



## Department of Community Development

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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 Human Services Transportation Action Plan from RTS.

Goals completed from prior year:

1. RTS has completed the GTFS web link required by the Federal Transit Administration. This information has been uploaded to Google Maps, allowing anyone to easily access RapidRide route and stop details. In addition, the City of Rapid City's GIS team has developed an interactive map for RapidRide. This map includes every bus stop on each route and provides more accurate arrival and departure times, identifies the nearest stops, and displays service closures, route deviations, and photos of each stop. This serves as the closest equivalent RTS currently has to a mobile app; as a result, RTS will delay developing a dedicated app for several more years.
2. RTS has initiated a project to replace its fixed-route fleet that has exceeded its useful life. The goal is to purchase seven to eight buses over the next eight years. To date, three buses have been purchased and received, and two additional buses have received grant funding and are in the process of being ordered.
3. RTS continues to provide an early morning service to riders. According to the Transit Development Plan, Sunday service is not recommended at this time.
4. Youth Ride Free program is 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. 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.
2. The Transit Development Plan does not recommend reducing fares at this time.



**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

New Goals for application year and timeframe:

1. RTS is in the process of awarding a contract to a vendor to conduct a Microtransit Feasibility Study. This study will provide recommendations for expanding service to areas of Rapid City that currently lack access to public transportation. It will also evaluate the potential to extend service hours into the evening, improving access to reliable transportation later in the day.
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.

RTS has continuous collaboration with Prairie Hills Transit of Spearfish, SD, Black Hills Works of Rapid City, and River Cities Transit of Pierre, SD. Prairie Hills Transit and River Cities Transit will assist in filling the gaps between the City of Rapid City limits and outlying community areas. Prairie Hills Transit will also provide transportation to medical appointments for those without access to medical facilities or eligibility for Dial-A-Ride services.

Rapid Transit System has not changed the service area.