

## How Do I Get Around If I Don't Drive?

Walking, bicycling, mass transit, and other community-based transportation services can all help seniors get around as alternatives to driving. More transportation choices means better quality of life, reduced pollution, less congestion, and fewer auto crash deaths and life changing injuries. Curbing our use of the automobile also fights suburban sprawl, obesity, and increasingly high medical costs.

## Finding Alternative Transportation in Florida

### **The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged**

The mission of the State of Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) is to ensure the availability of efficient, cost-effective, and quality transportation services for transportation disadvantaged persons. Transportation Disadvantaged

Persons are those who cannot obtain their own transportation due to a disability, age, or income.

The Commission accomplishes this mission through services provided by Community Transportation Coordinators. There is a Community Transportation Coordinator for each county of the State. **The best resource for locating transportation or transportation alternatives is by contacting your local Community Transportation Coordinators.**

To find your Coordinator and how to contact them, you can call the TD Helpline at **(800) 983-2435** or you may visit the CTD website at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd> From the website select "Contacts" then select "Community Transportation Coordinators" and choose the county from where you live.

### **Ombudsman Helpline**

In addition, the Commission also offers assistance through their Ombudsman Helpline. The Helpline offers transportation

disadvantaged customers with information, referrals to local areas, and documents consumer concerns. Helpline staff assist callers in resolving consumer concerns. All calls that concern local TD services will be referred to the appropriate local staff for a response.

### **The Ombudsman Helpline phone number is (800) 983-2435.**

The hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, with voicemail for evenings and weekends.

## Public Transportation in Florida

The FDOT Transit Office administers Federal and State transit grants, monitors compliance with transit regulations, and provides planning and technical assistance to Florida's transit agencies and communities. These areas include: transit system planning; state grants administration; commuter assistance; quality

assurance; the state bus fleet; safety research program administration; education; training; research, and plan review. For information about available public transportation in Florida, visit this website:

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/transit/Pages/transitagenciesinflorida.htm>

## Other Transportation Services For Seniors

Other services are provided in the person's home or community settings such as senior centers and churches. In addition to cabs, there are many private pay medical and non-medical in-home services that also provide transportation for seniors. Your local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) can help you locate a senior center nearby or an in-home service that meets your needs. **To find out what transportation services are available, call Elder Helpline at: (800) 963-5337 or (800) 96-ELDER, or visit this website:**

<http://fssrc.phhp.ufl.edu/index.php>

For more information:

Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged  
[http://www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd/Ombudsman Helpline](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/ctd/OmbudsmanHelpline)  
(800) 983-2435

The Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging  
<http://www.f4a.org>  
Elder Helpline: (800) 963-5337  
Eldercare Locator: (800) 677-1116

Florida Department of Elder Affairs  
<http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us>  
(800) 955-8770 for Voice or  
(800) 955-8771 for TDD

David Henderson  
MPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Specialist  
<http://www.miamidade.gov/mpo/mpo6-product-bpp.htm>  
(305) 375-1735

Prepared by

Adam L. Bank, Ph.D.

Shih-Hua Fu, M.S.

University of Miami Florida Senior  
Safety Resource Center

1695 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Miami, Florida 33136

(305) 355-8288 / (305) 355-9078



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# ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION



Safety Information  
For Seniors

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