



# TRANSIT NETWORK



### Metro Area Transit Service

Metro area transit consists of buses and para-transit vehicles.

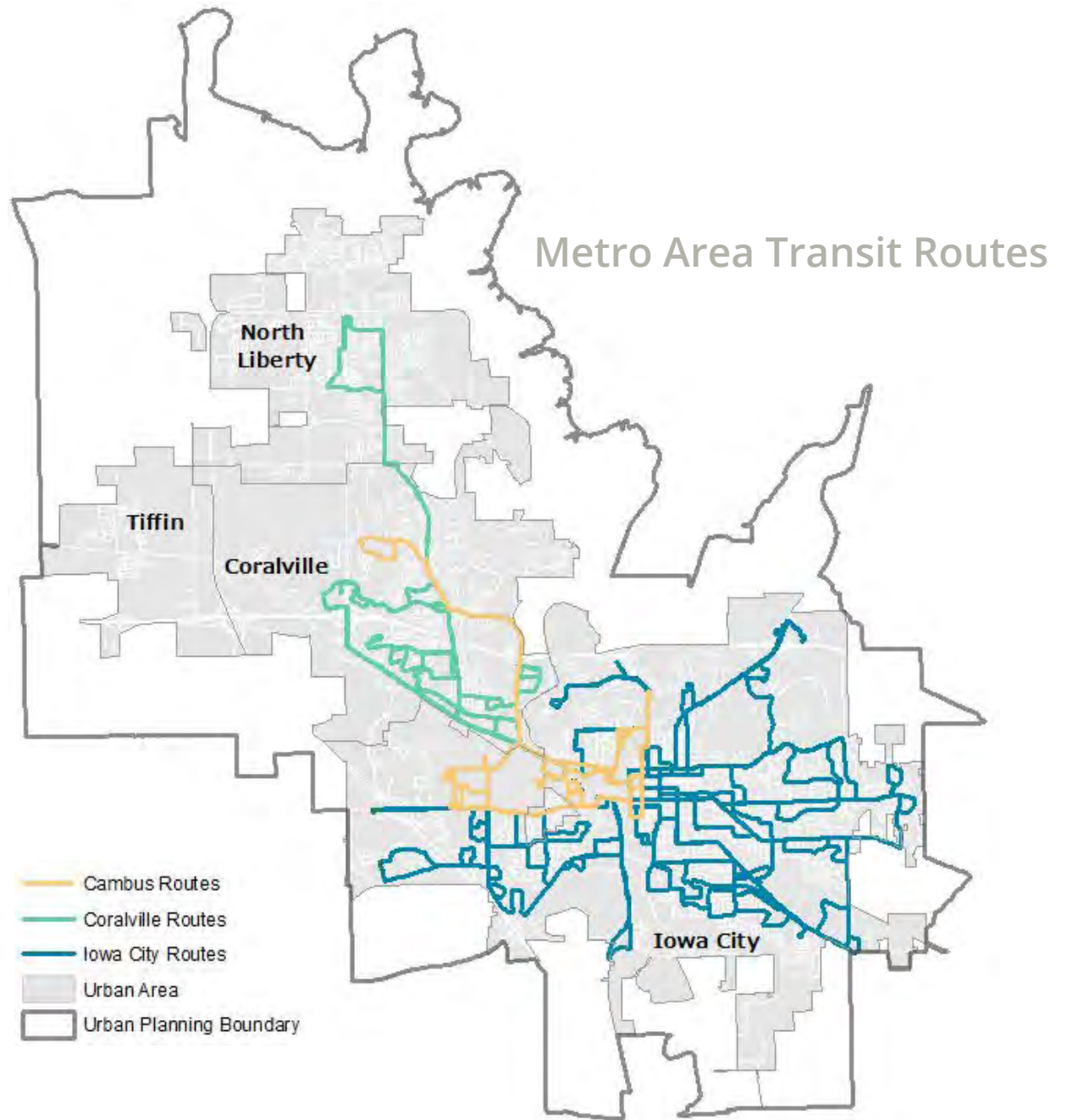
Iowa City, Coralville, and the University of Iowa provide transit services and are coordinated to provide connectivity across jurisdictional boundaries. North Liberty began providing intra-city service in 2016.

The Iowa City Metro Area ranks 11th in the nation for the highest number of bus rides: 66 rides per capita (based on a metro population of 109,437). The ranking is based on information from the American Community Survey.

All Iowa City and Coralville buses include bike carrying racks on standard route service.



**COST OF A NEW FIXED ROUTE BUS:  
\$460,000 (FY17)**



# PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION

## Vision

To deliver transportation services that support and promote a safe and comprehensive transit system in the metropolitan area and to enhance access to opportunities and quality of life for all individuals.

## MPOJC and the Transportation Network

MPOJC provides transit planning and grant administration in the Iowa City Urbanized Area for Coralville Transit, Iowa City Transit, and University of Iowa CAMBUS. Coralville Transit and Iowa City Transit are municipal transit systems operated by the City of Coralville and the City of Iowa City, respectively. University of Iowa CAMBUS is an open-to-the-public transit system operated by the University of Iowa to serve University of Iowa facilities. Planning and programming activities are conducted by MPOJC for transit capital and operating grant programs of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT). These activities include:

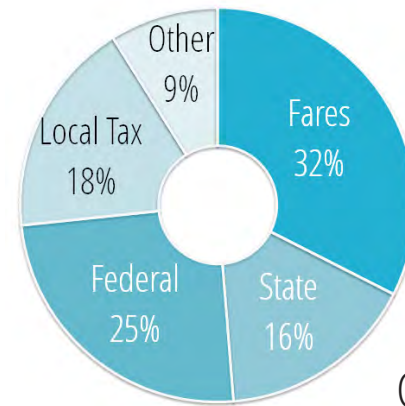
- ➔ Production of planning documents necessary to implement the federally mandated planning process.
- ➔ Individual short-and long-range transit planning projects requested by MPOJC member agencies.
- ➔ Planning and administration associated with state and federal grant applications.

## Capital Infrastructure Projects

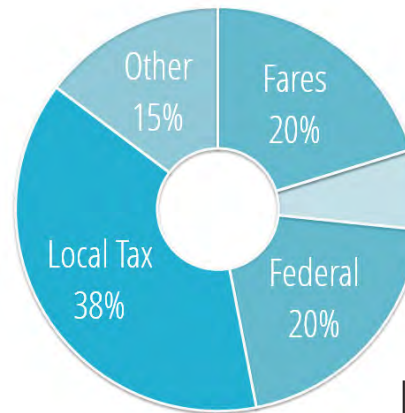
Iowa City Transit Maintenance and Bus Storage Facility

The Iowa City Transit maintenance facility has been at its current site at 1200 South Riverside Drive since 1984. Built on an old landfill site, the the current facility does not allow for future expansion or growth due to the soil conditions as well as air quality issues due to methane gas produced by the fill. Remedial work has been completed over the years to stabilize the environmental issues, but the facility has become more expensive to operate. A new facility is estimated to cost about \$20 million.

## How is transit funded?



CORALVILLE



IOWA CITY



# 11TH AMONG U.S. METRO AREAS bus rides per capita

Based on information from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

## SUCCESSES 2012-2017

**Coralville Transit Intermodal Facility** – Financed by the FTA and completed in 2015, this \$12.9 million facility includes 425 parking spaces to serve park and ride customers and commercial users, 2 bus bays serving 30 buses daily, space for interstate bus service, waiting area, restroom/shower facilities, bike lockers, and offices for city staff and the Iowa Bicycle Coalition.

**North Liberty Transit Service** – Beginning in Fall 2016, fixed route bus service operated by Johnson County SEATS began serving North Liberty. The new service, which operates during off-peak hours (10:00am to 2:00pm) Monday-Friday, is intended to augment peak AM and PM services already provided by Coralville Transit, to serve residents seeking rides to human services and recreation programs, medical appointments, or shopping in North Liberty. Bus fares are set at \$2, including paratransit rides during service hours.

**Van pool/car pool/Express Bus Service** – In preparation for the Iowa DOT's I-80/I-380 interchange reconstruction project to begin in 2018, MPOJC is working with the Iowa DOT, the East Central Iowa Council of Governments, and other local stakeholders to develop three new transportation programs aimed at reducing traffic congestion on I-80 and I-380 during and after the interchange reconstruction project.

→ Car Pool/Van Pool Programs: In 2016, the Iowa DOT's RideConnect began offering both van-pool and carpool options covering a 7-county region (ECICOG). The van pool program is operated by V-Ride, which already serves the VA Hospital in Iowa City. Iowa's Creative Corridor provides marketing for the program.

→ Express Bus Service: Beginning in 2018, a fixed route bus service will operate for the duration of the I-80/I-380 interchange reconstruction project. The Iowa DOT will fund the service between Iowa City and Cedar Rapids for the entirety of the interchange project with the understanding that the service will be financed locally once the project is complete. Routes would serve downtown Cedar Rapids, Kirkwood Community College (Cedar Rapids), the Iowa City Downtown interchange, University of Iowa Hospital/campus, and the Coralville Transit intermodal facility. More than 3,600 work related commuters use I-380 each day. Ridership for the express bus service is projected at 300 riders per day.

**Car sharing** – In 2015, the City of Iowa City and the University of Iowa brought Zipcar to the urbanized area. The car share program allows anyone to reserve a car online or by phone. Cars stations are provided at 5 locations in Iowa City and on the UI campus. Zipcar is available 24 hours per day at an hourly rate of \$7 or a daily rate of \$66.

**Transportation Network Companies** – In addition to the 10 taxi companies serving the urbanized area, Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), including Uber and Lyft, were permitted to be part of the transportation network in the urbanized area in 2016.

## STRATEGIES IMPROVING PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION



GUIDING PRINCIPLES MET

### Increase transportation training/education/partnerships

Establish a Mobility Coordinator position.



### Improve transit facilities and equipment

Equipment purchase (buses).  
Construct Iowa City transit maintenance and bus storage facility.  
Improve bus shelters to be safe and pleasant.  
Concentrate development around transit corridors in density/mixed-use neighborhoods.  
Locate transit improvements in safe, walkable areas..



### Extend existing transit routes for jobs

Extend routes late night.  
Provide late night/weekends ADA cab service.  
Increase route frequency and reduce travel times.  
Provide real-time information.



### Extend/Create new transportation services

Complete passenger rail study (Iowa City-North Liberty).  
Complete Amtrak study (Chicago-Iowa City).  
Initiate express bus service (Iowa City-Cedar Rapids).  
Support car sharing/van pools/car pools.



# 7.1 MILLION

Number of bus rides provided in the Iowa City metro in 2015 (over 22,500 rides per day). This represents almost 30% of the total rides in Iowa's urban areas.

# 20%

growth in metro bus ridership over the past decade.

# 3,634

Number of commuter trips from Cedar Rapids to Iowa City area per day on I-380.

# 70

Number of employee vans operated by the University of Iowa serving the hospitals and campus.