



#### An Overview of the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program





Presented: December 14, 2023





#### Individuals Who...

Are "Transportation Disadvantaged" due to disability, age or income;

Rely on others to access health care, employment, education, and other activities in their community; and

Have limited transportation options to participate in these activities.

#### TD Program Foundation

In 1979, Legislature created the program to be "fully responsive to the needs" of this population.

Legislature created CTD and TD Trust Fund in 1989.

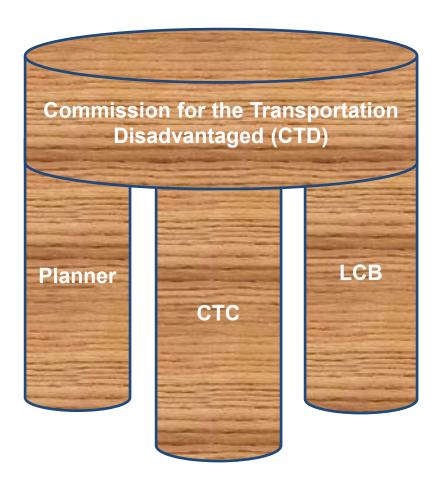
The purpose was to "coordinate" transportation services in each county in Florida.

Implemented by three primary entities at local level:

- Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Oversees the delivery of TD services in designated county or multicounty area.
- Planning Agency (Planner) Coordinates planning activities for local TD program.
- Local Coordinating Board (LCB) Represents stakeholders and advises on the delivery of TD services.

CTD also works with state/local partners or "purchasing agencies" to coordinate funding for these services.

## The "Three-Legged Stool" of Coordination





# What is "Coordinated Transportation"?

"Coordination" is the arrangement of transportation "in a manner that is <u>cost-effective</u>, <u>efficient</u>, <u>and reduces</u> <u>fragmentation and duplication of services</u>" (s. 427.011, F.S.).

For example, an individual may have access to medical transportation through Medicaid but requires another funding source to access employment.

Paratransit (demand-response) trips that are not "sponsored" by any other agency or provided as an extension of the fixed-route system may be purchased under the TD Trust Fund.

If TD riders are physically able to access the fixed-route system, TD funds may be used to purchase bus passes (more cost-effective than paratransit services).

#### CTD Responsibilities

Independent state government agency, housed within FDOT.

Consists of seven board members, appointed by the Governor, and eight (non-voting) advisors representing state agencies, including FDOT.

Administers the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund and distributes funding through its grant programs.

Develops rules and policies governing the Coordinated TD System.

Approves and contracts with CTCs to support the delivery of TD services.

Designates the planning agency to implement program at local level, including staffing the LCBs.

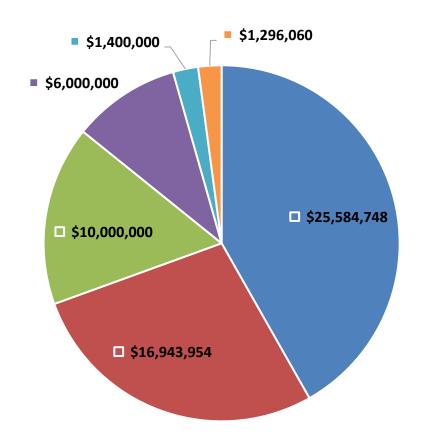
Collects data on TD services and compiles within its Annual Performance Report to the Governor and Legislature (due January 1 each year).

Florida Commission for the



Transportation Disadvantaged

# FY2022-23 TDTF Revenues \$61,224,762



- HSMV Registration, Parking, Donations
- SB 1998 State Transportation Trust
- FDOT Trust Fund Capital Equipment
- FDOT Public Block Grant (15%)
- FDOT Trust Fund
- Interest

## CTD Grant Programs

Trip & Equipment Grant – Annually allocates funding to 67 counties for CTCs to purchase trips, bus passes, and capital equipment.

Legislature appropriated \$53 million for State Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24

Planning Grant – Annually allocates approximately \$1.8 million to support planning activities for local TD programs.

"Shirley Conroy" Rural Area Capital Assistance Grant – Competitive funding for CTCs to purchase capital equipment for TD services.

FDOT transfers \$1.4 million each year for CTD to award funding.

Innovative Service Development Grant – Competitive funding for CTCs to test new services that increase access for TD riders, enhance cross-county mobility, or reduce barriers to fixed-route system.

CTD awarded \$4.9 million for 12 projects for FY 2023-24





#### CTD Priorities & Events for 2024

Legislative Budget Request for \$5 million increase to TD Trust Fund, including \$4M to Innovative Service Development Grant

Develop Five-Year Transportation Disadvantaged Plan (s. 427.013(15), FS), solicit stakeholder input throughout process

Improve accuracy and analyses of performance data reported to CTD.

Review and streamline quality assurance process of CTCs and Planners

TD Day at the Florida Capitol in Tallahassee – January 18, 2024

Annual Training Workshop in West Palm Beach – September 23-25, 2024



### How Can You Help?

- Be an active member on the LCB.
- Donate a dollar or more to the TD Trust Fund during vehicle registration.
- Work with CTC, Planners and other partners to identify areas of need in your community.
- Reach out to our office at 850-410-5700 or email: <u>David.Darm@dot.state.fl.us</u>
- For more information, visit our website at: Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged - Home (fdot.gov)