**5.5.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies**

**Human Services and Senior Center**

The Town of Fairfield Human Services Department owns a small fleet of buses that are equipped with lifts to accommodate persons in wheelchairs and driver assistance for frail individuals who use assistive devices such as canes or walkers.

The buses provide curb-to-curb services to Fairfield residents who are seniors 60 and older, people with disabilities and veterans for daily trips to the Senior Center and Social Services, weekly grocery shopping, medical appointments, special approved trips, libraries, mall and hairdresser. Fares range from 50 cents to $2.00. Buses operate Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Physically frail individuals may enter and exit the vehicles using assistive devices such as canes or walkers with minimal assistance from the driver. Individuals in wheelchairs will receive assistance to enter the wheelchair lift that will be secured by the driver.

See documentation of Senior Center Five Year Bus Replacement Plan and Traditional Section 5130 Capital Application submitted separately.

**Fairfield Public Schools**

The Fairfield Public Schools (FPS) transports 18-21 year olds throughout the day to their jobs, doctor and therapy appointments, etc. and transports school-aged children to and from school and to afterschool programs at the YMCA and Bigelow Center for the “Chill” program.

There are 30 buses for these special needs children and young adults: 15 are duel rear wheel buses that are bigger and can carry more students and equipment but are not allowed on the highway and 15 are single rear wheel buses that are required when longer, highway driving is required. The buses are lower with a wider staircase for easier on/off access and there are 5 buses with wheel chair lifts. A bus attendant is required for each bus.

The entire 5-year contract with First Student that ran through FY 2017-18 is attached in the file “First Student\_Fairfield School Bus Contract.pdf” and screen shots of the specific portions of the contract related to buses, “First Student\_Fairfield Bus Contract Special Needs\_1.png,” and aides, “First Student\_Fairfield Bus Contract Special Needs\_2.png” are also attached.