

CityBus is lifeline for Lafayette woman

Lois O'Leary
Lafayette; Tippecanoe County
Receptionist, Lafayette CityBus



Without CityBus of Greater Lafayette, Lois O'Leary would be confined to her home and unable to earn a living, go to the grocery store or attend her church. She couldn't live independently.

O'Leary has had a disability since childhood and has relied on public transportation her entire adult life. She knows the system better than most, since she's worked three decades at CityBus, where she answers the phones and provides information to riders.

"Most generally, they (buses) go where I need to go. It's a very good system," said O'Leary, who also uses CityBus Access Paratransit Service, which offers curb-to-curb and even door-to-door service (when requested) for riders with a disability.

Ridership continues to increase, too, she said. More people are taking the bus for work, kids are taking it to school, and many people, like O'Leary, rely on it for shopping, errands and basic life.

Public transportation needs a funding boost, not cuts, she said. While the system in Lafayette has steadily grown, more routes are needed, not just for those with a disability, but for the entire community. For O'Leary, though, it's personal.

"It's my only means of transportation. I have to move around for day-to-day activities," she said. "I'm not one to take disability benefits."

No, O'Leary wants to earn a living, and relies on public transportation to get there.

"It's my legal right to live like everyone else," she said.

 [icat4transit](#)

 [ICATransit](#)



INvest INtransit

