



MACOMB COUNTY

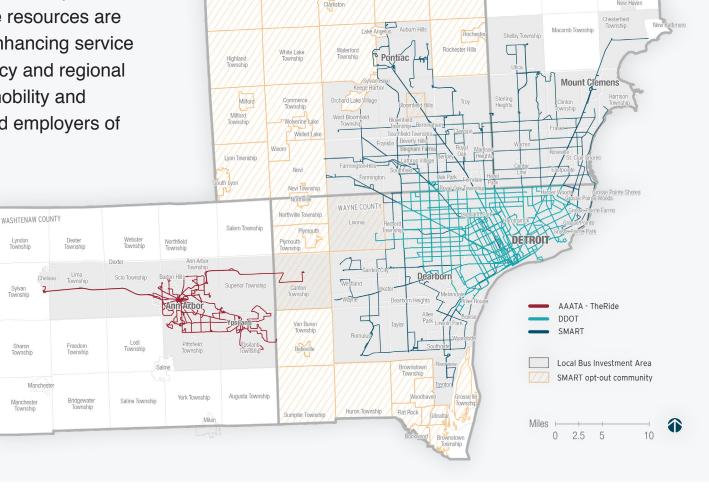
Washington Township

Leonard

## Supporting the overall vision

DDOT, SMART, and AAATA have all implemented recent improvements to local bus service. To continue to build upon these improvements, more resources are needed. Expanding and enhancing service through increased frequency and regional connectivity will improve mobility and better serve the people and employers of Southeast Michigan.

Recent improvements on the system include the roll out of improved service on major regional routes and the implementation of ConnectTen service on high demand corridors in the City of Detroit.



## Delivering more value across the region



**AAATA** - TheRide, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2019, continues to evaluate its fixed-route service. TheRide will implement new approaches to address growth while continuing their commitment to serve customers, who remain at the center of all decisions

**DDOT Connect Ten** — In 2018, DDOT rolled out expanded service on its ten most popular routes used by 60% of its riders. ConnectTen routes are the backbone of the DDOT system. Routes feature 24/7 service and improved frequency. DDOT intends to focus service improvements and infrastructure improvements around ConnectTen routes, stops and transfer points. DDOT is also evaluating local bus services that serve neighborhoods with a goal of ensuring that community needs are at the heart of new, improved transit services. The City of Detroit's General Fund is the source of 40% of DDOT's budget

## SMAR!

OAKLAND COUNTY

**SMART** — SMART is currently completing a Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) study that will identify future priorities.

Today SMART operates 48 routes on the weekday for 1,793 revenue hours, and over 1,900 trips. Saturdays operate with 28 routes for 982 revenue hours, and over 1,100 trips. Sundays operate with 19 routes and 463 revenue hours, and approximately 600 trips. On average, there are about 16 passengers per trip on weekdays, 15 passengers per trip on Saturdays, and 17 passengers per trip on Sundays.

## **Current funding sources**

The local providers spend the majority of their operating costs on local buses. Percentages of total annual budgets each provider spends on local bus is as follows:

#### **AAATA**

**75%** \$30M annually

#### **DDOT**

**92%** \$108M annually

#### **SMART**

**39%** \$40M annually

Source: SMART, Existing Conditions Report, 2019



## REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY



















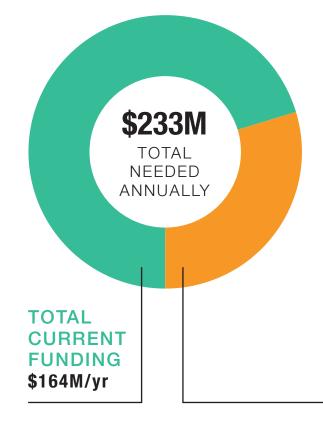


## **Local Bus**

## **Funding needs for** near-term priorities



An additional \$69 million is needed annually to support local bus improvements.



## **Near-term priorities**

- · Harnessing the power of Big Data to make route modifications more efficiently
- Implementing recommendations from SMART's Comprehensive Operations Analysis
- · Implementing recommendations from DDOT Your Routes, Your Ideas Program
- · Implementing recommendations from AAATA's revised master plan
- Expansion of local bus service into underserved areas of our region
- · Activate more bus routes with service every 15 minutes on major corridors
- Make it easier to pay for trips
- Seamless coordination with first mile/ last mile connections between job centers and major transit routes
- Expanded security presence
- Educate local officials on how to be transit supportive and build transit friendly environments
- Upgrade bus stop basic infrastructure (curbs, pads, signs, lighting etc.)
- Increase awareness and utilization of existing service

ADDITIONAL FUNDING **NEEDED FOR NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES** 

\$68.7M/yr

## **Aspirational goals**

- · Expansion of local bus services into current opt-out communities
- Evaluation of underperforming routes regularly and pilot alternative forms of mobility (i.e. microtransit, public private partnerships service models, etc.)
- · Evaluation of Alternative Propulsion Systems (i.e., electric fleets)
- · Continue to monitor and test the future of connected and autonomous vehicle technology to serve existing local bus services
- · Comprehensive integration of services
- Identify funding specifically for nonregional services

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR ASPIRATIONAL GOALS** \$36.9M/yr















Connecting



## **Supporting the overall vision**

Rapid bus supports the vision by connecting people to jobs, health care facilities, educational campuses, other urban core areas, and other major destinations. Premium services will bring transit to more people and improve the rider experience. Rapid bus service moves people faster, efficiently, and easier throughout the region.

WASHTENAW COUNTY



The vision supports adding new rapid bus routes, extending current routes and maintaining a minimum level of service of 30 minute frequencies from 6am to 8pm on weekdays and adding weekend service on routes only operating Monday through Friday.

## How do people use RAPID BUS services today?

Rapid bus service, provided by SMART, DDOT and AAATA, provide a layer of service operating faster than local bus service.

**AAATA** rapid services include:

- Canton
- Chelsea
- Ypsilanti Township

**DDOT** rapid services include:

- Rosedale
- Ryan
- Villages Direct
- Southwest Direct

**SMART** rapid services consist of Park-and-Ride, **FAST** and Commuter services. In total there are seven routes that provide faster service than those offered by local bus service.

Connecting R Communities

- Rapid buses often include enhanced amenities, like wifi on board.
- Riders use rapid services to **connect to major destinations and job centers**.
- Rapid buses provide **more options for riders** to conveniently use transit.

## **Current operating costs**

#### **AAATA**

\$0.4M annually

\$4.4M annually

### **SMART**

**40%** \$41M annually









## **Rapid Bus**



FAST SERVICE is a limited-stop, high-frequency service, with enhanced shelters, provided by SMART. Buses operate at up to 15-minute frequency during the peak periods, and operate 7 days a week including late-nights.

**CAPITAL COST PER MILE: \$0.0** 

ARTERIAL RAPID TRANSIT (ART) provides certain aspects of BRT, such as traffic signal priority, wide stop spacing (½ to one mile or more), enhanced stops with shelters that provide more protection and next bus information, and specific

**CAPITAL COST PER MILE: \$2.0M** 

branding of buses and stops.

#### **BUS RAPID** TRANSIT (BRT)

is a premium service characterized by level boarding, premium stations, prepayment, bus only lanes, transit signal priority, frequent all-day service, and limited stops.

**CAPITAL COST PER MILE: \$7.0M** 

**COMMUTER** 

EXPRESS is a commuter oriented bus service providing weekday rush-hour service to commuters traveling to and from employment centers. Routes are fitted for longer distances with fewer stops. This type of service often utilizes the freeway system.

**CAPITAL COST PER MILE: \$0.0** 

### **Near-term priorities**

- Expanded FAST Service (Grand River, Van Dyke/Mound)
- Implement ART Service on Gratiot, Michigan, and Washtenaw
- Expand FAST along Woodward Avenue as federal discretionary dollars become available to implement BRT service
- Secure funding to implement additional regional routes with 15-minute peak frequency including: 8 Mile, 9 Mile, 12 Mile, 15 Mile, Fort/Eureka, Greenfield, Jefferson, John R, 23 Mile, and Telegraph.
- Prioritize increasing cross-county connections to job centers operating at high-frequencies.
- Construct 15 new park and ride lots in strategic locations in the core service area

- Leverage New Mobility Solutions and First and Last Mile investments to increase ridership to Express Service Lines.
- · Commuter Express Service
  - Ann Arbor-Plymouth-Livonia
  - Canton Express
  - M-59
  - I-75 Chrysler Express
  - I-96 Express
  - M-10 Lodge Express
  - I-75 Fisher Express
  - US-23 Express
  - I-696 Express
  - I-94 Express
  - M-39 Southfield Express
  - I-275 Express
  - Ann Arbor to Chelsea

## **Funding needs for** near-term priorities

**FUNDING SOURCE NEED** 

## **Aspirational goals**

- Full implementation of MOD Study recommendations from 2019 RTA study
- New FAST or Commuter Express Services within the urban core and to fringe communities outside of the urban core
- Evaluation of Connected & Autonomous Vehicles to provide Express Services
- Coordinate Commuter Express service with state and local resources, such as MDOT, to consider park and ride opportunities and bus on shoulder service

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR** ASPIRATIONAL GOALS \$5.8M/yr

### ANNUAL FUNDING **NEEDED TO SUPPORT** RAPID BUS SERVICE

**ANNUAL TOTAL OPERATIONS CAPITAL FAST** \$17M \$133M **ART \$2M** \$2.2M \$168M **BRT** 

Commuter \$11.3M express















MACOMB COUNTY

Addison Township

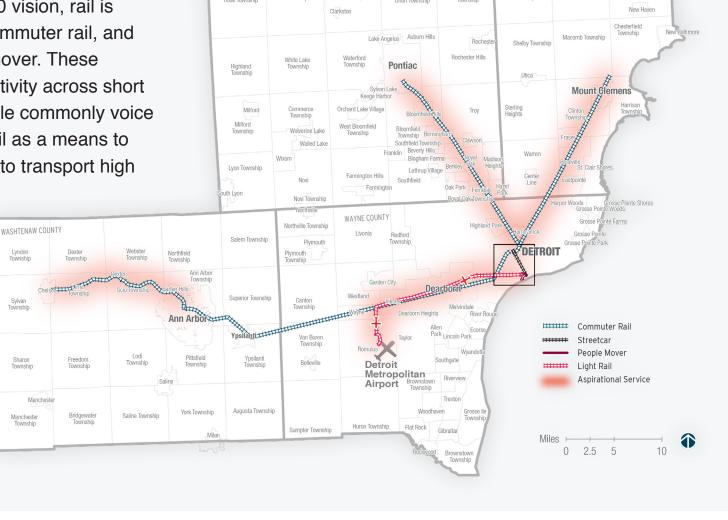
## Supporting the overall vision

Rail service supports the vision by linking people, jobs and major destinations. For the purposes of the 2040 vision, rail is inclusive of streetcar, commuter rail, and the automated people mover. These services provide connectivity across short and long distance. People commonly voice their desires for more rail as a means to provide an efficient way to transport high

volumes of people to employment and special events around the region.

#### **Downtown Detroit**





## How do people use RAIL services today?



Source: https://qlinedetroit.com



OAKLAND COUNTY

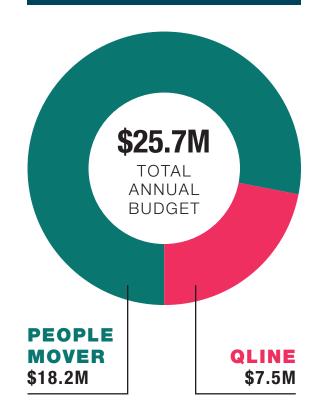
Source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/kenlund/14223986033

Currently, there is no commuter rail service within the region. Amtrak operates passenger rail through the state, but the service frequencies are not conducive for shorter trips. In Detroit, there are two operational systems, the People Mover, an automated 2.9-mile light rail system that operates on an elevated single-track loop in Detroit's central business district, and the QLINE, a 3.3-mile streetcar running along Woodward Avenue.

The fully-automated People Mover serves 13 downtown stations in a one-way loop. It provides important connections that allow people to access downtown businesses, the Chemical Bank Cobo Center, and the other major sporting and entertainment facilities downtown.

The QLINE connects downtown Detroit with Midtown and New Center. The streetcar provides people the ability to connect with jobs, major destinations, universities, and medical facilities, as well as, transfers to DDOT, People Mover and SMART services.

## **Current funding sources**





## REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY











## **Rail Service**



**Funding needs for** near-term priorities

\$7.5M ANNUALLY

QLINE OPERATIONS

\$9.0M ANNUALLY

ANN ARBOR TO DETROIT COMMUTER RAIL OPERATIONS

\$135M

ANN ARBOR TO DETROIT CAPITAL FUNDING

\$5.0M

FUTURE RAIL PLANNING FUNDS



Above: The RTA's current and future goals include the construction of additional rail lines to serve the region.

## **Near-term priorities**

- Commuter rail between Ann Arbor and Detroit.
- Streetcar improvements to include Transit Signal Priority technology targeting areas of high congestion.
- Evaluation of expanded Commuter Rail from Chelsea to Downtown Detroit/Corktown.
- Planning and design services for implementation of light rail to Detroit Metro Airport.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING **NEEDED FOR NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES** 

\$16.5M/yr + \$140M Capital Cost

## **Aspirational goals**

- Additional commuter rail lines in Macomb and Oakland counties, connecting them by rail to new destinations in the region.
- Expansion of the streetcar service in Downtown Detroit.
- Implementation of Light Rail (LRT) to Detroit Metropolitan Airport.
- · Commuter rail from Ann Arbor to Chelsea.

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR ASPIRATIONAL GOALS** \$181.9M/yr





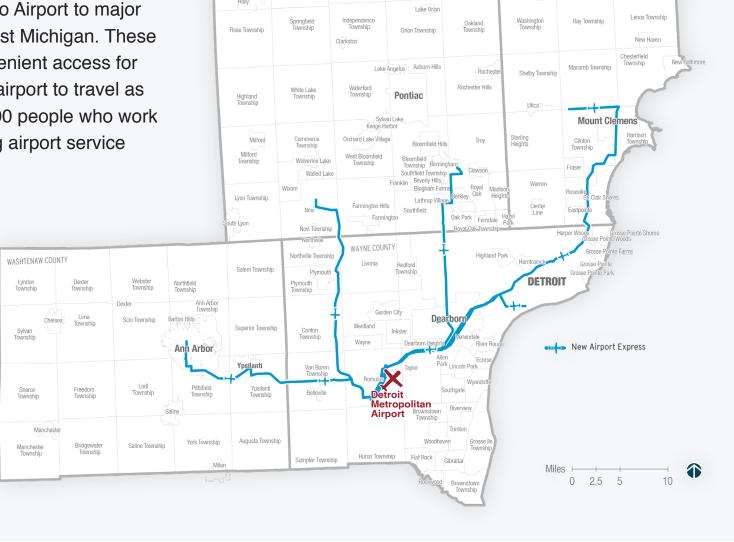
MACOMB COUNTY

Addison Township

## Supporting the overall vision

Airport service supports the RTA vision by connecting Detroit Metro Airport to major destinations in Southeast Michigan. These services can offer convenient access for people traveling to the airport to travel as well as the nearly 20,000 people who work at the airport. Improving airport service benefits:

- International and domestic travelers visiting the Region
- Local travelers who want more choices
- A workforce that needs access to the airport



OAKLAND COUNTY

## How do people use AIRPORT services today?

Airport service, currently provided by SMART and AAATA, includes routes from Ann Arbor and downtown Detroit directly to Detroit Metro Airport terminals.





**AAATA** — AAATA's AirRide provides frequent, quick, and convenient express bus service connecting Ann Arbor to Detroit Metro Airport. Daily round trips serve downtown Ann Arbor to both Detroit Metro Airport terminals.



**SMART** — SMART offers three routes that provide service to Detroit Metro Airport. The Michigan FAST route provides high-frequency, limited-stop service from downtown Detroit to Detroit Metro Airport. The route provides service to both airport terminals, seven days a week, including late night and weekends. Additionally, route 280 Middlebelt and 125 Fort street provide local bus services.

## **Current funding sources**

#### **AAATA**

\$1.7M annually

Currently the region has one direct airport express route from Ann Arbor to the Detroit Metropolitan Airport. SMART also provides service to the airport via the Michigan Ave FAST service and two local routes.



## REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY















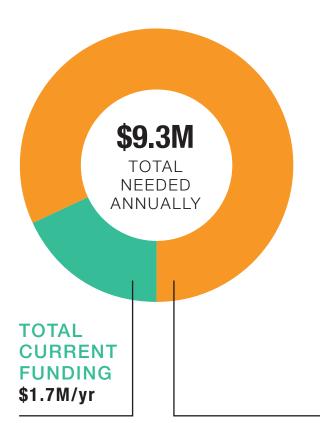




## **Funding needs for** near-term priorities









Source: Michigan Flyer (www.michiganflyer.com)

## **Near-term priorities**

- Implementing Airport Express Service that provides direct service to the airport from important centers all over Southeast Michigan, including direct to Downtown Detroit.
- Supporting FAST Service to increase frequency and coverage area.
- Working in partnership with Wayne County Airport Authority to evaluate an intermodal facility that will meet the needs of regional transit and the airport.

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES** 

\$7.6M/yr

## **Aspirational goals**

- · Implement light rail (LRT) and bus rapid transit (BRT) to the airport from Downtown Detroit.
- · Commuter rail option or shuttle to the airport's Consolidated Car Rental Facility.
- · Work in partnership with the Wayne County Airport Authority to plan and construct a future Intermodal hub to better facilitate access to and from the airport.

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR ASPIRATIONAL GOALS** \$24.5M/yr

> Cost of LRT to Detroit Metro Airport included in aspirational costs for Rail.





















People

## Supporting the overall vision

Community Transit Services are an essential element of the transit options available to the region. Traditional fixed-route transit service does not meet the transportation needs of all the members of the community due to cognitive or physical disabilities and, in some cases, age.





Individuals may need Community Transit Services for their entire life or just temporarily due to injury or illness. Community Transit services provide origin-to-destination service (door-to-door) to meet federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements within 3/4 of a mile of fixed route services or local community services to provide transportation for those in need that do not meet ADA eligibility criteria. Community Transit Service transportation is a key life line service for many in the region and is a key component to maintaining quality of life for all community members regardless of age or ability.

## How do people use COMMUNITY TRANSIT today?

Community Transit Services are used much like traditional transit services and serve transportation needs that include, entertainment, medical, work and education. Both ADA and community-based services typically require a minimum one-day notice to schedule a trip, in some cases 48 hours are needed. Scheduling is typically done over the phone.



Most trips are completed with a one-seat ride, but there are circumstances when a transfer between vehicles is required for a trip of long distance.

The hours of service vary by service provider. ADA paratransit services provide the same service span as nearby routes, running early in the morning, late into the evening and over weekends. Community transit services are not only provided by the primary transit providers in the region (AAATA, SMART and DDOT) but there are up to 150 organizations in the region providing these services through community partnerships and non-profit agency participation. Community based services frequently have minimal service hours and restricted service areas due to budget constraints a typical service span in between 8am and 5pm on weekdays with little to no service on the weekends.

## **Current funding sources**

The three primary transit providers spend the majority of their operating costs on local bus however the demand for Community Transit services is growing as is the cost to provide the services.

#### **AAATA**

\$7.5M annually

#### **DDOT**

\$8.5M annually

Source: DDOT

#### **SMART**

20%

\$20.5M annually

Source: National Transit Database, 2017 Agency Profile



## REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

















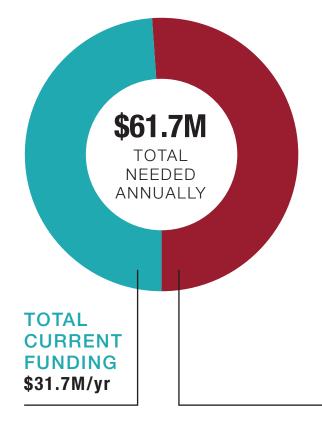


## **Community Transit**

**Funding needs for** near-term priorities



An additional \$30 million is needed annually to improve the current level of service and keep up with increasing demand, roughly double the annual amount being spent today.





Source: SMART

## **Near-term priorities**

- Electronic fare payment
- Implementing a one-click one call system that provides one location for trip booking and trip information for users of the system
- Expansion of service areas and hours that align with people's emerging needs (i.e., expanded hours for dialysis
- Shrinking down the trip booking time in order to offer more flexibility to users, including offering same day scheduling
- Adding resources for trip booking and management services to improve the quality of the trip booking process

ADDITIONAL FUNDING **NEEDED FOR NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES** \$30M/yr

## **Aspirational goals**

- Incorporation of Community Transit Programs into a future one regional fare and a seamless fare payment system
- Improved passenger booking process
- Integration with new mobility service and public/private delivery models
- On-line same day booking for ADA and community connector service trips
- · Comprehensive integration of services
- Autonomous shuttle service models where appropriate

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR ASPIRATIONAL GOALS** \$1.8M/yr



## **New Mobility** Services

## For Public Review **Summer 2019**

Investing in R Future

## What are NEW MOBILITY SERVICES?

New Mobility services leverage technology to provide on-demand (passengers call it when they need it), dynamically routed (no fixed routes or schedules), shared rides. On-demand mobility provides the ultimate passenger convenience as vehicles are routed directly to meet existing demand; and shared rides lower the cost to the passenger. Technology is also used to improve existing fixed route service and other shared ride services deployed by public and private providers.

As more mobility technologies become available through the private market place, they can fill gaps in our public transit services, especially if public transit and private providers align their services properly. Ensuring that the public and private sectors coordinate services is essential to filling current mobility gaps and improving the transportation options for seniors, and persons with disabilities. These gaps exist for making first and last mile connections, accessing jobs and services that require crossing geographic boundaries, and simply getting to the local grocery store or doctor's office. The gaps are caused by limitations in available services, and by a variety of barriers.

These services can be deployed to provide mobility options in geographic areas that do not have dense populations or are not easily served by a traditional fixed-route transit service. New Mobility solutions are an effective approach to solving transportation challenges such as first/last mile connections, serving senior populations and providing late night service. Mobility as a Service (MaaS) applications are being developed to integrate the various forms of new mobility into a single mobility service that provides a diverse menu of transportation options in one location and, in some cases, the ability to pay for them.

#### WHAT IS MaaS?

**Mobility as a Service** (MaaS) harnesses the power of technology and combines it with drivers, vehicles, and operations management practices to provide trips when people want them. Trips are generally ondemand, and customers get rides that are fully dynamic, meaning there are no static routes or schedules. This type of flexible service, which is continuously optimized based on realtime conditions, provides maximum flexibility for the region.

#### WHAT IS SaaS?

Software as a Service (SaaS) provides access to data from any device that has a connection to the Internet and a browser. It is a web-based model that allows remote access to applications and data.

## How do people use NEW MOBILITY services today?



Source: Shutterstock

New Mobility services are used today by people to get to work, reach entertainment venues, access healthcare and to get to school. Currently in Southeast Michigan there is no one-stop Mobility as a Service solution to pay for a trip, but the Transit app allows potential users to view all their transportation options in one location from the convenience of their phone. Options include bus, Uber, Lyft, MoGO Bikeshare and a growing list of electric scooter companies.

## **Current funding sources**

New Mobility services today are generally funded through private ventures and are at times subsidized with public funds as pilot projects to support larger transit and mobility initiatives.

\$0 in dedicated funds are made available for implementing New Mobility services









## **New Mobility Services**



## **Funding needs for** near-term priorities



**\$8 million** in annual funding is needed to keep pace with the evolving concept of

New Mobility to implement new service delivery models and pilot emerging

## **Near-term priorities**

technologies.

- · Facilitating first and last-mile connections to employment hubs and frequent transit services.
- Expanding public/private pilot programs to evaluate new service models.
- Developing new MaaS programs that support all mobility options.
- · Ensuring equitable access to new mobility platforms.
- Foster pilot project that funds innovative MaaS and SaaS pilot projects.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING **NEEDED FOR NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES** \$8M/yr

## **Future priorities and** opportunities for improvement

Exploring the role of on-demand service options in the region that include improving mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities, establishing connections with first and last mile services, and providing better access to jobs and other services like healthcare are a part of the regional vision of mobility.

These goals and objectives are aligned with emerging New Mobility solutions in other communities. It is a regional priority to pilot new mobility service models in specific areas throughout the region and document the outcomes of the pilots so the region can choose the most effective solutions applicable to our communities.

## **Aspirational goals**

- · Southeast Michigan to be a leader in the development and deployment of autonomous vehicles shuttles.
- Deploy intelligent transportation system infrastructure on all major roadways.
- · Deploy connected vehicle infrastructure.

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR** ASPIRATIONAL GOALS \$5.7M/yr

GREATER USE OF SHARED MODES IS ASSOCIATED WITH GREATER LIKELIHOOD TO USE TRANSIT FREQUENTLY AND REDUCED **TRANSPORTATION** SPENDING.

> — Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) Report 188















## **Enhancing the System**

Enhancing R



Quality of Life

#### What is ENHANCING THE SYSTEM?

Enhancing the System means to provide efficient, modern, reliable and safe service for the people of the region. Eligible expenses under this investment category will ensure transit and mobility assets in our region meet performance expectations (e.g., service reliability, customer friendly and comforts, safety, and other current industry standard(s)).



Source (all photos): DDOT

Adding enhancements to the transit system will keep transit services modern by using funding to implement new technologies to adequately keep pace with the changing mobility demands of the region.





## How are SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS implemented today?

Federal programs are available to assist with the costs associated with keeping a transit system in good repair, however a local funding match is required for federal funds. Historically MDOT funds have been used for the local match. Despite the federal and MDOT funding, it is difficult for transit agencies to keep place with their needs and changing technologies.

Today local providers, SMART, DDOT and AAATA all leverage the federal dollars mentioned above and have recently paid particular attention to reducing the age of their bus fleets. In the past year all agencies have added to their fleets. SMART has reduced the average age of their fleet from 11.7 years to 6 years, and DDOT has replaced 30 buses in the past year with more replacements on the horizon. DDOT has also received special funding for repairs to their Coolidge facility.

Transit agencies develop asset management plans, incorporating the condition of their facilities and fleets. These plans help the agencies and FTA access funding needs. These plans, which were recently completed by local providers, help the agencies and FTA access funding needs.

## Supporting the overall vision

Enhancements to the transit system can be a gauge for the health of services provided in the region. It is critical that the existing fleet and facilities be maintained in good condition to support further growth. Aging fleets discourage ridership and investment that is needed to provide service. Building upon the existing transit infrastructure and assets, the region can provide more transit to more places, supporting the vision of moving people, investing, and improving quality of life.

## **Current funding sources**

**AAATA** 

\$15.4M annually

**DDOT** 

\$33.5M annually

DTC

\$3.1M annually

**RTA** 

\$0.3M annually

**SMART** 

\$38M annually



## REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

















## **Enhancing the System**

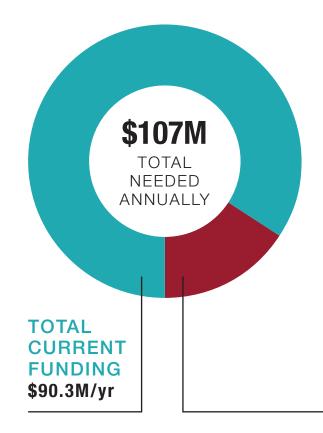


**Funding needs for** near-term priorities





An additional \$335 million over 20 years is needed to maintain existing equipment, modernize the system to keep pace with innovation, and provide amenities to improve the passenger experience.





Source: Shutterstock

## **Near-term priorities**

- Station upgrades.
- Shelter upgrades.
- New regional fare collection system and regional fare card.
- Implementation of passenger amenities, such as wifi.
- Continued effort to reduce the average fleet age.
- · Continued funding of big data analytics.
- Continued effort to modernize and scale facility investments to optimize service performance.
- Facility expansion plans.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING **NEEDED FOR NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES** \$16.7M/yr

## **Aspirational goals**

- · Provide more regional services, such as a call center.
- Develop a long-term strategy to maintain the State of Good Repair for fleet vehicles and facilities.
- · Introduce alternative fuel vehicles.
- Upgrade technology and security features.
- Maintenance and replacement work on the People Mover's Automatic Train Control (ATC) system and driverless vehicles.

**ADDITIONAL FUNDING NEEDED FOR ASPIRATIONAL GOALS** \$30M/yr















Connecting



# Workforce Development

Investing in R Future



## **Supporting the overall vision**



Investing in workforce development with an emphasis on maintaining highly skilled workers plays a vital role in supporting the RTA's vision for improving access and performance of transit in southeast Michigan. A talented workforce of bus drivers, mechanics, software developers, community transit customer support/trip booking support, connected and autonomous, rail operators, and rail maintenance staff are the backbone to the success of mobility in our region. Focusing on these issues ensures that workforce development does not limit future expansion opportunities.

## How are WORKFORCE NEEDS being met today?



Attracting, developing and retaining a diverse workforce is critical to the continued success of public transit in southeast Michigan. A concerning trend impacting the regions service providers has been difficulty in recruitment and retention of qualified employees. Providers today work with local community colleges and organizations to attract new talent, such as Wayne County Community college. Providers also regularly attend and host job fairs.

## **Current spending**

Approximately \$200K is spent on training and workforce development programs today across all of the public transit agencies.

























## **Workforce Development**



## Funding needs for near-term priorities





















## 20 YEAR FUNDING SOURCE NEED







An additional \$1M per year is needed to

develop, retain, and continually educate a









**FUNDING** 

\$200k/yr

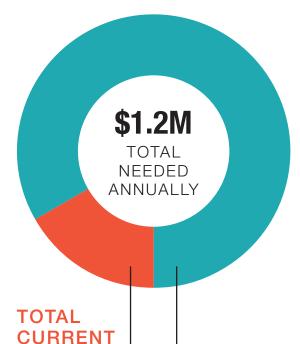




workforce to support our transit services. Community Colleges are increasingly closing transit-centered programs in order to expand programs such as HVAC and other vocational careers. Funding would allow partnerships with community colleges to develop training programs to improve the region's transit and mobility workforce. These programs can be implemented in cooperation with community partners such as Goodwill

These funds could also be used to leverage additional federal and state funding for our region.

Industries, Focus Hope, and United Way.



## **Near-term priorities**

- Creation of regional taskforce to investigate and develop plans that improve recruitment and retention of qualified operators and mechanics.
- Work collaboratively with the Workforce Intelligence Network and the Community Colleges across the region to develop transit and mobility training programs and modules that are flexible and responsive to today's learning environment.
- · Develop effective recruitment and retention strategies including employee referral programs, social networking sites (LinkedIn), overall job enrichment and Improving connections with VA and affiliates.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING **NEEDED FOR NEAR-TERM PRIORITIES** 

\$1M/yr

## Future priorities and opportunities for improvement

The pursuit of talent is something that is a region-wide need and not something specific to the transit and mobility industry. Our region's workforce is not growing through organic measures, nor are we experiencing a net migration of new employees entering the region's workforce. As a result the supply of employees trained and ready to work is not keeping pace with the demand. To address this labor shortage, a concentrated effort is needed to identify those individuals not currently in the workforce and provide them with the training and opportunities to fill future transit and mobility jobs. Many are already working in this space, as such we should seek to partner with those already delivering these services to implement both near-term and aspirational goals.



## **Aspirational goals**

- Improve the overall image of a transit career.
- Develop performance metrics for recruitment and retention strategies.
- Development of a benchmarking process that encourages continues improvement.
- Evaluate regional employee incentive programs that can be used to help retain excellent workers exceeding customer expectations.





