**VEHICLE ACCESSIBILITY PLAN**

# Arenac Public Transit Authority

# 4358 Airpark Drive

# P.O. Box 431

# Standish, MI 48658

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| DATE LAC REVIEWED: December 14, 2021 |  |
| DATE BOARD REVIEWED: December 15, 2021 |  |

# Purpose

This accessibility plan is submitted in compliance with Section 10e (18) of the Michigan Transportation Fund Act (MCL 247.660e) (hereinafter “the Act”) and the official administrative rules for administration of Michigan’s Comprehensive Transportation Fund. The purpose of this accessibility plan is to describe the demand-response service provided by Arenac Public Transit Authority to elderly persons and persons with disabilities. This accessibility plan demonstrates it is the policy of APTA to comply with the following requirements of Section 10e (18):

1. That demand-response service is provided to persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities residing in APTA ‘s entire service area. (See attached map defining the service area.)

1. That as a minimum, demand-actuated service is provided to persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities during the same hours as service is provided to all other persons in APTA’s service area.

1. That the average time period required for demand-actuated service to persons 65 years and older and persons with disabilities, from the initiation of a service request to arrival at the destination, is equal to the average time period required for demand-actuated service provided to all other persons in APTA’s service area.

1. That Arenac Public Transit Authority has established a Local Advisory Council with not less than 50 percent of its membership representing persons 65 years of age or older and persons with disabilities in APTA’s service area. At least one member (or 12 percent of membership has been appointed jointly with the area agency on aging. The Local Advisory Council has had an opportunity to review and comment on this plan before its submission to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

All rules cited below refer to the official administrative rules for the administration of the Comprehensive Transportation Fund. These rules are found in the Michigan Administrative Code, beginning at Rule 241.4101, et seq. Access to the Michigan Administrative Code may be found on the internet at [www.state.mi.us/orr.](http://www.state.mi.us/orr)

# Definition of Elderly and Person with a Disability - Rule 201 (2) (c)

As used in this Accessibility Plan

1. “Person with a disability” means an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual, a record of such impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment. See Michigan Administrative Code Rule 247.4101(1)(m).

1. “elderly” means an individual 65 years of age or older.

# Number of Elderly and Persons with Disabilities in Service Area - Rule 201 (2) (c)

Arenac Public Transit Authority estimates, based on 2016 U.S. census data, that a total of 3,111 persons fitting the above definition “person with a disability” and a total of 3,473 persons fitting the above definition “elderly” reside in the agency’s defined service area.

# Description of Plan Development Process and Local Advisory Council Involvement - Rule 201(2) (e)

Arenac Public Transit Authority developed this plan using the following process: (Agency note: Below is a suggested process description. However, step b. below must be included in any process utilized.)

1. Agency staff worked with the Michigan Department of Transportation – Office of Transportation to draft a plan, incorporating all information required by R 247.4201 and R247.4202 of the Michigan Administrative Code.

1. The draft plan content was reviewed by the APTA Local Advisory Council, wherein the Local Advisory Council was given the opportunity to review and comment on the content of the plan. In accordance with Sec. 10e(18)(d) of the Act, all comments on the plan received by Local Advisory Council members are contained in a separate section of this plan below.

1. A final draft plan was submitted to and approved by APTA’s governing body the Arenac Public Transit Authority Board.

# Local Advisory Council Composition - Rule 202

APTA’s Local Advisory Council is currently comprised of 4 members, which meets or exceeds the required minimum of three members. In accordance with Rule 202, no member of the Local Advisory Council is an employee, executive committee member, or governing board member of APTA. APTA ensures that at least 50 percent of its Local Advisory Council membership represents persons who are 65 years of age or older and persons who have disabilities within the agency’s defined service area. APTA further ensures that at least one member of its Local Advisory Council is approved jointly with the area agency on aging. APTA’s further ensures that its Local Advisory Council membership will include people who have diverse disabilities and the elderly who are users of public transportation. APTA’s Local Advisory Council is, at the time of adoption and submission of this plan, composed of the following members:

1. LAC Chairperson Name: Stacey Bowers

**AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** \_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (This Member is a: | This member is: |
| \_\_x\_ Person with Disabilities | \_\_\_ Jointly appointed by the area agency on aging |
| \_ \_ Person 65 years and older | \_x \_ A user of public transportation |
| \_ \_\_ Neither of these groups | \_ Age 65 or older |
|  | \_\_\_ A person with Disabilities |
|  | \_\_\_ None of these groups |

1. Name: Angela Badour\_\_\_\_\_ **AFFILIATION:** \_Sunrise Side Senior Services\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of organization if any)

This Member is a: This member is:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| \_\_\_ | Person with Disabilities | \_\_x | Jointly appointed by the area agency on aging |
| \_ | Person 65 years and older | \_\_\_ | A user of public transportation |
| \_\_x\_ | Neither of these groups | \_\_\_ | Age 65 or older |
|  |  | \_\_\_ | A person with Disabilities |
|  |  | \_\_\_ | None of these groups |

1. Name: Violet Cook\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**AFFILIATION:** \_ None \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of organization if any)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| This Member is a: | This member is: |
| \_\_\_ Person with Disabilities | \_\_\_ Jointly appointed by the area agency on aging |
| \_x\_ Person 65 years and older | \_x\_ A user of public transportation |
| \_\_\_ Neither of these groups | \_\_ Age 65 or older |
|  | \_\_\_ A person with Disabilities |
|  | \_\_\_ None of these groups |

1. Name \_\_\_ \_Sam Boucier\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **AFFILIATION:** \_ None \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of organization if any)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| This Member is a: | This member is: |
| \_\_ Person with Disabilities | \_\_\_ Jointly appointed by the area agency on aging |
| \_\_\_ Person 65 years and older | \_ x A user of public transportation |
| \_\_x\_ Neither of these groups | \_\_\_ Age 65 or older |
|  | \_ \_ A person with Disabilities |
|  | \_\_\_ None of these groups |

# Present Vehicle Inventory – Rule 201 (2) (a)

APTA’s demand-actuated vehicle inventory presently in service is as follows:

1. Number of demand-actuated vehicles presently in service purchased with Comprehensive Transportation Fund monies = 9.

1. Number of accessible demand-actuated vehicles presently in service purchased with Comprehensive Transportation Fund monies = 9.

# Anticipated Vehicle Inventory – Rule 201 (2) (b)

APTA anticipated demand-actuated vehicle inventory is as follows:

1. Number of demand-actuated vehicles presently in service purchased with Comprehensive Transportation Fund monies = 10.

1. Number of accessible demand-actuated vehicles presently in service purchased with Comprehensive Transportation Fund monies = 10.

# Narrative Summary of Vehicles Requested – Rule 201 (2) (l)

As indicated above, the agency currently operates or plans to operate a total of 9 demand-actuated vehicles. Of these vehicles, 9 will be fully accessible to persons with disabilities and the elderly. The reason for operating or planning to operate this number of accessible vehicles is to meet the needs of our riders in this rural area to reach medical appointments, grocery shopping, and recreational excursions.

(State rationale for number of accessible vs. non–accessible vehicles, if applicable)

# Fare Structure - Rule 201 (2) (d)

Arenac Public Transit Authority’s fare structure that is in use for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and the rest of the general public for demand-actuated service, fixed schedule and fixed route service is as follows:

Service Type: General Public, Seniors/Disabilities, Other

Demand Actuated: Peak Non-Peak

Regular $4.00 $4.00

Elderly &

$2.00 $2.00

Person with Disability

APTA fare structure complies with the statutory requirement for preferential fares for persons with disabilities and persons 65 years of age and older per the Michigan Transportation Fund Act, MCL 247.660e, Sec. 10e (4) (a) (iii).

# Map and Narrative Description of Service Area – Rule 201 (2) (f)

For demand-response service, APTA’s Service Area is Arenac County for the purposes of transporting its residents to needed appointments and community activities. APTA provides transit services to all of Arenac County including the cities of Alger, Au Gres and Standish.

# Service Schedule – Rule 201 (2) (g)

APTA’s current service schedules for demand response is Monday through Friday, 6:00 am to 7:00 pm. Saturday 9:00am to 5:00pm.

# Schedules in Alternative Formats – Rule 201 (2) (h)

APTA has made arrangements to produce copies of its current service schedule in an alternative format that can be utilized by persons who are blind or have other disabilities.

# Vehicle Availability on Other Than Regular Service Hours and Days – Rule 201 (2) (i)

APTA does make demand-response service vehicles available for use during hours or days other than regular service hours and days. APTA confirms that accessible transit vehicles are available for use by the elderly and persons with disabilities to the same extent as the general public.

# Advance Requests for Demand Actuated Service – Rule 201 (2) (j)

APTA does not require that the elderly, people with disabilities, and the general public make an advance request to obtain demand-actuated service

# Constraints on Capacity and Restrictions on Trip Purpose – Rule 201 (2) (k)

Arenac Public Transit Authority transports Arenac County residents to appointments that include, but are not limited to, doctors, dialysis, labs, X-ray and other diagnostic testing. Also, residents are transported to community and county events and outings. Residents requiring special medical needs are transported by ambulance. APTA has two vans that have a capacity of 2-9 depending on wheelchair usage (only two passengers if 2 wheelchairs are in use). APTA has four buses that have a capacity of 14-22 (12 passengers and 3 wheelchairs to 22 without wheelchairs). APTA also has 2 sedans that has a capacity of 2-4 passengers. The sedans are not wheelchair accessible. APTA also has one caravan with the capacity of 3 passengers or 1 wheelchair and 0 passengers.

# Local Advisory Council Comments on this Plan – Rule 201(2) (m)

APTA Local Advisory Council members made the following comments about this plan:

Add in comments

# Agency Response to Local Advisory Council Comments on the Plan – Rule 201 (2) (n)

APTA made the following response to its Local Advisory Council regarding the above comments in a letter:

ADD IN COMMENTS

Standish

Turner

Sterling

Twining

Au Gres

Omer

Bay

Iosco

Ogemaw

Arenac

*Saginaw Bay*

Gladwin

Alger

Arenac Public Transit Authority’s Service Area is all of Arenac County including the cities of Alger, Au Gres and Standish.