



CHAPTER I

Introduction

This report comprises Phase II of the Gallatin County Transportation Needs Assessment. Phase I included an evaluation of the transportation needs in the study area, assessment of community support, and analysis of service alternatives. This Phase II Report provides an assessment of the organizational options to implement public transportation services.

Concurrent with the preparation of this report, the Public Transit Stakeholders Board developed an initial service plan to begin service in August 2003. The Human Resources Development Council (HRDC) was selected as the responsible agency to implement the service. Information on the initial service plan has been incorporated in this analysis where appropriate to ensure continuity of service and operations. Information was provided by the Public Transit Stakeholders Board.

Chapter II describes the possible organizational structures along with the advantages and disadvantages of each. An Urban Transportation District is compared with Municipal Transit Systems and Nonprofit Agencies. The three urban area transportation systems in Montana are compared. Of these three, two are Urban Transportation Districts and one is a Municipal Transit System.

Chapter III provides a six-year financial plan to follow for implementation of the transit service and funding through the Urban Transportation District. Chapter IV outlines the steps necessary to implement the Urban Transportation District.