



Forth Launches EV Shuttles for Seniors and Youth in Missouri
Providing rides and distributing food to seniors in North and South St. Louis.

September 28, 2021

For Immediate Release

ST. LOUIS, MO – The St. Louis Vehicle Electrification Rides for Seniors (SiLVERS) program, an electric vehicle (EV) shuttle service in St. Louis, MO, will begin serving the public in the fall of 2021. A ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the soft launch of this program is scheduled for 3 P.M. on September 30, 2021 at Northside Youth and Senior Service Center located at 4120 Maffitt Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63113.

SiLVERS provides electric vehicles to the Northside Youth and Senior Service Center (NYSSC) and City Seniors Inc. (CSI) to provide non-emergency rides to elders and distribute food to homebound seniors in North and South St. Louis. Through the program, NYSSC received three vehicles and three charging stations and CSI received two vehicles and two charging stations.

This program serves historically underserved communities with cutting-edge technology to offset fossil fuel-powered trips, furthering the City's sustainability goals. This pilot will demonstrate:

- EV fleets can save social service agencies money on transportation expenses and improve service
- Electric vehicle charging equipment for fleets can also serve employees and community members
- How use of EVs by service agencies can accelerate regional EV adoption
- Tools and best practices, which can be replicated nationwide

Senior citizens (aged 60+) interested in receiving rides for medical appointments, shopping trips, social activities, or more can schedule appointments:

- On the Northside, call Northside Youth and Senior Services at **(314) 652-9946**.
- On the Southside, call City Seniors, Inc. at **(314) 352- 0141**.

Rides and deliveries traditionally completed with internal-combustion engine vehicles will soon be serviced by SiLVERS all-electric vehicles.

The project is brought together by the local community partners Northside Youth and Senior Service Center (NYSSC), City Seniors Inc. (CSI), North Newstead Association (NNA), and the St. Louis Agency on Aging (SLAAA).

SiLVERS is managed by Portland, Oregon-based nonprofit Forth and is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy with additional support from Ameren and the City of St. Louis. Forth will gather data on reduced fleet operations expenses by program vehicles, with the goal of creating a model to be replicated at other social service agencies across St. Louis and beyond.

Project partners have shared the following:

Leon Threat, Executive Director, NYSSC -

“SiLVERS places Northside at the forefront of demonstrating the technology and benefits of vehicle electrification in our community. These benefits include improved fuel economy, reduced maintenance costs, and reduced emissions. Since we are a transportation provider, the benefits will be a huge boost to our bottom line by saving on fuel and maintenance costs for our fleet. The savings in these operations costs, can in turn, be used to provide more direct services to benefit the clients who depend on our services.”

Jennifer Bess, Executive Director, City Seniors, Inc.

City Seniors, Inc. is excited to partner with SiLVERS by increasing awareness and understanding of EV's and highlighting their benefits through positive experiences and perceptions. Through adding EV's to our existing fleet, older adults in the community will have access to transportation that will assist in providing meals to persons in need, and transportation for daily errands and appointments; all while reducing our carbon footprint. In addition, City Seniors is a designated charging station for other EV's.

Ken Patrick, PMP Sr. Manager Electrification Policy and Innovation, Ameren -

"Ameren is happy to be a part of the SiLVERS program. Our rebate incentive program is critical to the addition of charging infrastructure in the St Louis region and ensures that the benefits of electrification are accessible to all customers and communities."

Connor Herman, Program Manager, Forth -

"As a new technology, electric vehicles have the potential to vastly improve the health and well-being of our communities. Unfortunately, as with many new technologies it is often only the most affluent of our communities that experience these benefits first. Forth is honored to work with many passionate folks on the ground to bring the benefits of EVs to a more diverse part of the St. Louis community. Along with providing direct benefits to the social service agencies and community members involved in the program, Forth hopes to create a replicable model which can be used across St. Louis and beyond."

Maurice K. Muia, Climate Advisor, City of St. Louis, MO -

"The City of St. Louis is honored to be an instrumental partner on this innovative electric vehicle program focused on our seniors. Our North and South City communities will be first in line thanks to the leadership of every level of government. Not only does this program align with our climate action and adaptation plan, but it ensures that we improve the lives of the most vulnerable. This program puts the City on a path to lower emissions, a better mobility experience, and lower operating costs. That is a win-win for the City of St. Louis and it makes us proud to lead in the Midwest."

For more information on the SiLVERS project, contact Connor Herman at ConnorH@forthmobility.org.

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Forth advances electric, shared and smart transportation. Learn more at www.forthmobility.org.
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