



ROARING FORK VALLEY - RFTA (Roaring Fork Transportation Authority) proudly stands as the largest rural transit agency in the United States, providing essential transportation services in the picturesque Roaring Fork and Colorado River Valleys of NW CO. This comprehensive report highlights the remarkable journey of RFTA, showcasing its pivotal role in connecting the communities and municipalities within its 70 mile rural service region, spanning from Aspen to Glenwood Springs to Rifle. With a rich tapestry of services, a vision for sustainability, and a relentless commitment to innovation, RFTA's story exemplifies how a regional transit authority can become a catalyst for progress and environmental stewardship.

SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

Commitment to Electric Transit: RFTA sets an ambitious target to transition its entire bus fleet to battery electric by 2050. Currently, it operates eight battery electric buses (BEBs) as part of a groundbreaking pilot program.

Climate Action Plan: The completion of RFTA's Climate Action Plan signals its unwavering commitment to sustainability. The agency is on track to operate up to 100% zero-emission buses (ZEBs) by 2050, setting a remarkable standard for responsible transit operations.

- #### 2022 STATS
- ◆ Total Passenger trips: 4.2M
 - ◆ Total Miles Operated: 5.8M (est.)
 - ◆ Total Employees: 380 (Peak Season)
 - ◆ Total No. of Buses: Approx. 100
 - ◇ Clean Diesel
 - ◇ Compressed Natural Gas
 - ◇ Near-Zero Emission Battery Electric
 - ◆ COST TO RIDE: Various Rates
 - ◆ Funding Sources:
 - ◇ Federal and State Grants
 - ◇ Revenue from Farebox Recovery
 - ◇ General Funds
 - ◆ 10 Park and Rides
 - ◆ Serves 3 Counties, 8 municipalities
 - ◆ Maintenance/Admin Facilities in Aspen, Carbondale, Glenwood Springs, and Rifle

ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVITY

Universal Accessibility: RFTA ensures that its services are universally accessible. All buses are equipped with ADA-compliant features, including kneeling capabilities and safety straps.

Inclusivity as a Core Principle: The agency fosters inclusivity by offering fare-free services to targeted populations, eliminating barriers to access, and maintaining a team of ADA-trained drivers.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Listening to the Community: RFTA actively engages with the local community through surveys, immediate feedback channels, and collaboration with town councils. This approach ensures that the transit service aligns with the evolving needs of its residents and visitors.



Innovative Expansion: RFTA's commitment to community-driven improvements is exemplified by the integration of a Ski Resort bus route and plans for further service expansion, enhancing the overall experience for all.

TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD)

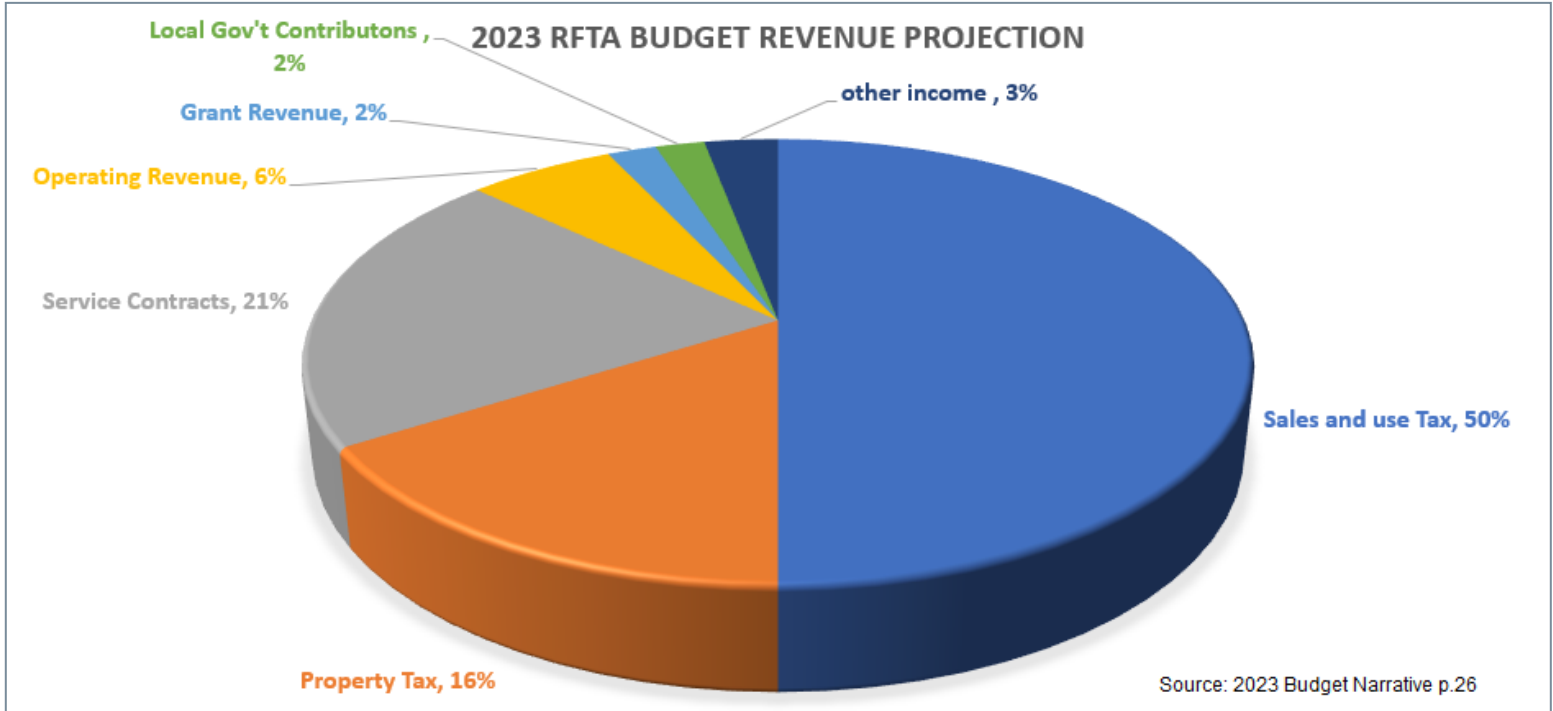
Supporting Growth: RFTA contributes significantly to regional growth and development by providing essential transit options in tandem with community expansion. The agency collaborates closely with Community Development teams to align transit services with housing development.

FIRST-LAST MULTI-MODAL (FLMM) INTEGRATION

Seamless Connectivity: RFTA collaborates with partners like WE-Cycle, CDOT Bustang, and Snowstang to provide seamless multi-modal transportation options. From e-bike shares to direct bus services, RFTA ensures that residents and visitors can traverse the region efficiently.

TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Passenger-Centric Technology: RFTA leverages technology with a passenger-centric approach including the implementation of a mobile ticketing system that allows passengers to board using their smart phones .



TRAINING AND EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT

Investment in Human Capital: RFTA places a high value on its employees, offering continuous training and development programs. Also includes ZEV training & safety program resulting in CDOT grant to collaboratively train and hire specialized technicians.

CHALLENGES AND FUTURE PLANS

Vision for the Future: Celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2022, RFTA envisions a future with 2 million annual riders, complete electrification by 2030, and a continued commitment to providing frequent, reliable, and safe service to its community.

CONCLUSION

As RFTA continues its journey of transit & multi-modal excellence, it serves as an inspirational model for transit agencies, showcasing how innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity can shape the future of transportation. RFTA's dedication to being a role model in sustainability ensures that the Roaring Fork Valley remains

For additional information about routes visit the [RFTA website](#) .

[Additional Budget information here.](#)

connected, accessible, and environmentally responsible for generations to come.

