

# Insiders' Guide to Riding the Bus in Metro Detroit

Tips from Transportation Riders United (TRU)



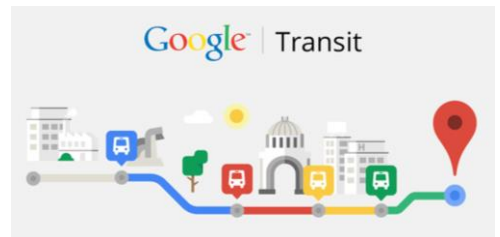
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*Yes – riding the bus might just be an easy affordable way to get where you want to go. Give it a try!*

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## 1) FIND YOUR ROUTE

- Visit [www.Google.com/transit](http://www.Google.com/transit) - Enter your starting and ending locations and when you need to depart or arrive, and it will give you transit options for your travel.
  - Or download the **Transit app** to find routes, options, and (sometimes) real-time info.
- For routes within Detroit, use **DDOT** (the Detroit Department of Transportation):
  - Visit [www.DetroitMi.gov/DDOT](http://www.DetroitMi.gov/DDOT), call **313-933-1300**, or ask at the Rosa Parks Transit Center (downtown at Michigan and Cass).
- For suburb-to-suburb or suburb-to-city routes, use **SMART**:
  - Visit [www.SMARTbus.org](http://www.SMARTbus.org), call SMART toll-free at **866-962-5515**, or visit their office in the lobby of the Buhl Building (at Griswold and Congress in downtown Detroit).



## 2) GO TO THE BUS STOP

- Most buses pick up at any marked bus stop. For FAST or SMART express buses, make sure the schedule lists that stop.
- Parking is often available at malls and designated Park&Ride lots, if your stop isn't within walking distance.
- Arrive 3-5 minutes prior to the scheduled bus arrival.



### 3) BOARD THE BUS

- **Identify the bus you want.** The bus route number and name are displayed above the windshield.
- **Wave to the bus** to ensure the driver sees you.
- As you step onto the bus, you can ask the bus driver to confirm that they go to your destination.
- Pay the fare - **\$2 for 4 hours of unlimited rides** on SMART, DDOT, and QLINE.
  - **50 cents for seniors and students** (with ID) (and people with eligible disabilities with ID)
  - The fare box accepts bills and coins like a vending machine.
  - Or download the DART app, pay by credit card, and show the driver an in-use ticket.



### 4) TAKE A SEAT AND ENJOY YOUR RIDE.

- Note the front seats are for seniors, people with disabilities, or parents with young children.
- Use your ride to read, play games, check email, listen to music with headphones, or just relax and observe your surroundings.
- Note – seats may not always be available. Standing passengers should hold onto a handle.



### 5) TO DEPART THE BUS, PULL THE CORD about 1 block before your stop.

- You can ask the driver to point out where to catch the return bus.
- Drivers and other riders are generally very helpful. Ask questions if you're not clear on anything.
- 24-hour, 7-day, and 31-day passes are also available on the DART app and from transit centers.
- If you have any problems, ideas, or suggestions, **call SMART or DDOT to comment or complain.** Comments from bus riders help management correct problems and improve service.