



**Transportation Breakout Session:
*Making sure it's safe, easy and senior-friendly!***

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Council on Aging Vision for *Transportation*: Coordinated transit services, affordable, easily-accessed public transportation and well-designed streets (with safely designed sidewalks and crosswalks) that enable older adults to remain independent and safely travel to their destinations. Features include:

- Well-designed, affordable and easily-accessible public transportation;
- Special transportation services;
- Flexible and frequent routes;
- Special rates and passes;
- Large print and well-marked transit schedules;
- Transit stops that are easy to reach, seating and adequate lighting, sheltered and ADA access;
- Safely designed and well-lit roads and streets;
- Large print and well-marked road/street signs;
- Safe driving training opportunities for older drivers.

Current Situation in Charlotte-Mecklenburg: Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) and Department of Social Services (DSS) provide transportation for the elderly or disabled to medical appointments, pharmacies, and general purpose needs. Discounted bus fares for seniors are also available through CATS. AARP also offers Driver Safety Courses in partnership with local organizations.

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Annual Conference 2008 Transportation Breakout Session: Notes

- Charlotte's vision for the future of transportation involves a growth in the framework of "Center City, Corridors, and Wedges."
- Transportation should be "Senior-Friendly," which includes incorporating:
 - (1) Land Use - including mixed-use communities that are walkable;

(2) Housing – such as building adult care facilities near transit access locations;

(3) Mobility – the need to enhance walkable street design centers.

- Transit Stations will assist in integrating land use within walking distance;
- Zoning needs to be changed in order to be more *senior-friendly*, including granny flats or garage apartments.
- Urban Street Design Guidelines (USDG) have been adopted where streets are viewed as “public spaces.”
- The city has recognized the need to develop a street network, where street design enhances pedestrian travel across streets. This includes appropriately placed and sized signage, and a Sidewalk Program, which is a high priority for retrofitting sidewalks.
- The Rosedale Community in Huntersville is built to enable its residents to move within the community without having to go to the main thoroughfare.
- Elements for Suburban Options for Senior Mobility includes independent mobility; design details, CATS & STS; MTS; infrastructure investment; land development patterns.

Additional Transportation Breakout Session Resources:

- To see the Transportation Breakout Session PowerPoint, click [here](#).