



Call For Support To Restore FY26 Budget April 14, 2025



Save Wheels2U – Your Voice Matters!

- Do you ride Wheels2U? Love the freedom it gives you? Then help us keep it rolling!
- The Board of Finance cut the budget for the Wheels2U microtransit program- a service that helps thousands of residents and visitors get around town affordably, reliably, and sustainably.
- We need your help to convince our Representative Town Meeting ([RTM](#)) members to restore funding for Wheels2U. A quick email or message to the RTM can make a real difference.
- Unless the RTM restores the funding, Wheels2U will stop operating as of June 30, 2025.

Why Wheels2U Matters:

- **Affordable and Convenient Transportation** – Door-to-door pickup and drop-off means Westporters don't need to rely on personal vehicles or find parking at the train stations far from the train platform, especially in inclement weather. Wheels2U is cheaper than ride-hailing apps like Uber or Lyft. The flat \$2 fare helps families and individuals on a budget.
- **On-Demand and Flexible** – Connects and provides access from anywhere in Westport to and from the train stations and, starting May 1, shopping areas, downtown Westport, and the Senior Center. A great option for commuters to the train stations and reverse commuters to local businesses, seniors going to the Senior Center, and anyone who wants to visit the library or eat or shop downtown.
- **Reduction of Traffic and Parking Hassle** – Fewer people driving means less congestion and less stress about parking in busy areas.
- **Eco-Friendly Option** – The proposed electric and hybrid vehicles, will contribute to a cleaner environment.
- **Improves Access for All** – Anyone can book a ride within the hours of operation and train stations, downtown, and Senior Center.

Why Wheels2U Matters: (continued)

- **Supports Local Businesses** – Easier access to downtown shops, restaurants by the train station, and events means more foot traffic and local spending. A great option for the reverse commuters to link them to local businesses.
- **Reduces Congestion and Emissions** – Fewer single-occupancy vehicles on the road help with traffic flow and air quality – especially important when The Hamlet breaks ground.
- **Enhances Equity and Inclusion** – Provides mobility options for those who can't or choose not to drive or who can't afford a station car, making Westport a more inclusive community.
- **Smart Growth & Sustainability** – Encourages a more transit-oriented lifestyle, which aligns with the Town's Net Zero 2050 goal.
- **Data-Driven Planning** – Access to data lets us tailor Wheels2U's hours to fit the demand more efficiently. This approach yields a fiscally responsible and efficient way of spending our dollars. The cost to Westport for the current fiscal year is \$7.20 per ride.

Take Action – Here's What You Can Do:

1. **Email your RTM Representative (RTM-DL@Westportct.gov)**

Tell them how Wheels2U helps you, your family, or your neighbors.

Be personal and specific!

2. **Share this with others**

Spread the word to other riders, parents, seniors, and anyone who benefits.

3. **Act now – before the budget vote!**

Time is short. Even just a few messages can make a big impact.

The RTM Finance Committee and the RTM Transit Committee will meet on 04/21/25 and 04/22/25, respectively, to discuss whether or not to recommend the restoration of the proposed Wheels2U budget at the RTM meeting on May 5th.