

2.5 EXISTING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

2.5.1 Local and Regional Transit Systems

ADOT has developed a study to provide regionally-based solutions to rural transportation in Arizona including long-term strategic direction to address increasing ridership trends and demand for rural transit. According to the ADOT *Arizona Rural Transit Needs Study*, only 18% of ridership needs are being met in rural Arizona leaving the majority of ridership needs unmet particularly on tribal lands. ADOT has developed a strategy for implementing improved rural transit service to meet growing demand in non-urbanized areas by identifying areas with the most need for transit expansion (e.g., City of Sedona, Hopi-Senom Transit).

Rural transit in Northern Arizona is widely dispersed because Arizona, particularly in the north, has a high percentage of federal and Native American land holdings with land use restrictions. Other problems facing the development of rural transportation in Northern Arizona include funding, logistics/coordination, political support, and information. The majority of fixed route transit services are available from larger cities such as Flagstaff, Prescott, and Sedona, these services provide connections to other large cities or regional nodes of activity. The most common type of transit in the region is demand-response and/or paratransit.

The Northern Arizona Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (NAIPTA) is a regional transportation organization which includes: Coconino and Yavapai Counties; the cities of Flagstaff, Sedona, and Cottonwood; and Northern Arizona University. Mountain Line is the transportation fixed route service in Flagstaff. Mountain Lift is the paratransit service in Flagstaff. RoadRunner is the fixed route and paratransit service in Sedona. The RoadRunner Cottonwood Express is a commuter bus service which runs between Cottonwood and Sedona. NAIPTA also manages the Mountain Links Transit fixed route service and the Cottonwood Area Transit System (CATS) checkpoint deviation and demand response service. Table 2.9 shows local and regional transit services.

2.5.2 Special Needs Transportation Services

The City of Page Senior Transportation System works in conjunction with the City of Page Senior Center, NACOG and ADOT. Seniors aged 50 and older are eligible for use of the program. Transportation is available within the City limits at a cost of \$1 to \$2 Monday through Friday. Out-of-town trips are available once a month at a cost of \$15.

Table 2.9 Local & Regional General and Special Needs Transit Services

Name of Transit Service	Type	Area of Service
Mountain Line	Fixed Route	Flagstaff
Mountain Lift	Paratransit	Flagstaff (and surrounding area)
Mountain Line	Fixed Route	Flagstaff (serving Northern Arizona University and surrounding Flagstaff)
Sedona RoadRunner	Fixed Route Paratransit	Sedona (and surrounding area)
RoadRunner/Cottonwood Express	Commuter Bus	Coconino and Yavapai Counties

Name of Transit Service	Type	Area of Service
Cottonwood Area Transit (CATS)	Fixed Route Demand-Response Paratransit	Yavapai County
Navajo Transit	Fixed Route Paratransit	Navajo Nation (and region)
Hopi-Senom Transit	Fixed Route Paratransit	Hopi Community
City of Page Senior Transportation System	Paratransit/Senior	Page (and surrounding)

2.5.3 Intercity Bus and Rail Transportation

Several intercity transit opportunities are available within the Northern Arizona study area. Transit is typically coordinated by incorporated towns and cities within the region with additional transit planning being conducted by transportation planning organizations (e.g., Central Yavapai Transportation Planning Organization, Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization, Verde Valley Transportation Planning Organization).

Currently, the NAIPTA provides the Mountain Line, Roadrunner, Mountain Campus and Mountain Lift (formerly VanGo) bus services. The Mountain Line provides bus service within Flagstaff and surrounding areas, while the Roadrunner serves as a fixed route circulator and commuter service between Sedona and Cottonwood and paratransit for the disabled. The Mountain Lift provides curb-to-curb service for the disabled within greater Flagstaff and the Mountain Campus serves Northern Arizona University.

Bus service within Yavapai County and Verde Valley is provided by the Cottonwood Area Transit System (CATS). The CATS system is on-demand, door-to-door service to Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Bridgeport, and Verde Village via three-fifteen passenger mini-buses.

Bus service is also available connecting activity centers and residential areas in Sedona, Clarkdale, Camp Verde and Cottonwood.

Private transportation services provide niche specific service to riders willing to pay a premium fare. Several private transportation services provide daily round trips to Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport by reservation only. Additionally, the Coconino-Yavapai Intercity Shuttle provides door-to-door service between the Central Yavapai region and Flagstaff, Clarkdale, Cottonwood and Sedona. Taxi and limousine services are also available and fares are calculated using time and mileage. In central Prescott, Citibus runs a circulator with stops at shopping destinations within the city. A circulating shuttle also operates on the Yavapai-Prescott reservation between the Prescott Resort and Conference Center, Bucky's Casino and the Yavapai Casino. The Tribe also provides a van service for elderly tribal members specifically for medical appointments or shopping.

Approximately thirteen human service organizations provide transportation within region for their clients. Fees are typically less than taxi services and often require registration or membership for ridership.