

ARTICLE 14 – FUNDING OF GO SUDBURY! TAXI AND UBER TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS FOR FY2024

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or to transfer from available funds, the sum of \$150,000, or any other sum or sums, for the purposes of the continued operations of the Go Sudbury! Taxi and Uber Transportation Programs, including all incidental and related expenses; or act on anything relative thereto.

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“My friends in other towns are jealous of this excellent program for seniors. I hope it continues as it is so helpful as night driving becomes more of a challenge.”

“This program is FANTASTIC!! I have broken my right foot very badly and am not able to drive.”

“This program has been exactly what I need to be able to go places and get things done.”

Agenda...

- History – Where did we start
- Where the program is now
- Results - Where are people GO!ng
- Recognition of programs
- Rider feedback

History – Where did we start

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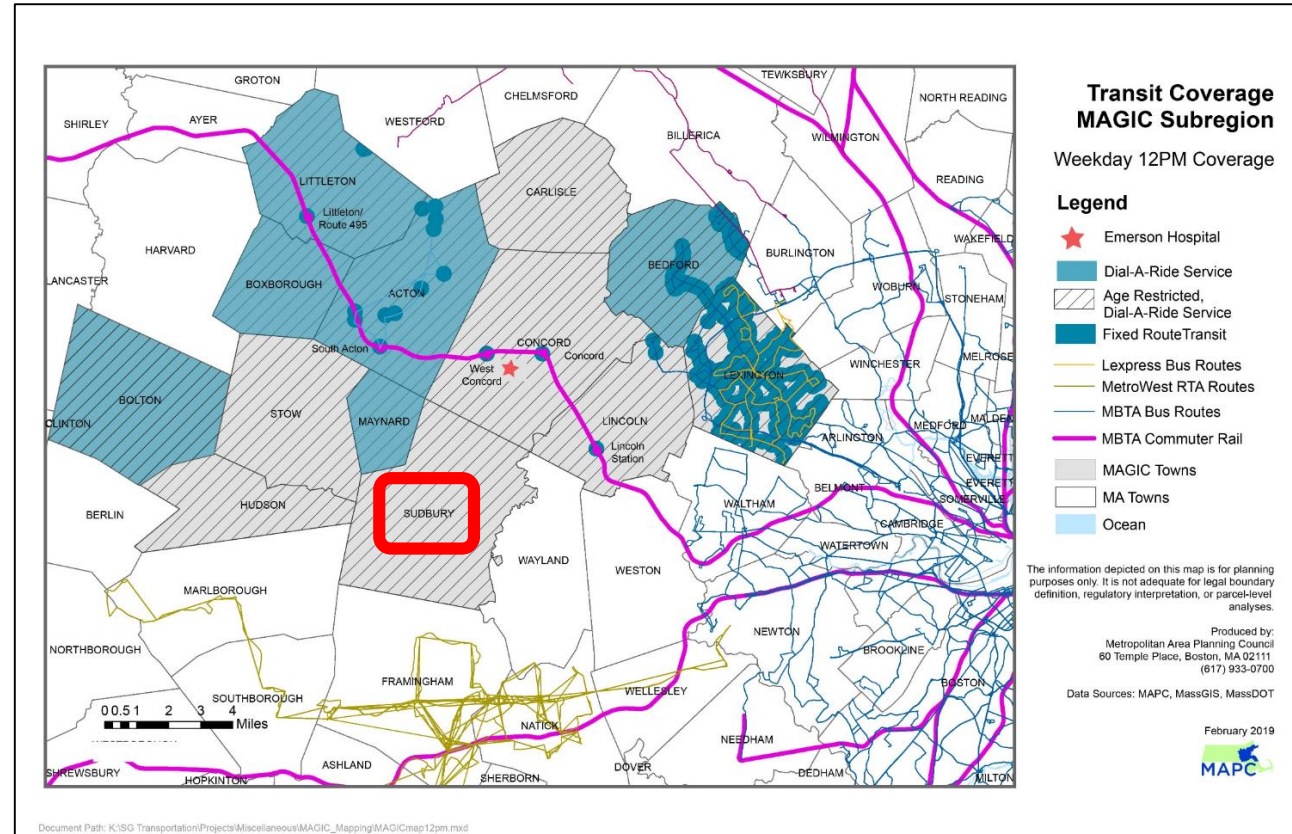
Transit Deserts (MAPC Data)

LIVABLE SUDBURY FINDINGS

Transportation gaps reduce the overall “livability” and long-term attractiveness of the town; they limit

- *Social participation and inclusion*
- *Access to community and health services*
- *Housing options*
- *Access to outdoor spaces*
- *Civic participation and employment*

“Transportation” is mentioned 150 times in the Livable Sudbury needs assessment





History – Where did we start

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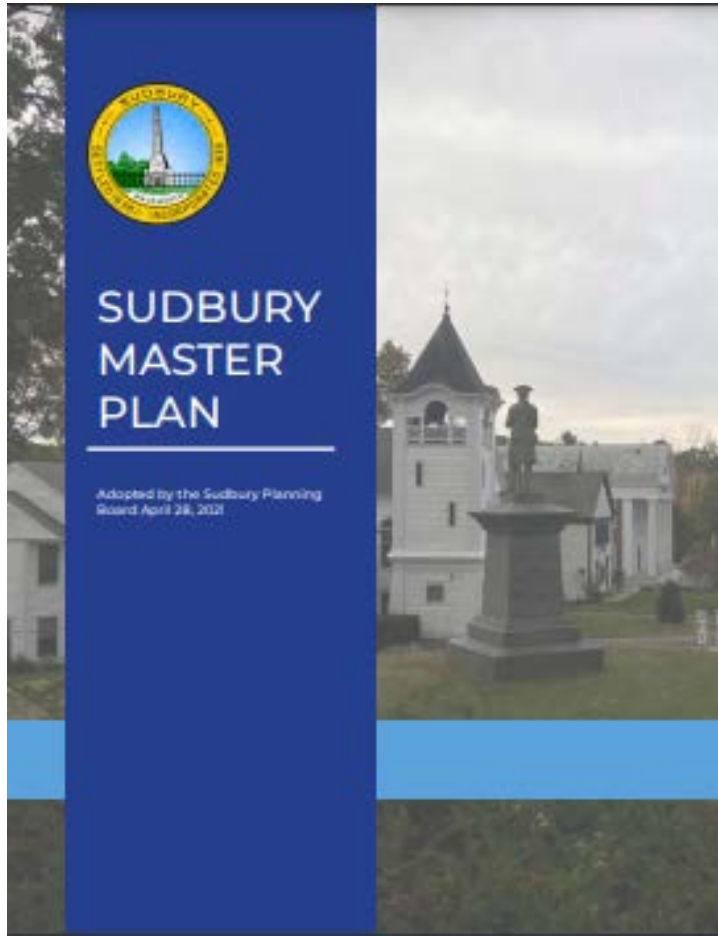
Making The Connections (MTC) 2019

- Collaboration of Acton, Bolton, Concord, Maynard, Stow, and Sudbury (lead).
- \$80,000 grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Community Compact Best Practices initiative
- MTC’s aim is to increase the availability of transportation for residents, particularly older adults, people with disabilities, people with low incomes, and veterans to access health services, community resources, and economic opportunities.
- Completed Dec 2022



History – Where did we start

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SADBURY MASTER PLAN 2021; 154 action items across 10 major categories

- **Transportation and Connectivity**

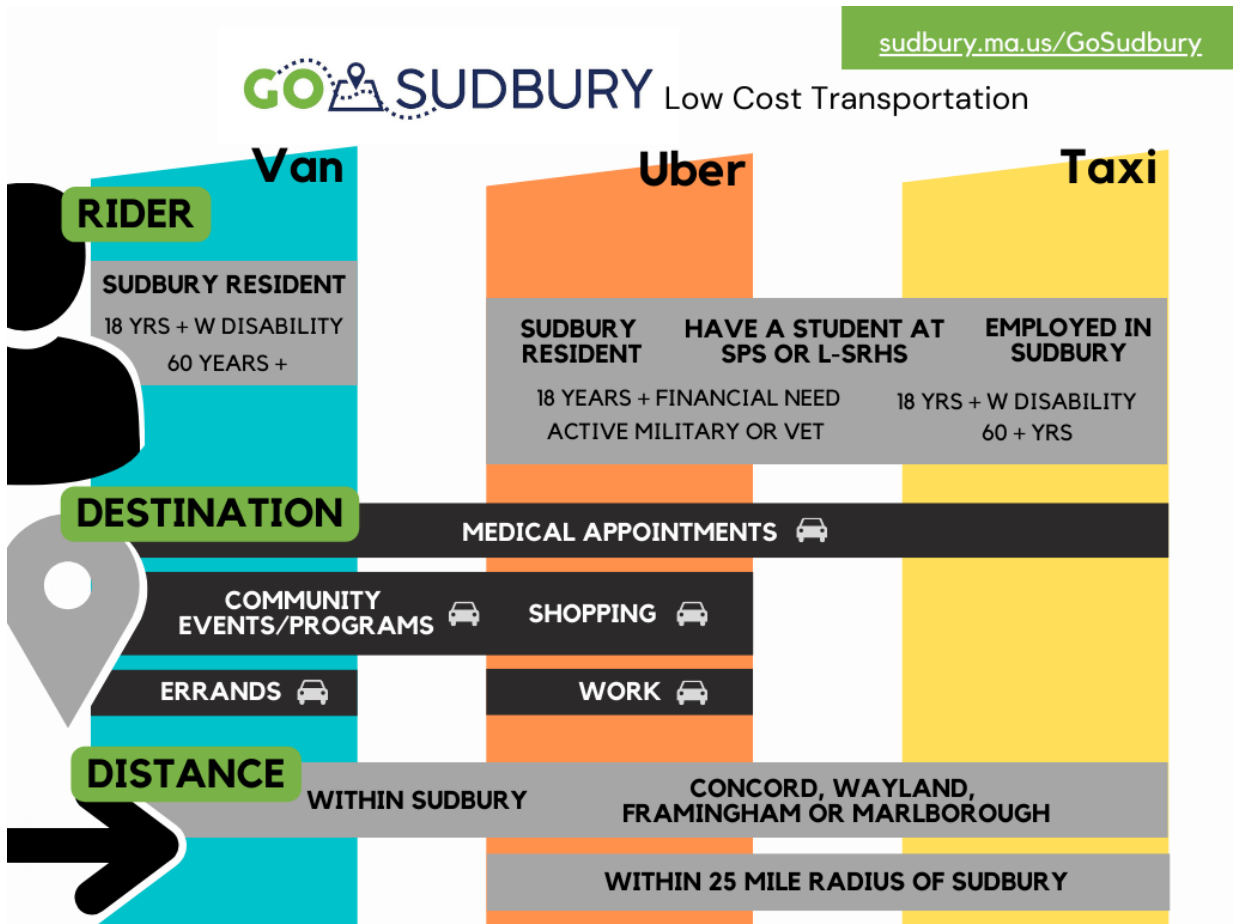
Go Sudbury! currently or potentially impacts 6 action items in this category

- **Route 20 Corridor – 3 action items**
- **Town Facilities, Services & Infrastructure – 2 action items**
- **Public Health, Social Well-Being – 2 action items**
- **Resiliency – 1 action item**



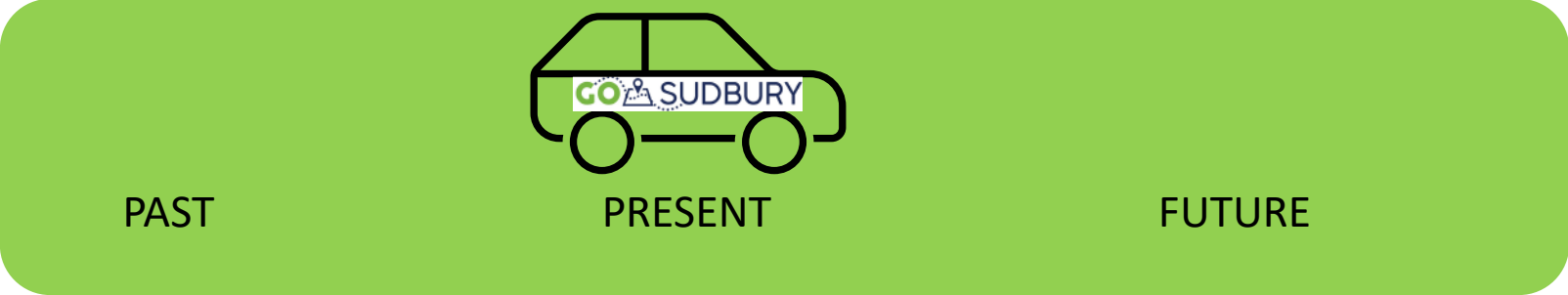
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Where the program is now



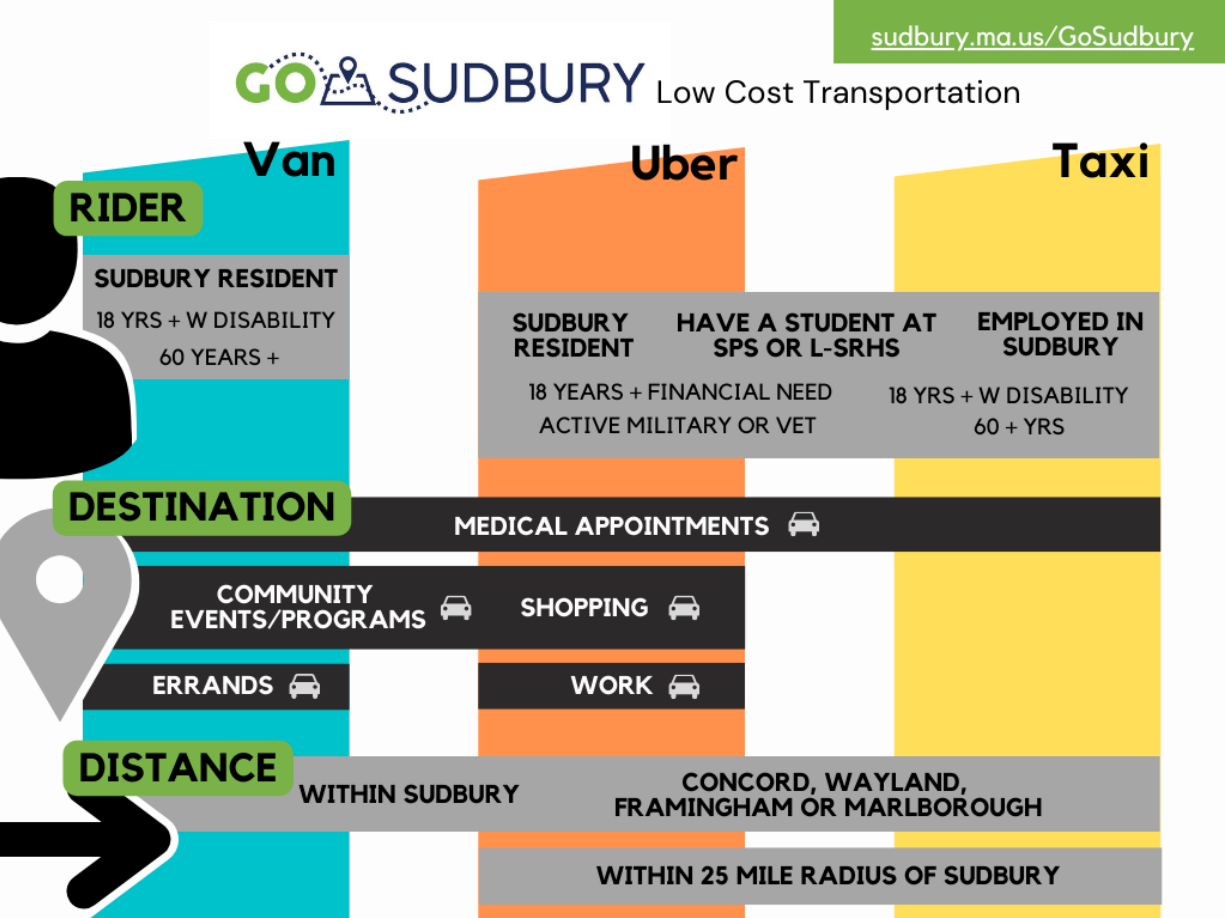
- Uber & Taxi to augment MWRTA funded Sudbury Connection van
- Sudbury resident, employed in Sudbury, or family of student at SPS or L-S and one or more of following:
 - Aged 60+
 - Financially vulnerable
 - Disability that limits driving
 - Military
- Taxi free for medical rides
- Uber w/ copay for medical, work, shopping, social

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Where the program is now



12 month period Apr 2022 – March 2023

- 2386 Uber rides, 71 unique riders
- 931 taxi rides, 83 unique riders



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Where the program is now

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Why are we back at Town Meeting?

- Operational program not yet worked into budget
- Maintain service until financially sustainable

Funding:

- Historically funded with grant and mitigation funds
- Town Meeting 2022 (\$100,000)
- **Delayed 2023 MassDev grant for medical taxi rides**



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What has changed since last year?

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- Transportation is 1 of 6 high level Select Board Goals
- Transportation Committee provided Select Board with a 5-year regionalized plan
- By using Continuous Quality Improvement & data to drive fiscally responsible decisions to sustain the program we have changed:
 - Ride caps
 - Age eligibility from 50+ years to 60+ years
 - Taxi to medical only
 - 30% Uber is co-pay funded

Some questions here about our 'partnership' with MWRTA as we are already a member of the MWRTA

State / Regional Partnership

- ***Metropolitan Planning Org (MPO)'s Central Transportation Planning Staff (CTPS)***
- ***Metrowest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA)***

These partnerships only happen via assertive persistence

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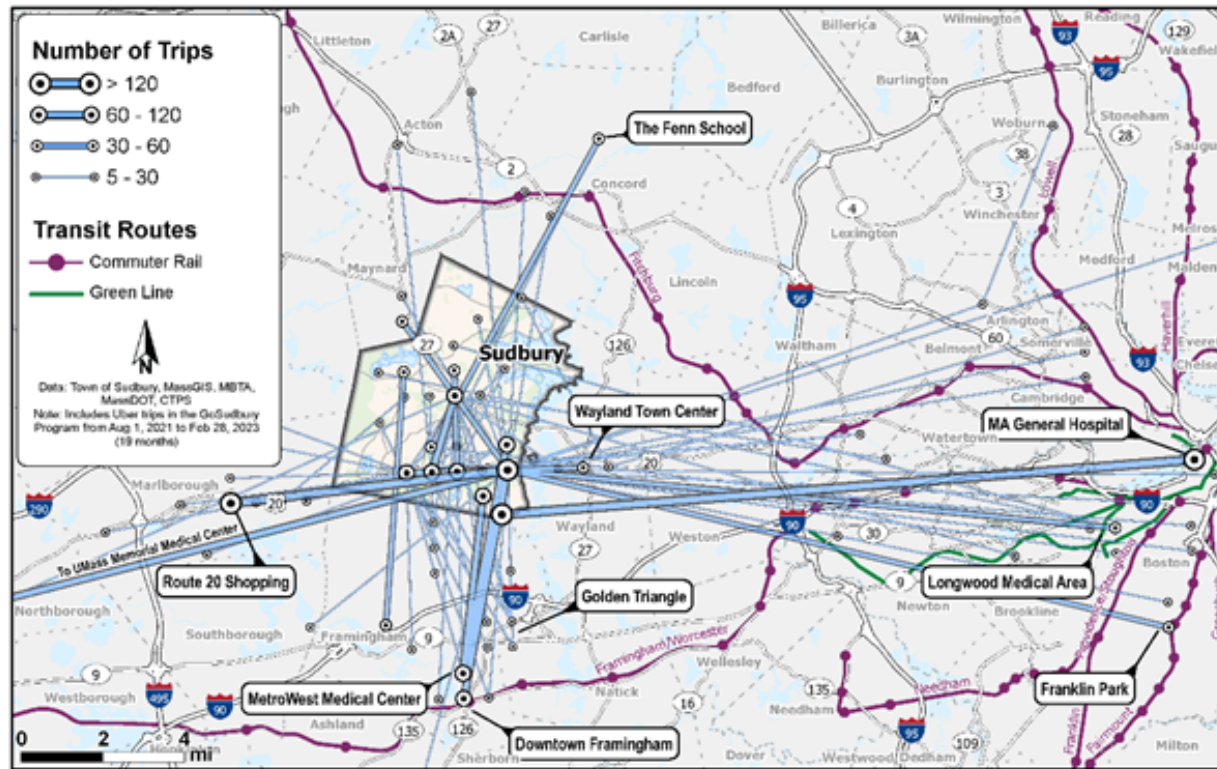
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Results – Where are people GO!ng

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There was a SB question about Fenn School – then comment that we should be careful not to reveal too much personal info

Graphic courtesy of Central Transportation Planning Staff

CTPS **FIGURE 3** Total Uber Trips Between Top 100 Origin-Destinations in the GoSudbury Program from Aug 2021 to Feb 2023 *Technical Assistance for Sudbury Transit*

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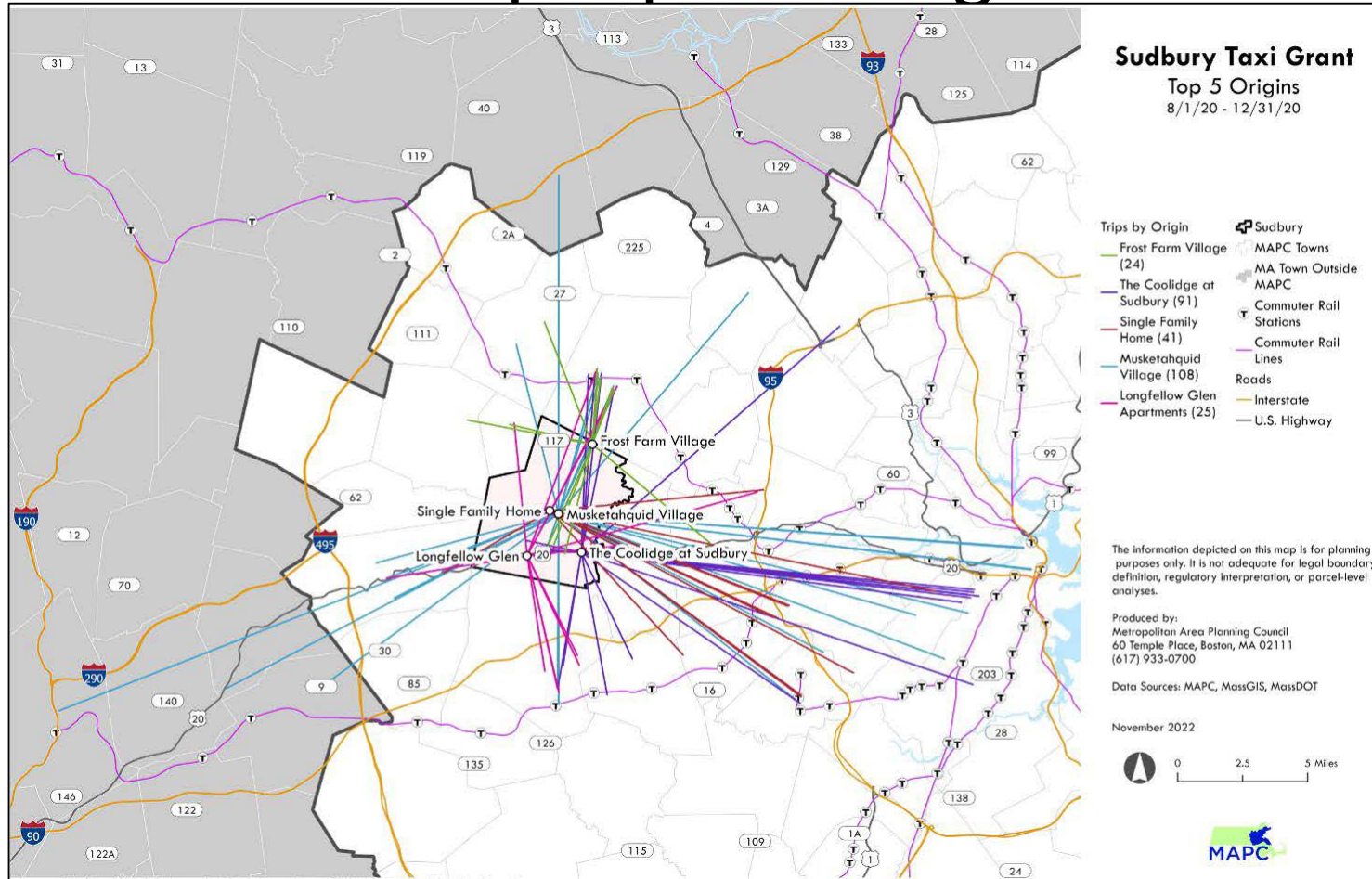
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Results – Where are people GO!ng

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Alice – do you have a clearer picture of this image?

Graphic courtesy of
 Metropolitan Area Planning
 Council

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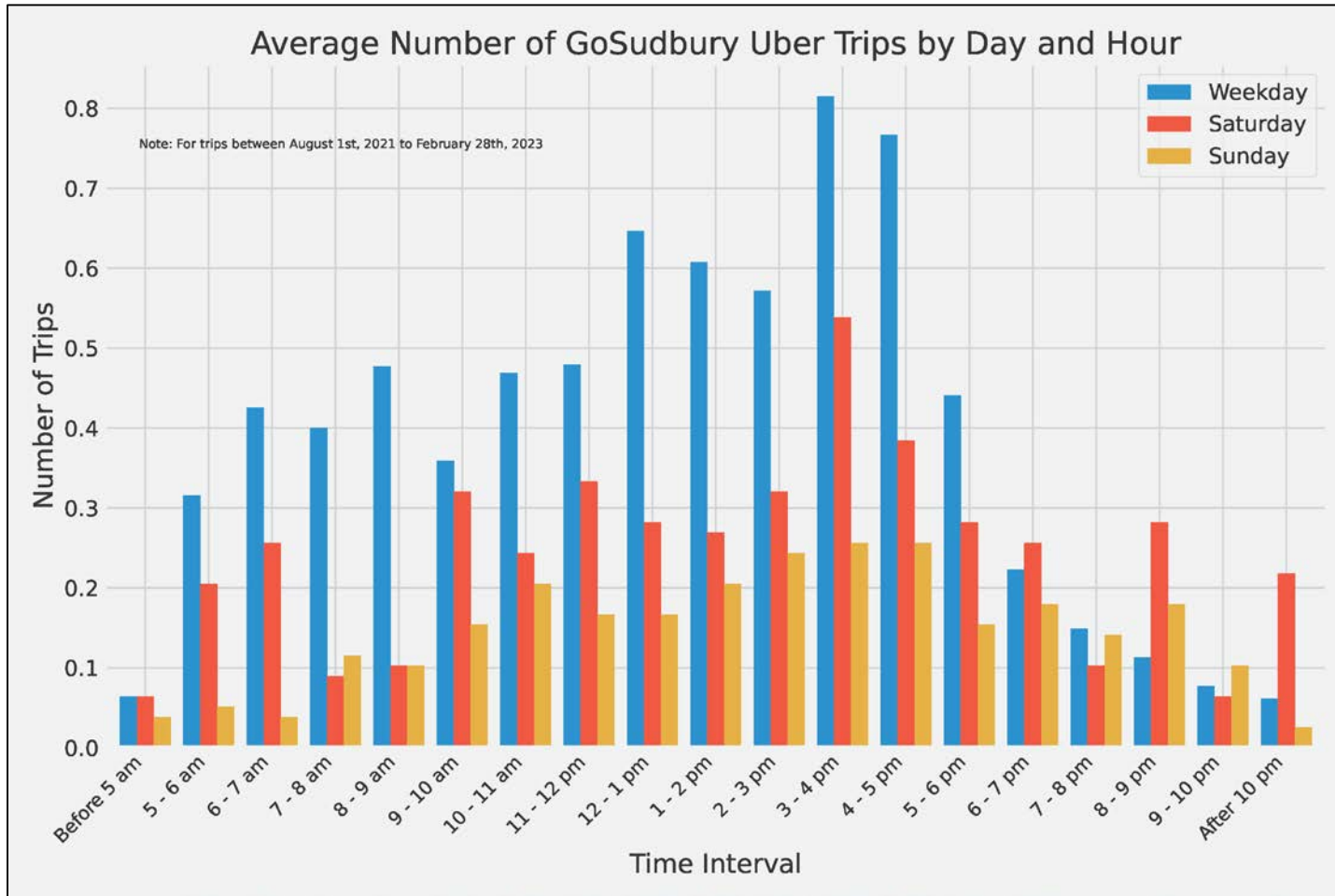
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FUTURE

Where the program is GO!ng

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Graphic courtesy of Central
 Transportation Planning Staff

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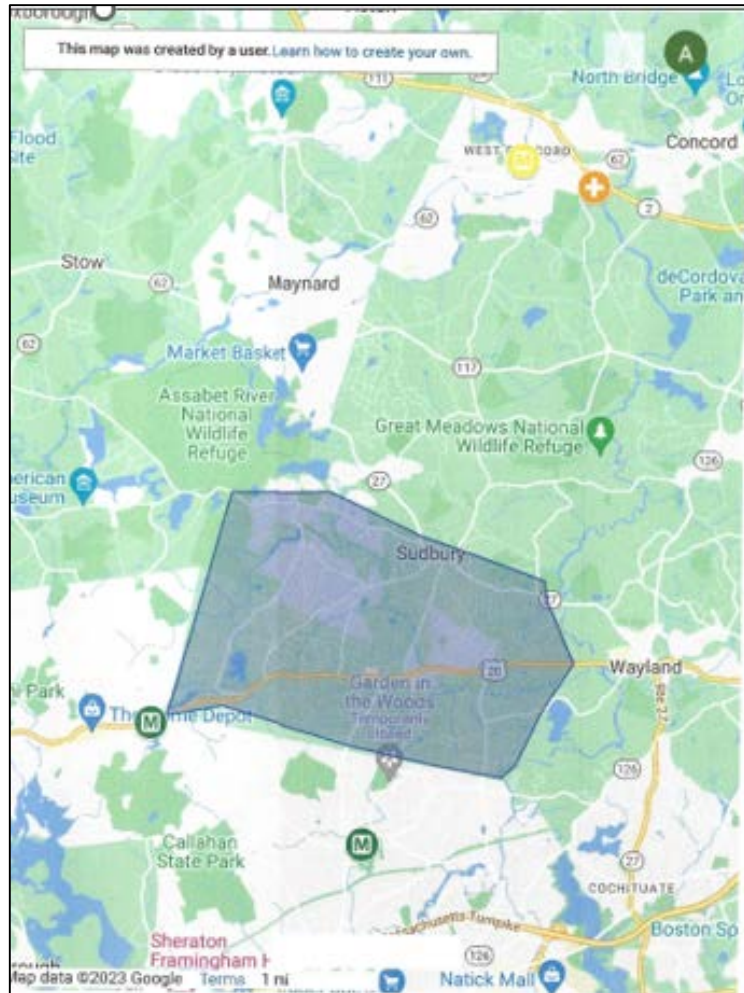
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Where the program is GO!ng



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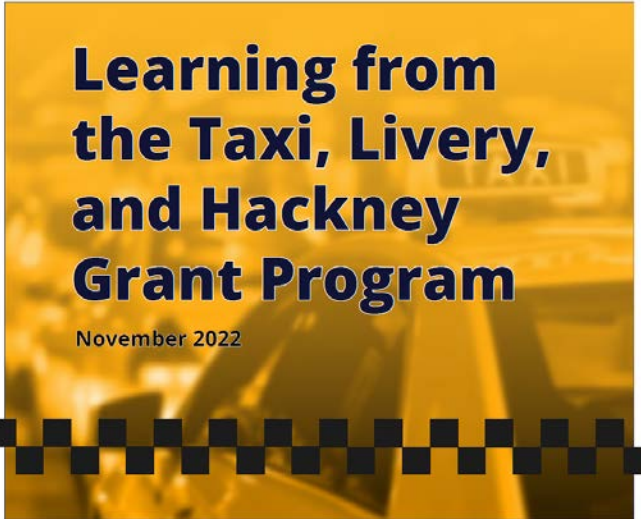


Some questions here about CC program

- Working to pilot existing MWRTA “Catch Connect” services in Sudbury
- Grant application submitted
- Collected data supports collaboration with MWRTA

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 10, 2023

Charles G. Russo, Select Board Chair
Flynn Building
278 Old Sudbury Road
Sudbury, MA 01776

Dear Chairman Russo:

I am writing to congratulate you and your colleagues in Sudbury on having completed your second Community Compact Best Practices grant. Both Governor Healey and I hope to bolster local government practices and foster strong partnerships with our municipalities through the Community Compact program.

Your participation in this program, in particular your work to finalize a regional transportation initiative, is commendable and will provide key short and long term benefits to the Town of Sudbury.

Our Community Compacts program aims to enhance our shared commitment to provide better government for our residents, primarily focused on delivering more efficient, professional, and responsive services. Governor Healey and I appreciate Sudbury participating in the Community Compact initiative!

Sincerely,
Kimberley Driscoll
Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

cc: Sean Cronin, Senior Deputy Commissioner of Local Services
Juan Gallego, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff to the Lieutenant Governor

RECEIVED
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
FEB 21 2023

“The Town of Sudbury is a rural community with no access to public transportation within its borders. Nearby commuter rail stops are overlapped on the maps below to show potential for transit use for these trips in the future. None of the trips shown below would be possible to take on existing transit routes.”
MAPC Report

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

CARMINE L. GENTILE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
15TH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
SUDBURY • MAULBOROUGH
WAYLAND • FRAMMINGHAM

March 13, 2023

RE: Sudbury/ MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) application for AARP/Toyota North America Demonstration Grant

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Town of Sudbury and MetroWest Regional Transit Authority's (MWRTA) application for the AARP Transportation Demonstration Grant. Sudbury, like many communities, faces a transportation problem for many of its citizens, most of all seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and other populations that may not be able to drive. The proposed \$50,000 grant would provide a temporary on-demand, accessible transportation service for the above-mentioned groups and demonstrate the potential for long-term solutions.

Since joining the AARP Livable Network in 2018, Sudbury has identified transportation as a major challenge in our Livable Sudbury needs assessment. The Sudbury Transportation Committee was formed in 2018 to seek grants and mitigation funds to support transportation pilots for seniors (50+), people with disabilities, veterans, and financially vulnerable groups.

As a member of the Massachusetts' Legislature's Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, the Sudbury Council on Aging, and the State Representative for Sudbury, I am familiar with the significant transportation challenges faced by many residents. I am also aware of the Town of Sudbury's strong commitment to addressing these issues. This grant would allow more people to make doctor's appointments, get groceries, or simply make it to recreational activities that are otherwise inaccessible for people without a car.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information on this project.

Sincerely,
Carmine L. Gentile
Carmine L. Gentile

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Approval of Article 14 will sustain the Go Sudbury! Taxi and Uber programs while longer term sustainability plans are made, and more grant-funded opportunities are explored.

This article is supported by the Select Board 4-1 and by the Finance Committee 7-0.

THANK YOU

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APPENDIX



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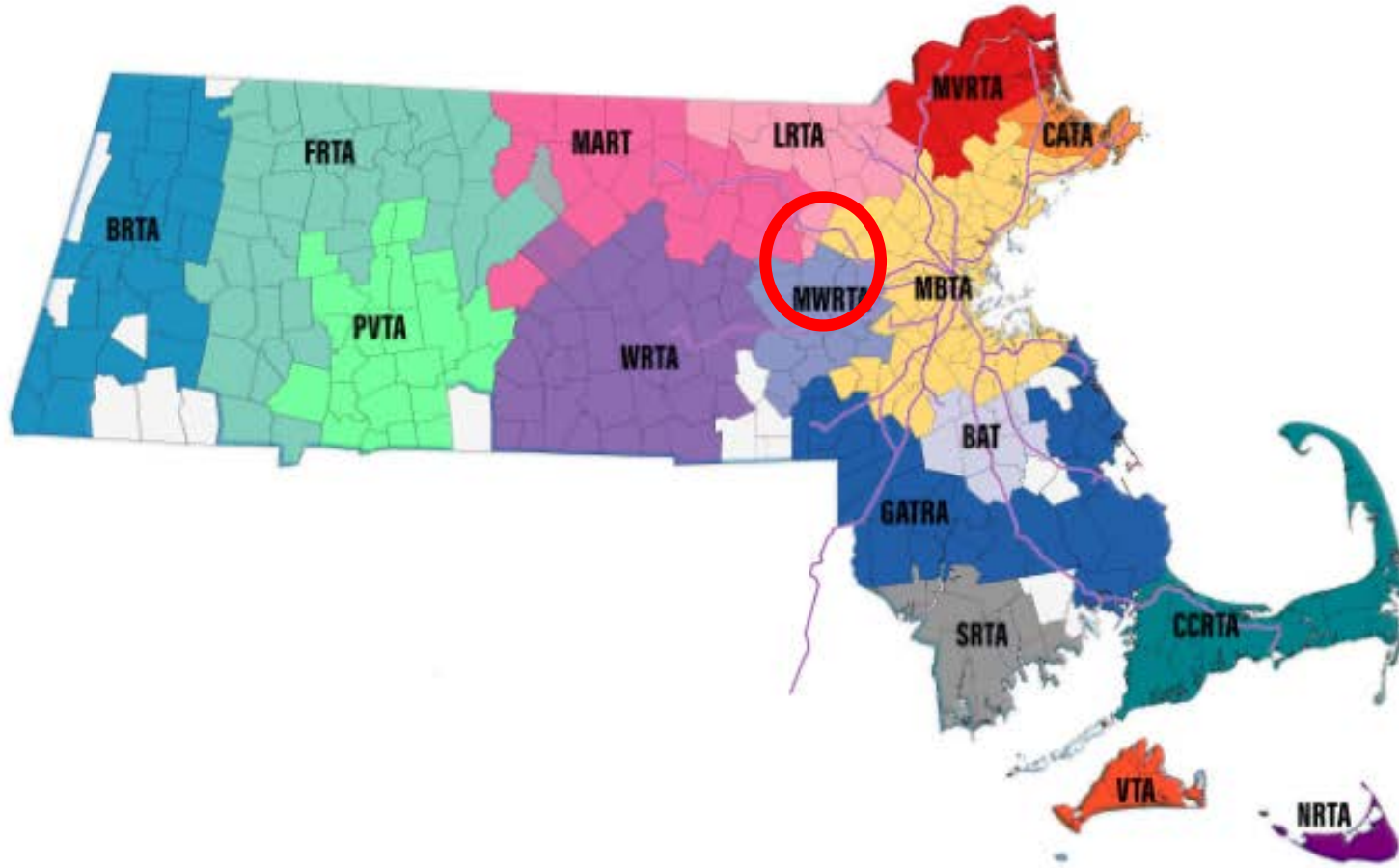
FUTURE

Where the program is GO!ng

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- Currently piloting with Annex Transit from Chelmsford
- Inclusion of people with disabilities that cannot use Uber





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- BRTA - Berkshire Regional Transit Authority
- BAT - Brockton Area Transit Authority
- CATA - Cape Ann Transpo
- CCRTA - Cape Cod Region
- FRTA - Franklin Regional Transit Authority
- GATRA - Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority
- LRTA - Lowell Regional Transit Authority
- VTA - Martha's Vineyard Transit Authority
- MBTA RIDE
- MBTA Commuter Rail
- MVRTA - Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority
- MWRTA - MetroWest Regional Transit Authority
- MART - Montachusett Regional Transit Authority
- NRTA - Nantucket Regional Transit Authority
- PVTA - Pioneer Valley Transit Authority
- SRTA - Southeastern Regional Transit Authority
- WRTA - Worcester Regional Transit Authority
- FRTA and MART
- MART and WRTA