

	Subsidized Transportation	
	Policy Type:	Executive Limitation
	Number:	EL-F-2.3
	To be Reviewed:	Once per term
	Approval Date:	May 27, 2024
	Motion Number:	24.C.175
	Revised Date(s):	

Policy Statement:

This policy identifies what types of decisions and actions the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), and or designates **may not do** in order to achieve Council’s Ends.

These limitations set boundaries regarding access for residents to free and low-cost transportation services within Okotoks and as to what means to achieve the Ends **would be unacceptable** even if the means worked.

Without limiting the scope of the above statement, the CAO shall not allow inequitable access to transportation options for residents in order to:

- support residents to safely and independently remain in Okotoks as they age.
- support residents in fully participating in the community;
- support residents in accessing services not available in Okotoks;
- promote meaningful volunteer experiences for local residents; and
- promote and build meaningful connections among local residents.

Further, the CAO will ensure residents can remain active participants in the community by establishing parameters for residents to access free and low-cost transportation services through two subsidized transportation services.

Volunteer Driver Program

1. In order to provide free transportation to medical appointments outside of Okotoks through a pool of volunteer drivers, the CAO shall not permit:
 - a. Applications that are not for Okotoks residents aged 18+ and/or minor children accompanied by an adult who need transportation to medical appointments outside of Okotoks;
 - b. Applications from residents that are not cognitively able to book rides independently and transfer themselves to a vehicle without assistance from the driver;
 - c. Applications that do not bring a helper/companion on their trip, if needed;
 - d. Applications that require wheelchair trips.

2. For program administration, the CAO will not permit:
 - a. Compensation to be paid to volunteer drivers not at the established rates;
 - b. Rides to be guaranteed as rides are subject to the availability of volunteer drivers;
 - c. Rides to be booked by volunteers directly as rides are to be scheduled through the Town.

Community Access Program

1. In order to provide subsidized, accessible transportation within Okotoks and to approved locations outside of Okotoks through a contracted taxi service, the CAO shall not permit:
 - a. Applications that are not for Okotoks residents aged 60+ and/or residents with a permanent disability that prevents them from driving;
 - b. Applications that are not for residents with a short-term disability that prevents them from driving;
 - c. Applications that are for access to wheelchair accessible rides, unless applicants require the use of a wheelchair to get around.
 - d. Applications for wheelchair accessible rides for residents who require the use of walkers, canes or other similar mobility devices;
 - e. Applicants that are not cognitively able to book rides independently and transfer themselves to a vehicle without assistance from the driver;
 - f. Applicants that do not bring a helper/companion on their trip, if needed;
 - g. Applicants that do not pay the taxi driver directly, at the established program rates.

2. For program administration, the CAO will not permit:
 - a. Eligible residents to not book their rides directly through the taxi provider that has been contracted by the Town to provide rides under the program;
 - b. Eligible residents to book more than 360 one-way trips per user per calendar year;
 - c. The Town to subsidize more than 50% of the cost of eligible one-way trips in Okotoks and to pre-approved locations outside of Okotoks;
 - d. The Town to pay for wait time;
 - e. Subsidization of delivery services, trips to the airport, casino, entertainment or paramedical transportation.