

# Public Participation Report

## COTTAGE GROVE AREA TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

DATE: January 13, 2021

TO: Cottage Grove Area TDP Project Management Team

FROM: Lane Council of Governments: Kelly Clarke, Rachel Dorfman, Syd Shoaf

SUBJECT: Public Participation Report

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## Introduction

Public participation is critical to Cottage Grove Area Transit Development Plan (TDP) development. The purpose of a TDP is to help plan for a public transportation system that serves the Cottage Grove area and meets community needs. The Cottage Grove Area TDP should reflect the transit-related vision, goals, priorities, and values of Cottage Grove area community members and stakeholders. The purpose of this memorandum is to outline the public participation strategies implemented so far in the process.

Due to COVID-19 and the associated stay-at-home orders, many outreach activities were not possible as originally planned and were either reformatted in scale or reimagined for a remote setting. Despite these challenges, a robust effort has been made to engage Cottage Grove area residents in the TDP process to date.

## Stakeholder Advisory Committee

A stakeholder advisory committee was established to help guide the TDP process. The Cottage Grove Area TDP Stakeholder Advisory Committee (AC) is made up of local stakeholders, including representatives from other local transit providers, nonprofit organizations, the Cities of Cottage Grove and Creswell, and Lane County. The role of the AC is to provide technical and policy advice according to member expertise throughout the TDP process. The AC has met twice so far and will meet a total of four times throughout the process. Table 1 highlights the members of the PMT and the project's AC.

**Table 1: Cottage Grove Area TDP Stakeholder Advisory Committee**

	Name	Affiliation
<b>Project Management Team (PMT)</b>	Amanda Ferguson	City of Cottage Grove
	Jennifer Boardman	Oregon Department of Transportation
	Mark Bernard	Oregon Department of Transportation
	Kelly Clarke	Lane Council of Governments
	Paul Thompson	Lane Council of Governments
	Rachel Dorfman	Lane Council of Governments
	Syd Shoaf	Lane Council of Governments
	Ruth Linoz	South Lane Wheels
<b>Advisory Committee (AC)</b>	Greg Ervin	City of Cottage Grove City Councilor
	Ashley Rigel	City of Cottage Grove Planning Commission
	Emma McDonald	City of Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Committee
	Maddie Phillips	City of Creswell
	Michelle Amberg	City of Creswell
	Shauna Neigh	Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce
	Sasha Vartanian	Lane County
	Andrew Martin	Lane Transit District
	Jennifer Bragg	North Douglas Betterment
	Patrick McDaniel	South Lane Mental Health

	Theresa Bichsel	South Lane School District
	Suzanne Huebner-Sannes	South Lane Wheels Board
	Mike Baker	Umpqua Transit

## Outreach

A combination of outreach methods were used including a community survey, presentations and radio, printed materials, and a project website.

### Community Survey

The Community Survey's goal was to gather information about the community's travel needs and perceptions of public transportation. This was a 15-question survey that was deployed from July 2020 through the end of September 2020. A copy of the Community Survey is included in Appendix A.

The survey was available in both English and Spanish online and as a paper copy. The online survey was created through the platform SurveyMonkey and the link to the survey were distributed on the project's website, social media channels, and shared via email. Paper copies of the survey were available at the City of Cottage Grove City Hall, on South Lane Wheel buses, and through local nonprofit organizations. Respondents that completed the survey had the option to leave their contact information to win a \$50 Bi-Mart gift certificate.

A total of 196 responses were collected: 175 online and 21 paper surveys. Of those surveyed, 80% have access to an automobile while 14% do not have access and 6% do, but not all the time. Respondents were mostly white/Caucasian (89%) in the 25-44 years old range (43%). Most were full-time employed (48%) with their total household income in the \$50,000-74,999 range (22%).

The survey results indicated that 88% of the respondents lived in Cottage Grove and their top mode of transportation between their home and places like work, school, and recreation was to **drive alone** (75%). The survey results found that 48% of respondents have also **never** used public transportation. Respondents indicated that they would most likely use public transportation if **service ran at the times of day they need it** (54%), **service went where they need to go** (43%), and **service was closer to their home** (29%). Respondents believe the Cottage Grove Area's public transportation could improve if there was **weekend service** (42%), if **service went more places** (30%), and if there was more **frequent service** (37%). Respondents believe that the Cottage Grove Area's public transportation should be **safe** (54%), **convenient** (52%), **accessible** (46%) and **dependable** (46%).

A detailed summary of the survey responses can be found in the Community Survey Results Memo in Appendix B.

### Presentations and Radio

To further gather community feedback and promote the project's Community Survey, the TDP PMT presented to various local groups

On August 27, 2020, members of the PMT presented to Be Your Best, a coalition of community partners in Cottage Grove that engages with marginalized and disenfranchised community members to improve family and community health. The presentation was over Zoom and included over 20 members from

various organizations. Be Your Best coalition members provided the PMT with additional outreach recommendations and opportunities. The PowerPoint presentation is included in Appendix C.

On August 31, 2020, members of the PMT went on the Beeper Call-In Talk Show, a live a radio show covering a wide range of social and political topics. The hour long show was dedicated to discussion about the Cottage Grove Area TDP and included calls from interested community members. Over 580 people viewed the Facebook Live post for the broadcast; metrics are not available for the number of people that listened to the show over the radio.

### Printed Outreach

In August and September 2020, Cottage Grove residents received information about the Cottage Grove Area TDP in their monthly water bill, which directed them to the project website and online survey.

In addition, a local newspaper, The Chronicle, featured a brief article about the project.

These items can be found in Appendix D.

### Project Website

The Cottage Grove Area TDP website includes information about the project and resources as well as interactive widgets that encourage community members to leave comments and feedback about public transportation. The website also included a link to the online Community Survey. The website is live and updates as the project progresses. The next website update will include the community survey results, finalized projects documents, and will also include information about the different types of funding.

Detailed screenshots of the website can be found in Appendix E.

### University of Oregon Sustainable City Year Program Report: Current and Future Mobility Needs Assessment for Cottage Grove and Creswell

This report was conducted by the University of Oregon Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP) that is a university-community partnership program that matches the resources of the University with one Oregon community each year to help advance that community's sustainability goals. This purpose of this project was to analyze the current and future transportation needs of Cottage Grove and Creswell through professional insight and community input. Below are key recommendations and findings related to the Cottage Grove Area Transit Development Plan from the SCYP Report:

#### Current Transportation Recommendations

- **Increase the frequency of Route 98.** Survey results indicated 45% of respondents were in favor of increasing frequency.
- **Target investments in improved amenities based on stop usage.** The survey indicated that about 30% of respondents expressed the desire for more bus shelters along LTD Route 98. The report further recommends that these improvements could “add to the design, safety, and comfort level at the stops, in turn improving riders’ experience”.
- **Expand bus service within and between Cottage Grove and Creswell.** The survey results indicated that 36% of respondents would ride the Route 98 bus more frequently. Additionally, 16% of respondents would ride the Route 98 bus if it stopped in more and/or different locations.

Respondents also expressed interest in amenities such as **bus shelters** (38%) and **real-time transit arrival information** (33%).

- **Implement land use development that promotes accessibility to transit in Cottage Grove and Creswell.** The report suggests that this can be done promoting denser development around transit stops and creating complete streets that allow for pedestrian and bicycle access.
- **Increase coordination and establish more partnerships across organizations to improve transportation options for Cottage Grove and Creswell residents.**

#### New Transportation Options Recommendations

- **Prioritize bike and pedestrian infrastructure improvements, especially around the popular stops.** Survey results indicated respondents want more/better sidewalks and bike lanes as improvements to their community.
- **Provide internet hot spots.**
- **Allow for alternative methods of payment for new mobility options.** The report highlights that bank checking account requirements present a barrier for equitable access to transit services. The report suggests that Cottage Grove should consider policies that create a transit system that allows for cash options since MOD currently does not.
- **Fund future transportation initiatives with Transient Room Tax (TRT).** The report suggests Lane County's TRT and to overall be strategic with funding opportunities.
- **Increase Lane County's Transient Room Tax and allocate funding to transportation initiatives since resident will not bear the burden of the tax.**
- **Identify creative revenue sources.**

#### Mobility on Demand (MOD) Recommendations

- **Keep the MOD Pilot to gather more data, specifically continue service once the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions subside.**
- **Integrate the MOD Connector with Route 98.** The report recommends to specifically to use the MOD Connector transport Cottage Grove residents to Route 98.
- **Create varied pricing for frequent users vs. single-use riders.** Recommendations include increasing the price for single-use riders to re-invest the higher revenue back into the program and create a benefits program for frequent riders. Another option recommended is to create a low-income fare to provide affordable service and incentivize riders to use the program more frequently.
- **Improve the availability of service information to riders.** The report suggests a two-part plan to inform riders about the service. First part is to create a smartphone application or website that includes information about the route, stop locations, fares, and the schedule. This should also include information about which seats are available and estimated times of arrival. The second part is to create an informational pamphlet that will be posted inside MOD vehicles and on the website that outlines the information that is listed above in part one.
- **Round trip scheduling.** The survey found that 6.5% respondents do not own a cell phone and 15.6% of respondents are concerned with access to month data. The report suggests that riders should have the ability to book round trip in a single interaction including calls, online scheduling, or smartphone application.

- **Increased ADA accessibility.** Report analysis indicates that 2.4% of rides contained wheelchair service requests. Of the 2.4% of wheelchair request rides, 60% did not use the service again. The report suggests considering using dedicated wheelchair accessible vans for the MOD Connector service.
- **Prioritize those who require transportation to medical/mental health appointments.**
- **Give job preferences to those unemployed by the COVID-19 pandemic.**

#### Paratransit

- **Consider investing in a pilot on-demand service in partnership with rideshare companies to expand paratransit service.**

#### Ride Hail Partnerships

- **Encourage collaboration between the transit system and the ride-share company for a carpool-based system.**
- **Consider utilizing promotions, such as 10% off all rides for the first week of use.**
- **Consider a flat rate payment based on the average annual income.**

#### Bike Share

- **Implement bike share, not e-scooters, into Cottage Grove and Creswell's transportation plans.**

The complete SCYP report can be found in Appendix F.

## Appendix A – Community Survey

### Cottage Grove Area Transit Development Plan Community Survey

Please help us plan for public transportation in the Cottage Grove Area. The City of Cottage Grove would like to hear from you about how public transportation is working, or not working, for you. Your responses will help guide our public transportation decisions over the next 10 to 15 years. This survey will be open until Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

If you would like to know more information about the project or other ways to get involved, please visit: <https://lcog.org/CottageGroveAreaTDP>

**What do we mean when we are asking about Public Transportation?** It is any type of transportation that is available to all of us. Examples include the bus, Dial-A-Ride service, Mobility on Demand (MOD), bike share and more.

Si necesita realizar esta encuesta en español, visite:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SpanishCottageGroveAreaTDP>

1. In what city or community do you live? (Circle one answer):

- a. Cottage Grove
- b. Creswell
- c. Eugene or Springfield
- d. Douglas County
- e. Lane County
- f. Rural Lane County

**2. Which types of travel do you typically use to go between your home and places like work, school, and shopping? (Check all that apply):**

- ☐ Drive alone
- ☐ Someone drives me
- ☐ Taxi
- ☐ Bike
- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Lane Transit District
- ☐ South Lane Wheels
- ☐ Mobility on Demand (MOD)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. How often do you ride public transportation? (Circle one answer):**

- a. 5 days per week
- b. 2 to 4 days per week
- c. 1 day per week
- d. 1 to 4 days per month
- e. Less than 1 day per month
- f. A few times per year
- g. Never

**4. I would use public transportation more often if...**

**(Check all that apply):**

- ☐ Service ran at the times of day that I need it
- ☐ Service went where I need it to go
- ☐ Service was closer to my home
- ☐ The service took less time
- ☐ The fare was not so expensive
- ☐ There was a group fare
- ☐ I felt safe using this service
- ☐ I felt safe getting to this service
- ☐ Nothing. I don't want to use public transportation.
- ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**5. How could Cottage Grove Area's public transportation be better? (Check all that apply):**

- ☐ More reliable
- ☐ Available earlier in the day
- ☐ Available later in the day

- ☐ Weekend service
- ☐ Service went to more places
- ☐ Less time using service
- ☐ More frequent service
- ☐ Less time waiting for service
- ☐ Lower cost to use service
- ☐ Door-to-door service
- ☐ Better connections to other public transportation services (for example: Amtrak)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Is there anywhere you would like to take public transportation but are not able to?**

**(Check all that apply)**

- ☐ More areas within Cottage Grove
- ☐ Eugene/Springfield area
- ☐ Creswell
- ☐ Dorena Lake
- ☐ Cottage Grove Lake
- ☐ Roseburg
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**7. What is most important you when using public transportation? Service is...**

**(Check 3 boxes):**

- ☐ Accessible
- ☐ Affordable
- ☐ Convenient
- ☐ Dependable
- ☐ Equitable
- ☐ Inclusive
- ☐ Reliable
- ☐ Safe
- ☐ Sustainable
- ☐ Connected
- ☐ Other (**One word answer**): \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Do you have any additional comments about transportation (existing service or thoughts about making service better) in the Cottage Grove area? (Free response)**



### **Demographics**

**9. Do you have access to an automobile?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Yes, but not all of the time

**10. What is your age?**

- a. 17 and under
- b. 18-24 years
- c. 25-44 years
- d. 45-64 years
- e. 65-74 years
- f. 75 years and over

**11. What is your ethnicity?**

- a. American Indian or Alaskan Native
- b. Asian
- c. Black/African American
- d. Hispanic/Latino/Spanish
- e. Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- f. White/Caucasian
- g. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**12. Are you...**

**(Check all that apply):**

- ☐ Full-time worker
- ☐ Part-time worker
- ☐ Unemployed, seeking work
- ☐ Unemployed, not seeking work
- ☐ College student

- ☐ Middle/High school student
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Other

**13. What is your total household income?**

- a. Less than \$10,000
- b. \$10,000-14,999
- c. \$15,000-24,999
- d. \$25,000-34,999
- e. \$35,000-49,999
- f. \$50,000-74,999
- g. \$75,000-99,999
- h. \$100,000 or more

**Thank you for filling out our survey! This survey is completely anonymous.**

**14. Enter me in a raffle to win a \$50 gift certificate to Bi-Mart.**

**My email is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**15. I'd like to stay involved in this project.**

**My email is:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have any other questions, please contact Syd Shoaf at [SSHOAF@lcog.org](mailto:SSHOAF@lcog.org)  
or (541) 682 4023.**

**Thank you!**

## Appendix B – Community Survey Results Report

### Introduction and Methodology

As the consultants for the Cottage Grove Area Transit Development Plan, the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) distributed a survey to the Cottage Grove community. The objective of the survey was to determine public perceptions and behaviors of public transportation, specifically in the Cottage Grove area.

**Research Design:** Between July 27 and September 28, 2020, LCOG distributed an online and paper-copy survey to the Cottage Grove area. The online survey was created through SurveyMonkey and was available as a link on the project's webpage, distributed to community partners, and posted across various social media channels. Paper-copies of the survey were distributed via email to be printed, available for pick up and drop off at the Cottage Grove City Hall and were distributed to South Lane Wheels riders while using their service. The survey was promoted on the City and project webpages, a local Cottage Grove radio show known as the Beeper Show and was featured in the Cottage Grove Chronicle and the water bill paystub for the months of August and September to Cottage Grove residents. The survey was also available in both English and Spanish for both the online and paper-copy surveys.

In sum, the survey received 196 responses – 175 online and 21 paper-copy. For the online surveys, it took an average of 3 minutes and 44 seconds.

This survey was conducted in July 2020 during COVID-19 restrictions which shifted outreach that is traditionally in-person to online engagement. In September 2020 towards the end of the survey, the region experienced wildfires that were close to communities in the Cottage Grove Area. Despite these unforeseeable events, we are happy to have received as much feedback as we did throughout this outreach process.

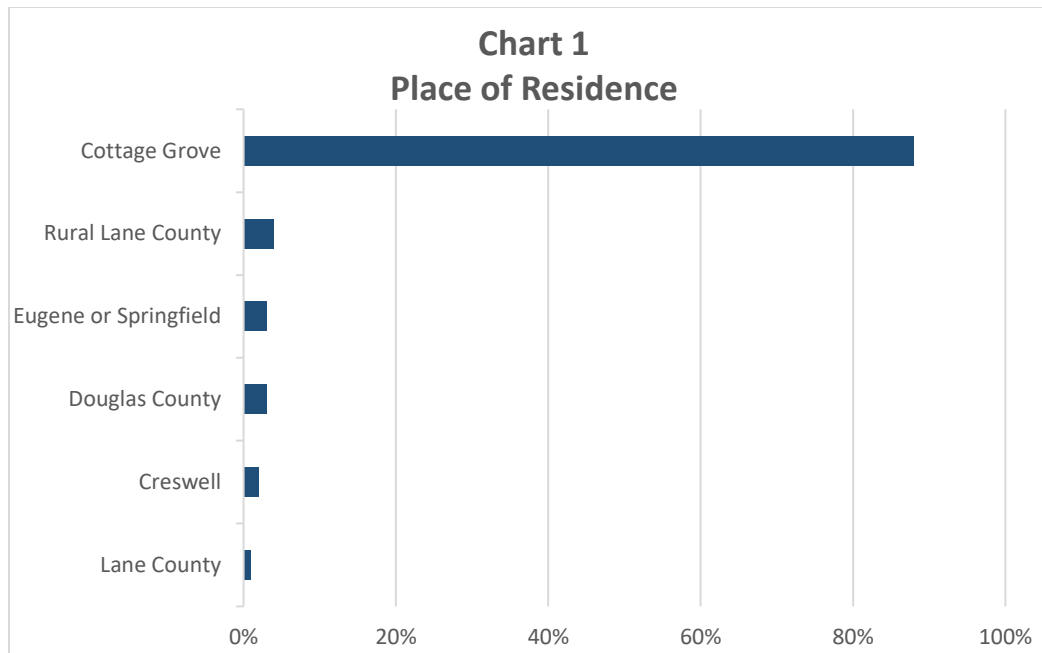
### Summary of Findings

Of those surveyed, 80% have access to an automobile while 14% do not have access and 6% do, but not all the time. Respondents were mostly white/Caucasian (89%) in the 25-44 years old range (43%). Most were full-time employed (48%) with their total household income in the \$50,000-74,999 range (22%).

The survey results indicated that 88% of the respondents lived in Cottage Grove and their top mode of transportation between their home and places like work, school, and recreation was to **drive alone** (75%). The survey results found that 48% of respondents have also **never** used public transportation. Respondents would most likely use public transportation if **service ran at the times of day they need it** (54%), **service went where they need to go** (43%), and **service was closer to their home** (29%). Respondents believe the Cottage Grove Area's public transportation be better if there was **weekend service** (42%), if **service went more places** (30%), and if there was more **frequent service** (37%). Respondents believe that the Cottage Grove Area's public transportation should be **safe** (54%), **convenient** (52%), **accessible** (46%) and **dependable** (46%).

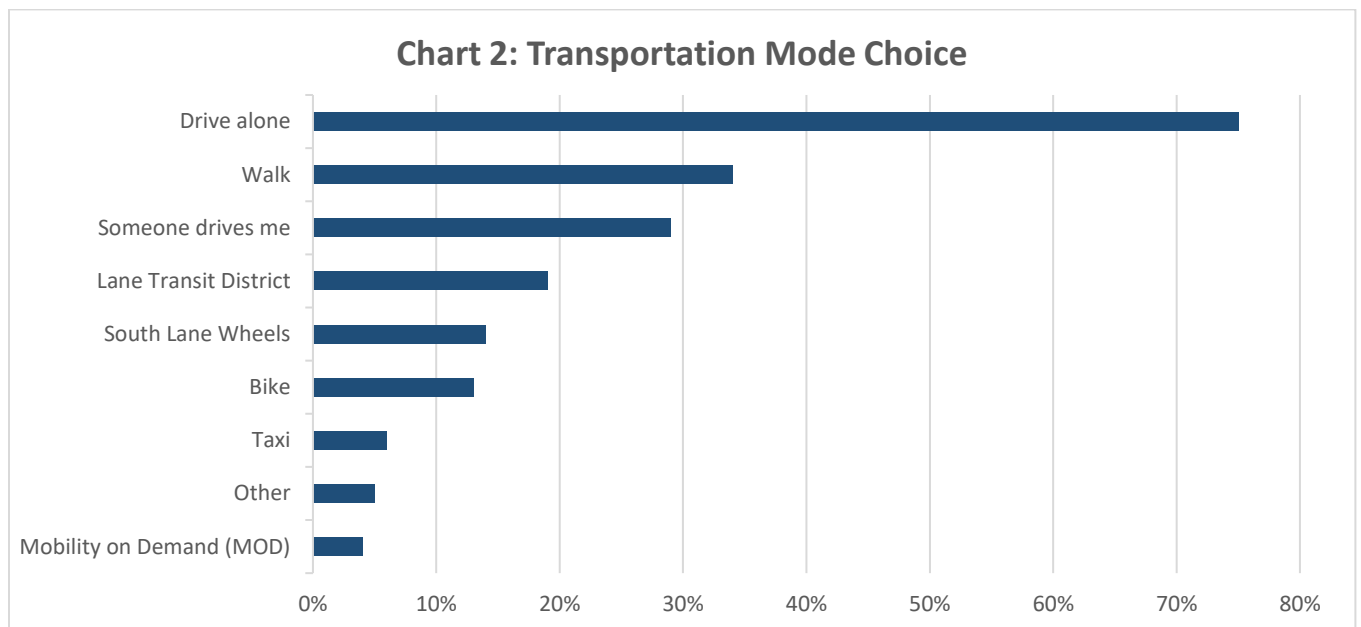
### Findings

Respondents were asked in what city or community they lived in (Q1).



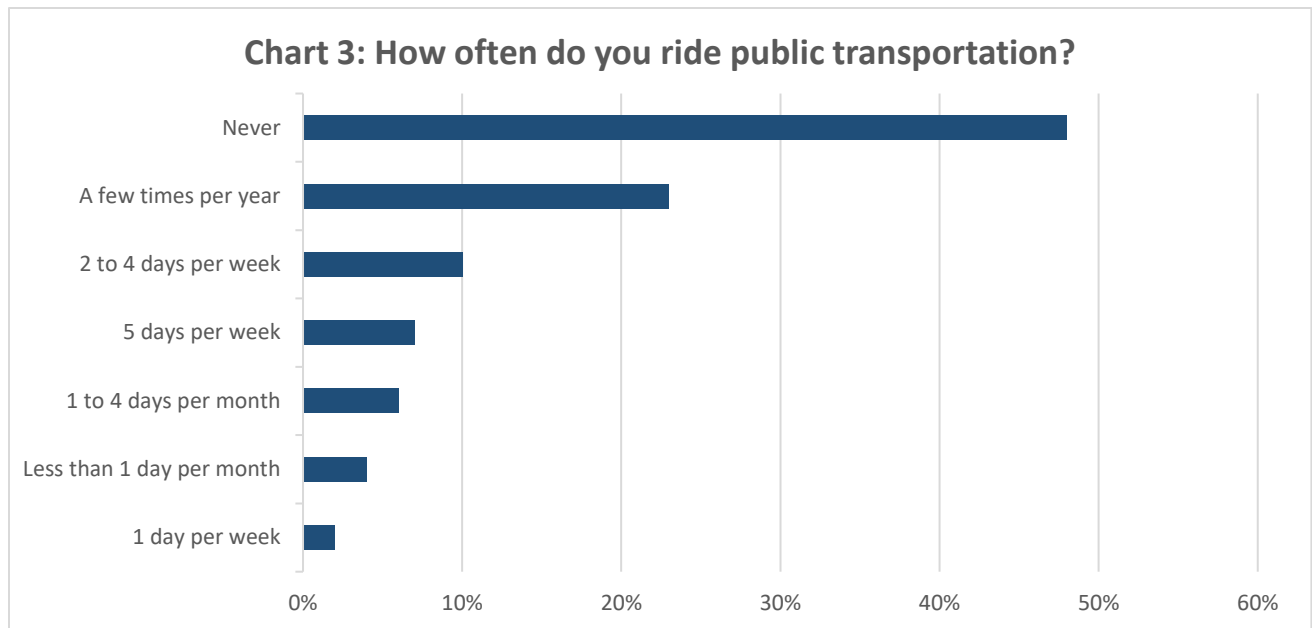
Most of the respondents live in **Cottage Grove** (88%) followed by **Rural Lane County** (4%), **Eugene or Springfield** (3%), **Douglas County** (3%), **Creswell** (2%), and **Lane County** (1%).

Next respondents were asked what type of travel they go on between their home and places like work, school, and shopping (Q2).



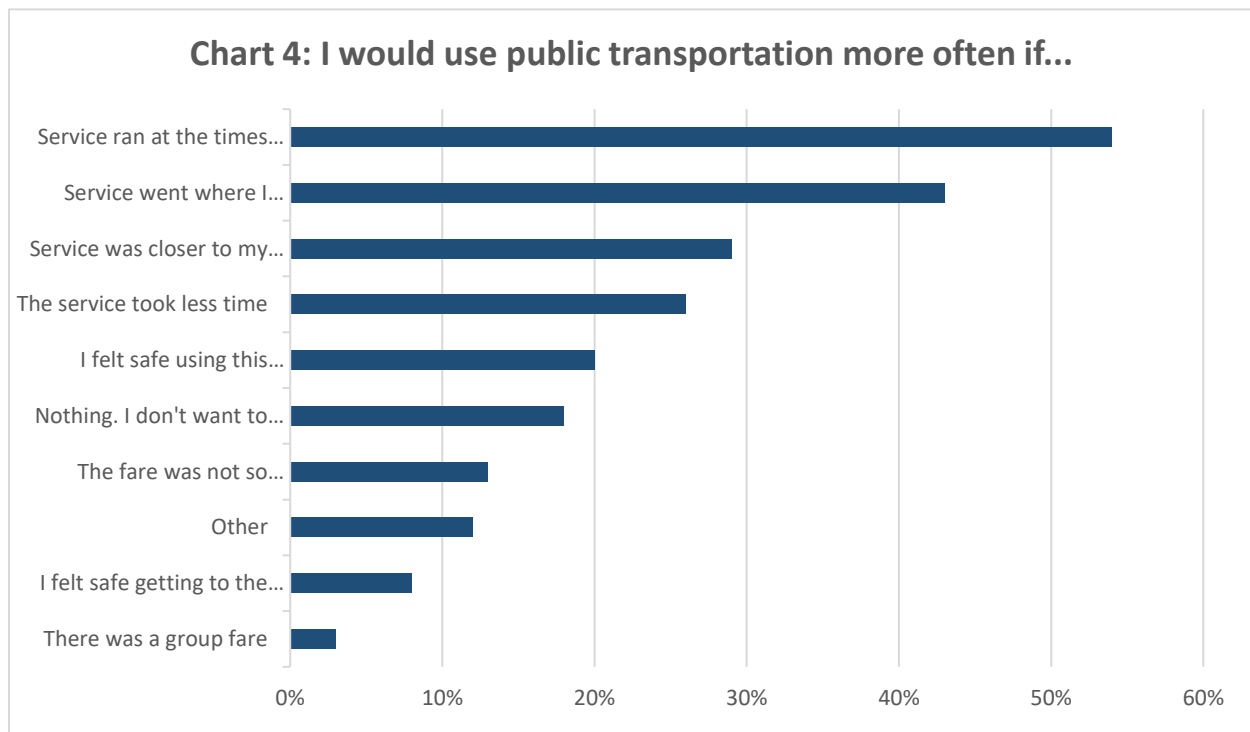
Overall, 75% of respondents said they typically **Drive alone** for trips between their home and places like work, school, and shopping. This was followed by **Walk** (34%), **Someone drives me** (29%), **Lane Transit District** (19%), **South Lane Wheels** (14%), and **Bike** (13%). Other responses below 10% include **Taxi** (6%), **Other** (5%), and **Mobility on Demand** (4%). Of the **Other** responses, most of the answers related to carpooling.

Respondents were then asked how often they use public transportation (Q3).



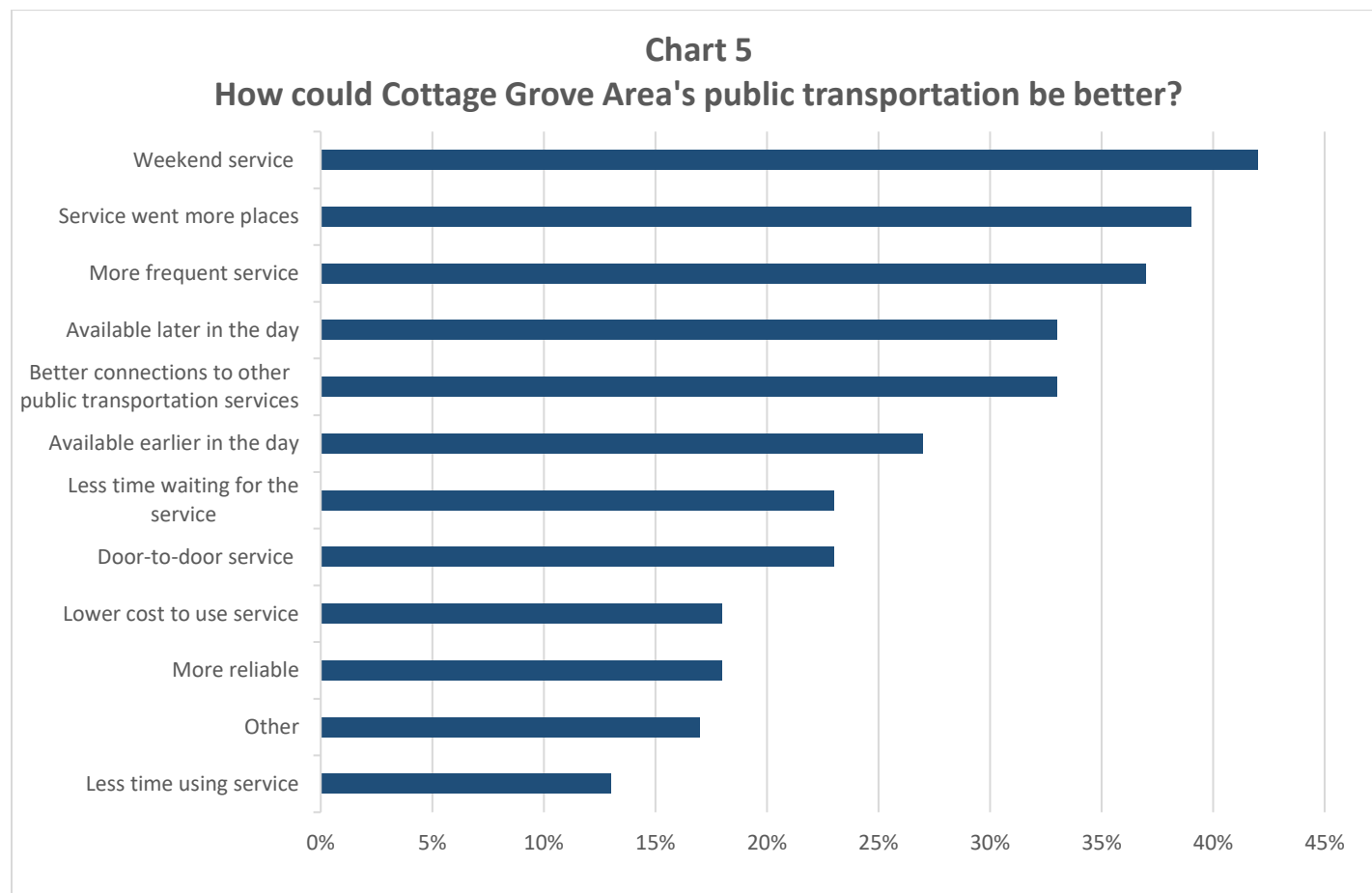
Nearly half of respondents **Never** (48%) ride public transportation. This is followed by **A few times per year** (23%), **2 to 4 days per week** (10%), **5 days per week** (7%), and **1 to 4 days per month** (6%).

Next, respondents were asked to check all the options that would entice them to use public transportation more often (Q4).



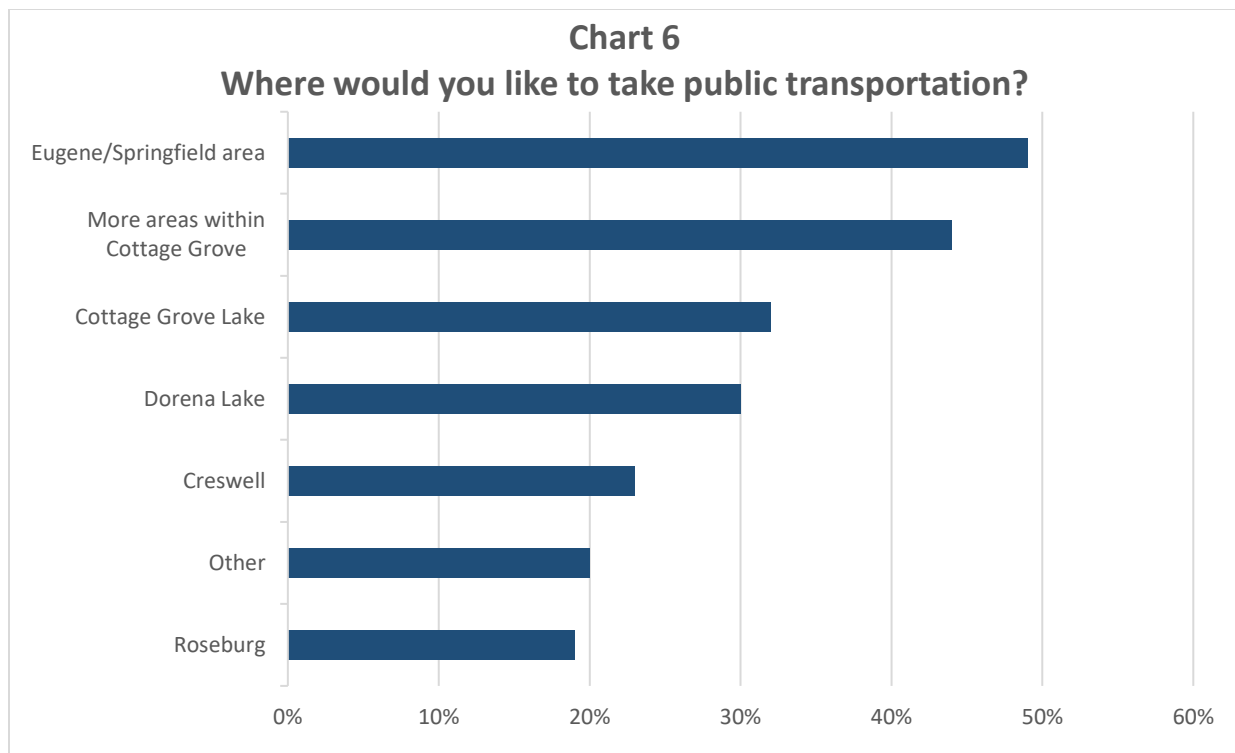
Respondents are more likely to use public transportation more if **Service ran at the times of the day they need it** (54%). Other factors include if **Service went where I need it to go** (43%), **Service was closer to my home** (29%), **Service took less time** (26%), **Felt safe using the service** (20%), **Nothing would motivate them to use public transportation** (18%), **Fare was not so expensive** (13%), and **Other** (12%). Factors under 10% include **Felt safe getting to the service** (8%) and if **There was a group fare** (3%).

Respondents were then asked to check all the options that would make the Cottage Grove Area's public transportation better (Q5).



The top ways for how the Cottage Grove Area's public transportation could be better are **Weekend service** (42%), **Service went more places** (39%), and **More frequent service** (37%). These were followed by **Available later in the day** (33%), **Better connections to other public transportation services** (33%), **Available earlier in the day** (27%), **Less time waiting for service** (23%), and **Door-to-Door service** (23%). Answers under 20% included **Lower cost to use services** (18%), **Other** (17%), and **Less time using service** (13%).

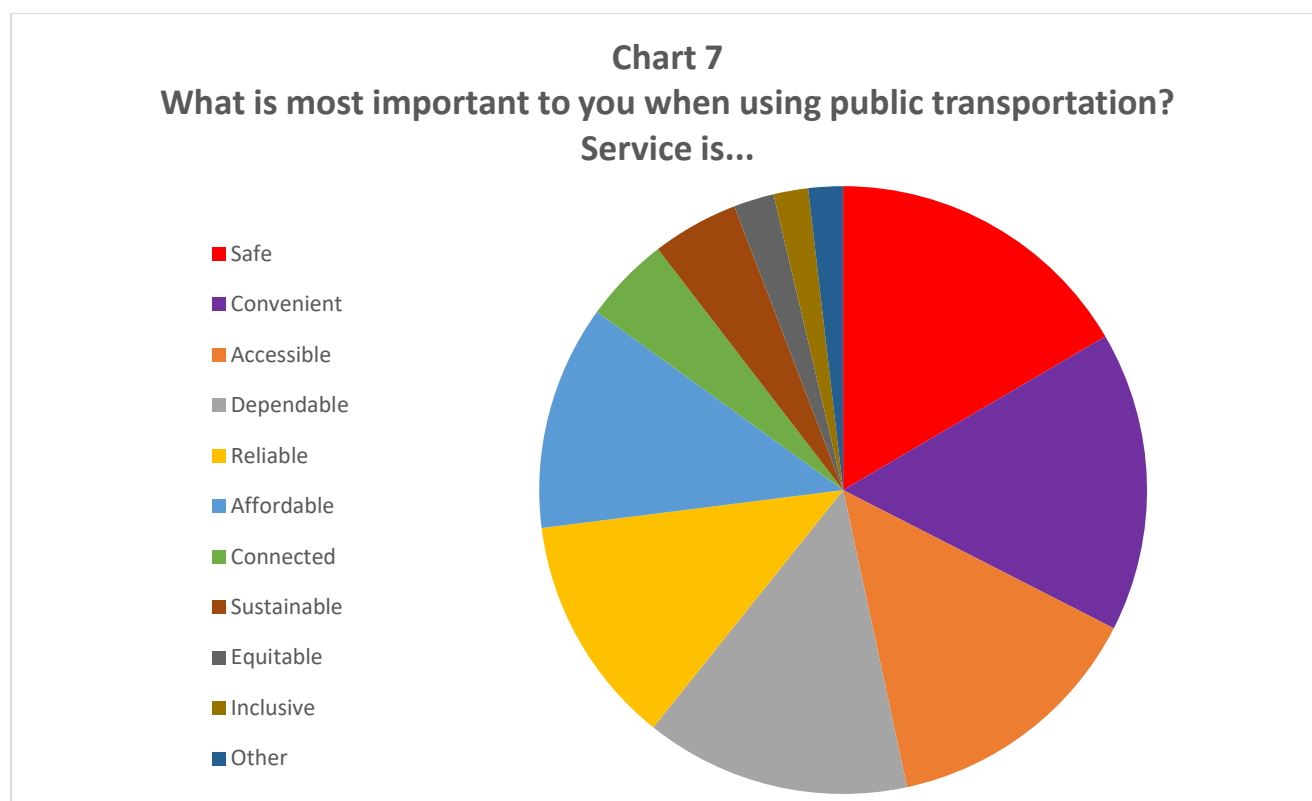
For Q6, respondents were asked where they would like to take public transportation to.



Nearly half of respondents said they would like to take public transportation to the **Eugene/Springfield area** (49%). This was followed by **More areas within Cottage Grove** (44%), **Cottage Grove Lake** (32%), **Dorena Lake** (30%), **Creswell** (23%), **Other** (20%), and **Roseburg** (19%).

In **Other**, respondents expressed that they want to take public transportation to the coast, Corvallis, Eugene Airport, and rural communities in southern Lane County.

Respondents were asked to mark three boxes for what word is most important them when using public transportation (Q7).



**Figure 1: Question 7 Word Cloud**

More than half of the respondents said that service should be **Safe** (54%) and **Convenient** (52%). These were followed by **Accessible** (46%), **Dependable** (46%), **Reliable** (40%), **Affordable** (39%), **Connected** (15%), and **Sustainable** (15%). Less than 10% of the responses included **Equitable** (7%), **Inclusive** (6%), and **Other** (6%).

**Other** responses included abolishment, clean, and self-reliant.





Lastly, respondents were asked an open-ended question: **Do you have any additional comments about transportation (existing service or thoughts about making service better) in the Cottage Grove Area?**

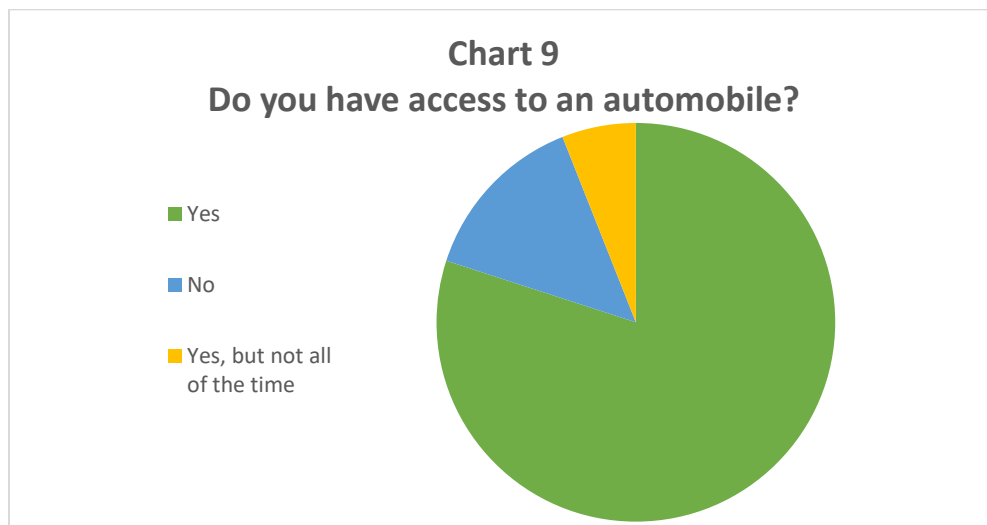
A full list respondents' answers can be found in the Annotated Questionnaire section. There were 67 fill in the blank responses that grouped into the 10 themes from Question 7.

The top themes included 12 responses related to **Connected** and 10 responses related to **Convenient**. The other themes included 7 for **Equitable**, 6 for each **Dependable** and **Inclusive**, 5 for **Accessible**, 3 for **Reliable**, 2 for **Affordable**, and 1 response each for **Safe** and **Sustainable**. There were also 12 responses that included **"No"**, **"None"**, **"Nothing"**, **"N/A"** in the free response space.

## Demographics

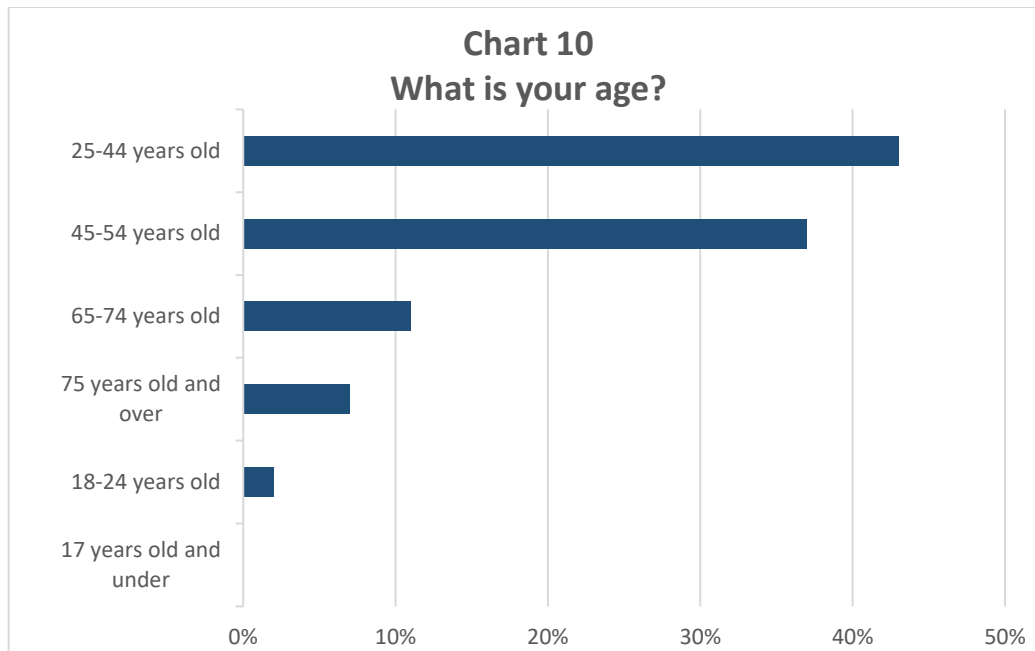
From Q9-Q13, respondents were asked questions about their demographics. These questions were left optional to be answered.

For Q9, respondents were asked if they had access to an automobile.



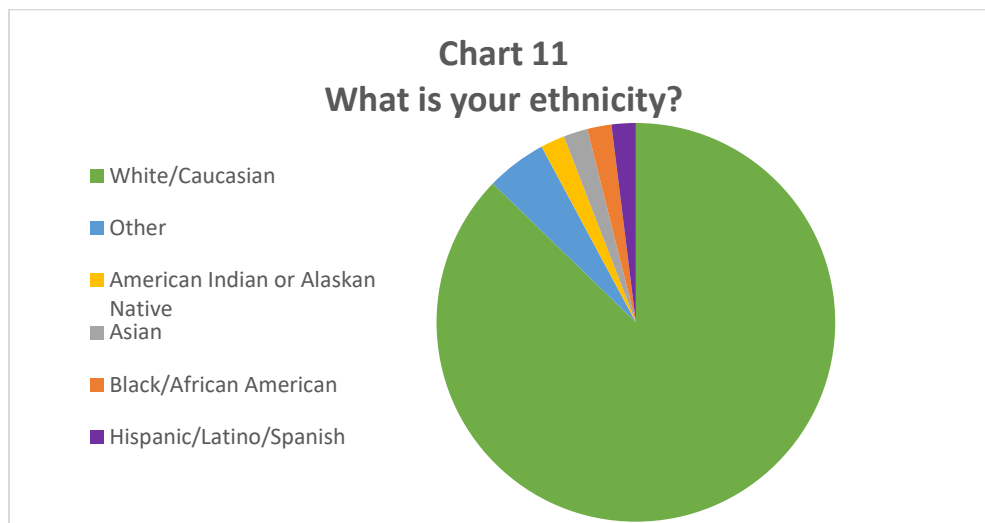
Eight of out ten respondents said **Yes** (80%) they have access to an automobile. While 14% **do not have access** and 6% **do have access, but not all of the time**.

Next, respondents were asked what their age is (Q10).



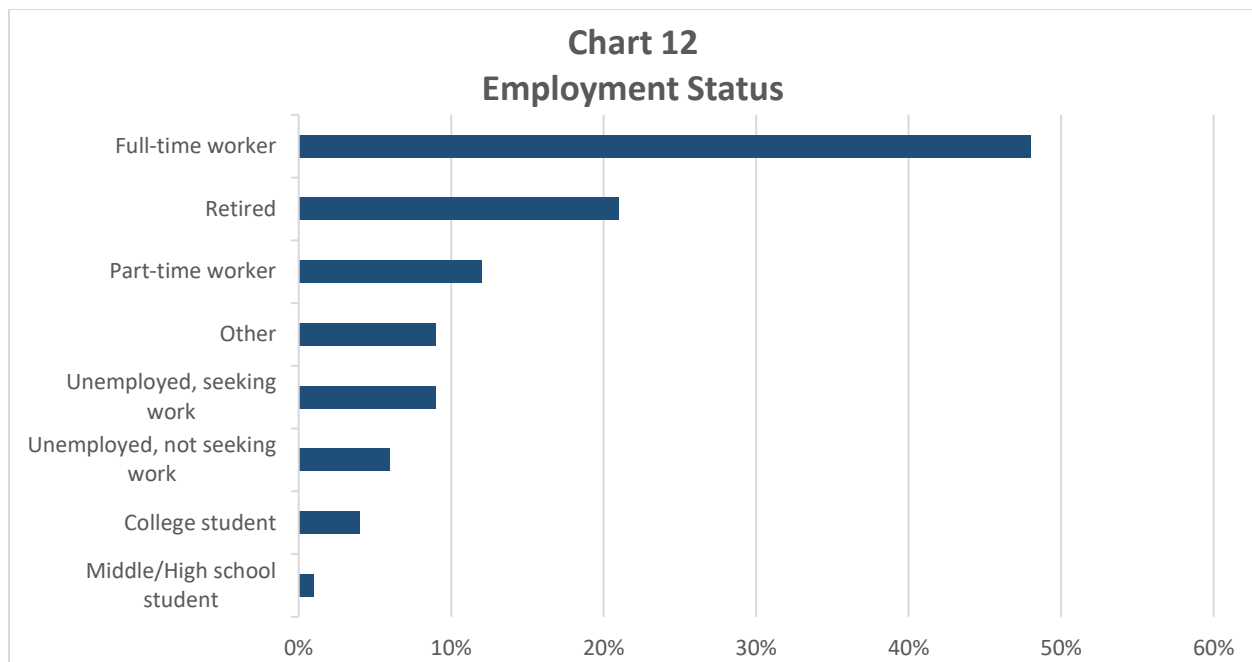
Most respondents that answered Q10 are **25-44 years old** (43%) followed by **45-64 years old** (37%) and **65-74 years old** (11%). Answers less than 10% include **75 years old and over** (7%), **18-24 years old** (2%), and **17 years old and under** (0%).

For Q11, respondents were asked what their ethnicity is.



Nearly nine out of ten respondents are **White/Caucasian** (89%) and this was followed by **Other** (5%). The following all received 2% of responses: **American Indian or Alaskan Native**, **Asian**, **Black/African American**, and **Hispanic/Latino/Spanish**.

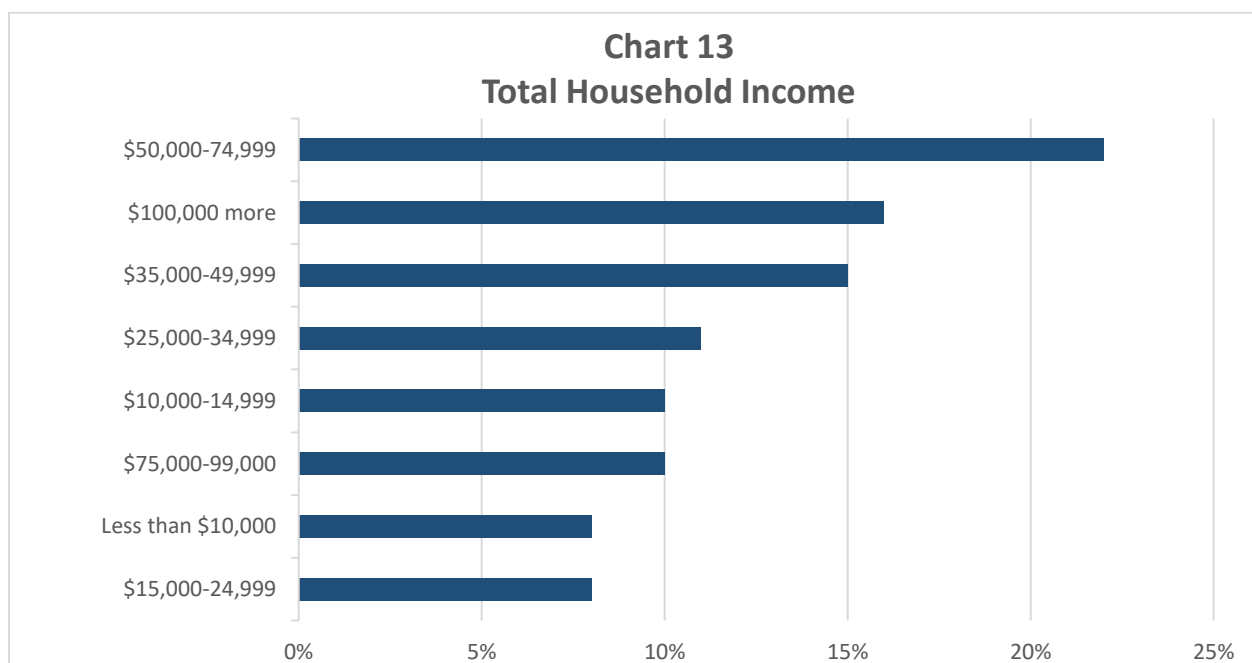
Next, respondents answered their employment status (Q12).



The results showed that **Full-time worker** (48%) was the top answer followed by **Retired** (21%) and **Part-time worker** (12%). The rest of the answers were under 10% and they include **Other** (9%), **Unemployed, seeking work** (9%), **Unemployed, not seeking work** (6%), **College student** (4%), and **Middle/High school student** (1%).

More than half of the respondents that marked **Other** said they were disabled (53%) in the fill in the blank section.

Lastly, the survey concluded by asking respondent what their total household income is (Q13).



Respondents top answers for total household income were **\$50,000-74,999** (22%), **\$100,000 or more** (16%), **\$35,000-49,999** (15%), and **\$25,000-34,999** (11%). Both **\$10,000-14,999** and **\$75,000-99,999** accounted for 10% each while **Less than \$10,000** and **\$15,000-24,999** accounted for 8% each.

## Annotated Questionnaire

### Lane Council of Governments / City of Cottage Grove

#### Cottage Grove Area Transit Development Plan Community Survey

July 27-September 28, 2020

N= 196 (Total) N=175 (online) N= 21 (paper)

Please help us plan for public transportation in the Cottage Grove Area. The City of Cottage Grove would like to hear from you about how public transportation is working, or not working, for you. Your responses will help guide our public transportation decisions over the next 10 to 15 years. This survey will be open until September 11th, 2020.

If you would like to know more information about the project or other ways to get involved, please visit: <https://lcog.org/CottageGroveAreaTDP>

What do we mean when we are asking about Public Transportation? It is any type of transportation that is available to all of us. Examples include the bus, Dial-A-Ride service, Mobility on Demand (MOD), bike share and more.

Si necesita realizar esta encuesta en español, haga clic [aquí](#).

#### 1. In what city or community do you live?

Answer Choices	Responses n=196	
Cottage Grove	88%	173
Rural Lane County	4%	8
Douglas County	3%	5
Eugene or Springfield	3%	5
Creswell	1%	3
Lane County	1%	2

#### 2. Which types of travel do you typically use to go between your home and places like work, school, and shopping? (Check all that apply):

Answer Choices	Responses n=196	
Drive alone	75%	147
Walk	34%	66
Someone drives me	29%	56
Lane Transit District	19%	37

South Lane Wheels	14%	27
Bike	13%	26
Taxi	6%	11
Other (please specify)	5%	9
Mobility on Demand (MOD)	4%	7

**Other responses included:**

- Husband + I drive together
- Cottage Grove Taxi
- LTD CG Connector
- Uber
- CG Connector
- Carpool
- RideSource
- Carpool
- With passenger (wife) with me driving

**3. How often do you ride public transportation?**

Answer Choices	Responses n=196	
Never	48%	94
A few times per year	23%	46
2 to 4 days per week	10%	20
5 days per week	7%	13
1 to 4 days per month	6%	12
Less than 1 day per month	4%	8
1 day per week	2%	3

**4. I would use public transportation more often if... (Check all that apply):**

Answer Choices	Responses n=196	
Service ran at the times of day that I need it	54%	106
Service went where I need it to go	43%	85
Service was closer to my home	29%	57
The service took less time	26%	50
I felt safe using this service	20%	39
Nothing. I don't want to use public transportation	18%	35
The fare was not so expensive	13%	26
Other (please specify)	12%	23
I felt safe getting to the service	8%	16
There was a group fare	3%	5

**Other responses included:**

- My car was broken and I needed to farther than 1 mile
- Haven't use it, yet
- I don't think I am a good candidate. I live walking distance from everything.

- Direct CG to Downtown Eugene service. Current service takes over an hour and a half, versus a 30 minute drive.
- COVID went away!
- Better weekend service and have more frequent routes into Springfield and Eugene.
- No need to.
- Don't need it now but may in the future
- If service was available on weekends also.
- Almost everything I need is within walking distance.
- I should not be taxed to provide transportation for anyone.
- I personally don't use it, but my kids probably will in the future.
- RideSource for people with disabilities to get to work
- I didn't have my car.
- I support public transportation, but don't use it myself.
- 8
- Current operating times are adequate
- South Lane Wheels takes me everywhere I need to go
- No complaints
- I couldn't drive
- Pandemic over so I can travel
- "No", "None", "Nothing", "N/A": 2 responses

5. **How could Cottage Grove Area's public transportation be better? (Check all that apply):**

Answer Choices	Responses n=196	
Weekend service	42%	82
Service went more places	39%	77
More frequent service	37%	73
Available later in the day	33%	65
Better connections to other public transportation services (for example: Amtrak)	33%	64
Available earlier in the day	27%	52
Less time waiting for the service	23%	46
Door-to-door service	23%	46
Lower cost to use the service	18%	36
More reliable	18%	35
Less time using the service	17%	33
Other (please specify)	13%	25

**Other responses included:**

- Don't use it so I don't know
- Don't know haven't used it yet
- Service to the recreation areas. Cottage Grove Lake or Dorena Lake
- Unsure

- I have heard people say that the current bus service is too limited for them to use on a regular basis
- Wow! Door to door, I never considered that. Frequent and reliable would be great. Service to Eugene airport and near the Amtrak station would be FABULOUS (If we can ever travel again).
- Airport
- I don't like how dirty it is
- Service to Amtrak would be great
- Night trips to and from events in Eugene
- Stop wasting government funds on public transportation, if there is a need, people will pay. If not, shut it down.
- I have never used so I can't say
- Get rid of it. Give my tax money back!
- More inclusive to people with disabilities to get to work
- I don't use it
- Needs more advertisement
- Never looked into it so hard for me to answer
- With a lack of people working, taxes coming in, and a small population – we should wait to increase any public spending
- Make it more known to the community
- As non-user, can't answer
- I would prefer no out of town public transportation. LTD from Eugene has brought nothing but homelessness and crime to our community.
- More times to western side of town to get closer to home
- Keep the Door to Door Connector
- More social networking presence explaining services. Not near enough internet savvy demographics.
- Its great as is
- Better connections to LTD buses
- Not sure? Of course any of those would make any public transportation system better
- "No", "None", "Nothing", "N/A": 5 responses

6. Is there anywhere you would like to take public transportation, but are not able to? (Check all that apply):

Answer Choices	Responses n=196	
Eugene/Springfield area	50%	97
More areas within Cottage Grove	44%	86
Cottage Grove Lake	32%	62
Dorena Lake	30%	58
Creswell	23%	45
Other	20%	40
Roseburg	19%	37

**Other responses included:**

- Coast, Corvallis, Portland Airport, Eugene Airport, Amtrak
- Haven't rode it yet
- Cottage Grove to Roseburg
- The coast
- Not sure
- Curtin
- More rural areas
- Coast
- Florence, coast
- Not for me
- None. It should not exist
- Casino
- I don't use
- As a non-user, can't answer
- London/Dorena/Culp Creek
- Rural areas of Cottage Grove/Creswell
- Coast
- Service areas are adequate enough for me
- Coast
- Stay at home. Stop the spread
- "No", "None", "Nothing", "N/A": 20 responses

**7. What is most important to you when using public transportation? Service is... (Check 3 boxes):**

Answer Choices	Responses n=196	
Safe	54%	106
Convenient	52%	101
Dependable	46%	90
Accessible	46%	90
Reliable	40%	79
Affordable	39%	76
Connected	15%	30
Sustainable	15%	29
Equitable	7%	14
Inclusive	6%	12
Other	6%	11

**Other responses included:**

- Self-reliant (1 response)
- Weather (1 response)



- Clean (1 response)
- Better time quicker schedule (1 response)
- Abolishment (1 response)
- “No”, “None”, “Nothing”, “N/A”: 6 responses

**8. Do you have any additional comments about transportation (existing service or thoughts about making service better) in the Cottage Grove area?**

- When COVID-19 isn't a factor, transportation could improved for those that work in Eugene, but live in Cottage Grove. There could be more direct transportation via LTD or Amtrak for business people living in our community. For example, I work 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM in downtown Eugene, but there are no direct and simple to-and -from options that don't also include stops in Creswell and LCC.
- Increase number of LTD trips from between CG and Eugene including stops at the current bus stops in CG.
- I think the City should look into electric cars and buses to be sustainable. I would take the bus regularly to Eugene/Springfield if it were more convenient to do so. The buses should run early in the morning and later at night.
- Not at this time.
- We have students in the out lying area that would benefit from transportation so they can participate in after school activities.
- Public transport is crucial. Thanks for planning ahead so that it's available.
- I frequently bike to Cottage Grove. It would be nice to be able to rely on the bus if I wanted a ride home or if I wanted to take the bus down with a friend who would ride the Row River Trail or visit businesses downtown. The bus comes infrequently so it's hard to really plan a trip down there.
- Fix the roads.
- Seems like the wrong time to make changes with the country locked down.
- Affordable public transportation should be available during working hours and weekends even during COVID. I am unable to drive due to seizures and depend on public transportation for work and errands. When there is no consistent transportation it impacts disabled and working citizens negatively. It isolates us and increases stress because now we have to come up with new ways to get around.
- Fix the roads!!
- Restore MOD, other services.
- It takes me 2 hours to get to work (Eugene) each day with the current arrangement with LTD. This is unacceptable. Also, please, please, please at least consider more access for folks living our Shoreview Drive!
- My family used the LTD Connector often before COVID!
- Ride Around Town was difficult for people with technological skill and/or smart phones to use.
- I always though that the route around town was a good idea though I guess it wasn't utilized enough.

- Extending service to rural areas so that it is possible for all of the citizens of Lane County to participate fully in the activity of Lane County without owning a personal private automobile.
- No. I live quite a ways from town so would have to drive to connect with bus service.
- Go back to the old LTD schedule.
- My work as a caregiver requires a car so I can't take public transit. I know it is invaluable to my low income & disabled friends that maintains their independence. South Lane Wheels is \*AMAZING\* in how it maximizes its resources to serve those who depend on it. Having Bus 98 provide a public transit option to connect The Grove to the metro area multiple times per day is essential. A noon route would be beneficial.
- Youth passes like what LTD offers in the summer.
- Stop cutting services to this town.
- More small electric buses that can pick up on call.
- Need to know schedule and how to get door to door service
- Having a route that goes to the outlying areas like Diston, Culp Creek and out Row River. Also the ability for Creswell folks to make it to Cottage Grove and Curtain to Cottage Grove.
- Going to rural areas on either side of I-5.
- A bus that ran in a loop south on 99, then east on Main, then north on Gateway, then over the bridge back onto 99 would be really handy for shopping.
- Uber would be a great service + jobs.
- I would love to see expanded hours for door to door service.
- Yes I need services on the weekend I have disabled children and I am disabled and it's hard to get to Eugene and Springfield to see family we miss many activities and family gatherings because Cottage Grove is cut off most service.
- Eliminate the service. The isn't at full capacity and is not cost effective. That's why I'm taxed on something that creates more traffic issues than it solves.
- We need an option for people with disabilities in our community to have transportation to vocational programs at are offered in Eugene & Springfield.
- No. Are usually only use public transportation for going to concerts and sporting evens in the Eugene Springfield area. You say park somewhere and hop a bus.
- We need the service and need it more times of the day.
- We need it to help kids get to Head Start.
- Language accessibility, service to community service agencies, routes with schedules, service to the airport would be amazing after COVID lift. Unpredictability is a big issue. Better customer service and a stronger community to equity will be needed to build trust up with riders of color.
- When I went to school at LCC I used the bus daily. But due to limited hours to the return home, I ended up renting an apartment in Eugene to attend UO because it was cheaper and more convenient than monthly parking or taking the bus.
- I used the LTD connector program and I thought it was a wonderful way to get around town. However I didn't care for the change in how LTD cut the route times around town.

This meant I usually had to go to appointments way earlier than necessary and come back later in the day.

- I tried to use the transportation smaller vehicle but app and directions were so confusing and impossible to navigate.
- As mentioned above, service to London, Dorena, Culp Creek, with stops at the lakes, would be a game changer.
- Current public transportation service needs more buses and drivers to meet the need. More routes and/or door to door for elderly and disabled.
- Provide the service to folks within 2 miles of city limits.
- I love the service.
- I love their service.
- If I think of something, I'll let you know.
- Please keep the Cottage Grove Connector bus.
- Not crazy about app jumping around with several ETA's for bus. More accuracy would be appreciated. Not sure why screen says contact dispatch while waiting for bus, but it has cause stress wondering if ride was cancelled. Offering more services should only be considered if adequate cleaning and distance can be attained due to COVID. How drivers pay attention to riders NOT sitting in designated seats. Distance on bus is hard enough without rules being followed EVERY. SINGLE. TIME.
- You guys are great!
- Good work.
- Make it available in all Lane County. VA Hospital in Portland and Roseburg.
- Make it available all over Oregon.
- Exposed twice due to travel. March – LTD in and from Eugene symptoms + fever for 12 weeks. June – Classic Taxi Driver = Mike. Symptoms + fever for 6 weeks. Will travel more after all symptoms are gone, "stop the spread" "SD, mark, handwash"
- "No", "None", "Nothing", "N/A": 12 responses

**9. Do you have access to an automobile?**

Answer Choices	Responses n=194	
Yes	80%	155
No	14%	28
Yes, but not all of the time	6%	11

**10. What is your age?**

Answer Choices	Responses n=194	
25-44 years old	43%	84
45-54 years old	37%	72
65-74 years old	11%	22
75 years old and over	7%	13
18-24 years old	2%	3
17 years old and under	0%	0

**11. What is your ethnicity?**

Response Category	Responses n=187	
White/Caucasian	89%	166
Other (please specify)	5%	9
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2%	3
Asian	2%	3
Hispanic/Latino/Spanish	2%	3
Black/African American	2%	3

**Other responses included:**

- White & American Indian
- Prefer not to say
- Human
- Heinz 57
- Why does this matter
- Human
- Not relevant
- Mixed
- Why should this matter except divide us.

**12. Are you... (Check all that apply):**

Answer Choices	Responses n=188	
Full-time worker	48%	91
Retired	21%	39
Part-time worker	12%	22
Other (please specify)	9%	17
Unemployed, seeking work	9%	16
Unemployed, not seeking work	6%	12
College student	4%	7
Middle/High school student	1%	2

**Other responses included:**

- Online college student
- Homemaker
- Missing leg. Disabled
- NOYB
- Adult
- Disabled
- Self employed
- Disabled
- Disabled
- Stay at home parent and teacher
- Disabled
- Homemaker

- Disable – Vocational program
- Mom
- Disabled
- Disabled ewe d
- Disabled

**13. What is your total household income?**

Response Category	Responses n=181	
\$50,000-74,999	22%	40
\$100,000 or more	16%	29
\$35,000-49,999	15%	27
\$25,000-34,999	11%	20
\$75,000-99,999	10%	18
\$10,000-14,999	10%	18
Less than \$10,000	8%	15
\$15,000-24,999	8%	14

**14. Enter me in a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to Bi-Mart. My email is:**

- Received 117 responses.

**15. I'd like to stay involved in this project. My email is:**

- Received 40 responses.

# Cottage Grove Area Transit Development Plan

## Be Your Best Presentation

Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> 2020



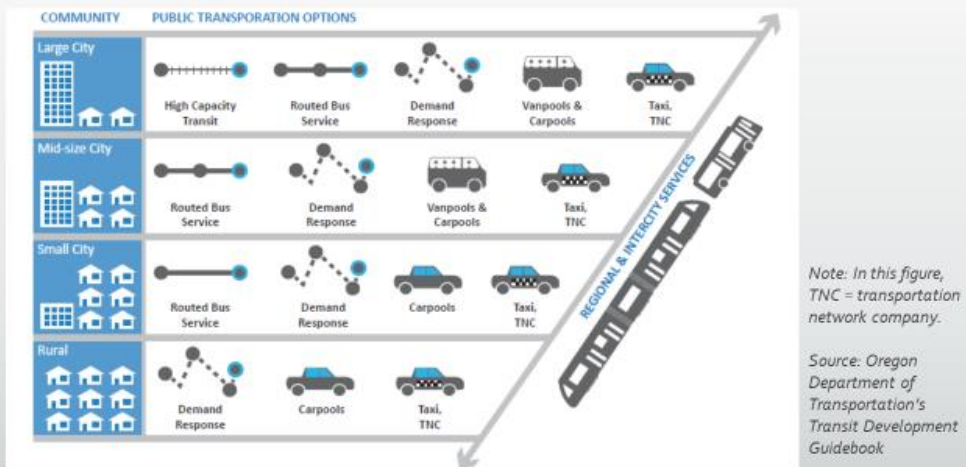
### What is a Transit Development Plan?

- A master plan to help guide the role of public transportation within and beyond Cottage Grove
- A reflection of the community's public transportation-related vision, goals, priorities and needs



## What do we mean by public transportation?

- **Public transportation** is any transportation that is available to the public. Examples include buses, Dial-A-Ride, the Lane Transit District Mobility on Demand (MOD) Connector, bike share, and more.



## Why Develop a TDP?

- Support and guide decisions about public transportation service improvements and investments
- Evaluate the impacts of community growth and development on public transportation service and explore alternative futures
- Strengthen coordination with the public and community partners
- Strategize funding opportunities



## A TDP should...

- Identify and prioritize transit investments
- Support a range of community and regional goals
- Explore alternatives for addressing transit needs
- Identify opportunities to improve connectivity between transit stops, other transportation modes, multiple transit providers, and rider origins and destinations
- Be linked to performance measures and targets
- Provide the basis for the transit element of the community's Transportation System Plan (TSP)
- Examples of final TDPs can be found [here](#)

## Developing the Cottage Grove Area TDP

- Funded by Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF)





## Objectives:

- Enhance rider experience;
- Promote the full range of transportation options in the region including biking, walking and use of public transit;
- Integrate public transportation within and beyond Cottage Grove;
- Coordinate service with adjacent transit providers;
- Support existing and future community development;
- Contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

## Key Components

- Vision, goals and priorities
- Existing and future conditions
- Transit needs and opportunities
- Performance measures
- Financial Plan
- Implementation Plan



## Project Management Team

- Amanda Ferguson, Cottage Grove City Planner
- Ruth Linoz, South Lane Wheels Executive Director
- Mark Bernard, ODOT\* Regional Transit Coordinator
- Paul Thompson, LCOG\*\* Transportation Program Manager
- Kelly Clarke, LCOG Senior Transportation Planner
- Rachel Dorfman, LCOG Assistant Planner
- Syd Shoaf, LCOG Assistant Planner

*\* Oregon Department of Transportation*

*\*\* Lane Council of Governments*

## Stakeholder and Public Involvement

- Stakeholder Advisory Committee
  - Expected to meet four times through the duration of the project. Also expected to review and comment on deliverables and provide technical and policy advice according to member expertise.
- Community Outreach – online and in-person when restrictions are lifted
- Project webpage
- Presentations to local committees and boards
- Community survey
- Community interviews

## Current Community Outreach

### [Community Survey –](http://surveymonkey.com/r/CottageGroveAreaTDP)

<http://surveymonkey.com/r/CottageGroveAreaTDP>

Scan with your phone camera to take survey:



### Cottage Grove Area Transit Development Plan Community Survey

Please help us plan for public transportation in the Cottage Grove Area. The City of Cottage Grove would like to hear from you about how public transportation is working, or not working, for you. Your responses will help guide our public transportation decisions over the next 10 to 15 years. This survey will be open until September 4th, 2020.

If you would like to know more information about the project or other ways to get involved, please visit: <https://cog.org/CottageGroveAreaTDP>

What do we mean when we are asking about Public Transportation? It is any type of transportation that is available to all of us. Examples include the bus, Dial-A-Ride service, Mobility on Demand (MOD), bike share and more.

Si necesita realizar esta encuesta en español, haga clic [aquí](#).

OK

\* 1. In what city or community do you live?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Cottage Grove         | <input type="radio"/> Douglas County    |
| <input type="radio"/> Oremville             | <input type="radio"/> Lane County       |
| <input type="radio"/> Eugene or Springfield | <input type="radio"/> Rural Lane County |

0 of 10 answered

## Current Community Outreach

### [Project Webpage –](http://cog.org/CottageGroveAreaTDP) <http://cog.org/CottageGroveAreaTDP>

#### COTTAGE GROVE AREA TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The City of Cottage Grove is working on a plan for the future of public transportation in the Cottage Grove area.

Public transportation is any transportation that is available to the public. Examples include buses, Dial-A-Ride, Mobility on Demand (MOD), bike share, and more.

Input from community members like you is a very important part of this process so we can better understand the needs and opportunities to make transit work for you.

We want to hear from you! This survey will be open until September 4th. Click the link below to take the survey and let us know your thoughts.



Picture credit: Kenneth Michael Roberts

[Click Here to Take the Survey](#)

Tell us what your public transportation experience has been like

Submit

What is most important to you when using public transportation? Service is...

Check 3 boxes

- ☐ Accessible
- ☐ Affordable
- ☐ Convenient
- ☐ Dependable
- ☐ Inclusive
- ☐ Reliable
- ☐ Safe
- ☐ Sustainable
- ☐ Connected
- ☐ Other:

(1 word limit)

Submit

## Project Timeline



## Existing Transit Services in the Cottage Grove Area

Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> 2020



## Existing Transit Services Overview

- Lane Transit District
  - Route 98
  - LTD Connector (operated by South Lane Wheels)
  - Medicaid Brokerage
- South Lane Wheels
  - Door-to-Door
  - Metro Shuttle
- Private transit services
  - Cottage Grove Classic Taxi



## Lane Transit District

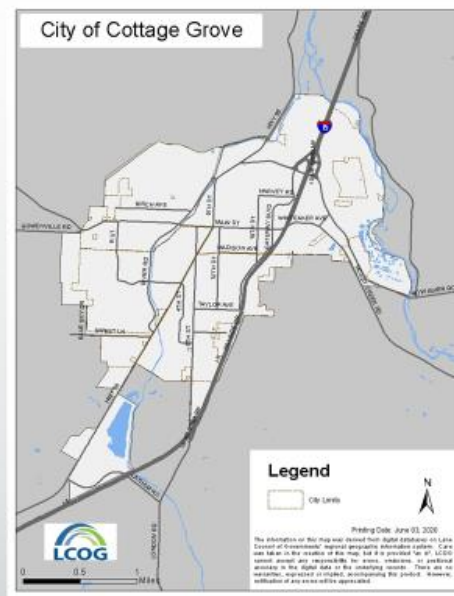
- Route 98
  - Fixed Route Service
  - Runs seven days a week
  - Serves downtown Eugene, University of Oregon, Lane Community College, Creswell, and Cottage Grove
  - There is one stop in Creswell city limits and six stops in the Cottage Grove city limits including Village Shopping Center, Lane Community College, and Wal-Mart Park & Ride





## Lane Transit District (continued)

- LTD Connector
  - Mobility on Demand
  - Pilot started in January 2019, was suspended in March 2020 to August 2020 due to Covid-19
  - Service started again on August 17<sup>th</sup> with a new schedule:
    - Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
  - Cost is \$1 per ride To schedule a ride:
    - Use mobile app
    - Website
    - Call



LTD Connector Service Area

## Lane Transit District (continued)

- Medicaid Brokerage
  - Demand response service
  - Non-emergency medical transportation for Medicaid
  - This is operated by Lane Transit District's paratransit, *RideSource*, and serves the Cottage Grove area



## South Lane Wheels

- Door-to-Door Shuttle
  - Demand Response service
  - Reservations made by calling South Lane Wheels dispatch
  - Service area: rural areas of South Lane County including Cottage Grove and Creswell
  - Hours: Monday – Friday 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM
  - Cost for one-way trips:
    - Up to 3 miles: \$3
    - Up to 5 miles: \$5
    - Up to 10 miles: \$10
    - Additional charges per mile over 10: \$1



## South Lane Wheels (continued)

- Metro Shuttle
  - Demand Response service
  - Reservations are made by calling SLW Dispatch
  - Door-to-door service from Creswell and Cottage Grove to the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area
  - Hours: Monday – Friday 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM
  - Cost for one-way trip/round trip:
    - From Creswell: \$10 / \$20
    - From Cottage Grove: \$15 / \$30



## Existing Private Transit Services

- Cottage Grove Classic Taxi
  - Operates 24 hours per day Monday through Saturday
  - Pricing:
    - \$3 Flag Drop
    - \$2.50 per mile
    - \$5 minimum



## South Lane Wheels Historic Services

- Route-Around-Town
  - Suspended in 2019
  - This was a deviated fixed route with bus stops. Similar to LTD's Route 98.
- Medicaid & Oregon Health Plan Service Provision
  - No longer a contract service as of 2020
  - Users with Medicaid benefits through the Oregon Health Plan were eligible for free transportation provided by *RideSource* through South Lane Wheels



## Prospective Services

- Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation Grant
  - Proposed fixed route transit service operated by South Lane Wheels and North Douglas Betterment
  - This would connect the Eugene Veteran Affairs (VA) Clinic and the Roseburg VA hospital
  - Would be funded by the Federal Transit Authority 5311 VA grant
  - If awarded, service is anticipated to start August 2020



# Thank you!

# Questions?

Kelly Clarke [kclarke@lcog.org](mailto:kclarke@lcog.org) | Rachel Dorfman [rdorfman@lcog.org](mailto:rdorfman@lcog.org) | Syd Shoaf [sshoaf@lcog.org](mailto:sshoaf@lcog.org)

## Appendix D – Printed Outreach

### Cottage Grove Water Bill Flyer

# Help shape the future of public transportation!

The City of Cottage Grove is working on a plan for the future of public transportation in the Cottage Grove area. Input from community members like you is a very important part of this process so we can better understand the needs and opportunities to make public transportation work for you.

***We want to hear from you!***

Tell us what you think by scanning the QR code:



You can also visit:

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CottageGroveAreaTDP>**

This survey is completely anonymous, however, you have the chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to Bi-Mart by leaving your email at the end of the survey.

**For more information, please visit: <https://www.lcog.org/CottageGroveAreaTDP>**



## BRIEFS

**'5K Your Way' lets runners customize their challenge**

**SPRINGFIELD** — Willamalane's virtual fundraiser run, 5K Your Way, returns Aug. 21-31. All proceeds support scholarships and equipment for Springfield youth.

5K Your Way is an opportunity for community members to get active at their own pace while supporting a good cause. Participants can walk, run, or roll to participate. There are five suggested 5K routes outlined on Willamalane trails for local residents, but supporters can tackle the 3.1-mile challenge from anywhere.

Willamalane scholarships fund 50% of programming fees for activities like sports camps and childcare for families who qualify.

For scholarship applications, visit [willamalane.org](http://willamalane.org). Registration for the 5K is \$5.

**Cottage Grove offering public transportation survey**

City leaders in Cottage Grove are planning for the future of public transportation in and around the area, including Creswell. Public transportation includes the bus, Dial-A-Ride, Mobility on Demand (MOD), bike share, and more. City planners are offering an online survey to help identify needs, and guide public transportation growth in Cottage Grove and out to North Douglas County, the Eugene-Springfield area, Creswell, Loran, and Dorena. The survey can be found at [sdslane.org](http://sdslane.org) until Sept. 5.

# Performers hope to capture 'Disney magic'

BY ALIYA HALL  
THE CHRONICLE

Disney magic is only "a wish upon a star" away with the new Disney princess character performer company Around the Riverbend.

Co-founded by Jordan Winans and Kaytlin Smith, these women have moved from California to Lane County to start the area's first and only character performing company, and they have already started getting in touch with Southern Willamette Valley communities. Although they are normally hired to play at parties, with COVID-19, the company is starting off with doing Zoom meet-and-greets.

"It's the worst time to start a company," Smith said with a laugh, adding that it has given them ample time to solidify the plans and costuming for their company so they can "come out of the gates strong," she explained. "We don't want to get out there and not know what we're doing. We have the time to research and make it as perfect as possible."

Due to her personality, Smith plays characters like Rapunzel, Snow White and Anna from Frozen, while Winans plays the more reserved characters like Elsa, Ariel from the Little Mermaid and Aurora from Sleeping Beauty.

"We figured out who we fit more with personality and looks too," Smith explained. "We try to adhere to parts and not look like someone we're less convincing as. I know I don't make a convincing Elsa, that's

not my strength."

The two met around four years ago at a convention, where they were cosplaying as the same character from a TV Show. Performance has been in their backgrounds, with Winans singing and performing since 2011 and Smith dancing and working as a character actor since her freshman year of college.

Research is a big part of what goes into a performance. Beyond the mannerisms — "Rapunzel doesn't move or act like Cinderella would," Smith said — getting convincing and quality products is important. They have saved up to buy the best dresses to keep from having to upgrade quickly, and finding the right makeup to give them a look like they stepped out of a storybook.

Prep work also includes rewatching their characters' movies, reading Disney Wikipedia pages and watching YouTube videos of characters in Disney Parks or from other companies. All to prepare them for the questions kids will ask them.

"Kids throw everything at you," Smith said. "I've gotten weird questions before and you have to think on your feet."

The next big step Smith and Winans want to do is expand their cast to include more diverse princess characters. Winans said that during their research it surprised them how many times a company would hire a white girl to play a character like Princess Jasmine, or having the same performer play Tiana and Pocahontas.

"It's not something we're OK with," Winans said. "These people



Jordan Winans, left, is dressed as Ariel from the Little Mermaid and holding Meeko — named after the raccoon in Pocahontas. Kaytlin Smith, right, interacts with a child as Snow White. She said the memories of meeting the children is the most rewarding aspect for her.

hiring us for parties, if a girl is excited to see Tiana as her representation, Tiana needs to be right."

Smith added that Pocahontas was her favorite growing up, and watching non-native women play her is "sad because she deserves that representation, especially because Oregon is native land." Winans said that for every white girl who sees herself in Rapunzel, a girl of color deserves to feel the same when they see Jasmine.

Along with creating a bigger, diverse cast, Smith and Winans also want to volunteer and find a future venue where they can host parties and classes.

The most rewarding aspect for the two of them is the children and the memories that stick with them.

Smith said seeing the same children over and over, or being able to communicate with a deaf girl through American Sign Language and make her feel comfortable is huge. Winans said watching their faces as they meet the princesses is the most impactful.

"Kaytlin was Snow White and when the little boy opened the door and saw Snow White, he didn't know how to handle himself," she said. "It was energy overload. His face was pure shock and joy, and then he ran away. We never know what to expect but it's always memorable."

For those interested in Around The Riverbend, send an email to: [aroundtheriverbendevents@gmail.com](mailto:aroundtheriverbendevents@gmail.com).

## Appendix E – Project Website

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### COTTAGE GROVE AREA TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The City of Cottage Grove is working on a plan for the future of public transportation in the Cottage Grove area.

Public transportation is any transportation that is available to the public. Examples include buses, Dial-A-Ride, Mobility on Demand (MOD), bike share, and more.

Input from community members like you is a very important part of this process so we can better understand the needs and opportunities to make transit work for you.

We want to hear from you! This survey will be open until September 11th. Click the link below to take the survey and let us know your thoughts.



Picture credit: Kenneth Michael Roberts

[Click Here to Take the Survey](#)

## Project Background

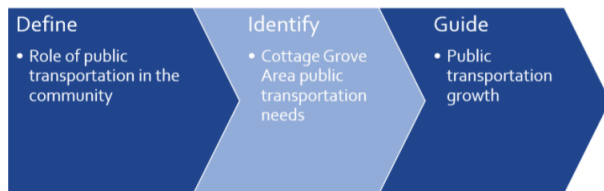
A Transit Development Plan (TDP) is a master plan to help guide the role of public transportation within and beyond the Cottage Grove area. The study extends south to North Douglas County, north to Eugene-Springfield, west out to Lorane, and east to Dorena.

A TDP is developed to:

**Support and guide** decisions about public transportation service improvements and investments, **evaluate** the impacts of community growth and development on public transportation service and explore alternative futures, **strengthen** coordination with the public and community partners, and **strategize** funding opportunities.

The City of Cottage Grove and Lane Council of Governments have partnered to develop the Cottage Grove Area TDP for the planning period of 2019-2029.

## Project Goals



What is most important to you when using public transportation? Service is...

Check 3 boxes

- ☐ Accessible
- ☐ Affordable
- ☐ Convenient
- ☐ Dependable
- ☐ Inclusive
- ☐ Reliable
- ☐ Safe
- ☐ Sustainable
- ☐ Connected
- ☐ Other:

(1 word limit)

## How to Get Involved

We want to hear from YOU! Community input is an essential part of the process and we need your feedback in the survey below. The survey will remain open to the public until September 4th.

[Click Here to Take the Survey](#)

Thank you for filling out the survey! Next, tell us your story. We would like to hear from you about your experiences with public transportation in the Cottage Grove area.

Tell us what your public transportation experience has been like

## Project Timeline

The project kicked off in March 2020 and will be adopted in Spring 2021. Community engagement is an essential part of the process and is ongoing through the entire project duration.



## CONTACT US

### Syd Shoaf

Lane Council of Government  
Assistant Planner  
[Email](#)  
Phone: 541-682-4023

### Amanda Ferguson

City of Cottage Grove  
City Planner  
[Email](#)  
Phone: 541-942 -3340

Enter your email if you would like to be added to our project email list

## Resources

- [Stakeholder Advisory Committee List](#)
- [Transit Development Plan Overview PowerPoint](#)
- [June 16, 2020 Stakeholder Advisory Committee Notes](#)
- [Examples of Completed Transit Development Plans](#)
- [Peer Analysis Memo](#)
- [Plan and Policy Review Memo](#)