

Coordinated Public Transit — Human Services Transportation Plans for 23 Rural Counties



Nelson\Nygaard developed Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plans for 23 counties in non-urbanized areas in the State of California. The plans were prepared for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) who sponsored this statewide planning effort on behalf of the rural counties. These plans met the requirement for rural counties applying for New Freedom and other federal funds by certifying that projects to be funded with those federal dollars were derived from these locally coordinated plans. The plans focused on the specific needs of three population subgroups: persons with disabilities, older adults, and those of low-income status.

Nelson\Nygaard developed the plans in two phases. The first phase reviewed existing transportation services and programs, and identified service gaps and needs. The second phase focused on solutions to mitigate service gaps, and to develop strategies to address the gaps and high priority needs. A critical step in the planning process was to evaluate and prioritize the strategies to ensure the counties would be well positioned to access federal funding made available through SAFETEA-LU. The implementation element identified potential project sponsors, estimated capital and operating costs, potential funding sources, and an overall assessment of how implementation of these strategies would address the identified service gaps. A variety of public outreach efforts were employed

during the development of these plans including stakeholder interviews, community outreach meetings, and participation in locally sponsored activities and forums.

Strategies were developed based on the unique needs and preferences of each county and included the development of subsidized taxi programs, medical transportation services, fleet replacement and expansion, vehicle sharing, and coordinated marketing and public information.

Project Duration: 2007–2008

Total Budget: \$918,000

Nelson\Nygaard Budget: \$650,000

For more information:

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