



Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Agenda

**Tuesday, March 18, 2025
10 a.m.**

Welcome to SANDAG. The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Agenda meeting scheduled for Tuesday, , will be held in person in the SANDAG Board Room. While Council members will attend in person, members of the public will have the option of participating either in person or virtually.

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Public Comments: Members of the public may speak to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council on any item at the time the Council is considering the item. Public speakers are generally limited to three minutes or less per person.

Persons who wish to address the members on an item to be considered at this meeting, or on non-agendized issues, may email comments to the Clerk at clerkoftheboard@sandag.org (please reference SSTAC meeting in your subject line and identify the item number(s) to which your comments pertain). Comments received by 4 p.m. the business day before the meeting will be provided to members prior to the meeting. All comments received prior to the close of the meeting will be made part of the meeting record.

If you desire to provide in-person verbal comment during the meeting, please fill out a speaker slip, which can be found in the lobby. If you have joined the Zoom meeting by computer or phone, please use the "Raise Hand" function to request to provide public comment. On a computer, the "Raise Hand" feature is on the Zoom toolbar. By phone, enter *9 to "Raise Hand" and *6 to unmute. Requests to provide live public comment must be made at the beginning of the relevant item, and no later than the end of any staff presentation on the item. The Clerk will call on members of the public who have timely requested to provide comment by name for those in person and joining via a computer, and by the last three digits of the phone number of those joining via telephone. Should you wish to display media in conjunction with your comments, please inform the Clerk when called upon. The Clerk will be prepared to have you promoted to a position where you will be able to share your media yourself during your allotted comment time. In-person media sharing must be conducted by joining the Zoom meeting on the personal device where the content resides. Please note that any available chat feature on the Zoom meeting platform should be used by panelists and attendees solely for procedural or other "housekeeping" matters as comments provided via the chat feature will not be retained as part of the meeting record. All comments to be provided for the record must be made in writing via email or speaker slip, or verbally per the instructions above.

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Esta reunión se llevará a cabo en inglés, y se ofrecerá interpretación simultánea en español. Se ofrecerá interpretación en otros idiomas previa solicitud a ClerkoftheBoard@sandag.org al menos 72 horas antes de la reunión.

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Vision Statement: *Pursuing a brighter future for all*

Mission Statement: *We are the regional agency that connects people, places, and innovative ideas by implementing solutions with our unique and diverse communities.*

Our Commitment to Equity: *We hold ourselves accountable to the communities we serve. We acknowledge we have much to learn and much to change; and we firmly uphold equity and inclusion for every person in the San Diego region. This includes historically underserved, systemically marginalized groups impacted by actions and inactions at all levels of our government and society.*

We have an obligation to eliminate disparities and ensure that safe, healthy, accessible, and inclusive opportunities are available to everyone. The SANDAG equity action plan will inform how we plan, prioritize, fund, and build projects and programs; frame how we work with our communities; define how we recruit and develop our employees; guide our efforts to conduct unbiased research and interpret data; and set expectations for companies and stakeholders that work with us.

We are committed to creating a San Diego region where every person who visits, works, and lives can thrive.





Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

MEMBERSHIP

The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is an advisory group to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). SSTAC consists of 16 members representing social service agencies, individuals, transportation providers, and the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency. The California Public Utilities Code requires SSTAC to hold at least one public meeting each year to solicit input on transportation needs from seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons with limited means. SSTAC works to respond to federal and state requirements, as well as local concerns, regarding accessibility issues. Responsibilities include reviewing and providing guidance on federal funding programs for the elderly and disabled, coordination of vehicles for elderly and disabled persons, special studies, and providing input on the legal and practical requirements regarding accessibility at transit facilities.

The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council generally meets at 10 a.m. on the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months.

Staff contact: Tim Garrett, (619) 595-5337, tim.garrett@sandag.org

MEMBERS

Kristine Stensberg, Chair
Social Services Provider for Persons with Limited Means

Ted Kagan, Vice Chair
Special Interest – Seat A

Alex Warner
Special Interest – Seat B

Todd Lordson
At-Large – Seat A

Sharon Beckas
At-Large – Seat B

Sharlene Ornelas
At-Large – Seat C

Marcy Roke
Social Services Provider for Seniors

Samantha Stephan
Social Services Provider for Seniors

Maureen Glaser
Social Services Provider for Persons with Disabilities

ALTERNATES

Marilyn Greenblatt
Social Services Provider for Persons with Limited Means

Wayne Landon
Special Interest – Seat A

Clytie Koehler
Special Interest – Seat B

Lorry Seagrim
At-Large – Seat A

Todd Shaw
At-Large – Seat B

Marissa Romero Lucero
At-Large – Seat C

Adrianna Yemhatpe
Social Services Provider for Seniors

Marianela Camarillo
Social Services Provider for Seniors

Tina Nguyen
Social Services Provider for Persons with Disabilities

MEMBERS

Rachel Holiday

Social Services Provider for Persons with Disabilities

Bryan Killian

MTS Fixed Route

Charles Posejpal

MTS Paratransit

Ioni Tcholakova

NCTD Fixed Route

Robert Gebo

NCTD Paratransit

Ali Poorman

Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation

Arun Prem

Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation

ALTERNATES

Brian Nero

Social Services Provider for Persons with Disabilities

Keith Vann

MTS Fixed Route

Diana Hernandez

MTS Paratransit

Ricky Cervantes

NCTD Fixed Route

Katie Persons

NCTD Paratransit

Christian Hernandez

Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation

Paola Zilli

Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation

Social Services Transportation Advisory Council

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Comments and Communications

1. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) on any issue within the jurisdiction of SSTAC that is not on this agenda. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. Public comments under this agenda item will be limited to five public speakers. If the number of public comments under this agenda item exceeds five, additional public comments will be taken at the end of the agenda. SSTAC members and SANDAG staff also may present brief updates and announcements under this agenda item.

Consent

+2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Francesca Webb, SANDAG

Approve

The SSTAC is asked to approve the minutes from its January 21, 2025, meeting.
[Meeting Minutes](#)

Reports

+3. Coordinated Plan Update

Tim Garrett, Rubi Morales, SANDAG

Discussion

Staff will present initial findings from outreach conducted to support the update of the region's Coordinated Plan.

[Coordinated Plan Update Presentation](#)

4. Updates from Transit Operators and FACT

Tim Garrett, SANDAG

Information

Representatives from MTS, NCTD, and FACT will present updates on service changes and notable activities at each agency.

5. Unmet Needs

Tim Garrett, SANDAG

Discussion

The SSTAC members and the public will have the opportunity to discuss new or continuing unmet transit needs in the San Diego region.

Adjournment

6. Adjournment

The next SSTAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 10 a.m.

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

March 18, 2025

January 21, 2025, Meeting Minutes

[View Meeting Video](#)

Chair Kristine Stensberg (Jewish Family Services) called the meeting of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) to order at 10:06 a.m.

1. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

Public Comments: None

Member Comments: Senior Regional Planner Brian Lane, Sharon Beckas (At-Large Voting Member - Seat B)

Consent

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The SSTAC was asked to approve the minutes from its November 19, 2024, meeting.

Public Comments: None

Action: Upon a motion by Ted Kagan (Special Interest Voting Member - Seat A), and a second by Wayne Landon (Special Interest Voting Member - Seat A), the SSTAC voted to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion passed.

Yes: Ted Kagan, Clytie Koehler (Special Interest Voting Member - Seat B), Marcy Roke (Travelers Aid Society of San Diego), Maureen Glaser (On The Go), Kristine Stensberg, Bryan Killian (MTS Fixed Route), Charles Posejpal (MTS Paratransit), Robert Gebo (NCTD Paratransit)

No: None

Abstain: Sharon Beckas

Absent: At-Large Voting Member - Seat A, At-Large Voting Member - Seat C, San Diego Center for the Blind, Options for All, FACT - Seat A, FACT - Seat B, NCTD Fixed Route

Reports

3. Airport Transit Connection Update

Deputy Director of Regional Planning and Jennifer Williamson and Associate Regional Planner Emily Doss presented an update on the advanced planning and outreach for the Airport Transit Connection project.

Public Comments: None

Action: Information

4. Flexible Fleets Pilot Grant Program Call for Projects

Grants Program Manager Jenny Russo and Emily Doss presented an overview of the pilot grant program and requested feedback on the program criteria from SSTAC members

Public Comments: None

Action: Discussion

5. Updates from Transit Operators and FACT

Charles Posejpal (MTS Paratransit), Bryan Killian (MTS Fixed Route), and Robert Gebo (NCTD Paratransit) provided updates on service changes and notable activities at each agency.

Public Comments: None

Action: Information

6. Unmet Needs

The SSTAC members and the public were given the opportunity to discuss new or continuing unmet transit needs in the San Diego region.

Public Comments: None

Action: Discussion

7. Adjournment

The next SSTAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 10 a.m.

Chair Stensberg adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Confirmed Attendance at SSTAC Meeting

Jurisdiction	Name	Attended
Special Interest Voting Member - Seat A	Vice Chair Ted Kagan (Primary)	Yes
	Wayne Landon (Alternate)	Yes
Special Interest Voting Member - Seat B	Alex Warner (Primary)	No
	Clytie Koehler (Alternate)	Yes
At-Large Voting Member - Seat A	Todd Lordson (Primary)	No
	Lorry Seagrim (Alternate)	No
At-Large Voting Member - Seat B	Sharon Beckas (Primary)	Yes
	Todd Shaw (Alternate)	No
At-Large Voting Member - Seat C	Sharlene Ornelas (Primary)	No
	Marissa Romero Lucero (Alternate)	No
San Diego Center for the Blind	Samantha Stephan (Primary)	No
	Marianela Camarillo (Alternate)	No
Travelers Aid Society of San Diego	Marcy Roke (Primary)	Yes
	Adrianna Yemhatpe (Alternate)	Yes
Options for All	Brian Nero (Primary)	No
	Rachel Holiday (Alternate)	No
On The Go	Maureen Glaser (Primary)	Yes
	Tina Nguyen (Alternate)	No
Jewish Family Services	Kristine Stensberg (Primary)	Yes
	Marilyn Greenblatt, (Alternate)	Yes
FACT - Seat A	Alissa Poorman (Primary)	No
	Christian Hernandez (Alternate)	No
FACT - Seat B	Arun Prem (Primary)	No
	Paola Zilli (Alternate)	No
MTS Fixed Route	Bryan Killian (Primary)	Yes
	Keith Vann (Alternate)	No
MTS Paratransit	Charles Posejpal (Primary)	Yes
	Diana Hernandez (Alternate)	No
NCTD Fixed Route	Ioni Tcholakova (Primary)	No
	Ricky Cervantes (Alternate)	No
NCTD Paratransit	Robert Gebo (Primary)	Yes
	Katie Persons (Alternate)	No

March 18, 2025

Coordinated Plan Update

Overview

SANDAG is in the process of updating the region's Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan). Coordinated Plans identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes; provide strategies for meeting these needs; and prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation. Federal transit law requires that Coordinated Plans are developed with participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and other members of the public utilizing transportation services. Staff recently completed outreach to inform the Coordinated Plan and will present key takeaways from focus groups and a regional survey.

Action: **Discussion**

Staff will present initial findings from outreach conducted to support the update of the region's Coordinated Plan.

Fiscal Impact:

Development of the Coordinated Plan is funded through Overall Work Program Element No. 3320100.

Schedule/Scope Impact:

The updated Coordinated Plan will be developed by summer 2025.

Key Considerations

The Coordinated Plan combines the federal requirement in 49 U.S.C. 5310 for a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan, the state requirement for transit operations performance monitoring through the Transportation Development Act, and the regional requirement in SANDAG Board Policy No. 018 for a Regional Short-Range Transit Plan into one document. The Coordinated Plan facilitates the distribution of local funding for our region's Specialized Transportation Grant Program, including the federal Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310), which can fund services in the region's urbanized areas, and the TransNet Senior Mini Grant Program, which can fund services in both urban and rural areas across the entire region. Developing a plan consistent with applicable federal, state, and local requirements ensures the availability of funding for specialized transportation providers in the San Diego Region.

A critical element of the Coordinated Plan is to identify transportation needs and gaps for older adults, people with disabilities, and people with low incomes. Understanding these gaps allows SANDAG to prioritize Specialized Transportation Grant Program funding for projects best suited to address the specific travel needs of each identified population. This cycle, SANDAG conducted a scientific survey of older adults and people with disabilities from across the region to assess their transportation needs. The survey was conducted online over a one-month period from December 2, 2024, to January 2, 2025. Participants were recruited via a randomized selection of postcards, email invitations, and an open survey link on the SANDAG Coordinated Plan project website. The survey administration effort yielded 1,544 valid responses, with statistically significant results that reliably reflect the population's behaviors. In addition to a survey, SANDAG conducted three focus groups for more detailed feedback: one group composed of transportation providers (eight participants) and the other two of riders (13 total participants).

This update focuses primarily on the analysis of the initial findings from the draft survey and focus groups. The final survey report will be shared once it is finalized in spring 2025. Key takeaways are summarized below:

- Driving, walking/using a wheelchair, getting rides from friends and family members, and fixed route transit are the most common means of transportation among the survey population;
- Respondents expressed a desire for more transit coverage and higher-frequency service;
- Specialized transportation can help but many residents lack awareness of these services; and
- People are comfortable using technology for trip planning but need access to better information.

Next Steps

The next step in the development process of the Coordinated Plan is to obtain feedback from stakeholders and community members through additional working group presentations and an upcoming public hearing. SANDAG will also analyze transit operations data to assess the availability and quality of transit and specialized transportation services. Recommendations from outreach and data analysis will be presented at a future Transportation Committee presentation. More information on the Coordinated Plan is available on the [SANDAG website](#).

Antoinette Meier, Senior Director of Regional Planning



Coordinated Plan Update

Social Services Transportation Advisory Council | Item 3
Tim Garrett, Associate Regional Planner
Rubi Morales, Associate Regional Planner
Tuesday, March 18, 2025

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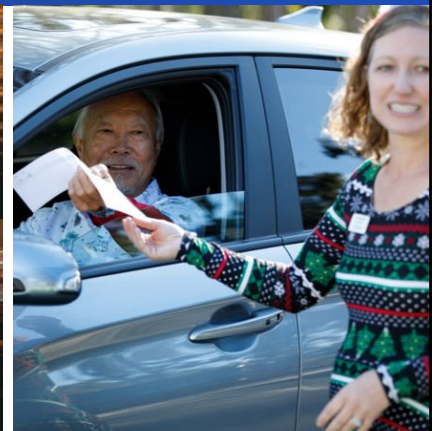
Coordinated Plan Overview



Transit and Specialized Transportation



Identify Needs of Disadvantaged Populations



Fulfill Requirements
Ensure Access to Funding

SANDAG | 2

2

Plan Requirements Review

	Federal	State	Local
Source	Federal Transit Law	Transportation Development Act (TDA)	SANDAG Board Policy 018
Components	Transportation needs of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals with disabilities • Older adults • People with low incomes Strategies to meet needs Priorities for funding	Potential public transit productivity improvements, including those recommended in the triennial TDA performance audit	Public transit service gaps and deficiencies Evaluation of existing services and programs Methodology for near-term future service adjustments
Outcomes	Distribute funding through Specialized Transportation Grant Program	Ongoing Performance Monitoring	Regional Short Range Transit Plan, Service Changes

SANDAG | 3

3

Outreach Strategy



Focus Groups



Survey



Presentations and Public Hearing

SANDAG | 4

4

DRAFT Survey Results

| 5

5

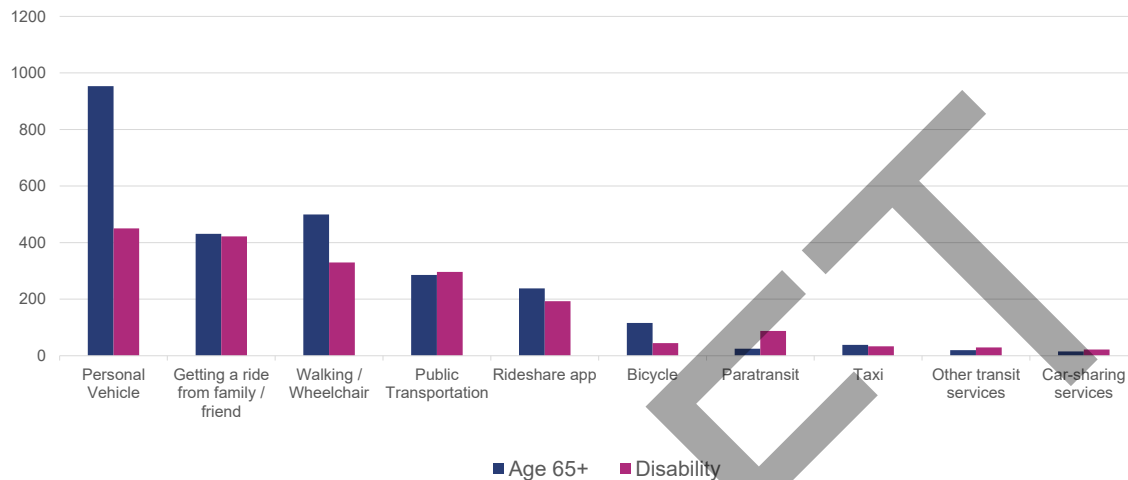
Survey Update

- Survey conducted in December 2024
- 1,544 responses from across San Diego region
- Self-reported age and disability status

Disability Status	Age Under 65	Age 65+	Total
Disability	228	492	720
No Disability	0	824	824
Total	228	1,316	1,544

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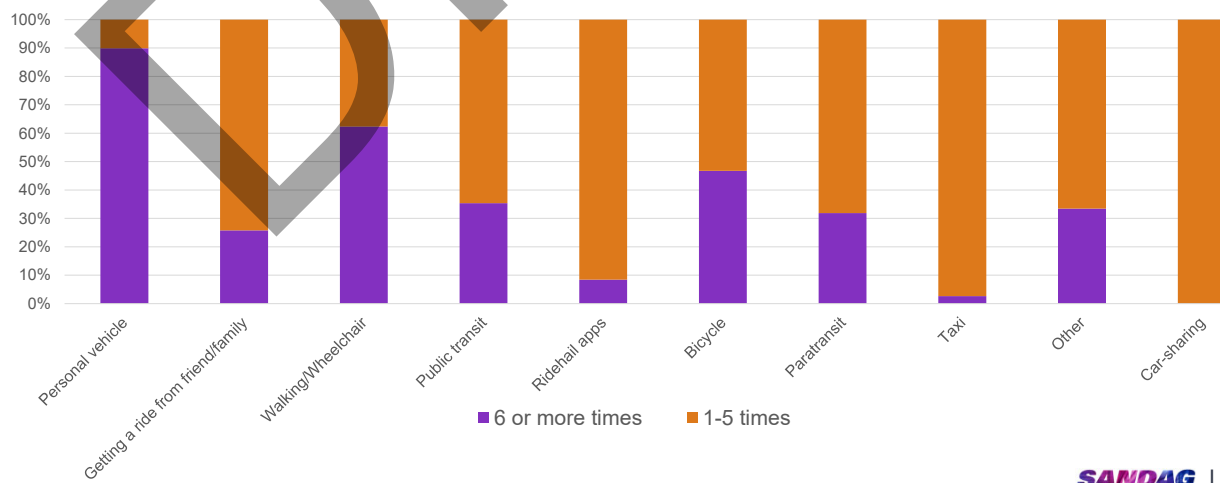
Modes Used in the Past Month (DRAFT) Age 65+ and Disability



SANDAG | 7

7

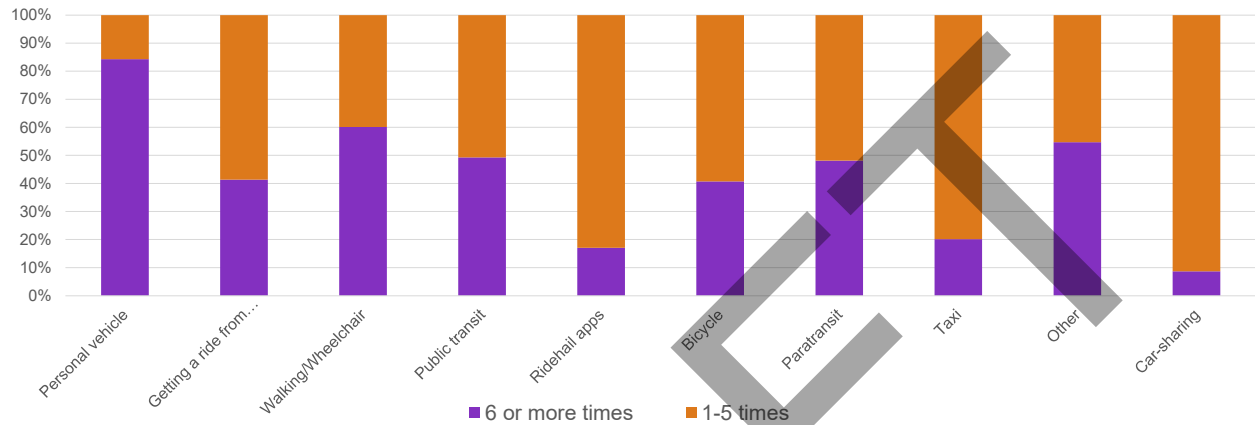
Frequency of Modes Used in the Past Month (DRAFT) Age 65+ Only



SANDAG | 8

8

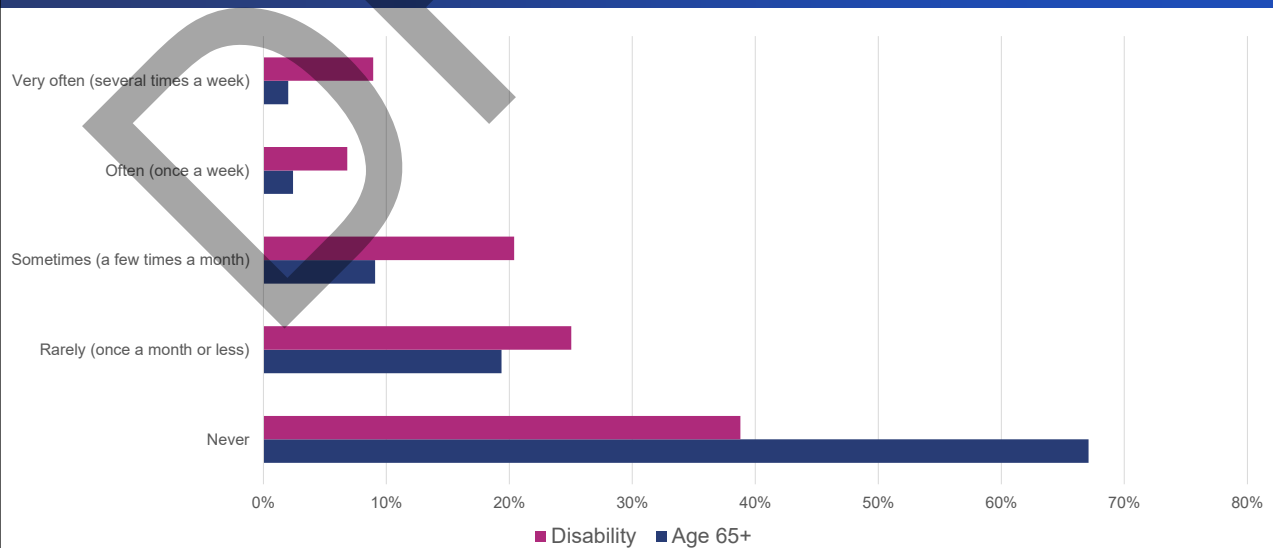
Frequency of Modes Used in the Past Month (DRAFT) Disability Only



SANDAG | 9

9

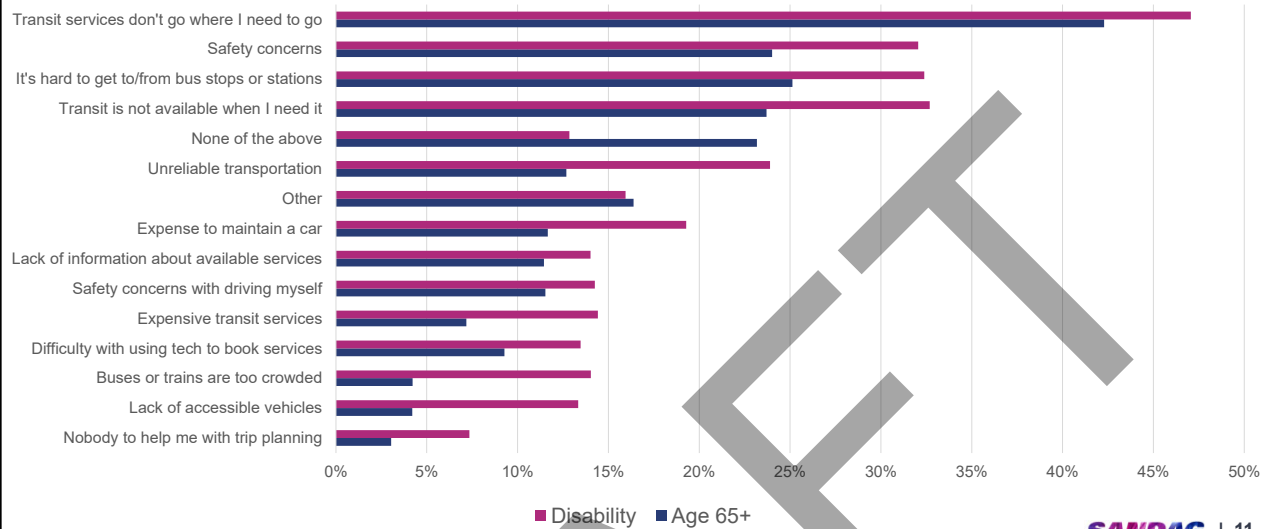
Frequency of Missed Trips (DRAFT)



SANDAG | 10

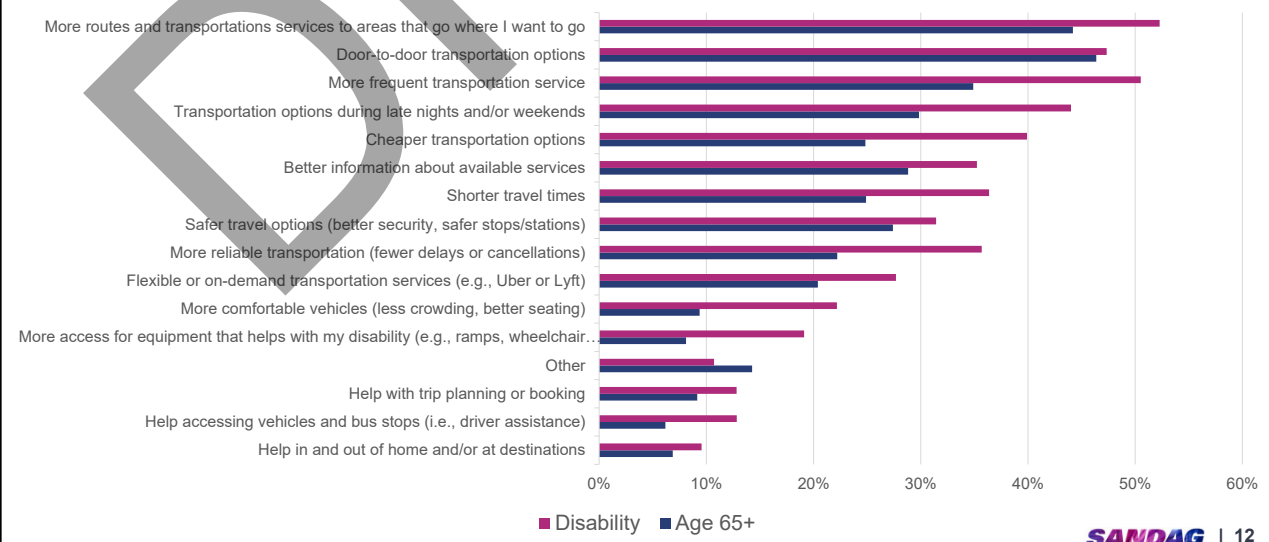
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Transportation Challenges (DRAFT)



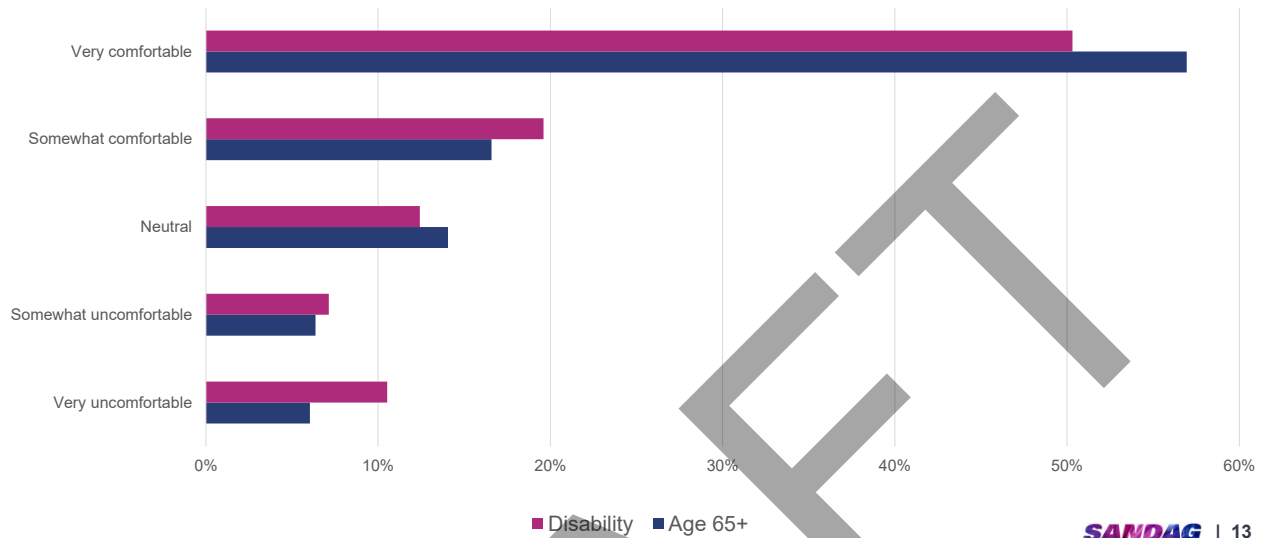
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Transportation Solutions (DRAFT)



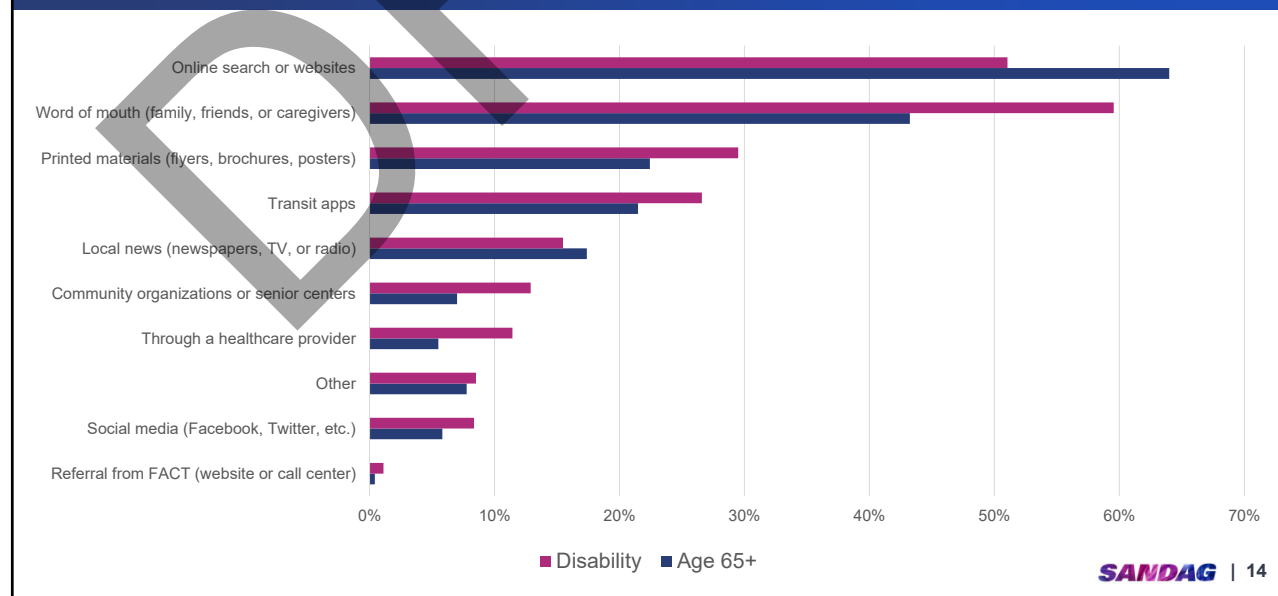
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Use of Technology to Plan Trips (DRAFT)



13

Information Source (DRAFT)



14

Key Takeaways

- Driving, walking/using a wheelchair, getting rides from friends and family members, and fixed route transit are the most common means of transportation among the survey population
- Respondents expressed a desire for more transit coverage and higher-frequency service
- Specialized transportation can help but respondents lack awareness
- People are comfortable using technology for trip planning but need better information

SANDAG | 15

15

Coordinated Plan Document Update

- Survey and focus group results
- Performance measurement
 - Transit, paratransit, neighborhood electric vehicles, and microtransit
 - Consolidated Transportation Services Agency
 - Specialized Transportation Grant Program
- Unmet transportation needs and cost
- Goals and objectives
- Funding priority recommendations
- Draft plan release anticipated April 2025

SANDAG | 16

16

Questions/Discussion

17

17

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18

18