

# The Iowa City/Coralville Transit Study: Findings and Potential Impact on Persons with Disabilities

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## **Objective:**

To research the newly created Transit Survey in Iowa City/Coralville and understand how the survey and its results impact the community of persons with physical and intellectual disabilities. The research will also look at how the firm which created the method to find their data points excluded the disability community.

## **Methods:**

This study reviews research presented to the community by the Iowa City, Coralville, and University of Iowa CAMBUS transit providers related to envisioning a reconstructed transit system. Findings are based on a 17-question survey developed by Nelson-Nygaard Consulting Associates designed to understand community transportation requirements.

Based upon initial community response, the consulting firm formulated three scenarios for consideration in reconstructing each community's transit system. The three scenarios were:

- Frequency
- Simplified Coverage
- Restructure & Improve Weekends & Evenings (Iowa City Transit Only)

Some of the new possible transportation changes that could have a major impact on persons with disabilities and their abilities to use public transportation are:

- Providing more frequent weekday rush hour services
- Providing more frequent weekday mid-day services
- Providing more frequent weekday evening services
- Providing later weekday services
- Providing earlier weekday services
- Providing more frequent Saturday services
- Providing earlier and later Saturday services
- Providing Sunday services

## **Results:**

The results are currently being tabulated and the community will be informed starting in August of 2020 of the final results including which scenario was chosen.

## **Conclusions:**

My hope is that the re-constructed transit system will incorporate the needs of persons with disabilities, making usage easier for this population.