

Establishing a bus route in Apache Junction is essential to making AJ a more viable place for working people and retired seniors. Families and students will also benefit from the economical method of transversing the Valley.

The obstacle to AJ establishing a bus service is twofold. The first hurdle is that AJ is in Pinal County, which needs public transportation funding like Maricopa County. AJ is not an agency member because it is not in Maricopa County. When contacted by the AJ Metro Group, they stated the problem was solely because AJ was not in Maricopa County. Otherwise, extending the bus service a mere 10 miles (6.9 Miles in AJ) would be doable.

Valley Metro Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA)
In 1985, Maricopa County residents began funding a regional transit system that now covers 513 square miles. Today, member agencies include Avondale, Buckeye, Chandler, El Mirage, Fountain Hills, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Maricopa County, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Queen Creek, Scottsdale, Surprise, Tempe, Tolleson, Wickenburg, and Youngtown. The Valley Metro RPTA Board of Directors sets policy for bus and paratransit services.

The second obstacle is that there is no plan to create a Public Transportation Authority for Pinal County and no public transportation department for the City of Apache Junction.