

Providing access for all

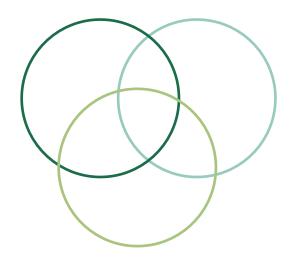
Mobility inequities and the cost of inaction

Coby Zeifman, transportation planner May 22, 2024

Three new studies in 2023

- Non-driver study
- Frequent transit service study
- Unmet needs study

All three conclude that public transportation builds strong communities and provides access to jobs, healthcare and community.



Takeaways: urgent need

Public transportation services do not exist everywhere and are not adequate for all riders anywhere.

Access to transportation services and ease of use varies based on race, age, disability status, geography, and income level.

Transportation burdens disproportionately affect vulnerable populations.

Public investment continues to exacerbate the problem.



Takeaways: solutions in reach

Improvements to mobility can be made with adequate resources, coordination between levels of government, and adaptive planning.

Although infrastructure barriers to transit trips exist for nondrivers, these barriers can be prioritized and specifically targeted.

Critical access to transportation is provided by forms of mobility in addition to fixed route, such as demand response, paratransit service, walking, biking, and rolling.



Data Findings

500,000 people over 16 do not have a driver's license.

34% of households fall below the ALICE threshold.

10% of people in poverty.

45% of non-drivers will skip going somewhere or be late because of transportation issues.

29 million forgone trips due to transportation issues.



29 million forgone trips

Lost opportunities to thrive:

- Lack of access to jobs, education, healthcare, and housing.
- Isolation and lack of belonging in the community.



From the Disability Mobility Initiative, Nancy and her sons in Wishkah



A path forward is possible

Low-income ride free.

Frequent and weekend service.

Regular intercity and rural service.

Jobs and affordable housing located together.

More biking and walking paths, and transit-friendly roadways.

More demand response service.



Thank You!

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