**Yates Dial-a-Ride Press Release**

**Yates Dial-a-Ride Launches New Online Trip Planning Tool to Enhance Rural Transit Access**

**Lake County, MI** — [Yates Dial-a-Ride](https://www.yatesdialaride.com/) is excited to announce the launch of a new online [trip-planning tool](https://www.mitripplanner.org/help/) as part of the Advancing Rural Mobility pilot project. This initiative, funded through a United States Department of Transportation [SMART](https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SMART) grant, is designed to improve transportation access and efficiency for residents across rural Michigan.

Yates Dial-a-Ride and 13 other transportation agencies in Michigan are participating in Stage 2 of the pilot project.

The new trip planner tool aims to simplify the process of navigating transportation options, increase awareness of [Yates’ services](https://www.yatesdialaride.com/scheduleandrates), and provide seamless connections with other local transit providers.

Users can enter their starting location, destination, and desired departure or arrival times to receive personalized route options. For example, if you need to travel within Lake County, such as from Baldwin to Luther, simply input your starting point, destination, and travel preferences. The tool will generate a list of available transit services provided by Yates Dial-A-Ride, including schedules and ride availability, helping you choose the most convenient option for your trip.

Additionally, the trip planner provides real-time updates on transit services so users can stay informed about any delays or changes to their scheduled routes.

This tool is designed to make accessing information on routes, schedules, and connections easier than ever, helping residents plan their travel efficiently across Lake County. This project is an important step toward ensuring that all Michigan residents can effectively use public transit to meet their needs.

For more information about the new trip planning tool and how it can improve your travel experience, please visit <https://www.mitripplanner.org/help/>.

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