

Friends Enhancing Public Transit (FEET)

c/o Char-Em United Way
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The Road to Public Transit begins **HERE.**

Open for more information.



This newsletter was brought to you by



what is **FEET**

A group of people had a vision — to create affordable public transportation for all Emmet County residents. This collective of representatives from human service agencies, businesses, groups and community members came together to form Friends Enhancing Emmet Transit (FEET).

FEET wants to create a public transportation system through a dial-a-ride and limited fixed route busing system.

Numerous surveys and studies have been conducted showing the need for public transportation in our area. Many households

in Emmet County have limited or no access to a vehicle, affecting everything in their daily lives. It limits families' access to work, school, medical and dental appointments and shopping.

FEET envisions a system which coordinates service between our neighboring counties. We also hope to incorporate the Friendship Center's existing bus system which transports seniors and those with disabilities.

The group continues to meet monthly to discuss ways and alternatives to ensure public

transportation is brought to our community. If you would like to get more involved, FEET holds monthly meetings and we would love to have more community input.

FEET is an offshoot of the Charlevoix Emmet Human Services Coordinating Body, Transportation Work Group. For more information log onto www.char-em-hsccb.org

For more information about FEET log onto www.emmettransit.org.

The FEETbeat

Bringing you the news and happenings of Friends Enhancing Public Transit (FEET)

Get your friends and family to sign the enclosed petition! Please return all petitions to Char-Em United Way.

Issue # 1

Summer 2010

People sign petition, want vote on ballot

Hundreds of Emmet County residents are raising their voices about public transit. More than 900 area residents have signed a petition, with more signing daily, requesting public transportation be put to a vote in 2011.

FEET (Friends Enhancing Public Transit) has been circulating this petition throughout Emmet County in an effort to make public transportation a reality.

The group's goal is the creation of a public transportation system through a dial-a-ride and limited fixed route busing system. The system could be run as an Emmet County Transit Authority or through the expansion of Straits Regional Ride (SRR). SRR is a public transportation system based out of Cheboygan County that currently provides some transportation services to Emmet County.



Volunteers staff the FEET informational booth at Project Connect in February. FEET has collected over 900 signatures so far.

In an effort to bring this service to area residents, FEET hopes to place a county wide public transportation .30 millage on the ballot in 2011. Annually, for the average homeowner this is roughly \$25 or the price of one takeout pizza.

The Emmet County Board of Commissioners must agree to place the question on the ballot.

FEET is demonstrating to the commissioners that residents want this placed on the ballot through our petition.

FEET continues to work to gather support and petitions for the cause. If you would like to circulate a petition, log onto www.emmettransit.org and click "Get Involved."

FEET launches website

FEET realized the public needs a place to go to find up-to-date information about our public transportation initiative.

Ben Glaser from Creative-depth volunteered his services to design and maintain a brand new website. Located at www.emmettransit.org, the website will be used as a tool for residents to see the progress on public transportation in our area.

The website also contains information about volunteering for FEET, frequently asked questions and links to surveys about public transportation in Emmet County.

Log on to find out more about the FEET initiative or to download petition forms. You can also find out more information about upcoming forums and events.

www.emmettransit.org

FEET seeks volunteers

FEET is looking for motivated volunteers to help build our public transportation campaign.

We are looking for volunteers to help staff FEET info booths, work on this quarterly newsletter, circulate petitions, type

petitions, help organize public forums and more. Any hours volunteers can give will be appreciated, whether it is one hour every couple of months or five hours a week.

As a volunteer, you will be a part of a grassroots campaign

to bring public transportation to our community. You can start on a journey with other concerned Emmet County residents who believe everyone should have access to affordable public transportation. Come, join and help with our cause.

Give Us Your Email

We don't have a budget or staff for mailings. We'd love to communicate with you by email. To sign up for our email list send a message to FEET@charemunitedway.org with "Subscribe" in the subject line. FEET's email news list is separate from United Way's. Please sign-up for both.