

# Fact Sheet

## Justification for Human Service Transportation Regions in Ohio

Today, transportation services in one form or another are provided in all 88 Ohio counties at the county level using the services of hundreds of governmental, nonprofit and for-profit organizations. Sixty-one (61) of the 88 counties also have some form of public transit. In addition, arrangements among coordinated public transit and human services transportation providers enable county-based service in 40 counties. There are also a few regional or multi-county service arrangements. In many cases, transportation services are duplicative (with multiple agencies serving the same area) and are unable to meet community needs, particularly for travel that crosses county lines.

In order to reduce duplication and fill in gaps in service, ODOT seeks to organize the provision of these transportation services into regions. After significant study and consideration of goals established by a working group consisting of the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Ohio Department of Medicaid, Job and Family Services, and the Ohio Department of Safety, ODOT created boundaries to establish Human Services Transportation Coordination (HSTC) regions based on a combination of the following criteria:

- County-to-county travel movement in Ohio,
- Demographic conditions,
- Employment-related travel,
- Economic conditions in each county, and
- The boundaries of regional entities that plan, fund and/or provide transportation service, including:
  - Area Agency on Aging (AAA) regions, Managed Care Organization (MCO) regions, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and
  - Rural Transportations Planning Organizations (RTPOs).



ODOT determined that 10 HSTC regions would most completely meet the goal of providing more effective mobility services for Ohioans. This study recommends regionalization of Ohio's HSTC programs, including public transportation, in a manner that facilitates more effective service delivery and use of available funding, and will set the stage for deployment of enhanced technologies for all of the state's human services transportation programs. The recommended structure seeks, as its top priority, to maintain or improve the existing level of service as well as the quality of transportation services available to each individual rider.

The full Justification for ODOT Human Service Transportation Coordination Regions report is available on the Office of Transit web page at <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Planning/Transit>