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SMART Announces Expansion of Transit Services in Oakland County

SMART will have 68 new bus stops serving Novi, Wixom and Bloomfield Hills

Detroit, Mich. (Sept. 11, 2023) – SMART, the leading transit authority in southeast Michigan, significantly expanded its services in Oakland County starting today. This expansion has introduced 68 new bus stops, enhancing transportation options for passengers in Novi, Wixom and Bloomfield Hills.

"We are thrilled to kick off this round of expansions in Oakland County. It's a momentous occasion as we bring transit service to communities that have been underserved for far too long," said Dwight Ferrell, SMART general manager. "Our commitment to improving mobility options in the region is unwavering, and we are proud to get these buses on the road."

The expansion of services reflects SMART's ongoing commitment to enhancing regional public transportation options and improving accessibility for members of the southeast Michigan community. Notably, this marks the first time in 28 years that Novi and Bloomfield Hills will have transit services and the inaugural introduction of fixed route transit service in Wixom.

"I'm very excited with the progress that has been made by SMART to expand public transportation and open up some of the biggest job markets in Oakland County to employers and the workers who will now have better access to their future careers," said Oakland County Executive Dave Coulter. "On this outstanding day, the Swiss cheese approach to public transportation – full of gaps and holes – is being filled with rides to Novi and Wixom, Bloomfield Hills and Farmington. Big congratulations are in order not only for SMART, but also for the voters in Oakland County who made all this possible."

This expansion is a direct outcome of the approval of the Oakland County Transit Millage last November.

"We are pleased to work with Oakland County Executive, Dave Coulter, in efforts to provide the wonderful residents of Oakland County greater access to a burgeoning economy and to an affordable way to traverse our region," stated Dwight Ferrell, General Manager of SMART.

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Key highlights of the expansion include:

Route Extensions/Changes:

- **Route 305 Grand River:** Extended to Wixom and realigned to Grand River between Telegraph and 7 Mile.
- **Route 740 Twelve Mile:** Extended to Wixom on weekdays and Saturdays.
- **Route 805 Grand River Park and Ride:** Extended to MDOT Park & Ride lot (Beck & 12 Mile) via Grand River, Novi Road, and 12 Mile.

New Stops Added:

- **261 FAST Michigan:** New stops at Merriman / Van Born and Michigan / Beech-Daly.
- **450 Woodward Local and 462 FAST Woodward:** New stop at Woodward & Long Lake.

Frequency Change:

- **280 Middlebelt/Beech Daly:** Trip time changes on all days, with a frequency change from 60 to 75 minutes on Saturdays and Sundays.

SMART encourages passengers to stay updated on these service changes by visiting smartbus.org, where an official service change bulletin is posted.

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About SMART

SMART empowers people with mobility. Serving since 1967, SMART is southeast Michigan's only regional public transportation provider, offering convenient, reliable and safe transportation for Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties. SMART offers a family of transit services, including fixed route and small bus services as well as support for local transportation programs to connect people to employment and educational institutions, medical appointments and shopping centers. Through SMART's small bus programs, over one million rides are provided to seniors and people with disabilities annually. SMART is supported by federal and state funding, local contributions through a transit property tax millage from opt-in communities and bus fares. For routes and fare information, visit www.smartbus.org or call Customer Service at 866-962-5515.