



North East Transport Connections Project

Project Update

Issue 5 -2011
North East Transport Connections
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Community Transport

Identified by project partners as the number 1 priority for the project, the team has commenced gathering information on this complex component of the state transport system.

So what exactly is community transport? It seems that this is the hardest question to answer by providers and government agencies. The NTCP has defined community transport as transport by the community for the community. The service addresses a community need for transport disadvantaged residents, where through reason of disability, economic or geographic disadvantage a person cannot access public modes of transport.

In the project area we are fortunate to have a number of different transport options. With 54 - Transport Service Providers, 27 - Private bus services – including school bus and public route contracts, 10 - Taxi Services and 17 - Community Transport organisations.

Overview of Transport Services by LGA



	Alpine	Indigo	Towong	Wangaratta	Wodonga
Private Bus Operator	6	6	3	5	6
Taxi Service	3	3	1	1	2
Community Transport Service	4	2	7	1	3

The Department of Transport and the Victorian Community Transport Association have both conducted research in 2011 to better understand community transport. They identified that only a few organisations provided community transport as their main business. Result also showed that in rural areas the predominant reason for community transport was to access specialist medical services, this was the reverse in metropolitan areas with the main reason being social and leisure activities. A number of Home & Community Care services also provide community transport. 80% of services utilise volunteer drivers and almost all could see that the demand for their service was likely to increase in the future. Funding for services is limited and relies heavily on community donations to operate. There are also no common models of services delivery throughout the state. In regional areas, small cars are the most common vehicle used, which is again the opposite in metropolitan areas.

The state results provide a useful base for NTCP examination of community transport across the project. However, there is still much that we don't know. Over the next few months NTCP will be circulating an additional survey to endeavour to gather greater insight into community transport services in our region.

Access to TAFE & further education

NTCP are embarking on a data collection within the regional area focusing on gaps in access to Tafe and further education. With this information it is hoped we will be able to identify any issues and the extent to which these are apparent and potentially devise a plan. To do this NTCP have devised a survey to be completed on the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NTCPTransportSurvey> or alternatively register your concerns please contact Karen at NTCP on (02) 6049 2150, email ntcpinfo@tpg.com.au, send in via post to PO BOX 1596, Wodonga or drop by.

What else we've been up to!

Small Grants

NTCP's first Small Grant was the contribution to the transport for the **Alpine Senior Citizens Concert** held 3rd October at Myrtleford. This day helped carers and seniors from 3 distinct isolated communities come together for a day out. A day enjoyed by all.



The second project saw the **Myrtleford Girl Guides** Celebrate the 100 year Celebration in Melbourne. An exciting day for 28 Girl Guides age ranging from 8 – 14 years with an array of activities one namely seeing Jessica Mauboy perform in concert.



What's on?

Put the following dates in you diary.

Event	Date	Location
Project Partnership Group	8 Dec 2011	Video Conference
Regional Project Forum	14 Feb 2012	Wodonga
Project Partnership Group	14 Feb 2012	Video Conference
Regional Project Forum	21 June 2012	Beechworth



Melbourne Medical Companion Project.

Melbourne Medical Companion Project

Improving
Access For All



TRAVELLERSaid

1300 700 399

Volunteer companions are now available to accompany you from the Flinders Street Station and the Southern Cross Train & Bus Terminals to your health care appointments in central Melbourne. Bookings are essential.



Have You Got a Great Idea? Can NTCP help?

Small Grants now open

Grants up to \$1000 available for projects that assist people to access

- Services
- Education
- Health
- Leisure and
- Social Activities

Call NTCP now (02) 6049 2150

Project Update

NTCP's Project Update is released at the start of each month. If you would like to include something from your community please contact Karen (02) 6049 2150.



Useful Links

Carpooling Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/pages/Sunraysia-Car-Pool/150640511661164

Scooter Recharge Scheme

www.rechargescheme.org.au

