

Rural Transit Needs Assessment Overview:

What is the rural needs study:

- Jaunt wants to quantify how much transit services are needed in each of its partner jurisdictions.
 - The work will mainly rely on demographic and industry data.
 - The study will not formally identify the specific services needed, rather it will indicate the quantity and cost of filling the gap between what is needed and what is currently provided.
- Jaunt is interested in learning more about the need for transportation services that allows for optimum personal mobility within its service area, including the city of Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson. This study will provide Jaunt and its partners with a guide to future development of personal mobility options and to identify gaps that either exist now in mobility services or are likely to exist in the near term as the result of service modifications or changing demographics. The scope of the mobility study includes local passenger transportation including local public transportation along with public and human service paratransit services. Once the study is completed, it may be used by JAUNT, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and state and local policy makers to identify programmatic and funding needs related to personal mobility. The data collected as a part of the study can be used to plan for new or revised local services.
- The study will be led by North Dakota State University's *Small Urban and Rural Center On Mobility* (SURCOM).
- We hope the study will help inform policy makers about the need for transit and assist in setting funding expectations.

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT:

- Jaunt is recruiting a broad range of people to represent each of the jurisdictions it serves to provide feedback during the study.
- We're expecting three meetings (which will likely be remote) with each meeting lasting no more than 2 hours. There may be a need to communicate with people in between meetings as well as background review. It is likely that about 8-16 hours of "homework" over the space of 6-9 months. In total, 14-22 hours over the course of the study.
- Jaunt is also considering holding public meetings at various locations in each of the counties. The number, timing, and location of these meetings are to be determined.

GENERAL TIMEFRAME:

- Study is expected to take 6-9 months to complete.