



Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Act

Senator Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE)

Endorsed by: Association for Commuter Transportation, Delaware Commute Solutions, American Planning Association, Actionfigure, City of Aspen, City of Bloomington, Go Bloomington, Zero-In Bloomington, Connect Bellevue, Commutifi, El Paso Transportation Authority, Go Buffalo Niagara, GVF, Louisville Metro Government, Movability, North Natomas Jibe, Puget Sound Regional Council, TDM Specialist, Inc., The TMA Group, Transportation Choices Coalition, University of Utah, Via Transportation, and Yakima Valley Conference of Governments.

Getting Americans Moving

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) is critical to increasing the efficiency of existing transportation infrastructure by using innovative strategies to reduce travel demand without creating new infrastructure. By investing in projects that reduce congestion and influence travel behavior, communities nationwide have improved access to jobs and essential services. Examples of TDM strategies include trip planning, carpooling, vanpooling, micromobility, and pedestrian infrastructure. Yet, the potential of TDM projects to help Americans get so much more from existing infrastructure remains largely untapped, especially in rural areas.

To improve U.S. infrastructure, we must embrace bold and innovative solutions, starting with the implementation of targeted rural TDM strategies. By better investing in TDM and lowering barriers for rural and small communities to utilize these strategies, the U.S. transportation system will be better connected, more cost-effective, and economically beneficial to local communities.

TDM in Practice

DART First State (DART) leverages TDM to promote innovative commute options across Delaware. DART offers an on-demand microtransit bus service in smaller communities called DART Connect. This program provides more direct and convenient trips at the same price as a DART bus fare, increasing affordability and access for Delawareans.

Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Act:

- Creates a uniform definition for “Transportation Demand Management” under federal transportation law and adds eligibility to highway, formula, and discretionary grant programs.
- Develops a rural TDM pilot program, with a focus on supporting small-scale projects needed in rural communities.
- Amends the Congestion Relief Program to include a small project set aside that will lower the cost of eligible projects and increase access for small and rural communities.

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