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From: certifiedhypnotist <certifiedhypnotist@yahoo.com>
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To: EngAGE@CDA
Subject: What seniors need

Aside from financial issues, notably affordability of rent and medical care, in my view, seniors major unmet need is for affordable and physically suitable transportation. Without transportation one is excluded from community activities.

We have redi-wheels, which is better than nothing and will at least allow a large disability scooter to board, but it is cumbersome to use, and you have to be well enough and strong enough to wait up to 20 minutes on the side of the road. in all kinds of weather. Also, the one time I rode in one of their vans, the only seat for passengers to use was over the rear wheels and the shock absorbers were not in good shape, which led to a lot of shaking. For those with joint pain, this kind of shaking is miserable. (Though not as bad as BART, where the shaking left me with extra pain the next day) Also I have seen their passengers stranded or left for significant periods curbside when it was time to go home.

Public buses have some advantages in terms of cost, comfort and flexibility, but need to be made with enough poles and other supports near the boarding area so one does not risk falling when the driver pulls out before you can get seated. We should bring buses up to the standards of many European countries, where every stop displays the bus schedule and the interior displays the route and the connections to other lines. In Stuttgart, there is even a lighted panel where the passenger can watch the coming stop light up.

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