



CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2022



ALFREDA CAMACHO MARATITA
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

WHO WE ARE

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) was established by CNMI Public Law 17-43 on May 27, 2011. COTA is responsible for the development and establishment of a public transportation system in the Commonwealth.

COTA is administered by a Special Assistant for Public Transportation who is appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

COTA has a six-member Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board established by Public Law 18-51.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) under the CNMI Office of the Governor is pleased to present the Citizen Centric Report for FY 2022 as there are so many great accomplishments throughout the year. We, at COTA, continue to strive to provide the community with the most affordable and safest mode of public transportation in our community. COTA continues to find effective ways on how to improve and expand our services by ensuring that the goals and objectives of the program is upheld at its highest standards for the betterment of our Commonwealth.

Please visit our website at www.ctacnmi.com or give us a call at (670) 236-2682 to learn more about our public transportation services. Thank you.

COTA will continue *“Driving You Forward.”*

MISSION STATEMENT:

COTA shall provide the citizens of our communities with a dependable, reliable, safe and cost-effective public transit system in order to reduce energy consumption, strengthen cultural values, and contribute economic development for the residents of the Commonwealth.

CONTENTS:

- ❖ ABOUT COTA.....1
- ❖ PERFORMANCE & PROGRESS.....2
- ❖ REVENUES & EXPENSES.....3
- ❖ FUTURE OUTLOOK.....4

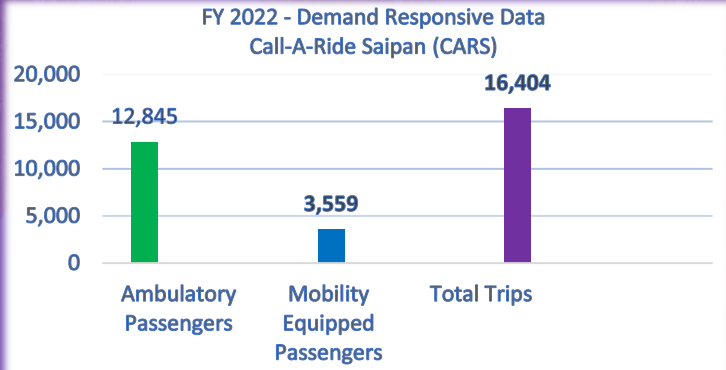


PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS

DEMAND RESPONSIVE SHARED RIDE SERVICE CALL-A-RIDE SAIPAN (CARS)

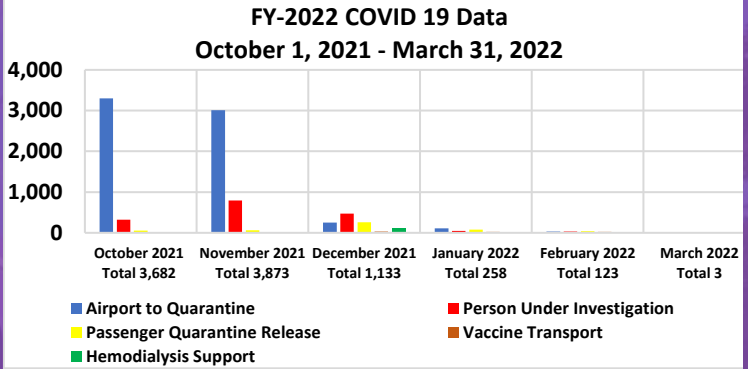
COTA's Call-A-Ride Saipan (CARS) Demand Response Shared Ride Service provides accessible transportation to persons with disabilities, senior citizens (ages 55 and above) and to the general public.

CARS is a reservation based, curb-to-curb, and door to door service that is offered to anyone on the island. All riders must call one (1) to two (2) days in advance for reservations.



COVID-19 OPERATIONS

From March 2020 to April 2022, the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) was activated under the Emergency Support Function 1 (ESF-1) - Transportation to assist in all COVID-19 related transportation under the Governors COVID-19 Task Force. COTA transported a total of **32,922** individuals in its efforts to safeguard our CNMI



FIXED ROUTE

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) Fixed Route service conveniently provides transportation to the general public throughout the island using a set schedule and established routes with fixed bus stops. COTA's Fixed Route system is currently under development to add additional routes to service more locations throughout the island of Saipan.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- On October 2022, COTA employees along with other government entities underwent training for the Incident Command System (ICS) 300-400.
- On November 2021, COTA employees underwent the Passenger Assistance Safety Sensitive (PASS) training.
- On July 11, 2022, COTA participated in the Governor's Summer Youth Program and hired three (3) intelligent individuals to gain work experience with COTA.
- On July 14, 2022, COTA along with Governor Torres held a Proclamation Signing Ceremony to proclaim July 2022 as CNMI Public Transportation Month.
- On August 08, 2022, COTA held its Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Administrative Building & Maintenance Facility.
- On August 11, 2022, COTA employees underwent Adult/Children CPR Training
- On August 25, 2022, COTA relocated to the Administrative Building & Maintenance Facility at Lower Base, Saipan across the Department of Lands & Natural Resources (DLNR).

COTA'S ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING



COTA'S RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING & MAINTENANCE FACILITY



	Competitive Grants	Award Amount:
1	CNMI Public Transit System Expansion	\$6,387,346.00
2	Emergency Relief Grant	\$351,000.00
3	COVID-19 Research Planning Grant	\$300,000.00
4	Low or No Emission Electric Bus	\$2,373,645.00
5	Ferry Feasibility Study and Transportation Master Plan	\$800,000.00
	TOTAL:	\$10,211,991.00

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

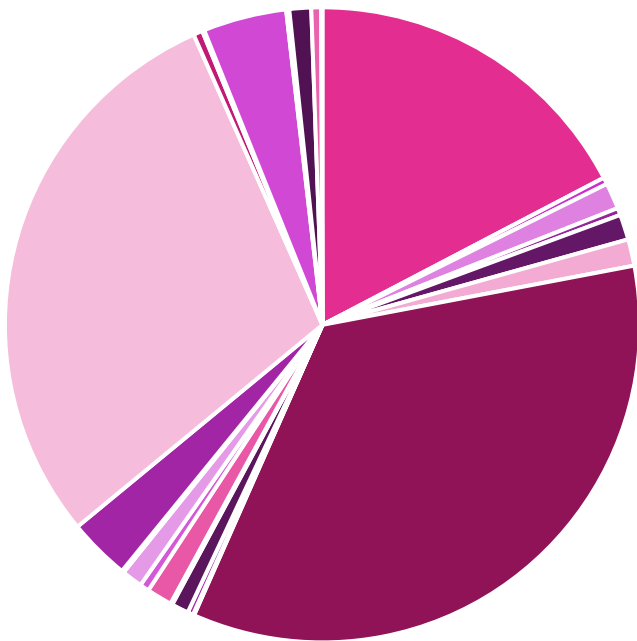
COTA’s revenue includes the farebox collection received from the community and partnering agencies utilizing public transportation. Agencies and establishments such as Commonwealth Health Care Corporation, Center for Living Independent, and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to name a few.

COTA continues to serve our community especially our daily consumers that depend on public transportation to schools, the workplace, and other places they desire to get to on the island.

COTA’s revenue also includes all federal funding from the Federal Transit Authority and local funding (ARPA). All figures are balances from COTA’s accounts as of the beginning of FY 2022.

REVENUE	
Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grants	\$ 6,732,676.89
Local CNMI Funding (ARPA)	\$ 1,214,400.00
COTA’s Fare Box Revenue	\$ 41,968.10

Actual and Encumbered Expenses FY2022



- WAGES & SALARIES /FRINGE BENEFITS - \$ 1,031,528.81
- OVERTIME PAY - \$20,582.03
- FUEL -\$79,036.81
- REPAIR & MAINTENANCE -\$21,703.45
- COMMUNICATIONS -\$76,704.17
- UTILITIES - \$80,408.29
- VEHICLES -\$2,059,895.00
- SUPPLIES OFFICE -\$3,711.95
- SUPPLIES OPERATION -\$17,041.71
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES -\$51,720.40
- ADVERTISEMENT -\$4,020.30
- DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS -\$2,025.00
- PRINTING & PHOTO COPYING -\$76,981.69
- RENTAL - OFFICE -\$28,285.00
- RENTAL VEHICLES -\$62,880.00

Total Expenditures: \$5,951,081.62

FY22 COTA Farebox Revenue

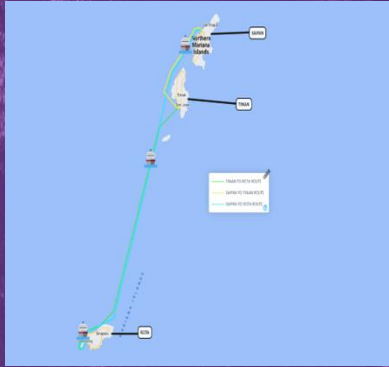
Total: \$41,698.10



LOOKING FORWARD

FERRY FEASIBILITY STUDY

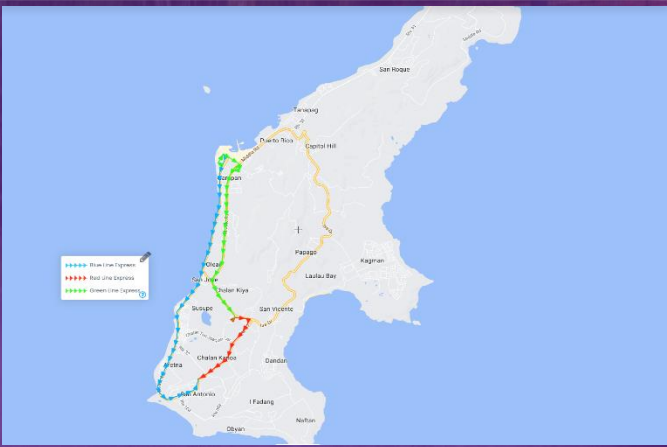
COTA ALONG WITH CPA AND US DOT OFFICIALS VISITED THE ISLAND OF TINIAN AND ROTA TO DISCUSS TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS AND CONDUCTING AN INTER-ISLAND FERRY SYSTEM



COTA WAS AWARDED \$800,000.00 THROUGH U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION’S (FTA): AREAS OF PERSISTENT POVERTY PROGRAM TO CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT FERRY FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE ISLANDS OF SAIPAN, TINIAN, AND ROTA.

LAUNCH OF COTA’S FIXED ROUTE

COTA IS CURRENTLY PREPARING FOR THE LAUNCH OF ITS FIXED ROUTE SERVICE ON THE ISLAND OF SAIPAN AS WE WILL BE RECEIVING A TOTAL OF TEN (10) NEW ADA ACCESSIBLE BUSES TO SUPPORT THIS SERVICE.



SOLAR COVERED PARKING

COTA IS CURRENTLY SEEKING FOR MORE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO CONSTRUCT THE SOLAR COVERED PARKING GARAGE AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FACILITY.

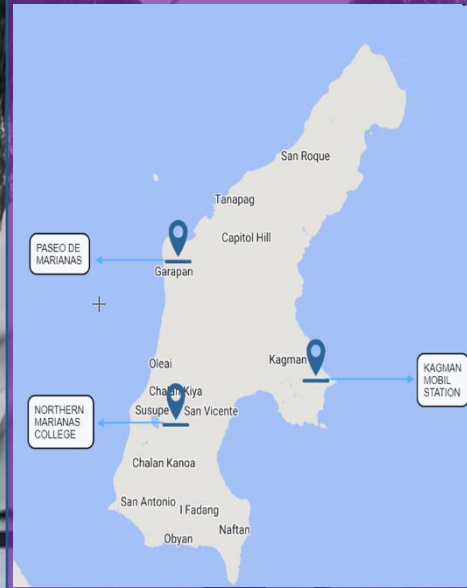


ELECTRIC VEHICLES



COTA WAS AWARDED \$2,373,645.00 THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION’S (FTA): LOW OR NO EMISSION GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE ACQUISITION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES FOR THE CNMI.

BUS TRANSFER STATION



COTA IS PLANNING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUS TRANSFER STATIONS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE, KAGMAN MOBIL STATION, AND PASEO DE MARIANAS.

BUS SHELTERS

COTA IS PREPARING FOR BUS SHELTERS AS IT PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN SAFEGUARDING OUR COMMUNITY FROM NATURAL CAUSES SUCH AS RAIN, WIND, AND HEAT.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

COTA Administrative Building and Maintenance Facility
12841, Lower Base, Saipan
Telephone Number.: (670) 664-2682
One Call-One Click: (670) 236-2682

Email: alfredac.maratita@gov.mp
Website: www.ctacnmi.com



Facebook.COTASaipan

