

# **Age-Friendly Transit:** Accessible and Inclusive Transit Stop Infrastructure

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# AGE-FRIENDLY INNOVATION CENTER



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- **Communities should make updates and changes to the built and social environments that improve the quality of life of their residents:** These updates can support access to transportation and alternative transportation options. For most Americans, transportation is core to their sense of independence and autonomy. The ability for individuals to choose when and where they go is highly valued and has a direct impact on overall well-being (NADTC, 2022).
- **Our community is living longer than ever before, creating significant opportunities for improvement:** Between 2010 and 2040, Franklin County is projected to see a near doubling of the 65 and older population. The percentage of Franklin County residents who are 65 and older is expected to increase from 10% to 15% over that same period (Ohio Department of Development, 2018).
- **Most older adults still drive:** Over 85% of Franklin County residents 50 and older report driving themselves as their usual way of getting around (Central Ohio Regional Assessment on Aging, 2021). Updates to the accessibility and inclusivity of transit is a significant factor that can support alternative transportation usage.



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## Working towards an Age-Friendly Transit System since 2018





# Age-Friendly Transit Stops Infrastructure





**Only 20% of older adults in Franklin County agree or strongly agree that their opinions and ideas are valued by decision makers:** (Central Ohio Regional Assessment on Aging, 2021)  
Ensuring the voices of older adults and people with disabilities in the decision-making process, through Community Based Participatory Research methodology, creates a community that is more livable for people of all ages and abilities.

**“If you are deaf and blind,  
you don’t know how to give feedback.”**

*— Study participant*

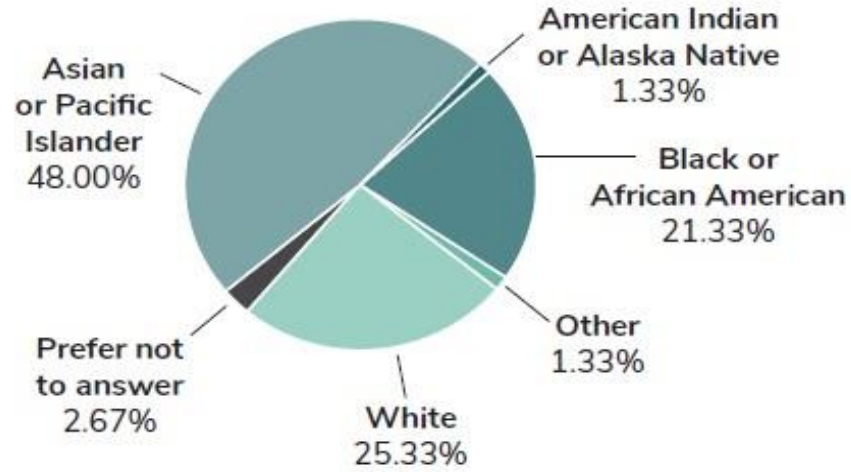


**Agenda**

- Welcome, study overview, and study team introductions
- Verbal consent
- Introduction to COTA representative and travel training opportunities
- Questionnaire
  - o Demographics
  - o Transportation habits and preferences
- Focus Group
  - o What makes a bus stop accessible and inclusive?
  - o Describe your experience walking/rolling to and from bus stops
- Transit Stop Audit
- Incentives Provided



Participants by race







## What makes a transit stop accessible and inclusive?



- 1) shelter access at transit stops
- 2) adequate lighting
- 3) access to trash cans



## What else creates an Age-Friendly Transit System ?

- 1) Infrastructure surrounding transit stops such as sidewalks and crosswalks
- 2) Sense of safety using and accessing transit
- 3) Proximity of stops and routes to areas of interest
- 4) Training on using fixed route



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# What's next?



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