

House Rural Development Council October 29, 2019

Vicki Johnson

Chair

GEORGIA COUNCIL ON AGING

vickivjohnsonga@gmail.com

(770) 655-0433

www.gcoa.org



GEORGIA COUNCIL ON AGING

About GCOA

Georgia Council on Aging

Created by the General Assembly in 1977 to advise state government on aging issues in Georgia



GEORGIA COUNCIL ON AGING

Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly

Created by the Council as a forum to identify and address concerns of older Georgians



2020 CO-AGE Legislative Issue

OLDER ADULT TRANSPORTATION

Helping Seniors Stay Connected

Voted as #1 Priority Issue



Older Adult Transportation Profile



Older adults age 65+: 1.3M in 2019
growing to 2.9M in 2040

Older adults outlive their driving ability
by 11 years for women, 6 for men

Adults age 70+ with unmet transportation needs
= 196,711

Current programs (DHS+DCH+GDOT)
served 43,676 older adults FY2018

Mobility restrictions worsen health deterioration
leading to hospital readmissions or nursing home entry

Older Adult Transportation Barriers



Gaps in transit service



County-line transit boundaries



Physical mobility difficulties



Limited transit hours



Unmet Quality of Life trips



Cost of commercial rides



Monthly trip caps



Multiple program applications



Changing geographic family patterns

Opportunities for Improved Mobility

- Consolidated transit management
- Regional transit planning with AAA input
- New transit funding sources for expanded services
- Maximize efficient use of transportation providers and funding
- Innovative transit programs with subsidized TNC rides
- Financial assistance to volunteer driver programs
- Flexible voucher programs
- Increase Non-Emergency Medical Transportation usage

