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[www.livgov.com/LETS](http://www.livgov.com/LETS)

**To: Livingston County Board of Commissioners**  
**From: Greg Kellogg, Transportation Director**  
**Date: 08/19/2024**  
**Re: Resolution Authorizing a Passthrough Funding Agreement for Transportation Services between Livingston County and the Western Washtenaw Area Value Express (WAVE) - LETS**

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LETS has an opportunity to increase the availability of public transportation services for Livingston County residents in the southwest portion of the County by partnering with the Western Washtenaw Area Value Express (WAVE) to provide additional service in the region.

The WAVE is headquartered in Dexter, MI and provides door-to-door public transportation services in western Washtenaw County and limited service in the adjacent rural areas of Ingham and Livingston Counties. The Director of WAVE reached out to me earlier this year to discuss solutions for addressing an increase in requests from Livingston County residents for transportation to Dexter, Stockbridge, and surrounding areas. The WAVE provided over 120 trips between Livingston County and Stockbridge in 2023, but that is the limit of their current capacity without additional resources to expand service.

LETS serves residents in the southwest townships through its countywide demand-response service as well as the partnership with Unadilla and Putnam Townships established in 2022. In 2023, LETS completed 8,728 trips that started or ended in Iosco, Putnam, and Unadilla Townships. However, LETS service in the region is limited primarily to in-County trips, which is necessary to serve as many customers as possible given the logistical constraints of rural transportation.

The most cost-effective and efficient solution for increasing service in the region is a passthrough funding agreement modeled on the successful partnership between LETS and People's Express, which has provided thousands of rides for Livingston County residents since 2019. LETS is eligible to receive additional funding from the Federal Section 5311 Rural Operating Assistance program to support increased service in the rural southwest corner of the County, and the funds can be passed through to the WAVE to provide the service on behalf of LETS.

The partnership is an exceptional value for the citizens of Livingston County, who will benefit from the additional service availability without the need for local taxpayer funds. The agreement term will be one (1) year beginning on October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2025 with two (2) additional one-year renewal options.

The initial term will include FY 2025 Federal funds from the Section 5311 Rural Operating Assistance program estimated at \$17,100 and State funds from the Local Bus Operating program estimated at \$33,260, which will be passed-through to the WAVE on a reimbursement basis upon receipt of the grant funds by the County.

Thank you, and as always please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 517-540-7843.