

Transit works ...

for SENIORS

By 2025, an estimated 20 percent of the population – one in five persons – will be over age 65. Providing mobility options is critical for older Americans and for those who care for them.

If we fail to expand and sustain mobility options for our older family members, neighbors and friends, the future of older Americans will result in further negative social and economic consequences.

- **Heightened safety risks:** Continuing to drive later in life dramatically increases safety risks.
- **Limited options, lost mobility:** More than one in five Americans (21%) over age 65 do not drive.
- **Isolation and reduced independence:** More than 50 percent of non-drivers age 65 and older stay home on any given day partially because they lack transportation options.
- **Diminished quality of life and health:** Older non-drivers have a decreased ability to participate in the community and the economy. Compared with older drivers, non- drivers make:
 - 15% fewer trips to the doctor
 - 59% fewer shopping trips and restaurant visits
 - 65% fewer trips for social, family and religious activities

According to a national survey of individuals age 65 or older, conducted by Harris Interactive in November 2005, more than four in five seniors believe public transportation is a better alternative to driving alone, especially at night.

83 percent of older Americans agree that public transit provides easy access to the things that they need in everyday life.

At the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, ensuring that older Americans have transportation options to retain their mobility and independence received the third most votes of 73 issues considered, with 1,002 ballots out of a maximum of 1,200.



CALIFORNIA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION