

Connected by COAST —

A Campaign for the Future of Public Transportation on the Seacoast

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Connected by Coast is a campaign to raise \$7 million to support the future of public transportation and the economic, social, and environmental benefits it generates. The campaign celebrates COAST's 40+ years of connecting people and communities in the Greater Seacoast region of New Hampshire and southern Maine and will lay the foundation for the next 40+ years.

The campaign has three funding opportunities:

Capital — Advancing a state-of-the-art facility

\$4M

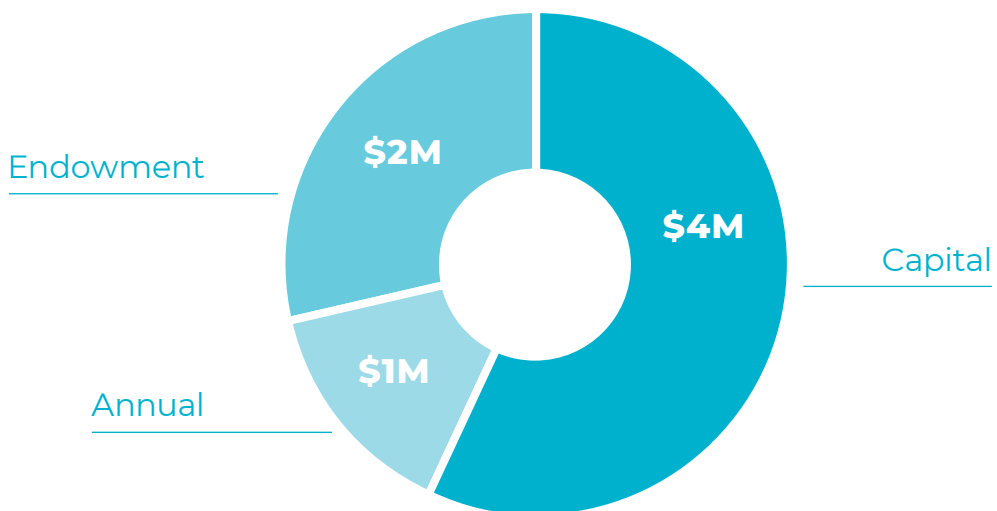
Annual — Strengthening our financial base

\$1M

Endowment — Ensuring a future of opportunity

\$2M

We invite you to join us.



A Regional Economy, Community, and Environment

For more than 40 years, COAST has connected people and communities in the Greater Seacoast region of New Hampshire and southern Maine. This regional distinction is more than a geographical boundary. The 12 communities connected by COAST’s public transit system, are also connected economically, socially, and environmentally.



The proximity of affordable housing to jobs, educational opportunities, and services—and whether there are viable transportation options to access them—is a top consideration for developers and residents across our state.

Ridership is up. In FY24, COAST provided just shy of 374,000 rides in our buses and vans. These trips avoided an estimated 2.53 million miles of car travel, saving 1,114 tons (2.3 million lbs.) of greenhouse gases from being emitted into the atmosphere.

COAST is the common thread that runs through the region, connecting people to work, school, medical services, shopping, events, and recreation. When COAST connects people and communities, the region benefits economically and socially.

COAST's annual economic impact

\$33.7M

\$1

spent on COAST
generates

\$4.08

in local economic activity



Public and community transportation systems, including COAST, are an essential piece of the economic puzzle in New Hampshire.

MARGARET JOYCE, Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce

People at Every Stage of Life

Since 1982, COAST vehicles have carried over 16.7 million customers, linking people to work, school, medical services, shopping, and social events.



Workforce — High housing prices and low vacancy rates in the rental and ownership markets are increasing the distance between economic opportunity and the communities where people can afford to live. COAST is an essential service for connecting our Seacoast workforce, and the businesses that employ them.

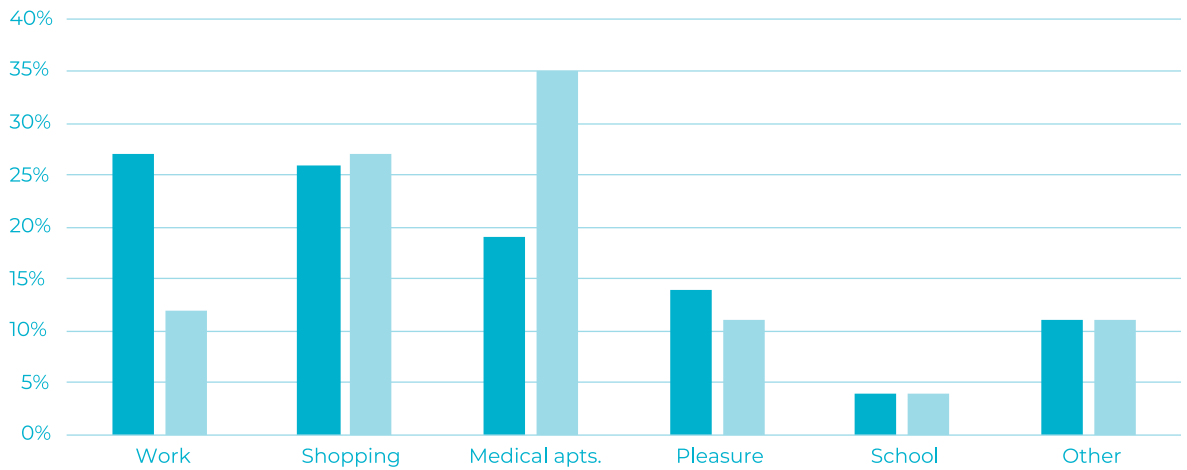
Older adults — In NH, the GDP contribution of seniors, which currently stands at \$42 billion, is projected to reach \$125 billion by 2050. Yet, one in five U.S. seniors no longer drive (AARP). COAST plays a critical role in helping older adults maintain their independence and their participation in the economy.

Low income families & individuals living with disabilities — Everyone deserves access to opportunity. COAST connects low-income families and individuals living with disabilities, who are not able to afford or operate a personal vehicle, with the economic, social, and medical supports they need to contribute and thrive.



Why do people use COAST?

- Fixed routes
- Demand response



COAST is my life. It gives me freedom and access.

ERIN, COAST ADA Paratransit client,
Dover resident & Portsmouth
YMCA employee

A Network of Services and Social Supports

Social supports and medical services are dispersed broadly across the Seacoast region requiring travel between communities. COAST's transportation network connects these essential services. As such, COAST is recognized as a critical partner by human service and medical organizations across the Seacoast.



COAST is a member and leader of the Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT), the State-designated Regional Coordination Council (RCC) for southeastern New Hampshire. Comprised of transportation providers, human service agencies, health care providers, planning commissions, and citizen members, ACT facilitates the implementation of coordinated community transportation across 38 communities, including all of Strafford County, eastern Rockingham County, and Wakefield and Brookfield in Carroll County.

COAST also operates TripLink, a regional transportation call center that serves as an information and referral resource for community transportation and takes trip requests on behalf of COAST, Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, Community Rides, Ready Rides, and Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels.



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People who have access to private cars and most of the things they need, including being able to pick up food or get to a doctor's office, forget that there are people who don't have that opportunity. I have worked in social services in this area for more than 40 years, during that time COAST has always been there, working tirelessly as a partner to get people where they need to go.

KATHY CROMPTON, Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, Chief Program Officer (retired)

49%

of the TripLink-facilitated rides traverse multiple communities

Funding the Future of Public Transportation on the Seacoast

Capital — Advancing a state-of-the-art facility

In the last 15 years in particular, COAST has experienced its most significant growth.

In order to better meet its current operational needs, be responsive to future demand and reduce its environmental impact, COAST plans to build a new facility on its current property in Dover. COAST's new 48,000 square foot facility would both ensure COAST's ability to maintain current service and quality levels and to be positioned to be responsive and adaptable to future opportunities.

This new facility will lower the organization's carbon footprint with improved energy efficiency, return staff to one location whereby increasing productivity and efficiency, increase onsite safety, and reduce maintenance hours through shop infrastructure upgrades.

The new \$17.3M facility will be funded through a combination of federal, state (including CDFA tax credits), local, and private sources. The capital opportunity of the Connected by COAST campaign will raise the remaining \$4M.

Annual — Strengthening our financial base

COAST annual operating budget ranges between \$7.5 and \$8.5M.

Historically, COAST's budget has been funded primarily through federal grants, local community support, with additional support coming from the states of New Hampshire and Maine, charitable contributions, as well as revenues from customer fares, partnership agreements, and advertising.

As several one-time capacity building federal grants begin to sunset, COAST now seeks to broaden its base of annual financial support from the business and philanthropic communities to ensure its continued capacity to connect people and communities well into the future.

The goal of the Annual portion of the Connected by COAST campaign is \$1M.



Endowment — Ensuring a future of opportunity

Building assets will ensure COAST's future sustainability and our ongoing capacity to successfully navigate the road ahead.

Establishing and growing an endowment marks an important next step in COAST's financial future. As we embark on our next 40 years and beyond, an endowment will allow us to plan for and implement strategic projects that will strengthen our annual operations. Endowment income will also be an additional source of matching funds for federal grants with that requirement. A robust endowment will allow COAST to connect the people and communities of the Seacoast for generations to come.

The goal of the Endowment portion of the Connected by COAST campaign is \$2M.

Ways to give

Make a gift of cash — Pledges of up to five-years in support of one or more of the campaign initiatives may be made by contacting a representative of the COAST campaign committee and completing a commitment form.

Matching gifts — If your company has a matching gift program, please consider designating COAST as the beneficiary of your match. With matching gifts, you can double the impact of your gift!

Gifts of stock — Your broker can assist you in making a gift of stock via a direct transfer to COAST. Please have them call a representative for instructions on making gifts via transfers.

Legacy society — Planning for the future is vital, both for individuals and organizations. Turn your passion for COAST's mission into a lasting legacy with a deferred gift through your estate plan to this newly established fund. Your generous gift will ensure the continuity of the organization and its programs for many generations to come.

Naming Opportunities — While all gifts to the campaign will be recognized, numerous naming opportunities beginning at the \$10,000 gift level are available for our lead gift and estate plan donors. To this end, there are numerous naming opportunities beginning at the \$10,000 gift level.



Connected by COAST —



People & Communities

The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation, more commonly known as COAST, is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization and an innovative leader in providing a broad range of public transportation services, connecting and coordinating a robust network of options for everyone.



COAST's mission is to champion and provide customer-focused public transportation with a commitment to excellence in safety and service.

COAST

Cooperative Alliance For Seacoast Transportation

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