

LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSIT IS ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Restored state funding means stronger communities, economies, and health.

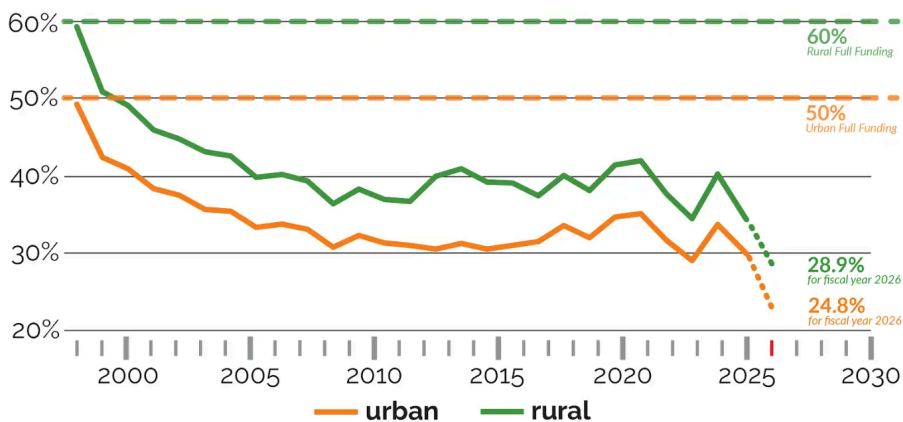


Our Ask

- We urge lawmakers to **restore and increase state funding** to reflect growing service demands, rising costs, and economic growth potential for Michigan public transit.
- Leaders must **protect local transit services by supporting at least \$270 million** for Local Bus Operating in the FY2026 budget, with the goal of fully funding transit at \$450 million.
- We urge the Legislature to restore the decades-long commitment of **10% of transportation funding to the Comprehensive Transportation Fund** in any road funding deal.

Declining State Funding Puts Local Communities at Risk

Local Bus Operation (LBO) Distribution Percentages, 2000-2026



Source: MDOT Office of Passenger Transportation

- Without action, our local transportation systems will face the **lowest-ever rate of state funding** and the likelihood of significant service reductions.
- Transit cuts lead to local **job losses and missed work shifts**, especially in rural areas that already experience limited service hours and higher fares.
- **Limited options** to doctors, grocery stores, and education.
- Increased isolation for seniors and **decreased career opportunities**, especially for people with disabilities.
- **Less consumer spending** on key goods.

Michigan Public Transit by the Numbers

- **Transit providers operate in all 83 Michigan counties**, providing 125,000+ rides per day and serving nearly 50 million rides each year.
- Every **\$1 invested in transit generates \$5 in economic returns** and increases property values.
- Transportation is the **second largest household expenditure** after housing.
- **More than 280,000 Michigan households do not own a car**, and transit demands are growing among all generations.
- **Michigan voters support local transit funding measures** more than 90% of the time.

Public Transit Drives Michigan's Economy

- Most riders use transit **to make money** as employees, **spend money** as customers, or **gain the skills to earn money** as students, directly supporting our economy and local businesses.
- **Public transit helps families save more** for other essential needs.
- **Seniors, veterans, students, and people with disabilities rely on public transit** as a lifeline for getting to work.



Act Now

Michigan must support local transit as vital infrastructure alongside roads and bridges to build a transportation system where **everyone can get to where they need**.

The Governor, Senate, and House have all **recognized the importance of transit** in their budgets.

Still, leaders must act now to ensure that Local Bus Operating is maintained with **at least \$270 million in FY2026** with the goal of fully funding transit at \$450 million.

Take Action



Now is the time for Michigan to **reinvest in its essential transit infrastructure** and fully fund local transportation in the state budget and in any road funding plan.



Reliable, accessible public transportation strengthens our economy, reduces disparities, and supports essential services. **Your leadership is critical to keep Michigan moving forward.**



This investment will help ensure residents across Michigan, whether they live in urban, suburban, or rural communities, can continue to **get to work, travel to care, and stay connected.**



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