

GoGeo Funding FY22



Georgetown City Council

June 22, 2021

Presentation Overview

At the March 2021 Council Workshop, Council directed staff to:

1. Council directed staff to return with an item for Council to take formal action regarding the future funding for the GoGeo transit system;
2. Council sought more information on options for paratransit only services, such as
 - a) a City grant with local nonprofit or agency using local funds only or
 - b) a partnership with Cap Metro with a combination of local and federal funds;and
3. Council also requested information on what transit services was the City supporting prior to the initiation of GoGeo.

Georgetown Transit Services Prior to GoGeo

Prior to the current GoGeo fixed route service, which was initiated in 2017, the City of Georgetown had a “Demand Response” pickup service, which allowed customers to call ahead and request service.

The primary characteristics of the Demand Response service are as follows:

- Passengers reserved rides by telephone or online with 24 hour advance notice. Curb to Curb service. Offered Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- \$2.00-\$6.00 depending on destination zone.



Georgetown Transit Services Prior to GoGeo

This service operated from 2011 to 2016. In 2016, the total cost of the pickup service was \$348,140, with the City providing \$208,884.

- City Staff discussed the cost implications of renewing this system with CapMetro, and they stressed that costs have gone up significantly in the past 5 years.
- In order to determine costs associated with this type of service, CapMetro needs additional information on service area and frequency of service proposed.

Georgetown Transit Services Prior to GoGeo

Budget - History

	FY14*	FY15*	FY16**	FY17 ^x	FY18***	FY19***
Total	\$312,000	\$312,000	\$348,140	\$421,621	\$822,822	\$844,194
FTA	\$156,000	\$156,000	\$139,256	\$168,648	\$265,383	\$265,383
City	\$156,000	\$156,000	\$208,884	\$252,973	\$557,439	\$578,811
Service Type	Demand Response	Demand Response	Demand Response	Fixed route	Fixed Route	Fixed Route

- * FTA Allowed a 50/50 split
- ** In FY 2016, FTA required a 60% local, 40% FTA split
- *** City match includes the Georgetown Health Foundation Funding
- x 2017 was a ramp up year and did not include a full year of service



Paratransit Only Options

Council requested information about the possibility of:

- a) a City grant with local nonprofit or agency using local funds only or
- b) a partnership with Cap Metro with a combination of local and federal funds.

With the help of the Georgetown Health Foundation, Staff reached out to many of the local non-profits in Georgetown that are affected by Transit:

- Faith in Action
- The Caring Place
- Opportunities for Williamson-Burnet Counties
- The Georgetown Project
- Boys and Girls Club of Georgetown



Paratransit Only Options

Most of the non-profits support GoGeo by providing transit vouchers for their constituents who rely on GoGeo for transportation.

Faith in Action

- Primary mission is providing transportation for able bodied seniors to medical appointments and the grocery store.
- Operates transportation to serve its constituents through a network of volunteers
- Faith in Action has expressed interest in working with the City of Georgetown to expand their current services, but at this time they do not feel that the organization can provide dedicated paratransit services.



Paratransit Only Options – Silver Lift

Silver Lift

- Leander based company focused on transportation for seniors
- Door to door pickup service
- Has expressed interest in expanding services to provide Paratransit, and has provided Staff with a cost breakdown for the first year of service.
- The cost for the first year of service is estimated at approximately \$871,000 for 40 hrs a week service, M-F / 8-5.



NOTE: Microtransit budgets do not reflect funds for marketing.

Paratransit Only Options – Cap Metro

Cap Metro Partnership

- Based on existing approved ADA passengers
 - 235 Approved passages currently
- Anyone who is not ADA eligible will lose service once fixed route is eliminated
- Service will follow CARTS holiday Schedule

Service

- One Vehicle
- Monday – Friday / 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- 24 hour advanced reservation

Estimated total cost - \$271,140 (Local cost \$162,684)



PARATRANSIT ELIGABLILITY

Potential riders who may be eligible to apply for ADA Paratransit:

- Persons with a cognitive disability
- Persons with a vision disability
- Persons who lack manual dexterity / lack balance
- Persons with a disability which requires an Accessible Vehicle

Microtransit Option

Cap Metro

- At the January 26, 2021 meeting, Staff presented Council with Cap Metro's Microtransit proposal.
- All Microtransit buses are Paratransit ready, and would serve all users
 - Cap Metro Service Area would be similar to current GoGeo Service Area
 - Cap Metro Pickup Service is Curb to Curb (not door to door) with 15 minute wait times
- Estimated cost to the City of \$556,673 in FY 21 dollars (**FY22 cost unknown**).



NOTE: Microtransit budgets do not reflect funds for marketing.

Historical Overview

	Service Area	Response Time	Fare Cost	Cost
2011-2016 Demand Response	City Limits	24 Hr. Advance Reservation	\$7.00	\$348,148 (2016)
2017-2021 GoGeo	7.1 Square Miles	30-45 Minute Intervals	\$1.00	Estimated \$553,951 (City) (\$343,327 FTA Match)
Microtransit (based on 2021 model/data)	6.1 Square Miles	15 Minute Advance Reservation	\$1.25	Estimated \$556,673 (City) (343,327 FTA Match)
CapMetro Paratransit Only (FY22)	Based on Existing Approved Paratransit Riders (235)	24 Hr. Advance Reservation	\$2.00	Estimated \$162,684 (City) (\$108,456 FTA Match)

Formal Action Regarding Future Funding for GoGeo

- The City of Georgetown has an annual contract that expires on September 30 of 2021.
 - The contract will automatically expire if not renewed.
 - In order to be prepared to continue or suspend services, CapMetro needs to know if contract will be renewed.
- What service option does Council wish to provide after September 30?
 - Staff needs to notify existing customers and the service providers as soon as possible.

