



2026 Public Transportation Plan



Plan Overview

Public transportation is an essential way for people to travel throughout the state of Illinois. Next Move Illinois is a successor to the 2018 Illinois Statewide Public Transportation Plan. The goal of this plan is to set a strategic vision, recommend policy and performance updates, and identify specific strategies to improve public transportation outcomes within Illinois. The plan will include identifying broader access to services, promoting long-term ridership growth, enhancing service integration and efficiencies, and other steps necessary to assure system resilience.

Plan History

The 2018 Public Transportation Plan focused on “Downstate” Illinois and developed a vision for an integrated public transportation system that promotes mobility and access for people living, working, or visiting Illinois. The plan identified goals, objectives, and strategies to meet the demand for services. The last four years have resulted in widespread changes to statewide travel patterns and transit use due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Next Move Illinois will help transit providers plan for long-term impacts to their services and address systemic questions regarding coordination, resources, equity, and emerging mobility.

Plan Desired Outcomes



Increase coordination among transit operators to maximize public transit's role in the state's broader transportation system.



Ensure that policy, service and performance recommendations advance social equity and accessibility across the state.



Incorporate emerging mobility and new technologies to extend the reach of transit and provide seamless connections for riders.



Prioritize resources to align with riders' needs.

Project Timeline

Phase 1 Spring-Summer 2024

Conduct internal meetings, shape and inform the strategic vision, gain perspectives on transit provider interests and concerns, and gather information prior to technical work.

Upcoming Meetings:
Engagement Touchpoint

Phase 2 Fall-Winter 2024

Promote the initial technical findings, validate the existing conditions data, conduct future service assessments, review and coordinate policies, and review capital assets.

Upcoming Meetings:
Engagement Touchpoint

Phase 3 Spring-Summer 2025

Support the planning process and focus engagement efforts on the findings of performance measures, future alternatives, and financial work.

Upcoming Meetings:
Engagement Touchpoint

Phase 4 Fall-Winter 2025

Launch of the draft plan. Numerous public meetings will be held to record comments throughout the state. This phase will also include a public presentation of the plan.

Upcoming Meetings:
Engagement Touchpoint

Stay Involved



Surveys: Two statewide surveys will be conducted during Phase 1 to better understand the public's interests and concerns and the perspective of transit operators. The public survey will be available on the project's webpage. We strongly encourage participation by transit and non-transit users alike.



Meetings: The project team will hold several virtual meetings during Phases 2 and 3 to introduce the project; gather opinions and feedback; provide updates on technical findings and the overall planning process; develop alternatives; and validate existing conditions, proposed strategies, performance measures, and financial performance findings. During Phase 4, the team will organize tabling events and meetings, including virtual options, to promote the plan and gather final feedback from stakeholders. More information on these public meetings will be available on our website.



Website: For more project information and resources, we encourage you to visit our website NextMoveIllinois2026.com.



Social Media: To stay up-to-date with the current planning process, we encourage you to follow along with our social media channels.



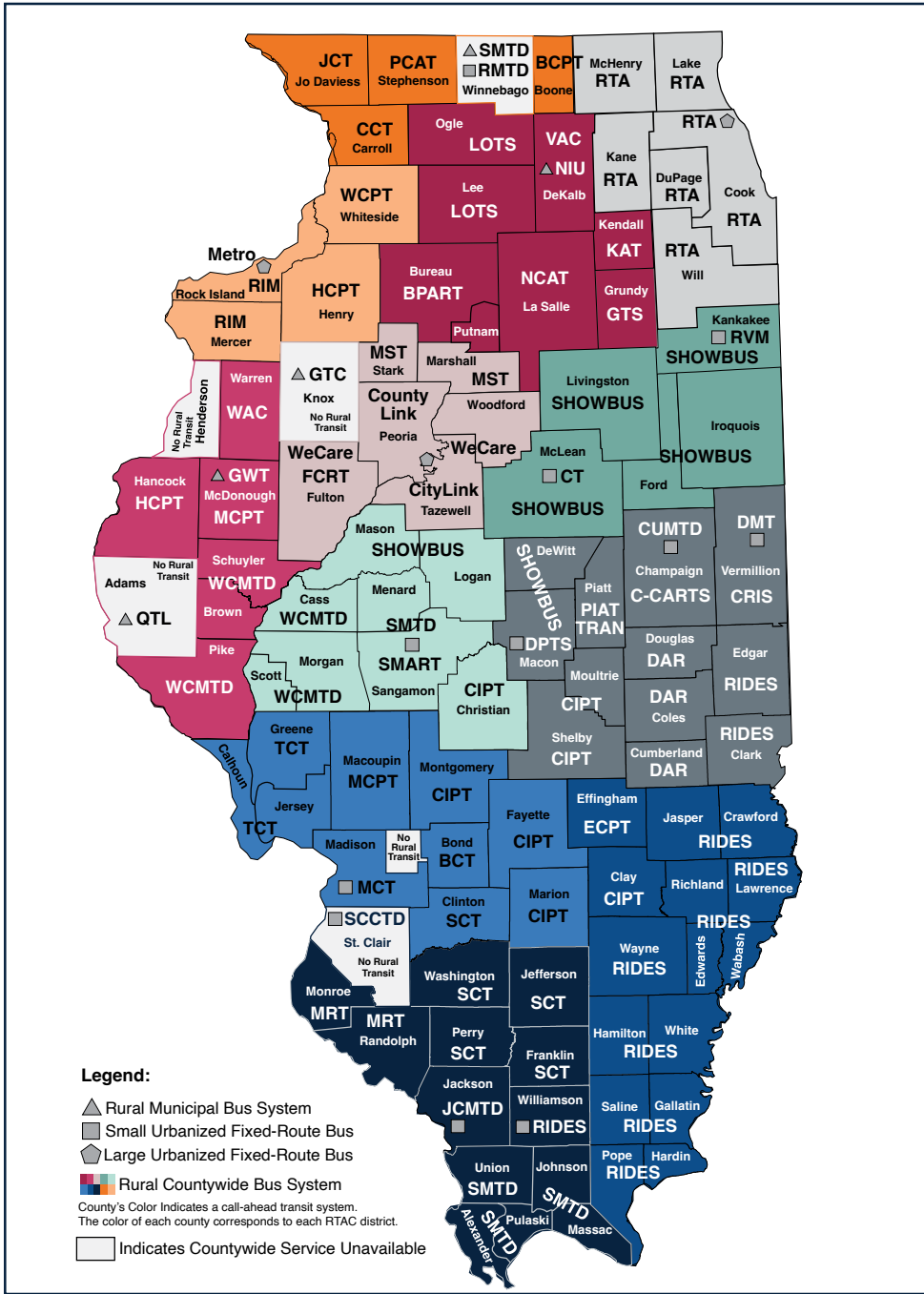
Contact Us!

To contact our project team, please email us at dot.moveillinois@illinois.gov
Visit our project website by scanning the QR Code:

Follow Us on Social Media!

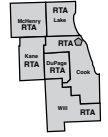


Project Map



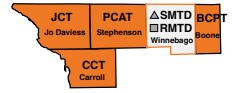
Chicago Areas:

- RTA: Chicago Transit Authority
- PACE: Pace Bus
- METRA: Metra Commuter Rail



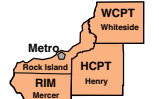
Region 1

- JCT: Jo Daviess Transit
- PCAT: Pretzel City Area Rural Transit
- SMTD: Stateline Mass Transit
- RMTD: Rockford MTD
- CCT: Carroll County Transit
- BCPT: Boone County Public Transportation



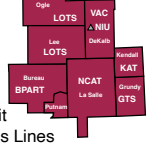
Region 2

- WCPT: Whiteside County Public Transit
- RIM: Rock Island-Mercer Rural Transit
- Metro: Rock Island Metro Mass Transit
- HCPT: Henry County Public Transit



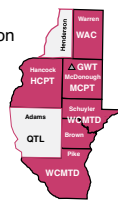
Region 3

- GTS: Grundy Transit System
- KAT: Kendall Area Transit
- LOTS: Lee Ogle Transportation System
- NCAT: North Central Area Transit
- VAC: Voluntary Action Center
- BPART: Bureau-Putnam Area Rural Transit
- NIU: Northern Illinois University Huskie Bus Lines



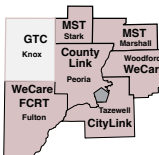
Region 4

- HCPT: Hancock County Public Transportation
- MCPT: McDonough County Public Transportation
- GWT: Go West Transit
- QTL: Quincy Transit Lines
- WAC: Warren Achievement Center
- WCMTD: West Central MTD
- *Adams: ICCT Primer process phase II I-City Operator Identified. No service currently exists.
- *Henderson: Board has no interest in establishing a rural public operator.



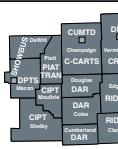
Region 5

- FCRT: Fulton County Rural Transit
- GTC: Galesburg Transit City Bus
- CityLink: Greater Peoria MTD
- CountyLink: Peoria County Link
- MST: Marshall-Stark Transportation
- WeCare: WeCare, Inc.
- *Knox: Stalled in Phase II, no intention of submitting a rural transit grant application.



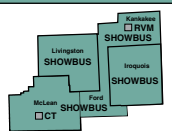
Region 8

- SHOWBUS: Show Bus
- C-CARTS: Champaign County Area Rural Transit System
- CRIS: CRIS Rural Mass Transit District
- SMTD: Sangamon MTD
- CIPT: Central IL Public Transportation
- RIDES: Rides MTD
- CUMTD: Champaign Urban MTD
- DAR: Dial A Ride



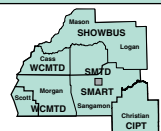
Region 6

- CT: Connect Transit
- RVM: River Valley Metro
- SHOWBUS: Show Bus



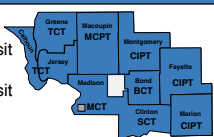
Region 7

- SHOWBUS: Show Bus
- WCMTD: West Central MTD
- SMTD: Sangamon MTD
- CIPT: Central IL Public Transportation
- SMART: Sangamon-Menard Area Regional Transit



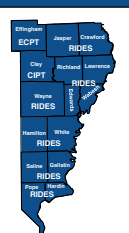
Region 9

- TCT: Tri-County Rural Transit
- MCPT: Madison County Public Transit
- BCPT: Bond County Transportation
- CIPT: Macoupin County Public Transit
- SCT: South Central Transit



Region 10

- CIPT: Central Illinois Public Transportation
- ECPT: Effingham County Public Transit
- RIDES: Rides MTD



Region 11

- JCMTD: Jackson County MTD
- MRT: Monroe-Randolph Transit
- RIDES: Rides MTD
- SMTD: Shawnee MTD
- SCT: South Central Transit
- SCCTD: St. Clair County Transit District
- *St Clair: ATS paratransit service available with some incidental service being provided by SCT & MRT.

