

Coordination = Livable Communities

Transportation is the Most Important Thing....

Older Adult Focus Group Participant



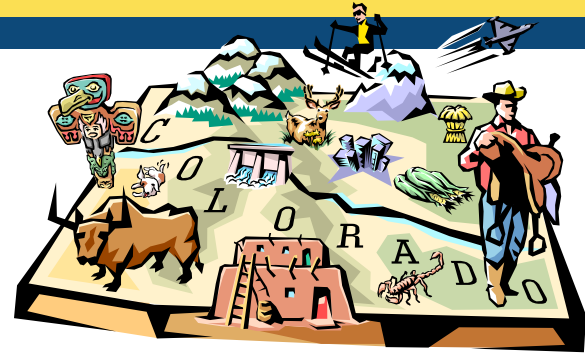
Denver Regional Mobility & Access Council
Transportation Coordination Symposium
Easter Seals Project ACTION
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May 6, 2010

- Why Accessible Transportation Continues to Grow in Need – Demographic Imperatives
- History of Easter Seals and Transportation
- Who We Are
- What We Do
- How We Work
- Our Results
- Our areas of strategic focus
 - Key Movements for Expanding Mobility
 - Key Directions in Livable Communities
- Some Thoughts on the Future

Colorado Demographic Imperatives*

- 11.9% People in Colorado have a disability
 - Sensory 13.5%
 - Mobility 24.7%
 - Cognitive 21.9%
 - Leaving the home 47.9%
- 6.2% of people of 65 and 15.4% people 85+
- Older Adult population 2% below the national average at about 10% with Denver Metro area accounting for 46% of the state's population of older adults.
- Older Adult population forecasted to grow 51% by 2012 in Colorado
- 17% those over age 65 have incomes below 150% of the poverty level
- 50% of older adults living alone are age 75 and older with less than 5% of older adults live nursing homes.
- Exponential growth of independent living services that support and prolong independent living opportunities will be needed
- \$4,375 is Colorado average monthly cost of a nursing home stay for one older adult
- \$ 284 to \$ 2570 for Community Based independent living for one older adult



***Colorado Disability Data From the 2004 American Community Survey
Estimates for 2004 and Aging data from HSA report:**

[http://www.hsaofbc.org/HSA%20Older%20Adult%20Policy%20Statement%206%2022%20%2009%20\(2\).doc](http://www.hsaofbc.org/HSA%20Older%20Adult%20Policy%20Statement%206%2022%20%2009%20(2).doc)

History of Easter Seals & Transportation



- Edgar Allen began Easter Seals 1919 to help children
- Over 19M households receive our Easter Seals Lilly Stamps begun in 1934
- 1988 ADAPT spurred change in transportation
- Easter Seals Project ACTION began to help and build solutions
- 1990 Easter Seals helped incur passage of the ADA
- 2005 Easter Seals and National Association of Area Agencies on Aging awarded the National Center on Senior Transportation

Federal Transit Administration Training and Technical Assistance Centers

Easter Seals

Project ACTION

- Expand accessible transportation **for people with disabilities** of all ages
- Audience – transportation and disability community
- 21 years

National Center on Senior

Transportation – Easter Seals and National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

- Expand family of transportation services **for older adults**
- Audience – human services and transportation community
- 5 years

Demographic Imperatives Continue to Expand Need for More Accessible Communities

TA Center Functions

- **Training** – webinars, distance learning, conference calls, travel training, mobility planning services
- **Technical Assistance** – toll-free number, e-mail
- **Outreach** – conferences, disseminate useful materials, website, newsletter
- **Applied Research** – Research contracts, Student Scholars programs and various community grants

- Safe place for transportation and disability community to build solutions
- Coordinate and participate in coalitions – ex. Partnership for Mobility Management, Human Services Coordinating Council, United We Ride CCAM
- Across disability spectrum
- Across modes – public/private
- All aspects of Accessibility – including pathways of travel

- Recipients of newsletters 20265 65% increase
- People trained 4753 186% increase
- 800# averages 1300 calls a year
- Training events 56 125% increase
- Websites monthly average unique visitors 7000
- Support or present at over 52 a year
- Distribute research or grant funds \$ 1.3M 2009
- 2010 Data show continued quantum leap in productivity

- Livability – accessibility component & key indicators
- Person Directed Mobility Management
- Americans with Disabilities Act transportation education and support
- Older Adults & their Family of Transportation Services
- Health/wellness & transportation
- Youth with Disabilities and Career Transition Transportation Education
- Partnership Expansion and Coalition Building

Livable & Sustainable Communities Attributes

- Have Multi-modal Accessibility
- Safe
- Equitable
- Affordable
- Efficiently use resources
- Universally designed to do good
- Person-directed
- Ensure economic viability for people and business
- Healthy for people and the earth



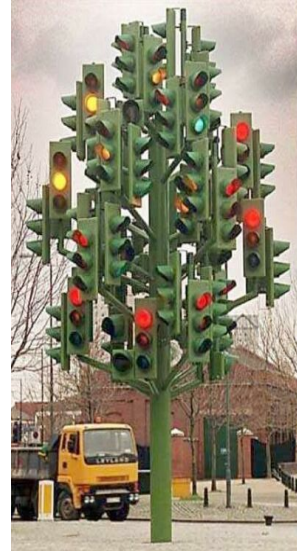
Livability Principles

- More transportation choices including promoting public health
 - Equitable affordable housing
 - Enhance economic competitiveness
 - Support existing communities
 - Coordination and leverage federal policies and investments
 - Value Communities and neighborhoods
- **DOT Secretary LaHood said**, “Creating livable communities will result in improved quality of life for all Americans and create a more efficient and more accessible transportation network that serves the needs of individual communities. Fostering the concept of livability in transportation projects and programs will help America’s neighborhoods become safer, healthier and more vibrant.”
 - **HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan.** "These principles mean that we will all be working off the same playbook to formulate and implement policies and programs. For the first time, the Federal government will speak with one voice on housing, environmental and transportation policy.“
 - **EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson.** “This partnership provides a framework to guide decisions that affect all communities. This way, investments of financial and human resources by any one of our agencies will meet shared goals and confront significant challenges we all face together.”

- Travel Training to leverage accessible fixed route public transit
- Vanpools
- Vouchers
- Universal or Inclusive Design
- Accessible Rail
- Accessible Taxis
- Volunteer Driver Programs
- Public/Private Partnerships
- Operator Sensitivity Training
- General Public Awareness Campaigns



- 30 year evolution with last ten+ years gathering traction as a Community Program
- Builds bridges that connects people with the right transportation options
- Requires dual community analysis
 - Accessibility needs of people in the community
 - Assessment of accessibility & resources in the community
- Identifies gaps and advocates to fill them Advocates to fill those gaps
- Develops and implements helpful programs
- Announcing the Independent Living Mobility Coaches Easter Seals Project ACTION, National Council on Independent Living and Association of Program for Rural Independent Living Project



- Person directed – moving people
- Multiple funding sources – Federal and State
- Went from 29 mobility managers (MM) in 2008 to 47 2009
- Employed by diverse stakeholders
- Projects planned by collaboration and transportation coordination plans
- Formal training program for MM
- 69 of Wisconsin's 72 counties have mobility management projects



Significant positive changes occurred in public transportation after the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 including changes made by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-325)

More collaboration and working together to solve accessibility issues

- ADA Eligibility
- ADA responsibilities and good customer service
- ADA Paratransit Topics
- Service Animals
- Motor Coach & Charter Rules
- Wheelchair and Mobility Devices

Older Adult Family of Services Emerging Trends

- Accessible taxis
- Travel Training/Mobility Mentoring
- Public/private partnerships
- Volunteer Driver programs
- Safe driving continuation, license policies
- Coordinate transportation across social services, health services, employment services, vocational rehabilitation, education, retail/recreation, public transit
- Cost Sharing between Older Americans Act Programs and Federal Transit Administration Programs for state match



Health/Wellness & Transportation – AARP 2009 Profiles of Long-Term Care and Independent Living

- 85+ population increase - 74% 2007 to 2030, and 118% from 2030 to 2050
- Family caregivers provide most long-term care (\$ 375B vs. Medicaid \$ 97B) – almost 3.7x that of Medicaid
- Older people with disabilities often deplete their life savings
- Medicaid Long-term care still primarily nursing homes
- 3-1 is the number of people Medicaid can support in the community (HCBS) vs. in a nursing facility

FTA now assessing transportation role in healthcare & health/wellness

- Assistive technologies
- Web Information/Referral
- Social Networking for Online Engagement (Twitter, Facebook, online collaboration)
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
 - handheld devices
 - Global positioning systems
 - Scheduling/dispatching
 - Smartcards
 - One call telecommunication
- Call Centers
 - One call (no wrong door)
 - Mobility centers
- All points of intersection for community based living
 - Department of Motor Vehicles
 - Hospitals



- Online conference – next one is on Paratransit Services
- 6,808 visits by 3,851 unique visitors over the two week period with 1 in five visitors taking some action resulting in a
- 20% conversion rate which is about 12% higher than industry averages of high internet use bloggers.
- Reinforced the importance of coordination and need for more consumer involvement
- Importance of travel training

- Greater regional coordination & regional planning
- Universal design for universal access
- Intersection of cross county rural, urban and suburban transportation options
- Expansion of transportation public/private partnerships
- Information & knowledge of transportation taught to all students
- Greater community awareness of needs of and the perspectives of youth with disabilities

ESPA & WWSA Arts Project



Public and Private Stakeholders

- Transit providers
- People with disabilities
- Older Adults
- Human Services Providers
- School System
- Students
- People of limited income
- Business Community
- Faith-based community
- Non-profit community
- Civic leaders
- Planners
- Housing Industry
 - Builders
 - Realtors
 - Owner associations

Recent research publications

www.projectaction.org



- Accessibility Design Guide for Bus Rapid Transit Systems
- Resource Guide to Effective Approaches for Increasing Stop Announcements and Route Identification
- A Survey on the Use of Taxis in Paratransit Programs
- Guide to Effective Communication Technology for Paratransit Service
- Accessible Pathways to Bus Stops and Transit Facilities: A Process Guide
- Universal Design & Accessible Transit Systems: Facts to Consider When Updating or Expanding Your Transit System – Fact Sheet collaboration with RERC-APT, Robotics Institute Carnegie Mellon University
Center for Inclusive Design & Environmental Access, University at Buffalo, State University of New York
- International Project on Accessible Transportation - A Report and Findings to Date

- Deepening partnerships with the private sector due to caregiver growth
- Public Transportation & Path of Travel Accessibility
- Supporting our Veterans
- Bridging public and private transportation – true multi-modal communities with cross county connection
- Importance of older adults as volunteers – major community resource
- Intersection of health/wellness and transportation – getting out of our cars is good for everyone and the environment
- Cross-policy programs and cost-sharing
- Expansion of community living
- Continuous learning across the lifespan – mid-career changes

Living a Spontaneous Life

- Creates jobs
- Gives people greater life satisfaction
- Reduces unnecessary institutionalization
- Builds social capital in a community
- Builds economic capital in a community
- Supports intergenerational and cultural diversity and inclusion
- Helps people stay healthier
- Sustains our environment



If planning activities outreach to the diversity of the community the result will be a system all can use and be proud of.....

Thank You

Easter Seals Project ACTION

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Questions? Please feel free to email:

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www.projectaction.org