**NEVADA GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**Position on Transportation**

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.

# **The Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (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:**

1. Increase funding for mass transit programs (including paratransit).
2. Encourage pooled use of vehicles purchased so that underutilized vehicles may be shared.
3. Simplify the coordinated planning process for the programs that serve people with developmental disabilities and create transparency and accountability.
4. Promote incentives that encourage greater mobility for people with developmental disabilities.
5. 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 passengers with developmental disabilities.
6. Support coordinated human services and public transportation planning process and its structure.
7. Encourage use of uniform data collection to evaluate customer satisfaction and to support coordination of transportation efforts.
8. Ensure that mobile transportation apps are accessible to people with visual impairments, hearing loss, intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), and other access needs, incorporating screen reader compatibility, visual contrast, and plain language options.
9. Improve DMV services statewide for individuals with disabilities, including accommodations for blind and visually impaired individuals, those with hearing loss, and persons with various I/DDs. Ensure streamlined and consistent processes across the state.
10. Create and maintain more accessible bus stops, including proper shelter, signage, seating, curb cuts, and detectable warnings for individuals with visual impairments.
11. Install and maintain audible, visual, and tactile announcements and alerts on all public transportation vehicles. These accessibility features must be routinely tested and remain functional.
12. Implement universal design principles in all new transportation infrastructure and vehicle procurement to support accessibility from the outset.
13. Ensure that accessibility devices and supports (such as ramps, lifts, securement systems, and audio/visual alerts) are properly installed, maintained, and consistently operational.
14. Identify and promote additional funding streams, including state, federal, and public-private partnerships, to support the development of coordinated, accessible transportation solutions.

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