



**Contact:** Dave Somers  
**Phone:** 719-640-5978 mobile  
**Email:** dsomers@envidacares.org

## **MOUNTAIN METRO ENDS CONTRACT WITH ENVIDA AFTER MORE THAN 25 YEARS**

[COLO SPRINGS, COLORADO, June 17, 2019]. On May 31, 2019, The City of Colorado Springs' Mountain Metro Transit notified **envida** that its contract will expire June 30, 2019, and it will **NOT** be renewed. **envida** will continue to provide rides for anyone over age 60 and for those with Medicaid eligibility who need non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT). Any and all other riders currently funded by the City will need to seek rides through other sources and may call One Ride with Mountain Metro for assistance.

**envida** is a nonprofit and has been a proud partner with the City for more than 25 years, known for most of its 48-year history as Amblicab. For the past year it has been one of four contracted human service providers participating in Mountain Metro's One Ride call center, and **envida's** services go above and beyond what the City has been able to deliver. We sincerely regret this announcement's inconvenience to our riders, many with whom we have relationships lasting as long as 10 years. We have enjoyed serving them, and we appreciate their trust and loyalty.

Riders for whom rides are particularly in jeopardy include those with physical disabilities who require daily trips for employment and those who are intellectually and developmentally disabled (IDD) and need regular transportation for education and day programs. Numerous of these riders require assistance that does not qualify for City transit services, and while we hope to continue our relationship despite the dissolution of our contract with the City, we cannot do so without funding. In fact, **envida** has been voluntarily delivering many of these rides since January 2019 when the City first announced it would no longer fund rides for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Please be assured that all rides scheduled for June with **envida** are secure, and we encourage those riders who have scheduled rides for July and beyond to seek other alternatives.

**envida's** mission as a nonprofit is to support access and promote independent living with dignity. **envida** will continue to look for alternative options to support all of our riders. We will provide updates if and when more information is available. Please call 633-4677 with any questions or concerns.

**Disability Services Inc., dba envida**, is a nonprofit founded in 1971, and its mission is to promote access and support independent living with dignity. It accomplishes its mission through transportation and in-home support services for older adults, those with disabilities and low-income individuals. Its transportation services include a public route from eastern El Paso County, launched in October 2018 to help residents access services in the City of Colorado Springs.

###