**NEVADA GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON**

 **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**



**Position on Public Transportation Systems**

Within our society, freedom of movement is a fundamental right. However, it remains a largely unfulfilled promise for citizens with disabilities. Millions of Americans with developmental disabilities have difficulties obtaining transportation that serves as a vital lifeline to employment, education, health care and community life.

**NGCDD believes that all publicly funded and/or regulated transportation service systems must be: seamlessly coordinated among all modes of transportation; expanded in suburban, urban, rural and unincorporated areas to connect places people live with places they work, shop, socialize, worship, attend school, access health care, etc.; incorporated with mobility management and training services for individuals with developmental disabilities; designed to appropriately address insurance and liability of vehicles and operators who serve in a coordinated transportation environment, including non-profit providers); based on principles of universal design; supported by stable and adequate funding; and fully accessible to all people with developmental disabilities.**

**Policy Recommendations**

* Increase funding for mass transit programs (including paratransit).
* Encourage pooled use of vehicles purchased so that underutilized vehicles may be shared.
* Simplify the coordinated planning process for the programs that serve people with developmental disabilities and create transparency and accountability.
* Promote incentives that encourage greater mobility for people with developmental disabilities.
* Advocate that transportation providers to have up to 15% of their fleet include accessible vans/taxi cabs – and require training for drivers on how to assist passenger with developmental disabilities.
* Support coordinated human services and public transportation planning process and its structure.
* Encourage use of uniform data collection to evaluate customer satisfaction and to support coordination of transportation efforts.