

MATAGORDA COUNTY TRANSIT PLAN

Background

The Matagorda County Transit Service Plan (the transit plan) was developed in response to a needs assessment that was performed as part of the statewide regional transit service planning and coordination work. The transit plan identifies and documents the transit needs and service gaps in Matagorda County and recommends the implementation of an operations and five-year financial plan. The transit needs in Matagorda County vary from expanded demand response services in rural areas and small cities to fixed or flex route service in Bay City and job access options for workers and students.

Current Situation

The Draft Plan and related documents can be viewed or downloaded from www.MatagordaCountyTransitPlan.com.

The key recommendations of the transit plan are summarized below:

- Provide an additional vehicle and driver for operation by the Friends of Elder Citizens. Provide regularly scheduled weekly connector service between Palacios and Bay City with future expansion to the cities of Matagorda and Sargent.
- Develop a user side subsidy/voucher program for after-hours and other difficult to serve trips. Purchase wheelchair equipped vehicle for use by private taxi provider for that program.
- Provide peak period flexible (bus) route service Monday through Friday in Bay City.
- Continue to work with industrial employers to develop commuter services options such as promotion of carpooling and development of van pool services.

The Matagorda County Commissioners Court accepted the transit plan at their meeting on July 19, 2010.

Action Requested

Staff requests approval of the Matagorda County Transit Plan.