

Richland County

Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan

Originally approved 2007, Updated SEPTEMBER 2012, OCTOBER 2017, November 2021

RICHLAND COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

For more information about this plan please contact

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Executive Summary

This plan is the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan for Richland County, Ohio. The Plan was initially developed in 2007 and updated in 2012, 2017 and 2021. This plan fulfills the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, signed into law as a reauthorization of surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year 2020. According to requirements of the FAST Act, locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plans must be updated to reflect the changes established by the FAST Act legislation. The FAST Act applies new programs and rules for all Fiscal Year 2016 funds and authorizes transit programs for five (5) years.

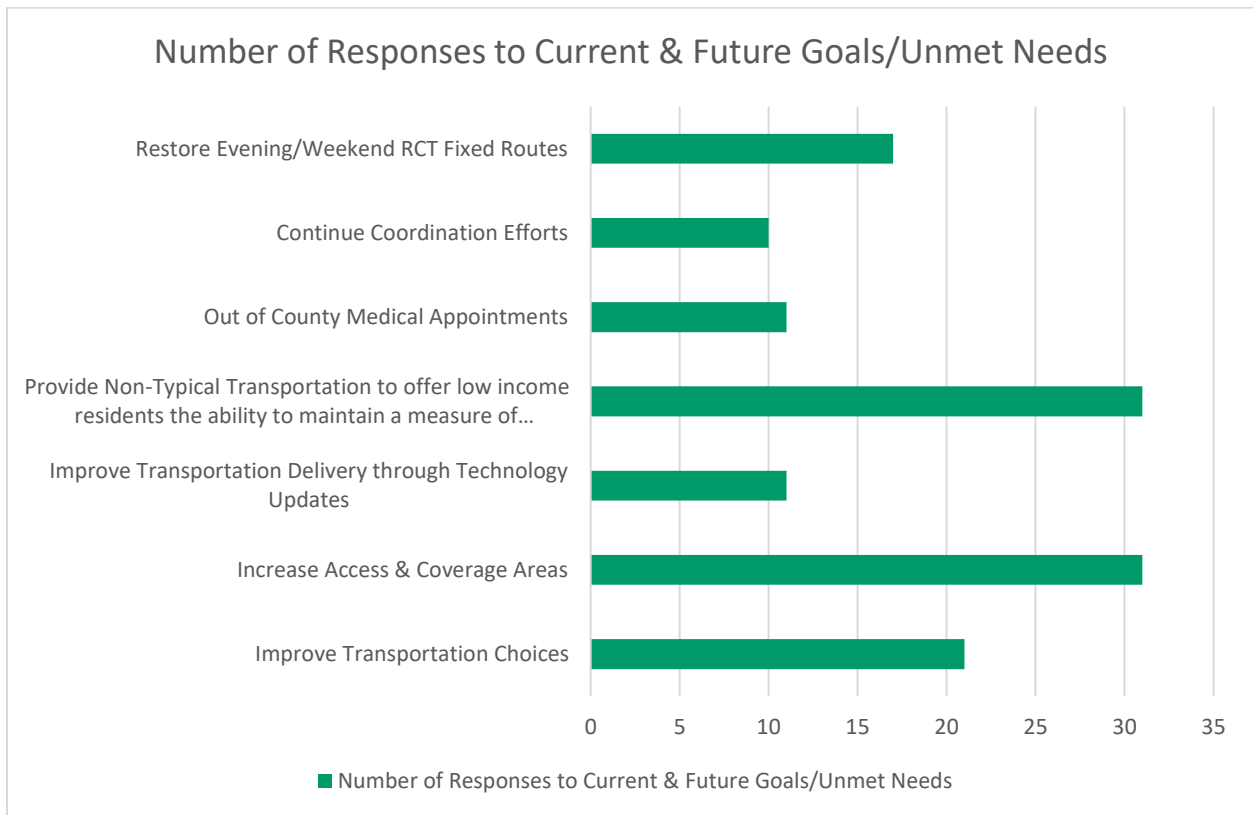
Transportation is a critical component of the communities in Richland County. Transportation provides access to jobs, education, health care, and human services, and allows all community members, including older adults and people with disabilities, to live independently and engage in community life. It is the purpose of this plan for local stakeholders to work collaboratively to identify community resources and prioritize transportation needs.

Community Resources

Agency	Service Area
Adult Parole Authority	Richland, Knox, Morrow, Marion, Ashland, Coshocton, Huron & Holmes Counties
Mid-Ohio Youth Mentoring	Ashland, Crawford, Richland Counties
Catalyst Life Services	Richland County
CHAP Community Health Access Project	Crawford, Knox, Richland Counties
City of Mansfield	Mansfield
City of Shelby	Shelby
Community Action for Capable Youth	Richland County
Dayspring Assisted Living & Care Facility	Richland County
Family Life Counseling	Richland County
Friendly House	Richland County
Harmony House Homeless Services	Richland County
Independent Living Center of North Central Ohio, Inc.	Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Morrow & Richland Counties
Lexington Senior Civic Center	Southern Richland County
Liberty of Mansfield	Richland County
Richland County Public Health Department	Richland County (except Shelby)
Mansfield Area Y	Richland County
Mansfield Memorial Homes	City of Mansfield
Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center	Crawford, Morrow, Richland Counties
New Beginnings Recovery Services	Richland County
Ohio District V Area Agency on Aging	Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca & Wyandot Counties
Ohio Heartland Community Action Commission	Crawford, Marion, Morrow, Richland Counties
Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission	Ashland, Crawford, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca & Wyandot Counties
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities	Ashland, Crawford, Holmes, Knox, Morrow, Richland, Wayne Counties
Primrose Retirement Community	Richland County
Richland County Department of Job & Family Services	Richland County
Richland County Transit	Cities of Mansfield, Ontario, Shelby and Madison Township.
Richland County Veterans Services Admin	Richland County
Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities	Richland County
Richland Newhope Industries (RNI)	Richland County
The Salvation Army	Richland County
Third Street Family Health Services	Richland, Crawford, Ashland Counties

Community Transportation Needs

2021 Public Input Survey – Transportation



1. Establish a clear plan for achieving shared goals:

The plan will identify the needs of persons who are disabled, elderly and otherwise transportation disadvantaged, outline strategies for meeting needs, and prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation.

Elements required of the Plan include, but are not limited to:

- An assessment of available services that identifies current transportation providers (public, private, and non-profit). A re-assessment of the transportation providers has been done by surveys and meetings during the spring and summer of 2012, fall and winter of 2016, summer and fall of 2017, fall of 2020, and spring and summer of 2021.
- An assessment of transportation needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, people with low incomes, and anyone else that are transportation disadvantaged.
- Strategies, activities, and/or projects to address the identified gaps between current services and needs, as well as opportunities to achieve efficiencies in service delivery.
- Priorities for implementation based on resources (from multiple program sources), time, and feasibility for implementing specific strategies and/or activities identified.

Fundamental to the Coordinated Transportation Plan process is the active and meaningful involvement of stakeholders. For projects selected for funding under the Section 5310 program, participation in planning activities must include participation and/or representation of the following, at minimum:

- Seniors;
- Individuals with disabilities;
- People with low incomes;
- Public, private and non-profit transportation providers;
- Human services providers, and;
- The general public.
- Legislative representatives

In order to ensure participation from the above groups the following stakeholder involvement activities were performed

- Public Meetings
- Committee Meetings
- Private Meetings
- Surveys

This plan was developed and adopted by a planning committee of the Agency Advisory Committee (ATAC). More information about the planning committee can be found in Appendix A.

I. Geographic Area

RCRPC Background

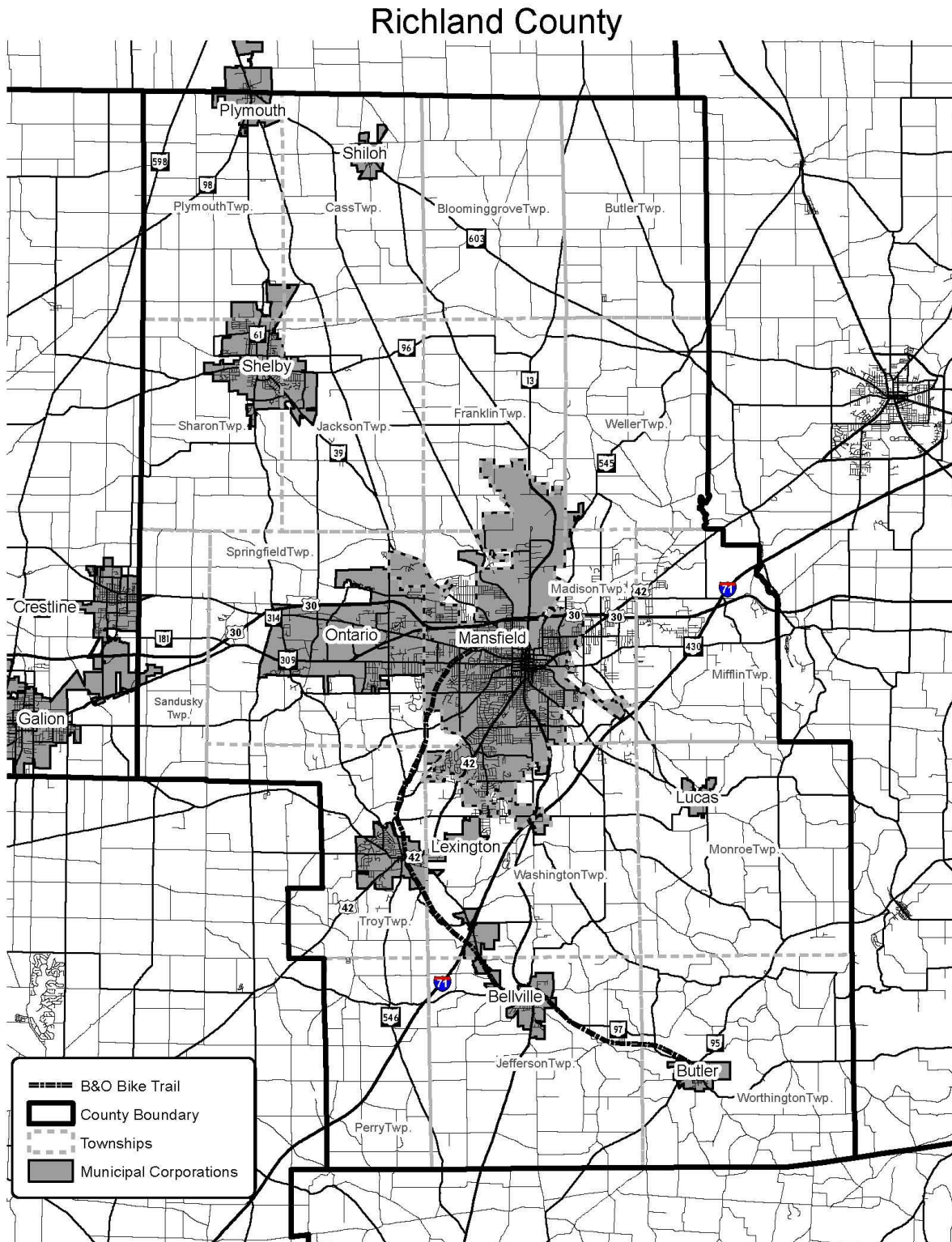
The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Mansfield Urbanized area is the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Program. The MPO is organized through the Richland County Regional Planning Commission (RCRPC), which operates under the provisions of Section 713.21 & 713.23 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The City of Mansfield and Richland County jointly created the RCRPC in 1959 to undertake coordinated, regional planning. The organization carries on today, still true to its original purpose -- most notably the ongoing focus on issues that *affect the development of the Region as a whole*. As a result of federal rules and regulations, in 1975, the “Coordinating Committee of the Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Study” of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission was designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by the State of Ohio. In 1983 the federal rules and regulations recognized the differences between large and small urban areas, and that planning programs should be tailored to meet areas’ varied needs.

The Richland County Regional Planning Commission’s transportation planning program has continued through the years to be flexible, and has adapted to changing state and federal requirements, policies, and program emphasis areas. The program also has been flexible in its capacity to adapt to local planning needs, and balancing its appreciation of the local issues, with the requirements from the state and federal level. This approach would seem to support the concept of the MPO planning, in that local decision makers understand the needs and priorities of an area, and can best decide how limited resources can be allocated to meet these needs.

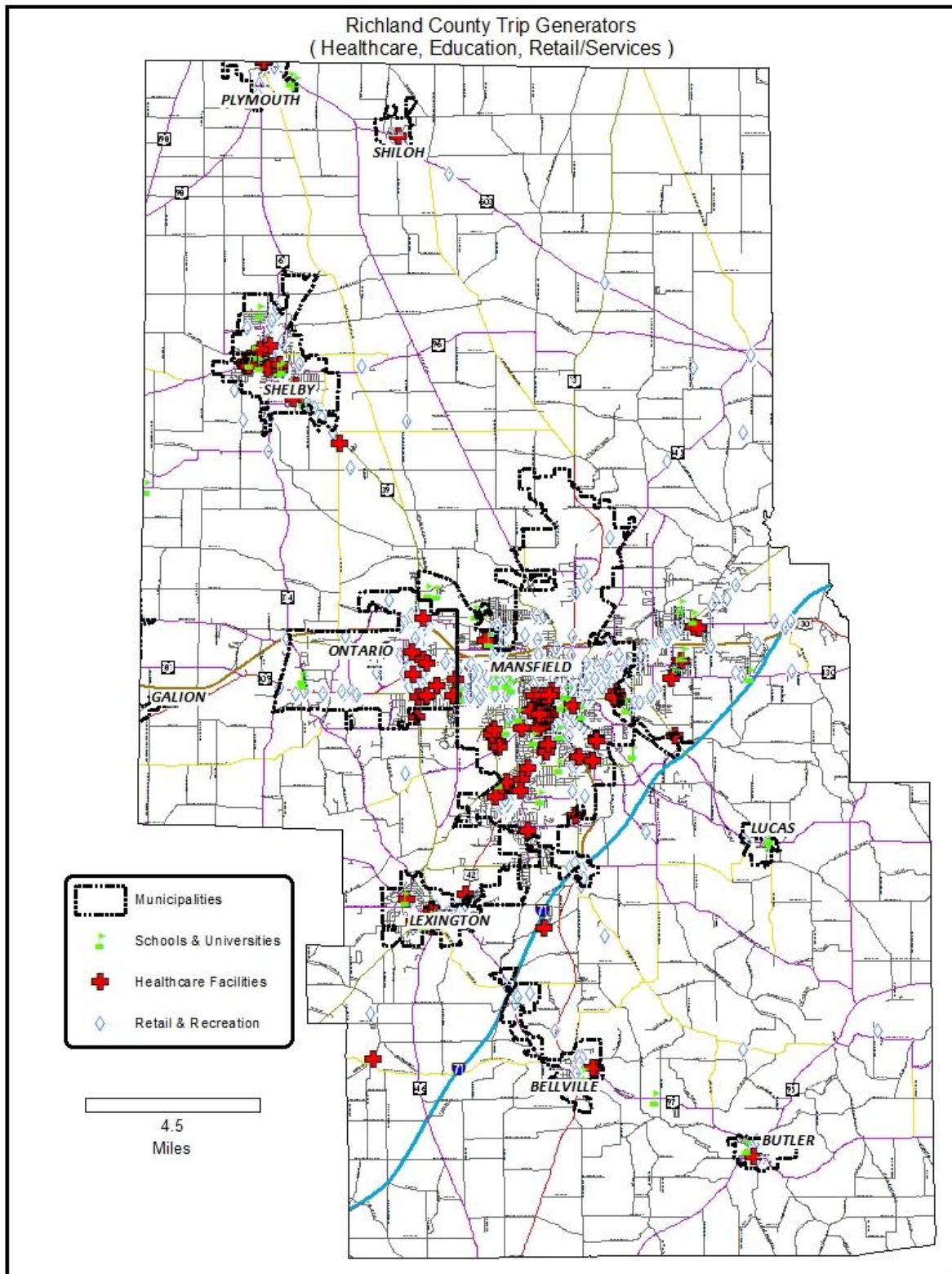
These needs, and the services provided for them, can collectively be called Public Transit and Human Services Transportation. A variety of services, of varying availability, scope and reach, are available in Richland County, ranging from the local public transit system, Richland County Transit (RCT), to retirement community vans and provide providers offering wheel chair accessible vehicles. RCT’s fixed route bus service is an example of public transportation, and a retirement community van is an example of the human services transportation, providing for “transportation disadvantaged” populations that include the elderly, disabled, low income and children.

Map 1: Richland County Reference Location



Document Path: Z:\GIS\Projects\county maps\county map basic with urban.mxd

Map 2: Major Trip Generators



II. Population Demographics

This section presents a basic socio-economic and demographic profile of Richland County and those subgroups most affected by this plan, including persons with disabilities, low income, and elderly.

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

It is important to gain an understanding of where the potential users of public transit and human services transportation reside and where their primary destinations are located. This section includes a description of Richland County’s population, demographics and trip generators.

POPULATION

According to the 2010 Census, the total population of Richland County in 2010 was 124,475 persons. After a 2.2 percent increase of population between 1990 and 2000, the 2010 Census shows a decrease of 3.4 percent from 2000 to 2010. While in the past, county estimates and projections showed an increase in population by 2030, current data projects the opposite. The County’s population is projected to decrease slightly over the next two decades. The Ohio Development Services Agency projects the County’s 2030 population at only 116,640 a 6.3 percent decrease from the 2010 population. Table 1 illustrates the historic and projected population trends for Richland County through the year 2030.

TABLE 1: HISTORIC AND PROJECTED POPULATION FOR RICHLAND COUNTY 2000-2030

Data Source: Census 2000, 2010 and Ohio Development Services Agency

Year	Richland County
2000 Population	128,852
2010 Population	124,475
2015 Population Estimate	121,571
2016 Population Estimate	121,280
2020 Projected Population	120,200
2025 Projected Population	118,190
2030 Projected Population	116,640

TABLE 2: TOTAL POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

Data Source: 2019 ACS 5 Year Estimates Table S0101

2019 ACS 5 Year Estimates	Richland County, Ohio Total Estimate
Total population	121,154
AGE	
Under 5 years	6,641
5 to 19 Years	21,792
20 to 34 years	21,097
35 to 64 years	45,990
65 years and older	23,529

TABLE 2.1: POPULATION OF RICHLAND COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES*Data Source: 2019 ACS 5 Year Estimates Table S0101*

Geography	April 1, 2010		Population Estimate (as of July 1)						
		Estimates Base	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Bellville village, Ohio	1,918	1,918	1,914	1,898	1,891	1,885	1,879	1,873	1,871
Butler village, Ohio	933	938	936	927	923	919	915	911	906
Lexington village, Ohio	4,822	4,822	4,811	4,774	4,760	4,748	4,734	4,720	4,704
Lucas village, Ohio	615	615	614	607	604	603	599	596	592
Mansfield city, Ohio	47,821	47,821	47,716	47,259	47,063	46,976	46,905	46,865	46,678
Ontario city, Ohio	6,225	6,225	6,209	6,162	6,146	6,131	6,116	6,097	6,079
Shelby city, Ohio	9,317	9,317	9,292	9,210	9,176	9,141	9,103	9,066	9,030
Shiloh village, Ohio	649	649	647	641	637	633	630	626	622

TABLE 3: TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE

	Estimate
Total:	121,154
White alone	105,042
Black or African American alone	10,742
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	372
Asian alone	754
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	49
Some other race alone	465
Two or more races:	3730

TABLE 4: NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Data Source: 2019 ACS 5 Year Estimates Table S1810

- Disabled is “...an umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions.” (See WHO (2001)) A person may have more than one disabling factor and as such the numbers contained on the following chart do not sum to 100%.

Subject	Richland County, Ohio			
	Total		With a disability	Percent with a disability
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Estimate
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	114,386	+/-386	18,565	16.2%
SEX				
Male	55,436	+/-319	8,777	15.8%
Female	58,950	+/-184	8,823	16.6%
AGE				
Under 5 years	6,926	+/-56	77	1.1%
5 to 17 years	19,222	+/-104	1,476	7.7%
18 to 34 years	22,304	+/-334	1,859	8.3%
35 to 64 years	43,680	+/-298	7,134	16.3%
65 to 74 years	12,523	+/-115	3,279	25.6%
75 years and older	9,514	+/-411	3,394	27.1%
DISABILITY TYPE				
With a hearing difficulty			5,403	4.7%
With a vision difficulty			3,501	3.1%
With a cognitive difficulty			7,279	6.8%
With an ambulatory difficulty			9,264	8.6%
With a self-care difficulty			3,706	3.4%
With an independent living difficulty			6,613	5.2%

TABLE 5: NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE LIVING IN A HOUSEHOLD WITH INCOME BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL

Data Source: 2019 ACS 5 Year Estimates Table S1701

- The Federal Poverty Level is defined as a household income of \$12,071 for 1 person, \$15,379 for two people, \$18,850 for three people and \$24,230 for 4 people. Each successive person in the household increases this amount.

Subject	Richland County, Ohio		
	Total	Below poverty level	Percent below poverty level
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Population for whom poverty status is determined	113,445	15,321	13.5%
AGE			
Under 5 years	6,651	1,749	18.6%
5 to 17 years	18,690	1,749	26.3%
18 to 34 years	22,095	3,638	16.5%
35 to 64 years	43,755	5,173	11.8%
65 years and over	22,254	1,788	8%
SEX			
Male	55,058	6,811	12.4%
Female	58,387	8,510	14.6%
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN			
White alone	100,999	11,790	11.7%
Black or African American alone	8,001	2,339	29.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	68	21	30.9%
Asian alone	905	64	7.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	24	6	25%
Some other race alone	448	125	27.9%
Two or more races	3,000	976	32.5%
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT			
Population 25 years and over	79,042	8,876	11.2%
Less than high school graduate	9,323	1,905	20.4%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	31,469	4,405	14%
Some college, associate's degree	22,993	2,028	8.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	15,257	538	3.5%

TABLE 6: NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUALS WITH INCOME BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL

Data Source: 2019 ACS 5 Year Estimates Table S1701

Subject		Total	Below poverty level	Percent below poverty level
		Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Population for whom poverty status is determined		22,965	5,652	24.6%
AGE				
Under 18 years		25,341	4,722	18.6%
Under 5 years		6,651	1,749	26.3%
5 to 17 years		18,690	2,973	18.2%
Related children of householder under 18 years		25,194	4,575	18.2%
18 to 64 years		65,850	8,811	13.4%
18 to 34 years		22,095	3,638	16.5%
35 to 64 years		43,755	5,173	11.8%
60 years and over		30,180	2,633	8.7%
65 years and over		22,254	1,788	8.0%
SEX				
Male		55,058	6,811	12.4%
Female		58,387	8,510	14.6%

Table 7: Percent of population that speak English "Less than very well"

Data Source: 2017 ACS 5 Year Estimates Table B16005

- "Less than very well" generally means at a level that is not considered "fluent" in the language. This statistic is a self-defined and reported item on the ACS

2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates	
Richland County, Ohio	
Estimate	
Total:	114,174
Native:	112,206
Speak only English	108,887
Speak Spanish:	1,026
Speak English less than "very well"	112
Speak other Indo-European languages:	2,044
Speak English less than "very well"	94
Speak Asian and Pacific Island languages:	75
Speak English less than "very well"	0
Speak other languages:	174
Speak English less than "very well"	10
Foreign born:	1,968
Speak Spanish:	247
Speak English less than "very well"	37
Speak other Indo-European languages:	549
Speak English less than "very well"	55
Speak Asian and Pacific Island languages:	345
Speak English less than "very well"	74
Speak other languages:	135
Speak English less than "very well"	0

III. Assessment of Available Services

Conducting an evaluation of service provider capabilities and analyzing the existing gaps and duplications of services for transportation resources in each community, provides transportation planners with the information needed to implement changes that will improve the network of transportation resources and services in Richland County and across county lines.

The lead agency identified stakeholders to participate in the assessment of available services. These stakeholders included those who were represented in the current or past planning committees, as well as others who the planning committee identified as being appropriate stakeholders.

Interviews were conducted with each of the identified stakeholders.

The purpose of the interview was to offer the stakeholders an opportunity to discuss the specific transportation services, gaps, needs, and priorities for their respective service areas or communities.

When applicable, information reported in the previous coordinated plan was used to supplement information gathered during this planning effort.

Inventory of Transportation Providers

A comprehensive survey was conducted of thirty-six (36) different entities and agencies in the Richland County area in order to gain information on existing transportation programs and services.

Existing Transportation Services

The following information is based on tabulations from the survey and interview results, and requested information through email correspondence. When applicable, information reported in the previous coordinated plan was used to supplement information gathered during this planning effort. This list includes human services organizations as well as local private transportation companies.

List of Transportation Service Providers

Agency Name: **Adult Parole Authority – Richland Office**

Services: **Provides supervision of felony offenders**

Transportation Services provided: **Internal, purchases transit tickets**

Transportation Service Type: **Closed Door**

Eligibility Requirements: **Internal**

Hours: **Mon – Fri 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM**

General Service Area: **Richland, Knox, Morrow, Marion, Ashland, Coshocton, Huron and Holmes Counties**

Contact Information: **419-522-2441**

Website/email: **<https://drc.ohio.gov/parole>**

Agency Name: **All American Transportation Services**

Services: **Transportation**

Transportation Services provided: **NEMT sedan and ambulette service on a per trip basis**

Transportation Service Type: **Door-through-Door**

Eligibility Requirements: **None**

Hours: **Monday-Saturday 8AM-5PM**

General Service Area: **Richland and Surrounding Counties**

Contact Information: **Jim Blevins; 419.589.4733**

Website/email: **aatllcjim@yahoo.com**

Agency Name: Apple Lane Transportation
Services: Transportation for ambulatory and non-ambulatory individuals
Transportation Services provided: NEMT sedan and ambulette services on a per trip basis
Transportation Service Type: Door-through-door
Eligibility Requirements: N/A
Hours: Any hours requested, M-F, Sat & Sun medical trips only
General Service Area: Richland County
Contact Information: Laura King; 419.522.9904
Website/email: applelane@neo.rr.com

Agency Name: Catalyst Life Services
Services: provides residential and outpatient mental health, alcohol and drug counseling services.
Transportation Services provided: Transportation is provided for residential clients through the purchase of bus passes and by staff using an agency owned vehicle.
Transportation Service Type: door-to-door
Eligibility Requirements: Catalyst client, WIOA eligible,
Hours: 7:00 am - 6pm M-Th and 7am – 5pm F
General Service Area: Richland County
Contact Information: Laura Montgomery
Website/email: <http://www.catalystlifeservices.org> / laura@catalystlifeservices.org

Agency Name: C & D Taxi
Services: private taxi service to the community and is a contractor providing on demand transportation.
Transportation Services provided: NEMT, Sedans, vans
Transportation Service Type: door-to-door
Eligibility Requirements: N/A
Hours: 24/7
General Service Area: Richland and surrounding counties
Contact Information: Dennis West; 419.756.3333/419.709.8823
Website/email: cdtransport202@yahoo.com

Agency Name: CHAP Community Health Access Project
Services: to eliminate health and social disparities in communities by finding those at risk, connecting them to care and measuring outcomes.
Transportation Services provided: purchasing bus passes or taxi rides for those without transportation.
Transportation Service Type: door-to-door
Eligibility Requirements: individuals who are high risk for homelessness, chronic diseases, poverty, etc. to connect them with means of transportation to jobs, trainings, schooling, medical appointments, etc.
Hours: weekdays, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
General Service Area: Crawford, Knox and Richland Counties
Contact Information: 419.774.4384
Website/email: <http://www.chap-ohio.com>

Agency Name: City of Shelby
Services: Taxi cab service for all needs in Shelby
Transportation Services provided: Sedans & wheelchair transportation via ATAC
Transportation Service Type: Operates Shelby Shared Taxi Service, provides funding for fixed route transit service
Eligibility Requirements: N/A
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, excludes Holidays

General Service Area: **City of Shelby**
Contact Information: **419.295.5144**
Website/email: <http://www.shelbyohio.org>

Agency Name: **Catholic Charities**

Services: **food pantry, prescription assistance, housing programs, financial counseling, adult advocacy, jail/prison ministry, bereavement ministry, Project Rachel, Respect Life, adoption/pregnancy support services and disaster response**

Transportation Services provided: **purchases tickets and passes for fixed route transit service**

Transportation Service Type: **taxi, ambulette and gas vouchers**

Eligibility Requirements: **Client must be in a qualified Medicaid program**

Hours: **Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday 9:30 AM -3:15 PM**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Rebeca Owens; 419.524.0733**

Website/email: <http://www.catholiccharitiesnwo.org> / rowens@toledodiocese.org

Agency Name: **Chihuahua Choo Choo**

Services: **transportation services to Richland and surrounding Counties, provides shuttle services and on demand transportation.**

Transportation Services provided: **door-through-door**

Transportation Service Type: **NEMT, Sedan**

Eligibility Requirements: **N/A**

Hours: **24/7**

General Service Area: **Richland County and surrounding areas**

Contact Information: **Joyce Mitchell; 419-564-3818**

Website/email: dr.joyce.m1@gmail.com

Agency Name: **Dayspring Assisted Living & Care Facility**

Services: **adult day services and short-term respite care**

Transportation Services provided: **Weekday medical and social service appointment transportation, and social and recreational activities on weekends**

Transportation Service Type: **Sedans, Vans**

Eligibility Requirements: **Developmental delays or developmental disabilities and deficits in at least 3 areas of life, clients of Dayspring**

Hours: **varies**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Michelle Swank; 419.774.5894**

Website/email: mswank@richlandcountyoh.us

Agency Name: **D&D Rides, LLC**

Services: **minivan, SUV, sedan, wheelchair accessible transportation provider in Richland and surrounding counties**

Transportation Services provided: **door-to-door**

Transportation Service Type: **NEMT, Sedans, minivans, SUV's and 1 wheelchair accessible van**

Eligibility Requirements: **N/A**

Hours: **7 days a week, hours vary based on schedule**

General Service Area: **Richland and surrounding counties**

Contact Information: **David Kilbride; 419-295-2562**

Website/email: layniebug.dd@gmail.com

Agency Name: Elite Medical Transportation

Services: Transportation services for Ambulatory and Non Ambulatory individuals.

Transportation Services provided: door-through-door

Transportation Service Type: NEMT, Sedans, wheelchair accessible vans and ambulettes

Eligibility Requirements: Consumer must be cognitive or add family member/AID to trip

Hours: Office hours M-F: 8am-4pm, Transport hours M-Sa: 5am-6pm.

General Service Area: Richland County

Contact Information: Liz Grove; 419.566-9611

Website/email: Lizgrove@elitemedicaltransport.org

Agency Name: Family Life Counseling

Services: counseling services for Richland County residents

Transportation Services provided: purchases tickets and passes for fixed rote transit service

Transportation Service Type: N/A

Eligibility Requirements: must be client

Hours: M-Th: 9AM-7PM, F: 9AM-5PM

General Service Area: Richland County and surrounding area

Contact Information: 419.571.5703

Website/email: <http://www.flcps.com>

Agency Name: 419 Rideshare

Services:

Transportation Services provided

Transportation Service Type: N/A

Eligibility Requirements:

Hours:

General Service Area: Richland County

Contact Information: Doug Newsome, 419.631.5704/419.631.5754

Website/email: newsomedouglas00@gmail.com

Agency Name: Friendly House

Services: Community center that provides crime prevention, recreation, education, health/fitness, camping and day care programs

Transportation Services provided: transportation to select Mansfield City Schools is provided for after school program

Transportation Service Type: N/A

Eligibility Requirements: must be enrolled

Hours: 6:30 AM - 9:00 PM, weekdays

General Service Area: Richland County

Contact Information: Terry Conard; 419.522.0521

Website/email: www.friendlyhouseonline.com / contact@friendlyhouseonline.com

Agency Name: Greyhound Bus Lines

Services: Bus transportation across the U.S.

Transportation Services provided: flat rate fee depending on destination to anywhere in U.S.

Transportation Service Type: Bus, intercity

Eligibility Requirements: N/A

Hours: 24/7

General Service Area: All over US, bus stop location 2424 Possum Run Rd 44903

Contact Information: **800.231.2222**
Website/email: <http://www.greyhound.com>

Agency Name: **GoBus**
Services: **Ohio rural intercity bus program**
Transportation Services provided: **flat rate fee depending on destination throughout Ohio.**
Transportation Service Type: **Bus, intercity**
Eligibility Requirements: **N/A**
Hours: **7 days a week, published online schedule**
General Service Area: **All over Ohio, bus stop location –Stanton Transit Center, 74 S. Diamond St**
Contact Information: **888-954-6287**
Website/email: <https://ridegobus.com/>

Agency Name: **Harmony House Homeless Services, Inc.**
Services: **residential homeless shelter**
Transportation Services provided: **purchase of Richland County Transit bus tickets, as well as 1 agency van**
Transportation Service Type: **transportation to medical, grocery, employment, appointments with other agencies**
Eligibility Requirements: **Homeless in Richland County**
Hours: **24/7**
General Service Area: **Richland County**
Contact Information: **Kelly Blankenship; 419.522.2323**
Website/email: theharmonyhouse.org / kelly@theharmonyhouse.org

Agency Name: **Independent Living Center of North Central Ohio, Inc.**
Services: **Non-residential agency working with and for individuals with disabilities through advocacy, peer mentoring, educational and recreational programs.**
Transportation Services provided: **purchase of passes from transit agencies and through mileage reimbursement from client friends and families.**
Transportation Service Type: **door-to-door**
Eligibility Requirements: **client**
Hours: **varies**
General Service Area: **Richland County and surrounding areas**
Contact Information: **Pam Drake; 419.526.6770**
Website/email: ilcnco@yahoo.com / pdrake@ilcnco.org

Agency Name: **Liberty of Mansfield – Woodlawn Healthcare & Rehab**
Services: **nursing home services**
Transportation Services provided: **Transportation is provided by their staff using their own vehicles. Also contracted with Mansfield Ambulance & Community EMS for patients not able to walk.**
Transportation Service Type: **medical**
Eligibility Requirements: **must be client/patient**
Hours: **8:00 AM - 4:30 PM weekdays**
General Service Area: **Richland County**
Contact Information: **Linda Black-Kurek; 419.756.7111**
Website/email: <http://www.libertyhealthcare.com>

Agency Name: **Mansfield Area Y**
Services: **Provides recreation and day care services**
Transportation Services provided: **provided by Y staff using Y-owned vehicles.**

Transportation Service Type: **N/A**

Eligibility Requirements: **Member**

Hours: **Mon thru Thurs 4:00 AM to 11:00 PM, Fri 4:00 AM to 9:00 PM, Sat 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Sun 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Velma Bond; 419.522.3511**

Website/email: <http://www.mansfieldy.org> / vbond@mansfieldy.org

Agency Name: **Mansfield Memorial Homes**

Services: **Provides nursing home, adult day care and nutrition services**

Transportation Services provided: **uses two (2) wheelchair accessible 10-passenger vans that are driven by agency staff. Uses federal Title IIC and Passport funding for its transportation services.**

Transportation Service Type: **N/A**

Eligibility Requirements: **client**

Hours: **Mon, Wed, Fri from 8:00 AM to 4:40 PM; Tues, Thurs and Sat 5:30 AM to 4:30 PM**

General Service Area: **City of Mansfield**

Contact Information: **Phone: 419.774.5100**

Website/email: <http://www.mansfieldmh.com>

Agency Name: **Mary McLeod-Bethune Center**

Services: **Passport Program Provider. Services include personal care, DD waiver, medication reminders, meal preparation, light housekeeping, companionship and transportation services**

Transportation Services provided: **NEMT, Door-to-door, door-through-door, ambulette & Shuttle Bus's**

Transportation Service Type: **General public**

Eligibility Requirements: **N/A**

Hours: **Office: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM – Transportation: 8:00 AM- 11:00 PM, M-Sa, 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM Sun**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Alverta Williams; 419.545.4021**

Website/email: <http://www.mbie.org> / mb1e@aol.com

Agency Name: **Mom's Buggy Rides**

Services: **Sedan transportation**

Transportation Services provided: **NEMT, door-to door-, door-through-door, sedan transportation service**

Transportation Service Type: **General public**

Eligibility Requirements: **N/A**

Hours: **24/7, Mon-Sat**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Lori Murphy, 419-961-6090**

Website/email: murphylori2@gmail.com

Agency Name: **North Central State College**

Services: **two-year state college, located in Mansfield, Ohio**

Transportation Services provided: **provides funding for fixed route transit services**

Transportation Service Type:

Eligibility Requirements: **must be enrolled**

Hours: **varies**

General Service Area: **Richland, Ashland and Morrow Counties**

Contact Information: **Lori McKee; 419.755.4702**

Website/email: <http://www.ncstatecollege.edu> / kakakpo@ncstatecollege.edu

Agency Name: **Ohio District V Area Agency on Aging**

Services: **Provides funding to other agencies servicing persons over 60 years of age for transportation, health care, nutrition, information, and referral services.**

Transportation Services provided: **Contract with local transportation providers for medical and grocery trips**

Transportation Service Type: **Medical/Grocery trips**

Eligibility Requirements: **Ages 60 or over**

Hours: **varies**

General Service Area: **Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot Counties. Transportation just for inside Richland County.**

Contact Information: **Rick Meeker; 419.524-4144**

Website/email: **<http://www.aaa5ohio.org> / rmeecker@aaa5ohio.org**

Agency Name: **Ohio Heartland Community Action Commission (Head Start)**

Services: **operates Head Start, a federally funded preschool program for low-income families.**

Transportation Services provided: **Busing to school**

Transportation Service Type: **N/A**

Eligibility Requirements: **low income qualified, enrolled in the school**

Hours: **varies**

General Service Area: **Richland, Marion, Morrow and Crawford Counties:**

Contact Information: **419.589.3337**

Website/email: **<http://www.ohcac.org>**

Agency Name: **Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities**

Services: **state agency that provides counseling, vocational rehabilitation, job training and placement**

Transportation Services provided: **purchases public transit tickets and passes**

Transportation Service Type: **N/A**

Eligibility Requirements: **Client**

Hours: **8:00 AM - 5:00 PM weekdays**

General Service Area: **Ashland, Crawford, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca, Wyandot Counties**

Contact Information: **Phone: (419) 747-3000 Fax: (419) 747-3008**

Website/email: **<https://ood.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ood/>**

Agency Name: **Ontario Cab Company**

Services: **Transportation services to Richland and Ashland County as well as out of county trips**

Transportation Services provided: **Door to door transportation statewide, food delivery services, hourly rentals**

Transportation Service type: **General public**

Eligibility Requirements: **N/A**

Hours: **24/7**

General Service Area: **Richland, Ashland County and surrounding areas**

Contact Information: **567-560-5228**

Website/email: **<https://ontariocabco.wixsite.com/mysite> / ontariocab@gmail.com**

Agency Name: **Primrose Retirement Community**

Services: **senior independent and assisted living retirement community**

Transportation Services provided: **Transportation is provided for medical appointments, grocery, errands and outings.**

Transportation Service Type: **N/A**

Eligibility Requirements: **resident**

Hours: **varies**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **419.989.6591**

Website/email: **www.primrosetirement.com/mansfield-ohio-senior-care-communities/**

Agency Name: **Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities**

Services: **Works with individuals, families, guardians & caregivers to help develop a plan unique to each individual**

Transportation Services provided: **Connecting individuals to transportation options**

Transportation Service Type: **referrals**

Eligibility Requirements: **persons with a disability**

Hours: **8:00 AM-5:00 PM weekdays**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Sarah Russell; 567-303-4684**

Website/email: **rnewhope.org / srussell@rnewhope.org**

Agency Name: **Richland County Department of Job & Family Services**

Services: **eligibility for public assistance programs, social services and job search/job training services**

Transportation Services provided: **non-emergency transportations services for Medicaid recipients attending local or out of county Medicaid medical appointments**

Transportation Service Type: **non-emergency medical appointments**

Eligibility Requirements: **Medicaid recipient**

Hours: **8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, weekdays**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Cindy Schunatz; 419.774.5430**

Website/email: **www.rcjfs.net / Richland-Transportation@jfs.ohio.gov**

Agency Name: **Richland County Children Services**

Services: **variety of social services for youth**

Transportation Services provided: **provider uses a variety of means including agency staff/vehicles, volunteers, gas vouchers, and purchase of transit passes and tickets.**

Transportation Service Type:

Eligibility Requirements:

Hours: **varies**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **419.774.4100**

Website/email: **www.richlandcountychildrenservices.org / info@richlandcountychildrenservices.org**

Agency Name: **Richland County Transit**

Services: **provides public transportation in certain municipalities in Richland County**

Transportation Services provided: **RCT operates 9 fixed routes which provide a transportation network for trips to work, school, appointments, or shopping. Regularly scheduled fixed route bus service operates in and to Mansfield, Ontario and Shelby. In addition, it operates a Dial-A-Ride Para-Transit service within 1 mile of RCT fixed routes.**

Transportation Service Type: **Public Transit**

Eligibility Requirements: **none**

Hours: **6:00 AM - 6:00 PM weekdays**

General Service Area: **Cities of Mansfield, Ontario, Shelby and Madison Township.**

Contact Information: **Christine Terry; 419.522.4504**

Website/email: <http://www.rctbuses.com> / christerryrct@yahoo.com

Agency Name: **Richland County Veterans Services Admin**

Services: **provides counseling, health care, income assistance and transportation services for military veterans**
Transportation Services provided: **variety of means including agency staff/vehicles, reimbursement of mileage, and purchase of transit passes and tickets**

Transportation Service Type: **N/A**

Eligibility Requirements: **military veteran status**

Hours: **Mon thru Fri 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Thursdays 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Ken Estep; 419.774.5822**

Website/email: <http://www.richlandcountyvets.org> / ken@richlandcountyvets.org

Agency Name: **Richland Newhope Industries, Inc.**

Services: **operates sheltered workshops and employment services for disabled persons**

Transportation Services provided: **Varieties of transportation services are provided. These include directly operated bus service, agency staff using their own vehicles, reimbursement of mileage paid to client families and purchased transportation, purchases public transit tickets and passes**

Transportation Service Type:

Eligibility Requirements: **persons with a disability**

Hours: **6:00 AM-5:00 PM weekdays**

General Service Area: **Richland County**

Contact Information: **Jennifer Gray; 419.774.4245**

Website/email: <http://www.rniinc.com> / jgray@rniinc.com

Agency Name: **Third Street Family Health Services**

Services: **provides medical, dental, OBGYN and behavioral health services to Mansfield residents**

Transportation Services provided: **When transportation is provided, it is arranged through a local taxi company**

Transportation Service Type: **Medical appointments**

Eligibility Requirements: **private non-profit agency for patients who meet financial criteria**

Hours: **varies**

General Service Area: **Richland, Crawford, Ashland counties**

Contact Information: **419.522.6191**

Website/email: www.tsfhs.org

Transportation Service Providers Characteristics

The tables below provide a summary of the characteristics of the participating transportation providers and organizations that purchase transportation on behalf of consumers

* Answering “Yes” indicates that the agency is closed door. The agency is considered closed door if it ONLY provides transportation to its facility as a courtesy or if it ONLY serves a particular clientele that are enrolled in the agency’s programs (i.e. members of a sheltered workshop, or residents in a nursing home). Answering “No” indicates that the agency is open door. This means the service is open to the public or a segment of the general public defined by age, disability, or low income. For example, if the agency provides general transportation for anyone in the community who is over the age of 60, they are considered “open door”. For example, an individual who is 60 or over can request transportation to a doctor’s appointment or the grocery store regardless of their affiliation with the agency.

Table 8: Organizational Characteristics

Agency Name	Directly Operates Transportation (Yes/No)	Purchases Transportation from Another Agency (if Yes, Who?)	Legal Authority (Private Non-Profit, Private For-Profit, Public Non-Profit,)	Number of Annual One-Way Passenger Trips	Average Number Trip Denials per Week	Are Vehicles Only Available for Human Service Agency Clients (Y/N)*
Catalyst Life Services	Yes	Yes, RCT bus passes	Private non-profit	6000	n/a	Yes
Dayspring Assisted Living & Care Facility	Yes	No	Public (government) Non-Profit	n/a	n/a	Yes
Friendly House	No	No	Non-Profit	n/a	n/a	No
Harmony House Homeless Services	Yes	Yes, private cabs, RCT	Non-Profit	500	15	Yes
Mary McLeod-Bethune Center	Yes	no	Private Non-Profit	5000+	0	No
Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging	No	Yes, ATAC, other funding	Non-Profit	14,008	3	Yes
Richland County Transit	yes	no	Public transportation	246,000	0	no
Richland Newhope Industries	Yes	Yes/ATAC, contracted	Non-Profit	84, 341 +	0	Yes

The participating organizations provide a wide range of transportation including fixed route, ADA paratransit, demand response, on-demand, and human service agency fixed routes. 7 of the participating organizations provide services on weekdays. 3 operate transportation on Saturdays and 3 on Sundays. Evening services after 6 pm are operated by 2 organizations. The following table depicts the transportation service characteristics by agency.

Table 9: Transportation Service Characteristics

Agency Name	Mode of Service	Days & Hours of Operation	Provides Medicaid-Eligible Trips (Y/N)	Level of Passenger Assistance Provided	Training Courses Required for Drivers
Catalyst Life Services	Mental Health Services	Mon-Fri, hours vary	n/a	Door to door	Yes
Dayspring Assisted Living & Care Facility	n/a	24/7	Yes for 9 specific Residents	Ambulatory Clients (Dayspring only)	No
Friendly House	After school program	M-F:6:30am-6pm, Summer 8:30-5:30pm, Fall 9am-6pm	N/A	N/A	No
Harmony House Homeless Services	n/a	M-F:8am to 4:30pm	No	Door-to-Door	Yes
Mary McLeod-Bethune Center	Medical & Non-Medical	M-F: 5am-11pm, 5am-8pm Sa, Su	Yes	Door to door	Defensive Driver, CPR, First Aid
Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging	Medical and Grocery	M-F: 9am-5pm	Yes, PASSPORT program	Provider requested	N/A
Richland County Transit	Fixed route and demand response	M-F: 6am-6:30pm	as purchased by local agencies - not directly billed to Medicaid	Door to door assistance is available upon request on the Demand Response service only.	passenger sensitivity, passenger assistance, safety of operations, wheelchair securement, etc.
Richland Newhope Industries	Training and employment	M-F:6am-5pm	Yes	Door-to-door	Yes

Transportation-related expenses and revenues also differ by organization. Grants, medical insurance reimbursement and user fees are common revenue sources for transportation operators in Richland County. The table below provides a summary of expenses and revenues for public and non-profit transportation programs.

Table 10: Transportation-Related Expenses and Revenues

Agency Name	Fare Structure	Donations Accepted (Y/N)	Number of Full-Time & Part-Time Drivers	Number of Full-Time & Part-Time Schedulers/Dispatchers	Revenue Sources (most recent Fiscal Year)	Total Annual Transportation Expenses
Catalyst Life Services	n/a	Yes	All staff able to drive	n/a	Local government & agencies	\$10,000
Dayspring Assisted Living & Care Facility	n/a (Included in Room & Board)	n/a	37	n/a	n/a	n/a
Friendly House	Free to enrolled	Yes	n/a	n/a	Donations, United Way	n/a
Harmony House Homeless Services	Free service to residents	Yes	n/a	n/a	HUD funding/United Way/donations	
Mary McLeod-Bethune Center	n/a	Yes	PT 8	2	AAA, JFS, ATAC	\$150,361.00
Ohio District 5 Area Agency on Aging	n/a	Yes	n/a	n/a	Levy, Title III, Medicaid, Medicare	
Richland County Transit	\$2 adult, \$1 Sr., disabled, age 6-18, under 6 free	No	FT 11, PT 8	FT 2, PT 1	FTA, ODOT, local governments and agencies, passenger fares, misc.	
Richland Newhope Industries	N/A	Y	FT 12, PT 10	1 FT, 1 PT	Levy, Medicaid, Waivers	\$114,834.00

The following table provides basic information about transportation options other than the traditional public and human services transportation. Transportation options might include bike share, ride share, intercity, or taxi services, and more.

Table 11: Alternative/ Active Transportation Options

Transportation Option	Availability	Cost	Usage	Service Area
All American Transportation	M-Sa, 8am-5pm	Published fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties
Apple Lane Transportation	As needed	Published fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties
C-D Taxi / Transport	24/7	Published fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties
Chihuahua Choo Choo	24/7	Published fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties
Elite Medical Transport	M-Sa: 4:30am-5pm	Published fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties
GoBus	Scheduled Departures	Published fee schedule		All over Ohio
Greyhound Bus Lines	Scheduled Departures	Varies per destination		Nationwide
Mary McLeod-Bethune Center (MBIE)	M-F:5am-11pm, Sa-Sun:5am-8pm	Publishes fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties
Select Client Transportation	M-F 7:30am-5pm	Published fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties
Transportation 4U	M-F: 6am-6pm	Published fee schedule		Richland and surrounding counties

The following table provides basic information about local travel training program options.

Table 12: Transportation Resources

Transportation Resource	Availability	Cost	Usage	Service Area
TRAVEL TRAINING (MOBILITY MANAGEMENT) (Richland County Transit)	Scheduled one-on-one or group training	Free		Richland County

The following table illustrates the technology used by each transportation provider for scheduling, dispatching, and/or GPS tracking vehicles.

Table 13: Technology

Agency Name	Name of Scheduling Software	Do you have an App for Transportation (Y/N)?	Name of Dispatching Software	AVL System/ GPS (Y/N)
Area Agency on Aging	Wellsky	No	None	No
Catalyst Life Services	none	no	None	No
Dayspring Assisted Living & Care Facility	Excel	No	None	No
Harmony House Homeless Services	None	No	None	No
Mary McLeod-Bethune Center	None	No	None	No
Richland County Transit	Ecolane	Yes, DoubleMap	Ecolane	No
Richland Newhope Industries	none	No	None	No

Assessment of Community Support for Transit

As defined by the state of Ohio; The Ohio Mobility Management Program increases access to mobility to Ohioans by increasing understanding and awareness of transportation, needs, coordination of transportation options to meet needs and building sustainable and healthy communities by integrating transportation into planning and programs.

Though the Richland County Mobility Manager does not provide or operate transportation, the Mobility Manager can help individuals seek solutions to their transportation situations. The Richland County Mobility Manager works as a broker between area human service agencies and local private and public transportation providers including Richland County Transit and Demand Response Dial-a-Ride. The Mobility Manager schedules trips with transportation providers for grocery, medical and work related needs, and helps with monthly bus passes purchased by local agencies as well as the purchasing of individual tickets. The Richland County Mobility Manager coordinates all trips through "ATAC", housed at Richland County Regional Planning, and handles all invoicing and billing for every trip that is provided. The Mobility Manager acts as the point of contact for all transportation providers and the agencies requesting transportation for their clients, maintains a transportation resource document for the county and helps link individuals to different services based on eligibility criteria, geography, location to transit bus routes, specific needs; i.e. wheelchair accessibility, door-through-door services, operating hours, destination, etc.

Although interest in the operation of Transit have been high, financial contributions continue to be a problem. All three cities within Richland County currently are pledging funds to Transit. The City of Shelby is involved with a group of partners that fund the running of a single route from the City of Mansfield to the City of Shelby. City of Mansfield awards CDBG funds to the Transit System. This results in increased administrative time in properly spending these types of funds. After 10 years of not contributing, Ontario makes a minor commitment to the operations of the Transit System.

Conversations with local Health and Human Service Agencies have led to increased dialog and some financial contributions for specific items the agencies feel important. These talks will continue in hopes of raising additional funds for operations.

Various efficiency improvements have been evaluated over the past few years and through that, Richland County Transit has developed a technology/software called Double Map, which is a real time GPS bus tracking system. Implementing this software should put us in a better position as we make future funding requests.

Safety

Transportation is not just for moving people and commodities from one place to another it can also assist in the safety during or shortly after and the recovery from an emergency event in the community. The ability to move people away from a dangerous location or transport an injured person to a medical facility are important parts of disaster recovery or planning.

Transportation resources are mentioned in the 2016 Richland County All Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan identifies the likely hazard to be found within the county and has strategies to mitigate or recover from the possible outcomes from an event. Transportation is important to be able to move residents from a dangerous location or building. In the event of a fire, tornado, flood or other building damage, transportation resources would be needed to move residents from the dangerous area. The

knowledge of transportation providers that can transport a variety of riders is a valuable resource to have on hand in case of a hazardous event.

The State of Ohio Emergency Operations Plan references that after an emergency event that ODOT as the lead agency will coordinate with local jurisdictions on recovery services related to transportation. This includes coordinating with local transportation resources and assisting with local evacuation activities. Having a resource such as this plan will help with the initial effort to facilitate a timely response if such a situation should arise.

The resources to transport people and goods go further than just having the vehicles to move things around. It encompasses the operators also. Having trained and qualified individuals to operate these vehicles is an important aspect. All vehicle operators should have an appropriate class driver's license to the vehicle they are operating. For vehicles for hire, transporting over a certain number of passengers or over certain vehicle weight ratings the driver should have a commercial driver's license with a passenger endorsement if they are transporting passengers. If the vehicle they operate uses air brakes they should also have the airbrake restriction removed from their license. A driving record that does not show an excessive amount of moving violations is a good indicator of the safety and competency of the operator also. All these things should be required from vehicle operators transporting persons within Richland County.

Vehicles

Survey/Interview participants listed a combined total of vehicles. All of the transportation providers provide at least 2 wheelchair accessible vehicles, while some organizations have an entire fleet of wheelchair accessible vehicles. As vehicles age, they require additional maintenance, may break down more often, and become costlier to operate. Vehicle replacement, based on age and condition, is vital to the overall cost effectiveness of the transportation services provided.

Table 14: Vehicle Utilization TableVeh #	Make	Model	Year	Vin #	Capacity	WC Capacity	Days Vehicle is in Service	Service Hours	Vehicle Conditio n	Service Area
1	Ford	E-450 Van	2017	1FDFE4FS2HDC51453	14	6	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
2	IHC	Passenger Bus	2012	5WEASSKLOCJ683475	24	2	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
3	Ford	E-350 StarCraft	2017	1FDEE3FS9HDC33635	12	4	M-F	6am-5pm	Good	Richland County
5	Ford	E-450 van	2013	1FDFE4FSDD27425	20	2	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
6	Ford	Passenger Bus	2017	1FDAF5GY5HEB15358	24	6	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
7	Ford	E-350 StarCraft	2018	1FDEE3FS4JDC32351	14	2	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
8	Ford	E-450 van	2019	1FDAF5GY1KEF86205	26	12	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
9	Ford	E-350 StarCraft	2018	1FDEE3FS4JDC34679	14	2	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
120	Ford	E-450 Van	2012	1FDFE4FS6CDB11091	14	2	M-F	6am-5pm	poor	Richland County
124	Ford	E-450 Van	2014	1FDFE4FS0EDB10196	14	2	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
125	Ford	E-450 Van	2014	1FDFE4FS2EDB10197	14	2	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
103	Ford	E-450 Van	2010	1FDFE4FS4ADA97382	14	6	M-F	6am-5pm	poor	Richland County
100	Dodge	Caravan	2019	2C7WDGBGXKR728423	4	2	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
101	Dodge	Caravan	2017	2C4RDGBG4HR748525	7	0	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
129	Ford	E-350	2010	1FBNE3BLXADB03196	10	0	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
131	Ford	Van	2013	1FTSS3EL1DDA30212	7	2	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County
226	Chevrolet	Van	1996	1GAGG35K3TF111626	10	0	M-F	6am-5pm	poor	Richland County
207	International	Box Truck	2004	1HTMMAAR94H672240	N/A	N/A	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
210	International	Box Truck	2010	1HTMMAAL0AH273143	N/A	N/A	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
232	Chevrolet	Crew Cab Truck	1998	1GCHC33F9WF015954	6	0	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County
233	Chevrolet	K-3500	2006	1GBJK33U16F240277	6	0	M-F	6am-5pm	fair	Richland County or as needed
400	Ford	Transit 350	2017	1FDEE3FS8GDC49033	9	0	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County or as needed

401	Ford	E-350 Champion	2016	1FDEE3FS8GDC49033	9	0	M-F	6am-5pm	good	Richland County or as needed
402	Dodge	Caravan	2018	2C4RDGCG4JR250412	7	0	M-F	6am-5pm	Good	Richland County or as needed
BUS 19	GILLIG	29FT Bus	2007	15GGE291971091355	28	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	5	Richland County
BUS 20	GILLIG	29FT Bus	2010	15GGE2715A1091894	28	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 22	GILLIG	29FT Bus	2010	15GGE2719A1091896	28	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 23	GILLIG	29FT Bus	2010	15GGE2710A1091897	28	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 24	GILLIG	29FT Bus	2019	15GGE2718K3093483	28	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	10	Richland County
BUS 204	FORD	F450	2011	1FDFE4FS9BDA15003	18	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	7	Richland County
BUS 205	FORD	F350	2011	1FDFE4F51BDB26774	18	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 206	FORD	E350	2009	Not available	13	1	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 217	FORD	F450	2016	1FDFE4FS2GDC03112	20	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	7	Richland County
BUS 218	FORD	F450	2017	1FDFE4FS9GDC05231	20	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	7	Richland County
BUS 219	FORD	F450	2019	1FDFE4FS9GDC05245	20	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	7	Richland County
BUS 220	FORD	F450	2017	1FDFE4FS6HDC26443	18	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 221	FORD	F450	2017	1FDFE4FS8HDC26444	18	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 222	FORD	F450	2017	1FDFE4FSXHDC26445	18	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 223	FORD	F450	2017	1FDFE4FS1HDC26446	18	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
BUS 224	FORD	F450	2017	1FDFE4FS3HDC26447	18	2	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
1	Dodge	Caravan	2016	2C4RDGBG1GR163741	7	0	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
7	FORD	F150	2005	1FTRF145X5NB23901	2	0	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
8	FORD	F350	2008	1FDWF31578EB85856	2	0	M-F	6am-6:30pm	8	Richland County
	Dodge	Grand Caravan (silver)	2011	2D4RN5DG2BR693520	5		M-F	8-5	good	Richland County
	Chevy	Equinox (silver)	2015	2GNALAEK2F1165838	5		M-F	8-5	good	Richland County
	Chevy	Equinox AWD (silver)	2017	2GNFLEEK9H6255250	5		M-F	8-5	excellent	Richland County
	Eldorado	Aerotech Bus (white)	2016	1FDEE3FS9GDC45282	15	yes	M-F	8-5	Excellent	Richland County

	Dodge	Caravan (Dark Grey)	2019	2C4RDGBG3KR585843	5		M-F	8-5	New	Richland County
11	Toyota	Corolla	2015	2384	4	No	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	good	Ohio
12	Ford	E350	2010	3248	14	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	poor	Ohio
13	Ford	E350	2011	2557	14	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
15	Toyota	Corolla	2020	3057	4	No	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
16	Dodge	Caravan	2013	7531	5	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
17	Dodge	Caravan	2018	9863	5	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
19	Toyota	Corolla	2015	5624	4	No	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
20	Toyota	Corolla	2019	1694	4	No	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
23	Ford	E350	2012	8136	10	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
24	Ford	E350	2012	1360	10	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
25	Braun	Entervan	2019	9557	5	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
26	Braun	Entervan	2019	9441	5	Yes	M-Su	M-F:5a-11p, S: 8a-8p	excellent	Ohio
	Ford	Eldorado Bus	2017	1FDEE3FS4HDC64050	12	2	M-F	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	Excellent	Richland County
	Ford	Eldorado Bus	2017	1FDEE3FS4HDC64051	12	2	M-F	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	Excellent	Richland County
	Ford	Fusion	2017	Not available	5		M-F	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	Excellent	Richland County
	Ford	Fusion	2018	Not available	5		M-F	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	excellent	Richland County
	Ford	Edge	2015	Not available	5		M-F	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	Excellent	Richland County
	Dodge	Caravan	2010	Not available	7		M-F	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	Good	Richland County
	Chevy	Cobalt	2009	Not available	5		M-F	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	Good	Richland County
	Chevy	Express Van	2003	Not available	12		M-f	7am-6pm M-Th, 7am-5pm F	Good	Richland County

Summary of Existing Resources

Richland County Human Services agencies currently use a variety of transportation resources to provide clientele with a means of transportation to either access their services or as part of their services. The majorities of human service providers currently either use the Richland County Transit System, on demand transportation also provided by Richland County Transit or have transportation scheduled through the Mobility Manager (ATAC) with one of the 8 contracted transportation providers. Within these 8 transportation providers, 4 offer wheelchair accessible vehicles and 3 have ambulette vans. The Mobility Manager brokers trips between human service agencies purchasing transportation for their consumers, and selects the transportation provider either requested by the consumer or bases on consumer needs. The Mobility Manager handles all billing between the two providing services. A few service agencies provide transportation to their clientele internally, but are not open to outside agencies or the public for transportation needs. One option that is utilized is the distribution of bus passes for use by the service agency clientele; this has been an easy method to provide access to a system that is already operating.

IV. Assessment of Transportation Needs and Gaps

In an effort to better understand Richland County's needs, the planning committee examined research and data, as well as solicited input from the community via a public input google forms survey in an effort to gather information about needs and gaps in transportation services.

The demographic and socio-economic conditions of the study area are discussed in the Demographics Chapter of this plan. The following overview is an evaluation of the gaps in service based upon geographic data as well as from the perspective of the targeted populations, transportation providers, and the general public.

Richland County Regional Planning Commission, ATAC, surveyed and discussed issues with a variety of stakeholders in the area in an attempt to solicit input and request participation from any organization that could potentially be impacted by the coordinated transportation planning process. More information on how the lead agency engaged stakeholder and the general public is available upon request.

The following methods were used to assess transportation needs and gaps

- Assessment of data and demographics
- print and electronic surveys completed by stakeholders, service providers, seniors, individuals with disabilities and general public.

Local Demographic and Socio-Economic Data

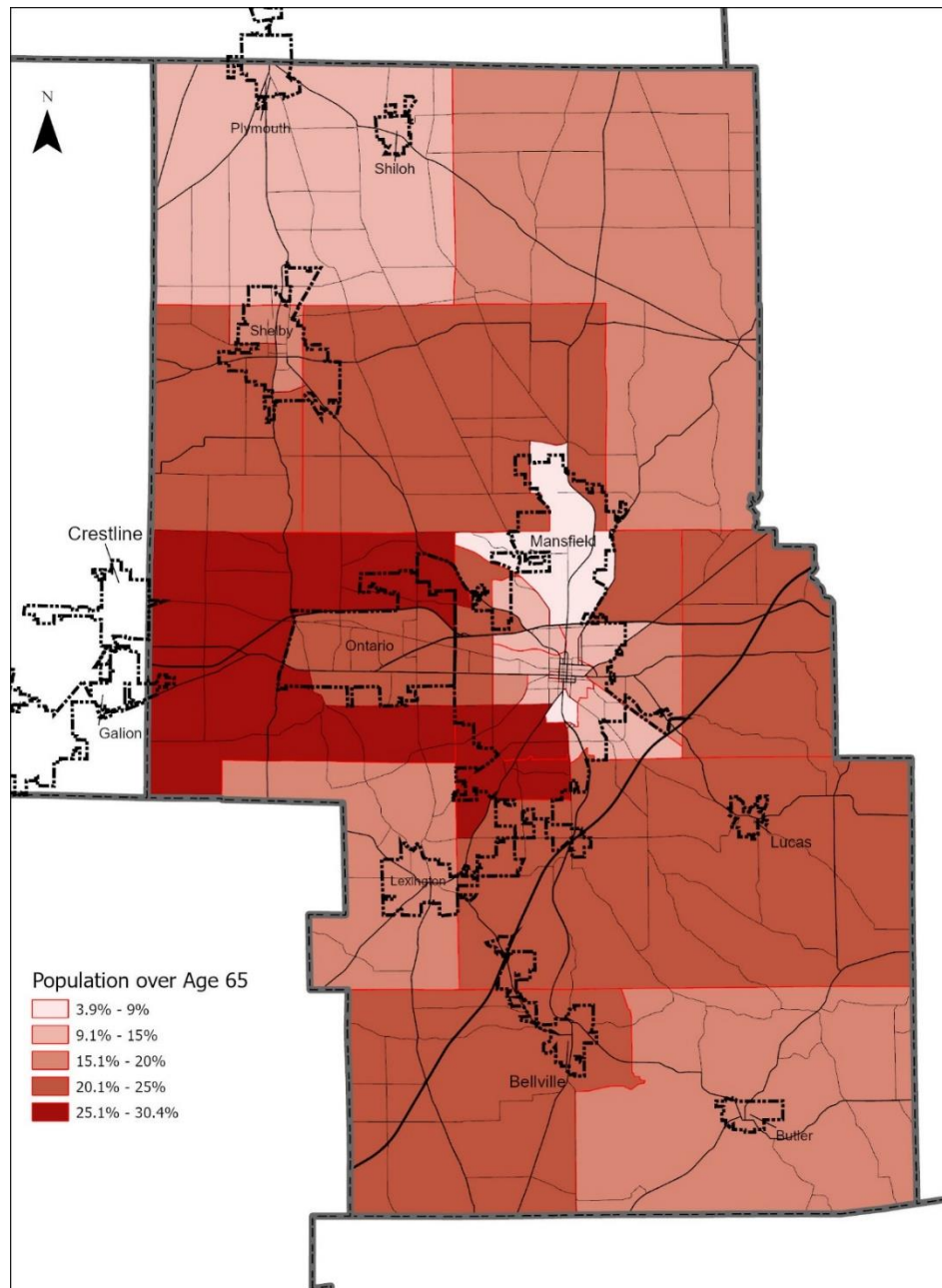
Data for each target population group were aggregated by Census Block Group for transportation analysis. The demographic and socio-economic data is valuable because a comparison of where the highest and lowest densities individuals who are most likely to need transportation live. This information can then be compared to the locations of (1) major trip generators, and (2) available transportation services.

Population Age 65 and Older

According to the 2019 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Richland County has a total senior (age 65 and older) population of 22,254 persons or 18.37% of the county's population. This is relatively higher compared to the senior population figure of 17.5% for the State of Ohio and 16.5% for The United States.

The following exhibit illustrates the areas where the number of older adults (age 65 and older) is at or above the county's average. By census tract. The tracts with the highest percentage of residents aged 65 and older are in the central and southern sections of Richland County. Areas of high and moderate density of senior citizens are found in around the Village of Lexington and the southwestern corner of Mansfield. The remainder of the region has relatively average elderly population density.

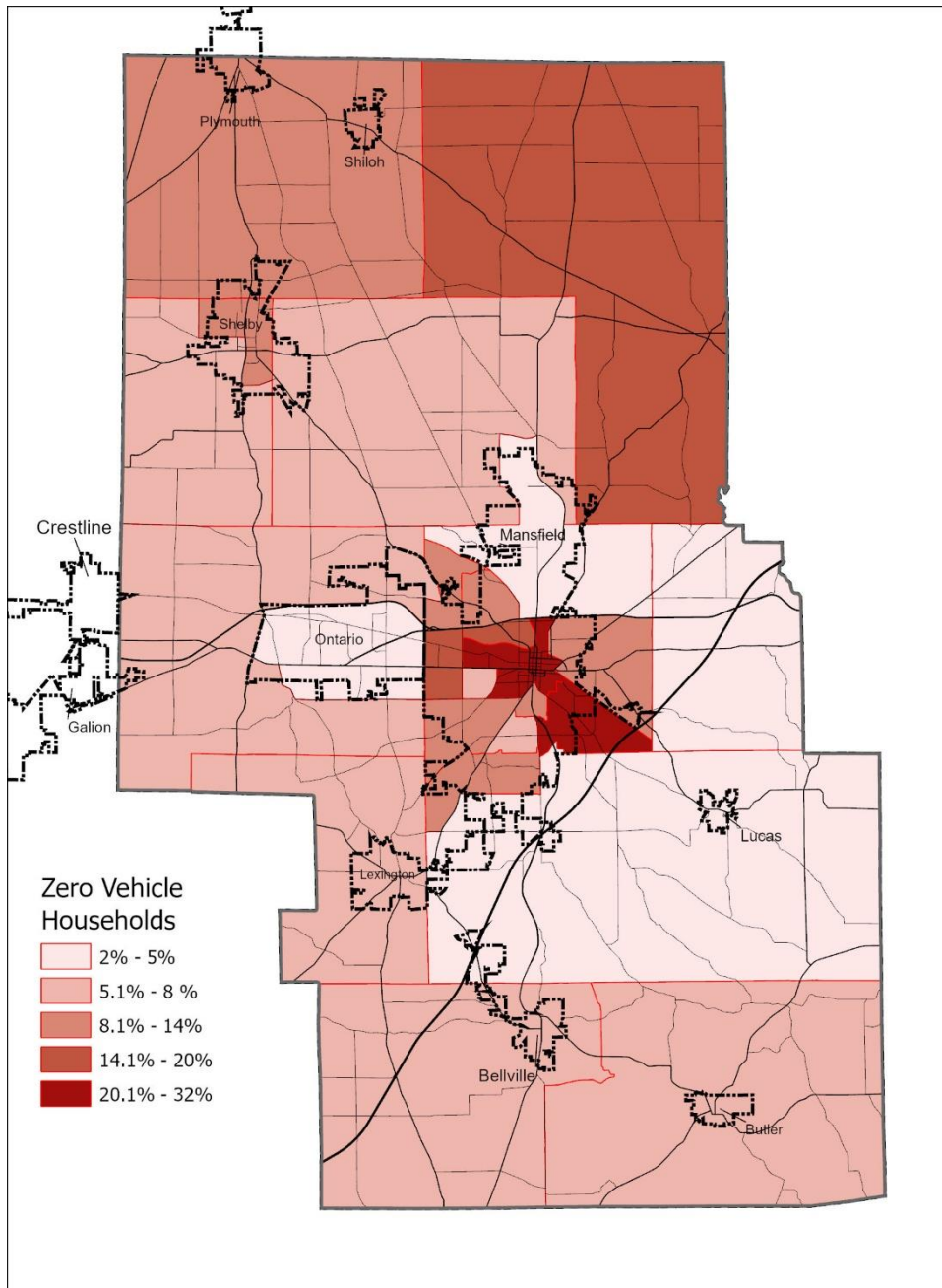
Exhibit 1: Map of Population of Individuals Age 65 and Older



Zero Vehicle Households

The number of vehicles available to a housing unit can also be used as an indicator of demand for transportation service. The average rate of no vehicle households in the County is 9.85% according to the 2019 ACS 5 Year Survey (Table B08201), this is 4771 households out of 48,449 total that have no vehicle. The highest percentage of no vehicle households, at 32%, is located in Census Tract 31, within the City of Mansfield. The exhibit below indicates Census Tracts by percentage of zero vehicle households. The absence of a vehicle in the household is often an indication of the need for transportation services. The highest percentages of no vehicle households are found inside the city of Mansfield and the Northern portion of the county to include part of the City of Shelby.

Exhibit 2: Map of Zero Vehicle Households



MAJOR TRIP GENERATORS

The term “trip generators” is used to indicate where a large number of current trips originate or end. These trip generators include medical facilities, employment centers, commercial business centers, educational institutions, and other important trip destinations.

Medical Facilities

Medical facilities both within and outside of the County some of the other key destinations for residents. Ohio Health System is a regional health care facility and the leading employer in Richland County. Ohio Health operates two hospitals in the county; one in Shelby and the other in Mansfield. Ohio Health – Mansfield now has 326 beds and 42 bassinets. It offers a Level II Trauma Center and a Level II Perinatal Department, cardiac care, comprehensive neurological services, and rapid response laboratory sites.

Avita Health System has a new large multispecialty health complex attached to Richland Mall in Ontario, with an afterhours walk-in clinic. In 2015, Avita established a special partnership with OSU Mansfield and North Central State College to offer special Walk-In Clinic hours and transportation for students. Phase II of Avita Ontario began in November 2015 and added a 22 bed emergency department, 7 bed ICU, 19 bed inpatient wing, 4 surgical suites and several lab and specialty departments. Avita’s presence has created an economic advantage to the shopping district by increasing discretionary spending and attracting new merchants to the area and is accessible by Richland County Transit.

Educational Facilities

Richland County is home to higher educational facilities that are destinations for transit users. Those facilities include the following institutions:

- ◆ The Ohio State University - Mansfield
- ◆ North Central State College
- ◆ Ashland University’s Dwight Schar College of Nursing

Commercial Centers

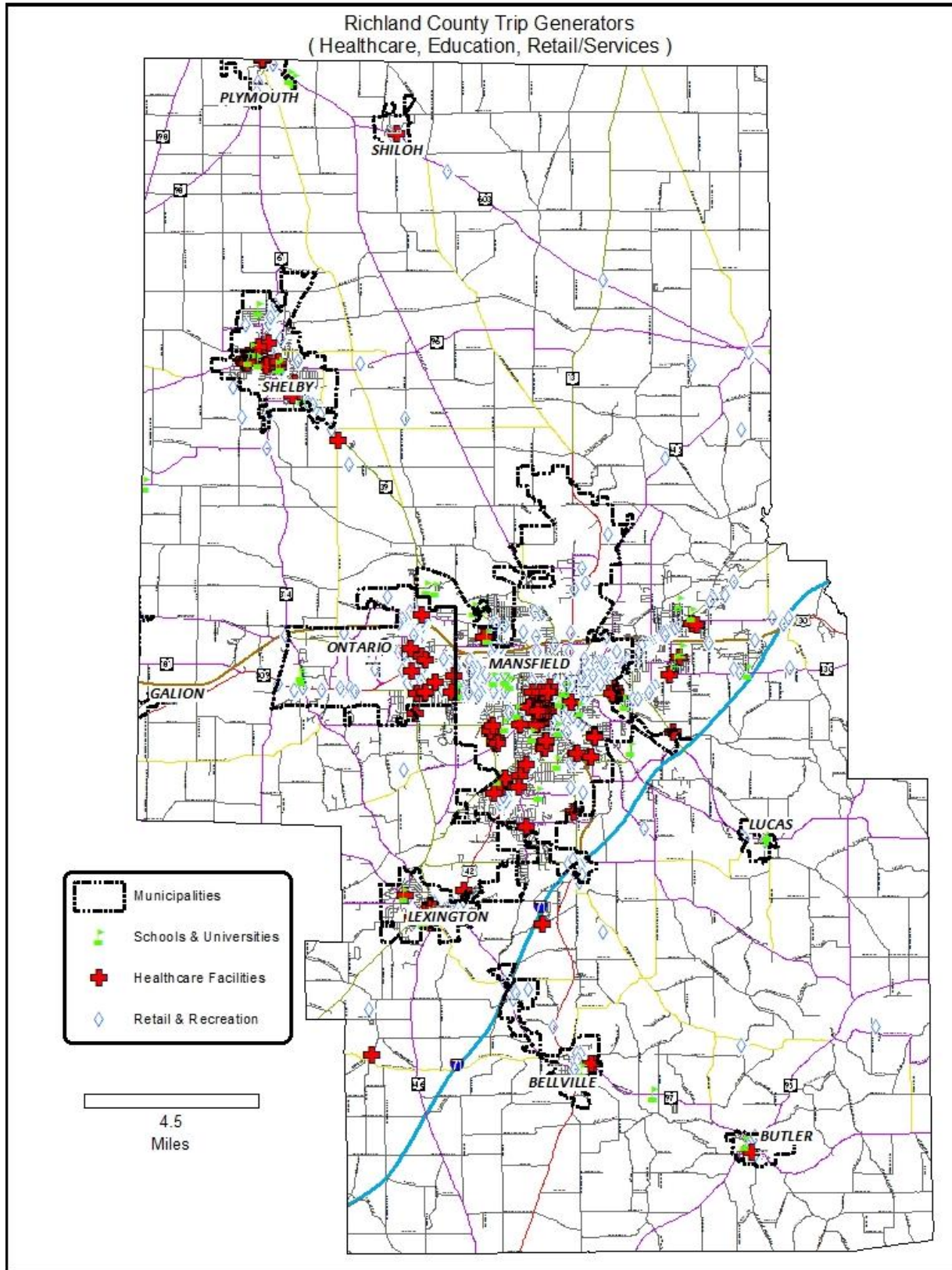
Commercial and retail destinations are mostly located in the downtown areas and near the I-71 interchanges. These locations are:

- ◆ Downtown Mansfield
- ◆ Downtown Shelby
- ◆ I-71/SR 13
- ◆ Lexington-Springmill Rd from Park Avenue West to U.S.30

Human Service Agency Facilities

- ◆ Newhope Industries – East 4th Street Facility and Longview Facility
- ◆ Richland County DJFS Office
- ◆ Sterkel Blvd/Scholl Rd. Complex including 5 human services agencies and the Mansfield Area Y

Exhibit 3: Map of Major Trip Generators



Analysis of Demographic Data

It is important to gain an understanding of where the potential users of public transit and human services transportation reside and where their primary destinations are located.

POPULATION

Using Census 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) figures, a plurality of the population in Richland County resides in the City of Mansfield, the largest municipality in the County. Mansfield’s 2019 estimated population was 46,599 persons or 38.5 percent of the County’s population (121,154). The next largest city is Shelby with 9,031 persons or 7.5 percent of the County’s population. The next two largest cities or villages of population concentration are Ontario and Lexington with 6,084 and 4,682 persons, respectively.

According to the 2010 Census, the total population of Richland County in 2010 was 124,475 persons. After a 2.2 percent increase of population between 1990 and 2000, the 2010 Census shows a decrease of 3.4 percent from 2000 to 2010. 2019 ACS 5-year estimates also show a decrease in population from 2000 population numbers. While in the past, county estimates and projections showed an increase in population by 2030, current data projects the opposite. The County’s population is projected to decrease slightly over the next two decades. The Office of Strategic Research projects the County’s 2030 population at only 116,640, a 6.3 percent decrease under the 2010 population. Table 1 illustrates the historic and projected population trends for Richland County through the year 2030.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

TABLE S1810

ACS 2019 5 Year Estimates: Disability Characteristics in Richland County

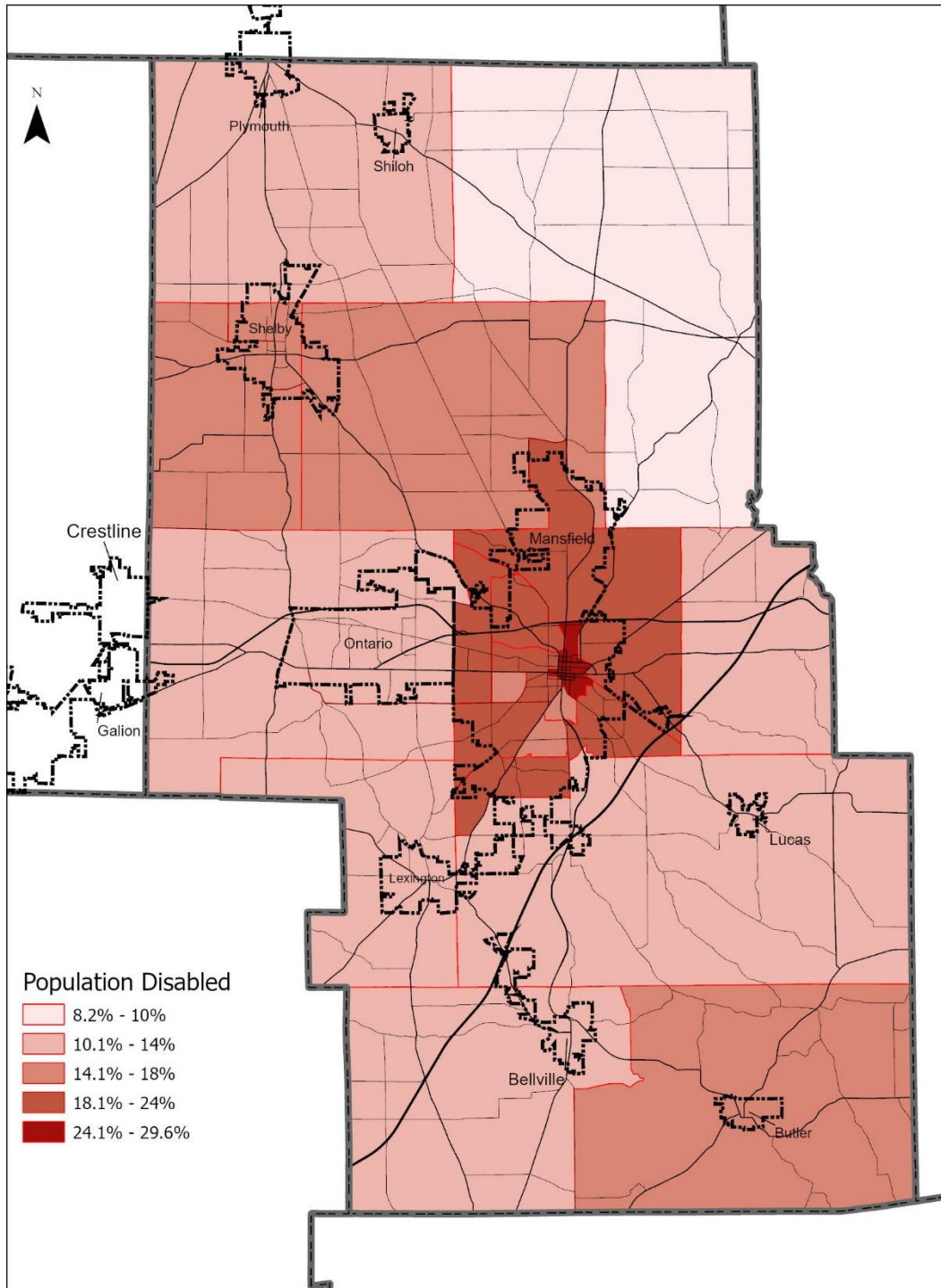
AGE	Total	Hearing Difficulty	Vision Difficulty	Cognitive Difficulty	Ambulatory Difficulty	Self-Care Difficulty	Independent Living Difficulty
Under 5 years	6926	39	38	x	x	x	x
5 to 17 years	19,222	96	200	x	137	295	x
18 to 34 years	22,304	186	341	1139	298	199	789
35 to 64 years	43,680	1,476	1,213	2,996	3,977	1,345	2,623
65 to 74 years	12,523	1,297	739	652	2,265	882	1,282
75 years and over	9,731	2,309	970	1,250	2,587	985	1,919

Source: ACS 2019 5-year estimates Table S1810

Direct tabulations of data from 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates on disability are reported. When available, this total is reported by age cohort. Census-based age breakdowns generally distinguish between working age adults and seniors.

As noted previously, 2019 ACS data provides an enumeration of a specific type of problem, but due to prospect of multiple disabilities, there is no cumulative number that can be developed from this source. Generally speaking, the category of “outside the home disability” tends to be the single best factor in looking at persons with disabilities who may need public transportation or complementary para-transit services.

Exhibit 4: Disability Level by Census Tract



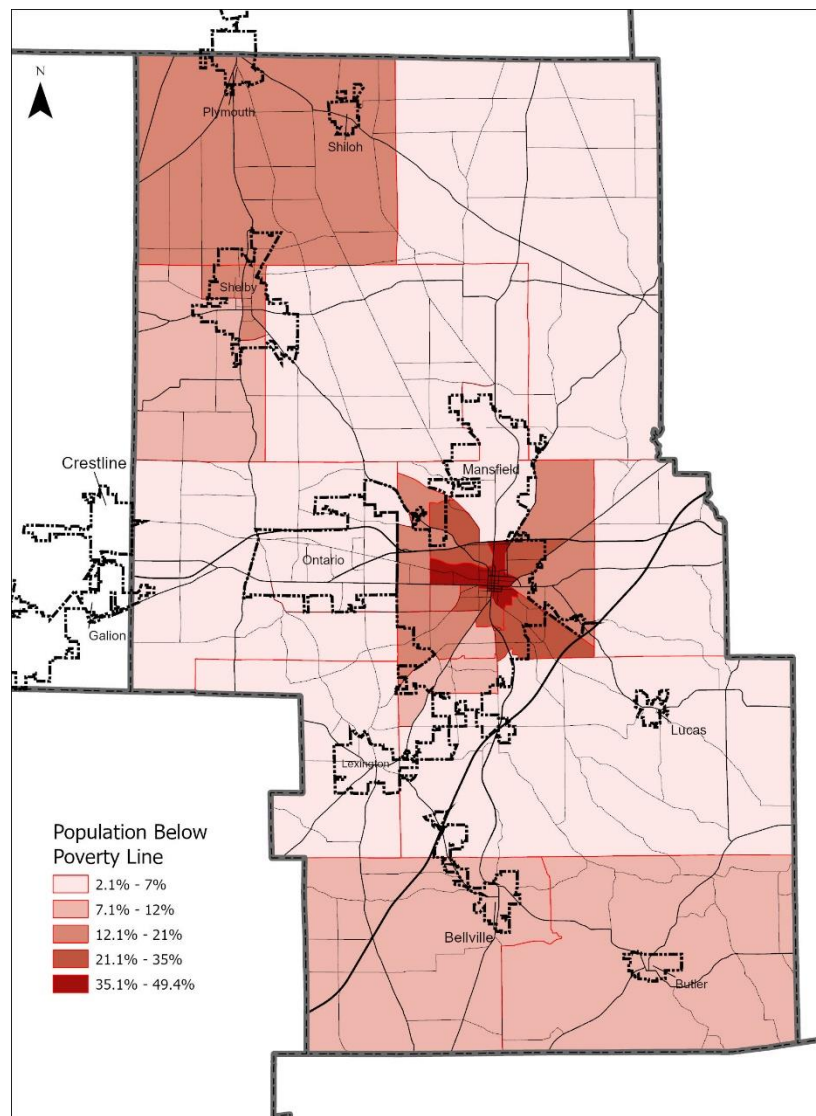
INDIVIDUALS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL

According to the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) out of 113,969 individuals for whom poverty status is determined, 15,321 (13.5%) were living below the Federal poverty level.

Poverty Level by Households

According to the 2019 ACS (Table B17017), there were 48,449 total households in Richland County. Of those households, approximately 6,535 households (13.48 percent) were living below the Federal poverty level. In the City of Mansfield, 3,888 families (21.52% of the 18,065 total estimated number of households) were living below the poverty level. This number also indicates that 59.49% of the overall county households, who live below the poverty level, live in the city of Mansfield. This level is much higher than the level of families below the poverty level for the State of Ohio (13.67%), and the United States (12.92%).

Exhibit 5: Poverty Level by Census Tract



General Public and Stakeholder Meetings/Focus Groups

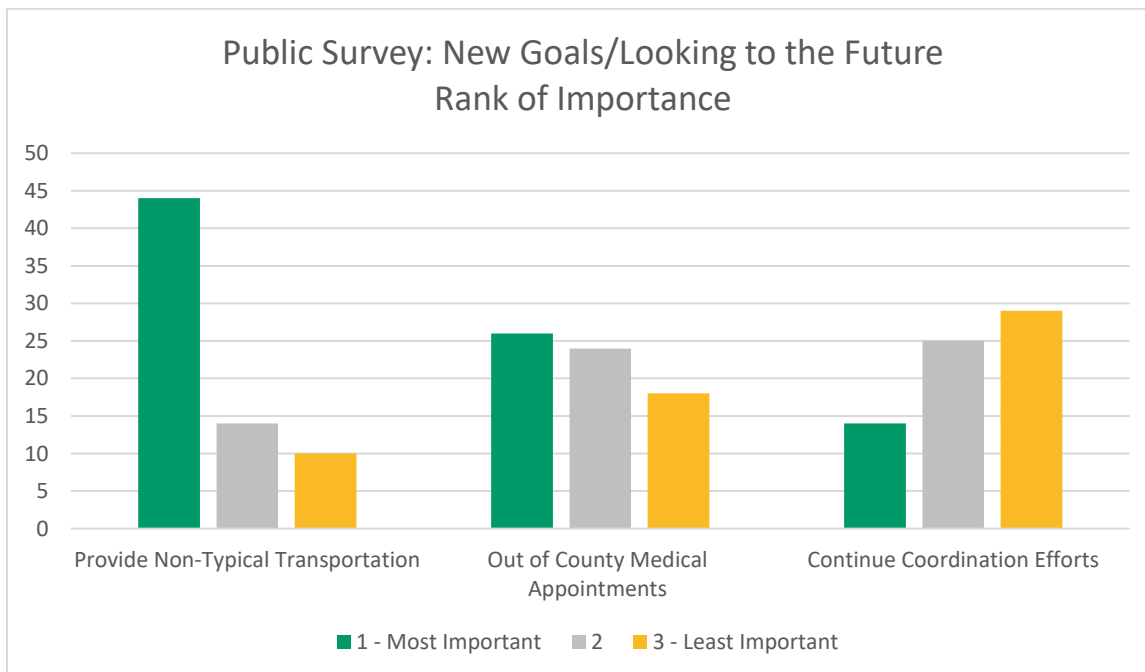
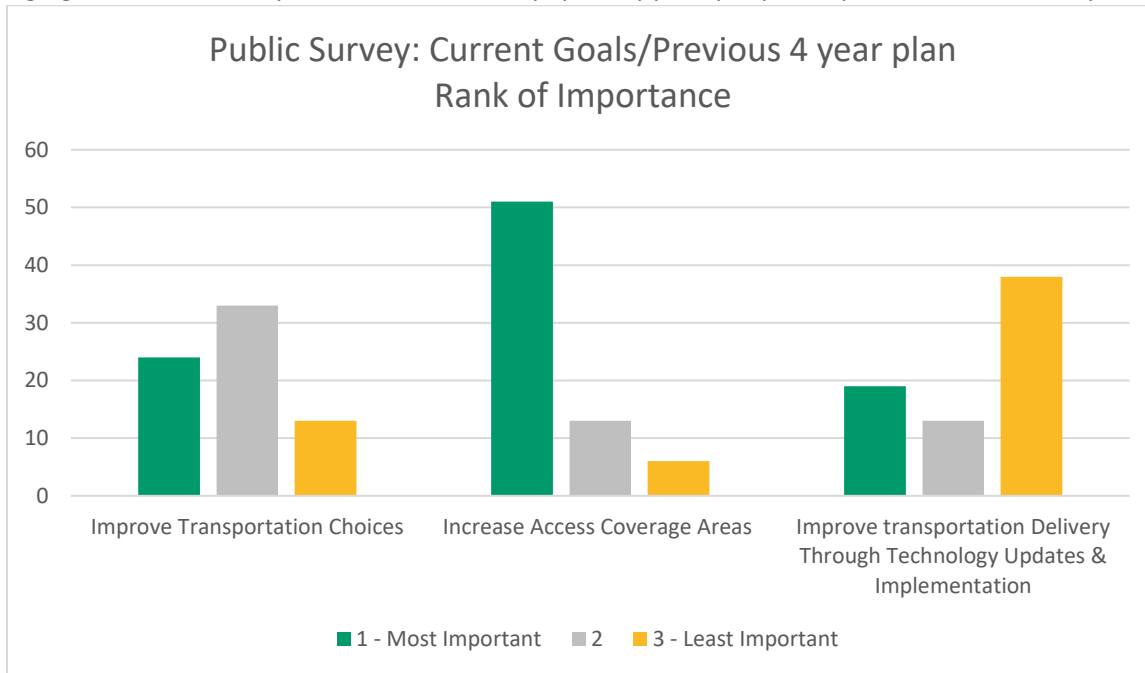
ATAC hosted and facilitated local meetings and focus groups to discuss the unmet transportation needs and gaps in mobility and transportation as follows: 2 in 2006, 2 in 2007, 3 in 2012, 2 in 2016, 1 in 2018 and 1 in 2019. 25 people participated in the most recent meeting, 165 total participants participated in the previous meetings, of those, 18 self-identified as older adults and 2 self-identified as being a person with a disability. More information about what meetings were held and attendance at those meetings is available upon request.

During the last meeting, ATAC presented highlights of historical coordinated transportation in Richland County, and discussed the activities since the last Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan that have helped to address some of the unmet transportation needs and gaps in services for the area. Discussion also consisted of new expectations of ATAC providers to be ADA and OAA compliant, as well as a draft of new goal ideas and strategies for unmet needs in Richland County.

Following the initial presentation, the stakeholders were asked to review the gaps in transportation services and needs from the previous plan/or update and identify any gaps that were no longer valid and any new needs/gaps, which the facilitator deleted/added to/from a list. The focus of the discussion was transportation for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and people with low incomes. However, several topics discussed also impact mobility options for the general public. Participants discussed issues that still needed to be addressed, issues that no longer seem relevant, and new needs and gaps that need addressed, which brings us to 5 needs or gaps in the current update to focus on. Coordinated transportation stakeholders will consider these unmet needs when developing transportation goals and strategies, and grant applications. The exhibit at the end of this section provides a summary of the unmet mobility needs discussed during the meeting as well as the needs identified by the survey results.

Surveys

The following survey summary includes information gained from the Public Input Survey on transportation regarding the previous Coordinated Plan and the renewal for the next 4 years. This survey was emailed out to all members of ATAC, shared via the RCRPC website, RCRPC Facebook page as well as the Richland County Mobility Manager’s Facebook Page, and snail mailed to 10 Area Agency on Aging consumers who preferred to fill out a paper copy. 72 people responded to this survey.



Challenges to Coordinated Transportation

There are always challenges to the coordination of human service transportation. Results from stakeholder meetings and results from the public input survey indicated the following challenges to coordination for Richland County.

- Organization/communication barriers with some transportation providers.
- Unique characteristics of clients/population – Consumers from different organizations have different needs; i.e. those with developmental disabilities have different needs than older adults, or children and sharing vehicles may not be appropriate in certain circumstances.
- Some organizations lack infrastructure and technology for scheduling and/or billing.
- Ride-sharing, especially with a global pandemic, scheduling and wait times have become a barrier on providers, which slowed ability to accommodate more trips.
- Little to no involvement of politicians.
- Lack of affordable 2nd and 3rd shift employment transportation, specifically transit operation hours to those common work places as well as lack of employer offering transportation benefits.
- Area coverage of RCT.
- Political and geographic divisions due to city/ county boundaries and the prohibitive cost nature to serve all these areas.
- Lack of funding for out of county transportation needs, particularly medical.
- Challenges of maximizing existing capacity (Transit).
- Lack of volunteer services, or funding for individuals of lower income who may not be eligible for specific human services in the county.
- Liability issues/requirements, insurance and beyond when trying to obtain or expand more transportation options.

While there are challenges to implementing coordination among varied transportation providers, services, and funding sources, it is important to note that coordination in Richland County has been successful, and that has a lot to do with the role of the Mobility Manager, the stakeholders in ATAC (Agency Transportation Advisory Committee) these are all challenges Richland County has faced with coordinated transportation. The county is composed of high density population centers in the cities and villages to sparsely populated rural areas and the need to travel long distances to seek service can be a challenge to find transportation that is both economical and convenient. The ATAC continually strives to increase performance and overcome existing barriers and eliminate any potential ones in the future. As a living document this plan will be updated with any future challenges and note the reduction or elimination of current ones.

Summary of Unmet Mobility Needs

The following table describes the unmet transportation needs that were identified and the method used to prioritize each need. Needs are listed in order of their rank in highest to lowest priority.

Exhibit 6: Prioritized Unmet Mobility Needs

Rank	Unmet Need Description	Method Used to Identify and Rank Need
1	Provide Non-Typical Transportation to offer low income residents the ability to maintain a measure of independence outside of Transit hours	Through identification at stakeholder meeting and then through survey results
2	Increase Access & Coverage areas for transportation	Through identification at stakeholder meeting and then through public survey results
3	Improve transportation choices	Through identification at stakeholder meeting and then through public survey results
4	Out of county medical appointments	Through identification at stakeholder meeting and then through public survey results
5	Continue Coordination Efforts	Through identification at stakeholder meeting and then through public survey results

V. Goals and Strategies

Developing Strategies to Address Gaps and Needs

Strategies for improving transportation for Richland County should address the service gaps and user needs identified in this plan, if they are to be effective. As described, the gaps and unmet needs were based on information obtained from geographic analysis, the attendees participating in the meetings, and responses to the public survey.

Based on information gathered throughout the planning process, ATAC developed the following strategies to address the gaps and unmet transportation needs. Not all strategies are activities specifically eligible for funding under the existing programs, nor is it guaranteed that sufficient funding will be available to achieve every strategy identified. In addition, the local stakeholders will need to provide support and commit to pursuing the strategies if they are to be accomplished. Nonetheless, these strategies have been tailored to 5 of the identified primary gaps and needs through Plan Development & Public Involvement.

Outreach for review and updating of the plan began with a November 6th, 2019, Agency Transportation Advisory Committee meeting held at Richland County -Regional Planning Commission's office. Twenty (20) people, representing thirteen (13) agencies or roles, attended the November 6th meeting. Summaries of the various ideas of transportation needs and/or desires that were expressed originally through public outreach activities in 2018 and were reviewed at this meeting and resurveyed for this update.

Review of Past Priorities

The list of potential priority projects from the creation of the Coordinated Plan in 2007 was reviewed by a group of local stakeholders in September, 2019. Some had been completed or were no longer relevant. Among those completed were the implementation of Technology to Improve Transportation Delivery, through the DoubleMap application at Richland County Transit. Transit service to the City of Shelby has been established. The RCRPC continues to annually recommend projects for the Section 5310 program. The Richland County Transit Board has procured additional low floor transit vehicles. Service to the industrial park in the area of Mansfield Lahm airport started in October 2012. ATAC has added an additional 2 transportation providers, both sedan services, one of which is a 24/7 provider. The ATAC continues to build on the number of provider selection and hours of services so improving transportation choices and options will remain a focus of this plan.

Agency Survey

Surveying was conducted by google forms in February of 2021, shared via email, website, social media, and printed copies were dropped off to local Human Service Agencies. The questions were formed based on discussion of the ATAC meeting on plan updates and goal ideas in November of 2019. The link to the survey was sent to all members of the ATAC, shared with the public via all social media sources, and previous attendees of the ATAC meetings. Results are compiled in section 4 of this plan.

The survey results were then formulated into broader goals with the requested needs addressed within the three overall goals. Each goal is comprised of several strategies each with their own specific and measurable actions.

Goal #1: Provide Non-Typical transportation: To banking, shopping, clubs, recreation, social services, etc., to offer low income/elderly/disabled residents in the community the ability to maintain a measure of independence, outside of transit hours (after 5pm)

Strategy 1.1: Explore various opportunities to seek funding and possibly pool funding in order to meet non-typical transportation needs.

Timeline for Implementation:

- Ongoing

Action Steps:

Short Term Strategy:

- Explore public/private partnerships, grant opportunities as well as small business & entrepreneurial incubation to help support transportation services with focus on WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) increased coordination among federal workforce development and related programs helping youth and those with significant barriers to employment.

Long Term Strategy:

- Educating on the importance of pooled services and pooled funding. (Combining multiple passengers traveling on similar routes, pooled funding allows federal, state, and local agencies to combine resources to support transportation studies)
- Seeking public transportation opportunities supported by pooled funding that includes a sliding fee scale.

Parties Responsible for Leading Implementation:

- ATAC, Human Service Agencies, Business Owners, Program/Provider leaders

Parties Responsible for Supporting Implementation:

- ATAC, Mobility Manager, Commissioners

Resources Needed:

- Vehicles, Drivers, Customers, Funding

Potential Cost Range per trip: \$8.00 - \$28.00 1 way, current ATAC rates, higher if wheelchair vehicles are needed

Potential Funding Sources:

- 5310 (Operating), Senior Levy, Private Donations, Fund Raising, CDBG, Richland Foundation, United Way

Performance Measures/Targets:

- Logging/tracking trips that are not medical/grocery/employment related to measure the volume/need.

Goal #2: Increase Access and Coverage Areas for Transportation: Providing clear transportation information that details the services available and the eligibility criteria attached to each service.

Strategy 2.1: Maintain and Improve the Mobility Manager’s role in coordinating transportation.

Timeline for Implementation:

- Ongoing

Action Steps:

Short Term Strategies:

- Increase awareness of the role and capabilities of RCRPC’s Mobility Manager
- Continue to facilitate Coordination throughout the transportation community to provide services that will assist in elimination of transportation barriers.

Long Term Strategies:

- Continue using the Coordinated Plan as a living tool and update regularly.

Parties Responsible for Leading Implementation:

- ATAC, Referring Organizations, Transportation Providers

Parties Responsible for Supporting Implementation:

- Mobility Manager, ATAC

Resources Needed:

- Computer, Website, Mobility Manager, Funding

Potential Cost Range:

- \$200 per year for website (managed by RCRPC)

Potential Funding Sources:

- 5310, local match funding

Performance Measures/Targets:

- Quarterly updates to the coordinated plan
- 2 ATAC meetings per year to review

Strategy 2.2: Coordinating with Richland County Transit to increase Coverage Areas and Hours of Operation

Timeline for Implementation:

- 1 year for plan; implementation – ongoing

Action Steps:

Short Term Strategies:

- Participate in partnering with area agencies in developing a Transportation Development Plan.

Long Term Strategies:

- Using the Transportation Development Plan as living tool, update regularly

Parties Responsible for Leading Implementation:

- RCT, ATAC, RCRPC, Social Service Organizations, Employers, Transportation Providers

Parties Responsible for Supporting Implementation:

- Social & Human Service Agencies, Employers, Transportation Providers

Resources Needed:

- Funding for consultants, data collection, public input, steering committee members

Potential Cost Range:

- \$200,000

Potential Funding Sources:

- 5307, OTP2(Ohio Transit Partnership Program), In-kind contribution, local match

Performance Measures/Targets:

- Progress reports from consultants, and a planning document with mutually determined goals and actions steps

Goal #3: Improve Transportation Choices

Strategy 3.1: Improve Information on Transportation Choices Available to the Public

Timeline for Implementation:

- ongoing

Action Steps:

Short Term Strategies:

- Continue to improve websites for Richland County Transit information and get partner agencies to link to the website so that the information can be disseminated to the largest audience possible.

Long Term Strategies:

- Maintain an up-to-date Mobility Management Brochure to provide helpful and insightful information to the community concerning all the transportation options available to them.

Parties Responsible for Leading Implementation:

- Richland County Regional Planning Commission/Mobility Manager

Parties Responsible for Supporting Implementation:

- All agencies providing or requesting transportation services within the county.

Resources Needed:

- Person or firm with website design expertise
- Staff time for input on information to be included in website
- Cooperation from member agencies to include information on their websites

Potential Cost Range:

- \$500

Potential Funding Sources:

- RCRPC was able to leverage the overall redesign of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission's Website where funds were already going into designing a web site and the additional cost to expand the transit resources section was reduced for work already being completed.

Performance Measures/Targets:

- Provide an easy to access and informative resource for transportation information for the county

- Have member agencies promote new resource within their informational materials

Goal #4: Out of County Medical Appointments: Provide necessary out of county medical trips when no other transportation option is available to the consumer seeking care.

Strategy 4.1: Hospitals/Non-Profits/Various Human Service Organizations will explore opportunities to seek funding or ways to raise funds to meet out-of-county medical needs.

Timeline for Implementation:

- ongoing

Action Steps:

Short Term Strategies:

- Explore options, i.e. partnerships, funding, grant opportunities as well as possible fund raising to help support out of county medical trip requests.

Long Term Strategies:

- Work with providers on negotiated rates depending on the average amount of trips requested per.

Parties Responsible for Leading Implementation:

- ATAC, Agencies, Business Owners, Hospitals, Dialysis Centers

Parties Responsible for Supporting Implementation:

- Mobility Manager, ATAC

Resources Needed:

- Vehicles, Drivers, Consumers, Funding

Potential Cost Range:

- \$100-\$125 round trip would be ideal, possible negotiations

Potential Funding Sources:

- Private donations, fund raising, grant opportunities

Performance Measures/Targets:

- Quarterly updates to the coordinated plan
- 2 ATAC meetings per year to review

VI. Plan Adoption

The Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan was approved by vote of the ATAC at a public meeting after a public comment period and any additions, corrections, or suggestions that have been proposed are included in the plan. The plan was then presented to the Richland County Technical Advisory Committee for acceptance for approval and forwarded to the Richland County Regional Planning Commission for adoption by vote of the full commission. The adopting resolution is attached in appendix D.

Appendix A: List of Planning Committee Participants

The planning committee consists of representation from local agencies as well as participation of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and members of the general public. More information about the planning committee is available upon request by contacting

Richland County Regional Planning Commission

Agency Representation

Name	Agency
Lisa Fernandez	Adult Parole Authority
Jim Blevins	All American Transportation
Laura King	Apple Lane Ambulette Company
Richard Meeker	Area Agency on Aging, District 5
Michelle Bailey	Area Agency on Aging, District 5
Lisa McCristall	Area Agency on Aging, District 5
Crystal Rhodes	Area Agency on Aging, District 5
Diane Bemiller	Catholic Charities
Dennis West	C&D Taxi
Joyce Mitchell	Chihuahua Choo Choo
Terry Carter	First Call 211
Michelle Swank	Dayspring Assisted Living and Care Facility
Ed & Liz Grove	Elite Medical Transport
Kelly Blankenship	Harmony House
Alverta Williams	MBIE Specialized Transportation Services
Helen McNamara	Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
Amanda Cooper	North End Community Improvement Collaborative
Gene Moyer	Select Client Transportation
Sarah Russell	Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities
John Dorsey	Richland County Jobs and Family Services
Lyndsie Martin	Richland County Regional Planning Commission
Todd Blankenship	Richland County Regional Planning Commission
Jennifer Gray	Richland Newhope Industries, Inc.
Christine Terry	Richland County Transit
Ken Estep	Richland County Veterans Services
Amanda Cooper	Temp2Higher/NECIC
Paula Kunkle	Transportation 4U
Kenny Graves	UMADAOP
Teresa Alt	Youth and Family Council

In addition to participants listed above, the planning committee also included representation of older adults, people with disabilities, and members of the general public. In addition to hosting a planning committee (the Richland County Regional Planning Commission), The Agency Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) conducted a wide variety of activities designed to increase involvement of community stakeholders in identifying community resources, addressing community needs, and setting goals and priorities. More information about the efforts that occurred is available upon request. To request additional information please contact:

Richland County Regional Planning Commission

419-774-6203

lmartin@rcrpc.org

Appendix B: List of Annual Reviews and Plan Amendments

It is required that this plan be reviewed by the planning committee annually, for the purpose of approval by the ATAC and adoption by the Richland County Regional Planning Commission. For more information on when the next annual review will occur, how to be involved in the annual review process or to request information on how to make changes or corrections to this plan between annual reviews, please contact:

Richland County Regional Planning Commission

419-774-6203

lmartin@rcrpc.org

Annual Review

An annual review will be completed on or about the 12th month following plan adoption and every 12 months thereafter. Annual reviews that occur after plan adoption, including a summary of the review meeting and a brief summary of any changes that are made will appear here once completed. If found that an amendment is required, the Amendment procedures below will be followed.

The annual review was held on November 6th. During the meeting, one change was mentioned regarding new 24/7 transportation provider. Other discussion included new goals and strategy ideas to be worked on and coordinated in 2020 to include in the 2021 update. Twenty-one people from human service agencies, transportation companies, transit and our local 211 were in attendance including the Mobility Manager. The role of the mobility manager was explained to everyone and the services that are offered through our program, a brief overview of the coordinated plan was discussed along with why it's important to have everyone's involvement and collaboration. Many questions were brought up and answered regarding what vehicles are out there, different needs, the PASSPORT program through the Area Agency on Aging, new rules and guidelines to be an ATAC transportation provider required by the Ohio Department of Aging and the Older Americans Act, and from this, more meetings were formed for later dates. No major items were changed which would require an amendment. In 2020, we will plan meetings accordingly to begin renewing the plan which will be due in November 2021.

Amendment

If during the course of normal implementation this plan is found to require an amendment a meeting of the ATAC will be convened and the amendment will be discussed. Public input will be solicited and if found to be warranted a vote to forward the amendment to the full Richland County Regional Planning Commission on amending the plan will take place. Information about amendments will be added to *Appendix D* and the text of the plan updated accordingly.

Appendix C: Definitions

There are several terms used throughout the plan that may be unique to transportation providers or human service agencies. The terms are defined here for reference.

ATAC- Agency Transportation Advisory Committee

Coordination – Collaborative efforts toward understanding and meeting the mobility needs in the most appropriate, cost effective, and responsive manner.

FAST Act – Congress established the funding for Federal Transit Administration programs through authorizing legislation that amends Chapter 53 of Title 49 of the U.S. Code. On December 4, 2015, President Obama signed the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, reauthorizing surface transportation programs through Fiscal Year 2020.

Gaps in Service – A break in the continuity of available transportation resources such as a break between hours of operation or a break between two or more geographic areas.

Lead Agency – The organization responsible for facilitating outreach; composing a plan that meets the requirements of current Federal and State legislation; maintaining documentation from the planning process and making it available upon request; and leading stakeholders through annual reviews, amendments, and updates of the plan. The Lead Agency also is responsible for submitting the adopted Coordinated Plan and all amendments or updates to participating stakeholders and ODOT.

Planning Committee- The Planning Committee is composed of key community stakeholders. The Planning Committee members agree to actively participate in the planning process and act as the plan advisory and adopting entity.

Ridership – The total number of passengers who boarded transportation vehicles are counted each time they board a vehicle.

Section 5310 Program – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities (49 U.S.C. 5310) provides Federal formula funding for the purpose of assisting private nonprofit groups in meeting the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs. The program aims to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options.

Section 5311 Program – The Formula Grants for Rural Areas program provides capital, planning, and operating assistance to states to support public transportation in rural areas with populations of less than 50,000 where many residents often rely on public transit to reach their destinations. The program also provides funding for state and national training and technical assistance through the Rural Transportation Assistance Program. Sub-recipients may include state or local government authorities, nonprofit organizations, and operators of public transportation or intercity bus service.

Section 5307 Program – The Urbanized Area Formula Grants program (49 U.S.C. 5307) makes federal resources available to urbanized areas and to governors for transit capital and operating assistance in urbanized areas and for transportation-related planning. An urbanized area is an incorporated area with a population of 50,000 or more.

Transportation – Transportation is broadly defined to include traditional transit, human service agency services, on-demand (taxi-like) services, bicycle and pedestrian programs and amenities.

Unmet Transportation Needs – Transportation that is wanted or desired but is not currently available.

Appendix D: Adopting or Amending Resolutions



RESOLUTION 22-01

OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINUING COMPREHENSIVE LAND-USE AND TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN BE SUBMITTED TO ODOT

WHEREAS, the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land-Use and Transportation Program of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission who is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Mansfield urbanized area by the Governor acting through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in cooperation with locally elected officials of Richland County; and

WHEREAS, people with specialized transportation needs have rights to mobility. Older adults, individuals with limited incomes and people with disabilities rely heavily, sometimes exclusively, on public and specialized transportation services to live independent and fulfilling lives. These services which are provided by public and private transportation systems and human service agency programs are essential for travel to work and medical appointments, to run essential errands, or simply to take advantage of social or cultural opportunities; and

WHEREAS, under the FAST Act, projects funded by Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program must be included in a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan; and

WHEREAS, the FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program provides operating and capital assistance funding to provide transit and purchase of services to private nonprofit agencies, and to qualifying local public bodies that provide specialized transportation services to elderly persons and to people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a local committee with participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers and participation by other members of the public developed this plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation Program for Richland County:

Recommends the **Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan** be submitted to ODOT.

Certification:

The foregoing resolution was approved by the Coordinating Committee of the Continuing Comprehensive Land-Use and Transportation Program of the Richland County Regional Planning Commission at its meeting held on October 27, 2021.

By:  10/27/21
Joseph Gies Date
President

Attest:  10/28/21
Jotika Shetty Date
Executive Director/Secretary