



**Transportation  
Disadvantaged**

February 4, 2020

**Ron DeSantis**  
*Governor*

**Marion Hart, Jr.**  
*Chairperson*

**Dr. Phillip Stevens**  
*Vice Chairperson*

**David Darm**  
*Executive Director*

Dear Advantage Ride Customers and Stakeholders,

The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged administers the Advantage Ride pilot program. The program was created by the Florida Legislature to test new ways to improve mobility services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Since January 2019, the program has served over 480 individuals and provided over 20,000 trips in Hillsborough, Manatee and Pinellas Counties.

In October 2019, the Commission announced the growth in demand for services is exceeding funding available to maintain the program throughout the fiscal year. Based on our remaining balance for this month, we anticipate the funding will expire on or before **February 8, 2020**. Once funding is exhausted, the program will no longer accept requests to schedule trips. We encourage riders to work with their support network to identify alternative transportation options in their community.

As directed by General Appropriations Act of 2019-20, the Commission presented a report on the Advantage Ride program to the Florida Legislature on February 1, 2020. The report was prepared by the Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida and highlights the program's performance in on-demand services and customer satisfaction.

To obtain a copy of this report or for more information, please contact Kyle Mills at 850-410-5713 or by email at [Kyle.Mills@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Kyle.Mills@dot.state.fl.us). Thank you for your attention!

Sincerely,

David Darm  
Executive Director