

**Impact Statement  
Council on Aging  
Fiscal Year  
2010**

A \$3625 cut in the Salary Line Item would mean a reduction in the number of hours the COA van operates. The van currently operates Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, meaning that the van is essentially on the road for 25 hours a week. While the expenses for the van are paid for out of the expense account the reduction is to the salary account and this would mean that the van would be off the road 1.5 hours per day, or 7.5 hours per week, reducing operating hours to 9 to 12:30.

The van is used to transport seniors to doctor appointments, hospital appointments, food shopping, prescription pick up at pharmacy, hair appointments, post office, banking, and any other visit that a senior who would otherwise have a car would make. 121 seniors used the van in May 2009 for trips with 67 of the reservations (55%) of the reservations for doctor and hospital appointments and 77% of the total number of trips occurred in the 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM time period. We currently transport several seniors 3 days a week for kidney dialysis to South Shore Hospital. Their appointments require that they be at the hospital by 9 and are picked up between 1 and 1:30.

In addition the van is used to transport seniors to our congregate lunches at the senior center on Tuesdays and Thursday. A reduction in hours would be that those individuals who use the van to get to lunches would not have a way to get home after lunch, which means that would not come for lunch. In many cases the Tuesday and Thursday lunches are the only socialization our seniors have and the \$3.00 lunch provides them with a delicious, nutritious hot lunch for little money.