



LAB Report

Orlando, FL



Transportation Options for Older Adults June-July 2023 MOVE Roundtable

with support from **AARP**

Where We Started

Brightline’s service between Orlando and Miami was scheduled to begin in September 2023. With the advent of Brightline service, it was an opportune time to examine the range of available transportation options and how to increase older adults’ awareness and use of those options.

Opportunity

Mpact:LAB worked with AARP Florida and AARP Orlando to design and carry out a 6-week MOVE Roundtable with local transportation stakeholders. The goal was to create stronger connections among stakeholders to result in stronger connectivity on the ground and identify transportation options for older adults.

Approach

This MOVE Roundtable convened Orlando stakeholders to address the question: “Given the buzz about Orlando Brightline service: How can we work together to ensure that older adults in the Orlando area can successfully utilize transit options?” Over the course of 6 weeks, the group examined the question through the lenses of Mobility, Opportunity, Voice and Equity. The group toured the Brightline station, one person rode the entire length of a bus route and they collaborated on a list of mobility options. They learned about work in other cities to help older adults use transit, tools for effective messaging about transit and pedestrian safety for older adults.

Outcomes & Next Steps

Along the way, the group uncovered an array of challenges and needs. These included bus stop amenities (shade, seating), reliable and frequent headways, knowing how to use the bus, and acknowledgement that various modal options will likely be needed to meet the needs of older adults. They also realized that even though many transportation options are available, they don't add up to a coherent system. The result is that older adults are left to piece together services to meet their needs with likely gaps. (Section continued on next page.)



“Given the buzz about Orlando Brightline service: How can we work together to ensure that older adults in the Orlando area can successfully utilize transit options?”

– Orlando MOVE Roundtable framing question

Interested in learning more? Contact Sarah Rudolf at sarahr@mpactmobility.org.





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Outcomes & Next Steps (cont.)

At the concluding session, Orlando Roundtable participants universally agreed that they found value in sharing together and would like to remain connected as a group into the future to recognize opportunities for cross-coordination and ongoing communication. Suggested next steps are to: Identify a convener, define parameters of/for the group, reconnect with Brightline, and consider organizing future outings for older adults.

2024 Status Update

AARP and M: PACT:LAB worked together to reconvene these stakeholders, and new ones, in August 2024. Read the Orange County LAB Report to learn more about.

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