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## Public Transportation Needs Meeting

The Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG) will be hosting a public meeting on Tuesday, June 13, at 1 p.m. at the Marshfield Senior Center located at 427 W. Washington Street, Marshfield, MO. The purpose of this meeting is to collect public input regarding identified transportation needs and strategies for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and those with low incomes. This is the final stage in the updating of the regional Public Transit Human Services Coordination Plan (PTHSCP).

Public input from human service agencies, transportation providers, and transportation users was sought via online survey and public meetings over the past two months. SMCOG staff has reviewed the survey results, and other public input provided, and identified regional needs pertaining to public transit. In order to address these needs, staff then developed strategies. SMCOG is now hosting a second round of public meetings to confirm that the identified needs are accurate and assist in prioritizing strategies. The public is invited to attend the meeting and participate in the prioritization.

The regional Public Transit Human Services Coordination Plan (PTHSCP) will help to identify projects and organizations eligible for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 grant funding. The input of area human service agencies and transportation providers will be combined with the results of a transportation user survey to update the current regional PTHSCP.

The Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG) is a Regional Planning Commission and an association of local governments in the ten-county area of southwest Missouri. SMCOG serves Barry, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Lawrence, Polk, Stone, Taney, and Webster counties. SMCOG is one of 19 active regional planning organizations throughout Missouri.

All comments and questions should be directed to Aishwarya Shrestha at (417) 836-6901 or by email at [AishwaryaShrestha@MissouriState.edu](mailto:AishwaryaShrestha@MissouriState.edu).

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