

## ICTC Governor's Report - Executive Summary

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Wisconsin's transportation needs are growing. With an aging population, the promotion of mobility and independence for people with disabilities, and increasing energy costs, the demand for public transportation options is on the rise. One strategy for addressing these needs is transportation coordination, a process through which transportation providers and stakeholders work together to increase cost-effectiveness, capacity, quality, and accessibility of services.

Federal efforts have been underway since the 1970s. The two most significant federal developments in coordination were United We Ride, a 2003 multi-agency initiative to break down barriers to coordination, and the 2005 SAFETEA-LU transportation bill, which instituted coordination requirements for some transportation programs. In response to SAFETEA-LU, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation developed a regional planning process first used in 2006 and further refined in 2008.

In October 2005, the Governor issued a directive creating the Inter-Agency Council on Transportation Coordination (ICTC), composed of staff from the Departments of Transportation, Health (and Family) Services, Workforce Development, and Veterans Affairs, and the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. ICTC was charged with four tasks:

- Create a state level coordination council;
- Conduct a statewide transportation assessment;
- Develop an action plan for human service transportation coordination; and
- Conduct an inventory of transportation systems.

All four tasks have been completed. ICTC has also:

- Convened a Stakeholder Advisory Committee to involve a representative cross-section of transportation consumers and providers;
- Organized and presented a 2007 conference on the future of coordination;
- Fostered joint administration of funding programs between the Departments of Transportation and Workforce Development;
- Promoted a Commissioner of Insurance survey on auto insurance for volunteer drivers; and
- Contracted with a national consultant to develop a statewide Wisconsin Model of Coordination.

Rather than being a complex, prescriptive set of requirements, the Wisconsin Model of Coordination is a set of strategies to move coordination forward. It is a first step, not a final proposal. The Model's first strategy, strengthening ICTC as the lead entity for statewide

coordination efforts, is necessary for further development of policies to promote and institutionalize transportation coordination in Wisconsin. With a better structure and a clear mandate, ICTC can develop policy proposals, legislative initiatives, and technical tools fulfilling the ideal of transportation coordination: **Meeting more needs by using existing resources more efficiently.**

**ICTC recommends the Governor:**

- (1) Provide a more formalized basis for ICTC through an executive order containing the following provisions:
  - State clearly department secretaries are responsible for promoting coordination within and between their departments.
  - Convene periodic meetings of the secretaries (or their designees) of ICTC member departments, chaired by a member of the Governor's staff, to discuss coordination and receive reports and recommendations from ICTC.
  - Maintain the current structure and function of ICTC.
  - Provide dedicated staff and administrative support for ICTC.
  - Require departments to designate a lead individual responsible for coordination efforts on behalf of the department, including communication with ICTC.
  - Formalize the ICTC Stakeholder Advisory Committee.
  - Charge ICTC with making policy recommendations to implement the Wisconsin Model of Coordination.
- (2) Develop one or more pilot projects to test the feasibility of regional coordinated human services, Medicaid, and public transportation networks.