

Transportation

We value a convenient and flexible local transportation system that makes important places accessible for all residents.

Subthemes

- Bikability and walkability
- Sidewalk conditions
- Road conditions
- Public Transit

What's Underway

In the last few years, we've seen...

- upgrades to the Eldred Glen trails at the Meadville Area Recreation Complex
- the addition of three buses that run on compressed natural gas (CNG) to our public transit fleet
- the addition of new public bus routes, connecting Meadville to Titusville & Conneaut Lake
- the addition of sharrows on City and State roads



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Action 1 Organize a "Tool Shop Bus Stop Competition" (Shelter Expansion)

Overview

Many residents have expressed that the long wait time between buses makes the public transportation system inconvenient. Further, spending that wait time at an unfurnished bus stop makes the system uncomfortable and prohibitive to certain populations, especially in inclement weather. As a means to make Meadville's public transportation system more accommodating to the rider and increase the visibility of the Crawford Area Transportation Authority (CATA) system, residents will work with CATA to increase the number of bus stop shelters in Meadville. As a cost-saving measure and as a way to get more community buy-in and awareness, community members suggest holding a bus shelter competition among local tool shops and the students of the Crawford County Career and Technical Center. The completed shelters will then be placed around the community at appropriate stops.

Supporting Partners

- Crawford Area Transportation Authority (CATA)
- Crawford County Career & Technical Center

Existing Resources

- National Tooling & Machining Association (NTMA)
- Active tool & die and machining sector

Community Values

- ✓ Small Town
- ✓ Local Economy

Action 2 Revise Crawford Area Transportation Authority's bag limit policy

Overview

Currently, a rider of Crawford Area Transit Authority buses is limited to two bags aboard the bus. This bag limit makes it difficult for riders to use the bus to make regular errands, especially grocery shopping. This is especially true for riders shopping for families. As a way to encourage ridership by addressing the needs of riders, residents will work with CATA to revise the current bag limit policy, allowing for additional bags of necessary items.

Lead Solution Partner

- Crawford Area Transportation Authority

Community Values

- ✓ Small Town
- ✓ Local Economy

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Action 3 Increase access to information about public transit

Overview

Many neighbors shared that they currently do not use the CATA transit system because they have difficulty accessing route and fare information. At the same time, regular riders shared similar difficulty receiving route updates. In order to address this, residents propose developing an app that would make information more accessible to riders. This could be done with the help of Laurel Technical Institute, Allegheny College, and Crawford County Career & Technical Center students. This app would also create an alternative to printed materials. Additionally, residents recommend that CATA employ a range of internet and media sources such as Facebook, Armstrong Cable's advertisement channel, radio advertisements (via local radio stations), as well as publish bus route information in the Meadville Tribune.

Lead Solution Partner

- Crawford Area Transportation Authority

Community Values

- ✓ Small Town

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Action 4 Increase available transportation for youth

Overview

Youth & Teens need the ability to access events and amenities without being concerned by transportation, a current barrier to teen involvement within Meadville and its respective events. With access to transportation, they will be more able to be involved and engaged in the community, increasing community pride on the youth level. One possible way to achieve this includes implementing a policy of free rides for youth on CATA buses. Alternatively, residents suggest a youth-oriented shuttle to ease capacity concerns of the current public transit system.

Supporting Partners

- Crawford Area Transportation Authority
- Crawford County Systems of Care
- Meadville HYPE Squad

Community Values

- ✓ Children & Youth

Action 5 Create a mobile bike repair unit

Overview

To enable active living and encouraging alternative means of transportation, residents would like to see a mobile bike repair unit. The vision is a repair shop housed in a trailer pulled behind a bicycle that can stop in parks, neighborhoods, business districts, and public places where bike users can use the tools to repair their own bikes and can share/gain information from the bike repair operator on how to fix their bike. Such a resource would encourage bike usage, develop mechanical skills and knowledge among children and adults, and build relationships among folks who use bikes. Additionally, this unit would allow for folks to conduct minor fixes to their bikes, free of charge. This would be especially useful for those who, due to financial constraints, rely on bicycles as their primary form of transportation.

Supporting Partners

- Meadville Time Trade
- Summer Parks Program
- Crawford Central School District
- Creating Landscapes for Families

Community Values

- ✓ Health & Safety
- ✓ Nature