## 2021 SCDRTAP Public Hearing

#### **NJ TRANSIT**

Office of Local Programs, Minibus Support and Community Transportation
October 13, 2020



#### **Our Mission**

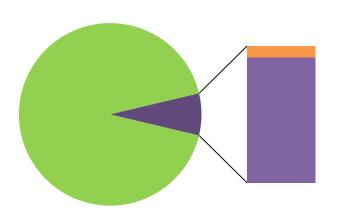
To provide creative solutions for coordinating and enhancing mobility for the state's transit-dependent residents through community transportation and mobility management. We achieve this through funding and the integration of available technological advances in both service delivery and administration; public participation through stakeholder meetings; training opportunities for staff at all levels; and the promotion of interconnectivity between community transportation and fixed-route bus, light rail, and commuter rail systems.

### Why This Public Hearing?

- By law NJ TRANSIT must hold annual public hearings to receive comments from the public on the administration of the Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program. (SCDRTAP)
- NJ TRANSIT hearings being held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 as follows:
  - Southern Region 5- 6:00 pm
  - Central Region 6 7:00 pm
  - Northern 7-8:00 pm

#### What is SCDRTAP?

- New Jersey Casinos pay a tax of 8% on their gaming revenue.
- The Casino Revenue tax is dedicated to programs for seniors and people with disabilities.
- By law, 8.5% of the total tax collected is set aside for community transportation through the Senior Citizen Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program (SCDRTAP), administered by NJ TRANSIT.
  - Other Casino Revenue tax-funded programs include Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged & Disabled (PAAD), Division of Disabilities Services as well as other services/programs for senior and disabled residents.



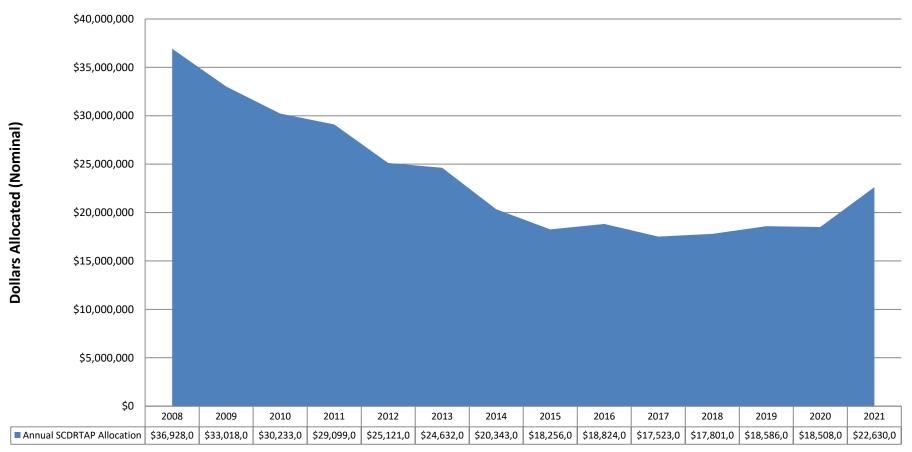
Casino Revenues

- Senior Citizen & Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program (SCDRTAP)
- Other Programs

#### **SCDRTAP Funding History**

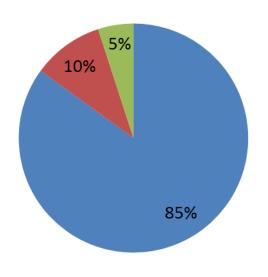
In FY2021 funding had a 22% increase due to the boom of the casinos and the introduction of Sports Betting in New Jersey (in 2019).

#### **Annual SCDRTAP Allocations, 2008-2021**



#### **How are Funds Distributed?**

## SCDRTAP Funding Allocations



- Counties
- NJT for Program Administration
- NJT for Accessibility Projects

- 85% of funding goes to the counties
- 10% of the funding is used for managing the program
- 5% of the funding is used for NJ TRANSIT accessibility projects

## How is the 85% Distributed to the Counties?

- Once NJ TRANSIT receives its allocation in the Governor's budget, funds must be distributed among the counties according to a defined formula:
  - Based upon each county's percentage of the State's total 60+ year-old population
  - No county may receive more than 10% of the total allocation available to counties

#### **Proposed FY 2021 Allocations**

- TOTAL 2021 Allocation \$22,630,000
- Funding to Counties \$19,235,500
- **NJ TRANSIT** \$3,394,500
- (For Administration and Accessibility)

COUNTY	2020 BUDGET	2021 BUDGET
Atlantic	\$507,741	\$620,823
Bergen	\$1,378,526	\$1,685,543
Burlington	\$817,399	\$999,446
Camden	\$868,441	\$1,061,856
Cape May	\$344,859	\$421,664
Cumberland	\$344,859	\$421,664
Essex	\$1,199,260	\$1,466,353
Gloucester	\$477,489	\$583,833
Hudson	\$873,581	\$1,068,140
Hunterdon	\$344,859	\$421,664
Mercer	\$608,916	\$744,531
Middlesex	\$1,300,658	\$1,590,333
Monmouth	\$1,148,580	\$1,404,385
Morris	\$896,708	\$1,096,419
Ocean	\$1,378,526	\$1,685,543
Passaic	\$795,236	\$972,347
Salem	\$344,859	\$421,664
Somerset	\$529,273	\$647,150
Sussex	\$344,859	\$421,664
Union	\$882,310	\$1,078,814
Warren	\$344,859	\$421,664
Total County	\$15,731,800	\$19,235,500
NJ TRANSIT**	\$ 2,776,200	\$3,394,500
TOTAL	\$18,508,000	\$22,630,000

# Annual SCDRTAP County Funding Process

- SCDRTAP funds the county coordinated transportation systems for senior citizens and people with disabilities.
  - Funds can be used for operating, administrative and capital expenses related to transportation for senior citizens and people with disabilities.
  - Each county or its designee has an annual public hearing for SCDRTAP funds.
  - Each county or its designee must submit an annual application to NJT's Local Programs.
  - Applications are reviewed to ensure program consistency and compliance.

### How is the other 15% spent?

#### **NJ TRANSIT Administrative Support:**

- Administers the statewide SCDRTAP program
  - Annual application review requires local public hearings and SCDRTAP advisory committee input
  - Verify reimbursement requests from recipients
  - Review vehicle specifications and inspect vehicles and equipment

# How is the other 15% spent? (continued)

#### **NJ TRANSIT** 's Oversight and Operational Support:

- Provides technical assistance to counties and other local community transportation providers
- Monitors operations site visits
- Provides driver, safety and management training
- Attends local citizen advisory committee meetings during the year
- Promotes best practices among recipients
- Encourages connectivity with NJ TRANSIT bus and rail services

# How is the other 15% spent? (continued)

#### **NJ TRANSIT Accessibility Enhancements:**

- Develop, provide and maintain NJ TRANSIT capital improvements that add or improve accessibility
  - ADA improvements to rail stations
  - o Bus lift refurbishment

# How is the other 15% spent? (continued)

#### **Program and NJT Enhancements:**

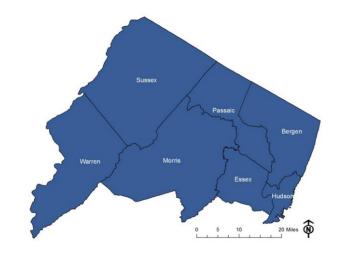
- Plan, implement and operate activities or programs which promote the use of and/or lead to improved, additional, or expanded accessible transit services. Recent projects include:
  - NJ Travel Independence Program (NJTIP) operated by Rutgers University's Voorhees Transportation Center.
  - Transportation Network Company (TNC) pilot project, allocating a small portion of SCDRTAP funds to supplement county services with TNC services (Uber, Lyft or other app-based, ride-hailing providers).
  - Refurbishment of ACCESS LINK vehicle lifts

### **County Ridership and Trip Purpose**

- The following slides show passenger trips provided by the twenty one county transportation systems for calendar year 2019.
- Counties who provide general public transportation in addition to their senior and disabled service shown as "OTHER".
- Counties utilizing funding that provide competitive employment for people with disabilities and the general public shown as "C-EMP".

## Northern Region

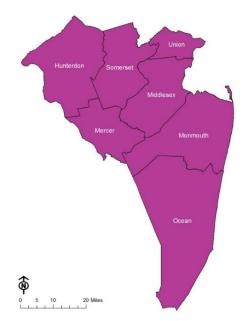
2019 Northern Region Trip Purpose Report for All Funding Programs & Percentage of Casino Trips



	Medical	NC-Emp.	C-Emp.	Recreation	Education	Nutrition	Shop	Other	Total Trips	% of Casino Trips
BERGEN	49,997	43,847	7,404	24,397	34,469	45,304	19,374	2,552	227,344	55%
ESSEX	26,980	15,483	123,997	7,853	1,191	16,509	4,011	19,883	215,907	16%
HUDSON	51,932	6,442	8,277	18,011	2,923	3,865	3,703	1,685	96,838	27%
MORRIS	21,062	15,700	3,690	56	1,889	844	8	3,407	46,656	56%
PASSAIC	27,000	11,639	11,824	7,640	1,400	43,650	9,445	12,356	124,954	47%
SUSSEX	18,459	3,638	14,722	498	1,424	4,646	7,549	46,861	97,797	7%
WARREN	17,725	13,898	5,379	2,367	166	12,517	1,965	97,594	151,611	12%
Total:	213,155	110,647	175,293	60,822	43,462	127,335	46,055	184,338	961,107	31%

## **Central Region**

2019 Central Region Trip Purpose Report for All Funding Programs & Percentage of Casino Trips



		Medical	NC-Emp.	C-Emp.	Recreation	Education	Nutrition	Shop	Other	Total Trips	% of Casino Trips
HUNTERI	OON	13,689	24,695	16,510	4,704	1,554	4	12,541	49,206	122,903	16%
MERCE	:R	29,563	3,401	11,067	5,783	2,099	40,586	16,986	25,291	134,776	69%
MIDDLES	SEX	41,753	21,785	59,328	16,764	15,075	3,237	21,957	78,838	258,737	19%
MONMO	JTH	19,806	9,442	519	2,617	274	12,098	13,814	1,417	59,987	54%
OCEA	N	44,121	13,783	4,597	0	2,555	0	10,027	143,080	218,163	12%
SOMERS	ET	50,256	36,874	11,279	14,937	10	45,156	7,482	181,567	347,561	9%
UNION	I	51,571	20,632	81,827	1,990	548	2,060	2,509	27,291	188,428	31%
Total:		250,759	130,612	185,127	46,795	22,115	103,141	85,316	506,690	1,330,555	23%

## Southern Region

**2019 Southern Region Trip Purpose Report for All Funding Programs & Percentage of Casino Trips** 



	Medical	NC-Emp.	C-Emp.	Recreation	Education	Nutrition	Shop	Other	Total Trips	% of Casino Trips
ATLANTIC	36,500	536	5,137	8,531	71	47,196	14,589	11,922	124,482	15%
BURLINGTON	10,461	0	1,993	0	0	7,640	6,237	73,433	99,764	18%
CAMDEN	17,764	92,610	5,065	2,617	0	6,151	10,603	0	134,810	18%
CAPE MAY	29,354	22,555	6,666	8,676	378	16,192	12,713	15,182	111,716	83%
CUMBERLAND	25,365	8,339	4,513	4,494	1,047	8,555	7,965	81,695	141,973	0.12%
GLOUCESTER	12,537	22,298	2,141	34	2,383	0	1,665	1,127	42,185	48%
SALEM	12,030	487	1,788	800	266	2,549	1,002	997	19,919	61%
Total:	144,011	146,825	27,303	25,152	4,145	88,283	54,774	184,356	674,849	27%

### **County System Vehicle Fleet**

- Our 21 county system includes 931 vehicles.
- 90% of these vehicles are fully accessible
- Minibuses and light duty transit buses are the most popular vehicle types.



County	Total Vehicles	Accessible (%)	Federally Funded (%)
Atlantic	52	52 (100%)	52 (100%)
Bergen	73	61 (84%)	5 (7%)
Burlington/Camden	57	56 (98%)	54 (95%)
Cape May	46	39 (89%)	34 (77%)
Cumberland	32	29 (91%)	27 (84%)
Essex	34	30 (88%)	10 (29%)
Gloucester	24	23 (96%)	23 (96%)
Hudson	48	48 (100%)	26 (54%)
Hunterdon	27	26 (96%)	14 (52%)
Mercer	31	31 (100%)	29 (94%)
Middlesex	69	59 (86%)	12 (17%)
Monmouth	45	42 (93%)	16 (36%)
Morris	36	14 (39%)	10 (28%)
Ocean	69	64 (93%)	12 (17%)
Passaic	55	42 (76%)	18 (33%)
Salem	16	16 (100%)	16 (100%)
Somerset	116	102 (88%)	6 (5%)
Sussex	27	27 (100%)	27 (100%)
Union	50	50 (100%)	8 (16%)
Warren	24	24 (100%)	16 (67%)
Total	931	835 (90%)	415 (45%)

## COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COVID RESPONSE

This year, starting in mid-March 2020, all of New Jersey entered uncharted territory with the Governor declaring a Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

- The twenty one "county transportation" employees were made essential
- Services continued for non-emergency medical trips (NEMT) such as dialysis, chemo, employment, and food shopping
- Developed "safe" operating plans to keep drivers safe
- Increased cleaning of vehicles and purchased disinfection foggers
- The county systems started providing meal deliveries for homebound seniors when NJ's nutrition sites closed

#### FTA COVID-19 Response

THE FTA donated face masks to New Jersey's county transportation providers. Next few slides show various New Jersey transportation providers continuing senior and disabled services during the pandemic.











## Local Programs, Minibus Support and Community Transportation Contacts

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Chris Uffer	Warranty Administrator	(973) 491-7986	CUffer@njtransit.com

### Additional Opportunities Available to Comment on SCDRTAP

- NJ TRANSIT will accept written comments by October 23, 2020
  - Mail: Public Hearing Comments 2020, NJT, One Penn Plaza East, Newark, NJ 07105
  - e-mail: <u>publichearings@njtransit.com</u>
- Each county holds annual public hearings on how it expends its share of the Casino Revenue Fund for transportation.
  - Each county has a Citizen Advisory Committee which meets throughout the year.
- Senior Citizen and Disabled Residents Citizen Transportation Advisory
  Committee (statewide) provides comments on SCDRTAP (Casino Revenue)
  funded programs as well as on NJ TRANSIT services.
  - If you are interested in participating in this committee or county committee please contact:
    - Janelle Rivera, (973) 491-8346 or <u>irivera1@njtransit.com</u>
    - Anna Magri, (973) 491-7381 or <u>amagri@njtransit.com</u>