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## Other Program Information

### Job Access

St. Mary's Transit System (STS) operates Evening and Saturday bus service under a grant funded program called Job Access. As of **August 20, 2006** Sunday Service will be provided along the California / Great Mills Loop. This particular STS grant initiative is unique to the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland and is also referred to as the Job Access / Reverse Commute Program. This program provides transportation to unemployed and underemployed individuals as a part of statewide Welfare-to-Work initiatives. Services includes transportation in one direction opposite the main flow of traffic. This service operates in California, Great Mills, Lexington Park, Leonardtown, Loveville, Mechanicsville, and Charlotte Hall. The funding is made up of a combination of Federal, Transit Administration, St. Mary's County Department Of Social Services, St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioner funds, and passenger fares. The ridership has continuously



**accessible**

increased: from approximately **700 riders per month** in FY 2000 to **over 3,800 riders per month** in FY 2006. Since FY 2000, the total ridership for our Public Transportation System has increased from 54,395 riders in FY 2000, to over 300,000 riders.

### Marketing on Wheels

In September 2001 a vendor was selected to solicit and provide exterior and interior advertisements for local businesses. This award will generate additional revenues for the various transit programs. Since 2002, revenues generated as a part of this initiative have increased from approximately \$1,200 per month to an estimated \$3,000 per month. Those interested in advertising on or in our buses may contact us directly or our Marketing on Wheels representative Ken Garvin at (410) 326-2871.



### Demand/Response

Although **not yet approved for funding** we have planned to implement another, more expansive, program designed to further meet the needs of County citizens who live in rural areas not served by Public Transportation. The plan provides for service from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M., Monday through Friday in five (5) rural areas of the County and will connect with existing STS Public Transportation. The five new routes will operate twelve (12) hours per day to provide citizens an opportunity to travel for employment, medical appointments and shopping. All routes may deviate within these routes to meet the specific transportation needs of the citizens in the service areas: Route #1-**Ridge**, Route #2-**Piney Point**, Route #3A-**Breton Bay/Compton**; Route #3B-**Hollywood**; Route #4-**Colton's Point/Chaptico**; Route #5A-**Mechanicsville** and Route #5B-**Golden Beach**. Passengers request rides from a specific location at a certain time. This type of service is called "dial-a-ride."



On January 22, 2001, the St. Mary's Transit Public Transportation (**STS**) connected with Charles County Public Transportation System (**VanGo**) at McKay's Plaza in Charlotte Hall. The two (2) buses met at McKay's Plaza at 8:10am, 10:10am, 4:10 p.m., and 6:10 p.m. This new service will be offered Monday through Friday. St. Mary's County citizens now can catch any of the St. Mary's Transit System (**STS**) routes and connect with **VanGo** and ride to Waldorf. Charles Co. citizens can catch any of the **VanGo** routes and connect with St. Mary's Transit System (**STS**) to St. Mary's County.

VanGo's Waldorf/Charlotte Hall Connector travels to Hughesville Regional Shelter via Leonardtown Rd to the Jaycees Community Center to the final destination at the St. Charles Mall. At the Mall, passengers can ride the other VanGo routes to the Waldorf Business Section to La Plata to Indian Head or St. Charles East. St. Mary's Transit System (**STS**) routes travel from the Great Mills Area to Lexington Park to Leonardtown to Loveville to Charlotte Hall.



**Special Event Trips**

Although time and resources are limited, there are periodic opportunities to schedule special trips through the Transportation Division. Typically, participants from the Weisman Center, Ripple Center, Loffler Senior Center and Office on Aging utilize this program, but Optomist Clubs, Health Share Staff and County Commissioners / Departments / Agencies have also used the STS. Chancellors Run Activity Center, Hollywood Methodist Church, St. Clement's Museum, St. George's Church, VFW's, Holiday House Tour, St. Mary's College, Health Fair, Fall Festivals, Dances, Picnics, Parks, and New Years Eve Parties, are some of the most common destination requests.

Bus Schedules for **St. Mary's Transit System (STS)** and **VanGo** are available from the bus drivers. Each county's bus tickets will be honored by the other county, therefore there will be no extra cost to our passengers.

***If you would like information on available carpools, vanpools or other general transportation resources in Southern Maryland, please contact the Tri-County Council at (301) 884-2144 or 1-800-SO-CLOSE.***