



Implementation Plan

This chapter describes the implementation steps to be taken as a result of this project. Steps to implement coordinated transportation services have been identified and are described below.

REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL

Currently the two regions TCCAP/NCT is working with to form Regional Coordinating Councils (RCCs) are both actively moving forward, yet there are remaining issues that are making the process slower than projected:



Both Regions 1 and 2, as well as the State Coordinating Council are having difficulties with decisions that need to be made regarding the boundary between Regions 1 and 2. This decision was left to be decided by the two regions in the statewide coordination plan. The primary concern of the members of the Region 1 RCC was the possibility of not having enough service for a broker to be interested in contracting to coordinate the service. Thus, the suggestion was presented to merge the two connecting regions—Regions 1 and 2—into a single region. This would allow for more services to be provided and more transportation providers to coordinate. This issue is being addressed through the State Coordinating Council and is still being presented to the two potential RCCs. Many of the members of the two RCCs have been taking part in the project process.

Region 1 is in the process of forming the RCC, but is also working to implement a public transportation system. Their efforts are described in more detail under the Carroll County Service discussion below.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR

The statewide coordinating process has taken longer than expected due to unanticipated circumstances that have arisen throughout the learning process. This has impacted the progress of the coordination process to move forward and

choose Regional Transportation Coordinators (RTCs). Although the TCCAP/NCT service area was making progress quickly in the beginning, the lack of information on the statewide brokerage system along with the lack of knowing how to coordinate and operate a coordinated system became long and drawn out and participant interest was lost. The process then began to slow and lack of participation at the meetings was evident. This particular project has helped to revive interest in coordination and has brought some participants back to the table. The next steps in identifying the RTC for the TCCAP/NCT region will be to decide if Regions 1 and 2 will merge. Once this decision is made, Memoranda of Understanding will be developed and those members will draft the RFP to solicit for the broker. If TCCAP/NCT submits a proposal to be a broker, the Agency and Public Education Programs from this project will be used as the learning tools to increase the participation of providers in the coordination efforts to provide services.

CARROLL COUNTY SERVICE

The coordination of services in the other region that TCCAP/NCT serves will take place while their public transportation service is being implemented. TCCAP/NCT is working with a local Advisory Committee to implement new public transit service in Carroll County. There is currently no public transit service in the county and limited specialized transportation services. It is the hope that the current Advisory Committee for the implementation of service will remain and become the RCC. During the process, the education programs developed from this project will be introduced to the service providers in Carroll County to become part of a coordinated system. The expected outcome of this implementation project will be a new public transportation system with demand-response and flex-route services fully coordinated with other agencies and providers to serve the needs of residents and tourists in Carroll County.

