

## **Transit Connects Umatilla County Riders**

Umatilla County provides transit services to 80,000 people spread over 3,215 square miles. Transit and subsidized programs for seniors and persons with disabilities are provided within the city limits of Pendleton, Hermiston and Milton-Freewater.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) and Kayak Public Transit connect passengers regionally throughout Umatilla County and make more connections to Morrow and Union counties in Oregon and Walla Walla in Washington.

All fixed route services in Umatilla County are fare-free. Rides connect individuals to hospitals and clinics, job clusters



and higher education opportunities (Blue Mountain Community College campuses in Pendleton, Hermiston and Milton-Freewater and Eastern Oregon University in La Grande).

Routes also connect to major shopping opportunities and social/entertainment events to meet the daily needs of Umatilla residents.



City of Pendleton Transit provides the Let'er Bus Transit (Deviated Fixed Route Bus service), taxi ticket programs, a daily van service for the general public, parks & recreation summer inter-park rides and an aquatic center summer transport.



Kayak Public Transit
manages a regional system
that includes four intracommunity fixed route
bus services – the HART,
Tripper, Milton-Freewater
and Metro and four
intercity bus services – the
Arrow, Rocket, Hopper
and Whistler. All routes
are fareless.



The City of Hermiston offers transit options for its residents as well as for Echo, Stanfield and Umatilla. HART offers rides throughout the county. The City offers seniors and disabled persons taxi rides.

The Workforce On-Demand Ride Cooperative provides subsidized ride youchers for workers.



Milton-Freewater offers dial-a-ride taxi service for seniors aged 60 and older and disabled persons in the city limits. Taxi drivers are trained to help riders in and out of their vehicles, assist with any nonmotorized mobility apparatus and help with heavy shopping bags.



## How STIF funding has helped us

The under-construction Pendleton Bus Barn is an example of how around \$2 million in STIF funding benefitted Umatilla County. The facility, adjacent to Eastern Oregon Regional Airport, will house buses and vans and provide storage, bathroom and a breakroom for transit employees. An administrative building will be added.

STIF funding for Umatilla County transit providers has resulted in 12 new programs and routes to boost transit in 2023 to 614,497 miles, 47,733 fareless rides and more than 500 student rides.

## How we would use added STIF funding

Transit services have proven popular as shown by increasing ridership for seniors, veterans, workers and students.

Expanding service and routes will attract more riders, requiring more buses, more drivers, more maintenance and more fuel.

The transit partnerships serving Umatilla County, in conjunction with other Eastern Oregon partnerships are making our region more accessible and attractive to economic development and tourists.









