

# New Flat-Rate Wheelchair Transportation Option in Tacoma Offers Unlimited Miles for Seniors

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TACOMA, WA, UNITED STATES, June 10, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A new transportation initiative in Tacoma is offering residents who use wheelchairs, particularly elderly individuals and those in assisted living, a way to travel throughout the city without mileage limits. The program introduces a fixed-rate service aimed at addressing the challenges of mobility and access in a growing senior population.

The service allows wheelchair users to access transportation within city limits for a flat rate of \$96 per ride, with no additional fees based on mileage. For many families, this shift may ease the burden of coordinating reliable transport for aging parents or relatives.

Tacoma, where more than 13% of residents are aged 65 or older, faces increasing demand for accessible and [affordable transportation options](#). For those with limited mobility, finding dependable transport that does not penalize longer distances has been a longstanding issue.

## Addressing the Emotional and Logistical Burden

Adult children often find themselves navigating complex caregiving roles — managing full-time jobs, family responsibilities, and the logistics of ensuring their parents can attend medical appointments or remain socially active. A lack of accessible and affordable transportation can



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contribute to isolation among seniors, which has been linked to increased health risks. The National Institute on Aging has identified social isolation as a major factor contributing to premature mortality, comparable to risks like smoking or obesity.

### A Flat Rate Alternative to Per-Mile Charges

Unlike traditional transportation services that bill per mile, this new option introduces predictability and stability in cost. A flat-rate ride structure can eliminate the uncertainty families face when planning longer trips for healthcare, social visits, or personal errands.



A calm and respectful scene of an elderly man in a wheelchair being gently assisted by a professional driver outside a suburban home in Tacoma, WA

### Implications for Family Caregivers

This model may offer practical benefits for adult children who cannot always accompany or transport their parents personally. Whether an elderly individual resides independently or in an [assisted living facility](#), access to a trained driver and reliable vehicle service can make routine and social outings more accessible.

Drivers involved in the program are trained to assist individuals with mobility challenges and are expected to adhere to professional standards regarding timeliness, patience, and respectful care. This consideration is particularly relevant for families seeking assurance that transportation services align with the dignity and needs of elderly riders.

### Community Mobility Without Mileage Constraints

Tacoma's layout — with neighborhoods stretching from the waterfront to more suburban areas — often requires longer travel times for basic errands, medical appointments, or social gatherings. In a per-mile pricing system, such distances can lead to significant costs. This program removes those barriers, allowing seniors to travel from one end of the city to the other without incurring extra fees.

### Early Community Reactions

While formal reviews are not part of this release, informal conversations among community members suggest that the new transportation option is being received as a welcome change.

Many families are noting how it simplifies logistics and reduces the stress of coordinating rides, especially for recurring appointments or visits.

### A Step Toward Greater Accessibility

This development reflects a broader effort to support independence and community engagement for seniors and individuals with disabilities. By offering a single flat fee and eliminating the uncertainty tied to mileage, the program represents a shift toward more equitable transportation options for a population that often faces limited mobility choices.

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