



# Our way of life

Fall 2015 TheRide Community Report



## TheRide

Full report at [TheRideYourWay.org](http://TheRideYourWay.org)

# 2015 Update

## New Service Improvements Start August 23

Visit [TheRideYourWay.org](http://TheRideYourWay.org) for more information.

**Increased frequency on 46**  
from hourly service to every 30 minutes on weekdays

**More frequent service on 2C**  
from hourly service to every 30 minutes and extended hours until 8:40 p.m. on weekdays

**New Sunday Service on Ypsilanti local routes 10 11 20**

**Extended service on 6**  
to Ypsilanti Transit Center on Sundays

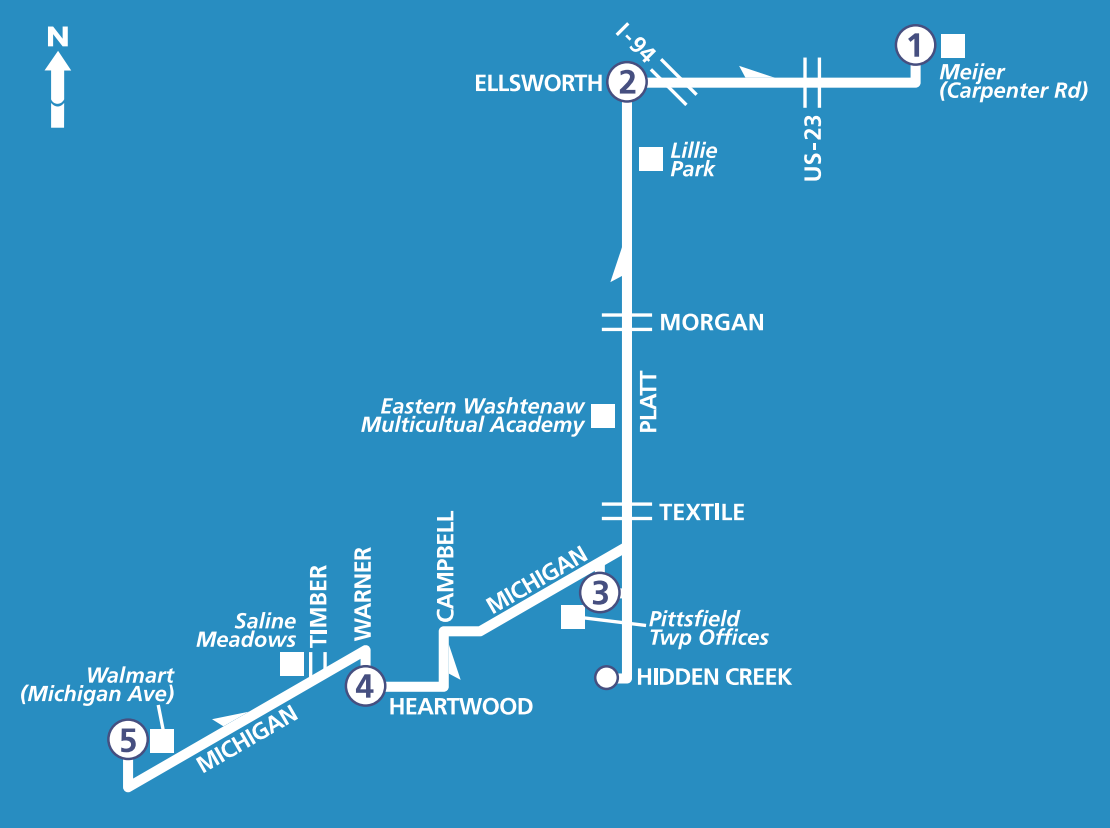
### Later Weekend Service

Saturdays until 10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Sundays until 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

1	2	4	5	1	2	4
6	7	8	9	5	6	7
10	11	12	15	8	9	12
16	17	20	22	15	16	17
46						

**New Route 67 Platt-Michigan Ave**



Now connecting Meijer on Carpenter Rd to Walmart on Michigan Ave near Saline with hourly service 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



### August 2015:

- Saturday service will be extended to end at 10:45 p.m.
- Sunday service will be extended to end at 7:45 p.m.
- Service area extended to include the area within 3/4 of a mile of new Route 67 Monday - Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



### August 2015:

- Saturday service will be adjusted to begin at 11:00 p.m., after the end of the Fixed-Route bus service
- Sunday service will be adjusted to begin at 8:00 p.m., after the end of the Fixed-Route bus service



# TheRide Your Way: Continuing to Improve the Ways You Connect



Hello,

I’m Matt Carpenter, TheRide’s new CEO. It is a pleasure to be serving such a great community and to be a member of TheRide’s exceptional team. I bring with me over 15 years of professional experience in the transit industry, including eight as the CEO of Strathcona County Transit in Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada. While I’m proud of the work I contributed there, it’s good to be back in Michigan. Previously, I worked for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) in Detroit, and I hold a Master’s degree in Urban Planning from the University of Michigan. I’ve helped communities plan and implement major transit improvements; such as bus network expansions, paratransit reforms, rapid transit studies, and double-decker buses. I believe that providing exceptional customer service, being reliable stewards of the public trust, and working together as a team are essential in achieving goals and effectively serving our community.

Last August, TheRide began implementing its Five-Year Transit Improvement Program (FYTIP), and this August, those efforts will continue to provide you with more ways to connect with jobs, schools, medical appointments, shopping, and each other. You will soon be able to try our later weekend service on 17 routes, new Sunday service in Ypsilanti on three routes, and a brand new route; 67 Platt–Michigan Avenue, which connects riders with Meijer on Carpenter Rd. and Walmart in Saline. Our A-Ride service for seniors and persons with disabilities will have later service on weekends and our NightRide service will see changes to its service hours.

As we continue to provide new and expanded service to the urban core of Washtenaw County, we are also making plans to improve the Ypsilanti Transit Center (YTC). The YTC currently serves more than 3,000 riders on an average weekday. Working with the City of Ypsilanti, Eastern Michigan University and other community leaders, TheRide will be working to improve the experience at the YTC and will be taking into account accessibility, rider amenities/comfort, sign/technology improvements, and environmental improvements.

In order to get all these new services on the street and to continue providing safe, reliable service, we have ordered 18 new buses. Starting this month, you’ll begin to see a new bus design emerge, which is a reflection of TheRide’s commitment to adapt to the evolving and growing needs of our vibrant community.

Thank you for welcoming me, I’m proud to have been selected to be a part of the exciting work being done here. I’m looking forward to focusing my passion for transit and the greater Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti areas as I begin my work with a team that is dedicated towards providing reliable and accessible transportation options for each of you each day.


Sincerely,  
Matt Carpenter  
CEO, TheRide

## Accessible Services

RideCorp (a subsidiary of Blue Cab Inc.) began delivery of paratransit services for the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority May 1, 2015.

A-Ride is a shared-ride transportation service for individuals who are prevented from using TheRide fixed-route bus service due to a disability. You must have a TheRide-issued A-Ride card to use A-Ride services. To request an A-Ride Card Application, please fill out the online request, print an application, or call 734-973-6500. Professional certification of a disability is required as part of the application process.

For more information call 734-973-6500

<p>RideCorp operates sedan service</p> <p>TheRide operates lift-van service</p> <p>Trips can be reserved from 1-7 days in advance or on same day.</p>	<p>Fares</p> <p>\$3 Advance reservation</p> <p>\$4 Same-day</p> <p>Advanced reservations will be taken by TheRide from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekends</p>	<p>Same-day trip reservations are taken by RideCorp from 6:15 a.m. to 10:15 p.m. weekdays and 7:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekends</p>	
---	--	---	---

## New Artwork at Blake Transit Center



TheRide received submissions from 19 artists in response to its call for artwork for the new facility, as part of the transit center’s rebuild project. Following a competitive review process and public input period in January, 2014, Los Angeles artist Roberto Delgado was chosen as the finalist. Delgado’s work for TheRide is titled *Ann Arbor History and Culture*, and chronicles the culture and history of Ann Arbor through contemporary and historical photos that are incorporated into a unique cut tile with airbrush over photo-silkscreen medium.

In describing his artistic approach, Roberto Delgado said:

“My work evolves from the reality of the photo. Both the easel work and public art murals have been based on the people and circumstances that I encounter, with both being an appreciation of the human figure.”

More information at [BlakeTransitCenter.org](http://BlakeTransitCenter.org)



# Better Connections, More Freedom

## Transit Rider Stories



“As a long time bus rider, I think the new services coming August, 2015 is wonderful news!!! I know I speak for many regular riders when I say it has been most difficult trying to get things done on Saturdays and make it back to catch the last bus. The extended Saturday hours are truly wonderful and greatly welcomed!”

**De Bora**



“I ride the bus seven days a week to get to work, the movies, restaurants, meet with friends for lunch and to go to the library. Riding the bus saves me gas and lots of money on parking at the University of Michigan. I’ve meet new friends on the bus and I look forward to later Saturday night service. The new service will allow me to go to concerts and plays that I can’t attend now.”

**Nancianna**



“I just moved to Ypsilanti, but everything I do is in Ann Arbor. I’m a late night person and a car is not affordable for me. I can get to the ATM, the grocery store and job opportunities that require me to work late and on weekends.”

**Ann**

---

## Doing Business in the Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti Area Just Got Better



“Expanded weekend service between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti is great news for workers, visitors, and businesses alike. It literally opens up employment opportunities for retail and restaurant workers who depend on the bus to get to and from work and it also allows transit commuters and visitors to enjoy a leisurely dinner downtown on Friday and Saturday night without having to cab it home.”

**Rene Greff**  
Arbor Brewing Co.



“Being downtown, close to the bus station, I’m in a great space to be a hub for those commuting to work in Ann Arbor. Having expanded routes means more opportunities for connecting with guests on their way to work. It also provides me and my staff with reliable transportation for events and activities - I care greatly about reducing my carbon footprint, and being able to travel easily. TheRide affords me opportunities to go places with flexibility. I take my kids on the bus - having the Ypsilanti Transit Center being right by work means hopping on the bus with the kids for a quick adventure!”

**Bee Roll**  
Owner of Beezy’s Café,  
Downtown Ypsilanti



“We have several employees who use the bus to come to work and who work late on Saturdays and on Sundays. These employees and our business will benefit greatly from the new expanded bus service to Depot Town.”

**Jason Branham**  
Owner/Operator of MAIZ Mexican Cantina, Depot Town

## Coming Soon!

### May 2016 Service Improvements

TheRide will be implementing major service improvements for the Ann Arbor – Ypsilanti area in May 2016. In preparation for these improvements, public input sessions will be held this fall to review the improved services and to consider proposed revisions. Stay tuned to [TheRideYourWay.org](http://TheRideYourWay.org) for dates, times and locations of the meetings and for more detailed information.



Family of Services



Local fixed-route bus service.  
[TheRide.org](http://TheRide.org)



Public transit service between Ann Arbor and Detroit Metropolitan Airport.  
[MyAirRide.com](http://MyAirRide.com)



Shared-ride public transportation service available to eligible individuals whose disabilities prevent them from riding the regular fixed-route bus service.  
**734-973-6500**



Shared-ride, public transportation service provided for individuals 65 years of age or older.  
**734-973-6500**



MyRide is a mobility management service that coordinates transportation for eligible individuals.  
**866-977-9423**



Free ride matching service for carpools and vanpools.  
[iShareaRide.org](http://iShareaRide.org)



Ridesharing for workers located in Washtenaw County.  
[MyVanRide.org](http://MyVanRide.org)



Express commuter bus service to/from various locations.  
[MyExpressRide.org](http://MyExpressRide.org)



Late-night and early-morning shared-ride taxi service.  
[TheRide.org](http://TheRide.org)



Park free all day at one of our Park&Ride lots and catch one of our many routes to your final destination.  
[TheRide.org](http://TheRide.org)



U OF M HOME FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sat, Sept 12	Oregon State	12:00 p.m.
Sat, Sept 19	UNLV	12:00 p.m.
Sat, Sept 26	BYU	TBD
Sat, Oct 10	Northwestern	3:30 p.m.
Sat, Oct 17	Michigan State	TBD
Sat, Nov 7	Rutgers	TBD
Sat, Nov 28	OSU	TBD

getDowntown TheRide

2015 Commuter Challenge

The Commuter Challenge encourages employees throughout the Ann Arbor area to try alternative transportation for the month of May. In 2015, a record number of employees participated in this great annual event. In fact, a follow up study revealed that Commuter Challenge participants who rarely use alternative transportation now think they'll use it more as a result of participating in the Challenge.



244 organizations

2,184 participants

356,000 miles logged

313,000 lbs. of CO<sub>2</sub> avoided

42,000 total trips

New Driver Classes

TheRide has been training new drivers throughout the summer months, to help meet the needs of our expanding services and growing community. Please join us in welcoming our newest class!



TheRide Board Of Directors

Charles Griffith, Chair  
Susan Baskett, Secretary  
Eli Cooper, Treasurer  
Jack Bernard  
Michael Allemang  
Sue Gott  
Stephen Wade  
Larry Krieg  
Eric Mahler  
Gillian Ream Gainsley

Member Communities

**City of Ann Arbor**  
Christopher Taylor, Mayor  
  
**City of Ypsilanti**  
Amanda Edmonds, Mayor  
  
**Ypsilanti Township**  
Brenda Stumbo, Supervisor

Purchase of Service Communities

**Pittsfield Township Board**  
Mandy Grewal, Supervisor  
  
**Superior Township Board**  
Kenneth Schwartz, Supervisor