# Fallon County Transportation Program

Telephone 1-406-778-3595 – P O Box 1025 – Baker, MT 59313

Carla Brown, Director

Fallon County

Transportation Program

Transportation Coordination Plan

# Date Adopted by Board of Directors . . .

The Fallon County Transportation Program Coordination Plan for Fiscal Year 2026 was officially approved at the regular meeting of Fallon County Council on Aging on Tuesday, February 25, 2025.

Alice Kay Schweigert, Vice President

#### Agencies Involved . . .

Fallon County currently utilizes four vehicles in our transportation program. Two of the vehicles are handicapped accessible and as such are each equipped with a wheelchair lift. Our newest vehicle, a 2021 Ford Elkhart, can carry 13 passengers and has two wheelchair stations. With a calendar year-end mileage of 31,578, this vehicle is generally operated Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. via a demand-response system, primarily within the Baker city limits and the immediately surrounding area. Also in our fleet, is a 2017 Ford Cutaway. It can carry 12 passengers and also has two wheelchair stations. With a calendar year-end mileage of 44,190, this vehicle is currently being used as a back-up vehicle. This vehicle is also utilized for most of our group-oriented out-of-town trips. We currently are using a 2010 6-passenger Dodge Grand Caravan and a 2020 Honda Odyssey for our individualized out-of-town medical trips. The Dodge Grand Caravan has a calendar year-end mileage of 88,755. The 2020 Honda Odyssey has a calendar year-end mileage of 100,903. By utilizing both vehicles we can provide individualized out-oftown medical trips to a larger client base. We also use this vehicle for group out-oftown trips when the passenger load does not demand the use of one of our larger vehicles. A plan to replace the 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan with a 2017 Chevrolet Traverse is being investigated. The Traverse has a current mileage of 68,456.

A wide spectrum of agencies was asked to participate in the development of the Fallon County Transportation Program Coordination Plan.

Locally, the agencies with whom Cooperative Service Agreements have been finalized are the Fallon Medical Complex, Fallon County Public Health Department, and Superior Care Villa. On a more regional basis, a Coordination Plan is in effect with Carter County's Carter Charter, as well as with Custer County Transit.

Financial remuneration among the entities with who a Cooperative Service

Agreement is in effect is conducted on an individual basis, generally with the actual client who is receiving services.

As is detailed in the Cooperative Service Agreements, we request that agencies making use of our services adhere to our already established operating schedules if possible.

#### Agencies Not Involved . . .

At the current time, there are no agencies located in Fallon County that have declined participation in this Coordination Plan.

#### Needs Assessment . . .

Due to the rural nature of Fallon County, personal contacts made by the Director, assistant, drivers and the 11-member Board of Directors of Fallon County Council on Aging have proven successful in identifying the transportation needs in our community.

#### Public Involvement . . .

To heighten awareness of the Fallon County Transportation Program, articles have been publicized through local media with informational contact points named whereby the public has had the opportunity to view documents and provide feedback on the ever-evolving system. In addition, the bi-monthly meetings of Fallon County Council on Aging, of which the public is welcome to attend, address transportation-related issues when necessary.

#### Private Sector . . .

Fallon County is the only (public) provider of transportation in Fallon County.

### Plan For Growth And/Or Increase Ridership:

Promoting our services to a wider market of transportation-needy individuals continues to be a priority. Methods of distributing additional advertising through the use of printed material as well as public service announcements utilizing electronic media are underway. We are in the process of updating our web presence and will also be utilizing various social networking sites shortly.

## Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings . . .

The Fallon County Council on Aging Board of Directors meets on a bi-monthly basis. Participants on this 11-member advisory board, along with a select number of additional individuals, also serve as the Fallon County Transportation Advisory Committee.