

Update on the SF Paratransit Program

Jonathan Cheng October 7, 2021 SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council

Major Milestones - SF Paratransit

- 1978: Lift Van services initiated with input and review by Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCC)
- 1982: Taxis introduced to serve ambulatory customers
- 1983: Contracted with a Paratransit Broker to manage service
- 1984: Introduced Group Van Services
- 1990: Passage of Americans with Disabilities Act
- 1994: Introduction of Accessible Taxis
- 1998: SF Access van service expanded to ambulatory users
- 2010: Implemented Shop-a-Round
- 2011: Full implementation of taxi debit card system
- 2014: Implemented Van Gogh Shuttle
- 2017: Started Mobility Management Program
- 2020: Launched the Essential Trip Card Program



Structure of the SF Paratransit Program





SF Paratransit Program

- Door to door transportation for those ADA eligible - unable to use fixed-route transit independently
- Three main modes
 - SF Access Van
 - Group Van
 - Taxi/Ramped Taxi





SF Paratransit Brokerage Service

- Administered through a contract with Transdev
 - Service Quality Monitoring
 - ADA Eligibility Certification
 - Customer Interface
 - Fare Media Sales
 - Mobility Management
 - SF Access Van service
 - Subcontracting of other Transportation Services



SF Access Service

- Traditional ADA service door-to-door service
- Pre-schedule 1 to 7 days in advance
- ³/₄ mile from all Muni bus routes including in Daly City



- 98% on time performance rate
- 110,650 trips completed, including 34,000 wheelchair trips, in FY21

Group Van Service



- Group transportation to/from single location, e.g. Adult Day Health Center
- All trips are prescheduled in coordination with the agency

Taxi Services



- Same day, general public taxis, includes ~40 ramped taxis
- All taxis in San
 Francisco required to participate
- All taxi riders receive a paratransit taxi debit card to pay fares and track trips
- 267,955 trips completed, including 9,900 trips for wheelchair users and 63,000 ETC trips, in FY21

Shop-a-Round and Van Gogh



- Travel to grocery stores & farmers markets
- Driver will assist passenger and grocery bags to front door
- Shop-a-Round Taxi available

 Provides group transportation to seniors and people with disabilities to cultural and social events to reduce social isolation





Mobility Management

 Educating and referring seniors and individuals with disabilities to services and programs that improves their access to transportation



- Working in partnership with Department of Public Health to develop the CHOICE program for two medical clinics at Potrero Hill and Bayview/Hunter's Point neighborhoods
- Engaging in online outreach and working to update and digitize brochures during COVID-19

Essential Trip Card Program (ETC Program)



- Subsidized taxi program for seniors/disabled to complete essential trips during pandemic
- Launched in April 2020 to complement Muni Core Service for seniors and persons with disabilities
- Over 4,500 registered riders who have completed 87,000 trips (as of September 28, 2021)



Current Van Services Provided During COVID-19

- Emergency Medical Transportation Service:
- Operating seven days a week, this service provides transport of potential PUIs to sheltered housing sites. In operations since March 2020
- Pier 94 Shuttle: This shuttle, which operates every day from 9AM - 8PM, provides transport from a sheltered site at Pier 94 to nearby transit connection points. In operations since May 2020.



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