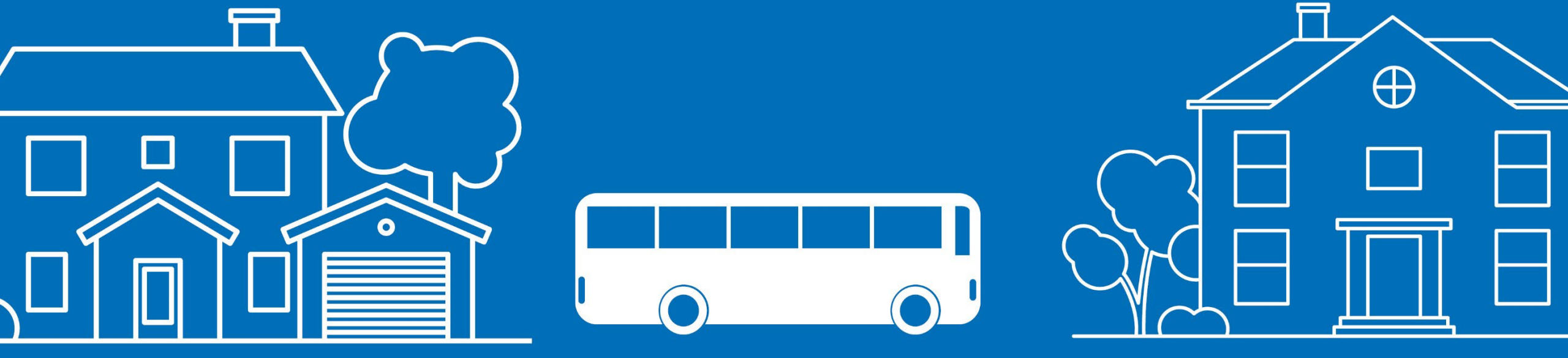
OAKLAND TRANSIT

Access to Transit Program

Introductory Webinar
November 6, 2025



Housekeeping

- Please mute your audio and turn off your camera
- Please type your name, organization and email address in the chat
- This webinar will be recorded and posted along with the slides on the Oakland County Access to Transit Program website: https://www.oakgov.com/community/oakland-county-access-to-transit-program
- Please put your questions in the **chat**. We will address them at the end of the presentation.

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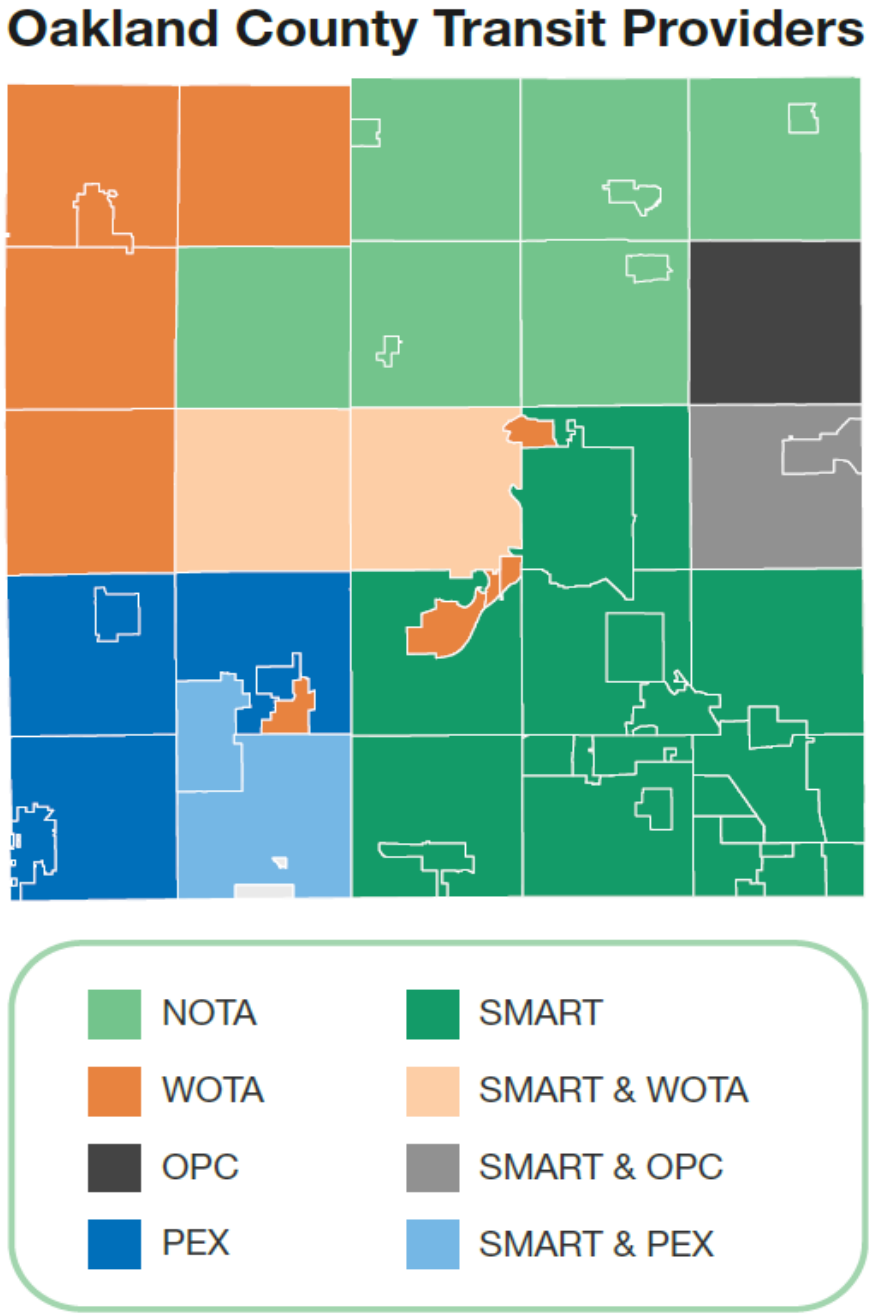
Transit Services in Your Community

- Transit services available depend on where you live and where you're traveling (visit https://www.oakgov.com/community/oakland-transit/transit-services to find yours)
- Transit providers coordinate to get people to and from places across the county
  - SMART- smartbus.org
  - NOTA- ridenota.org
  - WOTA- ridewota.org
  - OPC- opccenter.org/transportation/
  - PEX- peoplesexpress.org



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What Do We Mean By “Transit”?

Demand Response

Community Transit

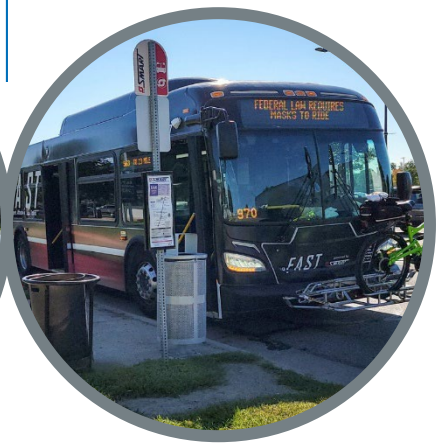
Prebooked door-to-door or curb-to-curb service within a designated area

Microtransit

On-demand app-based rideshare service with pickups and drop-offs at locations assigned by the technology (like Uber/Lyft)

ADA Paratransit

Prebooked curb-to-curb service with pickups and drop-offs within ¾-miles of bus stops for those unable to use fixed route due to a disability (ADA certification required)



Fixed Route

Schedule-based service along a designated route with pickups and drop-offs at designated bus stops

The “Modes” of Transit

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What Do We Mean By “Transit”?

Demand Response

Door-to-Door

Driver assists the rider to get between the door of the location and the vehicle

Virtual Stop-to-Virtual Stop

Technology assigns the rider a location to walk to for pickup/drop-off to keep vehicles on the most efficient route

Curb-to-Curb

Driver picks up and drops off the rider at the curb of the location (no assistance to the door)

Bus Stop-to-Bus Stop

Location is marked with a signpost where a fixed route can pickup or drop off passengers

Pickup and Drop-Off

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Access to Transit Program

$2 million

to provide financial support to **municipalities in Oakland County** to design and/or implement **capital projects** that make it…

- **easier**
- **safer**
- **more comfortable**

…to get to and wait for transit services.

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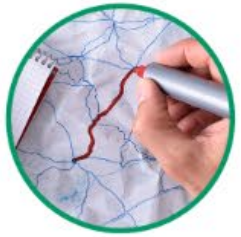
Why?

Addressing the **“first mile/last mile” problem**:

Lack of convenient access

Poor pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure



Distance and time barriers

Accessibility for vulnerable populations

Safety concerns

- Oakland County residents **age 65+ to increase by 30%** through 2035
- **Half of all fatal or serious injury pedestrian or bicyclist crashes** in Oakland County happened **within a 5-minute walk from a transit stop** (based on 2018-2022 data)

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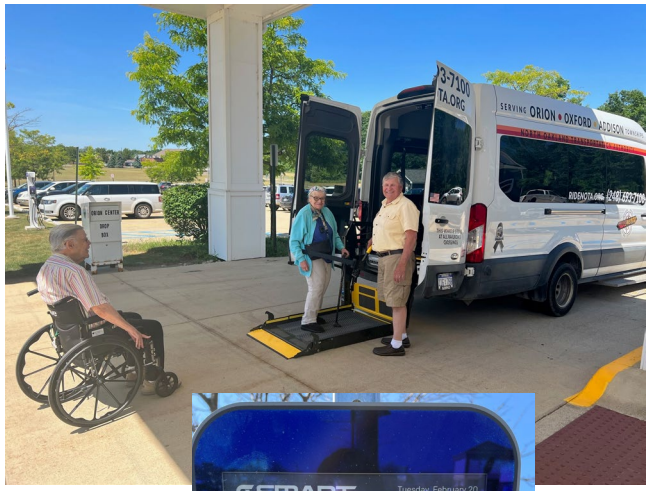
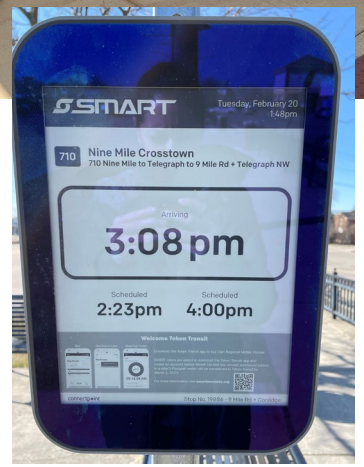
Eligible Projects

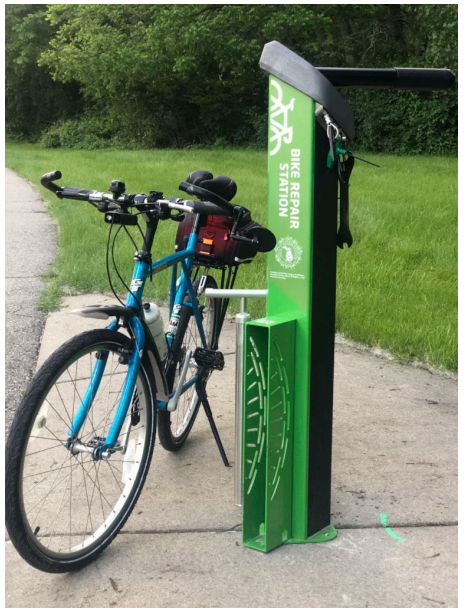
Eligible Phases:

- ☑ Conceptual Design
- ☑ Preliminary Engineering
- ☑ Bidding & Construction
- ☑ Construction Engineering

- **Universal Accessibility Improvements** (ex: pickup/drop-off areas, curb ramps)
- **On-Road and Off-Road Bicycle Facilities and Amenities** (ex: bike lanes, bike repair stations)
- **Bus Stop Enhancements and Amenities** (ex: shelters, electronic schedules)
- **Intersection Improvements** (ex: crosswalk pavement markings, curb extensions)







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Eligible Projects

Eligible Phases:

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- **Mobility Hub Elements** (ex: bikeshare stations)
- **Filling Gaps in Pedestrian Networks** (ex: sidewalk connection between segments)
- **Street Lighting, Street Trees, and Streetscape**
- **Wayfinding Signage to transit stops & facilities**
- **Park-and-Ride Enhancements**
- **Other Innovative Projects**

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Projects Awarded in Year 1 (2024-2025)

- Beverly Hills- Intersection Study (Design Phase)
- Birmingham- Bus Stop Improvements (Construction)
- Clawson- Corridor Safety Improvements (Design Phase)
- Farmington- Bus Stop Improvements (Construction)
- Rochester Hills- Pathway Connections (Construction)
- Southfield- Non-motorized Bridge (Engineering)

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How will projects be selected?

Selection Criteria:

- Proximity to Transit
- Access Improvement
- Safety Improvement
- Public Support
- Design
- Ridership Increase Potential
- Equity Community
- Long-Term Maintenance
- Universal Accessibility

Selection Committee:

- Oakland County Staff:
  - Transit Division
  - Planning Division
- Transit Providers (fixed route and demand response)
- Road Agencies (permitting):
  - MDOT
  - RCOC

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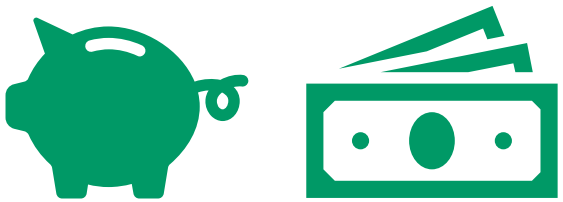
How will projects be funded?

Grant Award Limits:

- **Conceptual Design:** $15-50k
- **Preliminary Engineering:** $25-100k
- **Bidding & Construction:** $150k-$1M
- **Construction Engineering:** up to 15% of construction costs (max $150k)



20% Local Match (can be waived or partially waved if community is in need)

Payment:

- **50% up-front** County payment to help front costs
- **Remining** grant award paid at **project end** once semi-annual and final reports with documentation of expenses have been received and reviewed

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What is required of awardees?

- **Conceptual Design and Preliminary Engineering projects:** Commit to move forward with implementation and construction.
- Comply with all federal and state requirements regarding accessibility for people with disabilities.
- Coordinate with local transit providers, road agencies, and property owners to obtain all necessary approvals, easements, rights-of-way (ROW), and permits within the proposed project timeline.
- Maintain the project site and any approved project scope items installed for the intended design life.
- Comply with the requirements of the Davis Bacon Act / Michigan Prevailing Wage Act.
- Certify that all design and/or construction was completed according to industry standards and that all necessary permits were obtained from and approved by the relevant agencies.
- Install an Oakland Transit recognition plaque at the construction project location and maintain it at that site for a minimum of five (5) years.

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Timeline

2025:

- **Oct 31:** Application window opens
- **Dec 1:** Applications due (online form)
- **Dec/Jan:** Selection Committee reviews and scores applications

Q1 2026:

- Projects selected and presented to BOC for approval, interlocal agreements executed and initial payments made

2026 and Beyond:

- **Semi-Annually:** Awardees submit status reports
- **Upon Project Completion:** Awardees submit Final Report, final payments made, Oakland Transit plaques installed at project sites

Q6. **Project Partners:** List any other communities, agencies, or organizations that are partners on this project, if applicable.

Q7. **Project Location:** Use the applicable fields below. You must enter data in at least ONE of the three fields.

☐ Site Address(s):

☐ Parcel Identification Number(s)

☐ Written Description (e.g. "northbound bus stop on Perry Street @ Pike St" or "John R Road between 9 Mile Road and 10 Mile Road" or "near Milford Senior Center, 1050 Atlantic St, Milford, MI 48381")

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Ready to apply?

- Visit the Oakland County Access to Transit Program website: https://www.oakgov.com/community/oakland-transit/access-to-transit-program
- Make sure to review the Program Guide.
- Obtain a Certified Resolution from your City/Village Council or Township Board (an example is provided in the Appendix of the Program Guide).
- Coordinate with MDOT and/or RCOC to obtain a letter of support for your project if located on a State and/or County road.
- Complete and submit the online program application.
- Reach out to the Oakland County Transit Division if you have any questions or concerns (contact information on the Oakland Transit website).

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Q&A

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OakGov.com/OaklandTransit

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