

# ALASKA Mobility Coalition

Alaska Mobility Coalition  
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November 2, 2021

Dear Alaska Mobility Supporter

As a past or current member of the Alaska Mobility Coalition (AMC) I want to invite you to continue your support of the important work of AMC. My name is Millie Ryan, and I am the current President of the Alaska Mobility Coalition.

We had a vigorous advocacy agenda this past year. Our Executive Director, Patrick Reinhart, was busy meeting and talking to state officials and legislators, trying to get federal relief funds directed to where they can best be used. Fortunately, a good chunk of the first round of funding was directed to our 12 rural transportation providers around the state –over \$20 Million. However, the second round of over \$55 million was directed primarily to the Alaska Marine Highway system, an important rural transportation provider for sure. We worked hard advocating for some of it to also support state public transit providers but were not successful. However, we want you to know your AMC was in the middle of discussions! In addition, AMC worked with other advocates to get the state to put in \$1 million in general funds to match \$300 K in Alaska Mental Health Trust funding to support human services transportation projects. Many of you are grant recipients and we know you put it to good use. You can count on AMC to advocate for this level of funding in 2022, as well as look for other opportunities for federal, state and local support of community transportation services.

In 2022 our advocacy goals are pretty simple but important. One, we want to resume the process for getting “transit” put into state law. Right now, it is not, and it often seems that we fall way down the list of state transportation priorities. We need to permanently establish the state’s obligation to support transportation needs of our citizens who do not drive their own vehicle. We want the state to invest in community transportation and we need a place in statute that says the state needs to address this important issue.

Second, we want to explore ways to support and incentivize volunteer driver programs, especially when there are few public or non-profit supported transportation services available. There are lots of examples of such programs from around the country and AMC wants to see if they are a good fit for some Alaskan communities.

Third, it has been over six years since we had any organized community transportation training or conference in Alaska. It used to be an annual event, where providers got together annually or every other year to get professional training and share each other's experiences. We have heard from lots of members already on the importance of such gatherings. AMC used to help organize these conferences and will try to facilitate again.

Finally, AMC needs to hear from you--our community transportation providers and supporters. We would like to invite you to our annual meeting in November. So, please join us on **Thursday, Nov 18 at 4 pm for AMC's annual membership meeting via Zoom**. The link is below:

<https://zoom.us/join>

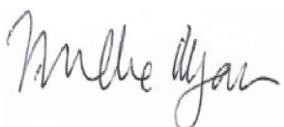
**Meeting ID: 829 3809 6569  
Passcode: 239617**

**You can also join by phone by calling 346-248-7799**

It is a great opportunity for all our members to listen and share what's important and how AMC can continue to be the collective voice of transportation providers across the state. Also, please note we're looking for a few new board members to fill some vacant seats. If you are interested, let us know.

Lastly, AMC's membership rates are included with the enclosed invoice, which is based on historical membership dues based on ridership. However, if things have changed for your agency and a different amount is appropriate for you, please feel free to give Patrick a call at 907-301-0728 or email him at [Reinhart@gci.net](mailto:Reinhart@gci.net) with any questions you may have about this or anything AMC related. Thank you for being a past member and for renewing your membership once again while we advocate for the community transportation needs of Alaskans.

Warm regards,



Millie Ryan, President  
Alaska Mobility Coalition