



The Honorable Sherrod Brown, Chairman  
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing,  
and Urban Affairs  
SH-713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Toomey, Ranking  
Member  
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing,  
and Urban Affairs  
SR-248 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio, Chairman  
House Committee on Transportation and  
Infrastructure  
2134 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves, Ranking  
Member  
House Committee on Transportation and  
Infrastructure  
1135 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

January 27, 2021

In mid-January, in the wake of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) allocation announcements, the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) surveyed its rural and small-urban transit system members to highlight CRRSAA inequities and to communicate these operators' serious needs moving forward. Without additional federal funding support, many small-urban and rural transit systems face major service cuts, layoffs and the inability to continue providing the essential services they do every day as CARES Act funding dwindles.

“Public transit is a national program,” says CTAA Executive Director Scott Bogren. “CTAA and its members strongly urge the Biden Administration and Congress, in any COVID-19 stimulus package, to **utilize the standard formulas for rural, urban and specialized transit** (Sections 5307, 5310 and 5311) to ensure that all transit agencies receive vitally needed funding to continue providing essential trips all across the nation.”

The first CARES Act (Title XII of Division B) provided Federal Transit Administration formula funding in the amount of \$25 billion for urbanized (5307), Rural (5311), State of Good Repair (5337) and Growing States/High-density (5340) public transportation. Those funds were distributed proportionally based on the ratio of funding to the four specific programs mentioned. On December 27, 2020 the CRRSAA of 2021 provided \$14 billion in supplemental funds to public transportation without using the federally administered formulas for urban and rural transit; this left many transit systems without these needed supplemental funds.

The survey received more than 100 responses. The full list of questions can be found [here](#).

What follows is a quick snap shot of what was revealed:

CTAA's rural and small-urban members have tended to spend down CARES Act funding more slowly than the nation's largest metropolitan transit properties, but are starting to run out of those funds.

- The average rural transit system leadership is “very concerned” about the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on local and state economies with an expectation of at least 19 more months of economic hardship at the local level. Rural transit system survey responders expect to have CARES Act allocations last another 9.6 months.
- The average small-urban transit system leadership is “concerned” about the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on state and local funding sources. Small-urban transit responders expect their current CARES Act allocations to last another 13.1 months.
- Only 39 of the nation's 320 small-urbanized areas (population between 50,000-200,000) received CRRSAA funding. Twenty-eight (28) state departments of transportation received no rural transit funding assistance through CRRSAA. For the vast majority of rural and small-urban transit systems and passengers, CRRSAA provides no benefit.
- Small-urban and rural transit operators should not be punished or excluded from additional COVID-19 emergency appropriations because they have taken a more judicious approach to spending down CARES Act funds. The majority of CTAA members know they will run out of CARES Act funding long before the economic conditions created by the pandemic pass.

CTAA's rural and small-urban transit system members report numerous service cuts in the past 10 months during the COVID-19 pandemic yet have lost “only” around half of their normal ridership — highlighting how many of these trips are for essential workers and essential purposes and need to be sustained.

- More than two-thirds (68%) of rural system responders reported cutting service in the past 10 months. Interestingly, 25 percent of rural system responders reported adding service during the pandemic to assist with food, meal and prescription delivery.
- Seventy (70%) percent of small-urban transit system responders reported service cuts in the past 10 months.
- CRRSAA funding was effectively designed to forestall significant services cuts in the nation's largest metropolitan transit operations. The majority of rural and small-urban transit has already instituted service cuts.
- Rural transit system responders reported year-to-year ridership loss at 52.2 percent.
- Small urban transit system responders reported year-to-year ridership loss at 49.02 percent.

CTAA's rural and small-urban transit system members are actively engaged or engaging with local public health leadership to develop ways to ensure people who are transportation insecure have access to COVID-19 vaccine sites and distribution.

- Forty-four (44) percent of rural transit system responders report engaging with public health officials at the local level to assist in a variety of ways with vaccine distribution.
- Twenty eight (28) percent of small-urban transit system responders report engaging with public health officials at the local level to assist in a variety of ways with vaccine distribution.
- At a time when many CTAA members stand ready to assist with the vitally important role of increasing access to vaccine distribution sites and efforts, many are beginning to run low on the CARES Act funds they received last year and need new emergency funding to continue operating.

Following our analysis of the survey, we held a virtual meeting with more than 30 small-urban transit operators. During that meeting, we heard powerful stories about the challenges facing these systems.

Tri-State Transit Authority Executive Director Paul Davis states, "We are running out of CARES Act funds, our local support is at-risk due to the economic conditions created by the pandemic and we received nothing in CRRSAA. If this next emergency stimulus package doesn't offer any assistance, we're looking at significant service reductions and layoffs."

Tri-State Transit is not alone. The vast majority of these small-urban systems said they are facing ongoing demand from essential passengers with essential trips purposes, little to no local funding to support operations and will soon need to initiate significant service cuts. It is for these reasons that it is imperative to utilize the standard formulas for rural, urban and specialized transit in any future COVID-19 relief funding.

Attached to this letter are transportation agencies across the country that are supportive of these concepts; a total of 266.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [bogren@ctaa.org](mailto:bogren@ctaa.org) or 202.247.1921. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Bogren", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Bogren  
Executive Director

Oklahoma Transit  
Association  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Harford Transit LINK -  
Harford County Maryland  
Abingdon MD,

Electric City Transit  
Anderson SC

County of Somerset,  
Division of Transportation  
Somerville New Jersey

South West Transit  
Association  
Fort Worth, TX

Linn County LIFTS  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

NCDOT Integrated  
Mobility Division  
Raleigh, North Carolina

Suburban transit Network,  
Inc.  
Blue Bell, PA

Muskegon Area Transit  
System  
Muskegon Heights,  
Michigan

Cooperative Alliance for  
Seacoast Transportation  
Portsmouth-Dover-  
Somersworth-Rochester,  
NH

AEOA/Arrowhead Transit  
Aitkin, Carlton, Chisago,  
Cook, Itasca, Isanti,  
Koochiching, Lake, Pine,  
St. Louis. Minnesota

Johnson County SEATS  
Iowa

Trans/Air Mfg.  
Dallastown

Grand Forks Cities Area  
Transit  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

NECALG  
Fort Morgan, Colorado

Estuary Transit District  
Centerbrook, CT

Middletown Transit  
District  
Middletown, CT

Vermillion Public Transit  
Vermillion, SD

New River Valley  
Community Services  
Radford, VA

Specialty Care  
Transportation  
Greensboro North Carolina

Concord Kannapolis Area  
Transit (Rider)  
Concord, North Carolina

River Bend Transit  
Davenport, Iowa

North Iowa Area Council  
of Governments  
Mason City, Iowa

Mountain Line Transit  
Authority  
Morgantown, West  
Virginia

Alexandria Transit  
Company (DASH)  
Alexandria, Virginia

Santa Cruz Metropolitan  
Transit District  
Santa Cruz, California

Bennett's Transportation  
Co., LLC  
Falmouth, KY

Corvallis Transit System  
Corvallis, OR

TRANSPORT CeNTRAL  
The 19 towns around  
Plymouth, NH

Sunset Empire  
Transportation District  
Astoria, Oregon

Fresno County Rural  
Transit Agency  
Fresno, CA

Dare County  
Transportation System  
Manteo, NC 27954

Island Transit  
Coupeville, WA

Upper Cumberland Human  
Resource Agency  
Cookeville, Tennessee

Coast Transit Authority  
Gulfport Mississippi

Community Volunteer  
Transportation Company  
Peterborough, New  
Hampshire

Western Maine  
Transportation Services  
Auburn, Maine

Gateway Services / Access  
Johnson County Public  
Transit  
Franklin, Indiana

Central Indiana Regional  
Transportation Authority  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Neighbor to Neighbor of  
South Carolina, Inc.  
Myrtle Beach, South  
Carolina

LaGrange County Council  
on Aging  
LaGrange, IN

SEAGO (SouthEastern  
Arizona Governments  
Organization)  
Bisbee, AZ

Dakota Transit Association  
North and South Dakota

Missoula Urban  
Transportation District  
(Mountain Line)  
Missoula, Montana

Salem Area Mass Transit  
District  
Salem, Oregon

Central Midlands Regional  
Transit Authority  
Columbia, SC

Rogue Valley  
Transportation District  
Medford, Oregon

San Joaquin Regional  
Transit District  
Stockton, CA

Pelivan Transit  
Big Cabin, Oklahoma

Edmond Transit Mgmt.,  
Inc./Edmond Citylink  
Edmond, OK

Yuma County  
Intergovernmental Public  
Transportation Authority  
Yuma, AZ

Valley Transit Walla  
Walla, Washington

SporTran  
Shreveport, La

MAGB Transportation,  
Inc.  
Fairview, OK

EMBARK  
Oklahoma City

Mid Cumberland HRA  
Public Transit  
Cheatham, Dickson,  
Houston, Humphreys,  
Montgomery, Robertson,  
Rutherford, Stewart,  
Summer, Trousdale,  
Williamson and Wilson  
counties in Tennessee

Levy County BOCC/Levy  
County Transit  
Bronson, Florida

Ozark Regional Transit  
Springdale, Arkansas

Cripple Creek Transit  
Cripple Creek, Colorado

SACOG  
Sacramento, CA

North Carolina Public  
Transportation Association  
Greenville

Carteret County Area  
Transportation System  
Morehead City, NC

White Eagle Transit  
Ponca city, OK

GannonConsult  
Gloucester,Massachusetts

East Tennessee Human  
Resource Agency  
Knoxville, Tennessee

Freedman Seating  
Company  
Chicago, Illinois

Warren County  
Department of Human  
Services  
New Jersey

Space Coast Area Transit  
Cocoa, Florida

Livingston Essential  
Transportation Service  
Howell, MI

Harris County  
Transit/RIDES  
Houston, Texas  
Yaffe Mobility Consulting  
Fort Mill SC

Western Reserve Transit  
Authority (WRTA)  
Youngstown, Ohio

KERT LLC  
Tampa Fl

Green Mountain Transit Burlington, Vermont	Coastal Regional Commission Ten county regional system in southern Georgia consisting of Bulloch, Bryan, Camden , Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh and Screven Counties	City of Fayetteville, Fayetteville Area System of Transit Fayetteville, NC
Mountain Line Flagstaff, Arizona		Potomac Valley Transit Authority Petersburg, West Virginia
Davidson County Transportation System Lexington, NC		The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Brownsville, TX
Rural Health Network of SCNY Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego and Broome Counties Stark Area Regional Transit Authority Canton, OH	Longview Transit Longview, TX	Bay Area Rural Transit Ashland WI
	Carolina Med Trans LLC Cheraw, SC	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center Oklahoma City, OK
Aging, Disability And Transit Services Reidsville, NC	Palace Transit Mitchell, SD	Bay Area Rural Transit Park Falls, WI
	Cecil Transit Elkton, Maryland	
Region 6 Planning Commission/Peoplerides Marshalltown, Iowa	Green Bay Metro Green Bay, WI	Denton County Transportation Authority Lewisville, Texas
Tri-Valley Transit Middlebury VT	Big Sky Transportation District Big Sky, Montana	Benzie Transportation Authority Beulah, MI
Mid Ohio Valley Transit Authority Parkersburg, WV.	Charlevoix County Transit Boyne City, MI	Ocean County Dept. of Transportation Services Ocean County, New Jersey
Waldo CAP Belfast, Maine Mecosta Osceola Transit Authority Big Rapids, Michigan	Minot City Transit Minot, North Dakota	Michigan Public Transit Association East Lansing, MI
MidCoast Public Transportation Belfast, Maine	Hazleton Public Transit Hazleton Pennsylvania	Call A Ride Public Transit Ada, Oklahoma
Marshalltown Municipal Transit Marshalltown, Iowa	Love's House, LLC Virginia Beach Virginia	Community Transportation Network Fort Wayne, Indiana
	Southeast Missouri Transportation Service, Inc. 21 Counties in Rural Missouri	Greater Dayton RTA Dayton Ohio

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Transit Authority Okmulgee, Oklahoma	Mississippi Bolivar County Council on Aging, Inc. Cleveland, MS	Calhoun County Senior Citizens Assn., Inc./Calhoun Transit Blountstown, Florida
Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation Bloomington, Indiana	Bolivar County Council on Aging, Inc. Jackson, MS	American Bus Association All 50 States
Mass Transportation Authority Flint, Michigan	Community Action Program- BMC, Inc. –	Big Five Community Services, Inc. Durant, Oklahoma
Natchez Transit System Natchez Mississippi	Concord Area Transit Concord NH	Prairie Hills Transit Spearfish, Sturgis, Lemmon, Hot Springs, Lead, Belle Fourche, Custer, Martin, Edgemont, South Dakota
James River Senior Center and Public Transit Jamestown, ND	Comanche Nation Transit Lawton, Ok	Brazos Transit District Bryan/College Station, TX
Via Mobility Services Boulder, CO	Orange County Public Transportation Hillsborough, North Carolina	Calvert County Public Transportation Prince Frederick, Maryland
Natchez Senior Citizens Center Natchez Mississippi	Interurban Transit Authority Douglas, Michigan	Central Oklahoma Community Action Agency Shawnee
Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency Cookeville, TN	Central Virginia Alliance for Community Living Lynchburg, VA	Virginia Regional Transit Purcellville Virginia
Volunteer Transportation Center Watertown, NY - Throughout upstate, NH+ Cali	Westmoreland County Transit Authority Greensburg, PA	Florida Public Transportation Association Tallahassee, FL
Southwest Mississippi Accessible Regional Transportation (SMART) Adams county, Mississippi	Pennsylvania Isabella County Transportation Commission Mt Pleasant Michigan	OCCK Transportation Salina, KS
River Cities Public Transit Pierre SD	Cache Valley Transit District Logan, Utah	People's Transit Huron, SD
Mississippi Public Transit Association Itta Bena		Central Transportation Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Amador Transit Amador County, California	Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority Fairmont, WV	Carson City Regional Transportation Commission Carson City, Nevada
Meadowlands Transportation Brokerage Corporation d/b/a EZ Ride New Jersey	Southwest Oklahoma Community Action Group, Inc. Altus, Oklahoma	CTS Software Hampstead, NC
The Ride Guymon OK	Catawba Indian Nation Rock Hill, SC	Benzie Transportation Authority Beulah, MI Abby Vans Inc Neillsville Wisconsin
Sunset Home Inc Concordia, Kansas	Transign, LLC Auburn Hills, MI	HIRTA Public Transit Urbandale, IA
MET Transit of Black Hawk County Waterloo, Iowa	City of Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation Harrisonburg, Virginia	Becker County Transit Detroit Lakes MN
South Central Adult Services Inc Valley City, ND	North Central Regional Transit District Española, New Mexico	Laketrans Painesville, Ohio
Richland County Transportation Service Sidney, MT	Dakota Ripley County Transit Doniphan, Missouri	Generations Unlimited Barnwell, SC
TripShot San Jose, CA	Nicole Voight Sturgeon Bay Wisconsin	OCCK INC Salina, Kansas
Community Transit of Watertown/Sisseton, Inc. Watertown South Dakota and 11 other rural counties in South Dakota	Great Falls Transit District Great Falls MT	Transign Auburn Hills, Michigan
Muskogee County Public Transit Authority Muskogee, Oklahoma	LakeView Transit LLC. Hickory, NC	Fairfield County Transit System Winnsboro SC
Housatonic Area Regional Transit (HARTransit) Danbury, CT	County of Lackawanna Transit System Scranton, PA	Cheyenne Transit Program Cheyenne Wyoming
Battle Creek Transit Battle Creek, Michigan	Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Carson City, Nevada	Missouri Public Transit Association Missouri
	Jump Around Carson (JAC) Transit Carson City, Nevada	Citizens for Modern Transit St. Louis, MO



First Capital Trolley Guthrie, OK	Washakie County Senior Citizens Center Worland, WY	Victor Valley Transit Authority Hesperia, CA
Licking Valley C.A.P. Inc., Flemingsburg, Kentucky	Tri-City Roadrunner Gering, Nebraska	Greeley Evans Transit Greeley, CO
Sweetwater County Transit Authority Rock Springs, Wyoming Perry County Mobility Management New Lexington, Ohio	Meeteetse Recreation District Meeteetse, WY	NIOBRARA SENIOR CENTER Lusk, Wyoming
Kemmerer Senior Citizens Association Kemmerer, Wyoming	The Bus, OSU/Stillwater Community Transit Stillwater, OK	County of Lackawanna Transit System Scranton, Pennsylvania
Perry County Transit New Lexington, Ohio	Monterey-Salinas Transit District Monterey, CA	New River Valley Community Services Virginia
Transign, LLC Auburn Hills, MI	Goshen County Senior Friendship Center Torrington, WY	Alabama Department of Transportation, Transit Section State Wide, Alabama
Council on Aging & Human Services, Inc. Colfax, WA	Anaheim Transportation Network Anaheim, CA	KI BOIS Area Transit System Oklahoma
Cheyenne Transit Program Cheyenne, WY	Cody Council on Aging Cody, Wyoming	Stigler Age Well Senior Services Lake Forest, California
Ten Sleep Senior Center Ten Sleep, Wyoming	Treasure Valley Transit Nampa, Idaho	SIDC - Ride Solution Indiana
Transign LLC Auburn Hills, MI	Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass, Inc. Lexington, Kentucky	SWITA Atlantic, Iowa
INCA Community Service, Inc. Tishomingo, Oklahoma	Kentucky Pubic Transit Association Kentucky	Flowing Grace Transport, LLC Longwood, FL
Frankfort Transit Frankfort, KY	City of Commerce Commerce, CA	envida Colorado Springs, Colorado
Community Mobility Solutions Portland, Oregon	Salt River Transit Scottsdale, Arizona	

City of Cottonwood /  
Cottonwood Area Transit  
Cottonwood, AZ

Elderly Opportunity  
Agency, Inc.  
Emmett, ID

Rendezvous Pounte  
Pinedale, Wyoming

Center for Community  
Building, Inc.  
Harrisburg, PA

Rolling Hills Transit  
(Semcac)  
Minnesota

Casper Area  
Transportation Coalition  
Casper, Wyoming

Use What You've Got  
Keeping Families  
Connected  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Antelope Valley Transit  
Authority  
Lancaster, CA

High Country Senior  
Citizens  
Dubois, Wyoming

Macon County Transit  
Franklin, NC

Southern Iowa Trolley  
Creston, IA

Linn County LIFTS  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Outreach & Escort, Inc.  
San Jose, California

Albemarle Regional Health  
Services  
Elizabeth City, NC  
Benzie Transportation  
Authority  
Beulah, Michigan

City of Gloversville  
Gloversville, NY

Athens Clarke County  
Transit  
Georgia

Valley Regional Transit  
Meridian, Idaho

Mountain Rides  
Transportation Authority  
Ketchum, ID

Advanced Transport  
Services Inc.  
Guaynabo, P.R.

Siouxland Regional Transit  
System  
Woodbury, Plymouth, Ida,  
Cherokee, Monona  
Counties in Iowa and  
Southern Union County in  
South Dakota

Heart Medical  
Transportation  
California

Whatcom Transportation  
Authority  
Whatcom County,  
Washington

Brookings Area Transit  
Authority, Inc.  
Brookings, SD

DelslXpress - Public  
Transit (BATA)  
Dell Rapids, SD

Freeman Community  
Transit (BATA)  
Freeman, SD

Around the Sound  
Tacoma, WA

MET Transit of Black  
Hawk County  
Waterloo, Iowa

ATS TRans LLC  
Port Orchard, WA

Saline County Area Transit  
Western, NE

Daniel Boone Community  
Action Agency, Inc.  
Manchester, KY

Andrew Harmon -private  
citizen  
Keene, NH

Mississippi Band of  
Choctaw Indians  
Choctaw, Mississippi

Via Mobility Services  
Boulder  
Denver Metro Area,  
Colorado

Region XII Council of  
Governments  
Iowa

Alliance Transit LLC  
Denver, Colorado

Capitol Worldwide  
Transportation LLC  
Denver, Colorado

City of Huntsville,  
Huntsville Transit  
Huntsville Alabama

SPARTAN Rural Public  
Transit  
Levelland, Texas

Alaska Mobility Coalition  
Alaska

Ride-Away Inc. DBA  
Norristown, PA

MobilityWorks LLC  
Londonderry, NH