

Wind River Transportation Authority 5-Year Plan

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History

- In 1989, The Shoshone and Arapaho Nations Transit (SANTA) began public transportation service on the Wind River Indian Reservations and Fremont County. The Fremont County Association of Governments transferred governance in 1996 and since that time, the WRTA team has proudly provided central Wyoming with fixed routes and several other transportation services.

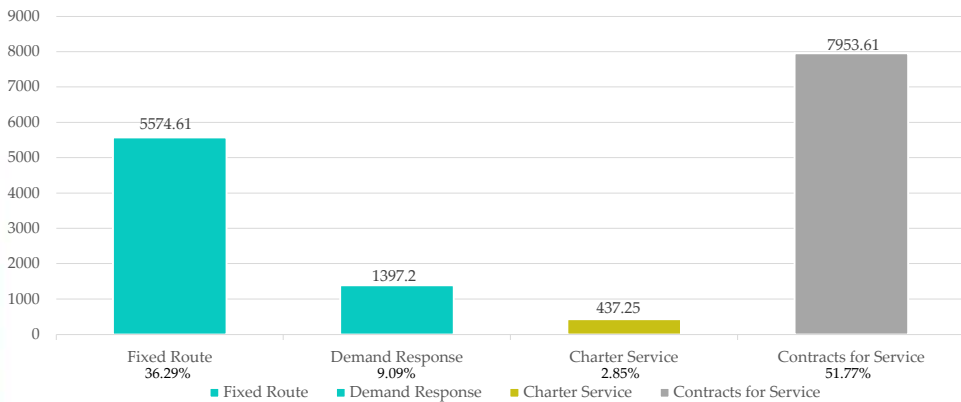
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Where We Are Right Now...

- Currently:
 - **Fixed Route**
 - Orange Line: Riverton, Hudson, Lander, Ft. Washakie, Ethete, Kinnear, Riverton (Commuter Bus)
 - Purple Line: Riverton, Kinnear, Ethete, Ft. Washakie, Lander, Hudson, Riverton (Commuter Bus)
 - **Share-a-Ride (Demand Response)**
 - Individualized Service with door-to-door application (Share-a-Ride model with shared fare cost)
 - **Charter Services (Ineligible as Local Match)**
 - Privatized individual service for specified use
- **Contracts for Service**
 - **Allowable Contract**
 - HeadStart
 - **Voucher**
 - WSIL
 - **QHSO Services**
 - Job Corps
 - CWC
 - Special Olympics
 - Honor Farm
 - Prairie Hills Transit

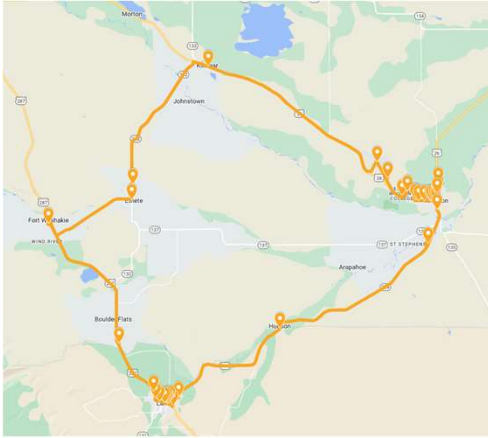
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FY23 Staffing Hours by Provided Service



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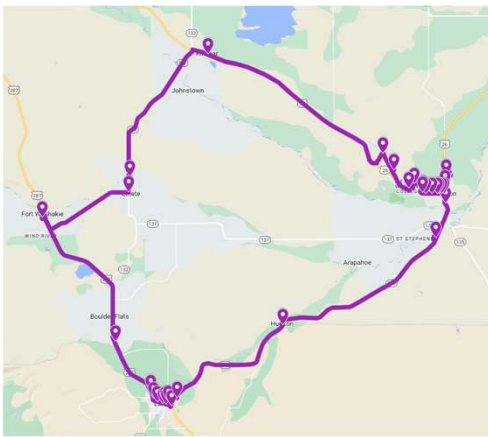
Orange Line – Commuter Bus (Unidirectional)



Orange Line					
Riverton	1 Airport			11:35 AM	5:05 PM
	2 Job Corps			11:40 AM	5:10 PM
	3 CWC	5:45 AM		11:45 AM	5:15 PM
	4 Library	5:50 AM		11:50 AM	5:20 PM
	5 City Hall	5:58 AM		11:58 AM	5:28 PM
	6 County Buildings	6:04 AM		12:04 PM	5:34 PM
	7 Wind River Casino	6:11 AM		12:11 PM	5:41 PM
Hudson	8 Post Office	6:26 AM		12:26 PM	5:56 PM
Lander	9 Bomgaars	6:39 AM		12:39 PM	6:09 PM
	10 NOLS	6:44 AM		12:44 PM	6:14 PM
	11 1st & Amoretti	6:46 AM		12:46 PM	6:16 PM
	12 Shoshone Rose Casino	6:56 AM		12:56 PM	6:26 PM
Ft Washakie	13 Rock Hall	7:08 AM	8:38 AM	1:08 PM	6:38 PM
Ethete	14 Ethete Store		8:51 AM	1:21 PM	6:51 PM
Riverton	15 Fire Hall		9:05 AM	1:35 PM	7:05 PM
	16 CWC		9:23 AM	1:53 PM	7:23 PM
	17 City Hall		9:33 AM	2:03 PM	7:33 PM

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Purple Line – Commuter Bus (Unidirectional)



Purple Line (Counter Clockwise)					
Riverton	1 City Hall	5:30 AM		10:30 AM	
	2 CWC	5:40 AM		10:40 AM	
Kinnear	3 Fire Hall	5:58 AM		10:58 AM	
Ethete	4 Ethete Store	6:12 AM	8:12 AM	11:12 AM	4:12 PM
Fort Washakie	5 Rock Hall	6:25 AM	8:25 AM	11:25 AM	4:25 PM
	6 Shoshone Rose Casino	6:37 AM	8:37 AM	11:37 AM	4:37 PM
Lander	7 NOLS	6:47 AM	8:47 AM	11:47 AM	4:47 PM
	8 1st & Amoretti	6:49 AM	8:49 AM	11:49 AM	4:49 PM
	9 Bomgaars	6:54 AM	8:54 AM	11:54 AM	4:54 PM
Hudson	10 Kai	7:07 AM	9:07 AM	12:07 PM	5:07 PM
Riverton	11 Wind River Casino	7:22 AM	9:22 AM	12:22 PM	5:22 PM
	12 Pit Stop	7:29 AM	9:29 AM	12:29 PM	5:29 PM
	13 City Hall	7:35 AM	9:35 AM	12:35 PM	5:35 PM
	14 Library	7:43 AM	9:43 AM	12:43 PM	5:43 PM
	15 CWC	7:48 AM	9:48 AM	12:48 PM	5:48 PM
	16 Job Corps	7:53 AM	9:53 AM	12:53 PM	5:53 PM
	17 Airport	7:58 AM	9:58 AM	12:58 PM	5:58 PM

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Share-A-Ride Wyoming (Demand Response)



- 3rd Party Scheduler (Remote)
- Facilitates airport and transportation needs direct to location (Door-to-Door) on a shared fare model.
- Reservations 48 hours in advance
- Currently no inner Riverton service (FY 25)

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Charter Services (Private Services)



- Provides transportation on a private scale (weddings, tours, etc.)
- Ineligible as local match or countable ridership
- No grant reimbursement
- Fee structure has been aligned to cover costs
- Frowned upon by state and fed officials

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Head Start – Contract for Service

- Allowable contract by state and federal guidelines
- Allowable as local match and countable ridership
- Consumes significant resources (5 vehicles, 5 drivers, 6 hours per day)
- Fee structure has been aligned to cover costs
- Immense wear and tear on vehicles



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WSIL (Wyoming Services for Independent Living) – Contract for Service

- Personalized service for individuals with disabilities
- Transports individuals to and from medical appointments
- 1 rider per ride, wait times can exceed 3 hours
- Not cost effective, currently running as a deficit
- Stagnant ridership level with no room for significant growth



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QHSO Services (Qualified Human Service Organization)

- Allowable contracts by state and federal guidelines
- Grant reimbursable and countable ridership
- Revenue Generator
- Service provides transportation for qualifying organizations
 - (CWC, Job Corps, Special Olympics, etc.)
- Consumes considerable resources
 - Personnel and Equipment
- Expensive to operate
- Previously under charged resulting in depreciation of federal dollars.
- Often requires nonbusiness hours commitments
- Out of town/Out of state trips which can become quite costly to the organization

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Why does Public Transportation exist?

- Accessibility to Essential Services
 - Healthcare, Grocery Stores, Educational Institutions, Employment Opportunities
- Social Inclusion and Equity
 - Regardless of age, income, mobility status, you have equal access
- Infrastructure Sustainability
 - Essentially, roads last longer, with less people on them
- Economic Development
 - Workforce Connectivity and Infrastructural Impact
- Tourism/Recreations
 - Facilitate access to destinations, minimizing congestion and maximizing attraction
- Emergency Preparedness
 - Key asset in local disasters
- Community Cohesion
 - Bringing people together, fostering social connection

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Redefining our focus

Previous Prioritization:

1. Local Match Generation
 1. Contracts for Service
 2. Charter Services
2. Service Obligations
 1. Contracts for Service
 2. SAR
 3. Fixed Route

Redefined:

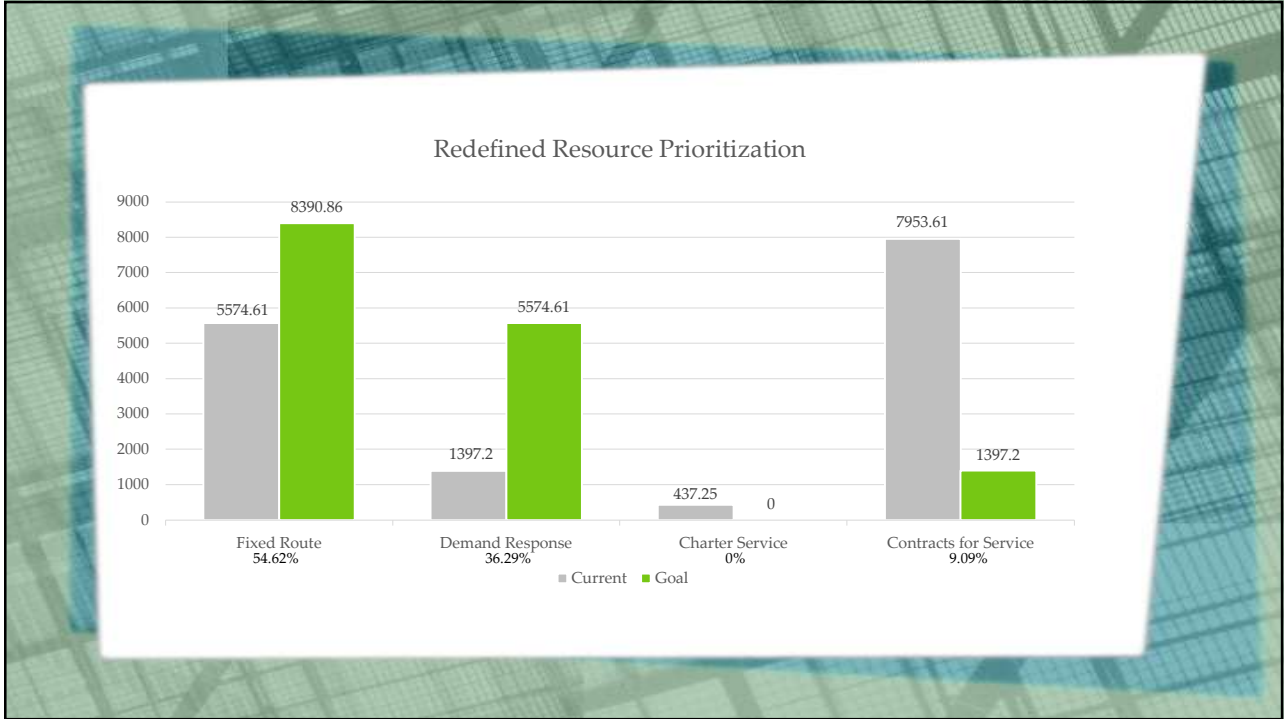
1. Service Obligations
 1. Fixed Route
 1. Commuter Lines
 2. Inner-city Lines
 2. Demand Response
 1. Share-A-Ride
 2. SafeRide
 3. Contracts for Service
2. Local Match Generation
 1. Local Government Funds
 1. ½% ED Sales Tax
 2. General Revenues (Subsidization)
 2. Advertisement Revenue
 3. Special Route Guarantees

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Where We Want to Go...

- 5 Years:
 - **Fixed Route**
 - **Commuter Lines**
 - Orange Line: Riverton, Hudson, Lander, Ft. Washakie, Ethete, Kinnear, Riverton (Commuter Bus)
 - Purple Line: Riverton, Kinnear, Ethete, Ft. Washakie, Lander, Hudson, Riverton (Commuter Bus)
 - Blue Line: Dubois, Riverton, Shoshoni (Commuter Bus)
 - **Express Commuter**
 - Yellow Line: Lander, Hudson, Riverton
 - **Inner City**
 - Red Line: Riverton
 - Green Line: Lander Trolley (Summer Only)
 - **Demand Response**
 - Share-A-Ride
 - Individualized Service with door-to-door application (Share-a-Ride model with shared fare cost)
 - SafeRide
 - Late Night/Weekend Service within Lander/Riverton City Limits. 8:00PM-2:00AM
 - **Contracts for Service**
 - **Allowable Contract**
 - HeadStart
 - **QHSO Services**
 - Offering dedicated service to all QHSO's
 - (CWC Trips, Special Olympics, etc.)

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A Fully Integrated Rural Transportation System

- 1st of its kind in the state of Wyoming
 - A model intended for rural areas, but has not been implemented in Wyoming yet...

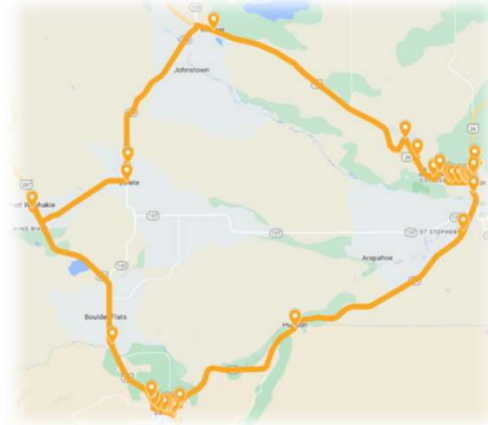
... be the model for rural Wyoming transit

The map displays a network of transportation routes across Wyoming, including major roads like I-25, I-76, and US-16. Key locations such as Cheyenne, Laramie, and the Wind River Reservation are highlighted. The proposed system is shown as a series of interconnected lines in blue, purple, yellow, and green, connecting various rural and tribal areas.

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Orange Line – Commuter Line (Omnidirectional)

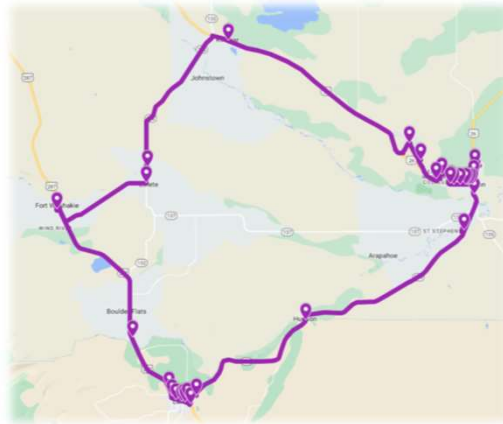
- Length: 96 miles
- Frequency: Every 5 hours
- Future Improvements:
 - Maximize efficiency
 - Refine times based on operability
 - Determine tourism/recreation applicability



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Purple Line – Commuter Line (Omnidirectional)

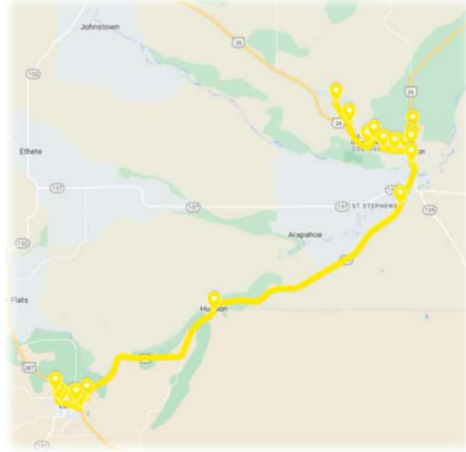
- Length: 96 miles
- Frequency: Every 5 hours
- Future Improvements:
 - Maximize efficiency
 - Refine times based on operability
 - Determine tourism/recreation applicability



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Yellow Line – Riverton/Hudson/Lander (Bi-Directional)

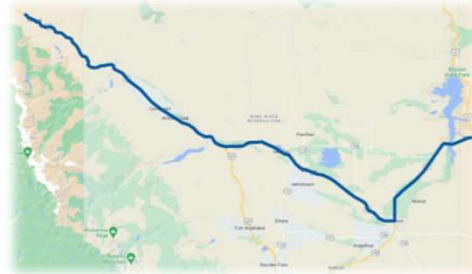
- Length: 70 miles
- Frequency: Every 2.5 hours
- Future Implementation:
 - July 2024
 - Designed to lessen dependence on Orange/Purple, to offer a more frequent means of transportation to/from major commuter areas
 - Operate in between Orange/Purple service times



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Blue Line – Dubois/Shoshoni (Bi-Directional)

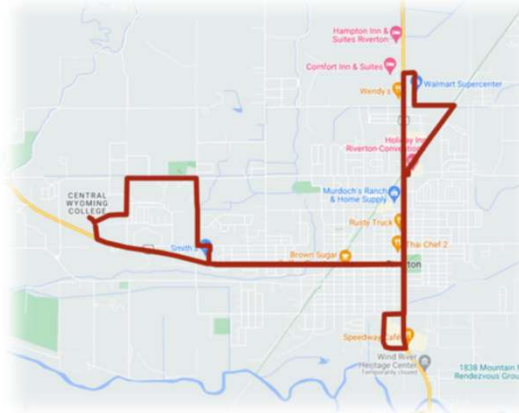
- Length: 100 Miles/direction
- Frequency: Undetermined/Flexible
- Future Implementation:
 - Undetermined (1/2% dependent)
 - Will secure commuter/tourism travel to and from the Dubois/Shoshoni area
 - Will be strategically operated during workforce travel times



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Red Line – Riverton (Inner City)

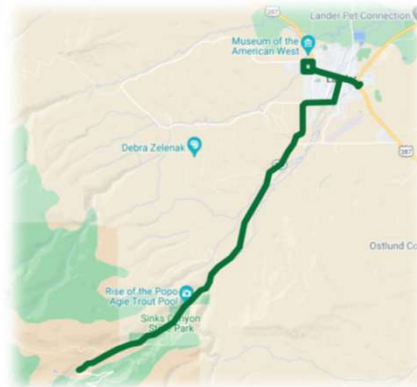
- Length: 14 Miles
- Frequency: Every ~30 Minutes
- Future Implementation:
 - Undetermined (1/2% dependent)
 - Designed to provide inner city transportation within Riverton City Limits
 - Transfers via multi-model hubs, making other commuter lines more efficient by reducing stops



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Green Line – Lander (Inner City - Seasonal) -Trolley

- Length: 22 Miles
- Frequency: Every ~60 Minutes
- Future Implementation:
 - Undetermined (1/2% dependent)
 - Designed to operating during peak tourism/recreation months
 - Trolley branded



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How we get there...

- **Contracts for Service**
 - By minimizing our obligations under the contracts, we alleviate the resources needed to execute the additional service
 - Additional revenue will need to be secured through other channels to ensure no loss in funding
 - Gradually transitioning these services onto other providers in the area to ensure no loss in transportation service to the individuals.
- **Charter Service**
 - Transition our available services to exclude private and require QHSO qualification to fulfil requests.
- **Fixed Route**
 - Slowly integrating additional routes as resources become available.
 - Refine route design based on population density and usability of services.
- **Demand Response**
 - SafeRide (FY25)
 - Funds already available, LOR Foundation to provide local match
 - Begin building the program to maximize usage
 - Paratransit (Red Line complimentary)
 - Will launch in full once Riverton inner city route is implemented

Lets break it down over the next 5 fiscal years...

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Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25)

Operations

- **Fixed Routes**
 - Orange Line (Commuter Line)
 - Purple Line (Commuter Line)
 - + Yellow Line (Express Commuter)
- **Demand Response**
 - Share-A-Ride
 - + SafeRide

Software/Capital

- **Software**
 - + Token Transit (Digital Fare Collection)
 - + Zonar (Fleet Management)
 - + TrackIt Transit (Transit Admin Software)
 - + Demand Response Software
- **Capital**
 - Shop Equipment
 - Bus Bike Rack Project
 - Computer Hardware Replacement
 - Facility Carpet Replacement
 - >30ft Cutaway Buses (4)

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Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26)

Operations

- Fixed Routes
 - Orange Line (Commuter Line)
 - Purple Line (Commuter Line)
 - Yellow Line (Express Commuter)
 - + Blue Line (Commuter Line)
 - + Red Line (Riverton Inner City)
- Demand Response
 - Share-A-Ride
 - SafeRide
 - + Paratransit (Red Line)

Software/Capital

- Software
 - Token Transit (Digital Fare Collection)
 - Zonar (Fleet Management)
 - TrackIt Transit (Transit Admin Software)
 - Demand Response Software
 - + Fixed Route Software
- Capital
 - Facility Asphalt/Concrete Replacement
 - Facility Window Replacement
 - <30ft Small Buses (3)
 - Facility LED Upgrade
 - Facility Paint

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Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27)

Operations

- Fixed Routes
 - Orange Line (Commuter Line)
 - Purple Line (Commuter Line)
 - Yellow Line (Express Commuter)
 - Blue Line (Commuter Line)
 - Red Line (Riverton Inner City)
- Demand Response
 - Share-A-Ride
 - SafeRide
 - Paratransit (Red Line)

Software/Capital

- Software
 - Token Transit (Digital Fare Collection)
 - Zonar (Fleet Management)
 - TrackIt Transit (Transit Admin Software)
 - Demand Response Software
 - Fixed Route Software
 - + Transit App (Compilation Software)
- Capital
 - Facility Asphalt/Concrete Replacement
 - Facility Door & Lock Upgrade
 - <30ft Small Bus (2)
 - >30ft Heavy Bus (1)
 - Non-Revenue Service Vehicle (1)
 - Bus Stop Shelters/Infrastructure

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Fiscal Year 2028 (FY28)

Operations

- Fixed Routes
 - Orange Line (Commuter Line)
 - Purple Line (Commuter Line)
 - Yellow Line (Express Commuter)
 - Blue Line (Commuter Line)
 - Red Line (Riverton Inner City)
- Demand Response
 - Share-A-Ride
 - SafeRide
 - Paratransit (Red Line)

Software/Capital

- Software
 - Token Transit (Digital Fare Collection)
 - Zonar (Fleet Management)
 - TrackIt Transit (Transit Admin Software)
 - Demand Response Software
 - Fixed Route Software
 - Transit App
- Capital
 - Bus Stop Shelters/Infrastructure
 - >30ft Heavy Bus (1)
 - Facility Covered Parking Addition
 - Non-Revenue Service Vehicle (1)

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Fiscal Year 2029 (FY29)

Operations

- Fixed Routes
 - Orange Line (Commuter Line)
 - Purple Line (Commuter Line)
 - Yellow Line (Express Commuter)
 - Blue Line (Commuter Line)
 - Red Line (Riverton Inner City)
 - + Green Line (Lander Trolley)
- Demand Response
 - Share-A-Ride
 - SafeRide
 - Paratransit (Red Line)
 - + Paratransit (Green Line)

Software/Capital

- Software
 - Token Transit (Digital Fare Collection)
 - Zonar (Fleet Management)
 - TrackIt Transit (Transit Admin Software)
 - Demand Response Software
 - Fixed Route Software
 - Transit App
- Capital
 - Bus Stop Shelters/Infrastructure
 - >30ft Heavy Bus (1)
 - <30ft Small Bus (2)
 - Bus Infotainment Systems

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How do we PAY for it?

- First, we need to understand how Public Transportation Funding works...
- Then, determine what tools we have, to leverage it...

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How Public Transportation Funding Works

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graph TD; A[WYDOT receives funds from FTA] --> B[WRTA applies for funds from WYDOT]; B --> C[WRTA must match those funds to encumber];
```

- Urban Areas with a population of 50,000 or greater are eligible for 5307/5339 funding which is FTA direct
- Rural Areas with a population of 50,000 or less must request their 5311/5339 funds from the State of Wyoming as a Subsidiary
- Approval of funds is heavily dependent on impact (ridership #'s) and responsible use
- There are match percentages based on purpose:
 - Operating Funds (44%)
 - Administration Funds (20%)
 - Maintenance Funds (20%)

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What are our tools?

- ½% Sales Tax for Economic Development
- Advertisement Revenue
- Route Service Guarantees
- Contracts for Service
- Local Government Subsidization
 - Seeding the program

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Prior uses of ½% ED Sales Tax

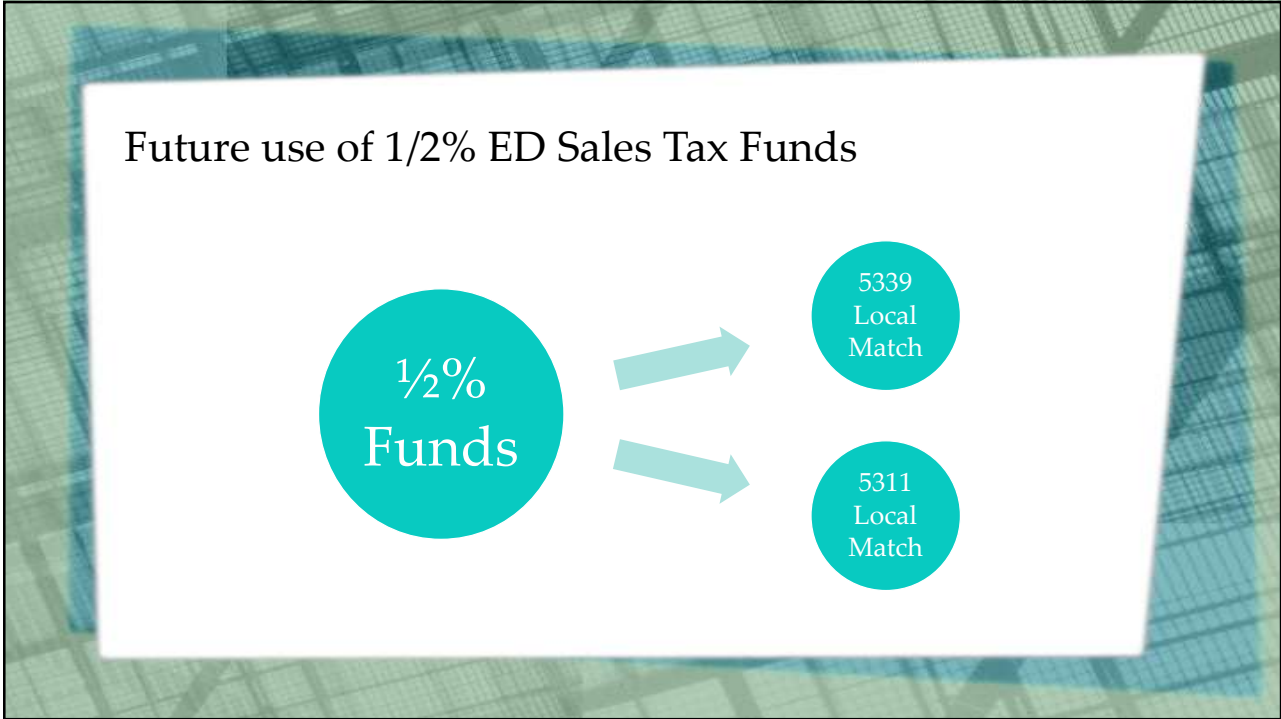
Conditions:

- Stability of the Operation
 - Prior to the ½% ED Sales Tax WRTA was at risk of closing its doors.
- Severely aged Fleet
 - Total mileage today of over 3.5M
- Facility
 - Desperate need of repair and upgrade
 - Roof was in disrepair and leaking onto fleet
 - Bay doors were failing and inoperable

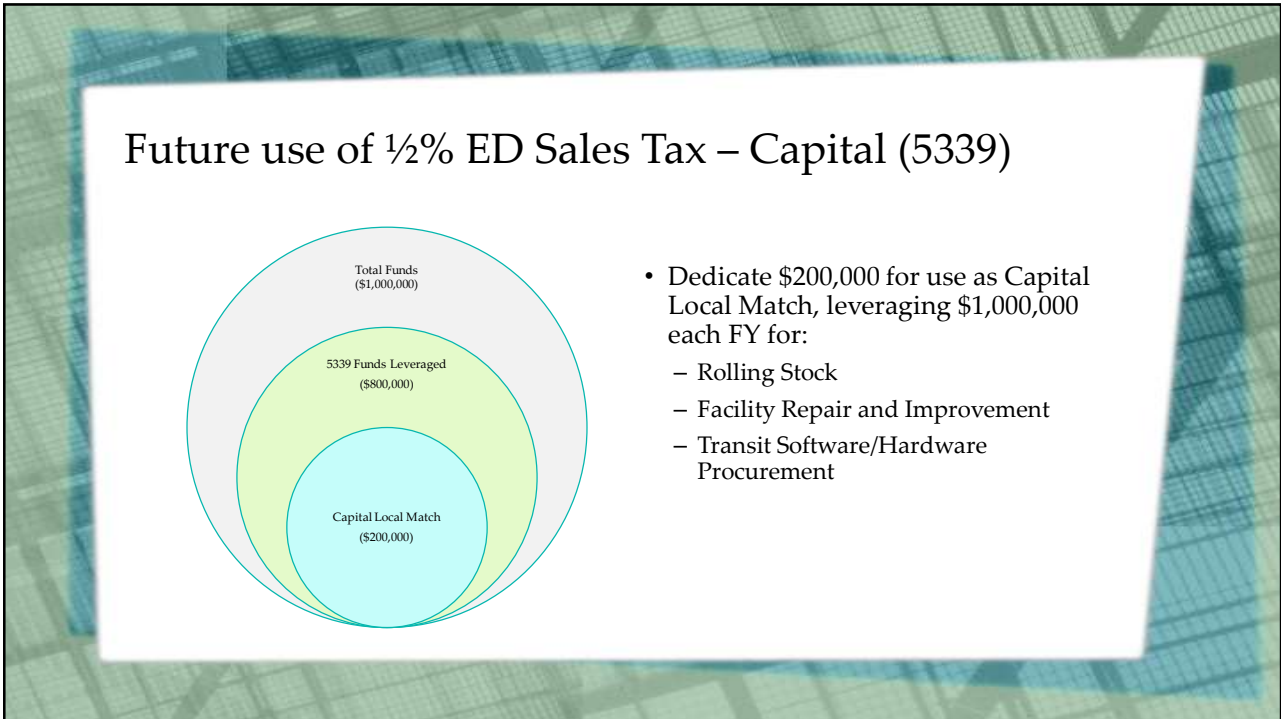
Responses:

- 1 new service truck purchased at 20%
- 3 new ADA Minivans purchased at 20%
- 4 used buses purchased at 100%
- Facility was repaired to a point of operation

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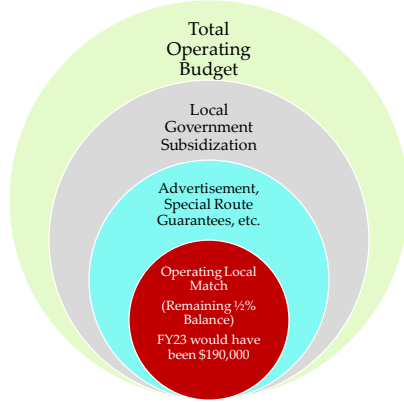


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Future use of 1/2% ED Sales Tax – Operating (5311)



- Using the 1/2% Remaining Balance as the seed for our local match
- Capitalizing on more industry standard means of revenue generation

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Advertisement Revenue

- 85% of Transit Agencies utilize advertisement as a local match generator
- Non-Intrusive revenue source
- Low operational cost
- Better aligns with the goals and expectations of transit
- More stable and predictable source of revenue



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Route Service Guarantees

- Service subsidized by the local businesses it enhances
 - Stable and flexible funding model
 - Encourages community support and engagement
 - Promotion and branding opportunities
 - Tailored service
 - Cost Sharing

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Contracts for Service



- Strategically aligning with contracts that optimize the utilization of our resources and maximize revenue generation
- Carefully reviewing service contracts to mitigate risks
- Better align our services with market demand and industry trends

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Local Government Subsidization



Infuse the program with its initial local match



Cost Sharing



Community investment and engagement

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Conclusion: What are our next steps?

- Community Engagement
 - Soliciting input from residents and governing bodies
- Strategic Planning and Investment
 - Securing funding to support the expansion, improvement, and sustainability of our services
- Partnership Development
 - Local Governments, Businesses, Educational Institutions, Healthcare Providers, etc.
- Innovation and Technology Integrations
 - Modernizing our tools to provide more efficient use of our systems
- Education and Outreach
 - Launching public awareness campaigns to promote the benefits and use of these systems as we implement this master plan

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