

# California Transportation Commission Executive Equity Advisory Committee

Primer:

Orange County &  
Dayle McIntosh Center (DMC)

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DAYLE MCINTOSH  
— CENTER —

# Accessibility Notes

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ASL and Spanish  
language  
interpretation  
available.

I will provide image  
descriptions and read  
entirety of the text on  
the slides presented

I will take questions at  
the end

Any other accessibility  
needs?

# Meet Your Presenter

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Beck Levin

Pronouns they/them

Visual Description

Systems Change  
Advocate at DMC

# About Dayle McIntosh Center (DMC)

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Founded in 1977

Mission, “Access and independence, by and for, people with disabilities and older adults”

We are a Center for Independent Living.

# About Orange County

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792.9 square miles of land area and is the 47<sup>th</sup> largest county in California by total area

34 cities and 3.2 million residents

Living Wage for Single Adult: \$30.48  
Per Capita Income: \$24.37

# About OC Older Adult and Disability Communities

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16.4% of the population are over 65

9.7% identify as having a disability

Estimated Eligible Paratransit Customers: 27,710

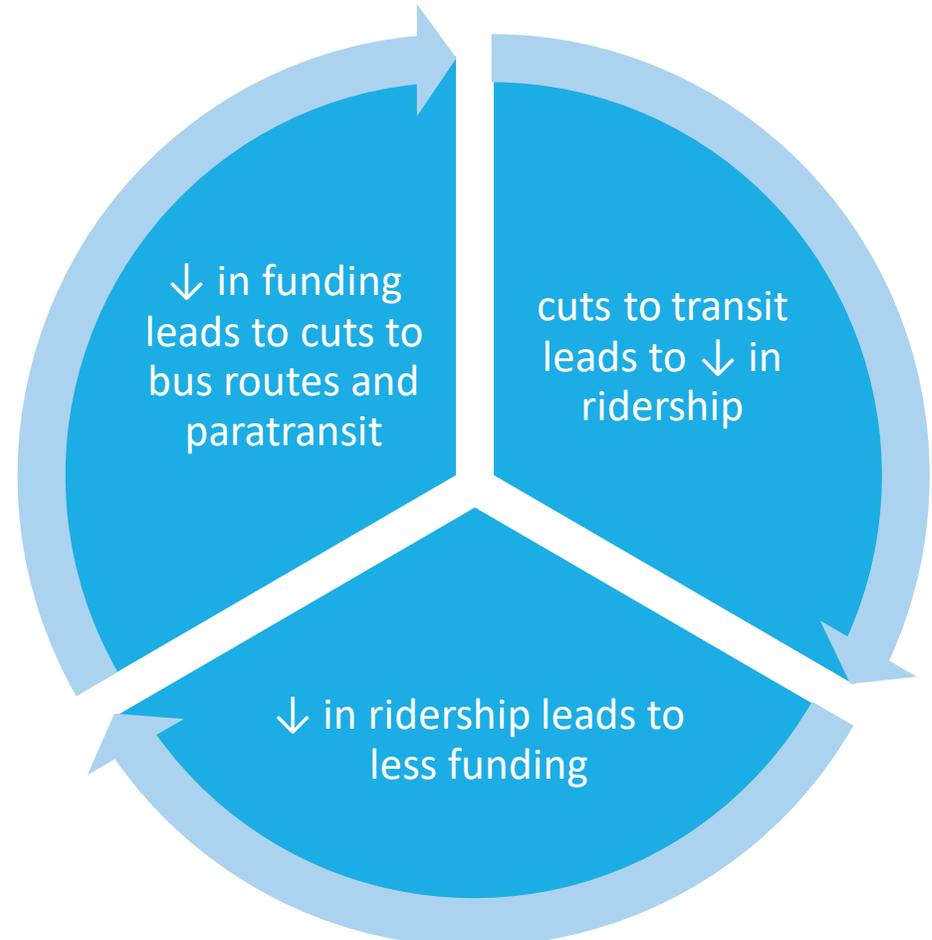


# Issues Faced

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The COVID-19 transit fiscal cliff caused cuts to fixed route and paratransit

These cuts beget more cuts.



# Transit Poverty And The Poverty Cycle

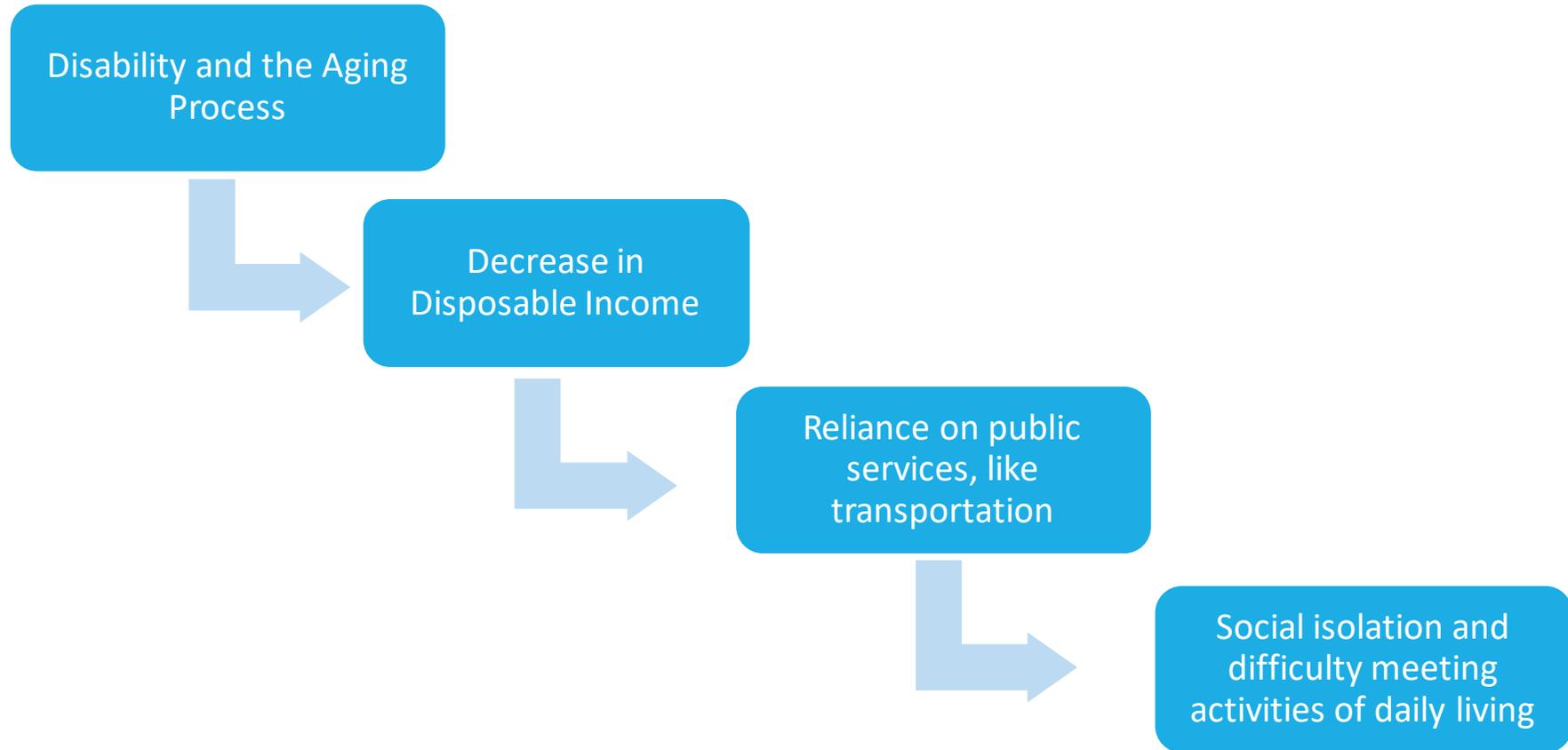
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- [Study: Transport poverty and its adverse social consequences](#)

- “The **poorest groups in any given country tend to be less mobile**. They most often **suffer from a lack of both private and public transport services** in terms of the number of options and the quality of services that are available.”
- “They are forced to rely on options such as walking and cycling, often **over long distances and in unsafe conditions**”
- In urban areas, people who are poor are located in opportunity deserts, which lack:
  - Access to healthy food
  - Employment opportunities
  - Robust public transportation
  - Opportunities for social connectedness
  - Access to social services

# Transit Poverty And Overall Health

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# Proposal: Earmarked Paratransit Funding

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- Paratransit makes up a fraction of overall ridership, but a robust paratransit program can greatly increase community health.
  - Health Affairs: Public Transportation In The US: A Driver Of Health And Equity
    - “Lack of access to public transportation disproportionately harms those who rely on it, including older adults, individuals with disabilities, and commuters”
    - “New or expanded public transportation options can increase the use of public transit, reducing traffic crashes and air pollution. Expanded access to public transportation can also improve physical and mental health and health equity by increasing access to medical care, healthy food, vital services, employment, and social connections.”
    - “Experts have identified safe and thriving public transit options as essential for communities to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Questions?

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# Thank you!

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[Beck Levin](#)

Systems Change Advocate

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