

BE THE CHANGE

May

ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION

Addressing transportation equity in our region requires approaches that consider the realities of rural living for those with low incomes.

Lack of income restricts transportation and mobility options. This can result in reduced economic opportunities, added time and stress, and increased social isolation.

OVERVIEW

Over the month of May, we:



We supported the convening and conversation of over **20 different transportation organizations** that are connected to, working in and responsible for transportation in our region.

WE REACHED OUR COMMUNITY

Engaged **102 members** of our communities through surveys and conversations.



OUR FOCUS

Our collective effort was on **three key areas:**

Seniors-specific transportation challenges.

Sharing transportation options & hearing directly from our community about challenges.

Officially convening transportation partners and stakeholders for discussion and strategizing.



WHAT DID WE LEARN?

1 Transportation is a critical determinant of seniors' quality of life, impacting their independence, social connectivity, and access to healthcare and other essential services. With seniors making up nearly 25% of the population by 2026, innovative and creative transportation solutions cannot wait.

2 Our transportation guide shows a solid range of options for a small rural community. However, top barriers noted by members of the community at our pop-ups include bus frequency and route gaps (35%) and highway safety (24%), vehicle and gas costs, distance to shops and activities, and weather and time impacting more active transportation

3 There is a strong appetite for collaboration and coordination between transportation actors and agencies. And a lot of impactful local work is getting done. Getting clear about shared objectives, outlining a structure for collaborative work, and defining the top and timely priorities (what the advocacy asks are) are key parts of our collective work moving forward.

GO DEEPER:

Sunshine Coast Transit Master Plan (2014-2026)
TRAC
VCH
Seniors Transportation Working Group