

Spring 2009

Special points of interest:

- Fares provide about 10% of the CARTS program costs
- Total hours of operations per year—18,325
- Number of rides provided last year—112,131

CARTS ridership from July 2008 to March 2009:

Number of riders for Route 10	10,704
Number of riders for Route 20	10,357
Number of riders for Route 30	12,390
Number of riders for Route 40	38,341
Number of riders for Route 50	7,174



CARTS Funding for 2009-2010

CARTS is funded by several state and federal programs. Funding sources include the 5311 Program (rural transit), Special Transportation Fund Formula and Discretionary programs. There will be about \$620,000 from these sources for 2009-2010, as compared to \$816,000 for the 2008-2009 year. The other sources for CARTS funding are Business Energy Tax Credits (BETC) and fares.

We also will receive ARRA (American Recovery and Redevelopment, AKA Stimulus) funds specifically for the rural programs. These funds are limited to capital uses (such as buses and equipment) and preventative maintenance. We cannot use it to fund the operations of CARTS, but

we will be able to get some new buses, shop equipment for bus maintenance and security cameras for the buses.

The new funding year begins July 1. Between now and then we will be planning how to stretch those dollars as far as possible.



Take Cherriots When You Get to Salem? Read This!

In September of this year, Cherriots will have a major system redesign. Following the defeat of a levy last November, Salem-Keizer Transit needed to reduce service in order to live within its current funding level. In January, Saturday service was discontinued, but further cuts were necessary to balance the budget. Rather than reduce the current schedule, it was decided to “start

over from scratch” to provide a more effective service. The district held a series of open houses to gather input on the priorities of the community. The result is a system that will provide more frequent service in the main corridors, with circulators in neighborhoods and connectors between the neighborhoods. Stay tuned – more information will become available this summer.



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CARTS does not operate on the following holidays:

New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Since Independence Day falls on a Saturday this year, CARTS will not miss a service day due to the holiday.

The CARTS schedules are also available on the internet. Go to www.cherriots.org and click on "Routes & Schedules". At the bottom of the page click on "CARTS".

Flex Routes & Dial-a-Ride, the Other Kind of CARTS

In addition to the regular, scheduled type of bus route, CARTS also operates two variations of a more flexible transportation option.

The CARTS Flex-Route is a curb-to-curb service. Passengers are picked up at the curb at their point of origination and dropped off at the curb at their destination. The bus takes them to any destination within that route's service area. Passengers make a reservation at least 24 hours in advance and must be ready ten minutes before their scheduled pick up time. The bus spends 15-20 minutes in each city and travels to the next city picking up and dropping off passengers. Flex routes don't come into Salem,

but can be used to get to a location where riders can transfer to a CARTS bus that does come into Salem. North Marion County and Polk County have flex-routes.

**Call 503-585-5187
 or 1-800-422-7723
 to schedule a ride**

The South Marion County region has a dial-a-ride.

The dial-a-ride is similar to the flex route but there are no set times for the bus to be in each city. The route, on any given day, depends on where riders have scheduled trips.

The fare for these services is the same as the regular CARTS fixed-route service.



Did you Know

Polk County Flex Route goes between:

Independence, Dallas, Monmouth, and Rickreall upon request.

North Marion County Flex Route goes between:

Woodburn, Mt. Angel and Silverton.

South Marion County Dial-a-Ride goes to:

Turner, Aumsville, Sublimity and Stayton.