



CITY OF RAPID CITY

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Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Action Plan – Rapid Transit System

Rapid Transit System (RTS) is continuously trying to improve services and accessibility to the community of Rapid City, South Dakota. Below is current update to the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Action Plan from RTS.

Goals completed from prior year:

1. Rapid Transit System completed the RapidRide Route Refresh on January 20, 2025. This project was recommended in the Transit Development Plan to improve the current fixed-routes to have them be more accessible and efficient to the community.

RapidRide service has six fixed routes, each bus driving two segments of each route. RTS staff was able to update small sections of the following segments: Borglum – Jackson Boulevard, Coolidge – Northbound, Coolidge – Southbound, Lincoln – Northbound, Roosevelt – Northeast, Roosevelt – Southeast, Washington – Northbound, and Washington - Southbound. The changes made to sections of these segments provides more access to locations like Oyate Health Care Center, South Dakota Department of Social Services or the State South Dakota One Stop Shop, and Lakota Homes.

On the Jefferson Route, there were major changes that took place along each segment of the route. On the Jefferson – Southeast segment staff was able to provide increased access to Western South Dakota Community Action, Rural America Initiative, Rapid Valley, Western Dakota Technical College, and the Shepherd Hills housing development. On the Jefferson – Northeast segment staff was able to provide increased access to the main Shepherd Hills housing development, Menard's, Feeding South Dakota building, and Rushmore Crossing.

These changes took place to make routes more accessible, but also to make them more efficient, for example not having multiple buses going to the same locations at the same time.

2. Rapid Transit System completed the GTFS weblink that is required by Federal Transit Administration. The next steps of this project are to have the data uploaded to Google

Maps, so that anyone needing to have access to RapidRide can find the route and stop information on Google Maps. One other area that is being completed with this project is tying pictures of each stop to the routes, that way the stops can be identified by the riders.

3. RTS currently provides an early morning service to riders. According to the Transit Development Plan, evening and Sunday service is not recommended at this time.
4. Youth Ride Free program in a continuous service that is provided all year for the youth of Rapid City. Travel training is provided upon request. Continuous outreach happens with outlining organizations to provide one-on-one or group trainings on how to use the fixed-route system. Every approved Dial-A-Ride rider receives one-on-one training on how to utilize the complementary paratransit system.
5. City and Transit staff continuously work with developers to ensure transit needs are part of the planning process.

Goals not completed from prior year:

1. The Transit Development Plan doesn't recommend adding demand-response/flexible service at this time. This will be a future goal once other goals are met within RTS.
2. The Transit Development Plan does not recommend reducing fares at this time.

New Goals for application year and timeframe:

1. RTS would like to move forward with providing an app for scheduling rides or utilizing the fixed-route system to better accommodate the accessibility of RTS services. RTS will be working on this option for the next two years.
2. Although RTS has completed a stop safety and accessibility analysis, the need to complete this again with new stops and updated routes is a priority. The goal would be to complete another stop safety and accessibility analysis to determine where potential improvements need to be made. At this time, it will also be documented where ADA accessible stops need to be placed. RTS will be working on this project over the course of the next two years.

Rapid Transit System has continuous coordination with Prairie Hills Transit of Spearfish, SD, Black Hills Works of Rapid City, and is working on coordination with River Cities Transit of Pierre, SD.

Rapid Transit System has not changed the service area.