

Ride Connection is an important piece of public transit puzzle in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. We provide transportation options for a wide range of people including older adults and people with disabilities in addition to rural commuters.

#### Federal and State Funding and Local Match (2015-17 Biennium)

*Source* FTA 5310 FTA 5311 Amount \$6,719,906 \$489,416

Match Requirement \$769,123 \$317,389



Amina is a regular on the Community Bus which is operated in rural Washington County. She says, "If it wasn't for the Community Bus, I probably wouldn't be working right now. I wasn't going to find a job that would fit my schedule and childcare needs in Banks."

## **General Public and Commuter Services**

Ride Connection uses 5310 and 5311 funds to provide critical deviated, fixed-route service to commuters in addition to providing options to low-income and rural general public individuals who need to connect to transit. Ride Connection has ongoing plans to continue to support the public transit system by implementing more of these 'last mile' services in the region.

Service	Area Served	Annual Ridership
Community Bus	Banks, North Plains, Forest Grove, Hillsboro	2,990
GroveLink	Forest Grove	37,841
Tualatin Shuttle	Tualatin	16,950
Rural General Public	Rural Washington County	12,914

### **Travel Options Counseling and Travel Training**

Federal 5310 and 5311 funds are also used to provide travel training services and travel options counseling. Travel options counseling allows us to link each individual with the most appropriate method of travel, reserving the more restrictive options for those who need them most. And by training individuals

with disabilities and older adults to use the existing transit system, we are able to save our entire system over \$1.5M annually.

# **Options for Older Adults and People with Disabilities**

If trips requested increase at the same rate as the population growth of individuals over the age of 60 between 2015 and 2020, they would increase by 13.97% and Ride Connection will need to provide an additional 103,000 trips per year by 2020, and more than double the additional staff and vehicles

needed in 2016 in order to meet 2020 projected ridership. This 103,000 trips represents over 20% of the current number of trips we are able to provide (499,992) with our existing revenue streams and fleet.

Currently, Ride Connection applies for local or privately funded match each year. The funding is not stable and we have an ongoing concern to find allowable match at the current service level, leaving us unable to meet the growing demand.

#### The Impact

If these Federal funds were matched by new revenues identified to fund this Legislative Concept, Ride Connection would be able to use additional funding to provide additional transportation options to meet additional need in our service area.





