

Access to public transportation helps seniors and other non-drivers avoid social isolation



COURTESY OF NORTHWESTERN CT TRANSIT DISTRICT

DID YOU KNOW?



Largely because of limited transportation options, more than half of all non-drivers age

65 and over stay at home on a typical day.

PROVIDE EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL USERS

By 2025, one in five persons will be over age 65, and the baby boomers will have entered their golden years. As the population of Connecticut ages, we need to provide ways for seniors and disabled persons to maintain their independence and “age in place,” including options for getting around without driving.

With the cost of car ownership rising, many citizens opt not to own a car or cannot afford to own a car. Non-drivers make 59% fewer trips to shopping and restaurants, and 65% fewer trips for family, social and religious activities. In addition to marginalizing non-car owners, their absence from stores and restaurants hurts our economy.

Access to public transportation helps seniors and other non-drivers avoid social isolation. Going forward, creating transportation options for non-drivers will be a critical component to an independent and satisfactory quality of life for more and more of the population.

In Connecticut, van service or para-transit such as Dial-A-Ride, for people who cannot ride the regular transit bus due to age or disability, covers some areas but not others. This service is offered only in areas where local fixed bus routes exist, and is divided by districts.



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