

Appendix E: Commuter Survey Comments



Appendix E

General Commuter Survey Comments

- A bus service from Stevi to Hamilton would be convenient.
- A bus system should be developed for travelers from the Bitterroot to Missoula and back.
- A great idea whose time has come. Also, what about commuter rail? There are already pre-existing rail corridors that parallel the auto corridors, and they all lead to downtown Missoula where there is a central bus hub. Something to consider.
- A train running from Darby to downtown Missoula with stops along the way would be my preferred mode of transportation to Missoula. I don't know if that is possible or reasonable.
- All of them would be good for the valleys.
- An across town ride with few time to switch buses.
- Anne is so handicapped that she will never go out of the Hamilton area.
- Any kind of transport would be nice since I don't have a car.
- Any vehicle providing public transportation should use clean energy. No one wants to ride a stinky, black exhaust spewing bus.
- Arguments for public transportation typically include some reference to "replacing" a POV. This is insulting as the level of service offered by vanpools requires that a POV be maintained as well (for errands, for any kind of purchase which does not fit on a van full of people, etc.)
- Arlee – Mission – Elmo – Missoula – Polson.
- As I am getting older I have no one to visit. I need to get out more. Please, help us! We don't know what we're missing and we're lonely.
- As Missoula's city limits continue to extend outward, so should the service area of the Missoula Urban Transportation District.
- As this area grows, our bus system really needs to step up the service because it is not uncommon to hear a lot of people say that the bus system is slow and hard to navigate. I carpool one day per week when I go to class, but when I go to work no one else I work with lives east of town to carpool with so having an efficient bus system would be so nice and decrease the huge amount of rush hour traffic.
- Bike transportation needs to be a comprehensive part of the plan.
- Bitterroot bus service is greatly needed. I commute daily with husband and one child, traffic is horrible. Pulling onto Hwy 93 is frightening! Bus service needs to

offer options for transfers to other areas of town and thoughtful scheduling. Bike racks would be a plus.

- Bus or van service over Highway 93 between Polson and Missoula and Missoula and Hamilton is seriously needed to reduce the number of accidents especially in bad weather. There is a case to be made also for reducing the amount of greenhouse gases by providing mass transit.
- Bus service needs to be more frequent. We also need frequent bus service north and south on Reserve Street. I could see a HUGE benefit from a light rail system running north from the Bitterroot and east/west from our neighboring communities as more and more people move out from town and have to commute in.
- Bus service to Pleasant View Homes off of Flynn Lane is badly needed. This is a large, new neighborhood and the nearest bus stop is over a mile and a half away.
- Bus transportation would be good for young people who attend college in Missoula but don't have a vehicle to visit in the Valley.
- Bus with various AM pickup times would be wonderful.
- Carpool, vanpool, bus are all needed.
- Comfort is needed for my disability, what is offered?
- Confident and able driver.
- Cost would also be a consideration – if it would be more expensive than my current carpool costs, public transportation would not be an option.
- Currently none in Clinton – would use 3 to 4 days a week so I would limit when need to run errands.
- Disappointed that there is little service out by Hellgate Elementary.
- East side Highway could use a bus route from Florence to Hamilton.
- Expand the bus service to areas that only see the bus every hour and also extend the hours of operation for the bus into the night. A park-and-ride from the westside neighborhood to the University would be nice as well.
- Expand the thinking to include the future by incorporating other transportation options such as lightrail.
- First, I just want to say that this survey was weirdly worded for people living in Missoula. I would really be interested in a regular transit service that ran up the Bitterroot for recreational and social travel.
- Flexibility in scheduling.
- Flexible hours and express service would be the most important issues for me.
- Frenchtown is a bedroom community to Missoula. There is a great need for bus service. The bus currently goes to the mill and it's only a few miles further to go all the way into Frenchtown.
- Good for impaired drivers.

- Good idea.
- Great idea...should be a commuter train from the Bitterroot to Missoula and Arlee.
- Growing up in the Missoula valley the transportation has become easier to use, but still is not very user-friendly. There are many people that would use the service if it was more convenient and accessible. As far as I know the bus service does not travel past the Buckhouse bridge. You are missing out on a growing population not only in young persons that cannot drive but many who would love t.....
- Has to meet my schedule needs.
- Has train travel been considered as an option for the area also?
- Have bike racks on vans, would be nice to bike around Missoula.
- Having the availability to go to the bus stop and know that a bus is coming within the next five to fifteen minutes would be convenient.
- Help people who don't have rides when needed.
- I already drive the vanpool. It is an awesome service and one I recommend to everyone I know.
- I am a current vanpool rider and am very pleased with the service and route. Train service into Missoula would be nice with vanpool rides available from the station.
- I am most interested in programs utilizing convenient, customized vanpool transportation and financial incentives from work if carpooling options utilized by employees.
- I am presently able to bike almost anywhere in Missoula and there already exists a good bus system. I could be interested in a more regional system, like to the Bitterroot Valley on weekends... but that seems difficult to economically arrange.
- I appreciate that vanpool services are offered, even though I don't use them. As I get older I may need to make use of these services. My husband may in the future need help with transportation due to possible loss of sight.
- I believe public transportation is very important for congestion, pollution, and fuel economy.
- I believe that as large as the Missoula area is getting to be, it is key that the bus system bring themselves into the 21st century. By that I mean having more than one transfer center and not requiring all buses to meet at the same spot. Furthermore, it would behoove them to have Sunday service and daily service that went until 10PM or midnight.
- I believe this service would be great for our older population that can't drive or should not be driving. It would also cut down on Hwy 93 traffic and would help reduce emissions into the air and the use of fuel.
- I can drive to work in 5 minutes but if I take the bus which stops almost right in front of my house it takes about 40 minutes. I only live about 3-4 miles away

so that is why I do not take the bus unless I have to.

- I cannot believe there is no bus service from the Bitterroot Valley to Missoula.
- I commute from Missoula to Hamilton and work either a 6AM to 6PM shift or 6PM to 6AM, and can work any day of the week. I need a ride that can accommodate that.
- I currently go to Missoula only occasionally for errands and an evening out. I am anticipating starting school in a few years and would use a group transportation daily if it were available and made convenient.
- I currently use the bus service in Missoula @ 2-3 times a week. I live and work in Missoula.
- I currently use the I Ride vanpool and am extremely satisfied with its operation.
- I currently use the I Ride vanpool. It works great for me. Support for this organization and others like them along with increasing public awareness of their existence would be productive. Current traffic amounts on Hwy 93 and the East Side Hwy in the Bitterroot Valley are too heavy now, and will only increase in the future. Existing speed limits and road conditions make it a very dangerous c.....
- I did ride the bus from home to the University. The time was reasonable.
- I don't feel that bus service is the answer for the outlying communities. The vanpool seems to be working fine.
- I don't know if Frenchtown is considered the Five Valleys area... but I would LOVE to have a public transportation option from there.
- I don't know much about it. How to join or where to get on/off.
- I don't like alcohol.
- I feel it would benefit the tribal members to save on money.
- I find the area of service convenient but the frequency of service very inconvenient. I don't know if regular 15 minute service during peak hours is not feasible, but it sure would be more convenient. I do not mind paying for service. Better sheltered waiting areas on all stops would be nice.
- I hate driving back and forth to Missoula and it is necessary for saving money on purchases.
- I have been afraid to try the bus. During January I thought about it and looked at the schedule. I wasn't sure that I could get close enough to work for an easy walk in the winter. Summer work schedule is erratic with long hours.
- I have been vanpooling since 2004. I enjoy the ride. I would use a bus between Stevensville and Missoula on the weekends.
- I have used a vanpool service for 7 years and find it extremely helpful in cutting down on traffic and pollution not to mention solving a parking problem.
- I have used the Mountain Line services for over 20 years. I have had to rely on carpool for travels out of town.

- I have used the vanpool but the hours are not flexible. I have to leave my house to meet the van at 6:25 a.m. which gets me to work at 7:25 and I can't start my shift until 8:00 a.m. The van leaves City Hall at 5 p.m. and I frequently work until 5:15 so I can't meet the pickup time. I could use the guaranteed ride home but this happens more than 2 times a year, so i just bail on the whole thing.
- I have varying work hours and am not able to fit them into the current bus schedule on most days, those days that I can I have to take my child to school because the bus either gets him there almost an hour early or just a little too late and to get home takes him 1 1/2 hours due to layovers at the bus station.
- I live in Frenchtown and work at the airport. Because of routing, public transportation is available but takes 45 minutes each way. Also because of routing, times become very limiting. Please consider different routing and more times....at least a trial period. Also I would be interested in public transportation to Snow Bowl on Saturdays
- I live in Missoula and do not use the bus as the times are not compatible with my work schedule and the bus stops are too far away. My husband works at the University and has the same problem .
- I live in Missoula, so few of the questions apply to me. I bus to work at least 3x/week. I am employed in healthcare (there is no "other" category for employment. I would love to see Bitterroot service to get our patients here, also St. Ignatius.
- I live one mile from my workplace, so this survey doesn't appear to be very relevant to me. I drive, walk, or ride my bike to work. However, I believe in public transportation, and if I lived further from work and it were convenient, I would definitely try to use public transport. My employer asked me to complete this survey, so I am doing so.
- I love the I Ride bus.
- I love the vanpool, but would use train or bus also.
- I never know when I will need to stay late, leave early, go out to lunch, go to the club to work out afterwards, go to the dentist, doctor's office, run errands, etc.
- I personally believe that bus routes need to be expanded both spatially and temporally. In conjunction with this, I would like to see traffic calmed throughout most of the city, especially downtown (this would ease difficulties in biking/walking/busing. Increased difficulties driving in coordination with expanded and convenient bus service would greatly benefit Missoula, and prepare it for futur.....
- I prefer not to use carpool. I prefer not to have to drive. Would prefer bus transportation from Lolo to Missoula. I work at Missoula Federal Credit Union at 3600 Brooks Street and would need pickup and drop off services close to this location from Lolo.
- I prefer walking.
- I ride the vanpool from Florence every day. I drive 12 miles to Gary and Leo's (our pick up point) The van picks us up at 7:00 and delivers us to the door of the U of M by 7:30. The van picks us up at 4:45 at our door and delivers us to

our cars at Gary and Leo's. I do not believe a bus in the BitterRoot could have a large enough schedule to help anyone. Once or twice or even 4 times aday would.

- I rode the bus when I lived in St. Ignatius and I experienced at times the bus wasn't clean and some people were alcohol/drug users, bus driver used cell phone for personal use, never kept things confidential, and would share information to individuals.
- I support biking/walking to work! We could use a better/safer bike/walk trail system. It's great that we are making efforts for that mode of transportation. I do want to point out that my transit to work is not that very far and I prefer biking to work most of the time. My wife on the other hand does utilize the bus system when convenient.
- I think a train from the Bitterroot to Missoula would be the way to go.
- I think bus transportation is the answer. Car and vanpools serve a limited of people versus buses serve the whole community. The answer may be a combination of both services, but it seems initially the bus service would give the community the most bangs for their buck.
- I think it is a great idea, but I have to drop off kids at daycare and need my car during the day.
- I think it is great. Now that I no longer have children concerns, I could take the bus to and from work. In fact I need to look at the currently available routes. We all need to do more to help the environment.
- I think it provides safe and economical options for many people commuting to and from Missoula and the surrounding areas.
- I think public transit is very important. My husband and I have one vehicle between us. For the right price and flexible schedule I would use public transit if it was available to Missoula but I would also applaud a public bus system within the city itself.
- I think public transportation is a great idea, but it does not fit with my current lifestyle-- early to work, midday errands, kids' activities, adult activities, etc. In the event my lifestyle changes, I'd surely consider using public transportation.
- I think that the bus service is outstanding between my house on Sussex and Stephens and campus and downtown. I also think that the times of bus departures and arrivals are perfect and that the bus is usually very nice to ride and the drivers pleasant. It doesn't make sense to me why anyone would ever drive a car.
- I think that the I-Ride vanpool is fantastic. It is convenient, flexible, and without it, I couldn't live in the Mission Valley and work at the University of Montana. It is a great service and I hope to see it expand to other areas in the Mission and Flathead valleys.
- I think that the regional bus driver should be required to hold a CDL license.
- I think this is an excellent idea. I also wonder why a commuter train from the Bitterroot is not being considered. I think it would be heavily used.

- I think transportation on the Flathead Reservation would be a good idea and success.
- I thought about using the vanpool to the U for work but in order to catch it, I have to drive about half as far as I'd have to drive to work plus pay for the service. That ends up costing more than just driving all the way.
- I tried to change my shift a 1/2 hour so I could commute with neighbor and it was not allowed.
- I understand that more frequent bus scheduling is the most important factor in getting discretionary riders, such as myself, to use transit. Scheduling transit outside peak hours, on the other hand, is necessary for those in service jobs who do not work a regular 8-5 schedule. I believe this accessibility issue is critical for our community.
- I used to use the Missoula bus service daily to commute to work and would like to see service to the Clinton area where I now live.
- I used to use the vanpool when I was in college and commuted between Hamilton and Missoula, but I had to drive to Stevensville everyday to catch the van. It worked ok, but all my time was spent drive, riding the bus, working and riding the bus and driving home. Most days I would leave the house at 0630 and wouldn't get home until 7pm. It was too time consuming.
- I utilize the bike racks on the buses to increase my range for cycle commuting and errands.
- I vanpool now weekly.
- I vanpool to work daily and have been for almost 10 years, have built friendships with fellow travelers and would HATE to lose this service.
- I want to feel safe and comfortable on the bus/van, etc.
- I was one of the first drivers of the reverse commute vanpool from Missoula to Hamilton. My work schedule changed and I was forced to quit the vanpool. I now carpool with one other co-worker.
- I wish we as a community could better embrace public transit.
- I work at the Forest Service Fire Sciences Lab near the airport. There is bus service available to the Lab – however, it is not flexible enough to meet my needs. The latest morning bus to the lab leaves the downtown transfer station at 7:45 AM.
- I work shift at GSK in Hamilton. I am on the B-shift (either A shift or B shift) and my schedule is odd, but on a two-week rotation. There are at least four of us currently carpooling, but we have turned down people because of safety (only four seat-belts in some cars). We would ALL be very interested in service that arrived in Hamilton at 6 AM and departed at 6PM sharp.
- I work with several folks who carpool and vanpool to Missoula from outside of town. And it seems to work very well, and everyone seems to get a lot out of it.
- I would definitely use it if only 2-3 days per weeks.
- I would have my kids use the bus to get to Phantom Hills golf course or to Griz

games or maybe if a bus went to the high schools (Sentinel) would be great.

- I would help having signs posted at the bus stops. They should state the bus # and times. This would encourage people to ride the bus. It makes it more visual and not a guessing game.
- I would hope with the increased gas cost that there would be a increased use in the bus lines and also the winter weather would be another driving source to use the bus line. The Miller Creek area is extremely congested in the mornings and evenings with traffic and we have no bus service in this area. My son drives to Safeway and parks in their lot and uses the bus service everyday now to get to.....
- I would like to save the money and the wear and tear on my car. I drive 50 miles round-trip daily.
- I would like to see a light rail service instead of a bus service. This would provide people in the community the same options as bus, however cleaner both physically and environmentally.
- I would like to see bus service going up and down Reserve Street from the SevenR-Cmon Inn area south to Brooks Street. I need to get from Grant Creek Road to Spurgin Road, and there is no practical way to do it without driving 2 miles, taking a bus downtown, transferring to another bus, then having to walk another .5-1 mile to get to work. I want to be able to carry my bicycle on the bus, so I c.....
- I would like to see transportation to Missoula include transportation to the airport.
- I would love to be able to vanpool; however, my daily work schedule varies so much that I'm not able to commit to a particular time to catch the vanpool every day. At this point, it's just easier to drive myself.
- I would love to use public transportation to and from work. I see too many cars on Hwy 93 with one occupant in the car (including myself). Please post meetings info in local newspapers.
- I would love to use public transportation to and from work. I see too many cars on Hwy 93 with one occupant in the car (including myself) I would like to see postings of meetings in local newspapers.
- I would most like to see rail service through the Bitterroot. It's cleaner, safer, and would get that many more vehicles off the roadways.
- I would only need to use it on days when my schedule does not work with my husband's schedule as we ride together when possible. Having this available would allow me to work later hours when needed because I would be able to make it home without him having to stay late as well.
- I would probably drive 2-3 times a month to take care of business, shop or go to appointments. The most important thing is a regular bus or vanpool system. There are at least 20 people that work at the USDA, Forest Service complex out by the airport that live in the Stevensville/Florence area. It would be wonderful to get a vanpool that had maybe two pick-up/parking areas in the valley that....

- I would rather use my car because I don't know what time I would usually get off work. I'm not sure if it would meet the according time to carpool, vanpool, or bus schedules.
- I would use it to go to Missoula for shopping and/or a night out downtown.
- I would use public transportation – if it was convenient – to do my shopping in Missoula on the weekends. As it is now, I have to drive into Missoula on a weekend to do this.
- I would use the bus line in town more if it ran later at night; I would also use the bus to travel to the airport if it ran to the airport regularly.
- I would use the system if it was provided.
- I'd like to think I would use a public service, but in reality I do not have a set schedule so my car gives me the freedom to come and go when I want and to alter my plans while in Missoula. Having a kid in school requires occasional quick pick-ups at school on sick days and my car allows me to do this. I wish you luck – I like the idea and hope that people with schedules more routine than mine wi.....
- I'd love to see an early morning early afternoon bus route from the south hills area to the airport area that does not require a ride to downtown first. I don't mind walking some distance to a bus stop. I was and would be an avid bus rider again if it didn't take so much time out of my day.
- If a van was available every 2 hours – it would be great. I could get home early if needed or get to work early, if needed. That is my limitation as to why I cannot vanpool right now. I need more flexibility.
- If I became ill at work and wanted to go home for the day, I wouldn't be able to go out get in my car and go home.
- If I had to use the service in the future I would because of gas prices. I've lived in big cities and used the bus before.
- If the bus would go to the Frenchtown area I could drive there, park my car, and catch a bus the rest of the way into town. Or I can continue to vanpool.
- If there is more than one person from a family using the vanpool service, it is more or as expensive as driving a vehicle.
- If there was a park-and-ride lot near Blue Mountain and an express bus into Missoula I would take it. I would definitely take a bus from Lolo, especially if it had a bike rack as I could, in an emergency, ride my bike fairly quickly from Missoula to Lolo.
- If there were public transportation options to some wilderness options or trail heads in the summer, I may use the service. I might use public transportation in the winter to ski areas also.
- If we had economical van/bus transportation I would seriously consider changing employers to one in Missoula, as long as the schedule worked for my employer and as long as we had express service.
- I'm more likely to use a bus from Stevensville to Missoula than from Stevens-

ville to Hamilton because Missoula does have a way to get around once you're there. I'd also like you to consider trains as an option, if the tracks meet the requirements for passenger travel. Also, buses need to have a way to carry bicycles as they provide a way to get around Missoula, or I could ride my bike one way to o.....

- In the Ft. Missoula complex it would be nice to have several bus stops.
- In the past, the park-and-ride service was so far from my home (over 10 miles) that it was cheaper and faster to drive by myself than parking and paying the fee. The times also did not coincide with my work hours.
- I-Ride vanpool works very well for me.
- It has been a long time coming!
- It needs to be accessible and available to take me to place of employment. The vanpool now between Hamilton and Missoula parks at the driver's place of employment and other transportation needs to be taken from there. Not convenient at all and won't use due to the fact they allow anyone to drive that wants to be a driver and works in either place.
- It needs to be cost-effective. They need more pickup places and more available times.
- It would be difficult to use for those traveling for shopping because they potentially need to bring a lot of items back, but I like to travel to Missoula in the evenings specifically to play sports and then return to Seeley. I don't know how many people would have the same uses.
- It would be great if there were an open house sometime in Florence so people can become familiar with the service.
- It would be GREAT to have bus service to the upper Grant Creek area. Having to drive every where is one thing I dislike about living there.
- It would be great to have some kind of transport from Hamilton (or Darby) up to Missoula and Kalispell (and even Glacier Park!) Roads are too crowded and it is a great way to reduce traffic on the road, improve air quality, and not to have to drive ourselves to run errands or go to work
- It would be nice for people who really need it.
- It would be nice to have a park-and-ride between downtown and someplace in the area of Mullan/N. Reserve OR Flynn Lane/W.Broadway – perhaps immediately to the west of Super Wal-Mart or just off of Broadway along Flynn Ln – with non-stop service to the downtown bus hub from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekends, with buses/minibuses/vans leaving every 15 minutes during peak weekday travel.
- It would be nice to have a vanpool from the north that would accommodate working in Missoula four 10-hour days.
- It would cut down on commuting traffic and accidents.
- It would cut down on traffic.
- I've been a member of the vanpool for at least 7 years.

- I've been told the van from Lolo to UM is full. Waiting for availability for 5 years.
- I've used the vanpool service and found it great! My biggest problems are the need for transportation during the day (at my job); or I need to leave later than the vanpool provides.
- Keep traffic down and less accidents. People who have medical problems and need help. People who have DUI's and can't drive. People who can't drive at night time. People who can't afford gas prices and no vehicle.
- Know a number of people using a Bitterroot vanpool and really like it. It appears there should be more of these pools to outlying areas.
- Late returns after ball games.
- Light rail needed from Bitterroot Valley or fewer stoplights.
- Light rail would be a good alternative in this area of flat terrain and widely dispersed small communities. I don't want to share a car or have to count on other people.
- Many senior citizens in the Frenchtown area would also be interested in bus service to and from Frenchtown, but we have been told in the past that "Frenchtown is not in the travel district" whatever that means. We could easily accomodate a park-and-ride location in Frenchtown (such as at the fire station). That would also be a convenient meeting place for people who live in Huson or Alberton.
- Many senior citizens in the Frenchtown area would also be interested in bus service to and from Frenchtown, but we have been told in the past that "Frenchtown is not in the travel district" whatever that means. We could easily accomodate a park-and-ride location in Frenchtown (such as at the fire station). That would also be a convenient meeting place for people who live in Huson or Alberton.
- More buses.
- More frequent buses, longer hours. I usually am at work after 5 and can't get bus home.
- Most important from Hamilton to Missoula, and within Missoula (e.g., Reserve St Shopping).
- Mountain Line is well timed and routed to support my travel needs to and from work. I occassionally use it, but I fall into the habit of using the car rather than planning ahead to use the bus.
- My brother works for Pacific Steel and is also interested in commuting using bus services or vanpool. He tried to use the vanpool that goes to Arlee but they were full. It would be nice if there were a bus service that you could pay for as you need it rather than having to have a contract and be on a waiting list for use.
- My husband and I love to go to Missoula for dinner when we feel we've hit our limit in options in Hamilton. However, the drive deters us a lot, particularly the drive home. If there was a bus, with service until 11pm, we'd use it A LOT to recreate in Missoula more.

- N/A
- Need it.
- Need more safer and swept bicycle trails and lanes.
- Need to do something real soon. All I have heard over the years is TALK TALK TALK, no action. It's high time the local government got the ball rolling. Considering all the revenue created from the lottery, it's time to give something back to the community.
- Need to pick-up hitchhikers.
- Need transportation close to work without time-consuming transfers.
- Needed by us for money ecological reasons, I would use.
- Needed transportation for meetings, etc.
- Not having to walk to far and having the ability to choose from a couple different times in the morning and the evening. Something like 2 runs in the morning and one at noon and maybe 2 in the evening – one leaving at 6a.m., one leaving at 7a.m., one leaving at 8a.m., one noon run back, one leaving back at 4p.m., one leaving back at 5p.m., one leaving back at 6p.m. This would be ideal for me.
- Once in Missoula it would not be real easy to get around to do errands, without your own vehicle.
- Our current bus service is very, very good but I really would like to see service to Missoula between 6 and 7 a.m. I would also like management at our current bus service provider to be a little more customer-oriented. They really could use some training in "good" customer service.
- Pattee Canyon Road is very much in need of consistent funding for repair, and by that, I don't mean just patching holes every year. It desperately needs repaving, and because so many bicyclists use it, it needs paved shoulders, too. In its current condition, it is very dangerous. My understanding is that it's a state route, but that the state has abdicated its responsibility and the county now.....
- Please look at train options, too. It is more energy efficient and would ease crowding on roads.
- Please see above, there are excellent pubs on how to design a survey – read them!! That said, the effort is appreciated and I hope you are successful. Also, what about bicycle transportation – at least to close communities such as Lolo. I know several people that would commute to Missoula via bike from Lolo if there was a safe way to do it.
- Please, please, please provide service on Expressway from Downtown to DirecTV.
- Provide rail service to Bitterroot Valley.
- Provide travel to Derby.
- Rail lines would be best, 2nd would be express buses with limited stops for

longer trips. I travel from Hamilton to Missoula 5 days a week.

- Really needed for all people.
- Right now I am still able to drive and am working, but I think public transportation is needed for elderly people who do not drive or have no means of getting around. Besides we have such a traffic problem, less cars on our roads would be good.
- See question #22.
- Setting up a vanpool or bus transportation between Missoula and Hamilton for shift workers at GSK would be very valuable to many employees working at this establishment.
- Shorter headways are always better.
- Since I live in Missoula, I answered No Response to some of the questions since I wasn't sure whether I should answer them.
- Stops at different locations and ability to get from one to the other.
- Take a hard look at improving the tracks, and possibilities for express train service.
- That the groups of carpool or bus users be close to keep down the frequent stops.
- The 2 things I consider are: 1. How much longer will it take me to use vanpool or bus than just driving my car? Those that commute already have an extended workday (or time away from home). 2. Cost. Will it be more expensive for me to use an alternate form of transportation? If it takes longer and costs more then it does not make an attractive consistent option.
- The amount of stops to get home!
- The buses and people on them are not very hygenic. I ride the bus nearly every day and they do not appear to be cleaned very often by appearance nor smell. I am worried about getting sick when I ride the bus. Also, I walk over a mile to reach the bus! Numerous people live on North Reserve and are not close to a bus route, this is Montana and it gets cold in the winter. Walking over a half mile in.....
- The existing vanpool has been a great system for people commuting to and from work.
- The idea is I could drive down from Troy, pick up the bus to the Griz game on Saturdays during the fall, also may at times work for attending classes in Missoula during the week mabye three times a year.
- The minivan we have is just that – mini! It is not a 7-passenger van despite its official description.
- The Troy area (where I live) is one of the only communities not served by any public transportation system. The closest one is in Libby on AMTRAK, which is not always reliable.

- The vanpool is successful on our route. (Van 8). It would be important to keep this run efficient and timely.
- There are a great many commuters from the Frenchtown area and beyond. I'm confident that many would take advantage of a bus service.
- There are a lot of commuters to Missoula from my area. Would be an asset to have the ability to conserve on fuel and emissions.
- There are a lot of elderly people who aren't capable of driving that need transportation to medical appts.
- There are many people in the Mineral County community working in Missoula who I believe would use reliable bus service to/from work. The commute is long, tedious, and costly. If we could use public transportation, we could save many gallons of petrol (save money spent at the pump and reduce emissions), reduce vehicle maintenance costs, and increase safety on the highway.
- There is a growing community out by the "Y" – I think if you would just extend the route to go up by Jim and Mary's RV – you would get a lot of riders.
- There is no evening bus service. There should be.
- There is no real legitimate need for mass public transportation outside of Missoula. Carpooling is already an option that is not widely used and the vanpools prove that there is certainly no need for expansion of the program.
- This is a much needed service. I know it is expensive and the logistics are frustrating, but Europe manages a successful public transit system, why can't the US? Let go of your car! It won't kill you!
- This is an idea whose time has come for the outlying bedrooms communities!
- This is just another drain on the county taxes to benefit the great money sucking city of Missoula.
- This would be a good service for those who work in Missoula.
- This would be good for elderly or middle-aged people for their financial needs, social/soc retirement. Also young people saving money for down payment on house.
- Train, Monorail? Faster, more efficient, no traffic.
- Travel from Missoula to Hamilton and back to Missoula should provide an opportunity for the van to be available to Hamilton people going to Missoula during the day.
- Van and or bus service in the Libby area to areas such as Canoe Gulch Ranger Station and Libby Dam would be good and I would use this service if provided.
- Vanpool is nice but not cost-effective if you carpool already.
- Vanpool park-and-ride surfaces badly needed to be completed (examples: Victor and Woodside on Hwy 93). Probably caught in delay of current construction plan on Hwy 93. More vans need to run, be better managed to attract more riders, central office needs to understand how their own vans route themselves.

Arrangements need to be made more consistently correct with drivers of those vans. Vanpooling r.....

- Vanpool users need to be more courteous and not ding people's cars with their van doors. After 2 good hits to my new car, I avoid parking by the vans like the plague. If I could I'd ensure MR TMA got \$0 tax dollars.
- Vanpool, and light rail is a must in the next 10 years.
- Vanpooling is the most convenient and economical mode of transportation to Missoula. We are a family and do a lot of networking on the commute.
- Very people can afford to drive – gas and insurance are not in most of our budget.
- We absolutely need bus transportation from Lolo to Missoula, but it needs to be routes at least every 1/2 hour for the busiest times of the days.
- We definitely need mass transit. I could leave my car at work during the week and ride the bus to and from work. I have my pickup at home if I need evening transportation
- We have a lot of elders in our community that does not have anyone to drive them and they are stuck at home which leads to depression.
- We live in Missoula but are not familiar with the bus or van service out of town. Public transport to the Bitterroot area for events or family day-trips would be nice. We have children that require car seats and are unsure of the safety and convenience of public transport with them.
- We need a transit system for Bitterroot Valley commuters. Traffic is bumper to bumper 5 days a week!
- We need passenger rail service between Missoula and the Bitterroot Valley. This should be a priority item!
- We need services that run until at least 2 a.m. This will help to eliminate DUI offenses and accidents. Also the routes need to include a Grant Creek stop at least to the big parking lot for my wife to get to work.
- We need to do something, traffic is one of the biggest problems in Missoula.
- We really need service to run later on Reserve St. in Missoula!
- We really need to figure out something that works – thanks for pursuing this issue.
- Well, any would be great since the service is so limited. Also, it would be good to have buses where you could put bikes on the front, for people who need to bus and bike to get to their destination.
- What about using the Montana Rail Link from Missoula to Darby. Is that at all feasible?
- What would it cost?
- When I lived in Seattle and Portland, the bus system was such that riding it actually saved time as well as fuel and ownership costs. In Missoula, I can go

from home to office and vice versa in 10 minutes any time of day or week. By bus it would be no less than one hour, three specific time periods per work day. So, the convenience needs to be there as well as actual cost savings.

- When I worked downtown, I rode the bus every day to work, dropping a child off at St. Joseph and catching the returning bus back downtown and was at work by 8a.m. This was because of proper connections and timing of bus routes. Now my work is off the current bus line and not directly near downtown so I don't have the option of making connections to get me to work, therefore, it is now necessary fo.....
- Why are you not including trains in this study?
- With all the retail stores and the flexible hours consumers need to work, it's crucial for bus transportation, park-and-rides, and vanpools.
- Would also love to have public transportation available to my children who go to highschool in town and frequently have after school programs which I have to drive back to Missoula to pick them up from. I usually make two trips to town a day.
- Would be good for medical and for elders and people who live here but work in Missoula.
- Would be nice if I had no other mode of transportation.
- Would decrease POV's in Missoula...lessening traffic on Reserve Street and would help improve air quality in Missoula over the long haul.
- Would like to see it from downtown Stevensville and downtown Florence. That way if I'm at work or at home I could utilize the service to go to my dr. appointments.
- Would welcome any commuting services possible.
- You are doing a good job. Please continue your excellent efforts.
- You need to do what you can to prevent sprawl so that new neighborhoods that are being built can be serviced by mass transit. Otherwise there is no hope of having bus service to those neighborhoods with enough frequency for people to actually use them. This is a crisis! Land use decisions we make now will plague us for decades to come.
- You need to mostly make it convenient for all the commuters INTO Missoula – which some are even coming from Phillipsburg. So I would say lots of departures in the weekday mornings and returns in the evenings with good connections on Mtn Line to get to their offices QUICKLY. Otherwise, they won't use it.
- You should ensure that in the future, you can use the train tracks between Missoula and Hamilton.
- Your survey does not seem to account well for those living in Missoula but travelling to other areas. I would think many people/most people already live in Missoula but travel to surrounding communities for work or recreation. Also, I know of many families that are split between two households in two

communities. This survey doesn't seem to capture those needs very well.