

## Minnesota Regional Transportation Coordinating Councils (RTCC) and Transit Coordination Assistance Projects (TCAP)

### BACKGROUND

Transportation services come in many different forms and are administered by a wide range of organizations across the state of Minnesota which can be challenging to understand both the availability and accessibility of transportation services.

Minnesota Council on Transportation Access (MCOTA), a 13-member state agency organization as mandated, MN Statute 174.285, are working with local governments and organizations statewide to create and support in Greater Minnesota Regional Transportation Coordinating Councils (RTCCs) and the Metro Area Transit Coordination Assistance Projects (TCAPs).

**MCOTA members:** Minnesota Departments of Transportation and Human Services, in collaboration with the Office of the Governor, Minnesota Council on Disability, Minnesota Public Transit Association, Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Management and Budget, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, Metropolitan Council, Minnesota Board on Aging, and Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

The purpose is coordination among transportation providers, service agents, and the private sector to achieve three outcomes:

- 1) Identify and reduce transportation gaps
- 2) Streamline access to transportation
- 3) Provide more transportation options

**Regional Transportation Coordinating Councils (RTCCs) in Greater Minnesota and Transit Coordination Assistance Projects (TCAPs) in the Metro Area:** RTCCs and TCAPs consist of stakeholders and public members interested in improving mobility for those who have limited transportation options such as older adults, people with disabilities, individuals with low income, and veterans.

With each RTCC and TCAP there is a formalized coordination plan among providers and service agencies implementing an efficient transportation system. The intention is to include representatives from a wide range of agencies and interests with diverse RTCCs and TCAPs' board membership involving representatives from:

- County Departments of Social Services
- Minnesota Area Agencies on Aging
- Workforce Development
- Transportation Providers
- Human Services Non-Profit Organizations
- Transportation and Human Services Advocates
- Veteran Service Organizations
- Managed Care Providers
- Centers for Independent Living
- Other Funders of Transportation Services

## RTCC CURRENT STATUS AS OF JULY 1, 2020

Currently there are twelve RTCCs involved in planning or implementation phases:

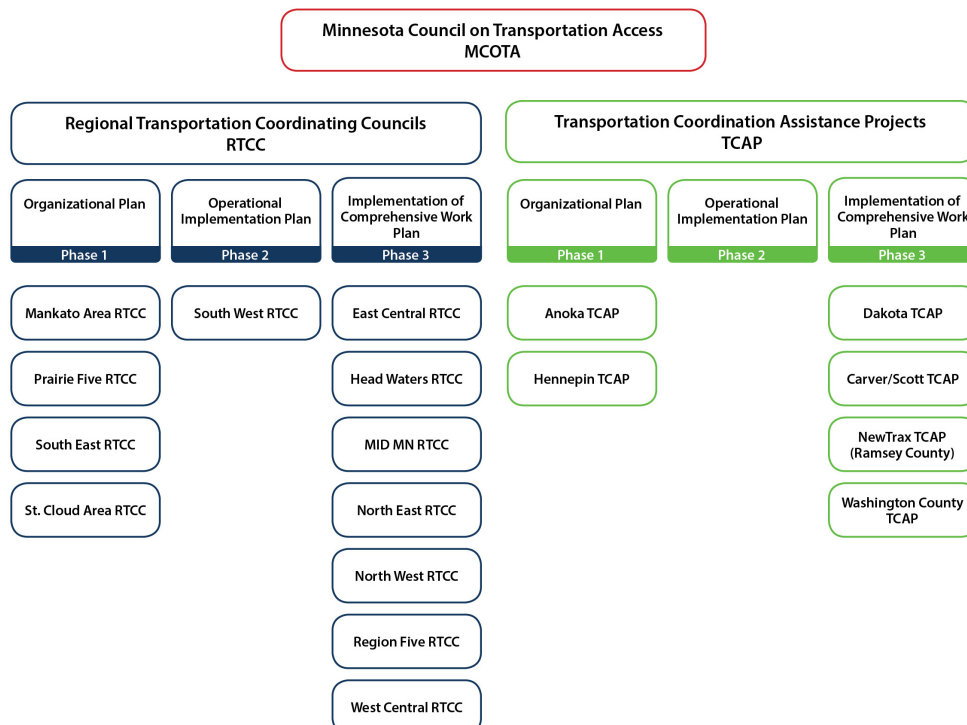
- **Phase 1: Organizational Plan** involve tasks including identifying an entity to carry out the implementation of the Regional Transportation Coordinating Councils. Four RTCCs are in Phase 1.
- **Phase 2: Operational Implementation Plan** for applicants who are working on the tasks outlined in Greater Minnesota regions. During this phase RTCCs formally establish councils, proceeding with gaps analysis and creating a transportation providers' inventory. Seven RTCCs have completed Phase 2 and are starting Phase 3.
- **Phase 3: Implementation of Comprehensive Work Plan.** Seven RTCCs in Phase 3.

## TCAP CURRENT STATUS AS OF JULY 1, 2020

Currently there are six TCAPs involved in planning or implementation phases:

- **Phase 1: Organizational Plan** involve tasks including identifying an entity to carry out the implementation of Transit Coordination Assistance Projects through the planning process. Two TCAPs are in Phase 1, Anoka County and Hennepin County.
- **Phase 2: Operational Implementation Plan** for applicants who are working on the tasks in the Metro Area. During this phase TCAPs formally establish councils, proceeding with gaps analysis and creating a transportation providers' inventory. All four remaining TCAPs have completed Phase 2.
- **Phase 3: Implementation of Comprehensive Work Plan.** Four TCAPs are in Phase 3, Washington County, Dakota County, Carver/Scott Counties, Ramsey County (NewTrax).

**Regional Transportation Coordinating Councils and Transit Coordination Assistance Projects**  
Phase Status As Of July 1, 2020



## RTCC AND TCAP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The accomplishments and ongoing activities reflect the efforts generated in Phase 1, Organizational Plan and Phase 2, Operational Implementation Plan which are continuing in the next implementation phase.

### Examples:

- Organizing an upcoming *Volunteer Driver Forum Series*: Seven presentations to be conducted from November 2020 to May 2021, offered via webinars to maximize statewide participation.
- Responding to nutrition access during COVID-19 providing food shelf deliveries to 1,463 individuals from mid-April to mid-June
- Creating and updating regional providers' inventory
- Providing technical assistance to facilitate human service program vehicle sharing
- Utilizing a cost accounting system to accurately reflect the full costs of providing transportation services
- Overseeing volunteer driver programs and coordinating volunteer programs
- Increasing efficiencies and improving use of resources thereby reducing duplication of services and vehicles
- Coordinating and collaborating which results in providing transportation that contributes to livable communities and a vital economy
- Developing coordinated approaches to providing public transit and human services transportation
- Creating a travel training program to help residents learn how to use the existing available transportation options in the county
- Piloting subsidized ride-hailing services
- Developing a one-stop approach for transportation information
- Using mobility management, connecting people to transportation options that meets their needs

## MCOTA CONTACT INFORMATION

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### Websites

- [RTCCs - MnDOT Transit](#)
- [Minnesota Council on Transportation Access \(MCOTA\) | CoordinateMNTransit.org](#)