douglas, Grant, Union Grove, and Martling. In Albertville, MCCoA resources are used for the public transportation program. MCCoA uses Section 5310 (General) funds and other local funds for the services. MCCoA operates transit services Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. There is no cost to use the service and MCCoA reports running 112,500 trips per year. Vehicles are garaged at the centers, at the Albertville and Guntersville City facilities, or at drivers' homes. Extra county buses are garaged at the county parking lot. MCCoA can be contacted at:

Marshall County Council on Aging
436 Blount Avenue
Guntersville, AL 35976
Phone: (256) 571-7805
FAX: (256) 571-7809

Guntersville Public Transportation

The City of Guntersville provides public transportation through the Guntersville Public Transportation (GPT) program. The GPT service is open to the general public for those citizens in the immediate Guntersville area. The service operates Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 2:30 PM on demand response bases. GPT reports total annual trips at 16,300 approximately broken down over the following categories:

Medical	9,000
Work	2,200
Nutrition	1,100
Shopping	4,000

GPT operates 7 buses equipped with ramps. It is funded in part by Section 5311, and local monies. Their office is located at:

Guntersville Public Transportation
 1741 Blount Avenue
 Guntersville, AL 35976
 Phone: (256) 571-7574
 Fax: (256) 571-7578

Marshall County Arc, Inc.

The Marshall County Arc (MCARC) provides transit to its clients through specific routes in Marshall County. MCARC operates five vans that each carries 15 passengers or less including two that are equipped with a lift. These vans run Monday through Friday, from 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM. There is no charge for ARC clients to use this transportation service. It is funded with FTA Section 5310 funds that are matched with Arc local funds. MCARC reports approximately 18,654 educational trips, and 250 recreational trips last year. MCARC can be contacted at:

Marshall County Arc, Inc.
 5104 Porter Harvey Drive
 Guntersville, AL 35976
 Phone: (256) 582-5009
 Fax: (256) 582-5015

City of Albertville

The City of Albertville also offers a public transportation service through the Albertville Senior Center. Public transportation uses two buses. Immediate healthcare needs are the primary concern of this service, and except for trips to local hospitals this service is limited to the Albertville area. It provides transportation on demand from 8 AM until 4 PM Monday through Friday. Albertville Senior Center reports total annual trips at 1,742 approximately broken down over the following categories:

Medical	760
Work	440
Shopping	542

It is funded in part by General Section 5310 funds. There is a cost of \$1.00 to \$3.00 depending on mileage per one-way trip. Their office can be reached at:

Albertville Senior Center
 709 South Broad St
 Albertville, AL 35950
 Phone: (256) 891-8279
 Fax: (256) 891-8272

Boaz Senior Center

Boaz Senior Center provides client based transit service to elderly within Boaz city limits in Marshall and Etowah counties. It operates 3 buses and 1 van including one vehicle equipped with lift and one equipped with ramp. Operation hours are Monday through Wednesday from 7:00AM to 3:00PM, Thursday from 7:00AM to 4:00PM, and on Friday from 7:00AM to 2:00PM. It is a fixed route service that can be accessed by scheduling in advanced with a phone call. It reports total annual trips at 6,294 approximately broken down over the following categories:

Medical	481
Nutrition	2,030
Recreation	226
Shopping/Personal	914
Home	2,643

It is funded with Section 5310 (Client-Based) and only serves people 60 years or older. Boaz Senior Center can be contacted at:

Boaz Senior Center
112 South Church Street
Boaz, AL 35957
Phone: (256) 593-1107
FAX: (256) 593-1871

Arab Senior Center

Arab Senior Center provides client based transit service to elderly within Arab City limits in Marshall County. It operates 2 buses equipped with lifts. Operation hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM. It is a fixed route service. It reports total annual trips at 3,594 approximately broken down over the following categories:

Medical	169
Nutrition	3,205
Recreation	220

It is funded with Section 5310 (Client-Based) and local city funds. It only serves people 60 years or older. Arab Senior Center can be contacted at:

Arab Senior Center
800 North Main Street
Arab, AL 35016
Phone: (256) 586-6960
FAX: (256) 586-2990

Transit Purchasers

While the above five organizations are identified as transit providers, the following organization also purchases transit services for their clients.

Marshall Manor Nursing and Rehab

Marshall Manor Nursing and Rehab purchases transportation services from Guntersville Public Transportation. The service is only available to their clients within Guntersville City limits during Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. It purchases services for approximately 20-25 clients with wheelchair or mental disability. Marshall Manor Nursing and Rehab can be contacted at:

Marshall Manor Nursing and Rehab
3120 North St
Guntersville, AL 35976
Phone: (256) 582-6561
Fax: (256) 582-2381

Barfield Health Care

Barfield Health Care purchases transportation services from Guntersville Public Transportation. The service is only available to their clients within Guntersville City limits during regular business hours, Monday through Friday. It purchases services for approximately 25 clients including 17 patients with wheelchair or mental disability. Barfield Health Care can be contacted at:

Barfield Health Care
22444 Highway 431
Guntersville, AL 35976
Phone: (256) 582-3112
Fax: (256) 582-2509

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Chapter 4

Assessment of Gaps and Unmet Needs in Transit Services

Temporal Gaps in Coverage
Spatial Gaps in Coverage
General Regionwide Unmet Needs

TARCOG distributed a round of surveys to collect information from current transit providers and purchasers. These surveys – attached in the Appendix – targeted transit purchasers, transit providers, healthcare facilities, and human service agencies, in an attempt to highlight the current strengths and weaknesses of area transit while also establishing some consensus on current and future needs and goals of area transit systems. Approximately 250 surveys were mailed out. Most respondents represented transit providers, healthcare facilities, and human service agencies.

Temporal Gaps in Coverage

After the assessment of survey responses, the second facet to a consideration of gaps in coverage involves times of service for area transit. Based on the majority of survey responses, time of service is a major concern of transit users. Specifically, survey respondents noted an absence of available transit in most areas in the early morning hours and late afternoon hours. This absence clearly affects transit dependent population's choice of employment. In addition, respondents also consistently noted a lack of weekend transit services. In the table below, "Current Coverage Times for Each Service", the operating hours for each day of the week are listed for transit providers identified in this plan.

An examination of this table reveals that in three of the five counties listed (DeKalb, Jackson, and Marshall), no transit of any kind is available on Saturday and Sunday. In addition, in Limestone County the only weekend transportation available is a client specific service for those persons served by the Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama. A similar situation exists in Madison County, with the exception of the Tourist Loop and Downtown Route on Saturdays within Huntsville. In practical terms, no transit exists in the five county region on Saturday and Sunday for work-related needs and extremely little exists for personal needs such as shopping or recreation.

Related to this issue, no service in any county except for Madison runs transit services past 5:30 p.m. and very few services operate transit prior to 7 a.m. across the region. Even in the City of Huntsville, transit services end at 6:00 p.m., which prevents transit dependent populations from working shifts through the evening. Because many lower income populations rely on service industry jobs, this is a significant issue in employment transportation.

	Current Coverage Times for Each Service							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
DeKalb County Rural Public Transportation	6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.							
City of Bridgeport	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.							
Jackson County Rural Public Transportation	6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.							
ARC of Jackson County	6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.							
Athens Limestone County RSVP	8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.							
Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama	7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.						Group homes only, as needed	
Limestone County Council on Aging	7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.							
Limestone County Commission	6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.		6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.		6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.			
Ardmore Senior Center	8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.							
MARS	7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.							

	Current Coverage Times for Each Service							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
Madison County TRAM	6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.			
City of Huntsville	6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.					8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., (Tourist Loop)		
					5:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., (Downtown Circulator)			
Madison Senior Center	7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. pickup and 1:30 p.m. drop off							
Arc of Madison County	8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.							
Friends, Inc.	Time is Volunteer Dependent, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.							
Regency Retirement Village	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., As needed							
Caring Senior Services of Huntsville	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.							
Alabama A&M University	7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.							
Ability Plus	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.					As Needed		
Marshall County ARC	7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.							
Marshall County Council on Aging	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.							
City of Albertville	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.							
Arab Senior Center	7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.							
Boaz Senior Center	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.			7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.			
Guntersville Public Transportation	7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.							

Elderly and/or Individual with Disability Restriction

Client Specific	
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Rural Only	
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No Restrictions	
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Spatial Gaps in Coverage

Across the region, only a handful of municipalities offer transit that is open to the general public. More commonly, some municipalities and counties do have transit available to the elderly, persons with disabilities, or in a few cases low income and/or rural residents. Limestone County, including Athens, is entirely devoid of non-restricted public transportation, but does service the elderly and persons with disabilities through a small group of human service agencies. Jackson County, too, lacks a true non-restricted public transportation service.

DeKalb County has one public transportation provider, the DRCPT, but no other provider, such as a human service agency, that targets specific population groups. Marshall County has a public transportation operator within Guntersville, but its service range is limited within the town boundaries. The City of Albertville also operates a bus on a limited basis within its town boundaries. Transit from municipality to municipality, not just within Marshall County but in the region as a whole, is severely limited or in most cases impossible. In addition, a decrease in available services occurs moving from larger towns into rural county areas. In most cases rural parts of each county received no service or service limited to specific groups (such as the elderly).

General Regionwide Unmet Needs

Five general unmet needs emerged from the survey process that apply region wide:

Continued Funding - The dramatic increase in prices for petroleum-based products has not only increased operating expenses through fuel consumption but also increased the expense of maintaining transit vehicles. Funding sources that require 50% match are increasingly out of reach for many local transit providers. The overwhelming majority of transit providers responded that, up to this point, fares have remained stable but almost every single provider also noted that their organization is now considering fare increases for all customers. Because of this situation, transit provider's ability to respond to the other general unmet needs will be compromised.

Non-standard hours - Out of the primary transit providers included in this plan, all operate within the hours 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Several responses targeted a need for transit outside of these times, specifically for 2nd or 3rd shift workers and workers with non-standard hours.

Weekend Transportation - The third general unmet need, closely related to a need for non-standard hours, is for transit services on the weekend. These comments involved lack of transit for low-income general public for work and leisure activities on Saturday and Sunday. Currently every non-client specific provider included in this plan who provided operation information runs within Monday to Friday, with a minor exception for the City of Huntsville Tourist Loop Trolley on Saturdays. A few do provide some weekend transit for specific requests, on demand need. Largely, though, this is a gap in coverage.

Out of area transit need - Less emphasized since the original plan, respondents did express a need for out-of-area transit services. A few providers offer some limited form of out-of-area transportation, notably CASA of Limestone County, but even this is restricted to volunteers using personal vehicles. More than one response expressed need for medical transportation to specialists in Birmingham and to the VA hospital in that same area. Other comments expressed this same need across the region, for

example, noting a need to provide transportation from one county to specific medical specialists across the region in another county.

Awareness and Access – The last general unmet need, mainly emphasized in Madison County and other small urban areas is awareness of various transportation services and getting access to the system through feeder services. Many human service agencies have expressed that most of the time their clients don't have access to information about available services in the area, and there needs to be a comprehensive list of all the services available at an agency functioning as one-stop-shop. A great example of this situation is Commute Smart Program provided by City of Huntsville. It is a program that has a lot of potential to be successful among lower income individuals, but it is widely unknown in the region.

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Chapter 5 Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusions
Recommendations with Strategies

Conclusions

The counties within the TARCOG study area are generally rural, dominated by a central municipality, and lacking in a consolidated, full service public transit system capable of providing service on a continuous, day-to-day basis. Each county has a transit provider that serves at least some portion of the target populations in this plan. Some counties have multiple programs that provide more comprehensive, affordable, and accessible transit services. The target population best represented by various transit services in the region is persons age 65 or older. For this group, multiple transportation opportunities exist at reduced or free expense for medical, shopping, and social outlets. This is primarily accomplished through the Councils on Aging, but many services supplement the CoA transit system. The target population least represented by transit systems is low-income workers, particularly those employees requiring weekend and 2nd or 3rd shift transportation. Transportation routes serving areas where cluster

of businesses with historically low wage workforce are located can benefit from afterhours services including late night and early morning.

Innovative projects that are successful in similar regions involving coordination between private business, nonprofit organizations, public transit agencies and/or individual employees could be really beneficial to lower income individuals living within or near urban areas. Programs like park and ride, or commute smart could have significant impact on transportation access for low-income workers with the understanding that the implementation strategies need to be carefully crafted.

Across the board, transit providers stated that to extend or initiate transportation opportunities, increased funding will be necessary. This has become an increasingly dominant issue in the years since the original plan. Limitations on the amount and availability of drivers already restricts the operating time of some transit services. In addition, knowledge of current transit opportunities varies by municipality which prevents the full utilization of some services. Some agencies do work together, such as DHR and the Councils on Aging, but in general, a lack of coordination between transit providers and municipalities still restricts a consolidated public transportation system. However, this is largely a reflection of a lack of general all-purpose public transportation in the area. Most transit providers serve specific populations with specific needs that are not easily dovetailed into existing programs elsewhere.

Recommendations with Strategies

This plan advances the following general recommendations to improve transit in the TARCOG region. County specific strategies are provided at the end of the County Summary for each county. These recommendations draw from stakeholders' input and an assessment of current systems and practices in this area, and should be considered while funding the future projects for targeted federal grants – Section 5310, 5316, and 5317. They are:

Increased funding for continued and expanded service - As almost all stakeholder respondents noted, existing transit services operate near or at funding capacity. To extend hours, add routes, and employ more drivers increased funding will be required. The majority of current funds come from Sections 5309, 5310, 5311, JARC, local and organizational monies. Increasing fares should be avoided unless absolutely necessary in serving the target populations of this plan. These populations are particularly susceptible to large jumps in fuel prices and the resulting increases in fares. For this reason, projects that maintain current levels of service without greatly increasing costs to transit users should be encouraged. The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs. The strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support the maintenance and improvement of existing service programs and levels of service.
2. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for work-related needs at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service.
3. Support the expansion of transit services to provide for personal needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities at all times, particularly early morning, evening and weekend service.
4. Support the provision or expansion of transit services to dispersed populations in rural areas.
5. Support the provision of transportation through the assistance of a third-party by contract or on an as-needed basis to allow existing transit providers to temporarily address unmet needs of the region (such as after-hours transportation) without fully committing all available resources to an expansion.

6. Support additional funding for social service agencies' clients to ride public transportation at a free or reduced cost.
7. Support feeder services and targeted services for various clusters of population in cooperation with existing services.

Out-of-area transportation – In the original planning process as well as in this update, respondents noted a lack of transportation for out of area trips. Especially, concern is a lack of available transportation to the Hospital in Birmingham or to medical appointments in Huntsville from more rural areas as well as hospitals and clinics in other counties within the five county region. The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs. The strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support the provision or expansion of out-of-county transit services.
2. Support the provision or expansion of intercity transit services through coordination of current transit services or establishment of new services.
3. Support the provision of transportation through the assistance of a third-party by contract or on an as-needed basis to allow existing transit providers to temporarily address unmet needs of the region without fully committing all available resources to an expansion.
4. Support the establishment of additional transportation providers and alternatives.

Increase Coordination and encourage innovative projects - As noted from the stakeholder respondents, a lack of coordination between transit providers and municipalities still restricts a consolidated public transportation system. Improving the coordination between transit agencies will improve overall transit efficiency in rural areas as well as Huntsville Metro. In the TARCOG region only the Huntsville Metro area provides transit services to everyone but still lacks after hours and weekend transportation. The following strategies were developed to address the foregoing barriers and needs. The strategies are general in nature so as not to preclude any specified projects that may come up in the future.

1. Support the establishment of additional transportation providers and alternatives.
2. Support efforts to seek additional funding sources for combination with existing sources.
3. Support the establishment of a One-Stop Information Center or Website to match transportation needs with providers.
4. Support the Promotion, Education, and Information sharing between agencies, providers, and riders.
5. Support cost effective programs that support and/or build upon existing services to increase service efficiency.

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Appendices

Appendix A: HSCTP Stakeholders List

Appendix B: HSCTP Survey Material

Appendix C: HSCTP Meeting Material

Appendix D: Selected Bibliography

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Appendix A

HSCTP Stakeholders List

Organization	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip	County
Northeast Alabama Community College	P. O. Box 159	Rainsville	AL	35986	DeKalb
City of Fort Payne	100 Alabama Avenue NW	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
City of Fort Payne Airport	2200 Terminal Dr.	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
City of Henagar	P.O. Box 39	Henagar	AL	35978	DeKalb
City of Rainsville	P.O. Box 309	Rainsville	AL	35986	DeKalb
DeKalb Co. Career Center	2100 Jordan Rd. SW	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
DeKalb Co. Health Dept.	2401 Calvin Drive, Southwest	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
DeKalb Co. Human Resources Office	P.O. Box 680049	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
DeKalb Co. Mental Health Center	301 14th St. NW	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
DeKalb Co. Veterans Service Officer	P.O. Box 680373	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
DeKalb County Commission	111 Grand Avenue, SW Suite 200	Fort Payne	AL	36967	DeKalb
Town of Collinsville	P.O. Box 390	Collinsville	AL	35961	DeKalb
Town of Crossville	P.O. Box 100	Crossville	AL	35962	DeKalb
Town of Fyffe	P.O. Box 8	Fyffe	AL	35971	DeKalb
Town of Geraldine	P.O. Box 183	Geraldine	AL	35974	DeKalb
Town of Henagar	P.O. Box 39	Henagar	AL	35978	DeKalb
Town of Hammondville	P.O. Box 329 Valley Head	Valley Head	AL	35989	DeKalb
Town of Ider	P.O. Box 157	Ider	AL	35981	DeKalb
Town of Lakeview	P.O. Box 85	Geraldine	AL	35974	DeKalb
Town of Mentone	P.O. Box 295	Mentone	AL	35984	DeKalb
Town of Powell	110 Broad Street North	Fyffe	AL	35971	DeKalb
Town of Shiloh	P.O. Box 924	Rainsville	AL	35986	DeKalb
Town of Sylvania	P.O. Box 150	Sylvania	AL	35988	DeKalb
Town of Valley Head	41 Anderson Street	Valley Head	AL	35989	DeKalb
Dogwood Haven I + II	751 Houston Loop Rd. W.	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Haymon Home	300 Haymon St	Fyffe	AL	35971	DeKalb
Haymon Home	100 Brown St	Fyffe	AL	35971	DeKalb
Haymon Home #4	219 Haymon St	Fyffe	AL	35971	DeKalb
Haymon's Foster Home	581 County Road 247	Fyffe	AL	35971	DeKalb
Morning Glory Meadows Assisted	2055 Main Street	Fyffe	AL	35971	DeKalb
Rose Manor of Geraldine	202 County Road 526	Geraldine	AL	35974	DeKalb
Spring Grove Apartments	500 Turner Ave. SE	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Willscreek Village	1050 Airport Rd. W.	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
Cancer Care Center of DeKalb	1608 Glenn Blvd, SW	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
DeKalb Dialysis Services	423 Medical Center Dr. SW	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
DeKalb Interfaith Medical Clinic Inc	917 Godfrey Ave SE	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
DeKalb Oncology	415 Medical Center Dr.	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb

Organization	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip	County
DeKalb Regional Medical Center	200 Medical Center Dr.	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
Gorman's Medical Services	1100 Dekalb Plaza Blvd SW	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Mental Health Center-County	301 14th St NW	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Women's HealthCare Associates PC	323 Medical Center Dr SW	Fort Payne	AL	35968	DeKalb
Collinsville Healthcare & Rehab	P.O. Box 310	Collinsville	AL	35961	DeKalb
Collinsville Nutrition Center	103 Truman Lane	Collinsville	AL	35961	DeKalb
Crossville Health and Rehabilitation, LLC	8922 Alabama Highway 227 North	Crossville	AL	35962	DeKalb
Crossville Nutrition Ctr	94 Gaines St	Crossville	AL	35962	DeKalb
Crowne Health Care of Fort Payne	403 13th Street, NW	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Fort Payne Senior Club	600 Tyler Avenue S.E.	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Geraldine Senior Center	150 Old Mill Road	Geraldine	AL	35974	DeKalb
Ider Senior Center	1852 Dogwood Dr	Ider	AL	35981	DeKalb
Mid South Home Health Agency	1214 Forest Ave NW	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Rainsville Senior Center	113 McCurdy Ave	Rainsville	AL	35986	DeKalb
ARC of DeKalb County	201 Grand Avenue South	Fort Payne	AL	36967	DeKalb
DeKalb Co. Council on Aging / CASA	600 Tyler Ave. SE	Fort Payne	AL	35967	DeKalb
Fort Payne City Schools	205 45th Street NE	Fort Payne	AL	36967	DeKalb
City of Bridgeport	P.O. Box 747	Bridgeport	AL	35740	Jackson
City of Scottsboro	316 S. Broad St.	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
City of Stevenson	104 Kentucky Avenue	Stevenson	AL	35772	Jackson
Jackson Co. Dept. of Human Resources	205 Liberty Lane	Scottsboro	AL	35769	Jackson
Jackson Co. Health Department	P.O. Box 398	Scottsboro	AL	35769	Jackson
Jackson Co. School District	P.O. Box 490	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
Jackson County Commission	102 E Laurel St. Suite 47	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
Jackson County Council on Aging Senior Center	P.O. Box 1045	Scottsboro	AL	35769	Jackson
Town of Dutton	P.O. Box 6	Dutton	AL	35744	Jackson
Town of Hollywood	92 Tawasentha Circle	Hollywood	AL	35752	Jackson
Town of Hytop	30332 AL Hwy 79	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
Town of Langston	P.O. Box 33	Langston	AL	35755	Jackson
Town of Paint Rock	P.O. Box 143	Paint Rock	AL	35764	Jackson
Town of Pleasant Groves	3973 Co. Rd. 8	Woodville	AL	35776	Jackson
Town of Section	P.O. Box 7	Section	AL	35771	Jackson
Town of Skyline	11732 County Rd. 17	Woodville	AL	35776	Jackson
Town of Woodville	P.O. Box 94	Woodville	AL	35776	Jackson
Town of Pisgah	P.O. Box 2	Pisgah	AL	35765	Jackson
Rose Wood Manor	1513 County Park Rd.	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
Southern States Assisted Living LLC	212 E. Stewart Rd.	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson

Organization	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip	County
Cumberland Health & Rehab Nursing Station	47065 al Highway 277	Bridgeport	AL	35740	Jackson
Health Quest Medical Wellness Center	515 Veterans Dr.	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
Jackson Co. Hospital (Highlands Medical Center or The Jackson County Health Care Authority)	380 Woods Cove Rd.	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
North Jackson Nursing Home	47005 AL Highway 277	Bridgeport	AL	35740	Jackson
Section Primary Health Center	302 Main Street South	Section	AL	35771	Jackson
Cloverdale Manor	412 Cloverdale Rd.	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
ARC of Jackson County	180 Mack Morris Drive	Scottsboro	AL	35769	Jackson
CASA (Care Assurance System for the Aging and Homebound of Jackson County)	250 South Broad Street	Scottsboro	AL	35768	Jackson
Athens State University	300 N. Beaty St.	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Calhoun Community College	P.O. Box 2216 Decatur, AL 35609	Tanner	AL	35671	Limestone
Athens-Limestone Co. Senior Center	912 W. Pryor St.	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
City of Athens	P.O. Box 1089	Athens	AL	35612	Limestone
Housing Authority of Athens	700 5th Avenue # J	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Limestone Co. Dept. of Human Resource	P.O. Box 830	Athens	AL	35612	Limestone
Limestone Co. Health Dept.	P.O. Box 889	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Limestone County Commission	310 West Washington St.	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Town of Ardmore	P.O. Box 151	Ardmore	AL	38449	Limestone
Town of Elkmont	P.O. Box 387	Elkmont	AL	35620	Limestone
Town of Lester	P.O. Box 25	Lester	AL	35647	Limestone
Town of Mooresville	P.O. Box 42	Mooresville	AL	35649	Limestone
Limestone Manor	600 Highway 31 N.	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Athens Convalescent & Rehab Center	611 W Market St	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Athens/Limestone Counseling Center	1307 East Elm Street	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Athens-Limestone Hospital	P.O. Box 999	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Hospice of Limestone Co.	P.O. Box 626	Athens	AL	35612	Limestone
Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama, Inc.	1316 Somerville Rd SE	Decatur	AL	35601	Limestone
Waddell Center Family Medicine	902 W Washington St	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Caring Senior Service	103 Cloverleaf Dr. Suite 15	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Limestone Health Facility	1600 W. Hobbs	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Limestone Lodge	East 1528 W. Hobbs St.	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Madison Manor Nursing Home, LLC	3891 Sullivan Street	Madison	AL	35758	Limestone
Athens/Limestone ARC	427 Rogers Street	Athens	AL	35612	Limestone
Limestone Co. CASA	P.O. Box 749 Athens 35612	Athens	AL	35612	Limestone

Organization	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip	County
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program	P. O. Box 852	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
United Way of Athens	419 South Marion St.	Athens	AL	35611	Limestone
Alabama A&M University	P. O. Box 1507	Normal	AL	35762	Madison
Calhoun Community College	102 Wynn Dr. NW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
JF Drake State Technical College	3421 Meridian St. N	Huntsville	AL	35811	Madison
Oakwood University	7000 Adventist Blvd. NW	Huntsville	AL	35896	Madison
University of Alabama in Huntsville	301 Sparkman Dr.	Huntsville	AL	35899	Madison
Virginia College	2800 Bob Wallace Ave. SW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Alabama Department of Human Resources	2206 Oakwood Ave. NW	Huntsville	AL	35810	Madison
Alabama Dept. of Rehabilitation Services	3000 Johnson Rd SW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
City of Huntsville	P.O. Box 308	Huntsville	AL	35804	Madison
City of Madison	100 Hughes Rd.	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
City of New Hope	P.O. Box 419	New Hope	AL	35760	Madison
Huntsville MPO	P.O. Box 308	Huntsville	AL	35804	Madison
Madison County Commission	100 Northside Square, Room 700	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Madison County DHR	2206 Oakwood Avenue	Huntsville	AL	35810	Madison
Social Security Administration	5021 Bradford Dr. NW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Town of Gurley	P.O. Box 128	Gurley	AL	35748	Madison
Town of Mooresville	P.O. Box 42	Mooresville	AL	35649	Madison
Town of Owens Cross Roads	P.O. Box 158	Owens Cross Roads	AL	35763	Madison
Town of Triana	640 Sixth Street	Madison	AL	35756	Madison
Agape Manor	2582 Charity Lane	Hazel Green	AL	35750	Madison
Agape Village	376 Jimmy Fisk Road	Hazel Green	AL	35750	Madison
Carington Health Center	One Crown Circle	Huntsville	AL	35802	Madison
Clare Bridge of Hampton Cove	6379 Hwy 431 South	Hampton Cove	AL	35763	Madison
Floyd E. "Tut" Fann VA Nursing Home	2701 Meridian Street	Huntsville	AL	35811	Madison
Grandview at Redstone Village	12000 Turnmeyer Drive	Huntsville	AL	35803	Madison
Harbor Chase	4801 Whitesport Circle SW	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Hearthstone at Byrd Springs	8020 Benaroya Lane	Huntsville	AL	35802	Madison
Madison Manor	3891 Sullivan Street	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Madison Village	6016 Wall Triana Hwy	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Morningside of Madison	49 Hughes Rd.	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Regency Manor Specialty Care	1979 Gurley Pike Rd.	Gurley	AL	35748	Madison
Regency Remembrances	2004 Max Luther Dr. NW	Huntsville	AL	35810	Madison
Somerby at Jones Farm	2815 Carl T. Jones Drive SE	Huntsville	AL	35802	Madison
The Haven for Greater Living, Inc.	3621 Winchester Rd.	New Market	AL	35761	Madison

Organization	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip	County
Weatherly Springs	10310 Bailey Cove Rd.	Huntsville	AL	35803	Madison
Windsor House	4411 McAllister Dr. SW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Big Spring Specialty Care Center	500 St. Clair Avenue	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Bradford Health Services	1600 Browns Ferry Road	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Brookshire Healthcare Center	4320 Judith Lane	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Huntsville Hospital	101 Sivley Road	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Cogburn Health & Rehabilitation Center	4010 Chris Drive	Huntsville	AL	35802	Madison
Crestwood Medical Center	One Hospital Dr.	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Fmc - Chase	1849 Keats Drive Northwest	Huntsville	AL	35810	Madison
Fmc - Discovery	1131 Eagletree Ln Se, Ste 100	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Fmc - Huntsville Dialysis Center	2325 Pansy St Sw, Suite C	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Fmc - Odyssey	40 Hughes Rd	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Fmc Parkway Dialysis	1311 Memorial Parkway Nw - Suite 100	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of North AL	107 Governors Dr. SW	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Madison Ambulatory Surgery Center	460 Lanier Rd	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Millennium Nursing & Rehab Center	5275 Millennium Dr.	Huntsville	AL	35806	Madison
South Hampton Nursing & Rehab Center	213 Wilson Mann Road	Owens Crossroads	AL	35763	Madison
Valley View Health and Rehabilitation, LLC	5968 Wall Triana Hwy	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Whitesburg Gardens Healthcare Center	105 Teakwood Drive	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Heavenly Creations	3415 Venona Ave.	Huntsville	AL	35810	Madison
Brooks Home Heathcare	5003 Lori Circle	Huntsville	AL	35810	Madison
Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center	2200 Drake Ave. SW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Madison Senior Center	1282 Hughes Rd.	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
New Hope Senior Community Center	123 Church Ave	New Hope	AL	35760	Madison
New Market Senior Center	198 Ford Circle	Huntsville	AL	35811	Madison
New Sharon Senior Center	775 Butter and Egg Rd	Hazel Green	AL	35750	Madison
Triana Nutrition Center	640 6th Street	Madison	AL	35767	Madison
A-1 United Deluxe Cab	2222 Hall Ave. NW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
American Cab Co.	2008 Triana Blvd SW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
ARC of Madison County	1100 Washington St.	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
CASA of Madison County	701 Andrew Jackson Way	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Madison Assisted Ride System	8324 Old Madison Pike	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
City of Huntsville Transit	500B Church Street	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Family Services Center	4092 Memorial Pkwy SW, Suite 205	Huntsville	AL	35802	Madison
Friends, Inc.	P. O. Box 608	Huntsville	AL	35804	Madison

Organization	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip	County
Huntsville Cab Co.	3401 8th Ave.	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Jetport Taxi Cab Co.	1116 Oster Drive NW	Huntsville	AL	35816	Madison
Madison County TRAM	100 Northside Square	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Rocket City Cab	2107 Holmes Av. NW	Huntsville	AL	35801	Madison
Trans City Cab	1011 Oister Rd., Suite A1	Huntsville	AL	35816	Madison
UCP of Huntsville & Tennessee Valley	1856 Keats Drive	Huntsville	AL	35810	Madison
A Plus Cab Company	405 8th Street NW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Pathfinder Inc.	3104 Ivy Ave. SW	Huntsville	AL	35805	Madison
Alabama Kidney Foundation, Inc.	P.O. Box 18593	Huntsville	AL	35804	Madison
Huntsville Transportation Services	115 Rainbow Glen Circle	Madison	AL	35758	Madison
Snead State Community College	P.O. Box 734	Boaz	AL	35957	Marshall
Alabama Career Center System	5920 US Hwy 431	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
Arab Community Center	772 Shoal Creek Trl NE	Arab	AL	35016	Marshall
City of Albertville	116 W Main St	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
City of Arab	740 North Main Street	Arab	AL	35016	Marshall
City of Boaz	P.O. Box 537	Boaz	AL	35957	Marshall
City of Guntersville	341 Gunter Avenue	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Department of Human Resources of Marshall county	1925 Gunter Avenue	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Marshall Co. Health Dept.	150 Judy Smith Drive	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Marshall County Commission	424 Blount Avenue Suite 305	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Town of Douglas	P.O. Box 46	Douglas	AL	35976	Marshall
Town of Grant	P.O. Box 70	Grant	AL	35747	Marshall
Town of Union Grove	P.O. Box 67	Union Grove	AL	35175	Marshall
Assisted Living of Albertville	709 S. Broad St.	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
Assisted Living of Arab	8895 Al Highway 69	Arab	AL	35016	Marshall
Assisted Living of Boaz	3825 Bruce Rd.	Boaz	AL	35957	Marshall
Branchwater Village LLC	763 Medical Center Pkwy	Boaz	AL	35957	Marshall
Golden LivingCenter - Arab	235 3rd Street Southeast	Arab	AL	35016	Marshall
Golden LivingCenter - Boaz	600 Corley Avenue	Boaz	AL	35957	Marshall
Housing Authority	720 Cullman Rd # 711	Arab	AL	35016	Marshall
Merrill Gardens at Albertville	151 Woodham Dr.	Albertville	AL	35951	Marshall
Terrace Lake Village Retirement Community	100 Terrace Lake Dr.	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
East Side Recreation Center	613 Scott Ave. E.	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Home Health Services	4200 AL Hwy 79 S.	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Hospice of Marshall County	408 Martling Road	Albertville	AL	35951	Marshall
Lakeview Dialysis	45 Medical Park Drive, Suite A	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Marshall Jackson Mental Retardation Authority	1620 Railroad Ave	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Marshall Medical Center North	8000 Alabama Hwy 69	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall

Organization	Mailing Address	City	State	Zip	County
Marshall Medical Center South	2505 US Hwy 431	Boaz	AL	35957	Marshall
Medical Center Home Health	2307 Homer Clayton Dr.	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Mental Health Center Cedar Lodge	22165 US Hwy 431	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Sand Mountain Imaging Center	4198 US HWY 431, Suite B	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
Sardis City Medical Center	1989 Sardis Dr.	Sardis	AL	35956	Marshall
Adult Services	1925 Gunter Ave.	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Alacare Albertville	9044 Hwy. 431 N.	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
Albertville Nursing Home Rehab	750 AL Hwy 75 N	Albertville	AL	35951	Marshall
Albertville Senior Citizens Center	221 East Main St	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
Arab Senior Center	800 North Main Street	Arab	AL	35016	Marshall
Barfield Health Care, Inc	22444 Highway 431	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Boaz Senior Citizens Center	112 S Church St	Boaz	AL	35957	Marshall
Gentiva Health Services in Albertville	8787 US Highway 431	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
Marshall Manor & Rehab at the Village	3120 North Street	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Medical Centers Homecare (Guntersville)	11687 US Hwy 431	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	1805 Gunter Avenue	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Senior Citizens Center	314 Sand Mountain Dr	Albertville	AL	35950	Marshall
Marshall Co. CASA	1925 Gunter Avenue	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Marshall County ARC	5104 Porter Harvey Drive	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall
Town & Country Cab Service	161 Mary St.	Albertville	AL	35951	Marshall
United Way of Marshall Co.	705 Blount Ave.	Guntersville	AL	35976	Marshall

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Appendix B: HSCTP Survey Material

Survey Cover Letter

To: Transit Providers and Purchasers
From: Lucas Blankenship, Planning Director
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2015
Subject: Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan Update

TARCOG is currently updating the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan (HSCTP) for the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and the Alabama Association of Regional Councils (AARC). HSCTP is basis for FTA Section 5310, Section 5316, or Section 5317 funding in DeKalb, Jackson, Limestone, Madison, and Marshall Counties. A brief overview of the plan is attached to this notice.

Similar to the last update, ALDOT and AARC have requested an up-to-date inventory of all transit providers and purchasers within our five county region. Please take a moment to complete the appropriate survey and return them to our office by **Friday, August 28, 2015**. Information is requested from all providers and purchasers, not just those applying for grants this year. For this reason we hope to expand participation to as many organizations as possible. A meeting to discuss the results, the HSCTP update, and important grant information will be held at the TARCOG office in mid-September.

Surveys are as follows:

Blue - should be used by any organization that is currently providing or will provide transportation services.

Golden - should be used by current providers only, supplements the Blue survey.

Green - should be used by any organization that purchases transportation services for their clients.

If you have any questions regarding the surveys, please call me at (256) 716-2483 or Ms. Falguni Patel at (256) 716-2485. Completed surveys should be returned to the following address:

Falguni Patel
Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments
5075 Research Drive NW
Huntsville, AL 35805

Thank you again for your time and effort!

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TRANSIT PROVIDER SURVEY

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Contact Person: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

E-mail: _____

1. Please provide your Service Area (List County or Counties):

2. Which other counties do you regularly visit under special circumstances (Not part of Service Area)? Provide specific destinations if possible:

3. What type of services you provide? Please check all that apply:

- General 5310 – anyone who meets elderly and disabled requirements
- General 5311 – anyone in rural communities
- Client-based 5310 – only serve specific clients
- General 5307 – anyone in identified urban area
- Section 5316 – (JARC) job related transit (employment or job training)
- Section 5317 – (New Freedom program)
- Other _____

4. What funding sources you use for the transit service? Please check all that apply:

- General 5310 – anyone who meets elderly and disabled requirements
- General 5311 – anyone in rural communities
- Client-based 5310 – only serve specific clients
- General 5307 – anyone in identified urban area
- Section 5316 – (JARC) job related transit (employment or job training)
- Section 5317 – (New Freedom program)
- Other _____

5. What days of the week and hours of the day the transit service is available to clients?

6. Please list the number of annual trips provided by type:

Medical: _____ Education: _____ Work: _____

Nutrition: _____ Recreation: _____

Other (specify): _____

7. Please list any known un-served populations you might know of (such as areas of a county, times, days, special events/locations, etc.):

8. What are the major, non-vehicle purchases or contracts expected for the transit system over the next 10 years (Examples: buildings, dispatch / routing software, multi-year maintenance contracts):

9. Please attach completed Transit Provider Inventory and, attach Transit Routes Map, if available.

Please return this survey to:

Falguni Patel
Planning Department
Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments
5075 Research Drive NW
Huntsville, AL 35805



TRANSIT PROVIDER INVENTORY

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

1. Please provide Program Name or Sponsoring Agency Program Eligibility information below:

Program/Agency: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

Contact Person: _____

E-mail: _____

Eligibility Restrictions: _____

2. Please provide types and number of vehicles information below (please check all that apply and provide numbers for each type):

Bus: _____ Van: _____ Volunteers: _____

Other (Specify and provide number): _____

3. Please provide types of service information below (please check all that apply):

Fixed Route Demand Response

Other (Specify): _____

4. Please provide the information about Days and Hours of Operation below (please check all that apply and provide hours for each type):

Monday: _____

Tuesday: _____

Wednesday: _____

Thursday: _____

Friday: _____

Saturday: _____

Sunday: _____

Holidays: _____

5. Please provide the information about number of vehicles equipped with lift or ramp below (please check all that apply and provide numbers for each type):

Lifts: _____ Ramps: _____ None: _____

6. Please provide information about accessing the transit below (please check all that apply):

Fixed Routes Call for each ride Subscription
 Other (Specify): _____

7. Please provide information about your transit system funding sources below (please check all that apply):

5310 (Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities)
 5311 (Rural Transit Assistance Program)
 5316 (Job Access and Reverse Commute – JARC)
 5317 (New Freedom)
 Other (Specify): _____

8. Please provide additional importation route information (name, number, description, etc.) below:

Please complete and attach this Inventory sheet to Transit Provider Survey.

Please return this survey to:

Falguni Patel
Planning Department
Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments
5075 Research Drive NW
Huntsville, AL 35805



TRANSIT PURCHASER SURVEY

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Contact Person: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

E-mail: _____

1. Please provide your Service Area (List County or Counties):

2. How many clients do you serve with the transit service you purchase?

3. How many of these clients have special needs such as wheelchair bound or mental disability?
(Please list special needs):

4. What is the source of funding for the transit purchases (non-profit agency, municipal, county)? Please list all:

5. At what times do your clients need service (please check all that apply and provide hours for each type)?

Monday: _____

Tuesday: _____

Wednesday: _____

Thursday: _____

Friday: _____

Saturday: _____

Sunday: _____

Holidays: _____

6. Who do you purchase transit services from (list name and address of transit provider)?

7. Do you have any unmet transit needs? Please list all (such as areas of the county, times, days):

Please return this survey to:

Falguni Patel
Planning Department
Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments
5075 Research Drive NW
Huntsville, AL 35805

Appendix C: HSCTP Meeting Material

Meeting Notice



AD TEXT

Legals

TRANSIT PROVIDERS AND PURCHASERS A regional public meeting will be held at the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments located at 5075 Research Dr NW, Huntsville, AL 35805 on Monday, September 25, 2017 at 3 p.m. to discuss the updates in the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan (HSCTP) covering DeKalb, Jackson, Limestone, Madison and Marshall Counties. Any organization applying for JARC, New Freedom, and Section 5310 grants within these counties must attend this meeting if they have not already participated in the planning process for the Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan. Organizations must include a certification of participation with their applications, and this document must be provided by TARCOG for applicants within DeKalb, Jackson, Limestone, Madison, and Marshall Counties. Any questions regarding this meeting or comments/suggestions about HSCTP should be directed to the Planning Department by calling 256-716-2485. Anyone requiring special assistance should contact TARCOG at least 48 hours prior to the meeting by calling 256-716-2485. Huntsville Times: September 13, 2017

Related Categories: Notices and Announcements - Legal Notice

Published in *The Huntsville Times* 9/13. Updated 9/13.

Meeting Agenda

TOP OF ALABAMA REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 25, 2017 – 3:00 P.M.

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#### AGENDA

- Item 1: Introductions
- Item 2: Review of Federal Requirements
- Item 3: Review of Survey Results
- Item 4: Review of Plan Update
- Item 5: Question and Answer Opportunity
- Item 6: Adjournment

## Appendix D

### Selected Bibliography

#### Related Documents

*“Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan.”* Huntsville, Alabama: Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments, September 2011.

*“Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2013 – 2018.”* Huntsville, Alabama: Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments, September 2012.

*“Long Range Transportation Needs Study.”* Huntsville, Alabama: Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments, September 2013.

#### Selected References

*“Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21), A Summary of Public Transportation Provisions.”* Washington, D.C.: Federal Transit Administration website. Accessed at: [http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/MAP21\\_essay\\_style\\_summary\\_v5\\_MASTER.pdf](http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/MAP21_essay_style_summary_v5_MASTER.pdf)

*National Center for Mobility Management.* Washington, D.C.: United we Ride and Federal Transit Administration website. Accessed at: <http://nationalcenterformobilitymanagement.org/about-us/>

*“B01003: Total Population, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.”* Washington, D.C.: United States Census Bureau Website. Assessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

*“B19013: Median Household Income in the past 12 Months (In 2015 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars), 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.”* Washington, D.C.: United States Census Bureau Website. Assessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

*“B25044: Tenure by Vehicles Available, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.”* Washington, D.C.: United States Census Bureau Website. Assessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

*“B01001: Sex by Age, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.”* Washington, D.C.: United States Census Bureau Website. Assessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

*“B23024: Poverty Status in the past 12 months by Disability Status by Employment Status for the Population 20 to 64 Years, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.”* Washington, D.C.: United States Census Bureau Website. Assessed at <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

*“Provider-Side Transportation Assessment Survey.”* Montgomery, AL: Alabama Department of Public Health, 2015.