

So, You Need a Ride!

Improving transportation opportunities for ourselves, our families, and our communities.

People don't really think about transportation until



Give a friend a ride.

they need to go somewhere and have no way to get there. Even our children know that it is no fun to be stuck somewhere without some form of transit in our community. Some of us have a car or truck, but others of us do not. So, how can a community without a formal transit system help those who need a ride?

One answer is by using what is already available in the community, by getting people who care to share! You see, *Caring Is Sharing*. Caring about our neighbors, sharing ideas, looking for creative ways to provide rides, and getting involved are things we all can do!

Our children know the problems with transit in their communities. Children care about people. To them *Caring is Sharing!* Their creativity in thinking about transit is displayed in their drawings in this booklet.

Just imagine your children and adult neighbors, who have public and private vehicles, working together to give rides. If everyone works together, we can have a successful transit system by just sharing what we have.

What is Transit?

Transit is transportation. Transit is what moves people from one place to another.



Early forms of transit were by boat and canoe,

horse and travois, and on foot. Today, transit includes a public bus, a taxi, sharing rides, riding a bicycle, walking to the store, and driving a truck, car, or van.

What Is a Good Transit System?

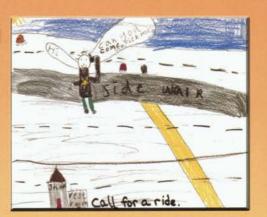
A good transit system doesn't have to be a fleet of buses. A good transit system can be as simple as using your own cars and trucks to move people from one place to another.

You and others within your community—neighbors, businesses and employees—can work together, pool vehicles, and provide rides when you or someone in your community needs a ride.

Working together with people and finding existing vehicles that might be available during crucial times can provide a good informal transit system that allows people to get to where they need to go.

How Can You Help Make Transit a Reality?

Begin by asking a few questions and become involved with your community. Together,



community residents can plan and provide rides for all who need a ride!

The following pages are for you to help you know what can be done to make transit valuable to you and others in the community.

What Questions To Ask?

What forms of transit are available in your community?

- Does everyone have a car or truck? What about those that can't drive?
- Do kids give other kids rides on their bicycles?
- Does your community have a local or regional taxi, medical shuttle, or other transit services that can be shared?
- Are your forms of transit linked?
- Is everyone in the community able to drive?
- What does your community do to ensure that those who can't provide their own transit have rides?
- Do people use bicycles or other transit to move from place to place?
- Is there is a local bus or van service? If so, where does it go?

What We Can Do!

- Take action and participate!
- Call friends and family together to talk about what transit you already have.



- Call our leaders and ask what is being done and what each one of us can do.
- If there is a local bus or van service, find out where it goes.
- Check with neighbors and friends to see who is willing to share a car or truck with others.



Contact a transportation specialist in your community. Transportation specialists are people who put together transit plans when needed. They help us get to work, school, or travel, from place to place, as well as help with other information.

Talk with those who need a ride. Find out what time of day they want a ride and learn where they want to go and offer a ride if you can.

Set up a messaging system or phone number list for people to call when they need a ride.

Work together to make transit something that works for you and everyone in our community. Together we can make it happen!

Additional Help is Available

Contact or visit the nearest Tribal Technical Assistance Program centers (TTAP) and Local



Technical Assistance Programs (LTAP) in or near your state. TTAPs and LTAPs assist tribal communities and provide names and addresses of transportation resources that work with tribal transit planning and implementation.

If you need more information on who to contact, write or call:

Federal Lands Highway Office Federal Highway Administration 400 7th Street S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590 Phone: 202-366-9494

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We thank the children of Neah Bay Elementary School in Neah Bay, Washington, through the efforts of their school principal, Ms. Alice Murner, for their delightful drawings of other ways to provide rides (alternative transportation).

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