

St. Louis, MO

Connecting Older Adults with Transportation Options July-August 2022 MOVE Roundtable

with support from AARP





AARP and Citizens for Modern Transit (CMT) work together on Transit Stop Transformations projects in the St. Louis region, bringing more seating, shade and color, as well as stronger neighborhood connections. While the transit experience at these stops is much improved, it was not known if older adults knew how to access available transportation options in the region, or if the options met their needs.

Opportunity

Having made major improvements at individual transit stops in the region, it was time to gather stakeholders to step back and consider the regional system, especially in terms of older adults.

Approach

The MOVE Roundtable focused on how to help older adults gain awareness of more transportation options. Twelve people participated, representing older adults, transit, social work and referral services, transit advocacy, trails & green space, and city and regional government. Over six weeks, the Roundtable explored how to learn about and make sense of the range of transportation options in the region, placemaking, messaging, transit equity, and the Cynefin framework (a tool to help leaders understand their challenges and make decisions in context).

How can we help older adults use more transportation options by boosting our awareness and education efforts individually and collectively?

- St. Louis' MOVE Roundtable framing question

Outcomes & Next Steps

The St. Louis MOVE Roundtable surfaced that while there are many transportation services available in the St. Louis region, there is no central information hub that allows potential riders to easily understand what's available to them. The group recognized that sharing resources and links on other Roundtable members' websites is a relatively easy and straightforward way to boost access to transportation information. They also discussed the potential of activating community spaces through placemaking. Placemaking is "like a hug," a way to enliven and energize an underutilized public area. It could easily be a demonstration project, done on a temporary basis with a minimal budget and without significant red tape.

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



B Capacity-building and Stakeholder Development

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2024 Status Check

Since the St. Louis MOVE Roundtable, AARP and Citizens for Modern Transit have continued their work, building on the goal of connecting older adults with more transportation options. The onestop-shop for transportation information for older adults is still in the works, with some version of the idea to be incorporated in the Missouri Plan on Aging. Additionally, two of their previous Transit Stop Transformation sites have seen significant TOD investment. Their next transformation will be in Soulard, a historic area in the City of St. Louis. They have also consulted with KCATA, the transportation authority in metropolitan Kansas City, about their bus stop transformations for the next several years and learned about KCATA's priority list.

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