Pima Association of Governments Dial-a-Ride and Microtransit Service Area Analysis

December 18, 2024

Presenters:

Mariate Echeverry – Kimley-Horn

Joe Cuffari – Kimley-Horn



Agenda



Study Goals



Scope of Work



Timeline



Questions



Discussion



Study Goals

Explore the feasibility of providing microtransit service in areas that lack access to transit

Identify poor performing routes that could be replaced with microtransit services

Explore the feasibility of upgrading current dial-a-ride service to microtransit to improve service provided to the community

Identify general recommendations that could improve and strengthen current service across the service area

Identify potential service models that could serve Picture Rocks and Vail

Identify appropriate microtransit service models and prepare the implementation plan

Reduce transportation carbon emissions through increased transit use and reduction of single occupancy vehicles



Scope of Work

Task 1 – Creation of a New Microtransit Plan

Task 2 – Update of RTA's General Public Dial-a-Ride Areas to Microtransit

Task 3 – Comprehensive Transit Planning Study for Vail and Picture Rocks

Task 4 – Recommendations

Scope of Work

Task 1 – Creation of a New Microtransit Plan

Task 2 – Update of RTA's General Public Dial-a-Ride Areas to Microtransit

Task 3 – Comprehensive Transit Planning Study for Vail and Picture Rocks

Task 4 – Recommendations

Work to Date

- Existing Conditions and Needs Assessment
- First Round of Public Engagement
- Beginning Service Planning



Preliminary Observations from data analysis

- Existing fixed routes and dial-a-ride services provide good coverage to the most populated areas and with high transit propensity in the county
- There is limited or non-existing service on weekends

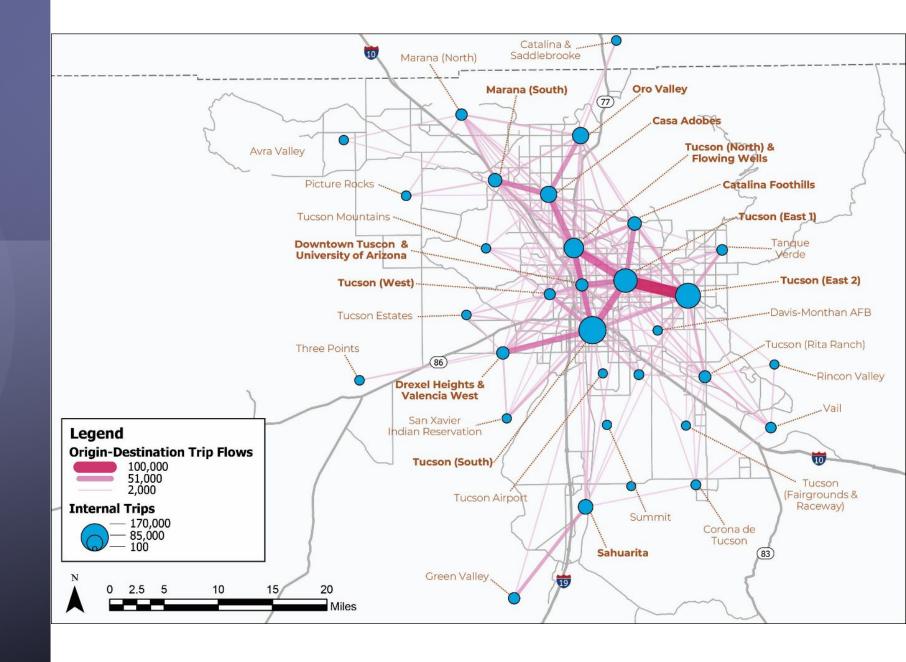


Preliminary Observations from data analysis (cont'd)

- Initial analysis shows that Picture Rock's low density and low transit propensity may be better served by demand response service or microtransit
- Vail has similar characteristics, but data analysis shows higher trip density through the area that could be served by microtransit



Findings from data analysis (cont'd)



Public Engagement

- First round from October 22 to October 24
 - Pop-up events:
 - Tucson Meet Yourself
 - Transit Center at Tohono Tadai
 - University of Arizona
 - Transit Center at Roy Laos
 - Transit Center at Ronstadt
 - Open Houses
 - Vail Open House, W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station Library
 - Picture Rocks Open House, Picture Rocks Community Center
 - Focus Groups
 - Sun Shuttle
 - Sun Tran On Demand (Microtransit)
 - Sun Tran Fixed Route
 - Interview Oro Valley
 - Surveys (127)



Public Engagement

Public Input

- Extend/provide weekend service
- Extend weekday service hours
- More frequent service on existing routes
- Interest in using microtransit:
 80% yes





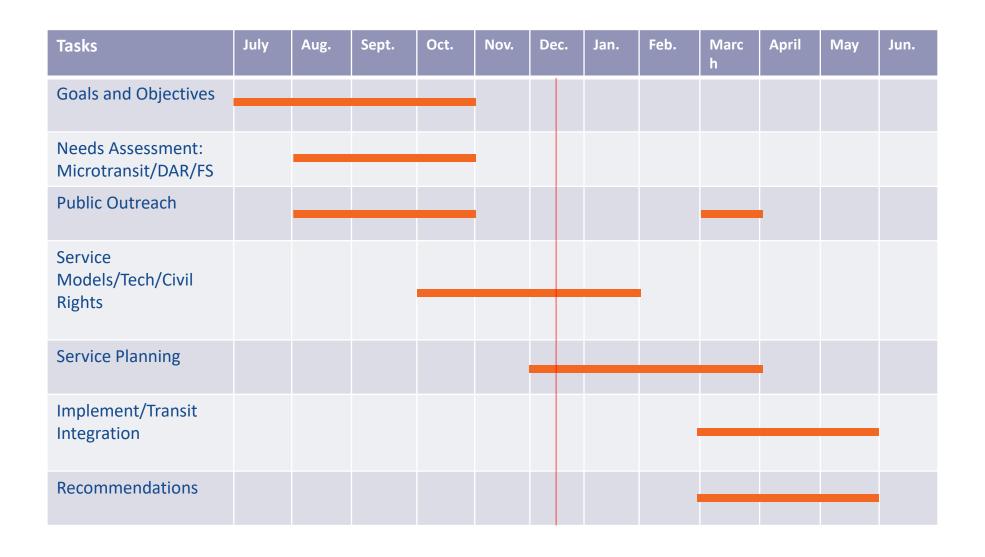
Public Engagement

- Technical Advisory Committee
 - Main issues Perception of safety when using transit
 - Transit is most needed in the unincorporated areas
 - Generally, patrons would like more frequency to existing destinations
 - Resources and funding are the main challenges regarding transit
 - What does success look like Affordable transit for vulnerable communities





Timeline



Questions

