

RESULTS OF FIRST TRANSPORTATION SURVEY

- Survey sites: The Coolidge, Musketahquid, Longfellow Glen
- Number completed: 60
- Results by question (% = total by item/60), in descending order of frequency:
 - What transportation do you need or want?
 - Daytime shopping/errands (57%)
 - Evening occasions/errands (40%)
 - To/from job (28%)
 - What do you see as benefits?
 - Reliable schedules, knowledgeable drivers (72%)
 - Lower cost than driving (45%)
 - Good for environment (38%)
 - What are the advantages for you?
 - I can avoid hassles of traffic and parking (63%)
 - I get to meet other people (40%)
 - I can save money by not driving so frequently (37%)
 - Reduce wear/tear on my car (25%)
 - Do you have any concerns?
 - Making reservations (40%)
 - Service reliability (32%)
 - Inconvenient schedules (32%)
 - Longer travel times (22%)
 - What challenges might you face?
 - Limited destinations (40%)
 - Traveling at time different from usual (38%)
 - Accommodating to different schedule (32%)
 - Caring for family (18%)

- Between two-thirds and 80% of surveys contained additional comments about
 - *Price-sensitive shopping* (food pantries, Wal-Mart, Target, Job Lot, Dollar Tree)
 - *Socializing* (meeting others, traveling with a congenial group, seeing family)
 - *Medical appointments* (e.g., Concord, Boston), as well as dental and veterinary
 - *Work and school* lower-cost transportation options (particularly links to commuter rail)

- Respondents are enthusiastic:
 - “a great thing to have”
 - “fantastic—so helpful to many here”
 - “sounds too good to be true”
 - “transportation to/from a job would help me to do better”
 - “much needed”
 - “it’s a great town, but it can feel like a prison without transportation”
 - “since Sudbury has NO public transportation options, any service that could be considered would be an improvement!”

Major conclusions from this initial sample: Although a number of people can no longer drive, or do not own a car, respondents understand the importance of having an alternative to self-driving. The most cited advantage: “I can avoid the hassles of traffic and parking.” In addition, those living on limited income appreciate the cost-saving possibility of other transport options (e.g., shuttles). Concerns about reliability and schedules appear moderate, and the most frequent challenge respondents might face is “limited destinations.”