

## Safe, Reliable and Affordable



For many
Oregonians,
including in
Douglas County,
transit is the
only accessible
and affordable
way to get to
almost anywhere

Formed in 2018, Umpqua Public Transportation District's mission is "To provide safe, convenient, reliable and affordable multi-modal transportation options to all communities in the District."

UPTD provides fixed-route bus, commuter and paratransit services and Dial-A-Ride services outside the paratransit service area and non-emergency medical transportation services. The system has grown to two hourly fixed routes serving Roseburg and three commuter routes serving Winston, Sutherlin, Oakland, Myrtle Creek, Riddle, Canyonville and several unincorporated cities in Douglas County.

STIF funding helped a shaky budget to recruit drivers with a competitive salary and benefits, qualify for federal matching dollars and purchase a building and parking lot for buses.

Creating a Transit Master Plan defined transportation needs within our Douglas County communities. Wee found the need far outweighs the resources. And inflation has eroded funds earmarked for needed improvements.

After a "Free Ride Friday" promotion, Lois W. demanded to speak to the UPTD manager. She broke down in tears explaining what the promotion meant to her. "The \$8 that I saved in paratransit fare was enough to buy the chicken meal deal at Fred Meyer. This was my dinner for four days."





## What We've Done

- Implemented Saturday service in Roseburg in 2021, going from 2,827 rides in year one to 6,739 Saturday rides in 2023-2024, which shows the benefits of consistent, reliable transit service.
- Expanded service hours in Roseburg by 30 minutes in the morning and 90 minutes in the evening, resulting in 1,000 more daily rides during those expanded hours.
- Implemented a Kids Ride Free program that boosted ridership by 33,000 over the last four years.



## What's Still Undone

- Partner with other transit agencies to create an intercity connection of statewide significance, allowing riders to board a bus in Ashland and go all the way to Eugene.
- Expand Dial-a-Ride service in rural areas of Douglas County to meet growing needs.
- Implement app-based Micro-Transit to serve riders in sparsely populated areas.
- Partner with CCAT to increase weekday service between Roseburg and Coos Bay.
- Replace our aging vehicles with new, cleanenergy vehicles.

Transit service in Douglas County is critical for many residents to retain independent lives. More than 40% of residents exist below the poverty line, 24% are 65 years or older and 20% live with some type of disability.

