

What does the future hold for public transit in Berrien County?

Today Berrien County currently has four agencies providing bus service to residents:

- Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority (Twin City Dial-A-Ride)
- Niles Dial-A-Ride Transit
- Buchanan Dial-A-Ride Transit
- Berrien County Transit (Berrien Bus)



With changing trends such as the aging population, growing number of individuals with disabilities, and rising gas prices, the county is seeing a **rising need for public transit service, paired with declining funds for operating transit**. A significant portion of the county, which is the fastest growing, has no public transit service available at all.

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission has conducted two studies of the public transit needs in the county, and has now hired consultants KFH Group, Inc. to conduct a feasibility study for coordination and consolidation of public transit in Berrien County, which will look at different types and levels of coordination of service. The goal of the study is to identify ways to develop a **seamless transportation system that provides convenient, high-quality service for riders and contributes to quality of life in Berrien County**.

For more information about the transit studies for Berrien County and to see the results of the previous studies, please visit www.swmpc.org/transit_study.asp. Thanks!

Please plan to have a representative from your community or agency attend this important meeting on June 1st.

At the meeting you will:

- Learn more about the current transit system in Berrien County and the public transit needs of residents.
- Meet the consultants who will conduct the study over the next two and a half years.
- Give your valuable input about your perceptions of transit needs in the county and what the goals of the study should be.

Who Should Attend?

Local government officials, social service providers, transportation providers, business owners, and anyone with an interest!

Date: **Wednesday, June 1, 2011**
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
Location: Michigan Works! Anchor Room A
499 West Main Street, Benton Harbor MI 49022
*(Michigan Works! is located along the **Blue** and **Red** "Dollar Ride" bus routes – more information is available at www.gorideshare.org).*

If you need help arranging transportation to the meeting, please contact Mobility Manager Christina Pippen at (269) 925-1137 ext. 19 or pippenc@swmpc.org.

For more information about the meeting or the study contact:

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