

## Trista France

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**From:** Mackinac Island Michigan <noreply@civicplus.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 11:19 AM  
**To:** Mayor's Assistant  
**Subject:** Senior Transport

Name: Terry Gerdes  
Email: terryg5542@gmail.com

Message: January 13, 2025 Dear Council Member, I'm writing in reference to the Senior Transport issue that was discussed at last week's board meeting. I have lived here year round, for four years. Moving here I was surprised and overjoyed at the fact of the senior transport and its availability, to the elderly and those in need during the winter. Tom Corrigan brought up the fact that 7pm was too early to stop transportation because people wanted to socialize later in the evening and couldn't because of the time constraint. That's not entirely true. In the summer we walk, use a bike/scooter or take a taxi. In the winter we walk, use a bike/scooter/snowmobile, senior transport or take a taxi. The taxi option has always been available, people just don't want to use it though in the winter. Personally to have this service available to seniors and those in need is a plus. To those who want to socialize using the senior transport, I feel it's abusing the service as they have other options. Same as if it was in the summer time. Senior transports I thought was for those who were in need to go to the grocery store, post office, ferry or medical center. Socializing at a restaurant/bar, playing bingo or trivia is not a necessity. Although it's nice to gather, but again it's not a necessity. It doesn't matter how long you've lived here or what part of town you live in, everyone should be treated equally. After listening to Chief Gruits comment about being a safety issue because of limiting the amount of policeman available in town was very concerning. I truly believe safety is way more important than socializing. I would hope that you would reconsider keeping the time frame as it is and encourage those who want to socialize to utilize our year round taxi service. Sincerely, Terry Gerdes PO

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