



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc.

# Beyond the White LINES

## Regional Transportation Meetings Start Next Week for TDA's Just Fix It Campaign

The Transportation Development Association of Wisconsin's (TDA) Regional Meetings will be held around the state beginning next week. The meetings are free and include breakfast.

Come hear local officials and business people explain the importance of transportation connections to the economy and your community. And what you can do to help keep Wisconsin on the move.

All meetings start with a breakfast at 7:30 AM with the meetings running from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Here's the list of meetings:

- May 17, Stoney Creek Hotel, 3060 S. Kinney Coulee Rd., Onalaska.
- May 19, Chippewa Valley Airport, 3800 Starr Ave., Eau Claire.
- May 24, Foth Company, 2121 Innovation Crt., De Pere.
- May 26, Janesville Conference Center, 3100 Wellington Place, Janesville.
- June 1, Central Wisconsin Airport, 100 CWA Dr., Mosinee.

If you can go, you do need to RSVP to [debby.jackson@tdawisconsin.org](mailto:debby.jackson@tdawisconsin.org) or you can call her at (608) 256-7044.

### Managing Community Mobility Course coming to WI!

The WI Association of Mobility Managers, WAMM will be hosting the National Transit Institute (NTI) training – Managing Community Mobility the first week in August. Look for more details soon. For course description, go to this [link](#). This is a great opportunity to learn about transportation coordination and mobility management.

### Beyond the White Lines

is a publication of the Greater WI Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. dedicated to transportation, mobility and healthy, active communities.

For more information, contact Carrie Porter, [carrie.porter@gwaar.org](mailto:carrie.porter@gwaar.org), 608-228-8092

### Dates for your calendars

Aging Network  
Conference  
Sept. 22-23, 2016  
Wisconsin Dells

Fall Transportation  
Conference Oct. 4-6,  
2016, Green Bay

Watch for the RTAP  
training schedule soon at  
this site:

[http://wisconsinrtap.com/  
Training](http://wisconsinrtap.com/Training)

March/April /May

2016



**Madison Office:**  
1414 MacArthur Road  
Suite A  
Madison, WI 53714  
ph. 608.243.5670  
fax. 866.813.0974

**Brookfield Office:**  
125 N. Executive Drive, Suite 207  
Brookfield, WI 53005

**Green Bay Office:**  
2900 Curry Lane, Suite 414  
Green Bay, WI 54311

**Tribal Technical  
Assistance Center:**  
Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 9  
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538  
ph. 800.472.7207  
fax. 715.588.7900

## State Advocacy

**Transportation Legislative Day at the Capitol** was held on April 20 sponsored by the WI Urban & Rural Transit Association (WURTA). There was an in-depth discussion about the dire need for buses and facilities for transit systems. This will have an impact on everyone who uses transit or paratransit. The group also heard from Sec. Gottlieb who spoke about the prospects of a flat WisDOT budget for the next biennium. In the afternoon, groups visited their legislators to talk about the importance of transportation and there were discussions on non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) as well as a Volunteer Driver & Insurance Forum.

**Volunteer Driver & Insurance Forum** At the beginning of 2016, many volunteer driver programs were reporting their volunteers were being told their volunteer driving activities would not be covered under their personal vehicle insurance policy. Because of the immediate and concerning impact on volunteer driver programs in the state, a forum was convened with Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI), WI Counties Assn., the WI Insurance Alliance, The Bureau of Aging & Disability Resources, legislators and volunteer driver programs attending. OCI agreed to update the [survey](#) of insurance companies last done in 2008. They estimate this will be ready for distribution in June. Also discussed was the need for long-term solutions for this issue, including possible legislation defining volunteer drivers. The reformation of a statewide coordinating council, previously known as the Interagency Council on Transportation Coordination was also suggested as part of a long-term solution. The current insurance issues could potentially have been addressed earlier had that council still been active.

**Volunteer Driver Survey** A question legislators asked at the meeting was how many volunteers do we have doing this work in WI. That is a something the state does not have good data on so a survey was recently sent out to collect this information for volunteer drivers, not including home delivered meal drivers. If your volunteer driver program has not completed the survey, there is still time. Use this [link](#) to connect to the Survey Monkey. I have 41 responses out of more than 64 programs. Please help us get complete data for the state! We will use this data to advocate on behalf of volunteer programs in WI and around the country.

## Federal Advocacy

*Encourage Your Representative to Cosponsor the DELIVER Act!*

H.R. 4942, the DELIVER Act - this bipartisan legislation will amend the tax code to increase the tax deduction for volunteers who deliver meals to homebound individuals from 14 cents per mile, where it has remained unchanged for nearly two decades, to the standard business mileage rate, which is currently 54 cents per mile.

The Wisconsin aging network has been working with members of Congress for years to increase the tax deduction for volunteers. This legislation is a step in the right direction and with the help of our colleagues around the country, we can put the power of the national aging network behind this and get this bill passed into law!