

## Need for a Countywide Transit Plan

In an effort to move towards a comprehensive transit service in Washtenaw County, the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study initiated this effort to analyze data and to support a countywide service plan that could be developed by the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA) and the other transit providers. The Transit Plan for Washtenaw County identifies current providers of transit service within Washtenaw County, deficiencies and needs including destinations that lack adequate transit facilities.

## Transit Issues covered at Town Hall

- Transit choices – mobility and access for all county residents and employees
- Transit funding – Federal, State, Local  
Federal – reliable source for capital funding, but urban operating assistance not permitted  
State – operating assistance has been declining, and the state no longer participates in capital funding except for buses  
Local – There are very limited local funding options in the State of Michigan. The current piecemeal funding in Washtenaw County by each jurisdiction is not viable. A county-wide source of local funding is needed.
- Economic competitiveness – Increasing employee and customer base for business
- Aging population – providing mobility and maintaining quality of life for seniors
- Need for Countywide life-line/demand response service, particularly for growing population of people with disabilities and seniors
- Transportation choices for commuters
- Reducing the growth in congestion and demand for parking
- Air quality – SE Michigan region is non-attainment for both ozone and fine particulates and standards are likely to become more stringent so it is unlikely that the region's designation will be changed. Fuel dependence and increasing fuel costs

This meeting has been organized to discuss options for funding public transportation in Washtenaw County. After the opening panel discussion, attendees will be encouraged to participate in the open discussion on solutions for Washtenaw County transportation.

## Featured Speakers

Representative Pam Byrnes - Co-Host  
D Chelsea

Terri Blackmore – Co-host  
Executive Director - Washtenaw Area Transportation Study

Representative Marie Donigan  
D Royal Oak  
Special guest - Chair of the State Transportation Committee subcommittee on mass transit

Dawn Gabay  
Interim Executive Director - Ann Arbor Transportation Authority

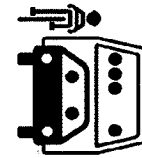
Jennifer Kalczuk  
Media Relations Director - The Rapid, Kent County

Carmine Palombo  
South East Michigan Council of Governments - Director of Transportation

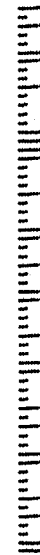
CITY OF ANN ARBOR  
CITY CLERK  
REC'D

2008 MAR 12 AM 10:27

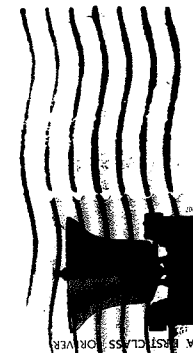
Washtenaw Area Transportation  
Study (WATS)  
705 N. Zeeb Road, 2nd Floor  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103-1560



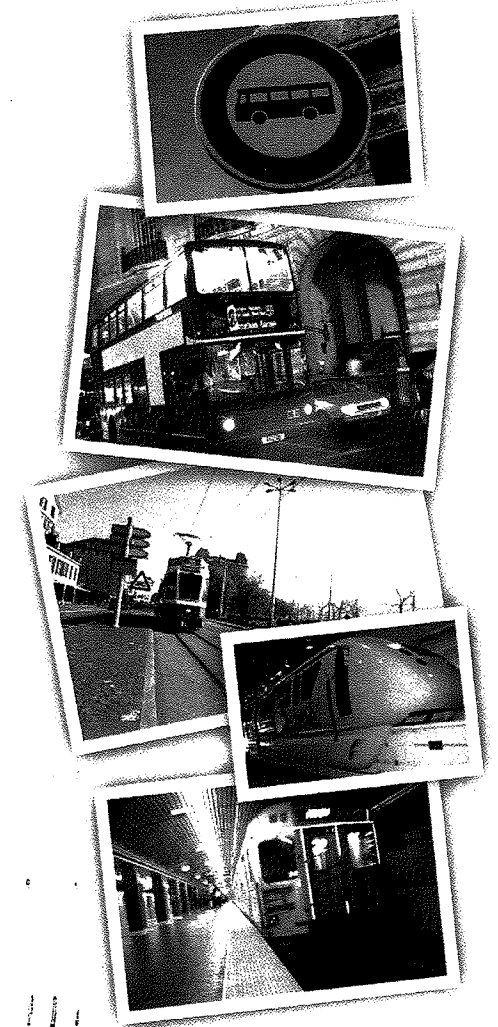
4810788647 B050



Jacqueline Beaudry  
City of Ann Arbor  
P.O. Box 8647  
Ann Arbor MI 48104



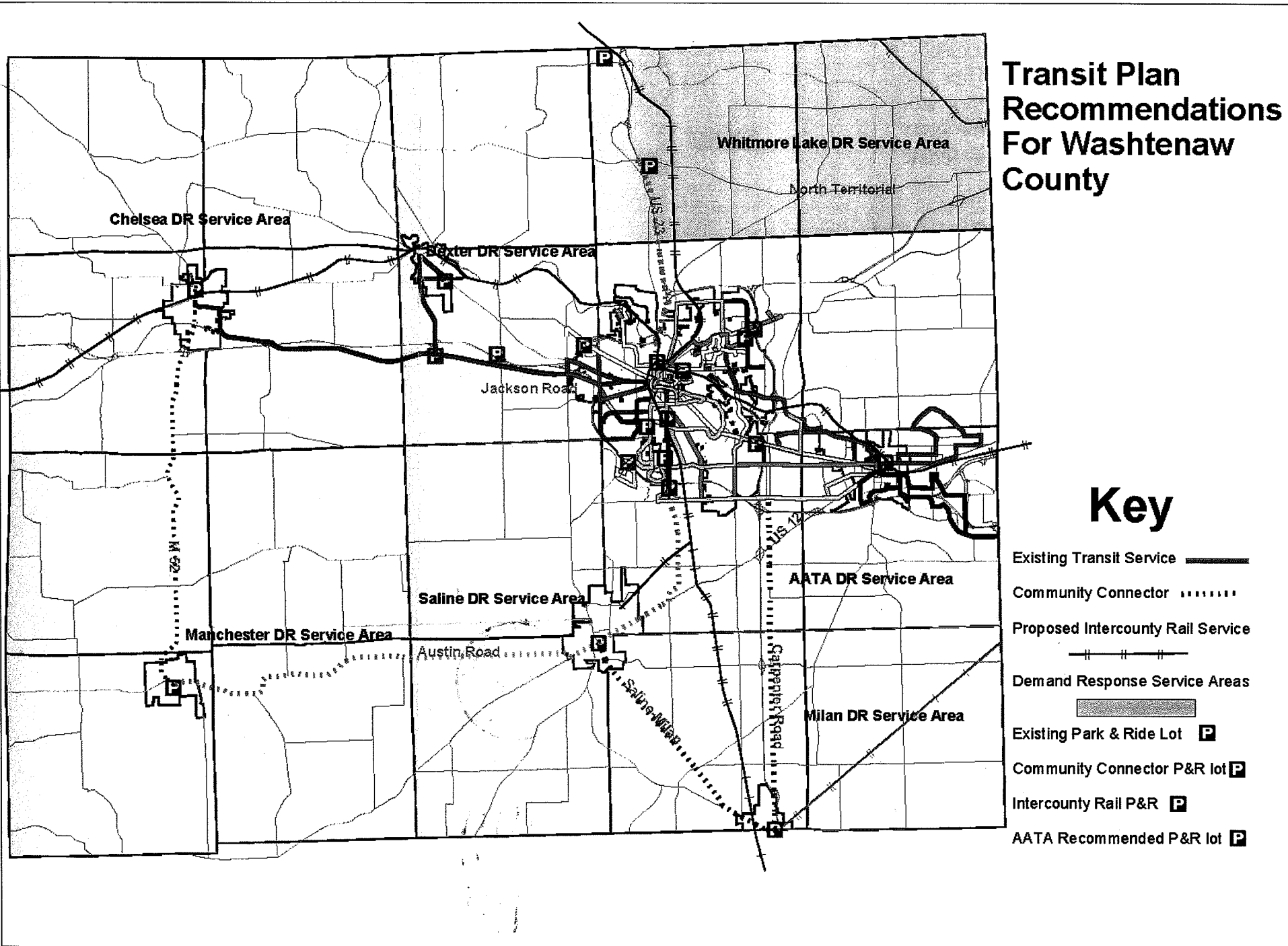
## Washtenaw County Transit Town Hall



March 24, 2008 - 7:00 pm  
Washtenaw Community College

Morris Lawrence Building  
4800 Huron River Dr, Ann Arbor Twp

# Transit Plan Recommendations For Washtenaw County



## Service Improvements

### Existing Service Improvements and Expansions

Increase frequency, provide direct routes and expanded service hours for existing fixed route service, particularly in the eastern portion of the Ann Arbor Urbanized including the City of Ypsilanti and parts of Ypsilanti and Superior Townships and western Wayne County.

Provide improved service between major human service providers; between health service facilities; and connecting housing and employment opportunities.

### New Countywide Service

Establish demand response/life line service throughout the County centered around the cities and villages where it does not currently exist.

Establish fixed route service linking service linking cities and villages to the Ann Arbor urbanized area.

Establish park and ride lots within each city/village as appropriate to serve as an intermodal connection and to consolidate trips for fixed route services.

### New Regional Service

Provide service linking adjacent counties with the Ann Arbor urbanized area within Washtenaw County particularly for employment and health services.

Provide service to residents linking intermodal connections, particularly intercity bus, rail stations and Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

### For more information please contact

**Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS)**  
 705 N. Zeeb, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103-1560  
 Phone: 734-994-3127 Fax: 734-994-3129  
 Email: wats@miwats.org



# Transit Plan Recommendations For Washtenaw County

## Key

- Existing Transit Service ———
- Community Connector ······
- Proposed Intercounty Rail Service ———
- Demand and Response Service Areas
- Existing Park & Ride Lot **P**
- Community Connector P&R lot **P**
- Intercounty Rail P&R **P**
- AATA Recommended P&R lot **P**

