

6. Number of current transportation related employees

The TPO has approximately 12 persons employed in managing and operating Lowndes County's 5311 Transit System, including, full time drivers, part-time drivers, administrators, and support staff. Lowndes County's Transit Department consists of one full-time County employee who devotes approximately 25% of her time to overseeing the County's contract with the TPO for the County's 5311 Transit System.

7. Who will drive the vehicle, number of drivers, CDL certifications, etc.?

Only TPO employees that have completed all of the required safety and driver training requirements are to be allowed to drive the transit vehicles. All those drivers are required to possess a valid Commercial Driver's License. This allows such licensed drivers to operate all of the 5311 Transit System's larger vehicles and for the opportunity for the other drivers to fill in on service routes with the larger vehicles.

8. A detailed description of service routes and ridership numbers

Transportation services provided through Lowndes County's 5311 Transit System are available to Lowndes County area customers. The 5311 Transit System is solely a demand response transportation system (Lowndes County does not have a fixed route transportation system). This 5311 Transit System incorporates on-call and contract services. The TPO provides a wide range of trip purposes via the 5311 Transit System that include: medical, nutrition, shopping, social service, training, employment, social and recreation. Less than approximately 5% of the medical trips provided are to medical facilities outside of Lowndes County; therefore, out of County services are directed to the nearby highway corridors that surround the Lowndes County community for optimum efficiency of trip duration and the most convenient route. Currently, the 5311 Transit System uses a variety of vehicles to provide demand response passenger services. The 5311 Transit System's fleet includes vans, modified vans, and buses. Three (3) of those vehicles are equipped for wheelchair service. The TPO prioritize grouping trips and multi-loading to the maximum extent possible. The TPO makes approximately 155 passenger trips per day on average and leverages the vehicle fleet resources so that all vehicles are used in a responsible manner to provide optimum demand response coverage and retire the vehicles at a consistent pace and appropriate age and mileage.