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June 6, 2022

TO: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Meeting Announcement

The Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board will meet **Monday, June 13, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter the public workshop** in the Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Senior/Client Services Center located on State Road 27 in Mayo, Florida. The meeting will also be conducted via communications media technology in the following format:

DIAL IN NUMBER: **Toll free 1.888.585.9008**

CONFERENCE CODE: **864 183 272**

****Please note that at least two (2) Board members must be present in person in addition to at least two (2) Board members present via communications media technology to establish a quorum in order to vote on agenda items that require formal action.****

Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 guidelines, to reduce the risk of becoming infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and potentially spreading it to others, fully vaccinated people should wear a mask indoors in public.

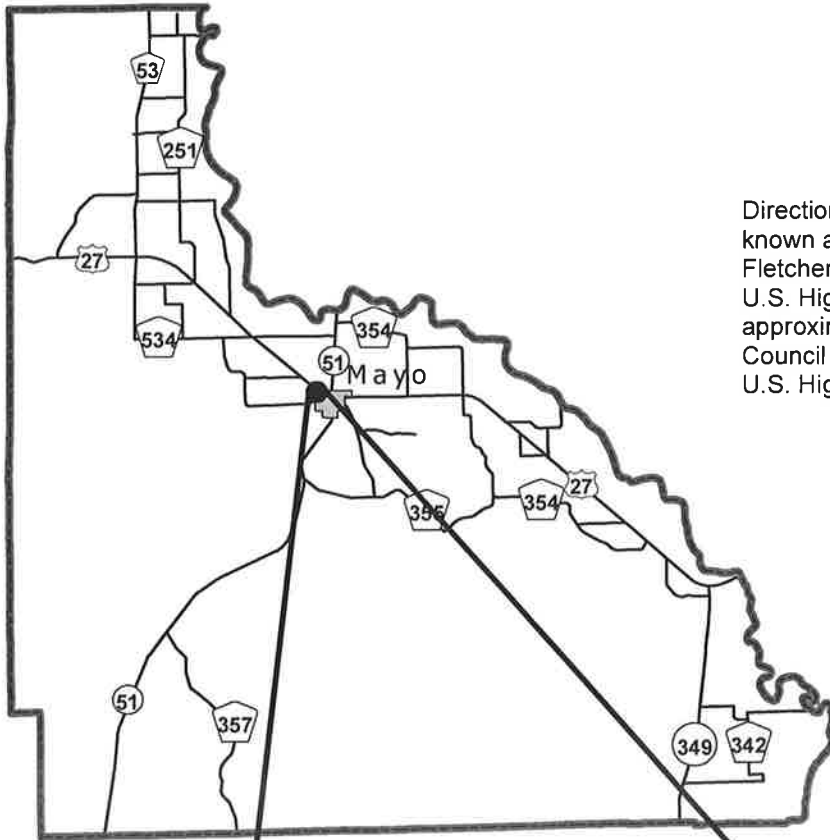
Attached is the meeting agenda and supporting materials. If you have any questions concerning the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-226-0690 extension 110.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this public meeting is asked to advise our office at least **2 business days** before the meeting by contacting 352.955.2200 extension 110. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact our office using the Florida Relay Service, 1.800.955.8771 (TDD) or 1.800.955.8770 (Voice).

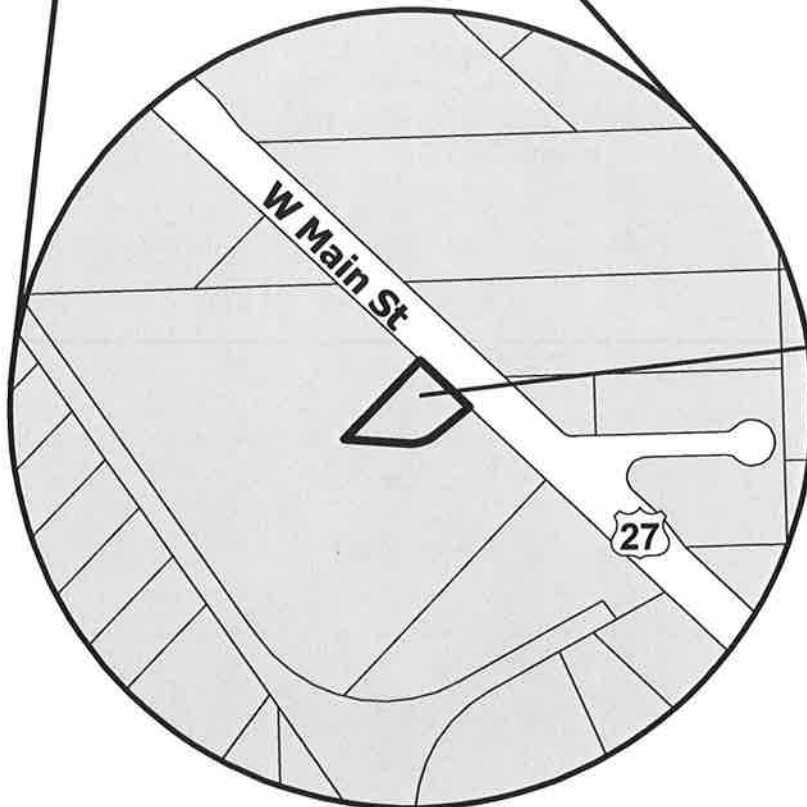
Attachments

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Suwannee River Economic Council 114 SW Community Circle Mayo, FL 32066



Directions: From the intersection U.S. Highway 27 (also known as Main Street) and State Road 51 (also known as Fletcher Avenue) in the Town of Mayo, turn West onto U.S. Highway 27 (also known as Main Street), travel approximately 0.5 miles and the Suwannee River Economic Council will be on the left, on the Southwestern side of U.S. Highway 27 (also known as Main Street).



1 inch = 500 feet

Suwannee River
Economic Council





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**LAFAYETTE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD**

BUSINESS MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AND AGENDA

Meeting Room
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.
Senior/Client Services Center
State Road 27
Mayo, Florida
Dial in Number: Toll free 1.888.585.9008
Conference Code: 864 183 272

Monday
June 13, 2022
2:00 p.m.

I. BUSINESS MEETING – CALL TO ORDER

- A. Approval of the Meeting Agenda ACTION REQUIRED**
- B. Approval of the March 14, 2022 Minutes Page 7 ACTION REQUIRED**

II. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2018/23 Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Annual Update Page 11 ACTION REQUIRED**

The Board needs to review and approve the 2018/23 Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Annual Update

- B. Elect Vice-Chair Page 85 ACTION REQUIRED**

The Board needs to re-elect Diane Head as Vice-Chair or elect a new Vice-Chair

- C. 2022/23 Innovative and Service Development Grant Application Page 87 NO ACTION REQUIRED**

The Board needs to review Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s 2022/23 Innovative and Service Development Grant application

III. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Comments**

IV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. September 12, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.**
- B. November 14, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.**
- C. March 13, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**
- D. June 12, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**

If you have any questions concerning the agenda, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-226-0690, extension 110.

**LAFAYETTE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD**

MEMBER/REPRESENTING	ALTERNATE/REPRESENTING
Commissioner Lisa Walker Local Elected Official/Chair	Not Applicable
Geanelly Reveron Florida Department of Transportation	Lauren Adams Florida Department of Transportation Grievance Committee Member
Kay Tice Florida Department of Children and Families Grievance Committee Member	Vacant Florida Department of Children and Families
Vacant Florida Department of Education	Vacant Florida Department of Education
Eva K. Bolton Florida Department of Elder Affairs Grievance Committee	Vacant Florida Department of Elder Affairs
Vacant Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Vacant Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
Sheryl Dick-Stanford Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sylvia Bamburg Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Diane Head, Vice-Chair Regional Workforce Development Board Grievance Committee Member	Anthony Jennings Regional Workforce Development Board
Vacant Florida Association for Community Action Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Florida Association for Community Action Term ending June 30, 2023
Stephen Clark Public Education	Vacant Public Education
Vacant Veterans Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Veterans Term ending June 30, 2023
Vacant Citizen Advocate Term ending June 30, 2024	Vacant Citizen Advocate Term ending June 30, 2024
Vacant Citizen Advocate - User Term ending June 30, 2024	Vacant Citizen Advocate - User Term ending June 30, 2024
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Vacant Elderly Term ending June 30, 2023	Vacant Elderly Term ending June 30, 2023
Vacant Medical Community Term ending June 30, 2022	Vacant Medical Community Term ending June 30, 2022
Vacant Children at Risk Term ending June 30, 2022	Vacant Children at Risk Term ending June 30, 2022
Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022	Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022

Note: Unless specified, members and alternates serve at the pleasure of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

**LAFAYETTE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD**

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Room
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.
Senior/Client Services Center
State Road 27
Mayo, Florida
Dial in Number: Toll free 1.888.585.9008
Conference Code: 864 183 272

Monday
March 14, 2022
2:00 p.m.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON

Anthony Jennings representing Diane Head, Workforce Development Board Representative
Joey Pearson, Public Education Representative
Kay Tice, Florida Department of Children and Families Representative

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Lauren Adams representing Christina Nansen, Florida Department of Transportation Representative
Sheryl Dick-Stanford, Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities Representative

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Eva Bolton, Florida Department of Elder Affairs Representative
Commissioner Lisa Walker, Chair

OTHERS PRESENT

Matthew Pearson, Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

STAFF PRESENT

Lynn Godfrey, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

I. BUSINESS MEETING - CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lynn Godfrey, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council Senior Planner, stated that the Chair nor the Vice-Chair are not present to conduct the meeting.

The Board asked Anthony Jennings to act as Chair and conduct the meeting.

Acting Chair Jennings called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

A. Invocation

Mr. Matthew Person, Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Executive Director, gave the invocation.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Chair Jennings led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call

The roll was called by Ms. Godfrey she stated that a quorum was present.

D. Approval of the December 13, 2021 Minutes

ACTION: Kay Tice moved to approve the December 13, 2021 minutes. Joey Pearson seconded; motion passed unanimously.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduction to Florida's Coordinated Transportation System

Ms. Godfrey discussed the organization of Florida's Coordinated Transportation System and the requirements of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes concerning conflicts of interest and Florida's Sunshine Law.

B. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. Operations Reports

Mr. Pearson discussed the quarterly operations reports. He said he is concerned about the decrease of Medicaid trips. He said he believes the decrease is because other transportation providers are transporting Medicaid clients which reduces the efficiency of service.

Mr. Pearson also said the Senior Center mealsite is still closed, but, will open in the next few weeks. He said transportation will not be available to take seniors to the mealsite due to the need for drivers being available for medical transportation.

C. 2022 Florida Legislative Session

Ms. Godfrey stated that the Governor recommended \$10 million in additional budget authority to the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund for Fiscal Year 2022-23. She said the additional funding would expand existing Transportation Disadvantaged Program services around the state and provide transportation grants for innovative transportation projects. She said the House and Senate both included additional funding in their budgets. She said she will provide the Board with information concerning whether additional funding will be provided to the Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Comments

There were no comments.

IV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Acting Chair Jennings stated that the next Board meeting will be held June 13, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. He thanked the Board members for attending the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Chair

Date



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June 6, 2022

TO: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: 2018/23 Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Annual Update

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the 2018/23 Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Annual Update.

BACKGROUND

Chapter 427, Florida Statutes requires Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. prepare a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan in cooperation with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council for the Board’s approval. This plan provides information needed by the Board to continually review and assess transportation disadvantaged needs for Lafayette County. The Service Plan must be submitted to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged annually.

Attached is the draft 2018/23 Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Annual Update. If you have any questions concerning the Plan, please do not hesitate to contact me at extension 110.

Attachment

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Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan - Annual Update

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2023

Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged
Coordinating Board



2018/23 Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan - Annual Update

Approved by the

Lafayette County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org/mtpo
352.955.2000

Lisa Walker, Chair

with Assistance from



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org
352.955.2200

and



Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 70
Live Oak, FL 32060
386.362.4115

June 13, 2022

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Table of Contents

Chapter I: Development Plan..... 1

- A. Introduction to The Service Area 1
- B. Service Area Profile and Demographics.....9
- C. Service Analysis 15

Chapter II: Service Plan 25

- A. Operations.....25
- B. Cost/Revenue Allocation and Rate Structure Justification40

Chapter III: Quality Assurance..... 41

- A. Community Transportation Coordinator Evaluation Process41

Appendices

Appendix A: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Procedures A1

Appendix B: Cost/Revenue Allocation and Rate Structure Justification B1

Appendix C: Vehicle InventoryC1

Appendix D: Safety Compliance Self Certification D1

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Chapter I: Development Plan

A. Introduction to The Service Area

The purpose of this section is to provide information about the organization and development of Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Lafayette County. This Plan shall serve as the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan under the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). The Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults and people with low incomes.

1. Background of Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program

Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program began in 1979 with the adoption of Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. The Florida Legislature adopted this legislation to provide transportation disadvantaged services in a coordinated fashion.

The transportation disadvantaged are defined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes, as:

"those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, age are unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent on others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk as defined in s. 411.202, Florida Statutes."

In 1989, the Florida Legislature reviewed Chapter 427, Florida Statutes according to the State's Regulatory Sunset Act (Section 11.61, Florida Statutes). During this legislative review, the Legislature decided to reenact Chapter 427, Florida Statutes with several revisions.

In 1990, Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code was adopted to implement the provisions of Chapter 427, Florida Statutes. In addition, Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code assigns the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged with the responsibility to accomplish the coordination of transportation services provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

The following sections discuss each of the major components of the Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

a. Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged is independent and reports to the Governor and the Legislature. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes states that:

"the purpose of the Commission is to accomplish the coordination of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged."

The Governor appoints seven members to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. Five of the members must have significant experience in the operation of a business and two of the members must have a disability and use the transportation disadvantaged system. The Chair is appointed by the Governor and Vice-Chair is elected annually from the membership of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

b. Designated Official Planning Agency

The Designated Official Planning Agency is responsible for transportation disadvantaged planning in a given area. In the urbanized areas of the state, the planning agencies are metropolitan planning organizations. In the rural areas of the state, organizations which are eligible to be planning agencies are:

- county or city governments
- regional planning councils
- metropolitan planning organizations
- local planning organizations who are currently performing planning activities in the service area

The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is the Designated Official Planning Agency for Lafayette County. According to Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code, responsibilities of the Designated Official Planning Agency include:

- Appointment of members to the local coordinating boards.
- Provision of staff support to the local coordinating boards.
- Recommendation to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged regarding the initial selection or re-designation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

c. Local Coordinating Boards

The Designated Official Planning Agency is responsible for appointing a local coordinating board in each county. The purpose of the coordinating board is to provide advice and direction to the Community Transportation Coordinator concerning the coordination of transportation services.

According to Rule 41-2 of the Florida Administrative Code, the Designated Official Planning Agency appoints an elected official, to serve as the official chairperson for all local coordinating board meetings. The Board shall elect a Vice-Chair.

In addition to the Chair, the following agencies or other groups serve on the local coordinating boards as voting members:

- An elected official from Lafayette County.
- A representative of the Florida Department of Transportation.
- A representative of the Florida Department of Children and Family Services.
- A representative of the Public Education Community.

- A representative of the Florida Department of Education.
- A person recommended by the local Veterans Service Office representing veterans of the county.
- A person who is recognized by the Florida Association for Community Action as representing the economically disadvantaged.
- A person over age sixty representing the elderly.
- A person with a disability representing the disabled.
- Two citizen advocate representatives in the county; one who must be a person who uses the transportation services of the system as their primary means of transportation.
- A local representative for children at risk.
- In areas where they exist, the Chairperson or designee of the local mass transit or public transit system's Board.
- A representative of the Florida Department of Elderly Affairs.
- An experienced representative of the local private for profit transportation industry.
- A representative of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration.
- A representative of the Regional Workforce Development Board.
- A representative of the local medical community.
- A local representative of the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

The following are some of the duties of the local coordinating board:

- Approving the Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.
- Annually evaluating the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance.
- Reviewing all applications for local, state and federal transportation disadvantaged funds.

d. Community Transportation Coordinator

The Community Transportation Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that coordinated transportation services are provided to serve the transportation disadvantaged. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. is the designated Community Transportation Coordinator for Lafayette County.

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. may provide all or a portion of transportation service in a designated service area. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. may subcontract or broker services if it is cost effective and efficient. The following are some responsibilities of Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.:

- In cooperation with the planning agency, develop and implement a Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

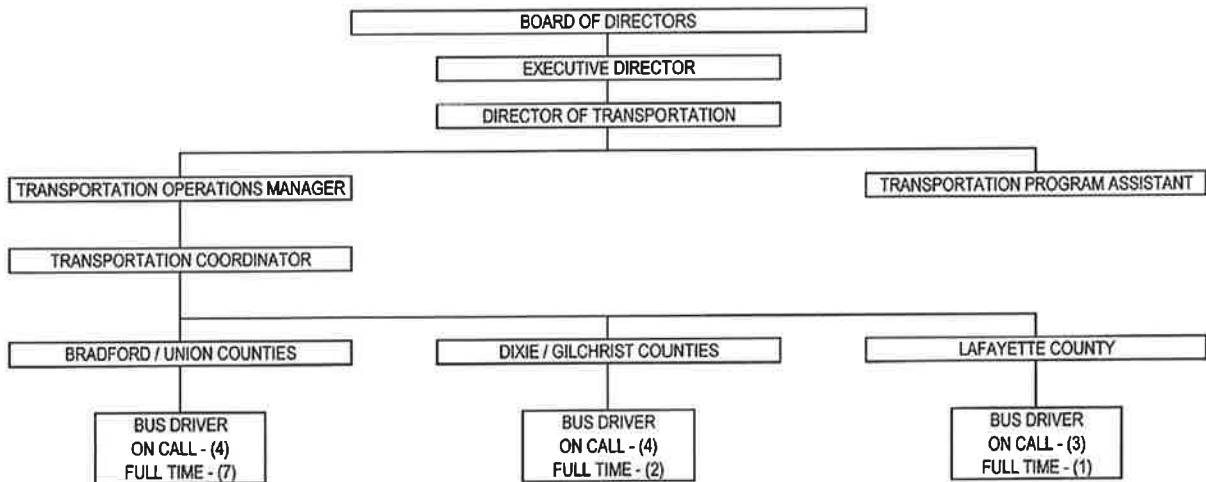
- Execute contracts for service with transportation operators.
- Review all applications for federal, state and local funding (in conjunction with the local coordinating board).
- Prepare an annual operating report.

2. Designation Date/History

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. is a private non-profit corporation, chartered by the State of Florida in 1966. In 1972, Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. began the Suwannee Valley Transit System in Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties. In 1974, Suwannee Valley Transit Authority was created to serve Columbia, Hamilton and Suwannee Counties. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. is the designated Community Transportation Coordinator for Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette and Union Counties.

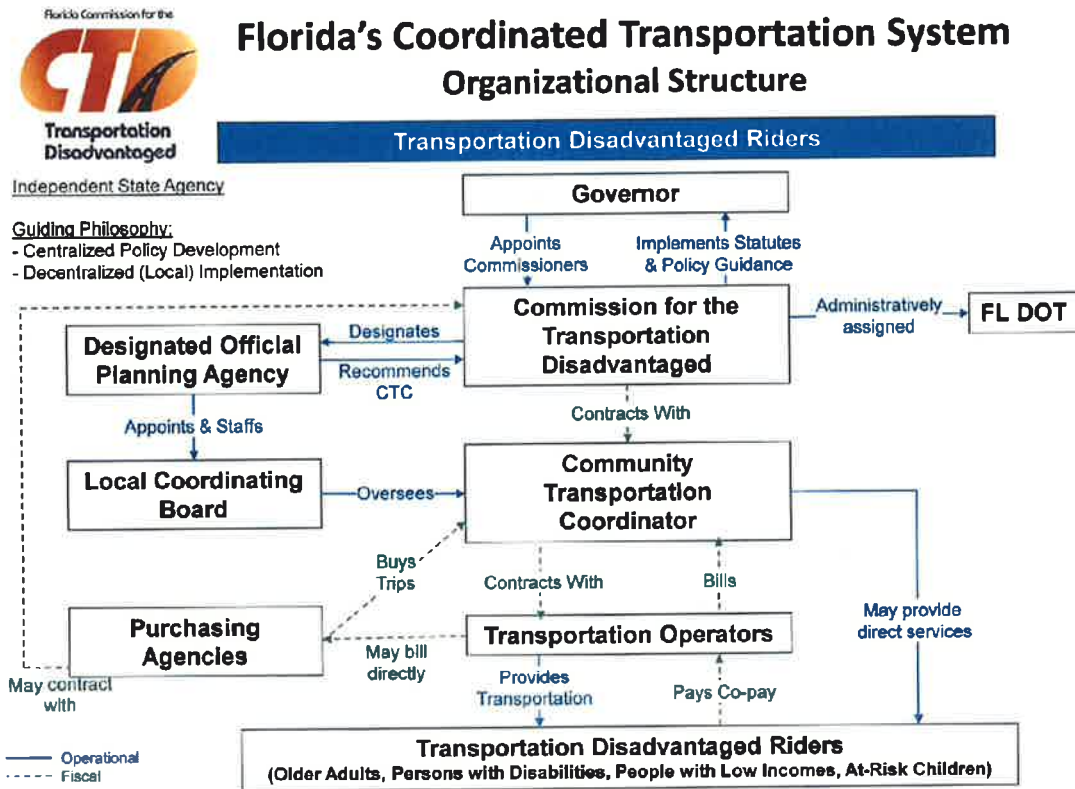
The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged designated Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. as the Community Transportation Coordinator for Lafayette County in 1991. In 2018, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council recommended Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. be re-designated the Community Transportation Coordinator for Lafayette County through a competitive selection process. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged designated Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. as the Lafayette County Community Transportation Coordinator effective July 1, 2018. Below is an organizational chart that identifies Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s organizational structure.

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.
Transportation Department Organizational Chart



3. Organization Chart

The following chart identifies the partners involved in Florida’s Transportation Disadvantaged Program.



4. Consistency Review of Other Plans

a. Local Government Comprehensive Plans

The local comprehensive planning process involves essentially four basic steps:

1. the collection and analysis of pertinent data concerning the physical and socio-economic characteristics of the study area;
2. the formulation of goals for future growth and development;
3. the development of objectives and policies guided by the goals which are the essence of the Comprehensive Plan;
4. the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the Lafayette County Comprehensive Plan.

b. Regional Policy Plans

The North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan adopted in August 2018 is a long-range guide for the physical, economic, and social development of a planning region which identifies regional goals and policies. The plan contains regional goals and policies designed to promote a coordinated program of regional actions directed at resolving problems identified in the trends and conditions statements contained within each strategic regional subject area.

The following policies are included in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan:

REGIONAL GOAL 5.6. Reduce the unmet general trip demand of the north central Florida Transportation Disadvantaged population.

Policy 5.6.1. Improve mobility options for low-income, elderly and disabled citizens.

Policy 5.6.2. Increase funding for coordinated transportation systems for the transportation disadvantaged.

Policy 5.6.3. The Council and/or the Metropolitan Transportation Organization for the Gainesville Urbanized Area should provide technical assistance to designated north central Florida local transportation coordinating boards and community transportation coordinators.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.

c. Transit Development Plans

Not applicable.

d. Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged 5-Year/20-Year Plan

The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged 5-Year/20-Year Plan establishes goals, objectives and a plan of action for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. The plan presents forecasts of demand for transportation disadvantaged services, the cost of meeting the forecasted demand, forecasts of future funding for transportation disadvantaged services and approaches to balancing the supply and demand for these services. The plan also provides forecasts of the transportation disadvantaged population, demand for trips, number of trips supplied, unmet demand for trips and operating expenses.

The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged 5-Year/20-Year Plan.

e. Metropolitan Planning Organization Long-Range Transportation Plans

Not applicable.

f. Transportation Improvement Program

Not applicable.

5. Public Participation

The Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Board includes representatives of public, private and non-profit transportation and human services providers as well as the public to participate in the development and update of the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. The Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan is developed through input of the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Board whose membership includes citizens and human service providers.

6. Lafayette County Coordinating Board Membership Certification

**LAFAYETTE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATION**

Name: North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
Address: 2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The Designated Official Planning Agency named above hereby certifies to the following:

1. The membership of the Local Coordinating Board, established pursuant to Rule 41-2.012(3), Florida Administrative Code, does in fact represent the appropriate parties as identified in the following list; and
2. The membership represents, to the maximum extent feasible, a cross section of the local community.

Signature:  Date: 3/24/22
Thomas Demps, Chair

REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	ALTERNATE	TERM ENDING
Local Elected Official/Chair	Commissioner Walker		No Term
Elderly	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2023
Disabled	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2024
Citizen Advocate	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2024
Citizen Advocate/User	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2024
Children at Risk	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2022
Florida Association for Community Action	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2023
Public Education	Joey Pearson	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Sheryl Stanford	Sylvia Bamburg	No Term
Florida Department of Transportation	Christina Nalsen	Lauren Adams	No Term
Florida Department of Children and Families	Kay Tice	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Elder Affairs	Eva K. Bolton	Vacant	No Term
Florida Department of Education	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration	Vacant	Vacant	No Term
Regional Workforce Development Board	Diane Head	Anthony Jennings	No Term
Veteran Services	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2023
Local Mass Transit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	No Term
Private Transportation Industry	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2022
Local Medical Community	Vacant	Vacant	6/30/2022

7. Lafayette County Transportation Coordinating Board Membership

LAFAYETTE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATING BOARD

MEMBER/REPRESENTING	ALTERNATE/REPRESENTING
Commissioner Lisa Walker Local Elected Official/Chair	Not Applicable
Geanelly Reveron Florida Department of Transportation	Lauren Adams Florida Department of Transportation Grievance Committee Member
Kay Tice Florida Department of Children and Families Grievance Committee Member	Vacant Florida Department of Children and Families
Vacant Florida Department of Education	Vacant Florida Department of Education
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Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022	Vacant Private Transit Term ending June 30, 2022

B. Service Area Profile and Demographics

1. Lafayette County Service Area Description

Lafayette County has a land area of approximately 543 square miles. The County is located in the north central portion of the State of Florida and is bordered on the north by Madison County, on the east by Suwannee and Gilchrist Counties, on the south by Dixie County and on the west by Taylor County. The Suwannee River forms a boundary on the east.

2. Demographics

a. Land Use

The land use for approximately 96 percent of the acreage within the unincorporated area of the County has been designated as agricultural, forested lands and approximately 0.5 percent is residential.

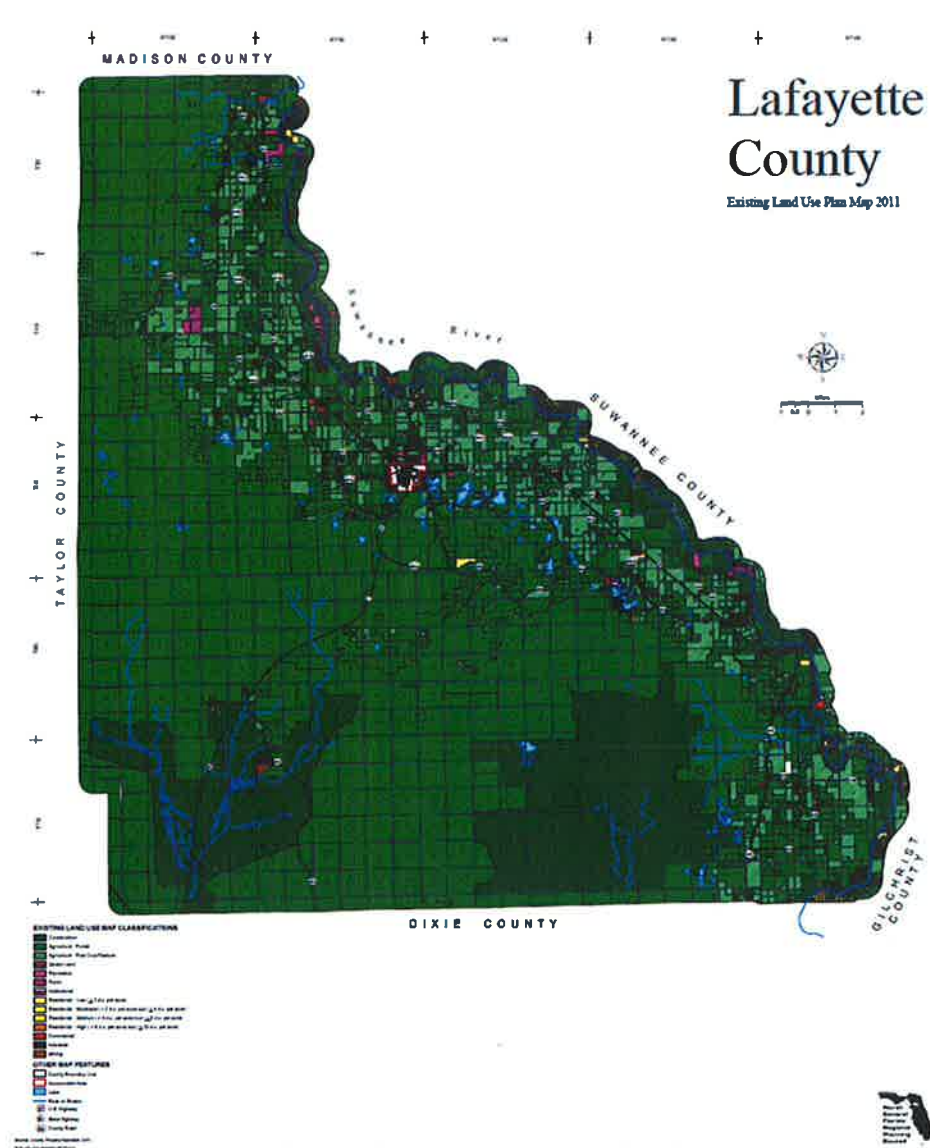


TABLE 1
POPULATION COUNTS AND ESTIMATES
LAFAYETTE COUNTY

AREA	2010 CENSUS POPULATION COUNT	2021 POPULATION ESTIMATE
Lafayette County	8,226	7,937
Town of Mayo	1,055	1,064
Unincorporated Area	7,171	6,873

Source: 2010 Bureau of the Census, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida

According to the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, 987 individuals are inmates and patients residing in federal and state government-operated institutions. They are considered nonresidents of the local area for revenue-sharing purposes. Institutionalized individuals are counted as part of the general population, so they are reflected in statistics on age. However, they are not included in the statistics for income or poverty levels for households.

c. Population Densities

According to the 2010 Bureau of the Census, the persons per square mile in Lafayette County in 2010 was 16.3.

TABLE 2
POPULATION DENSITY
LAFAYETTE COUNTY

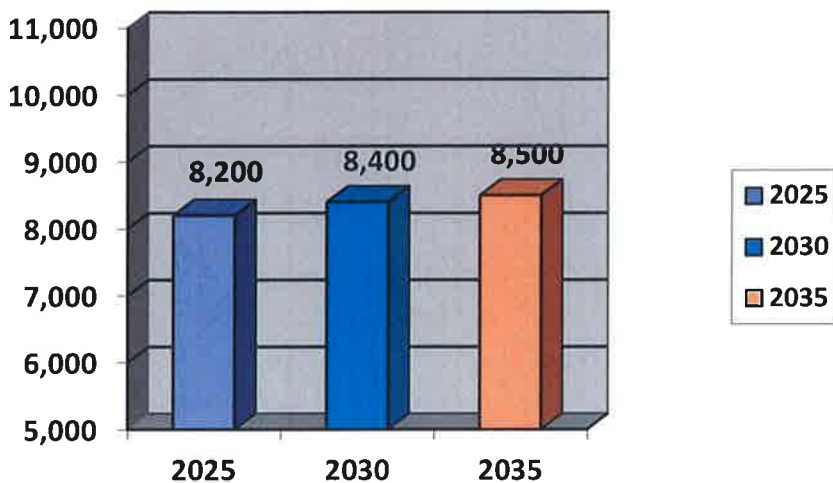
2010 U.S. CENSUS POPULATION	SQUARE MILES	PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE
8,870	543.41	16.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2010 State and County Quick Facts

d. Population Projections

According to the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, Lafayette County will have a total population of 8,200 by the Year 2025. Illustration I shows population projections for 2025, 2030 and 2035.

ILLUSTRATION I
POPULATION PROJECTIONS
LAFAYETTE COUNTY



Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida

e. Population Age Distribution

Population age distribution is useful in determining mobility needs which transit might meet. The elderly typically are less likely to have access to a vehicle and thus are more dependent on the transit system for their travel needs. Table 3 shows estimates of Lafayette County's population by age group.

TABLE 3
POPULATION ESTIMATES BY AGE GROUP
LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Age Group	Estimated 2020 Population
0-4	468
5-17	1,356
18-24	942
25-54	3,534
55-64	1,005
65-79	1,060
80+	326

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida

f. Disability and Self Care Limitations

According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2013-2017 American Community Survey, Lafayette County had an estimated disabled population of 1,281 in 2017. The estimated population under 18 years of age with a disability was 15. The estimated population 18 to 64 years of age with a disability was 561. The estimated population 65 years and over with a disability was 715.

g. Employment

The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that Lafayette County's labor force (individuals who are able to work but may not be employed) in December 2021 was 2,885 with 2,792 employed. The estimated unemployment rate for Lafayette County was 3.2 percent.

h. Income

According to the Florida Legislature Office of Economic and Demographic Research, the per capita personal income for Lafayette County in 2020 was \$30,032. The percent of persons below poverty level in 2020 was 20.7%. Table 4 characterizes the levels of household income in Lafayette County. Table 5 shows income levels that are currently used to define the federal poverty level.

TABLE 4
INCOME
LAFAYETTE COUNTY

2020 PER CAPITAL INCOME	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME	PERCENT OF PERSONS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL
\$30,032	\$51,734	20.7%

Source: Florida Legislature Office of Economic and Demographic Research

TABLE 5
2022 Poverty Guidelines For The 48 Contiguous States
And The District of Columbia

Persons In Family/Household	2022 Poverty Guideline
1	\$13,590
2	\$18,310
3	\$23,030
4	\$27,750
5	\$32,470
6	\$37,190
7	\$41,910
8	\$46,630

* For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,720 for each additional person.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

According to the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, Florida Department of Health, Division of Public Health Statistics & Performance Management, the number of Medicaid eligible as of January 31, 2022 was 1,880. Table 6 shows the number of individuals who received Supplemental Security Income.

TABLE 6
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CASES
LAFAYETTE COUNTY

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	2020 CASES
SSI Beneficiaries - Blind and Disabled/Aged	165

Source: Social Security Administration, Master Beneficiary Record and Supplemental Security Record

i. Housing

The estimates that in 2018, the total number of households in Lafayette County was 2,095 and that the average household size was 3.43.

TABLE 7
HOUSING
LAFAYETTE COUNTY, 2021

HOUSEHOLDS	PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD
2,794	2.44

Source: Florida Population Studies, January 2022

j. Health

According to the 2020 Physician Workforce Annual Report, there was one licensed doctor of medicine practicing in Lafayette County in 2019-20.

k. Transportation

According to the Bureau of the Census 2013-2017 American Community Survey, there were an estimated 159 occupied housing units with no vehicle available in 2018.

l. Major Trip Generators/Attractors

Being a rural area, there are a limited number of trip generators in the County. Trips are distributed from the outlying areas to and from the county seat for business and grocery shopping. Travel to Lake City, Live Oak and Gainesville continues to be necessary for many County residents, particularly for medical purposes.

C. Service Analysis

1. General and Critical Need Transportation Disadvantaged Populations

The National Center for Transit Research Center for Urban Transportation Research developed a methodology for estimating the general and critical need Transportation Disadvantaged population based on the most current U.S. Census Bureau demographic and socio-economic data available. The general Transportation Disadvantaged population includes the estimates of all disabled, elderly, low income persons and children who are 'high-risk' or "at-risk."

The critical need Transportation Disadvantaged population includes individuals who, due to sever physical limitations or low incomes, are unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation and are dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life sustaining activities.

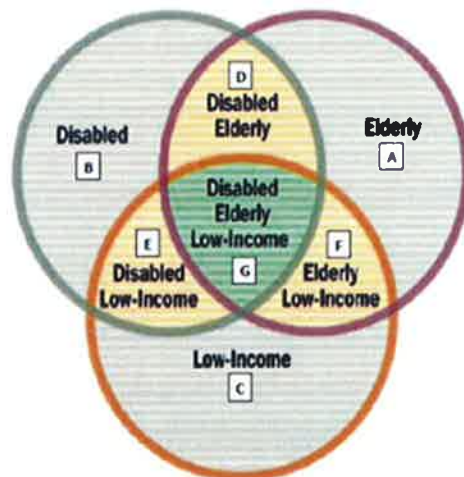
The following tables show general and critical need Transportation Disadvantaged population estimates for Lafayette County.

CALCULATION OF GENERAL TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED POPULATION

Lafayette County					Census Data from 2018			
County Pop. By Age	Total Pop by Age	% of Total Pop (136,400)	Population Below Poverty Level by Age	% of Total Pop Below Poverty Level by Age	Total Population with a Disability by Age	% of Total Pop with a Disability by Age	Total Pop with Disability and Below Poverty Level by Age	% Total Pop with a Disability and Below Poverty Level by Age
<18	1,771	20.3%	347	4.0%	122	6.9%	28	1.60%
18-64	5,560	63.7%	690	7.9%	1,056	19.0%	311	5.60%
Total Non Elderly	7,331	84.0%	1,037	11.9%	1,179	16.1%	340	4.63%
65+	1,401	16.0%	218	2.5%	619	44.2%	115	8.20%
Total Elderly	1,401	16.0%	218	2.5%	619	46.3%	115	8.20%
Total	8,732	100%	1,255	14.4%	1,798	20.6%	455	5.21%

Double Counts Calculations		
E - Estimate non-elderly/disabled/ low income	From Base Data (I9)	340
B - Estimate non-elderly/ disabled/not low income	Subtract I9 from G9	839
G - Estimate elderly/disabled/low income	From Base Data (I11)	115
D - Estimate elderly/ disabled/not low income	Subtract I11 from G11	504
F - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/low income	Subtract I11 from E11	103
A - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/not low income	Subtract sum of J17, J18 and J19 from C11	679
C - Estimate low income/not elderly/not disabled	Subtract I9 from E9	697
Total - Non-Duplicated		3,277

General TD Population	% of Total	
Non-Duplicated General TD Population Estimate	3,277	37.5%



CALCULATION OF CRITICAL NEED TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED POPULATION

Lafayette County

Census Data from: 2018

County Pop. By Age	Total Population with a Disability by Age	% with a Severe Disability by Age	Total Population with a Severe Disability by Age	% of Total Pop with Severe Disability by Age
<18	122	6.90%	28	1.60%
18-64	1,056	19.00%	311	5.60%
Total Non Elderly	1,179	16.08%	340	4.63%
65+	619	44.20%	115	8.20%
Total Elderly	619	44.20%	115	8.20%
Total	1,798	20.59%	455	5.21%

% of Severe Disability Below Poverty Level	Total Severe Disability Below Poverty Level
28.60%	97
11.70%	13
	111

Critical Need - Severely Disabled TD Population			
	Not Low Income	Low Income	Totals
Non-Elderly	243	97	340
Elderly	101	13	115
TOTAL	344	111	455

TRIP RATES USED	
Low Income Non Disabled Trip Rate	
Total	2.400
Less	
Transit	0.389
School Bus	0.063
Special Transit	0.049
	1.899
Severely Disabled Trip Rate	
Special Transit	0.049

Low Income & Not Disabled = C + F			
Assumes	27.2%	800	
xx % without auto access		218	
100%	xx % without transit access	218	
Calculation of Daily Trips			
		Rates	Total
		Per Person	Daily Trips
Total Actual Critical TD Population			
Severely Disabled	455	0.049	22
Low Income ND	218	1.899	413
Totals	672		436

2. Paratransit Service Demand Estimation

The National Center for Transit Research Center for Urban Transportation Research developed a paratransit service demand estimation tool based on the most current U.S. Census Bureau demographic and socio-economic data available. The following table shows trip demand for the critical Transportation Disadvantaged population.

FORECAST OF GENERAL AND CRITICAL NEED TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS

Lafayette County

General TD Population Forecast	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
<i>Overlapping Circle Component</i>											
E - Estimate non-elderly/disabled/low income	340	340	341	342	342	343	343	344	345	345	346
B - Estimate non-elderly/disabled/not low income	839	840	842	844	845	847	848	850	851	853	854
G - Estimate elderly/disabled/low income	115	115	115	116	116	116	116	116	117	117	117
D - Estimate elderly/disabled/not low income	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514
F - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/low income	103	103	103	104	104	104	104	104	105	105	105
A - Estimate elderly/non-disabled/not low income	679	680	681	682	684	685	686	687	689	690	691
C - Estimate low income/not elderly/not disabled	697	699	700	701	702	704	705	706	708	709	710
TOTAL GENERAL TD POPULATION	3,277	3,283	3,289	3,295	3,301	3,307	3,313	3,319	3,325	3,331	3,337
TOTAL POPULATION	8,732	8,748	8,764	8,780	8,796	8,812	8,828	8,845	8,861	8,877	8,893



Lafayette County

Critical Need TD Population Forecast	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Total Critical TD Population											
Disabled	455	455	456	457	458	459	460	460	461	462	463
Low Income Not Disabled No Auto/Transit	218	218	219	219	219	220	220	221	221	221	222
Total Critical Need TD Population	672	674	675	676	677	678	680	681	682	683	685
Daily Trips - Critical Need TD Population											
Severely Disabled	22	22	22	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	23
Low Income - Not Disabled - No Access	413	414	415	416	416	417	418	419	420	420	421
Total Daily Trips Critical Need TD Population	436	443	451	458	466	474	483	491	500	509	517
Annual Trips	113,286	115,200	117,147	119,127	121,140	123,284	125,467	127,687	129,947	132,247	134,324

3. Barriers to Coordination

Medicaid non-emergency transportation services are no longer coordinated through Florida’s Coordinated Transportation System in Lafayette County. In May 2014, the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration implemented Florida’s Managed Medical Care Program. The Managed Medical Care Program requires Managed Medical Assistance Plans to provide transportation to their enrollees who have no other means of transportation available.

The Managed Medical Assistance Plans provide transportation services directly through their own network of transportation providers. According Chapter 2 of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration Transportation Coverage, Limitations and Reimbursement Handbook, July 1997, “Medicaid is required by Chapter 427, Florida Statutes to purchase transportation services through the designated Community Transportation Coordinator, unless those services are not cost effective or the Community Transportation Coordinator does not coordinate Medicaid transportation services.”

Other barriers to the coordination of transportation services in Lafayette County include the following:

- low density, rural population limits the ability to multi-load vehicles;
- out-of-county trips are required due to the limited availability of medical services/facilities; and
- various requirements for agency client transportation services.

4. Needs Assessment

United States Code Section 5311 Grant Program

APPLICANT	PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	PROJECT LOCATION	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	FUNDING SOURCE
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	Provide transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged.	2021/22	Lafayette County	\$74,473.00	Federal Transit Administration
				\$74,473.00	Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

United States Code Section 5311 Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and American Rescue Plan Grant Program

APPLICANT	PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	PROJECT LOCATION	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	FUNDING SOURCE
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	Provide transportation services to Lafayette County residents.	2022/23	Lafayette County	\$185,828.00	Federal Transit Administration

Transportation Disadvantaged Program Trip and Equipment Grant

APPLICANT	PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	PROJECT LOCATION	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	PROJECT FUNDING
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	Provide transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged.	2022/23	Lafayette County	\$132,028.00 \$ 14,669.00	Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

Innovation and Service Development Grant

APPLICANT	PROJECT	PROJECT YEAR	PROJECT LOCATION	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	PROJECT FUNDING
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	Provide daily transportation to Big Bend Technical College for employment and education training.	2022/23	Lafayette County	\$39,106.00 \$ 4,301.00	Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

5. Goals, Objectives and Strategies

GOAL I: Coordinate all transportation disadvantaged services that are funded with local, state and/or federal government funds.

OBJECTIVE: Identify agencies that receive local, state and/or federal government transportation funds that are not coordinated through the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Strategy a: Identify agencies in Lafayette County that receive local, state and/or federal funds to transport clients or purchase vehicles.

Strategy b: Contact agencies to obtain information about coordination opportunities.

Strategy c: Determine whether a purchase of service contract, coordination contract or subcontract should be executed with the identified agencies to coordinate the transportation services that are being provided.

GOAL II: Identify unmet transportation needs in Lafayette County.

- OBJECTIVE:** Identify unmet transportation needs and discuss ways to meet these needs at each local Coordinating Board meeting.
- Strategy:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall report quarterly the number and types of transportation services that are requested which it is unable to provide.
- GOAL III:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall provide transportation services that are consumer oriented and effectively coordinate trips.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Provide transportation services that maximize the use of all vehicles to eliminate duplication of service without unduly inconveniencing the rider.
- Strategy a:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall work with purchasing agencies and service providers (doctors' offices, hospitals, etc.) to arrange appointments to group trips.
- GOAL IV:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall develop creative ways to provide additional trips.**
- OBJECTIVE:** Identify additional funding opportunities to provide transportation.
- Strategy:** Using information concerning unmet needs, the Community Transportation Coordinator shall determine the level of demand and cost of providing additional service.
- GOAL V:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall ensure that the demand responsive transportation services offered to individuals with disabilities is equivalent to the level and quality of transportation services offered to individuals without disabilities.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with the requirements of the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)* regarding the access to and provision of transportation services.
- Strategy a:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall eliminate physical barriers preventing the use of transportation services by persons who are elderly and/or disabled.
- Strategy b:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall train its staff members regarding the utilization of special equipment for persons with disabilities as well as the abilities of persons with disabilities.
- GOAL VI:** **The local Coordinating Board shall annually evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance based on specific criteria.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The local Coordinating Board shall annually evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance in general and relative to Commission standards as referenced in *Rule 41-2.006 of the Florida Administrative Code*.
- GOAL VII:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall utilize the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund allocation in the most cost efficient manner.**

- OBJECTIVE:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall adhere to a strict budget of Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds to ensure that these funds are spent in the most efficient manner.
- Strategy a:** The Community Transportation Coordinator and local Coordinating Board shall determine the most efficient manner to expend the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.
- Strategy b:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall inform the local Coordinating Board of any difficulties experienced concerning the under expenditure or over expenditure of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.
- GOAL VIII:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with all reporting requirements of the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and the Local Coordinating Board.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall complete all reports which require Local Coordinating Board review and/or approval.
- Strategy:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall complete and submit all final reports to the planning agency staff a minimum of two weeks prior to the meeting date to be reviewed and included in the Local Coordinating Board's meeting packet.
- GOAL IX:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall provide quality service.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The local Coordinating Board shall monitor the quality of service provided by the Community Transportation Coordinator.
- Strategy:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall report complaints to the Local Coordinating Board.
- OBJECTIVE:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall provide courteous and professional service.**
- Strategy:** Reservationists and other office staff shall receive sensitivity and courtesy training annually.
- GOAL X:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall promote cost and service efficiency through efficient routing, scheduling and operation procedures.**
- OBJECTIVE:** The local Coordinating Board shall encourage the Community Transportation Coordinator to provide the greatest number of trips using the most cost effective methods possible.
- Strategy:** The Community Transportation Coordinator shall maintain a database with pertinent information relative to clients' needs and limitations.
- GOAL XI:** **The Community Transportation Coordinator shall insure the provision of safe transportation services.**

OBJECTIVE: The Community Transportation Coordinator shall insure the safety and well being of passengers through inspection and maintenance of all vehicles in the coordinated system and driver training.

Strategy: The System Safety Program Plan shall meet all established requirements and adhere to *Chapter 341 Florida Statutes* and *Rule and 14-90, Florida Administrative Code*.

6. Implementation Plan

STRATEGIES	IMPLEMENTATION DATE
(1) Identify agencies located in Lafayette County receiving local, state and/or federal funds to transport clients or purchase vehicles. (2) Contact the identified agencies to obtain information about the funding they receive. (3) Determine type of contract to execute to coordinate transportation services.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing
(1) Discuss transportation needs at local Coordinating Board meetings. (2) Report unmet trip requests.	(1) Quarterly (2) Quarterly
(1) Maximize the use of vehicles without unduly inconveniencing the rider. (2) Work with purchasing agencies and service providers to arrange appointments to group trips. (3) Measure total passenger trips per vehicle.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Annually
(1) Identify additional funding opportunities to provide trips. (2) Report the types of funding opportunities that may be available for additional trips.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing
(1) Ensure that the demand responsive transportation services offered to individuals with disabilities is equivalent to the level and quality of services offered to individuals without disabilities. (2) Provide alternative methods for accessing transportation services for individuals with disabilities. (3) Train staff members regarding the utilization of special equipment for persons with disabilities.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing
Evaluate the performance of the Community Transportation Coordinator in general and relative to Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged standards, completion of service plan elements and Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged workbook modules.	2022/23
(1) Adhere to a strict budget of Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds to insure that the Trust Funds are spent in the most efficient manner. (2) Determine the most efficient manner to expend the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.	(1) Ongoing (2) Annually (3) Quarterly

STRATEGIES	IMPLEMENTATION DATE
(3) Inform the local Coordinating Board of any difficulties experienced concerning the expenditure of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds.	
(1) Complete all reports for review and/or approval. (2) Final reports shall be completed and submitted to planning agency staff a minimum of two weeks prior to next local Coordinating Board meeting.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing
(1) Monitor the quality of service. (2) Make recommendations to improve the quality of service. (3) Provide courteous and professional service. (4) Provide sensitivity and courtesy training annually. (5) Collect on-time performance data.	(1) Ongoing (2) Ongoing (3) Ongoing (4) Ongoing (5) Annually
Maintain a data base with pertinent information relative to clients needs and limitations.	Ongoing
The System Safety Program Plan shall meet all established requirements and adhere to Chapter 341, Florida Statutes and Rule 14-90, Florida Administrative Code.	Annually

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Chapter II: Service Plan

A. Operations

The operations element is a profile of the Lafayette County coordinated transportation system. This element is intended to provide basic information about the daily operations of Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. and its contracted transportation operators.

1. Types, Hours and Days of Service

Provider	Ambulatory	Wheelchair	Advance Reservation	Subscription	Door to Door
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

a. Bariatric Transportation

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. transports all "common wheelchairs." A common wheelchair is defined as a device which does not exceed 30 inches in width and 48 inches in length measured two inches above the ground and does not weigh more than 600 pounds when occupied. Wheelchairs that exceed these dimensions and weight may not be transported.

b. Hours and Days of Service

Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. excluding holidays (see below).

c. Holidays

Transportation Disadvantaged Program sponsored service will not be provided on the following observed holidays.

- Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day
- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day

2. Accessing Services

a. Office Hours

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

b. Phone Number

City of Live Oak office: 386.362.4115 or 1.800.597.7579

City of Mayo office: 386.294.2202.

c. Advance Notification Time

Twenty-four hours advance notification must be given for trips provided Tuesday through Saturday. Seventy-two hours advance notification must be given for trips provided on Mondays.

d. Trip Cancellation Process

Trip cancellations should be made to Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. with 24-hour advance notification. However, a no-show will not be charged to a rider if the cancellation is received before the vehicle is dispatched.

e. No-Show Policy

Trip cancellations should be made to Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. with 24-hour advance notification. However, a no-show will not be charged to a rider if the cancellation is received before the vehicle is dispatched. If trips are not cancelled prior to the vehicle being dispatched, the passenger will be considered a no-show. Cancellations at the door will be considered no-shows.

On the first "no-show," the driver will leave a "no-show" notice on the client's door. On the second "no-show" occurrence, a letter of warning will be sent from the Community Transportation Coordinator. If a third infraction occurs within 60 days, the Community Transportation Coordinator will send a letter notifying the client that they have been suspended from service for a 30 day period. When the client is again reinstated to the program, and if three (3) infractions occur within 60 days, the suspension will be 45 days. When the client is again reinstated to the program and if three (3) infractions occur within 60 days, the suspension will be 60 days.

f. After Hours Service

After hours service is not sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

g. Passenger Fares

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. does not charge fares to passengers sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

h. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Eligibility

Individuals must apply for Transportation Disadvantaged Program eligibility certification for their transportation to be sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program. Recertification will be conducted annually. Recertification is not required of individuals who have permanent disabilities. The Transportation Disadvantaged Program Eligibility Certification Application is shown as Exhibit A.

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. will use the following criteria to determine eligibility:

1. Determine if the applicant is unable to transport themselves because they do not have an operational vehicle or the ability to operate a vehicle.
2. Determine if the applicant is sponsored by any agency for transportation services; is unable to purchase transportation; is unable to find transportation from other sources.

Individuals who are not travelling to a Medicaid Managed Medical Assistance Program compensable service may be eligible for Transportation Disadvantaged Program sponsored service.

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. will notify Transportation Disadvantaged Program applicants of eligibility approval or denial within 15 working days after receipt of application. Applicants determined to be ineligible for Transportation Disadvantaged Program sponsored services may file appeals with Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

EXHIBIT A
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM
ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Middle Initial _____

Street Address _____ City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____ County _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Male _____ Female _____

Telephone Number (____) _____ - _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Relationship _____

Telephone Number (____) _____ - _____

1. How many people reside in your household Including parents, caregivers, relatives or others involved in your living functions?

2. Does your household have an operational vehicle(s)?

- Yes (a) Are you or another household member able to operate the vehicle(s)? Yes No
| (b) Can you afford to operate the vehicle(s)? Yes No

 No

3. Are you enrolled in any assistance programs:

- Managed Medical Care Program (Medicaid)
 Aging Program
 Other _____



4. What other means of transportation are available for you to use?

5. Do you have a physical or mental disability as outlined in the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990?

- Yes
- No

6. Is your disability permanent?

- Yes
- No

Please check or list any special needs, services or modes of transportation you require:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Powered Wheelchair | <input type="checkbox"/> Manual Wheelchair | <input type="checkbox"/> Powered Scooter/Cart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stretcher | <input type="checkbox"/> Walker | <input type="checkbox"/> Leg Braces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cane | <input type="checkbox"/> Respirator | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen CO2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Care Attendant/Escort | | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Animal |

Other:

CERTIFICATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I understand and affirm that the information provided in this application will be used to determine if I am eligible for non-emergency transportation services sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program. I understand that the information contained in this application is confidential and will be shared only with professionals involved in evaluating and determining eligibility for transportation services provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program. I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information in this application is true, correct, complete and made in good faith and any material omissions, falsifications, misstatements or misrepresentations in the above information could disqualify me from receiving services under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. will notify you whether your application has been approved or denied within 15 business days. If your application is denied, you may file an appeal with Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. within 15 working days.



APPLICATION PROCESSED BY: _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____



i. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Trip Priorities

Trips sponsored with Trip & Equipment Grant funds provided through Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program will be provided in the following ranking order based on funding availability:

- 1) Prescheduled Medical Appointments
 - Dialysis appointments
 - Cancer Care appointments
 - Urgent Care appointments
- 2) Prescheduled Medical Appointments as defined by the American Board of Medical Specialties
- 3) Other Medical Appointments
 - Dental appointments
 - Pharmacy
- 4) Mental Health Services provided by physicians, nurses who provide mental health services, licensed social workers, chemical dependency counselors, licensed professional counselors and licensed marriage and family counselors
- 5) Nutritional (within Lafayette County)
 - Adult congregate meal programs
 - Food stamp procurement
 - Grocery shopping
- 6) Social Service Agency (within Lafayette County)
 - Public agency support services
 - Senior programs

Medical trips sponsored by the Transportation Disadvantaged Program will only be provided outside of Lafayette County if the medical service is not available in Lafayette County.

3. Transportation Operators And Coordination Contractors

Not applicable. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. is the only transportation provider operating in Lafayette County.

4. Public Transit Utilization

Not applicable. There is no fixed route, public transit system operating in Lafayette County.

5. School Bus Utilization

Currently, there is no need to use school buses at this time. If Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. determines a need to use school buses in the future, the Lafayette County School Board will be contacted for assistance.

6. Vehicle Inventory

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s vehicle inventory is shown as Exhibit C.

7. System Safety Program Plan Certification

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s System Safety Program Plan Certification is shown as Exhibit D.

8. Inter-County Services

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. does not have any inter-county agreements with other Community Transportation Coordinators at this time.

9. Natural Disaster/Emergency Preparedness

The Lafayette County Emergency Management Department does not have a formal agreement with Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. to provide transportation during natural disasters.

10. Marketing

Currently, there are no efforts to market the availability of transportation services sponsored by Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Funds due to the limited availability of these funds.

11. Acceptable Alternatives

There have been no acceptable alternatives for the provision of transportation service identified in Lafayette County.

12. Service Standards

The Community Transportation Coordinator and any transportation operator from whom service is purchased or arranged by the Community Transportation Coordinator shall adhere to Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged approved standards. These standards include:

a. Drug and Alcohol Policy

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (a), F.A.C.: Drug and alcohol testing for safety sensitive job positions within the coordinated system regarding pre-employment, randomization, post accident and reasonable suspicion as required by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. shall comply with this standard.

b. Transport of Escorts and Dependent Children

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (b), F.A.C.: An escort of a passenger and dependent children are to be transported as locally negotiated and identified in the local Service Plan.

Local Policy: Children under age 16 will be required to be accompanied by an escort. Escorts must be provided by the passenger. Escorts must be able to provide the necessary assistance to the passenger. Escorts will be transported at the regular rate.

c. Use, Responsibility and Cost of Child Restraint Devices

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (c), F.A.C.: Use of child restraint devices shall be determined locally as to their responsibility, and cost of such device in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All children 5 years of age or younger must be properly restrained no matter where they are sitting in the vehicle. Children through age 3 must be secured in a separate carrier or a vehicle manufacturer's integrated child safety seat. For children aged 4 through 5 years, a separate carrier, an integrated child safety seat, or a safety belt may be used. (FS 316.613). Device shall be provided and installed by the passenger.

d. Passenger Property

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (d), F.A.C.: Passenger property that can be carried by the passenger and/or driver in one trip and can be safely stowed on the vehicle, shall be allowed to be transported with the passenger at no additional charge. Additional requirements may be negotiated for carrying and loading rider property beyond this amount. Passenger property does not include wheelchairs, child seats, stretchers, secured oxygen, personal assistive devices, or intravenous devices.

Local Policy: Passengers shall be allowed to have two pieces of personal property which they can place in their lap or stow under the seat. Passengers must be able to independently carry all items brought onto the vehicle.

e. Vehicle Transfer Points

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (e), F.A.C.: Vehicle transfer points shall provide shelter, security and safety of passengers.

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

f. Local Toll Free Phone Number

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (f), F.A.C.: A local toll free phone number for complaints or grievances shall be posted inside the vehicle. The Transportation Disadvantaged Helpline phone number (1-800-983-2435) shall also be posted inside all vehicles of the coordinated system. The local complaint process shall be outlined as a section in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan including, advising the dissatisfied person about the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged as a step within the process as approved by the local Coordinating Board. All rider information/materials (brochures, user's guides, etc.) Will include the Transportation Disadvantaged Helpline phone number.

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

g. Out-Of-Service Area Trips

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (g), F.A.C.: Out of service area trips shall be provided when determined locally and approved by the local Coordinating Board, except in instances where local ordinances prohibit such trips.

Local Policy: The Community Transportation Coordinator may require medical provider certification for any out of county trip.

h. Vehicle Cleanliness

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (h), F.A.C. Interior of all vehicles shall be free of dirt, grime, oil, trash, torn upholstery, damaged or broken seats, protruding metal or other objects or materials which could soil items placed in the vehicle or provide discomfort for the passenger.

Local Policy: All vehicles shall be cleaned (interior and exterior) on a regular schedule (minimum once a week).

i. Billing Requirements

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (I), F.A.C. Billing requirements of the Community Transportation Coordinator to subcontractors shall be determined locally by the local Coordinating Board and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. All bills shall be paid within seven (7) calendar days to subcontractors, after receipt of said payment by the Community Transportation Coordinator, in accordance with Section 287.0585, Florida Statutes.

Local Policy: If the Community Transportation Coordinator without reasonable cause fails to make payments to the subcontractors and suppliers within seven (7) working days after the receipt by the Community Transportation Coordinator of full or partial payment, the Community Transportation Coordinator shall pay to the subcontractors and suppliers a penalty in the amount of one-half of one percent of the amount due, per day, from the expiration of the period allowed herein for payment. (F.S. 2000/ Ch 287/Part I/287.0585 Late payments by contractors to subcontractors and suppliers; penalty.)

j. Passenger/Trip Database

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (j), F.A.C.: Passenger/trip data base must be maintained or accessible by the Community Transportation Coordinator on each rider being transported within the system.

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

k. Adequate Seating

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (k), F.A.C.: Adequate seating for paratransit services shall be provided to each rider and escort, child or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time. For transit services provided by transit vehicles, adequate seating or standing space will be provided to each rider and escort, child, or personal care attendant, and no more passengers than the registered passenger seating or standing capacity shall be scheduled or transported in a vehicle at any time.

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

I. Driver Identification

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (l), F.A.C.: Drivers for paratransit services, including coordination contractors, shall be required to announce and identify themselves by name and company in a manner that is conducive to communications with specific passengers, upon pickup of each rider, group of riders, or representative, guardian, or associate of the rider, except in situations where the driver regularly transports the rider on a recurring basis. Each driver must have photo identification that is in view of the passenger. Name patches, inscriptions or badges that affix to driver clothing are acceptable. For transit services, the driver photo identification shall be in a conspicuous location in the vehicle.

Local Policy: The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

m. Passenger Assistance

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (m), F.A.C.: The paratransit driver shall provide the passenger with boarding assistance, if necessary or requested, to the seating portion of the vehicle. The boarding assistance shall include opening the vehicle door, fastening the seat belt or wheelchair securement devices, storage of mobility assistive devices and closing the vehicle door. In the door-through-door paratransit service category, the driver shall be required to open and close doors to buildings, except in situations in which assistance in opening/closing building doors would not be safe for passengers remaining on the vehicle. Assisted access must be in a dignified manner. Drivers may not assist wheelchairs up or down more than one step, unless it can be performed safely as determined by the passenger, guardian and driver.

Local Policy: The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

n. Smoking, Eating, and Drinking

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (n), F.A.C.: Smoking is prohibited in any vehicle. Requirements for drinking and eating on board the vehicle will be addressed in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: Eating and drinking on board the vehicle will not be allowed. Stops may be made to accommodate the needs of the passengers at the discretion of the driver.

o. Passenger No-Shows

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (o), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board shall jointly develop a policy on passenger no shows. Assessing fines to passengers for no shows is acceptable but such policy and process shall be identified in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy - The Community Transportation Coordinator shall attempt to reduce the number of no-shows annually.

p. Two-Way Communications

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (p), F.A.C.: All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system shall be equipped with two-way communications in good working order and audible to the driver at all times to the base.

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

q. Air Conditioning/Heating

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (q), F.A.C.: All vehicles providing service within the coordinated system shall have working air conditioners and heaters in each vehicle. Vehicles that do not have a working air conditioner or heater will be scheduled for repair or replacement as soon as possible.

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall comply with this standard.

r. First Aid

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (r), F.A.C.: First Aid policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: All vehicles will be equipped with first aid kits and bio-hazard kits as required by state and federal regulations.

s. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (s), F.A.C.: Cardiopulmonary resuscitation policy shall be determined locally and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: Drivers are not required to be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

t. Driver Criminal Background Screening

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (t), F.A.C.: Driver background screening shall be determined locally, dependent up on purchasing agencies' requirements and provided in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan.

Local Policy: Level II background screenings are required for all employees. The Level II background screening includes Florida Department of Elder Affairs and Florida Law Enforcement criminal history checks. All drivers are fingerprinted and results are submitted to the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and Florida Department of Children and Families. Driver screenings updated every five years.

u. Fixed Route Transit Utilization

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (u), F.A.C.: In areas where fixed route transportation is available, the Community Transportation Coordinator should jointly establish with the local Coordinating Board a percentage of total trips that will be placed on the fixed route system.

Local Policy: Not applicable.

v. Pick-Up Window

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (v), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address the passenger pick-up windows in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This policy should also be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies and passengers.

Local Policy: There is a thirty (30) minute pickup window in place for all intra-county trips based on the arrival/departure time of the passenger. The passenger is given a pick-up time at the time of scheduling the ride.

w. On-Time Performance

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (w), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address the percentage of trips that will be on-time in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan. This performance measure should be communicated to contracted operators, drivers, purchasing agencies and passengers. This measure should also be included as part of the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of its contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: The Community Transportation Coordinator will have a 90 percent on-time performance rate for all completed trips. On-time performance will be measured by random sampling of trips.

x. Advance Reservation Requirement

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (x), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator should establish and address in the local Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan a minimum 24 hour advanced notification time to obtain services. This policy should be communicated to contracted operators, purchasing agencies and passengers.

Local Policy: Twenty-four hours advanced notice is required for all trips scheduled within the coordinated system. Service on Monday requires 72 hours advance notice.

y. Safety

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (y), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the safety of the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: There shall be no more than 1 accident per 100,000 miles during the evaluation period.

z. Reliability

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (z), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the reliability of the vehicles utilized in the coordinated system. This measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of the contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: There shall be no more than 5 roadcalls during the evaluation period.

aa. Call-Hold Time

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (aa), F.A.C.: This performance measure can be used to address the accessibility of the service. The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly determine if a standard for a call hold time is needed in the coordinated system and address this in the local service plan. If determined to be necessary, this standard should be included in the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

This standard is not applicable to this service area.

bb. Quality of Service

Rule 41-2.006 (4) (bb), F.A.C.: The Community Transportation Coordinator and the local Coordinating Board should jointly establish and address in the local service plan a performance measure to evaluate the quality of service provided within the coordinated system. The measure should be used in the Community Transportation Coordinator's evaluation of contracted operators and the local Coordinating Board's evaluation of the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Local Policy: There shall be no more than one complaint per 1,000 trips during the evaluation period.

cc. Safety Belt Usage

Chapter 316.614 (4), Florida Statutes: It is unlawful for any person: (a) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless each passenger and the operator of the vehicle under the age of 18 years are restrained by a safety belt or by a child restraint device pursuant to s. 316.613, if applicable; or (b) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless the person is restrained by a safety belt. (5) It is unlawful for any person 18 years of age or older to be a passenger in the front seat of a motor vehicle unless such person is restrained by a safety belt when the vehicle is in motion. (6)(a) Neither a person who is certified by a physician as having a medical condition that causes the use of a safety belt to be inappropriate or dangerous nor an employee of a newspaper home delivery service while in the course of his or her employment delivering newspapers on home delivery routes is required to be restrained by a safety belt.

Local Policy: Passengers whose transportation is sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program shall wear a safety belt while being transported unless they are certified by a physician as having a medical condition that causes the use of a safety belt to be inappropriate or dangerous.

13. Local Grievance Procedure/Process

The Transportation Disadvantaged Program Grievance Procedures are shown in Appendix A.

14. Passenger Code of Conduct

For everyone's safety, drivers and riders of the system are expected to act in an appropriate manner at all times and abide by the policies of Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc..

- Riders shall be ready to board the vehicle within 5 minutes of its arrival.
- Riders shall be prepared to share their ride with other passengers.
- No person may eat, drink or smoke on board any vehicle.
- No passenger may operate or tamper with any equipment on board any vehicle.
- Riders may not have radios, cassette tape players, CD players or other sound generating devices in operation while on board a vehicle, unless it is connected to a headset.
- Disruptive behavior, which results in a distraction to the driver is deemed a safety hazard. Such behavior will not be tolerated and shall be grounds for suspension of transportation privileges.

a. Verbal Abuse

Verbal abuse by a rider against staff, drivers or other clients will not be tolerated. Verbal abuse includes but is not limited to use of profanity, obscene gestures, yelling or screaming. Riders who verbally abuse staff, drivers or other clients may be suspended from service.

b. Physical Abuse

Physical abuse of either a rider to another rider or rider to a driver will not be tolerated. Physical abuse includes but is not limited to grabbing, hitting or touching. Such abuse shall be deemed as assault. In such cases, the local police shall be notified, and the rider shall be issued a notice of suspension from service.

c. Substance Abuse

No passenger who is under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will be transported. If a passenger is scheduled to be returned home and they are under the influence, they will be required to find alternative means of transportation. If a pattern of such behavior exists, a suspension of transportation privileges shall be invoked.

d. Penalties

The following penalties shall apply to service sponsored by Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

Verbal Abuse

- First offense – written warning
- Second offense – one week suspension of services
- Third offense – 30 day suspension of services
- Fourth offense – 90 day suspension of services
- Fifth offense – permanently removed from service

Physical Abuse

First offense - Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. will issue a written notice of suspension for 90 days by certified mail. The notice will advise the rider that Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. intends to suspend his or her riding privileges and the reason for such action.

Second offense – 180 day suspension of services

Third offense - permanently removed from service

e. Appeals

A rider has ten (10) calendar days from the date of issuance of suspension notice to request a reconsideration hearing on the suspension. If a reconsideration hearing is requested, the hearing will be held by the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Committee if the suspension involves transportation provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program. All requests for reconsideration must be in writing and delivered to:

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 70
Live Oak, FL 32060

and

Transportation Disadvantaged Program
Coordinating Board Grievance Committee
2009 N.W. 67 Place, Suite A
Gainesville, Florida 32653-1603

The written request must include the name and address of the person who is requesting the hearing and a statement as to why his or her riding privileges should not be suspended. If the request is not received within ten (10) calendar days from the issue date of the suspension, then the suspension becomes effective ten (10) calendar days from the date of issue. Upon receipt of letter requesting the reconsideration hearing, a hearing shall be held within 10 working days. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will advise the person requesting the reconsideration hearing by return correspondence of the date, time and location of the hearing.

The person will be given the opportunity to present the reasons why they believe the suspension should not take place. The Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Committee will make a recommendation whether or not to uphold the suspension. A written statement of the recommendation shall be forwarded to the person requesting the hearing within two (2) working days after the hearing by the Grievance Committee.

15. Evaluation Process

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. in cooperation with the local Coordinating Board will determine whether agencies, from a total system approach, can perform more effectively and more efficiently their own transportation.

B. Cost/Revenue Allocation and Rate Structure Justification

See Appendix B.

Chapter III: Quality Assurance

This section contains the steps the local Coordinating Board will take to monitor and evaluate the services provided by or coordinated through the Community Transportation Coordinator, based on the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged standards and the locally established service standards.

A. Community Transportation Coordinator Evaluation Process

The local Coordinating Board will evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator's performance on an annual basis using the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Quality Assurance Program Evaluation/Local Coordinating Board, Community Transportation Coordinator Evaluation Workbook. This evaluation workbook was created to provide a formal process for evaluating the performance of the Coordinator (and its operators). The Commission requires worksheets regarding Cost, Competition and Coordination be completed during this review.

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Appendix A: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Procedures

Grievance Procedures

September 13, 2021

Lafayette County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating
Board



Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

Grievance Procedures

Approved by the
Lafayette County
Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org/mtpo
352.955.2000



Lisa Walker, Chair

with Assistance from



North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 NW 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
www.ncfrpc.org
352.955.2200

September 13, 2021

Table of Contents

Chapter I: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board	1
Grievance Procedures	1
A. Preamble	1
B. Agency Description	1
C. Definitions	1
D. Purpose	2
E. Membership	3
F. Officers	3
G. Meetings	3
H. Administration	4
I. Duties	5
J. Procedures	5
K. Appeals	6
L. Suspension Reconsideration	7
M. Prohibition Against Retaliation	8
N. Alternative Recourse	8
O. Certification	8

Chapter I: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Grievance Procedures

A. Preamble

The following sets forth the procedures for the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board to address grievances from agencies, users, potential users, sub-contractors, and other interested parties concerning Florida's Coordinated Transportation System.

B. Agency Description

The Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board, herein after referred to as the Board, is a public body appointed by the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council serving as the Designated Official Planning Agency as authorized by Section 427.015, Florida Statutes.

C. Definitions

Transportation disadvantaged means those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities, or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk as defined in Section 411.202, Florida Statutes.

Agency means an official, officer, commission, authority, council, committee, department, division, bureau, board, section, or any other unit or entity of the state or of a city, town, municipality, county, or other local governing body or a private nonprofit transportation service-providing agency.

Community Transportation Coordinator means a transportation entity recommended by a metropolitan planning organization, or by the appropriate designated official planning agency as provided for in Section 427.011, Florida Statutes in an area outside the purview of a metropolitan planning organization, to ensure that coordinated transportation services are provided to the transportation disadvantaged population in a designated service area.

Coordinating Board means an advisory entity in each designated service area composed of representatives appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency, to provide assistance to the community transportation coordinator relative to the coordination of transportation services.

Coordination means the arrangement for the provision of transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged in a manner that is cost-effective, efficient and reduces fragmentation and duplication of services.

Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures

Designated Official Planning Agency means the official body or agency designated by the Commission to fulfill the functions of transportation disadvantaged planning in areas not covered by a Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Metropolitan Planning Organization shall serve as the designated official planning agency in areas covered by such organizations.

Designated Service Area means a geographical area recommended by a designated official planning agency, subject to approval by the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, which defines the community where coordinated transportation services will be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.

Florida's Coordinated Transportation System means a transportation system responsible for coordination and service provisions for the transportation disadvantaged as outlined in Chapter 427, Florida Statutes.

Grievance means a written complaint to document any concerns regarding the operation or administration of services provided by Florida's Coordinated Transportation System by the Community Transportation Coordinator, subcontracted transportation operators, the Designated Official Planning Agency, or the Board. A grievance may also be a service complaint that has been left unresolved for more than 45 days.

Memorandum of Agreement is the state contract for transportation disadvantaged services purchased with federal, state or local government transportation disadvantaged funds. This agreement is between the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and the Community Transportation Coordinator and recognizes the Community Transportation Coordinator as being responsible for the arrangement of the provision of transportation disadvantaged services for a designated service area.

Service complaint means routine incidents that occur on a daily basis, are reported to the driver or dispatcher, or to other individuals involved with the daily operations, and are resolved within the course of a reasonable time period suitable to the complainant. All service complaints shall be recorded and a summary of complaints should be provided by the Community Transportation Coordinator on a quarterly basis, to the Board.

Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan means an annually updated plan jointly developed by the Designated Official Planning Agency and the Community Transportation Coordinator which contains a development plan, service plan and quality assurance components. The plan shall be approved and used by the local Coordinating Board to evaluate the Community Transportation Coordinator.

D. Purpose

- (1) The Board shall appoint a Grievance Committee to serve as a mediator to process, and investigate complaints from agencies, users, potential users of the system and the Community Transportation Coordinator in the designated service area, and make recommendations to the Board for the improvement of service.
- (2) The Board shall establish procedures to provide regular opportunities for issues to be brought before the Grievance Committee and to address them in a timely manner. Members appointed to the Grievance Committee shall be voting members of the Board.

**Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures**

- (3) The Grievance Committee and the Board shall have the authority to hear and advise on grievances. When an entity makes a determination of the rights, duties, privileges, benefits, or legal relationships of a specified person or persons, it is exercising "adjudicative" or "determinative" powers. Deciding a grievance between two independent parties may fall within these parameters, depending on the nature of the grievance. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes grants no adjudicative powers to anyone.

E. Membership

- (1) The Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board Chair shall appoint five (5) voting members to a Grievance Committee. The membership of the Grievance Committee shall include broad geographic representation from members of the local Coordinating Board representing the counties in the service area.
- (2) Term limits on the Grievance Committee may coincide with term limits on the Board.

F. Officers

- (1) The Grievance Committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.

G. Meetings

- (1) The Grievance Committee may meet as often as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. Meetings may be called, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled for any appropriate purpose by the Chair. The Grievance Committee may meet following Board meetings to hear complaints and grievances. All meetings will function under the "Government in the Sunshine Law." All meetings will provide opportunity for public comments on the agenda.
- (2) Notice of Meetings. Notices and tentative agendas shall be provided to the Florida Commission for the Transportation, Committee members and other interested parties at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Meeting notices shall include the date, time, location, general nature/subject of the meeting, a contact person and phone number to call for additional information and to request accessible formats.
- (3) Quorum. At all meetings of the Grievance Committee, the presence in person of a majority of the voting members shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the absence of a quorum, those present may, without notice other than by announcement at the meeting, recess the meeting from time to time, until a quorum shall be present. At any such recessed meeting, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called.
- (4) Voting. A majority vote is required for actions by the Grievance Committee. As required by Section 286.012, Florida Statutes, all Grievance Committee members, including the Chair, must vote on all official actions taken by the Grievance Committee except when there appears to be a possible conflict of interest with a member or members of the Grievance Committee.

**Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures**

- (5) **Voting Conflicts.** In accordance with Chapter 112.3143(2)(a), Florida Statutes, "A state public officer may not vote on any matter that the officer knows would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Any state public officer who abstains from voting in an official capacity upon any measure that the officer knows would inure to the officer's special private gain or loss, or who votes in an official capacity on a measure that he or she knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of any principal by whom the officer is retained or to the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal by which the officer is retained other than an agency as defined in s. 112.312(2); or which the officer knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a relative or business associate of the public officer, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the state public officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote."

In cases where a grievance involves the private or personal interests of a member of the Grievance Committee, such member shall be disqualified from hearing such grievance. If a Grievant claims a conflict between the Grievant and a Grievance Committee member, the Grievance Committee member identified as having a conflict shall recuse themselves from hearing the grievance. No member of the Grievance Committee shall appear before the Grievance Committee as an agent or attorney for any person.

- (6) **Parliamentary Procedures.** The Grievance Committee will conduct business using parliamentary procedures according to Robert's Rules of Order, except when in conflict with these Grievance Procedures.
- (8) **Public Comment.** Public comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes and directed to the Chair. Additional time may be given at the Chair's discretion. The Chair may impose a cumulative time limit for all public comment on any specific agenda item.

Members of the public shall be allowed to address the Committee following the making of a motion that has been properly seconded concerning a proposition before the Committee. Such comments shall be directed to the Chair.

All comments made by Committee members, Committee staff, guests and members of the public during any public meeting of the Grievance Committee shall be governed by the City, County and Local Government Law Section of the Florida Bar Civility Pledge, as follows:

1. We will be respectful of one another even when we disagree;
2. We will direct all comments to the issues; and
3. We will avoid personal attacks.

H. Administration

- (1) **Staff Support.** The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall provide the Grievance Committee with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the Grievance Committee to fulfill their responsibilities.
- (2) **Minutes.** The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council is responsible for maintaining an official set of minutes for each Grievance Committee meeting.

Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures

I. Duties

The Grievance Committee shall make recommendations to the Board, the Community Transportation Coordinator, and/or to the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged for improvement of service.

J. Procedures

- (1) The grievance procedures shall be open to addressing concerns by any person or agency including but not limited to: purchasing agencies, users, potential users, private-for-profit operators, private-nonprofit operators, Community Transportation Coordinators, Designated Official Planning Agencies, elected officials, and drivers. The grievant, in their formal complaint, should demonstrate or establish their concerns as clearly as possible.
- (2) The Board must make a written copy of the grievance procedures available to anyone, upon request. All documents pertaining to the grievance process will be made available, upon request, in accessible format. The following procedures are established to provide regular opportunities for grievances to be brought before the Grievance Committee.
- (3) Should an interested party wish to file a grievance with the Board, that grievance must be filed in writing within ninety (90) days after the occurrence of the event giving rise to the grievance. The grievance shall be sent to:

Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Committee
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
- (4) If requested, the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff will provide assistance to individuals in preparing written grievances.
- (5) The grievance should try to demonstrate or establish a clear violation of a specific law, regulation, or contractual arrangement. Copies of pertinent laws and regulations may be obtained from North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff.
- (6) The grievance shall include:
 - a. the name, address and telephone number of the Complainant;
 - b. a statement of the grounds for the grievance and be supplemented by supporting documentation, made in a clear and concise manner; and
 - c. an explanation by the Complainant of the improvements needed to address the complaint.

Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures

- (7) If the Board receives a grievance pertaining to the operation of services by the Community Transportation Coordinator, that grievance shall be forwarded to the Community Transportation Coordinator for a written response. The Community Transportation Coordinator's written response shall be provided to the Grievance Committee at least one week prior to the Grievance Committee meeting to hear such grievance.
- (8) If the Complainant does not want to be contacted by the Community Transportation Coordinator concerning the grievance before the grievance is heard, the Community Transportation Coordinator is prohibited from contacting the Complainant.
- (9) Within fifteen (15) working days following the date of receipt of the formal grievance, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff shall advise the Grievance Committee of the grievance to schedule a hearing on the grievance and inform the Complainant of the hearing date.
- (10) The Grievance Committee shall meet to hear the grievance within forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of receipt of the grievance.
- (11) North Central Florida Regional Planning Council staff shall send notice of the Grievance Committee's scheduled hearing in writing to the local newspaper of greatest circulation, the Complainant and other interested parties.
- (12) All involved parties have a right to present their views to the Grievance Committee, either orally or in writing. In addition, all parties may present evidence. The Community Transportation Coordinator shall provide transportation to and from Grievance Committee meetings at no charge to complainants who cannot transport themselves to the meetings.
- (13) A written report and any recommendations of the Grievance Committee shall be provided to the Board. A copy of this report shall be provided to the concerned parties within ten (10) working days after the hearing on the grievance and no more than sixty (60) calendar days from the date of receipt of the formal grievance. The Grievance Committee's recommendation will stand unless the recommendation is changed by the Board.
- (14) A written report shall also be provided to the Community Transportation Coordinator's Governing Board.

K. Appeals

- (1) Appeals of recommendations by the Grievance Committee to the Board shall be made within twenty (20) working days from the date when the Grievance Committee makes a recommendation regarding a grievance. The appeal shall be mailed to:

Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653-1603
- (2) The Complainant will be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the Board meeting where the appeal will be heard. This written notice will be mailed at least ten (10) calendar days in advance of the meeting.

Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures

- (3) The Board will meet to hear the appeal and render its recommendation within thirty (30) calendar days of the date the appeal was filed. A written copy of the recommendation will be mailed to all parties involved within ten (10) calendar days of the date of the recommendation.
- (4) Should a Complainant remain dissatisfied with the Board's decision, he or she may contact the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged at the following address:

Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged
605 Suwannee Street, MS-49
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450
- (5) The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged also has an Ombudsman Program to assist individuals with complaints. The toll-free Ombudsman Hotline is 1-800-983-2435. Chapter 427, Florida Statutes does not expressly confer the power or authority for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to "hear and determine" a grievance between two (2) third parties. The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged may choose to listen to grievances and it can investigate them from a fact-finding perspective. It cannot be the "judge" or "arbiter" of the grievance in the sense of determining that one party's version of the facts is right and the other is wrong, and order the wrong party to somehow compensate the right party. On the other hand, the grievance may bring to light a problem within "the system."
- (6) If the grievance showed that one (1) of the parties with whom the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged contracts was acting so aberrantly as to not be in compliance with its contract, the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged could exercise whatever contractual rights it has to correct the problem.
- (7) The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged may take part in the grievance process, if it wants to, for purposes of listening to the grieving parties and gathering the facts of the matter. It may not decide the grievance, where doing so would amount to an exercise of adjudicative powers.

L. Suspension Reconsideration

- (1) If a rider has been issued a notice of suspension of service by the Community Transportation Coordinator, they have ten (10) calendar days from the date of issuance of suspension notice to request a reconsideration hearing on the suspension. If a reconsideration hearing is requested, the hearing will be held by the Grievance Committee if the suspension involves transportation provided under Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.
- (2) The written request must include the name, address and telephone number of the person who is requesting the hearing and a statement as to why his or her riding privileges should not be suspended. If the request is not received within ten (10) calendar days from the issue date of the suspension, then the suspension becomes effective ten (10) calendar days from the date of issue.
- (3) Upon receipt of letter requesting the reconsideration hearing, a hearing shall be held within ten (10) working days. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will advise the person requesting the reconsideration hearing by return correspondence of the date, time and location of the hearing.
- (4) The suspended rider will be given the opportunity to present the reasons why they believe the suspension should not take place. The Grievance Committee will make a recommendation whether

**Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board
Grievance Procedures**

or not to uphold the suspension. A written statement of the decision whether or not to uphold the suspension shall be forwarded by certified mail within two (2) working days by the Community Transportation Coordinator to the suspended rider requesting the reconsideration.

M. Prohibition Against Retaliation

The Community Transportation Coordinator shall not take any punitive action against an individual who files a grievance. No individual shall be denied Transportation Disadvantaged Program services because such individual has filed a grievance related to Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program or has testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding or investigation related to Florida's Transportation Disadvantaged Program.

N. Alternative Recourse

Apart from these grievance processes, aggrieved parties with proper standing, may also have recourse through Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, administrative hearings process or the judicial court system.

O. Certification

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is the Chair of the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Grievance Procedures of this Board as adopted by the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board the 13th day of September 2021.



Lisa Walker, Chair
Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

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Appendix B: Cost/Revenue Allocation and Rate Structure Justification



Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund Service Rates Form

Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC)	Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.
Service Rate Effective Date	7/1/2022

Grant Agreement Service Rates		
Type of Service Transportation Mode	Unit of Measure	Cost Per Unit
* Ambulatory	Passenger Mile	\$2.27
* Wheel Chair	Passenger Mile	\$3.89
* Stretcher	Passenger Mile	Enter \$ Per Unit
Bus Pass – Daily	Pass	Enter \$ Per Unit
Bus Pass – Weekly	Pass	Enter \$ Per Unit
Bus Pass – Monthly	Pass	Enter \$ Per Unit
Innovation and Service Development Grant Program	Passenger Trip	\$17.07

Preliminary Information Worksheet Version 1.4

CTC Name: Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.

County (Service Area): Lafayette County

Contact Person: Matt Pearson, Executive Director

Phone #: 386-362-4115 ext. 223

Check Applicable Characteristic:

<p>ORGANIZATIONAL TYPE:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Governmental</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Private Non-Profit</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Private For Profit</p>	<p>NETWORK TYPE:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fully Brokered</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Partially Brokered</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Sole Source</p>
---	---

	Prior Year's ACTUALS from July 1st of 2020 to June 30th of 2021	Current Year's APPROVED Budget, as amended from July 1st of 2021 to June 30th of 2022	Upcoming Year's PROPOSED Budget from July 1st of 2022 to June 30th of 2023	% Change from Prior Year to Current Year	Proposed % Change from Current Year to Upcoming Year	Confirm whether revenues are collected as a system subsidy VS a purchase of service at a unit price. Explain Changes in Column 6 That Are > ± 10% and Also > ± \$50,000
REVENUES (CTC/Operators ONLY / Do NOT include coordination contractors!)						
Local Non-Govt						
Farebox						
Medicaid Co-Pay Received						
Donations/ Contributions						
In-Kind, Contributed Services						
Other	\$ 10,850	\$ 15,664	\$ 14,669	44.4%	-6.4%	
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
CTD						
Non-Spons. Trip Program	\$ 82,818	\$ 140,976	\$ 132,028	70.2%	-6.3%	
Non-Spons. Capital Equipment						
Rural Capital Equipment						
Other TD (specify in explanation)	\$ 14,831			-100.0%		
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
USDOT & FDOT						
49 USC 5307						Other DOT is 5339 vehicle grant
49 USC 5310						
49 USC 5311 (Operating)	\$ 163,446	\$ 54,450	\$ 44,137	-66.7%	-18.9%	
49 USC 5311(Capital)						
Block Grant						
Service Development						
Commuter Assistance						
Other DOT (specify in explanation)	\$ 75,738			-100.0%		
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
AHCA						
Medicaid	\$ 23,468	\$ 7,850	\$ 27,000	-66.6%	243.9%	
Other AHCA (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
DOEA						
Older Americans Act		\$ 8,840	\$ -		-100.0%	
Community Care for Elderly						
Other DOEA (specify in explanation)						
Bus Pass Program Revenue						
Balancing Revenue to Prevent Deficit						
Actual or Planned Use of Cash Reserve						
Balancing Revenue is Short By =		None	None			
Total Revenues =	\$371,151	\$227,780	\$217,834	-38.6%	-4.4%	

EXPENDITURES (CTC/Operators ONLY / Do NOT include Coordination Contractors!)					
Operating Expenditures					
Labor	\$ 97,019	\$ 99,446	\$ 94,486	2.5%	-5.0%
Fringe Benefits	\$ 42,077	\$ 50,316	\$ 43,139	19.6%	-14.3%
Services	\$ 7,541	\$ 6,644	\$ 6,449	-11.9%	-2.9%
Materials and Supplies	\$ 34,978	\$ 33,611	\$ 35,292	-3.9%	5.0%
Utilities	\$ 6,664	\$ 6,139	\$ 6,556	-7.9%	6.8%
Casualty and Liability	\$ 17,762	\$ 14,054	\$ 15,968	-20.9%	13.6%
Taxes	\$ 271	\$ 211	\$ 276	-22.1%	30.8%
Purchased Transportation					
Purchased Bus Pass Expenses					
School Bus Utilization Expenses					
Contracted Transportation Services					
Other					
Miscellaneous	\$ 734	\$ 973	\$ 745	32.6%	-23.4%
Operating Debt Service - Principal & Interest					
Leases and Rentals					
Contrib. to Capital Equip. Replacement Fund	\$ 10,850	\$ 722	\$ 254	-93.3%	-64.8%
In-Kind, Contributed Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Allocated Indirect		\$ 15,664	\$ 14,669		-6.4%
Capital Expenditures					
Equip. Purchases with Grant Funds	\$ 76,120				-100.0%
Equip. Purchases with Local Revenue					
Equip. Purchases with Rate Generated Rev.					
Capital Debt Service - Principal & Interest					
ACTUAL YEAR GAIN	\$77,135				
Total Expenditures =	\$294,016	\$227,780	\$217,834	-22.5%	-4.4%

	Upcoming Year's BUDGETED Revenues		What amount of the <u>Budgeted</u> Revenue in col. 2 will be generated at the rate per unit determined by this spreadsheet, OR used as local match for these type revenues?	Budgeted Rate <u>Subsidy Revenue</u> EXcluded from the Rate Base	What amount of the <u>Subsidy</u> Revenue in col. 4 will come from funds to purchase equipment, OR will be used as match for the purchase of equipment?
	from				
	July 1st of				
	2022				
	to				
	June 30th of				
	2023				
REVENUES (CTC/Operators ONLY)					
Local Non-Govt					
Farebox	\$ -		\$ -		
Medicaid Co-Pay Received	\$ -		\$ -		
Donations/ Contributions	\$ -		\$ -		
In-Kind, Contributed Services	\$ -		\$ -		
Other	\$ 14,669		\$ 14,669		
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -		\$ -		

CTD			
Non-Spons. Trip Program	\$ 132,028	\$ 132,028	\$ -
Non-Spons. Capital Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rural Capital Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other TD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USDOT & FDOT			
49 USC 5307	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
49 USC 5310	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
49 USC 5311 (Operating)	\$ 44,137	\$ -	\$ 44,137
49 USC 5311(Capital)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Block Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Service Development	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Commuter Assistance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other DOT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AHCA			
Medicaid	\$ 27,000	\$ 27,000	\$ -
Other AHCA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bus Pass Program Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Balancing Revenue to Prevent Deficit			
Actual or Planned Use of Cash Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Revenues =	\$ 217,834	\$ 173,697	\$ 44,137

EXPENDITURES (CTC/Operators ONLY)	
Operating Expenditures	
Labor	\$ 94,486
Fringe Benefits	\$ 43,139
Services	\$ 6,449
Materials and Supplies	\$ 35,292
Utilities	\$ 6,556
Casualty and Liability	\$ 15,968
Taxes	\$ 276
Purchased Transportation:	
Purchased Bus Pass Expenses	\$ -
School Bus Utilization Expenses	\$ -
Contracted Transportation Services	\$ -
Other	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 745
Operating Debt Service - Principal & Interest	\$ -
Leases and Rentals	\$ -
Contrib. to Capital Equip. Replacement Fund	\$ 254
In-Kind, Contributed Services	\$ -
Allocated Indirect	\$ 14,669
Capital Expenditures	
Equip. Purchases with Grant Funds	\$ -
Equip. Purchases with Local Revenue	\$ -
Equip. Purchases with Rate Generated Rev.	\$ -
Capital Debt Service - Principal & Interest	\$ -
	\$ -
Total Expenditures =	\$ 217,834
minus EXCLUDED Subsidy Revenue =	\$ 44,137
Budgeted Total Expenditures INCLUDED	
in Rate Base =	\$ 173,697
Rate Base Adjustment ¹ =	\$ -
Adjusted Expenditures included in Rate	
Base =	\$ 173,697

PROGRAM-WIDE RATES

Total Projected Passenger Miles = 74,500

Rate Per Passenger Mile = \$ 2.33

Total Projected Passenger Trips = 4,150

Rate Per Passenger Trip = \$ 41.85

Rates If No Revenue Funds Were Identified As Subsidy Funds

Rate Per Passenger Mile = \$ 2.92

Rate Per Passenger Trip = \$ 52.49

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Form C: Current Vehicle and Transportation Equipment Inventory Form (for Entire Fleet – include FDOT and Non-FDOT Vehicles) *

Vehicle Inventory

Model Year ¹	Make/Size/Type	FDOT Control #	VIN # ²	Ramp or lift?	Seats & W/C positions (i.e. 12+2) As designed by manufacturer	Current Mileage	Previous Mileage (1 year ago)	Current Mileage – Previous Mileage = Mileage from the past year	Vehicle Status (Active, Spare, Other)	Expected Retirement Date	Donated? (Yes/No) If yes, when was the vehicle donated to your agency?	Funding Source ³
2009	Ford Cutaway	80205	1FDFF45S79DA88334	Y	12+2	76,848	76,848	0	Active	2014	N	FDOT 5311
2010	Ford	90273	1FTNE2ELXADA75692	N	2	64,362	64,362	0	Active	2015	N	FDOT 5310
2010	Chevy Cutaway	90276	1GBJG31K791172605	Y	8+1	131,840	126,902	4,938	Active	2015	N	FDOT 5310
2011	Chevy Cutaway		1GB3G2BG4B1171589	Y	8+2	119,365	110,265	9,100	Active	2016	N	TD-RC
2013	Chevy Cutaway	91216	1GB3G2BG0D1175402	Y	8+2	192,243	170,963	21,280	Active	2018	N	FDOT 5310
2015	Ford Turtle Top	91261	1FDFF4FS0FDA35288	Y	12+2	101,697	90,286	11,411	Active	2020	N	FDOT 5339
2016	MOVT		57WMD2C62GM100049	Y	4+2	50,128	31,054	19,074	Active	2021	N	TD-RC
2012	Ford		1FDXE4FL5BDA29977	Y	10+2	155,219	149,635	5,584	Active	2017	N	TD
2020	Ford	20040	1FDFF4FSXKDC49375	Y	12+2	35,458	6,917	28,541	Active	2025	N	FDOT 5339
2020	Champion		1FDFF4FS0KDC65214	Y	12+2	16,273		16,273	Active	2025	N	TD-RC
2021	Ford	20066	1FDFF4FN8MDC20440	Y	12+2	2,510		2,510	Active	2026	N	5339
2010	Chevy Cutaway	90275	1GBJG31K191172261	Y	8+2	149,061	147,831	1,230	Active	2015	N	FDOT 5310
2013	Chevy Cutaway	91217	1GB3G2BG7D1175852	Y	8+2	188,297	177,780	10,517	Active	2018	N	FDOT 5310
2015	Ford Turtle Top	91260	1FDFF4FS9FDA35287	Y	12+2	128,980	110,099	18,881	Active	2020	N	FDOT 5339
2015	Ford Turtle Top		1FDFF4FS2FDA35292	Y	12+2	136,965	106,276	30,689	Active	2020	N	TD-RC
2017	Ford Turtle Top	91289	1FDFF4FS8GDC55330	Y	12+2	134,313	117,589	16,724	Active	2022	N	FDOT 5339
2016	MOVT		57WMD2C6XGM100509	Y	4+2	109,822	95,226	14,596	Active	2021	N	TD-RC
2019	Champion	20018	1FDFF4FS2KDC07265	Y	12+2	85,128	47,963	37,165	Active	2024	N	FDOT 5339
2019	Champion	20026	1FDFF4FS2KDC10439	Y	12+2	40,569	16,413	24,156	Active	2024	N	FDOT 5339
2020	Champion		1FDFF4FS2KDC65215	Y	12+2	38,447		38,447	Active	2025	N	TD-RC
2020	Champion		1FDFF4FS4KDC65216	Y	12+2	27,079		27,079	Active	2025	N	TD-RC
2021	Ford	20068	1FDFF4FN1MDC21803	Y	12+2	33,298		33,298	Active	2026	N	5339
2020	Ford		1FDFF4FNXMDC21802	Y	12+2	2,915		2,915	Active	2025	N	5339
2013	Chevy Cutaway		1GB3G2BG2D1175725	Y	8+2	113,790	102,623	11,167	Active	2018	N	TD-RC
2014	MOVT		57WMD1A68EM100938	Y	4+2	48,219	41,147	7,072	Active	2019	N	TD-RC

2015	Chevy Cutaway	91228	1GB3G2BGXE1198073	Y	8+2	156,940	142,180	14,760	Active	2020	N	FDOT
2018	Champion		1FD4E4FS0JDC06341	Y	12+2	63,751	42,120	21,631	Active	2023	N	TD-RC
2021	Ford	20067	1FD4E4FN1MDC02751	Y	12+2	1,394		1,394	Active	2026	N	5339
2014	Ford (No Lift)	91232	1FTNE2EL1EDA67826	N	8	37,595	29,526	8,069	Active	2019	2016	FDOT 5316
2011	Chevy Cutaway	90296	1GB3G2BG7B1161526	Y	8+2	110,840	104,951	5,889	Active	2016	N	FDOT 5310
2014	MOVT		57WMD2A63EM101999	Y	4+2	96,517	88,059	8,458	Active	2019	N	TD-RC
2015 *	Ford Turtle Top		1FD4E4FS4FDA35293	Y	12+2	144,965	119,250	25,715	Active	2020	N	TD-RC
2018	Champion		1FD4E4FS9JDC07505	Y	12+2	94,192	53,350	40,842	Active	2023	N	TD-RC
2020	Ford		1FD4E4FS6KDC65217	Y	12+2	20,293		20,293	Active	2025	N	TD-RC
2020	Ford	20061	1FD4E4FN8MDC18364	Y	12+2	5,526		5,526	Active	2025	N	5339

*Applicants MUST use this form. If you need more space, add more rows.

- 1 Include an asterisk next to model year for the vehicle(s) being replaced.
- 2 VIN must be provided regardless of funding type
- 3 Identify the grant or other funding source used for purchasing the vehicle/equipment

Appendix D: Annual Bus Safety and Security Certification



Bus Transit System Annual Safety and Security Certification
*Certifying Compliance with Rule 14-90, FAC to the
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)*

Certification Date (Current): **2020**

Certification Year: (Previous): **2019**

Name and Address of Bus Transit System: **Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.**

The Bus Transit System (Agency) named above hereby certifies the following:

- 1. The Agency has adopted a System Safety Program Plan (SSPP) and a Security Program Plan (SPP) pursuant to the standards set forth in Rule Chapter 14-90, Florida Administrative Code.*
- 2. The Agency is in compliance with its adopted SSPP and SPP.*
- 3. The Agency has performed annual safety inspections on all operational vehicles in accordance with Rule Chapter 14-90, Florida Administrative Code.*
- 4. The Agency has conducted reviews of SSPP and SPP and the plans are up to date.*

Blue Ink Signature: 
(Individual Responsible for Assurance of Compliance)

Date: 1/2/20

Name: Matt Pearson Title: Executive Director

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan Team

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

- * Lynn Franson-Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

* Primary Responsibility



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Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

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June 6, 2022

TO: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Elect Vice-Chair

RECOMMENDATION

Re-elect Ms. Diane Head as the Board's Vice-Chair or elect a new Vice-Chair.

BACKGROUND

Chapter I. F. of the Board's Bylaws requires the Board to hold an organizational meeting each year for the purpose of electing a Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair shall serve a term of one year starting with the next meeting. In the event of the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chairperson and conduct the meeting.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at extension 110.

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June 6, 2022

TO: Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board

FROM: Lynn Godfrey, AICP, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: 2022/23 Innovative and Service Development Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION

Review Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s application for 2022/23 Innovative and Service Development Grant funds.

BACKGROUND

The 2022 Florida Legislature authorized \$4,000,000 for the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to award Innovative and Service Development Grant Program funding to Community Transportation Coordinators. The purpose of this grant program is to support the provision of more cost effective and time efficient transportation services. These services may include increasing access to activities within the community, enhancing regional cross-county mobility and/or reducing barriers to access public transportation.

Attached is Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.'s 2022/23 Innovative and Service Development Grant application. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

T:\Lynn\TD2022\Lafayette\Memos\isdgrantappl.docx



Transportation Disadvantaged Innovative Service Development Grant

APPLICATION

Legal Name of Applicant	SUWANNEE RIVER ECONOMIC COUNCIL, INC.		
Federal Employer Identification Number	59-1101989		
Registered Address	1171 NOBLES FERRY ROAD		
City and State	LIVE OAK, FL	Zip Code	32064
Contact Person for this Grant	MATT PEARSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Phone Number	3863624115
E-Mail Address [Required]	mpearson@suwanneec.net		
Project Location [County(ies)]	LAFAYETTE COUNTY	Proposed Project Start Date	7/1/2022

Proposed Project Funding Request	
Total Proposed Project Amount (100%)	\$43,017
Local Match [10%]	\$4,301
Requested Funding Amount [90%]	\$39,106

As the authorized Grant Recipient Representative, I hereby certify that the information contained in this form is true and accurate and is submitted in accordance with the grant application instructions.

Signature of Grant Recipient Representative

5/5/22

Date



Transportation Disadvantaged Innovative Service Development Grant

PROJECT SCOPE

Proposals MUST complete the following sections according to the Project Scope Instructions provided in the manual. Applications that are incomplete or do not follow the instructions will not be considered.

Evidence of Need:

- a)** Describe service limitations or gaps within the current transportation system and the resulting mobility access challenge(s).

While the current transportation services in Lafayette County, funded in part by the Transportation Disadvantaged program or Medicaid, provide prescheduled, door-to-door transportation for passengers to seek and receive medical and life-sustaining services, there is limited funding for a service in this rural community for regularly recurring trips throughout the work week for those wishing to further their education or seek specified training for future employment.

- b)** Provide details regarding the scale or urgency of the challenge and the size of the specific populations that are affected.

Lafayette County is one of the least populated counties in the State of Florida. Almost 70% of the County's student population with the in Lafayette County School District qualifies for free and/or reduced breakfast and lunch. The primary industries available for employment within Lafayette County are limited to agricultural, Dept. of Corrections, and the local school system. The target market that could benefit from vocational training is the same demographic population that lives within the County's lower socio-economic groups. Since there is no post-highschool vocational training available in the County, those students who do not attend college have a very dim future ahead of them where employment is concerned.

With the coordination between Lafayette County and Taylor County School Districts, and Big Bend Technical College, an opportunity has been provided to Lafayette County residents to further their education in several technical fields, obtain on-the-job training that would otherwise be nonexistent, and seek employment immediately upon completion of their chosen program. However, many of that same demographic population are transportation disadvantaged. With the funding of the ISD grant, those transportation disadvantaged persons have the opportunity to improve their futures and be contributing members of society by living a self-sustaining life.

- c)** Provide any documentation or evidence of the challenge(s), such as from a locally developed Transportation Disadvantaged Service Plan (TDSP), other planning document, or other supporting information.

Please refer to the attached, applicable pages from Lafayette County's Transportation Disadvantage Service Plan as adopted by the Lafayette County Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Board.

Project Description:

- a)** Provide a detailed description of the proposed project, including the service area and type(s) of service that will be offered.

The purpose of this project is to improve access to employment, job training, and educational opportunities, and to expand transportation services to neighboring counties that provide more educational and employment options. Expanded transportation services will be provided in addition to the existing prescheduled services currently provided if funding is awarded for this project. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. will be able to expand the type of transportation services available to Lafayette County residents.

- b)** Identify an estimated number of trips and riders the proposed project will serve.

If the project is approved it is estimated the number of trips provided and funded by the grant will be 2,520 annually. The number of trips is estimated based on early enrollment data from the ~~Lafayette County School~~ system for the upcoming academic year.
BBTC

- c)** Identify potential or planned destinations such as a veterans' hospital, employment center, educational/training location, or other life-sustaining activities.

If funding is awarded Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. will provide a daily trip from Lafayette County to neighboring Taylor County for transportation disadvantaged passengers seeking to further their education, seek on-the-job training, and employment. A primary emphasis will be to provide transportation to Big Bend Technical College which provides educational opportunities in the fields of Nursing, Welding, Electrical, and others. These are high demand jobs in rural North Florida, and the graduates of said programs are work-ready upon completion.

- d)** Explain how the project will be implemented, including details on how existing and potential riders will be informed of the proposed service AND how services will be requested and provided.

However, the Trip and Equipment funds are limited and do not cover the full expenses required to fund this proposed, and much needed, service. Without the additional help from the ISD grant, this opportunity for the residents of Lafayette County to obtain vocational training and subsequent gainful employment has the potential to be non-existent.

b) Explain how the proposed project is designed to enhance an eligible rider's mobility.

The demographic and socio-economic makeup of Lafayette County is such that there are no existing opportunities within the rural County to further one's education beyond high school. In addition almost one-fourth (1/4) of the population of Lafayette County has a household income below the federal poverty level. The same demographic and socio-economic factors affecting education also have a direct effect on employment possibilities within the County. The need for transportation services to neighboring counties for those residents who are transportation disadvantaged is of utmost importance.

Demonstration of Proposed Outcomes:

a) Describe the proposed project's intended outcomes, and how they will address at least one of the ISD Program's objectives.

Goal #1: 95% of the Client Satisfaction Surveys will contain a satisfaction rating of 4.0 or higher.

Performance Measure #2: Client Satisfaction Surveys will be conducted quarterly. SREC, Inc. will measure client satisfaction based on the number of riders surveyed, the number of responses received, and the survey results.

Goal #2: Remove the transportation barrier for transportation disadvantaged residents of the County seeking vocational training.

Performance Measure #2: Ridership to and from the Technical College in neighboring Taylor County will be measured by the existing transit software program utilized by SREC, Inc

b) Provide details regarding the specific performance data that will be collected and analyzed to demonstrate the project's actual vs. intended outcomes, AND whether the availability of the data has been verified.

SREC, Inc. will measure the ridership on a monthly basis and client satisfaction quarterly. Client satisfaction will be measured by a written survey made available to all passengers as they board the vehicle. SREC, Inc. utilizes transit software Parascopy by CTS Trip Master Enterprise. The application connects the drivers on the road with the dispatchers in the office, and displays the driver's trip manifest

electronically. The trip information is updated in real time. Data such as passenger count, pickup and drop-off odometers, and pickup and drop-off times are captured immediately.

- c) Confirm the applicant's ability to submit performance data (including data obtained from customer satisfaction surveys)**

Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. has been the transportation provider for Lafayette County since 1980, and has been the County's Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) since the inception of the coordinated system established by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. As such SREC, Inc. has been and will continue to provide mid-year progress reports as well as year-end reports as needed.

Other Required Application Elements:

- a) Project Budget: Provide a Proposed Project Expense Budget to support the total amount of funding requested. Include a budget table here or use the sample excel template provided.**

Please see attached Proposed Project Expense Budget.

- b) Proposed Service Rates: Provide the proposed project service rate(s) by mode and unit of service (trip, mile). Demonstrate how the proposed rates were determined.**

We estimate 2,520 trips per year with a total project budget of \$43,017, making the cost per trip \$17.07.

- c) Project Timeline: Provide the project timeline, identifying the project start date, project implementation date, and any major milestones.**

The proposed project timeline would be July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. However, since the academic year does not begin until August, the start date for this project would be August 1, 2022. Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. has been awarded an Innovative Service Development Grant for this project in Lafayette for two (2) previous years, and has successfully carried out the terms of the grant by providing a much-needed service to the demographic population that depends upon it in order to further their education, seek on-the-job training, and find potential employment. Since SREC, Inc. is the current CTC for Lafayette County there would be no major milestones or obstacles to launching this service for the 2022/2023 year.

- d) Project Personnel: Provide the name, current title and summary of work experience for each key staff member who will work on the project.**

As the CTC for five (5) rural counties in North Florida Suwannee River Economic Council's Executive Director has direct oversight of the Director of Transportation, who in turn manages the Transportation Department. Currently SREC, Inc. employs approximately 27 employees, including two (2) Dispatchers and an Operations Manager, in the Transportation Department across the five (5) service areas. Lafayette County's transportation services currently consist of three (3) Drivers, one of whom is dedicated specifically to the ISD grant, with the others providing backup if needed.

e) Local Match: Describe the source of the local match and when such funds will be available.

The source of the required 10% local match will be SREC, Inc. Funds are readily available for this project.

Collaboration and Partnership (Not required but strongly encouraged):

a) If the proposed project is collaborative, describe key project partners, their specific role(s) in the project, and how the collaboration increases the likelihood of the project's long-term sustainability and success.

SREC, Inc. identified the need for a project of this type, and worked in collaboration with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged to create this highly successful service. Working together as community partners, the Lafayette County School system, the Taylor County School system, Big Bend Technical College, and Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. has created an opportunity for a demographic population that would not be able to seek continuing vocational education or have access to on-the-job training, to succeed in their employment endeavors with the help of the ISD grant and the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

The job placement rate for the students receiving certification in their chosen field is 100% ! By removing the transportation barrier through the financial assistance provided by the ISD grant, these graduates have a bright future ahead of them.

In order to facilitate coordination between the Lafayette County School System and the transportation program of Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc., Big Bend Technical College created the academic schedule so that all vocational areas (Nursing, Welding, etc.) have their specific courses being taught simultaneously. This allows those transportation disadvantaged residents traveling from Lafayette County to neighboring Taylor County, where the college is located, to travel together to and from the college, and attend their prospective classes within their course of study.

Without the cooperative involvement of all these parties a project of this magnitude and sustainability would not be possible.

- b)** Applicants may further strengthen their proposals by attaching letters of commitment, cooperative agreements, MOU, or other evidence of strong commitment from partners.

See attached letter from the Lafayette County School District.

Utilization of Non-Traditional Service Providers (Not required but strongly encouraged):

- a)** If the proposed project includes the utilization of transportation network companies (TNCs), taxi and other non-traditional transportation service providers, describe how such services will add value to the existing TD services.

N/A

PROPOSED PROJECT EXPENSE BUDGET
LAFAYETTE COUNTY

EXPENSE SOURCES	
Employee Costs	\$ 30,491.00
Services	\$ 326.00
Materials & Supplies (Fuel, Maintenance)	\$ 7,061.00
Insurance	\$ 4,557.00
Taxes	\$ 40.00
Misc.	\$ 542.00
Total Expenses	\$ 43,017.00



Lafayette High School

ROBERT EDWARDS
SUPERINTENDENT

RAY STEWART HANCOCK
PRINCIPAL

PAULA GINN
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

JOEY PEARSON
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

TIM HANSON
DEAN

MELISSA HEWETT
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

REBECCA SHARPE
GUIDANCE / ASSESSMENT

April 4, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

Lafayette High School has collaborated with Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc. for the past several years to provide an educational opportunity to the students/residents of Lafayette County who are seeking to gain education, training, and potential employment in the areas offered by neighboring Big Bend Technical College. Since the College is located in neighboring Taylor County, many of those taking advantage of this opportunity would not be able to do so without the support of the Transportation program offered by Suwannee River Economic Council.

The transportation provided by SREC, Inc. is vital to the success of the district's and College's program. Without the transportation, many of the students would not be able to attend Big Ben Technical College. It is through the collaboration of our County's school system, Big Bend Technical College, and SREC, Inc. that the graduates of the College's vocational educational and training programs are able to very quickly find employment in their chosen fields.

We look forward to continuing this working relationship, and are grateful that the students/residents of our County have this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Paula Ginn
CTE Director
Lafayette County Schools



Our Mission: Building a Community of Learners

Our Vision: To provide all students with educational opportunities within a safe environment conducive to learning which will enable them to become successful students and positive, productive citizens.

160 N.E. HORNET DRIVE • MAYO, FLORIDA 32066 • 386-294-1701 • FAX: 386-294-4197



ATTENDANCE RECORD

**LAFAYETTE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED
COORDINATING BOARD**

MEMBER/ORGANIZATION	NAME	6/14/21	9/13/21	12/13/21	3/14/22
Chair	Commissioner Lisa Walker	A	A	A	A
Florida Department of Transportation Alternate Member	Geanelly Reveron Lauren Adams	P	P	P	P
Florida Department of Children and Families Alternate Member	Kay Tice (Vacant)	A	P	P	P
Florida Agency for Health Care Administration Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Florida Department of Education Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Florida Department of Elder Affairs Alternate Member	Eva K. Bolton (Vacant)	P	P	A	A
Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities Alternate Member	Sheryl Dick Stanford Sylvia Bamburg	P A	P A	P A	P A
Florida Association for Community Action Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Public Education Alternate Member	Stephen Clark (Vacant)				
Citizen Advocate Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Citizen Advocate-User Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Elderly Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Veterans Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Persons with Disabilities Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Children at Risk Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Local Medical Community Alternate Member	(Vacant) (Vacant)				
Regional Workforce Board Alternate Member	Diane Head Anthony Jennings	A P	P A	P A	A P

LEGEND KEY: P-Present A-Absent - Not Applicable (newly appointed member)

ATTENDANCE POLICY: According to Article III, Section 5 of the Coordinating Board bylaws: "The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council shall review and consider rescinding the appointment of any voting member of the Board who fails to attend three consecutive meetings."

