

# ALLEGAN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MARCH 5, 2020

# ACT - HISTORY

- 2000 - Allegan County Transportation was created with funding from a Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) grant provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), there were three vehicles and the focus was on employment.
- 2003 – Added additional service - Specialized Services (Senior and Disability)
- 2003 – 2005 – Provided service for Project Zero (employment)
- 2004 – Allegan County Transportation began receiving State and Federal funding to match local funds (agency fees)
- 2008 & 2009 – Secured funding for the transportation facility (\$3,509,578)
- 2010 - Created the part-time Mobility Specialist position – 100% MDOT funded to coordinate the volunteer driver program.
- 2009 – 2011 MDOT grant funding to study unmet need, “ACT 5 Strategic Plan”
- 2011 – 2017 Services steadily increased based on service contracts
- 2018 – 2020 Reliance on Fund balance to maintain services; rapid decrease in service delivery
- **2021 Fund Balance will be materially depleted; service reduced to primarily Senior and Disability and remaining contracts**

# 2019 ACT – PROGRAMS & FLEET

- **Regular Service – 87%**
  - Anyone is eligible, currently linked to agency service
- **Specialized Services – 7.7%**
  - Senior and Disability Service
- **Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) – 5.3%**
  - Linked to Employment
- **Mobility Management – Volunteer Driver Program**
  - Senior and Disability Service
  - MDOT/ Commission on Aging partnership
- **28 Total Transit Vehicles in Fleet**
  - 25 ADA Accessible Buses (12 – 20 passenger)
  - 3 ADA Accessible Vans (5-10 passenger)

# A VEHICLE FOR CHANGE

## DEVELOPING A TRANSPORTATION PLAN (2011)

- GRANT: A Service Development and New Technology (SDNT) Grant from Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
- STUDY AREA: Allegan County, MI
- TIMEFRAME: September 2008 – December 2011
- PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND GOALS: This community change study seeks to increase awareness of and support for Allegan County Transportation. In addition, the study developed a community supported five-year strategic plan for Allegan County Transportation
  - Data available at [www.allegancounty.org/Transportation](http://www.allegancounty.org/Transportation)

## Plan Development – Study Results

### Stakeholders:

- 35% noted they use volunteers to help meet unmet transit needs
- Work and medical appointments were the number one traveled destinations
- 52% stated the inability to get people the services they need is how transit needs affected their organization or business
- 84% said they either strongly or somewhat strongly supported increased transit services
- 92% cited the need for regional transportation in the next three years as very or somewhat important

### Current and Prospective ACT Riders:

- 65% of respondents indicated the need for increased regional transportation in West Michigan over the next three years
- 25% of respondents stated a lack of transportation prevented them from looking for, getting, or keeping a job
- 36% of respondents stated a lack in transportation services prevented them from attending medical appointments in that last year
- 81% of residents indicated the transportation services offered by ACT are very or somewhat important to the community

# **A VEHICLE FOR CHANGE**

## **DEVELOPING A TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

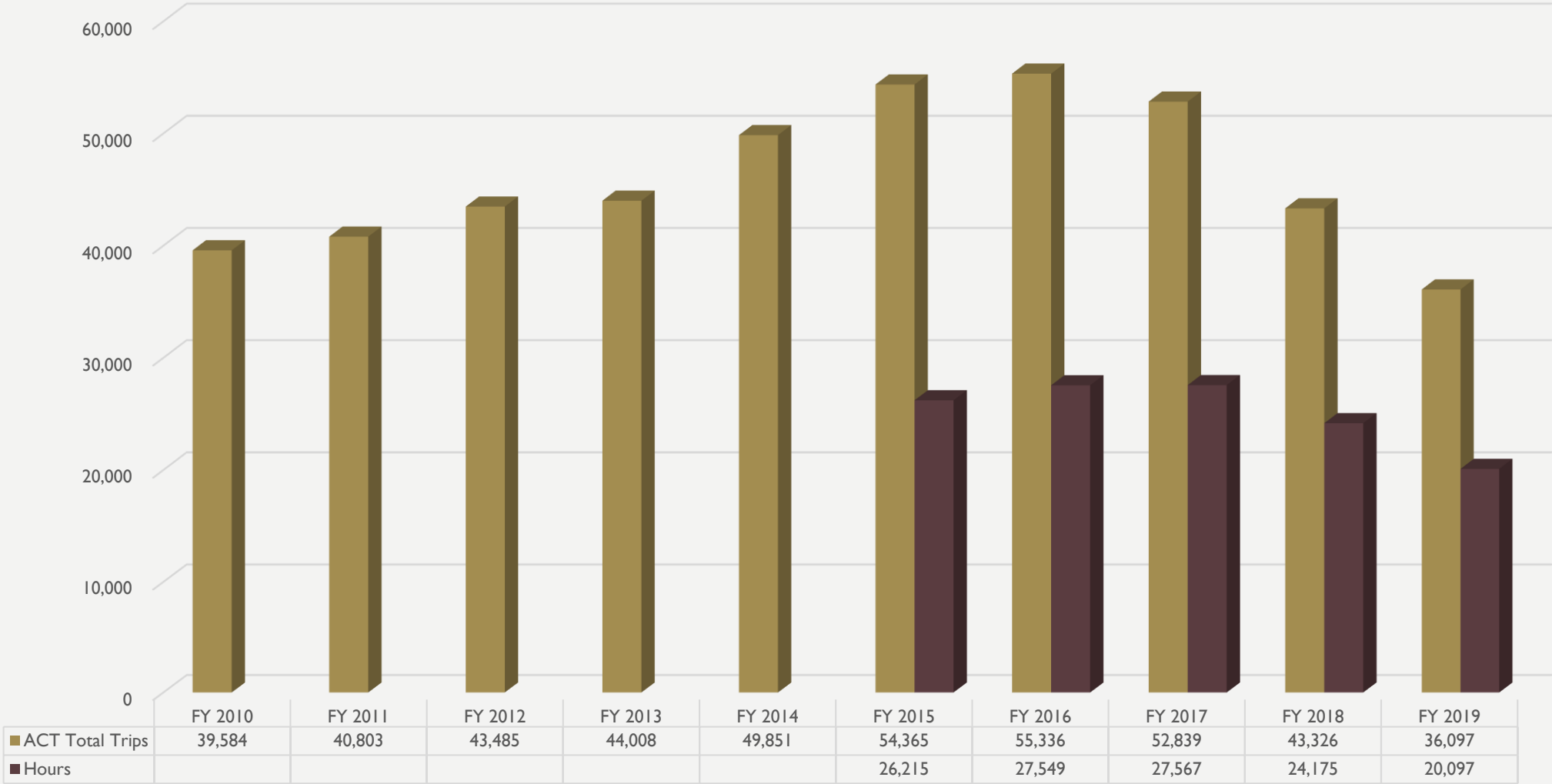
### **Taxpayers:**

- 78% indicated they were either very or somewhat likely to support a transit millage in Allegan County
- 90% stated transit services offered by ACT are very or somewhat important to the community
- 60% said they strongly or somewhat strongly support the ACT Five Year Plan

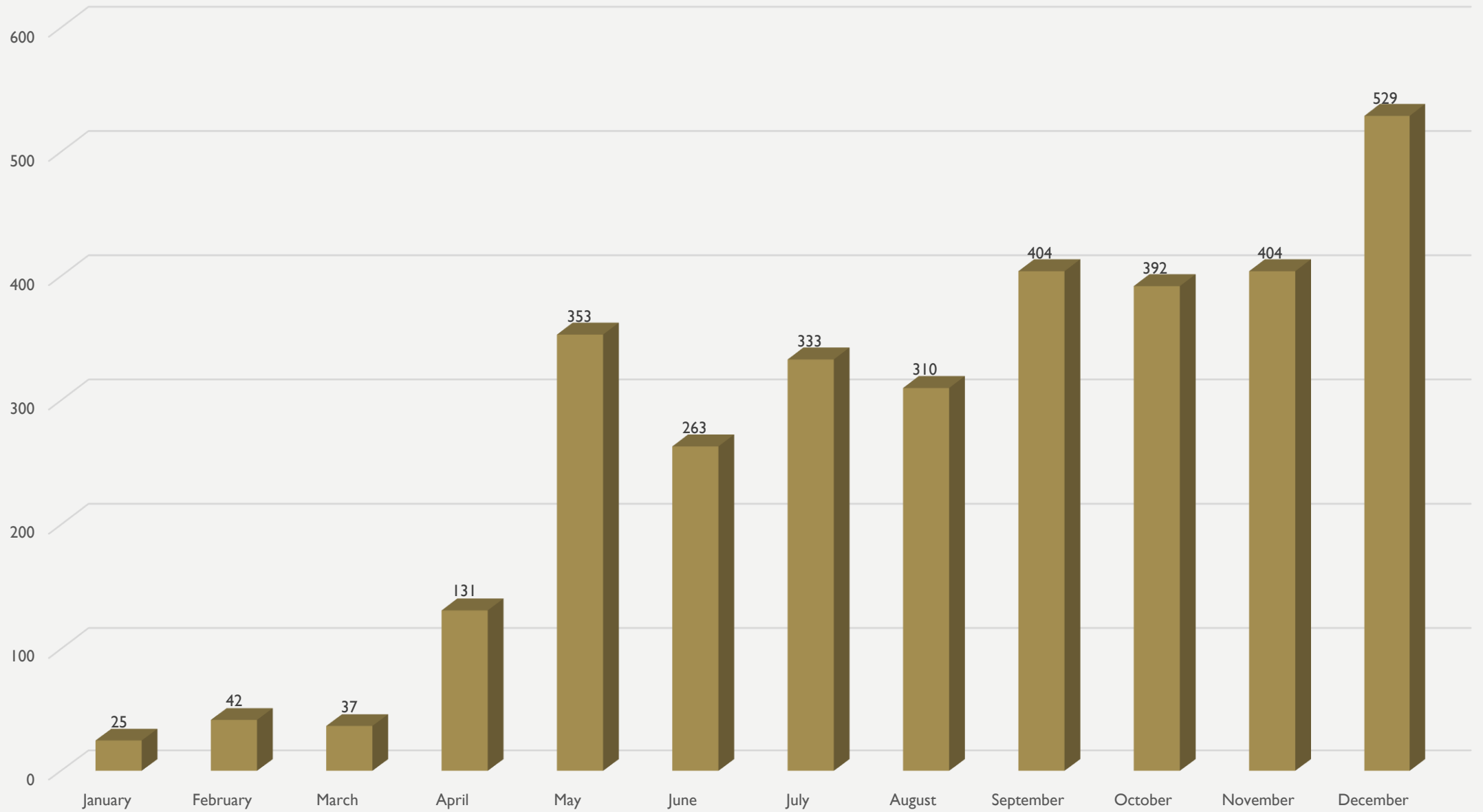
### **2019 Citizen Survey:**

- 55% of taxpayers willing to support the Headlee restoration indicated that it was a medium or high priority to restore/expand bus transportation in Allegan County
- 4% reported “Used public transportation instead of driving”
- 28% reported “Travel by public transportation”

# ACT Trips and Hours

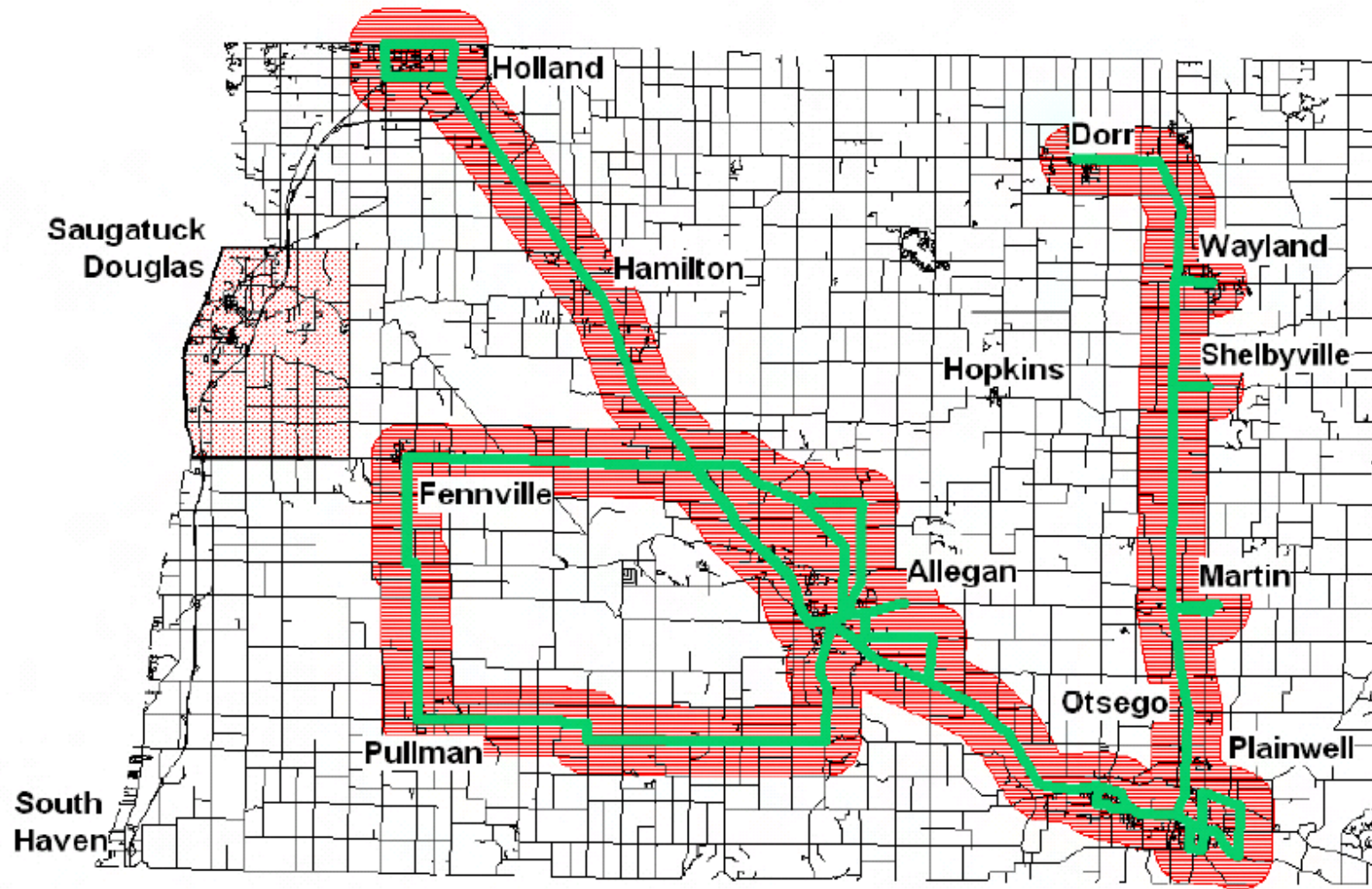


# Trip Denials 2019





# CURRENT SERVICE AREA



**Interurban  
Transit Authority**

**ACCMH  
Serves Clients  
County Wide**



**ACT  
Service Area  
(within one mile  
of roads shown)**

# ACT - CUSTOMERS

- General Public
  - Dialysis patients
  - Health Care
  - Employment
  - Senior
  - Persons with a disability
- Agency Partners
  - Outlook Academy
  - MI Department of Health and Human Service
  - Commission on Aging
  - Evergreen Commons
  - Medical Care Facility
  - Michigan Works
  - Community Mental Health
- Additional service needs
  - Weekend employment
  - Rehab providers
  - Nursing Homes
  - Probation & Parole
  - Drug treatment
  - After school programs
  - School of choice
  - Recreational activities
  - Weekend Dialysis
  - Weekend church activities

**Table 10. Projected Costs of Proposed Service Options (Updated with 2020 costs)**

	Option B	Option C	Hybrid Option (C/D)	Option D	Option E
Total Hours	27,030	47,736	54,621	64,770	86,496
Total Rides	56,757	113,235	149,403	177,228	260,247
Rides (Week)	1,113	2,220	2,929	3,475	5,103
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Cost Per Hour (2020)	\$55.90	\$43.45	\$42.26	\$40.71	\$37.52
Operational Cost (Year)	\$ 1,510,977	\$ 2,074,129	\$ 2,308,283	\$ 2,636,787	\$ 3,245,330
<b>REVENUES</b>					
State & Federal Funds (53%)	\$ 800,818	\$ 1,099,288	\$ 1,223,390	\$ 1,397,497	\$ 1,720,025
Fare box, Contracts & Misc. (10%)	\$ 151,098	\$ 207,413	\$ 230,828	\$ 263,679	\$ 324,533
Local Tax Revenue	\$ 559,061	\$ 767,428	\$ 854,065	\$ 975,611	\$ 1,200,772
Est. Annual Tax per Household valued at \$100,000	\$5.67	\$7.79	\$8.67	\$9.90	\$12.18
Millage Rate (2019)	0.1134	0.1557	0.1733	0.1980	0.2437

# COMPARISON TO LOCAL TRANSIT

County	Population 2018	Millage Rate	Bus	Total Ridership	Total Expenses	Total Revenue Federal	Total Revenue State	Total Revenue Local	Total Revenue Fare box	Type of Structure
Allegan County	117,328 Population	0.000	28	31,417	\$ 1,147,749	\$ 208,284	\$ 435,822	\$ 130,674	\$ 88,696	Department of County
Barry County	61,157 Population	0.250	16	96,911	\$ 1,513,348	\$ 277,998	\$ 576,082	\$ 566,990	\$ 266,296	Department of County
Benzie County	17,753 Population	0.490	22	104,879	\$ 1,673,889	\$ 252,824	\$ 636,133	\$ 675,835	\$ 125,630	Transportation Authority
St. Joseph County	61,043 Population	0.330	26	68,302	\$ 1,317,589	\$ 415,518	\$ 709,763	\$ 854,247	\$ 226,270	Transportation Authority under County
Van Buren County	75,448 Population	0.247	20	93,657	\$ 1,940,067	\$ 352,823	\$ 738,519	\$ 892,662	\$ 259,273	Department of County

# WHY RESTORE AND INCREASE SERVICE?

- Fund Balance is expected to be materially depleted by 2021
- Dialysis and medical transportation is growing
- Seniors and persons with a disability depend on it
- Weekend service, School of choice, Adult Ed, Afterschool programming currently unavailable
- Infrastructure (staffing, busses and equipment) is already in place
- Available transportation supports independence and access to healthcare, employment and housing.
- ACT is seeing reduced agency funding in which reduces services

# **ALLEGAN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION**

**QUESTIONS?**

**THANK YOU!**