

GET ON BOARD !

THE ALASKA COMMUNITY TRANSIT NEWSLETTER

Statewide Planning and Program Development | Alaska DOT&PF

This newsletter is written by the Alaska Community Transit Office (ACT) and is highlighting both the work coming from our office but also the important work of our 12 rural transit operators.



Did you know?

Alaska Community Transit distributes funding from the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) to our award sub-recipients annually.

FTA circulars provide instructions to grantees or other stakeholders on how FTA grants will be administered. This guidance provides grantees with direction on program-specific issues and statutory requirements. Grantees are required to comply with all circulars after signing the agreement accepting federal financial assistance.

Currently, the ACT administers FTA formula funding coming from the following circulars;

- 5311 - Formula Grants for Rural Areas
 - 5311f - Intercity
 - RTAP - planning funding
- 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program Guidance and Application Instructions
- 5339 (currently not accepting new applications)
 - A) The Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program
 - B) The Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities program (discretionary)
 - C) Low and No Emission Program
- 5303 - Metropolitan transportation planning (Fairbanks & Anchorage)

The future newsletters will highlight the different circulars, what kind of funding is attached, and how they benefit transit in Alaska.

IMPORTANT TRANSIT 2021 GRANT DATES

8/2/21 - Intent to apply opens

9/7/21 - Intent to apply due by 4:30 pm

9/10/21 - Notifications of Intent to Apply Eligibility Sent (5310 only)

10/4/21 - Application open

12/20/21 - Applications due by noon

**Would you like to know more about transit in Alaska?
Contact us at dot.alaska.transit@alaska.gov or 907-465-6978**



TRANSIT OPERATOR HIGHLIGHT

CAPITAL TRANSIT, JUNEAU



How it all started..

Since 1970, Capital Transit has provided public transportation for the city of Juneau. Our fixed-route services offer passengers quick, convenient travel between downtown Juneau, the Mendenhall Valley, and the Douglas area. Through the CAPITAL AKcess service, we provide comparable service for individuals whose disabling conditions prevent their use of fixed-route service.

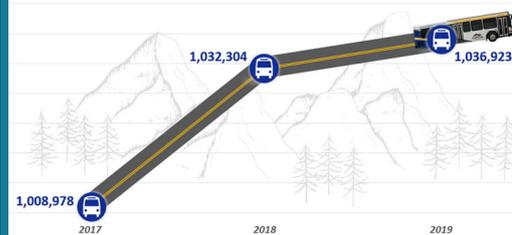


Capital Transit's new electric bus. Photo: Michael Penn

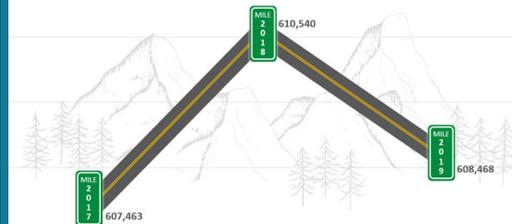
Capital Transit operations are funded primarily by general fund revenues from the City and Borough of Juneau and passenger fare revenues. The capital costs of vehicles and facilities are provided by the State of Alaska and the Federal Transit Administration. Only the local match for capital grants (10-20%) is provided by the Capital Transit Budget.

Recently completed capital projects include a new Downtown Transit Center, the recent renovation of the Valley Transit Maintenance Facility, the replacement of paratransit vans and transit buses, and the purchase of the first electric bus owned and operated by a public transit agency in Alaska.

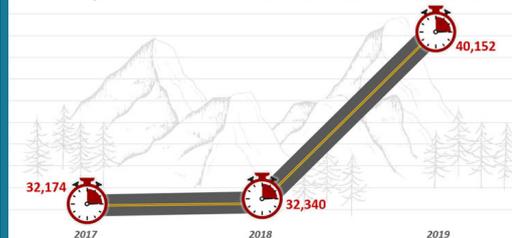
Capital Transit: Annual Passenger Trips



Capital Transit: Annual Vehicle Revenue Miles



Capital Transit: Annual Vehicle Revenue Hours



Would you like to know more about transit in Juneau?
Contact them at juneaucapitaltransit.org or (907) 789-6901



5 QUICK QUESTIONS

CAPITAL TRANSIT, JUNEAU

Denise Guizio, Capital Transit

What made you work with transit?

I started working for the City and Borough of Juneau 28 years ago and when the position at Transit became available I jumped at the chance to apply. It was an opportunity to combine my administrative skills with helping provide an essential public service.

What makes working for transit unique?

Transit is for everyone. Before I came to work at Transit my kids loved riding the City bus for fun, we have transit-dependent riders that do not have any alternate means of transportation, there are commuters who choose to take public transportation to work, and tourists who find it a cost-effective means of transportation during their visits. Customer service is a high priority because of the variety of people we provide safe, reliable, low-cost transportation.

Do you have a transit story or moment that you would like to share?

Capital Transit and the City and Borough of Juneau were honored and grateful to host Governor Dunleavy and other dignitaries at the dedication of our first electric bus. The celebration was called Running on Rain: Capital Transit Harnesses Local Hydro Power.

What type of changes or precautions did you take since COVID -19?

Capital Transit is following the Federal mandate by requiring masks on all transit vehicles and in all transit hubs. We have also adopted additional cleaning protocols and provided driver barriers in all the buses. We had passenger limits and modified routes to promote social distancing. The staff and public have done an amazing job adapting to the changes in routine.

What's in store for the coming years for capital transit?

Our new electric bus arrived and we are planning the charging infrastructure for future electric buses. Construction on the Valley Transit Center has begun and we are very excited to have this center for passengers to park their cars or store their bikes while they ride. Having this as a new transfer center will give Capital Transit the opportunity to revise time schedules more efficiently. Capital Transit is evaluating our fare collection process to help improve customer service.



Capital Transit's E-Bus celebration with Governor Dunleavy. Photo Michael Penn

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