

Your Guide to Benton Area Transit

July 2024

Our Service - Benton County and Beyond

Benton Area Transit (BAT), operated by Benton County, is proud of its decades-long service to our region, providing vital transportation to residents and visitors. BAT provides public fixed route and demand response transit services to our county of over 100,000 people, and fixed route services on two routes that extend beyond Benton County.

Our demand-response service, known as BAT Lift, is the backbone of BAT, providing 65,000 rides per year. This includes:

- Rides for older adults and people with disabilities throughout Benton County;
- Federally mandated paratransit service on behalf of both the City of Corvallis and the City of Philomath; and
- Transportation to Benton County residents who are served through its Developmental Diversity program and need transportation to and from employment opportunities.

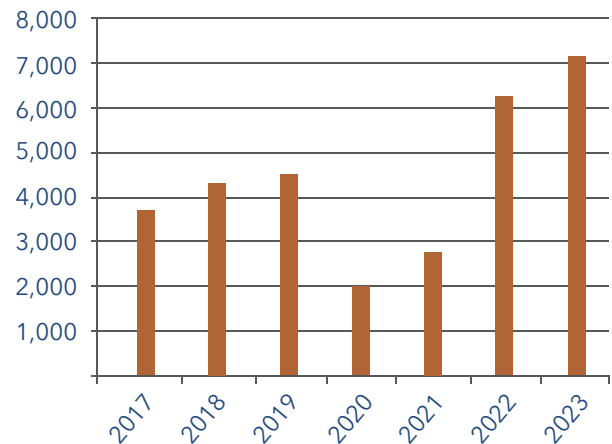


Beyond Benton County

BAT's fixed route services link people to the Corvallis Transit System, Albany Transit System, Linn Benton Loop, and Lincoln County Transit. Most users of BAT consider themselves regular riders, accessing the system between 1 - 3 times per week. Where most fixed-route systems have seen ridership struggle to recover post-pandemic, BAT is pleased that ridership on its Coast to Valley general public service has not just recovered, but grown by nearly 60% over 2019 figures.

Future expansions of service include additional runs being added to the Coast to Valley Express and a new pilot service being operated in partnership with Yamhill County that will include connections along the Highway 99W corridor between the cities of Monmouth and Junction City/Eugene. Linkages with other transit systems will extend service to Salem and McMinnville. BAT is a proud member of the NW Transit Alliance, a decade+ long partnership between Benton County and four other small transit agencies.

Coast to Valley Express Ridership



"BAT Lift is my whole life! It allows me to get where I need to go – I wouldn't be able to without you. I appreciate BAT so much!" Michelle W.

■ How many buses, vans and other vehicles do you operate?

Benton Area Transit owns a fleet of 20 vehicles. Of these, five are used for regional fixed-route service and fifteen are used for BAT Lift, a demand-response service for seniors and people with disabilities.

"I use the Coast to Valley Express five days a week. It's affordable and reliable and allows me so much opportunity!" Steve D.

■ How has BAT used STIF funding to improve service?

BAT has used STIF funding to improve both the service itself and access to that service:

- Expanded the Coast to Valley Express service, creating more convenient and frequent connections between the Oregon Coast, the Willamette Valley and the Amtrak Station in Albany
- Made its 99 Express and BAT Lift services fare free for all passengers
- Made ITS improvements, including new on-board cameras, a new automatic vehicle location system, and mobile ticketing
- Replaced older vehicles, improving safety and reliability of the fleet



■ How would BAT apply additional STIF funding?

If provided additional STIF funds, BAT would:

- Implement an expanded service pilot along the 99W corridor between Monmouth, Corvallis, and Junction City/Eugene
- Expand the Coast to Valley Express by adding an additional run
- Invest in a newer, more modern fleet that includes cleaner-fueled vehicles
- Improve rural bus stop facilities
- Expand general public transit options to underserved areas of Benton County

"BAT Lift makes a huge difference for me. It gives me a whole lot of freedom and independence I wouldn't otherwise have." Jessica S.



At your service,
every day.

co.benton.or.us
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