

I have been riding a commuter bus with Josephine Community Transit for about 11 ½ years now. When I first started riding the bus, it was out of necessity as I needed a low-cost way to get to work. At that time, it was a large financial burden for me to travel 60 miles a day and public transportation was a great option available to get to and from work. Fortunately for me, my supervisors at Josephine County have been willing to let me flex my work hours to accommodate the bus schedule. I have continued to ride because I find driving on Hwy 199 to be stressful and I find night/evening driving in the winter to be challenging.

Having rural routes is really important in this community. Over the years, I have met regular commuters who either don't have transportation at all or have vehicles that break down or they simply cannot afford gas. Some are students at Rogue Community College or may need to go to appointments or even affordable grocery shopping. Some need to visit a loved one in the hospital or visit a non-custodial parent. It is convenient for me, but life changing for other riders in this area.

Carla Gillard,

Josephine County